

December
2015



Nature Moncton

***Celebrating Over
40 years***

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December 8, 2015 Meeting Program

I do not know how many of you know that our very own Roger LeBlanc is not only an accomplished birder but has won awards for his documentaries. He will be presenting a visually aided tour of the Arctic with segments of their shooting there in July. This will be one opportunity you don't want to miss!

Also, he is equally devoted to Moncton's Christmas Bird Count. Moncton has been able to contribute significantly to this citizen's supported data base for over 50 years. Roger will provide details on the two avenues in which you can support this event. If you are keen to spend a few hours outside finding and noting birds which can be found in the various defined areas in and around Moncton this is the event for you. If you love to watch the birds at your feeders then this is your opportunity to support this noble cause. The Christmas Bird Count will be held on Saturday, December 19, 2015 so please mark this on your calendar.

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MINUTES of the November 17th, 2015 General Meeting of Nature Moncton

HELD at the Rotary Pavilion, Rotary Park, Moncton, New Brunswick.

PRESENT: About 45 members, by Dale Gaskin's count.

President John Foster **called** the meeting **to order** at about 7:00 p.m. AST and welcomed those present. He asked whether there were any **Guests** and a couple introduced themselves. The President took a visual **Roll Call** and concluded that a **Quorum** existed.

Notice of the time and place of the meeting had been emailed to all members at least a day before the meeting, so the meeting was deemed **duly constituted** for the transaction of business.

Roger Leblanc introduced the **Guest Speaker**, Professor Tony Diamond of the University of New Brunswick. Tony delivered an interesting presentation on *Recent Changes in the Marine Ecosystem of the Bay of Fundy*. Following the presentation, and a number of questions from the audience, the President thanked Tony and presented him with a gift in appreciation of his remarks. The Break then took place at 8:10 p.m. Following the **Break**, the meeting resumed at about 8:30 p.m.

The President asked whether everybody had had an opportunity to read the **Minutes** of the October 20th, 2015 Meeting of Nature Moncton which had been printed in the Newsletter circulated by email. He asked whether anybody had noted any errors or omissions. None were raised. UPON MOTION duly moved by Secretary John Filliter, seconded by Norm Belliveau and unanimously carried, it was resolved to **adopt** the said Minutes as circulated.

Treasurer Margaret Fanjoy presented her **Financial Report** from September 30th to October 31st, 2015. Receipts had totalled \$280.05 and Disbursements of \$35.83 had been paid, bringing the Balance as of October 31st to \$5,511.54. UPON MOTION duly moved by Margaret Fanjoy, seconded by Rosemary MacAulay and unanimously carried, it was resolved to **adopt** the said Financial Report as presented.

Bird Alert: David Christie reported that sightings of a Franklin Gull, Cape May Warbler, Summer Tanager and Tropical Kingbird had caused great excitement recently.

Ways and Means: Dale Gaskin conducted the **50-50 Draw**, with John Foster drawing Susan Atkinson's number for the \$16.00 draw prize and a draw was also held for the door prizes (a suet feeder and a bird house book).

Nature Information Line: Nelson Poirier reported that he had procured a back-up recorder through Amazon.com but received no bill for it yet. The Line has been working well.

Field Trips/Workshops Committee: Louise Nichols reported that Nelson's annual *Birdfeeding Workshop* at Tankville School on November 8th had gone well, and a subsequent field trip to the Sackville Waterfowl Park had been well attended. Roger Leblanc will be presenting a *Winter Birds* workshop on December 5th and more workshops are being planned for the winter.

Membership: Shirley Hunt reported that 62 members have renewed their memberships since August.

Newsletter: Susan Atkinson reported that the November issue had been a little late and that the December one will be early, to give notice of the Annual General Meeting. The deadline for submissions will be November 22nd. Any members willing to have their photographs on the Nature Moncton blog published in the Newsletter should email their permission to Susan.

Environment Ideas: Susan Atkinson noted that Irving had pleaded guilty to the charges resulting from the killing of 7,500 or so migrating songbirds by the flare at Canaport, and been fined \$750,000.00.

Irishtown Nature Park: Committee Secretary David Cannon reported that INP had begun its new year, with Alyre Chiasson as President. INP has adopted a new Vision Statement to protect and promote the ecological integrity of the park. David is working with President Foster on the letter

to be sent to the new Moncton-Dieppe-Riverview M.P. asking that funds be allocated now for replacing the causeway over the Petitcodiac River between Moncton and Riverview.

Joys and Sorrows: Cathi Smith was not present to report but a member reported that Ray Gallant's father had passed away. The President expressed our condolences to the Gallant family.

Web Site: Susan Atkinson reported for Katherin Atkinson that the old website is finally gone and the new one should be up and running soon, perhaps as early as this weekend. Members should keep sending website submissions to Katherin through Susan's email address.

