VERMONT BOTANICAL AND BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

2019 Annual Meeting Announcement

The 124th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Botanical and Bird Club meeting will be held on Thursday, May 30 – Sunday, June 2, 2019 at Pine Valley/Quechee KOA on the Woodstock Road (RT 4) in White River Junction.

We look forward to having our meeting in the east-central region of Vermont. We will stay in small groups (of 3 – 6 people) in several country-style cabins with names like Moose Lodge, The Hummingbird, Lynx Lodge. Our evening programs and meals will be at the Pavilion building. Meals will be catered by Maple Street Catering of White River Junction.

We plan on visiting nearby Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park; Deweys Mills Pond a causeway that separates the Ottaquechee River, Quechee Gorge and perhaps Esqua Bog in Hartland (in the early Summer season).

123rd Annual Meeting at Eagle Camp in South Hero, Vermont May 31 – June 3, 2018

Vermont Botanical and Bird Club at the Beach, Eagle Camp, South Hero, VT Saturday, June 2, 1018 photo: Peter Hope
Standing left to right: Deb Parrella, Scott Bassage, Everett Marshall, Sara Hand, Charlotte Hanna, Ann Hill, Deborah Benjamin, Kate Kruesi, Susan Shea, Marvin Elliott, Susan Brown, Louanne Nielsen, Charlotte Bill, Ann Burcroff, Steven Lamonde (scholarship), Kathleen Guinness, Ralph Nimtz, Ivy Luke (scholarship), Bryan Palfey, William Tig Arnold;
Sitting left to right: Connie Youngstrom, Peter Hope, Mary Hill, Susan Elliott, Pam Darrow.

EVENING PROGRAMS
PERRY HALL 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2018:

"An Introduction to Vermont's Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge", by Ken Sturm, Refuge Manager, Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge.

Ken Sturm is the refuge manager at Missisquoi National Wldlife Refuge. He has worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for 24 years. He has worked as a Wildlife Biologist for the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge and the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge before moving back to Vermont to manage the Missisquoi NWR.

The National Wildlife Refuge system is extremely unique for a federal agency in that it highlights conservation management where appropriate for restoration of fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitat. There's a place for everything in the government system for different kinds of uses.

Missisquoi NWR, formed in 1943, comprises 7,187 acres in the towns of Swanton and Highgate and also includes two satellites: 262 acres in New York and Canada near Malone and 457 acres at Eagle Point on Lake Memphremagog in Derby. Missisquoi NWR is 74% wetland habitat and is 94% supported from the sale of Duck Stamps. $.98/$1.00 goes to wetland protection.

We then enjoyed a tour of the refuge's many habitats which include 20 – 25 natural communities and makes a very colorful map:
1) fresh water marsh interface with wetlands
2) silver maple floodplain forest (Mac's Bend)
3) northern hardwood forest
4) Maquam Bog with its Pitch Pine Woodland
5) managed wetlands including wild rice marsh
6) Missisquoi River, the refuge'slife blood and Dead Creek
7) managed grasslands for Bobolinks, Savannah Sparrow and one Meadowlark where hay is cut not earlier than August 15.

The refuge is federally mandated to protect 60% of the area from any human presence, while 40% may be open public use for:
1) wildlife observation
2) wildlife education
3) wildlife interpretation
4) hunting
5) fishing
6) wildlife photography.

Several dynamic and ongoing trends have been observed since 1943. Great-blue Heron populations have declined especially since the siting of the first Bald Eagle nest in 2012. Osprey numbers have grown steadily. American Black Duck and Mallard have seen a switch in numbers in about the mid-1970's. Earlier, Black Duck numbers were higher; later, Mallard numbers have been higher.

Wood Ducks have been studied from 1942 – 2015 and demonstrate a sex ratio of 35% female and 65% male. Of the three species of cavity nesting ducks, Hooded Mergansers comprise about 86% of the nest box usage, Wood Ducks about 12% and Common Goldeneye about 2%. Black Terns are very sensitive to human disturbance, most notably by people in kayaks or canoes; and so the management of shoreline where the birds' favorite nesting habitat on floating mounds are located is very important.

The Old Railroad Passage Trail was special this year, as one of the field trips walked it and found some very early season Virginia Chain Fern (a state-threatened species). It's 1000 acres makes it the largest bog in Vermont; last week, Rhodora was in full bloom.

