

October 2016



Nature Moncton

*Celebrating Over
40 years*

PO Box 28036
404 St-George St.
Moncton N.B.
E1C 9N4

Editor

Susan Atkinson
506-384-2332
susanatkinson29@gmail.com

Distribution

Shirley Hunt
386-8060
shirleyhunt2012@gmail.com

Club INFO Line:
384-NEWS (6397)
"Frequently updated
message line"

Club's web site:
www.naturemoncton.com

October 18th Meeting Program

Guest speaker: Jeff Clements, Scientist with the
Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans

Title: What Happens as the Oceans Become More
Acidified?

Place: MAPLETON PARK ROTARY LODGE

Commonly known as the "other CO2 problem", ocean acidification is a recently-discovered phenomenon by which carbon dioxide (CO2) from the atmosphere dissolves into the oceans and lowers seawater pH, causing it to become more acidic. Unfortunately, when CO2 increases and pH drops, ocean-dwelling animals can be affected. Furthermore, on top of ocean acidification, these animals also have to deal with an increasingly warmer ocean and a swath of other environmental changes! This leads to much uncertainty and concern for the future of our oceans in a changing world.

In this talk, Jeff will introduce the topic of ocean acidification by discussing what is and how it works, and will highlight some of the biological, ecological and societal consequences associated with ocean acidification. He will also talk about the current state of ocean acidification research and will wrap up by highlighting some of the work that he has been doing right here at home in the Bay of Fundy.

As always all are welcome.

Inside This Month...

Minutes Sept meeting	Page 2-3
From Editor's Desk	Page 4
Events Calendar	Page 5
Items of Interest/Advertising	Page 6
Annual Reports	Page 7-8
Membership form 2016-17	Page 9

**MINUTES of the September 20th, 2016
General Meeting of Nature Moncton**

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

Beginning attendance: c. 40.

Susan Atkinson **called** the meeting **to order** at about 7:01 p.m. ADST and welcomed those present.

Nelson Poirier then introduced the **Guest Speakers**, Nick McLellan, the Atlantic Science Co-ordinator with Ducks Unlimited (DU), and Adam Campbell, Head of Conservation Delivery for DU. Adam spoke first, outlining DU's priorities for conserving, restoring and managing wetlands. These include Wetlands Conservation, Public Policy, Research and Education. Mr. Campbell reported that DU has spent over \$95,000,000 on 1,500 projects in Atlantic Canada over the years, including 143 projects within a 50 kilometer radius of Moncton. Among DU restoration activities are enhancement, creation and restoration of wetlands; the last reverses human alterations. The restoration process includes determining how flat the lands involved are, designing a project plan, excavation or building dykes, installing water control measures, etc. He explained that restoration construction includes determining dyke height, maintaining the grade, shaping the dyke and berming. They strive for a normal operating level of 18 to 24 inches to achieve variety. They often install spillways, beaver levellers (which run so quietly that beavers can't detect them), prefabricated box gates, fish ladders, and other additions such as nesting islands. Waterfowl numbers used to drive DU restoration work; now policy requirements do. He listed some of the benefits of wetlands, including clean water, reducing erosion, being natural filters, and increasing property values of adjoining lands. Adam outlined some of the research that DU is involved in and reported that DU's education has reached 80% of Grade 4 students in New Brunswick!

Nick McLellan then described some of the local initiatives in DU's Atlantic Science Program. In Aulac, where tides had broken through the dykes in 2010, DU has opened the dykes to develop salt marshes and built buffers from the waves. They have done considerable monitoring of the habitat before and after the introduction of salt water. They have also conducted research on Fresh Water Research Cells and Wetland Productivity. Another DU project is managing 1590 fish ladders, with the objective of increasing the number and diversity of fish. They have done PIT tagging of fish and tracked fish ways. In their observation of Passage Behaviour, they have noted some river switching. Their Score Sheets of several local projects have indicated that it takes time for the effects to occur, but the results over three years have been: for the Amherst Marsh denil – 7.5 to 91 to 97% usage; for the Missaquash denil – 74 to 77 to 77%; and for the Front Lake pool from 58% to 63%. He explained that the importance of fish to wetlands is that they add nutrients through spawning, defecating and dying there. He reported that DU is now using satellite technology to track fish.

The two speakers then fielded questions from the audience. They said that the New Brunswick government is working on a new Wetlands Policy to replace the one that was repealed in 2012, and added that the current Minister of the Environment has been proactive in stopping work on a couple of projects that threatened wetlands in the Fredericton area. Following the question period, Susan Atkinson thanked the speakers and presented them with a gift basket on behalf of the club.