Next Monthly Program: The President reported that the December 8th Program will include the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Club and a presentation on the Christmas Bird Count by Roger Leblanc, along with photographs of birds he has been studying.

Members should note that the next monthly meeting will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of December, NOT the usual third Tuesday.

New Business: The President asked if there was any New Business. Dale Gaskin reported that a new asphalt plant is proposed to be built between Coverdale and the Pine Glen Road. He said that there are traffic and environmental issues we should be concerned about.

Sightings: A Hairy Woodpecker tapped its beak on the glass in Dale Gaskin's shed to notify him that it needed to be released; Norm Belliveau saw Brant, Sanderlings, Dunlins and a Short-eared Owl at Little Cape; a female Cardinal has been observed in Riverview; an American Goldfinch with a white cap returned to the area this year; Snowy Owls have been seen in Molus River, Dieppe and Miscou; and a Red-tailed Hawk has been hunting around bird houses in the area. Roger Leblanc speculated that the reason Snowy Owls may be seen more frequently now than during the winter is that they are feeding on sea ducks now.

There being no further business, UPON MOTION by Dale Gaskin, the meeting was **adjourned** at 9:01 p.m. AST.

Verified and approved by:
by:

John Foster, President

Respectfully submitted

John Filliter, Secretary



Courtesy of Brian Stone

From the Editor's Desk

Nature Moncton's Newsletter

This December issue of the Nature Moncton Newsletter is the last for this year. Where did the fall evaporate to? I hope you all were able to enjoy the warmer than usual weather and were able to spend time outdoors.

The upcoming meeting not only will be the last before the New Year but will be the **Annual General Meeting**.

As this is being written I wish to remind you of the upcoming workshop this Saturday, December 5th, which will be presented by Roger LeBlanc. He will discuss what winter birds you should expect to see here in Moncton and in NB in the winter. It will get you ready for the Christmas Bird Count which will follow two weeks later.

While our walks in the Park will resume in the spring I hope everyone still takes time to enjoy the beauty of our winter.

Nature Moncton Website

As Katherin's Mom I had the shock of my life when she called from NS on Election Day to say she had been involved in a serious vehicle accident and her car was totalled. Fortunately, she and her friend were not seriously injured but they still are requiring time to fully recover. This needlessly has delayed her ability to have the new site up and running as expected. She wants to thank Nelson for assuring everyone is kept up to date on NM's Activities via the Info-line.

Remember: the purpose of the Newsletter is keep our members informed of the monthly meeting minutes, announcements, reports of our club's field trips, workshops and other matters of interest. Please feel free to let me know of items of interest or comments. susanatkinson29@gmail.com

Reminder: if you have not yet renewed your Nature Moncton membership please do so as it is the most important source of revenue for the Club. The attached 2015-16 Membership form can be filled in and printed off and mailed or brought to Shirley Hunt at the meeting.

Deadline for submission(s) for the January Newsletter is Monday January 8, 2016

Submissions can be sent by:

- 1) Email: susanatkinson29@gmail.com
- 2) Telephone: 506-384-2332 to make arrangements to deliver article(s) or photo(s) which you cannot email.
- 3) Leave the material with Susan at any monthly meeting.

Calendar of Nature Moncton Presentations, Workshops and Field Trips

Everyone is welcome to participate in our activities

All meeting presentations, workshops and field trips are posted on the NM Info-Line (384-6397 or email) during the week leading up to the event on or the NM website (www.naturemoncton.org) when they are confirmed. Check regularly for updates on the Info-line or website as they are subject to change.

Louise Nichols is our Activities Committee Co-ordinator and she and the members of the Committee are always seeking input and suggestions from members. All ideas are welcome.

Contact Louise at: nicholsl@eastlink.ca

Workshops:

Pre-registration is requested as some events have a maximum or minimum number of participants. It also assures effective planning and to allow for contact to be made in the event of changes. Pre-register with Judi Berry-Steeves at 506-387-4778 or at jbsteeve@nbnet.nb.ca. A modest \$8 fee is charged for workshops which are held at the Tankville School, 1665 Elmwood Drive, Moncton.

Field Trips:

Generally no fee is charged. For outings car-pooling is organized to allow seats be available for those who need rides. If car-pooling, please remember to share the gas costs.