In 2013, Missisquoi NWR and Wildlife Management Areas became a Ramsar Wetland of National Importance, the 36th such site in the U.S. and includes important archeological sites of the Abenaki people.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018:

"The State Threatened Spiny Softshell Turtle: efforts to boost productivity at large communal nesting beaches used by Softshell, Map, Painted and Snapping Turtles", by Steve Parren, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, Wildlife Diversity Program.

Steve Parren has worked for the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department since 1987 and is the Wildlife Diversity Program Director. He was involved in long-term conservation efforts to successfully restore the Common Loon, Osprey, and Peregrine Falcon in Vermont. Steve spoke to the Club in 1993 at Hulbert Outdoor Center about Vermont's Birds and Backyard Habitat. Most recently his own field projects include management of nesting areas for the state-endangered Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle and monitoring of the state-endangered Spotted Turtle.

Vermont has 7 species of turtles: Snapping Turtle, Painted Turtle, Map Turtle, Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle, Stinkpot or Musk Turtle, Wood Turtle and the extremely rare Spotted Turtle.

The Spiny Softshell Turtle has been proposed for taxonomic separation from the other species. As its name implies, its shell is "soft" compared to other turtles with the flexible texture of shoe leather (although the egg shell is hard in contrast to other turtle species that have leathery egg shells). Females can grow to 20" shell; males have spots or occelli which can be seen even at hatching time and grow to 8". They are difficult to spot, as only the eyes and snout protrude above the water line giving the animal the appearance of a floating stick. When the causeway portion of the new Champlain Bridge replacement project had heavy equipment work being done, the State built a basking raft for the turtles to temporarily use at this largest overwintering habitat. Predation is a constant threat at any time of the year, but especially before hatching. Predators include raccoons, foxes, and skunks. At Carmen's Marsh WMA in Swanton, 12 out of 157 nests needed to be rescued due to disturbance by predators. These young are gathered in pails, incubated and raised in Steve's hallway until they can be safely released. Some are raised at ECHO and serve as public education ambassadors. On one research visit, Steve witness a startled female turtle elevate herself and "gallop" thirty feet to the shoreline and hydroplane about 3' across the water's surface.

Map Turtles can eat Zebra Mussels and other mollusks because of their powerful jaws. Their oval shaped egg shells twist upon drying which can help identify the owner of a depredated nest. Map Turtles hatch in the Fall, overwinter in the nest and emerge in the Spring. Snapping and Softshell Turtles emerge in the Fall or not at all; and their egg shells are circular in form.

The sex ratio of Spiny Softshell and Wood Turtles is determined genetically. With Snapping Turtles, the lower or higher the temperature during incubation yields more males; and the middle temperatures yield more females. Turtles grow continuously throughout their lives although they slow down with age: Spiny Softshell Turtles can live to 60 years; Snapping Turtles can live up to 100 years; Spotted Turtles (age determined by observing a captive animal) can live 60 – 100 years. Not only do these creatures embody a very old life form in their appearance, but their actual performance, if given the chance with habitat monitoring and protection, supports that impression during a very methodical and patient long life without much fanfare.

We are very fortunate to have this talk at this meeting because our visits to places on the Champlain Islands and to Missisquoi NWR include the special shoreline habitats that turtles utilize for breeding and overwintering. Every year, in October the Fish and Wildlife Department conducts a volunteer day where people weed the shale and sand beaches to maintain and improve the habitat for the next season's nesting turtles.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018:

Annual Business Meeting, 7:00 PM
Perry Hall, Eagle Camp
South Hero, Vermont

followed by **Slides by Members Show**

President Debbie Benjamin said that she learned from the Hill's that long time member, Sarah Jane Hills (born 1931), from Lambert, Quebec passed away in late 2018. Sarah was a native of Austin, Texas, attended the University of Texas and was an avid traveler, tennis player, gardener and wine enthusiast. She (and for many years her husband, Theo) always looked forward to the B&B meeting and, as can be seen in the recent Club photos, she has perhaps the biggest smile of all.

[See Henry Potter Scholarships for this year's scholarship students – Steven Lamonde and Ivy Luke.]

1. Secretary's Report – Botany trips

Secretary Scott Bassage introduced member Kate Kruesi to speak to the group about her initiative in encouraging existing botanical and bird groups in Vermont to host more botanical/natural community field trips throughout the season. As a starter, she described two field trips that are planned for later in the Summer:

1) 8/4/18 Paddle the Clyde River with Aaron Marcus;

2) 8/26/18 Botanize the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge with Arthur Gilman.