The meeting then recessed for about 15 minutes and resumed at about 8:15 p.m. with 26 present. Mrs. Atkinson noted that some proposed By-law changes would be put before the October monthly meeting, which is also the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Club. Details will appear in the next Newsletter.

John Filliter explained the procedure for being nominated for the Board of Directors. Any Club member seeking election to the Board, including existing members, must sign the form appended to the By-laws and deliver it to Dale Gaskin, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, at least two weeks before the AGM: this form indicates which office(s) they wish to stand for and that they are at least 19, not bankrupt or of unsound mind or otherwise disqualified from being a Director under the N. B. *Companies Act*. Only if no nominations are received for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or any of the three Director-at-large positions will nominations from the floor be entertained at the AGM. Gordon Rattray then showed photographs of his trip to Grand Manan and Machias Seal Island. These included a video of Puffins in which the young were heard sounding like chainsaws! Also featured were Common Murres including the bridled version, Razorbills, Arctic Terns, Savannah Sparrows, Short-billed Dowitchers, Least and Semi-palmated Sandpipers. Their visit to the island was limited to 1.5 hours and the CWF assigned them four to a blind (pretty cramped quarters!). Gordon reported that in the past most visitors have booked their trips by February, as available spots fill up quickly.

Mrs. Atkinson then asked members what memorable sightings they had enjoyed during the summer. These included Black Terns (Louise Nichols), Tree Swallows, Bank or Cliff Swallows, Bluebirds nesting on his property (Dale Gaskin), Kestrels predating on Barn Swallows (Gordon Rattray), a Yellow-bellied Cuckoo and Mockingbird at Cocagne, Razorbills, Murres and Kittiwakes (Nelson Poirier).

A new member reported that some people had been interfering with Cliff Swallows in the Bathurst area and inquired what could be done about it. David Christie noted that this contravenes the *Migratory Birds Convention* and Nelson Poirier added the Canadian Wildlife Service policy as well. David Christie said that provincial game wardens could also be requested to intervene.

Brian Stone then presented some of his recent photographs from Kejimikujic National Park and the Sackville Waterfowl Park. The former included beautiful scenery, illustrated the extremely dry conditions around Keji and the Mersey River, and featured pictures of Common Yellowthroats, Deer, Ribbon Snakes, Smooth Green Snakes, Ring-necked Snakes, a Painted Turtle, Bullfrog and Ruffed Grouse. Sackville photographs included Greater Yellowlegs, Dragonflies (sackonwing meadowhawk and lake darter), Evening Primrose and caterpillars, and the Harvest Moon.

The **50-50 Draw** was held by Dale Gaskin, with Frank McDermott winning \$15.50 and Mac the birdfeeder. Dale also reported that Sunflower Seeds will be available in November at last year's prices and that interested members should call him to place their orders.

Activities Committee: Alyre Chiasson will conduct a workshop on *How Nature Prepares for Winter*, followed by a walk in Irishtown Nature Park, on **October 1st**, beginning at 1:30 p.m. There will be a tour of the Moncton Zoo on **October 15th** beginning at 10:00 a.m. The Old Acadian Forest visit has been postponed until **October 22nd**. Louise Nichols reported that there will be a tour of sewage lagoons on **November 12th**. Wayne Fairchild will also conduct a night workshop collecting butterflies and moths at Irishtown Nature Park: date to be announced.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

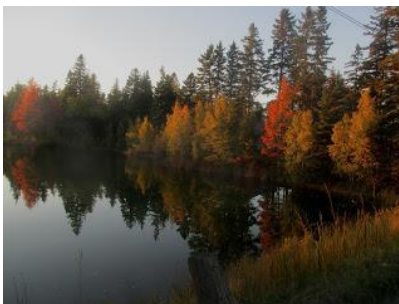
Verified and approved by:

Susan Atkinson, Chairperson

Respectfully submitted by:

John Filliter, Secretary

From the Editor's Desk:



Courtesy of Anna Tucker

As required by incorporated clubs and associations each year the executive must hold an annual General Meeting. This year the NM date is this Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at the Mapleton Lodge. The AGM announcement and Agenda were emailed October 3, 2016. The Chairs of the various committees have provided me with reports which will follow as an addendum to this issue of the Newsletter.