Date 2015	Event	Presenter/ Outing Leader
Ongoing	<u>"Impromptu Outings"</u> – These field trips visit sites in the Greater Moncton area and are designed for everyone and are usually accessible to those who have limited time or mobility. They can take place at any time and will last 2-3 hours at the most. Timing will be dependent on nature's schedule. Listen to the Info Line 384-6397 and be ready to go.	Various
Saturday December 5, 2015	<i>Workshop: Winter Birds and Christmas Bird count</i> <i>See write-up below for further details.</i>	Roger LeBlanc
Tuesday December 8, 2015	Nature Moncton Annual General Meeting: Annual Reports of 2014-15 fiscal year & Election of the Executive for 2015-16 Presentation: A visually aided tour of the Arctic with segments of our shooting up there in July.	Roger LeBlanc
Saturday December 19, 2015	Annual Christmas Bird Count	Roger LeBlanc
Tuesday, January 19, 2015	Nature Moncton Annual General meeting: Presentation: This our Member's Night so if you have something you would love to share please let John know.	Members
TBA	Annual Bird Feeder Outing	

Upcoming Workshop



News flash: winter is coming! But instead of getting depressed over something so natural that can't be changed, a lot of bird watchers are looking forward to winter because the changing season will bring with it the chance to see some of those famous "winter birds" that seasoned birders talk about all the time. Which species are we talking about and why – and when are they coming?

These are the kinds of questions that will be addressed in the upcoming workshop offered by Nature Moncton on "winter birds." Join Roger LeBlanc who has been watching and trying to understand the behaviors of these winter visitors for a long time. And if you by chance participated in the recent bird feeding workshop offered by Nature Moncton, this would be a very natural follow-up to help you recognize what you might be attracting to your backyard. Together we will try to work out some of the patterns that will help you know what is to be expected as well as when and where you should be looking. In addition, Roger will help you understand exactly what you are looking at on that snow-covered branch in a workshop that will combine bird photographs with a few video surprises.

So whether you are quite content with checking out the "winter birds" that will be invading your feeders or are ready to bundle up and head outside to search for them in the snow-covered landscape, this workshop aims to help you enjoy their presence even more. Roger will also talk about the annual Christmas Bird Counts that take place throughout the province. Roger is the organizer of the Moncton count and is always looking for eager participants – a chance to put your new knowledge of winter birds to work!

Date: Saturday December 5th, 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Tankville School, 1665 Elmwood Dr., Moncton

Registration with Judi Berry-Steeves at jbsteeve@nbnet.nb.ca or phone Judi at 387-4778.

\$8 to cover costs payable at the door. All are welcome, Nature Moncton member or not.

XX



Courtesy of Brian Stone

Outings Report

While there have not been any planned outings a number of our members have reported their observations and pictures on the Info-Line. Some have noted the arrival of some of our winter birds as well as a few of the stragglers which the warm weather cause them to delay their departure.

Related Items of Interest



Nature NB E-news is a monthly email sent out sharing news and upcoming events. Would you like to be added to the distribution list?

Send an email to nbfm@nb.aibn.com requesting to be put on the Nature NB E-news distribution list.

Not a member of Nature NB but would like to find out more?

<http://www.naturenb.ca/becomeamember.aspx> or Visit Nature NB at <http://www.naturenb.ca>

The advertising in the Newsletter, at a cost of \$10.00 per issue, provides some additional club revenue. J & P Farm Services, one of our regular advertisers, also supports members by offering a 10% discount if you show your NM membership card.



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Arrivals: Bohemian Waxwings Courtesy of Brian Stone.

New

Note: If others are willing to permit use of their photos from the Info-line to be used in the NM Newsletter please let me know. It would be most appreciated.



2015-2016 MEMBERSHIP FORM (2015/07/01 to 2016/06/30)

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

SINGLE \$25

FAMILY \$35

STUDENT \$10

PAID \$

CHEQUE or CASH

RECEIPT #

RENEWAL ☐ or NEW MEMBER ☐

NAME _____

LIST OTHER NAMES SAME ADDRESS (for family membership ONLY):

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

DO YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE DAILY NATURE INFO LINE & PHOTOS BY EMAIL? YES _____ NO _____

DO YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL? YES _____ NO _____

PLEASE CHECK or WRITE, AS APPLICABLE:

ACTIVITY	WILLING to LEAD: if applicable	WILLING to HELP: with others or on a committee	JUST INTERESTED in PARTICIPATING & ENJOYING MY MEMBERSHIP!	ANY NEW SUGGESTIONS /COMMENTS FOR THIS ACTIVITY? (write on back of form if not enough room)
BIRD ALERT				
WORKSHOPS				
FIELD TRIPS				
PUBLICITY				
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT				
MONTHLY MEETINGS /PRESENTORS				
WAYS & MEANS FUNDRAISING				
PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION				
NEED TRANSPORTATION				
TRANSCRIBING DAILY INFO LINE				
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, example: website, archiving documents				
EXECUTIVE ROLES: President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary, or Executive Committee Chair				Nomination suggestions:

Payment: cheque payable to 'Nature Moncton'

At any monthly meeting see Shirley Hunt (Membership chair) or mail completed form & cheque to mailing address:

Nature Moncton

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