The membership thanked Kate for her effort and looks forward to collaborating on adding field trips to the calendar.

2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Charlotte Hanna handed out the Treasurer's Report.

1) The Club is in solid financial condition. The checking account balance was $13,663.00 in June 2017; and is $15,388.00 at this time. The Club's Savings Account (held in Green Century Equity Fund) was $23,474.00 in June 2017; and is $26,304.00 at his time. The Scholarship Endowment (unrestricted within Green Century Account) stood at the end of June 2017 meeting at $13,370.00 [Note: This includes a single $50.00 donation shortly after the 2017 meeting.] to which donations added $175.00 in the remainder of 2017 and added $525.00 in 2018 for a balance total of $14,070.00.

2) The 2017 Annual Meeting at Quimby Country was partially supported by the Club's General Funds (a general procedure that members voted and approved at the 2013 business meeting) by $1,487.00.

3) Membership supported the proposal that Charlotte and Debbie work with Marvin Elliott to try to change the administration of the Pete Davis bequest of 2015 through a jointly written letter to the executor. A full report on that will be given at the 2019 meeting.

As part of the 2019 meeting, a call to move and approve the 2018 Treasurer's Report will occur in order to complete that report.

3. Scholarship Report

Scott Bassage outlined the process for recruiting scholarship students: a page on the Club's website gives a calendar of due dates; a printed poster is placed at a number of college bulletin boards; and, most importantly, a one to one conversation from any of us is the best way to generate interest.

4. Nominating Committee

President Emeritus Peter Hope presented the slate of Officers to members.

President	Deborah Benjamin
Vice- President Plants	Everett Marshall
Vice-President Birds	no candidate at this time
Treasurer	Charlotte Hanna
Secretary	Scott Bassage

Former VP of Birds Connie Youngstrom is

stepping down; she has served as the commander of birds since 2003. The Officers will interview potential persons to take up the mantle.

Louanne Nielsen moved and Kate Kruesi seconded that the Secretary cast one unanimous ballet for the slate of Officers. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Field Trip Reports

Birds:

Connie introduced the Panel of birders who gave the Bird Report: Connie, Louanne, Sue (Elliott), Steven, Kathleen, and an American Robin which sang continuously outside the window. Steven reported that the bird tally was 92 species. Kathleen noticed the abundance of House Wrens; and the Barred Owl at Eagle Camp which we all heard overnight; the opportunity to enjoy nesting Merlins here at Eagle Camp and also at Knight Point State Park; the great looks at Great Crested Flycatcher and American Redstart today; nesting chickadees; and a favorite Yellow Warbler. Louanne described the unusual call from Osprey at the South Hero Marsh powerline nest site – and Debbie tried to imitate the odd trailing part; the Meadowlark on the wire, and a Bobolink that almost became a hood ornament. Connie described the long list of shorebirds at Campbell's Campground on this beautiful day: Black Terns (at Charcoal Creek), Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Least Plover and all agreed that the birds were still in their dress-up clothes – plumage. Steven enjoyed the Yellow-billed Cuckoo right here and pointed out the we saw all 6 Vermont species of swallows: Purple Martin, Bank, Cliff, Northern Rough-winged, Tree and Barn. Sue Elliott asked that people that describe themselves a plant people speak up: Ann Burcroff said a Merlin watched as she and Mary and Debbie went swimming; Anne Hill liked the wren perched on a bath towel and singing; Kate liked the Dunlin; Peter agreed and added the Black-bellied Plover for photographers; Charlotte Bill said the Merlin which chased an Osprey; and Sara who said we enjoyed all the shorebirds.