- There are numerous upcoming NM events which have been posted on the website as well as included in the daily Info-line.
- Reminder for those who have been curious about seeing some of the behind the scenes happenings at our beautiful Zoo be sure to be at the Zoo's parking lot by 10am. A special admission fee will be offered.
- Also, for those wanting to enjoy a lovely walk in a local Acadian Forest with the opportunity to learn about why these forests are so important join Roger on October 22nd.

Remember: the purpose of the Newsletter is keep our members informed of the monthly meeting 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.

Membership: If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2016-17 please bring a completed form along with you to the meeting. Maintaining your membership is vital to the success of the Club. A copy is also on the last page of this issue.

FYI: Nature Moncton maintains a membership with Nature NB. As an activities driven club an important benefit of membership with NNB is the insurance policy which provides coverage during outings to each of our paid-up members.

Deadline for submission(s) for the November Newsletter will be Monday October 31st.

The October issue will contain the NM Annual Reports.

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

Calendar of Nature Moncton Field Trips, Workshops and Presentations

Everyone is welcome to participate in our activities

All meeting presentations, workshops and field trips are posted to the NM Info-Line (384-6397) or sent to your email during the week leading up to the event. They are also published in the current issue of the Newsletter, posted to the Website and published in What's Happening in Moncton. Keep checking the as they are subject to change.

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

Contact Louise Nichols 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/Outings:

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 2016	Event	Presenter/ Outing Leader
Ongoing	<u>"Impromptu Outings"</u> – These outings 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
Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 PM	Title: The Acadian Forest We live in a very special part of the world in New Brunswick. The Maritime Provinces encompass the transition between temperate deciduous ("hardwood") and boreal evergreen ("softwood") forests in northeastern North America. Red spruce is a signature species of this region, but many other conifers and hardwoods are present, forming a mosaic of forest communities that reflect both environmental and historical influences. This diverse and distinctive assemblage was first termed the Acadian Forest by William E. D. Halliday in 1937 in his pioneering classification of the forest regions of Canada. Since then, the name has gained widespread use by ecologists, foresters, and conservationists. It has also entered the popular imagination, conjuring up the special character of the woods of the Maritimes. In this talk, Stephen Clayden will provide an overview of the Acadian Forest: how it came to be recognized by that name; its variation across the region and modification by human pressures; and the challenges involved in conserving its rich biodiversity, known and unknown.	Stephen Clayden

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 nbf@nb.aibn.com and ask to be put on the distribution list for Nature NB E-news.

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.



Courtesy of Brian Stone



10 % OFF
REGULAR PRICED
WILD BIRD PRODUCTS
FOR
Nature Moncton MEMBERS

30 CHECKER DR. MONCTON, N B

(CORNER OF EDINBURGH DR & BERRYMILLS RD)

PH. 858-7845



J&P Farm Services

A DIVISION OF CLARENCE FARM SERVICES LTD.



2016 Annual Reports

Agenda Item 5: Secretary's Report

I was elected Secretary at the 2015 Annual General Meeting held last December.

I prepared Minutes for all Regular Monthly Meetings of the Club and all Executive Committee Meetings of the Club during the 2015-2016 year, which ended on June 30th. I also drafted the Minutes of the September Monthly Meeting of the Club but missed an Executive Meeting held on September 19th because I didn't receive notice of it.

My practice has been to try to circulate draft minutes to other members of the Executive Committee as soon after the meetings as possible, to solicit their comments as to errors or omissions in the draft. They have been very helpful in correcting my many misspellings of names and places.

Though it wasn't part of my Secretarial duties, I chaired the Constitutional Review Committee and served on the Nominating Committee. Once the new Club Constitution was adopted as By-law # 1, I prepared a Company Registry Book for the membership records to be maintained in. I have also compiled a Secretary's Handbook for my successor as Secretary and will pass it on to him or her, along with the Minute Book from my term in office and a box of Nature Moncton records kept by Janet MacMillan.

I thank the Club for giving me this opportunity to serve it.