Plants:

Peter Hope gave the plant report in for Everett who was ordered to go home and cure his virus induced laryngitis. Scott enjoyed the Gray Dogwood; Ivy really liked the ancient sugar maples at Knight Point SP. Everyone worked very hard to locate a few early Virginia Chain Ferns along the Old Railroad Passage at Missisquoi NWR. Peter said the carrion flower was impressive in its very upright posture – Tig said the flower's aroma of rotten meat to attract the manure fly induced physical nausea. Debbie liked the yellow water crowfoot in bloom at Butternut Hill and the Silver Maples with broad buttresses. It was fun comparing and contrasting the pith color of the Black Walnut at Eagle Camp and the Butternut along the road which yielded its blooming spike after a serendipitous finding of a powerline tool along the edge of the road allowed Peter to snag a sample (without falling headfirst into the poison-ivy laden ditch). Marvin learned about sedges from Matt and Charlotte Bill liked the white bear sedge. Debbie appreciated the shagbark hickories at a couple of places and noted that they were neat looking rather than shaggy. Steven admired the maidenhair fern; Peter quietly observed that a bird person was describing a plant - “I like that”. At Butternut Hill we could see Silvery Glade Fern next to Lady Fern for a good comparison.

6. 2019 Meeting Suggestions

Members encouraged the Board to look south for 2019.

7. Other Business

Steven handed out his consulting business cards.

8. Adjourn AT 8:35 PM

Marvin moved and Sue Elliot seconded that the meeting adjourn. All in Favor.

SLIDES BY MEMBERS SHOW

Five people shared slides of plants, birds, places and events from near and far.

1. Tig Arnold showed pictures of "things in bloom" during this meeting: honeysuckle, goatsbeard, black walnut flower with pink stigmas, highbush cranberry, dogwood, nannyberry, carrion flower, black chokeberry, bluets, musclewood, Peter with powerline pole (not a thing in bloom, but used like the New Caledonian Crow does as a tool to get a butternut flower), chickadee nest, Jack-in-the-pulpit, horse chestnut, shagbark hickory, cut leaved toothwort, baneberry, maidenhair fern, buttercup swamp. In Nashville, TN he found a Lutheran Church parking lot that let them stay to view the total solar eclipse from a good vantage point.

2. Peter Hope brought along his favorites: Esqua Bog and Showy Lady's-Slipper, water avens fruit (similar to fireworks), poison sumac in sun, two bald eagles in New York and bullhead lily. He also headed west to Torrington, WY during the total solar eclipse in a zone where totality was 2 minutes and 1 second. Back at home, map turtles, spiny softshell turtle were basking in the sun at the lower Lamoille River. We finished up with painted turtle, pseudoscorpion, and painted trillium ("I have to have a plant as my last slide").

3. Sue Elliott shared pictures from travels to Virginia with a Red-breasted Merganser on the eastern shore; Wild Turkeys, Black-throated Sparrow, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Acorn Woodpecker, Pyrrhuloxia (extra points if you can spell it) Dickcissel in Texas. She was so proud of her Black-capped Vireo from Possum Kingdom State Park in Arkansas and finished up with a plant also – Leatherwood flower.

4. Debbie Benjamin showed pictures taken by the group – Debbie, Everett, Deb P., Scott, Charlotte H. and Connie - during their August, 2017 camping and paddling excursion on the Connecticut River from Maidstone to Bloomfield. The water was unusually high that year and the current was frisky. The fleet included boats named – Tsunami, Typhoon and Hurricane – however, the weather that day was glorious. We saw high erosion banks on the river and had to quickly pull over to get a close-up view of a Purple-fringed Orchid before the current carried us by. The next day we enjoyed Maidstone Lake undeveloped state park shoreline and south bay. This Spring, in April a scouting party of Debbie, and Charlotte and Hal Bill stopped at Carmen Marsh WMA and happened to run into Friday program speaker Steve Parren who was rescuing map turtles whose nests had been disturbed. Back at home last March Debbie was extremely lucky to get a video of a Pileated Woodpecker pecking away on an Eastern White Cedar just outside when all of a sudden it was joined by a second woodpecker.

5. Marv Elliott shared pictures from his travels with Sue and nearer to home: Mallards on the Castleton River; a Barred Owl on the ground during a Christmas Bird Count; Hooded Mergansers at the junction of East and Otter Creeks where wastewater effluent keeps the ice melted. We enjoyed Vermillion Flycatcher in Texas; a Roadrunner; Canyon Wren. A beautiful Green Jay entertained them at a restaurant in Costa Rica. We saw Connie Y. releasing a Hermit Thrush at an Audubon camp in Maine. And his favorite a Snowy Egret from Texas that was "just in the right place".

HENRY POTTER SCHOLARSHIPS

The Club enjoyed the presence of this year's two scholarship students after initially meeting them last year and the year before: Ivy Luke said that she graduated from St. Michael's College two weeks ago and was working on a Vegetable Farm in Fletcher; Steven Lamonde is working as an independent contractor in southwest New Hampshire doing bird surveys for private landowners to do habitat recommendations for the birds on their property. Applause followed for our two very talents and busy people.

FIELD TRIPS:

I. THE ISLANDS TRIP:

1) South Hero Marsh Wildlife Management Area, South Hero:

The South Hero Land Trust and Recreation Trail is a portion of the old Island Line Railroad Bed and passes through South Hero Marsh WMA, also known as Station Marsh or Roy Marsh WMA. The level 1.8 mile trail runs through a bottomland forest that is just above a floodplain forest with open marsh to the east and is seasonally inundated. Blue-gray Gnatchers are here; Osprey nest along the power line cut; Black-crowned Night Heron are regular nesters in the swamp. The light shade brings flowers and shrubs along the edges of the trail. There is poison ivy.

2) Knight Point State Park, North Hero:

The trail along the shoreline has stands of mature windswept oak and maple on the point and hickory and hop hornbeam a little inland. The cobble shoreline around the point is the largest undisturbed example of this habitat on Lake Champlain. We will have lunch here and explore the grounds. The park is named after John Knight, the Point's first resident, and who began the first ferry service in the Islands in 1785.

3) Butternut Hill Natural Area, North Hero:

This 144 acre Natural Area is owned jointly by the Lake Champlain Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy and is managed by North Hero Recreation Park at Camp Ingalls. From the trial head, one enters a maple-ash-hickory-oak forest on limestone bedrock with many flowers and ferns typical of rich woods; an elevated platform overlooks a vernal pool. A tongue of floodplain forest separates the rich woods from the white and red cedar ridge that ends at a bluff on Lake Champlain with shale beaches below.

II. THE MISSISQUOI NW REFUGE TRIP:

1) Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, Tabor Road Locations, Swanton:

a. Old Railroad Passage Trail: We will pass a small wetland and open fields where we may see bobolinks and meadowlarks on our way to the historic railroad bed - now a smooth grassy trail. There are many shrubs along the trail – rhodora, mountain holly, huckleberry, highbush cranberry. Birds include: Swamp Sparrow, Willow Flycatcher, Northern Waterthrush. The trail borders 900-acre Maquam Bog (not open to the public), Vermont's only example of a Pitch Pine woodland bog and home of the state-endangered Virginia Chain Fern, *Woodwardia virginica.* The trail ends at Maquam Bay.

b. Headquarters on Tabor Road: This building has nice displays, meeting rooms and bathrooms. There are Cliff Swallows under the entrance way eaves (heads up) and Purple Martins in a tall white martin house.

c. Overlook Parking Lot: At this “height” of land (only a few feet higher than the road and surrounding fields), there are nice views and good birding in the shrubby margins and a small wetland.

d. Steven J. Young Marsh Trail: The north end of this trail through red maple and hemlock woods has an elevated viewing platform and a marsh with ducks, geese and herons.

2**) Campbell Bay Campground Birding Hotspot, Swanton:**

From RT 78 east of Tabor Road, go north on Campbell Bay Road all the way to a private campground and turn toward the east point of land. This is a good place for shorebirds and terns. Be careful to park out of the way of trucks with boat trailers. On the way at a private residence on Church Road, there are three tall Purple Martin boxes in the side yard.

PLANT LIST 2018 **compiled by Everett Marshall with Kate Kruesi and Matt Peters**

Eagle Camp, South Hero

Draba arabisans	rock whitlow-grass
Juglans nigra	black walnut

I. THE ISLANDS TRIP:

Leaders:
Friday, June 1, 2018: Matt Peters, Assistant Ecologist, Natural Heritage Inventory; Debbie Benjamin
Saturday, June 2, 2018: Deborah Benjamin (in for Peter Hope who lead the other trip for Everett who regrettably was ill)