Respectfully submitted, John Filliter, Secretary

Agenda Item 6.1 Activities Committee Report

MEETING SPEAKERS

September 15, 2015	Courtney Smith, "Wood Turtles"
October 20, 2015	Andre Bourque "Cross Country Ski Trails near Moncton"
November 17, 2015	Tony Diamond "Wildlife in the Bay of Fundy"
December 8, 2015	Roger Leblanc "Santa's Birds: Outtakes from a Filming Trip in the Arctic"
January 19, 2016	Members' Night
February 16, 2016	Nicolas Lecomte "Life and Times of the Semipalmated Sandpiper"
March 15, 2016	Becky Whittam "Activities of the Canadian Wildlife Service"
April 29, 2016	Mac Dunfield "Projects of Ducks Unlimited"
May 17, 2016	Kerry Lee Morris-Cormier "Nature Conservancy of Canada's projects around Moncton"
June 21, 2016	Gerald Chaput "From Scales to Microchips: Understanding Fish Migrations"

WORKSHOPS AND FIELD TRIPS

August 23, 2015	Shorebird Field Trip to Riverview Marsh Guided by Roger Leblanc
September 27, 2015	"The Fossils at Joggins" Workshop Presenter: Dr. Melissa Grey
October 31, 2015	Field trip to the Sackville Waterfowl Park
November 8, 2015	"Bird Feeding Basics" Workshop with Nelson Poirier
December 5, 2015	"Winter Birds are Coming" Workshop with Roger Leblanc

February 20, 2016	Atlantic Wildlife Institute: Wildlife Response Network” Workshop Pam Novak and Barry Rothfuss
March 30, 2016	“Owl Prowl” Workshop and Field Trip with Roger Leblanc
April 27, 2016	Birding Field Trip to Albert County with Norm Belliveau
May 24, 2016	“Pond Life” Workshop with Wayne Fairchild
June 11, 2016	“Be Happy for Sparrows” Workshop and Field Trip with Roger Leblanc

Respectfully submitted by Louise Nichols, Chair

Agenda Item 6.4 Newsletter

- The Nature Moncton Newsletter was published monthly from September 2015 until June 2016.
 - I wish to thank the members who gave permission to include their photos in each issue.
 - I also wish to thank all the presenters who were willing to share their knowledge and gave up their time to offer interesting and insightful monthly meeting presentations, workshops and Outings. These have been summarized in each issue. If you would like to review past issues, please go to the website: naturemoncton.com
 - Reminder that this is a members’ Newsletter and contributions from you are always welcome.
- Respectfully submitted by Susan Atkinson, Editor

Agenda Item 7.1 Irishtown Nature Park

The Irishtown Nature Park is Moncton’s largest and most natural park, as well as one of Canada’s largest municipal parks. It consists of approximately 2,200 acres of forested land including an interior lake of approximately 250 acres.

Nature Moncton is pleased to be represented on the Irishtown Nature Park Committee (the INPC). The INPC member is nominated by Nature Moncton and appointed by the Moncton City Council. David Cannon is completing his second year of a three-year term and is currently the INPC Secretary and on the three-member Executive of the INPC. David attended all Regular and Special meetings of the INPC as well as its AGM, held October 4th, 2015.

The INPC is undergoing a multi-year initiative to restore several of its trails. The 2015 trail work on the Scout’s Trail and the Vince’s Trail was completed in the fall of 2015. The 2016 trail work is now underway, with over \$200,000 dedicated to renovating the Howard’s Trail. As well, there is a commitment to tie the INP into the overall City of Moncton trail system. As such, work has begun in building a trail to connect the INP past the Moncton High School and on to the McLaughlin Reservoir, which in turn will ultimately join up with the Mapleton Park and the rest of the City of Moncton trail system.

Progress has been made in creating an INP Foundation. This legal entity will allow the INP to raise funds for further park improvements and especially for educational initiatives. While the City has approved the Foundation, as of June 2016 the Foundation is not yet incorporated.

The INPC is expanding, as it anticipates the extra responsibilities and opportunities the Foundation will impose on the INPC. As such, we are looking to nominate a second Nature Moncton member to the INPC. Please reach out to any NM Executive member if you can contribute to the INP.

In October 2015 a number of high school teachers participated in a PD event at the Park. This was a precursor to the May 2016 EcoFest event held in the INP, involving a number of high school students from across the province. This, in turn was a preparatory event that lead to outstanding performances by several local high schools in the provincial Envirothon Challenge held shortly thereafter. As usual, there were a number of Nature Moncton workshops held in the Tankville Schoolhouse although this writer was remiss in tracking all of them for this report.

Prepared by NM INP representative David Cannon.



2016-2017 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(2016/07/01 to 2017/06/30)

MEMBERSHIP

FEES:

SINGLE

\$25

FAMILY

\$35

STUDENT

\$10

PAID \$

➤ 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 committee) or mail completed form & cheque to mailing address:

Nature Moncton

P.O. Box 28036

404 St George St.

Moncton, N.B. E1C 9N4