South Hero Marsh WMA, South Hero

Acer negundo	box-elder
Acer platanoides	Norway maple
Acer saccharinum	silver maple
Alliaria petiolata	garlic mustard
Arisaema triphyllum	Jack-in-the-pulpit
Carex appalachica	Appalachian sedge
Carex formosa	thicket sedge
Carex grisea	gray sedge
Carex rosea	rosy sedge
Carpinus caroliniana var. virginiana	hornbeam
Cicuta maculata	spotted water-hemlock
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green red ash
Geum laciniatum	herb bennet
Hydrocharis morsus-ranae	frog's-bit
Lemna trisulca	star duckweed
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	woodbine
Polyporus squamosus	dryad saddle
Quercus bicolor	swamp white oak
Quercus macrocarpa	bur oak
Quercus rubra	red oak
Rhamnus cathartica	buckthorn
Ribes americanum	wild black currant
Toxicodendron rydbergii	creeping poison-ivy
Ulmus americana	American elm
Viburnum opulus var. opulus	guelder-rose
Viola pubescens var. pubescens	downy yellow violet
Zanthoxylum americanum	prickly ash

Knight Point State Park, North Hero

Acer saccharum	sugar maple

Anemonastrum canadense	Canada anemone
Carya ovata	shagbark hickory
Cornus amomum var. scheutzeana	common silky dogwood
Cornus sericea	red-osier dogwood
Crataegus monogyna	English hawthorn
Elaeagnus umbellata	autumn-olive
Lythrum salicaria	purple loosestrife
Sambucus racemosa	red-berried elder
Tilia cordata	little-leaf linden

Butternut Hill Natural Area, North Hero

Actaea pachypoda	doll's-eyes baneberry
Adiantum pedatum	northern maidenhair
Aesculus hippocastanum	horse-chestnut
Agrimonia striata or A. pubesens	pubescent hog peanut
Asarum canadense	wild ginger
Athyrium filix-femina var. angustum	lady fern
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese barberry
Cardamine concatenata	cut-leaved toothwort
Cardamine diphylla	common toothwort
Carex albursina	white bear sedge
Carex appalachica	Appalachian sedge
Carex arctata	drooping wood sedge
Carex blanda	woodland sedge
Carex communis	common sedge
Carex formosa	thicket sedge
Carex grisea	gray sedge
Carex hitchcockiana	Hitchcock's sedge
Carex pedunculata	peduncled sedge
Carex rosea	rosy sedge
Carpinus caroliniana var. virginiana	hornbeam
Carya cordiformis	bitternut hickory
Carya ovata	shagbark hickory
Caulophyllum thalictroides	blue cohosh
Cicuta maculata	spotted water-hemlock
Deparia acrostichoides	silvery glade fern
Dicentra cucullaria	Dutchman's-breeches
Dryopteris carthusiana	spinulose woodfern
Erythronium americanum	trout lily
Eurybia macrophylla	large-leaved aster
Hepatica acutiloba	sharp-lobed hepatica
Juglans cinerea	butternut
Laportea canadensis	wood nettle
Myosotis scorpioides	common forget-me-not
Nabalus albus	white lettuce
Osmorhiza claytonii	sweet cicely

Osmunda claytoniana	interrupted fern
Ostrya virginiana	hop-hornbeam
Poa nemoralis	European woodland bluegrass
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas fern
Quercus bicolor	swamp white oak
Quercus macrocarpa	bur oak
Ranunculus abortivus	kidney-leaved crowfoot
Ranunculus flabellaris	yellow water-crowfoot
Ranunculus recurvatus	hooked crowfoot
Sanguinaria canadensis	bloodroot
Sanicula trifoliata	large-fruited sanicle
Solidago caesia	blue-stemmed goldenrod
Solidago flexicaulis	zig-zag goldenrod
Thalictrum dioicum	early meadow-rue
Trillium grandiflorum	white trillium
Uvularia grandiflora	large-flowered bellwort
Viola canadensis	Canada violet

II. THE MISSISQUOI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE TRIP:

Leaders:
Friday, June 1, 2018: Everett Marshall, Natural Heritage Information Manager; Scott Bassage
Saturday, June 2, 2018: Peter Hope, Professor St.Michael's College; Scott Bassage

Old Railroad Passage Trail, Missisquoi NWR, Swanton

Acer saccharum	sugar maple
Amelanchier laevis	common shadbush
Apios americana	ground-nut
Aronia melanocarpa	black chokeberry
Carex crinita	fringed sedge
Carex gracillima	slender sedge
Carex intumescens	swollen sedge
Carex lasiocarpa	hairy-fuited sedge
Carex vesicaria	inflated sedge
Celastrus scandens	common bittersweet
Cephalanthus occidentalis	buttonbush
Cornus amomum var. scheutzeana	common silky dogwood
Cornus racemosa	gray dogwood
Equisetum fluviatile	water horsetail
Galium mollugo	common bedstraw
Gaylussacia baccata	black huckleberry
Ilex mucronata	mountain holly
Ilex verticillata	winterberry
Osmunda regalis var. spectabilis	royal fern
Osmundastrum cinnamomeum	cinnamon fern
Prunus pensylvanica	fire cherry

Prunus serotina	black cherry
Prunus virginiana	choke cherry
Quercus bicolor	swamp white oak
Smilax herbacea	carrion-flower
Solidago gigantea	large goldenrod
Toxicodendron rydbergii	creeping poison-ivy
Vaccinium corymbosum	highbush blueberry
Viburnum dentatum var. lucidum	arrow-wood
Viburnum lentago	nannyberry
Viburnum opulus var. americanum	highbush cranberry
Viola cucullata	marsh blue violet
Vitis riparia	riverbank grape
Woodwardia virginica	Virginia chain fern

Campbell Bay Campground, Swanton

Butomus umbellatus	flowering rush
Iris pseudacorus	yellow flag
Rorippa amphibia	great yellow cress

MEMBERS MEMORABLE MOMENTS

… brown uniform ? must be a UPS driver
… the bachelor pad of Wood Ducks
… they look like pebbles coming out of pebbles
… galloping turtles hydroplaning into the lake
… it almost became a hood ornament
… they were in their dress up clothes
… they watched us swim
… "life pistils"
… I see a bird guy bringing up ferns – nice
… why can't we just call it a seed ?

Dunlin CB

BIRD LIST: Eagle Camp, South Hero, VT May 31 – June 3, 2018, compiled by Steven Lamonde

92 species were officially seen during the meeting; they are listed on page 12.
In addition, a Spotted Sandpiper was observed at Rockwell Beach Sunday morning.
And, a small group of birders went to Franklin County Airport on Sunday and saw: Indigo Bunting, Field Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, and Vesper Sparrow.

1. Canada Goose
2. Wood Duck
3. Mallard
4. Common Goldeneye
5. Common Merganser
6. Ruffed Grouse
7. Wild Turkey
8. Rock Pigeon
9. Mourning Dove
10. Yellow-billed Cuckoo
11. Chimney Swift
12. Ruby-throated Hummingbird
13. Black-bellied Plover
14. Killdeer
15. Semipalmated Sandpiper
16. Least Sandpiper
17. Dunlin
18. Wilson's Snipe
19. Ring-billed Gull
20. Herring Gull
21. Caspian Tern
22. Black Tern
23. Common Tern
24. Common Loon
25. Double-crested Cormorant
26. Great Blue Heron
27. Turkey Vulture
28. Osprey
29. Bald Eagle
30. Northern Harrier
31. Red-tailed Hawk
32. Barred Owl
33. Belted Kingfisher
34. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
35. Downy Woodpecker
36. Hairy Woodpecker
37. Northern Flicker
38. Pileated Woodpecker
39. Merlin
40. Eastern Wood-Pewee
41. Alder Flycatcher
42. Willow Flycatcher
43. Least Flycatcher
44. Eastern Phoebe
45. Great Crested Flycatcher
46. Eastern Kingbird
47. Warbling Vireo
48. Red-eyed Vireo
49. Blue Jay
50. American Crow
51. Common Raven
52. Purple Martin
53. Tree Swallow
54. Northern Rough-winged Swallow
55. Bank Swallow
56. Cliff Swallow
57. Barn Swallow
58. Black-capped Chickadee
59. Tufted Titmouse
60. White-breasted Nuthatch
61. Brown Creeper
62. House Wren
63. Marsh Wren
64. Eastern Bluebird
65. Veery
66. Wood Thrush
67. American Robin
68. Gray Catbird
69. European Starling
70. Cedar Waxwing
71. House Sparrow
72. House Finch
73. American Goldfinch
74. Chipping Sparrow
75. Savannah Sparrow
76. Song Sparrow
77. Swamp Sparrow
78. Ovenbird
79. Northern Waterthrush
80. Black-and-white Warbler
81. Common Yellowthroat
82. American Redstart
83. Yellow Warbler
84. Chestnut-sided Warbler
85. Scarlet Tanager
86. Northern Cardinal
87. Bobolink
88. Red-winged Blackbird
89. Eastern Meadowlark
90. Common Grackle
91. Brown-headed Cowbird
92. Baltimore Oriole