### VERMONT BOTANICAL AND BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER

### **FEBRUARY 2020**

### **2020 Annual Meeting Announcement**

The 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Vermont Botanical and Bird Club will be held on Thursday, June 4 – Sunday, June 7, 2020 at Castleton University in Castleton, Vermont.

We look forward to holding our meeting in the west-central region of Vermont. We were last in the area (and stayed at then named Castleton State College) in 2011. Members who attended that meeting will remember that year as a high

water year for Lake Champlain. The water level was so high that we were prevented from driving down the Poultney River Road to Bald Mountain and Buckner Preserve, as the road was under 4' of water. We hope that the Lake will be better behaved this year and look forward to visiting this special place; we also look forward to West Rutland Marsh for birding and other great places.

We will stay at Hoff Hall on campus and have evening programs at Stafford Center Academic Center Herrick Auditorium.

### 124th Annual Meeting at Pine Valley/Quechee KOA in Hartland/Woodstock May 30 - June 2, 2020



Vermont Botanical and Bird Club at Pine Valley/Quechee KOA, Hartland, VT Saturday, June 1, 2019 photo: Peter Hope Deck (4 people) left to right: Lynne Arnold, Tig Arnold, Denise Martin, Jo Robertson (scholarship); Steps (6 people) top to bottom: Charlotte Hanna, Deb Parrella, Claire Scherf (scholarship), Catherine Sells, Susan Brown, Mary Hill; Ground Level, Back Row (3 people) left to right: Michael Sundue, Bryan Palfey, Connie Youngstrom; Ground Level, Front Row (10 people, 1 book) left to right: Louanne Nielsen, Susan Elliott, Ann Burcroff, Steven Lamonde, Deborah Benjamin, (book:: New Flora of Vermont by Arthur Gilman), Scott Bassage, Everett Marshall, Marvin Elliott, Michael Chernesky, Peter Hope.

### EVENING PROGRAMS PINE VALLEY PAVILION 7:00 PM

### **THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2019:**

"Flights in the dark: illuminating the contrasting migration strategies of two grassland bird species, Upland Sandpipers and Grasshopper Sparrows", by Jason Hill, Conservation Biologist, Vermont Center for Ecostudies.

With support from the U. S. Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program, Jason Hill and Roz Renfrew have conducted a three-year investigation into three grassland bird species: Grasshopper Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and Upland Sandpiper across international borders and throughout their annual cycle. Their findings have been recently published in the Open Access journal, Ecology and Evolution.

This evening, we learned about the migratory practices of two of these grassland bird species that have experienced dramatic population declines in the past 60 years: Grasshopper Sparrow and Upland Sandpiper.

We looked at the migratory connectivity of three more common species of birds to see if that could help us understand what kind of conservation practices would best help our two species. We looked at rose-breasted grosbeaks with high connectivity – that is birds stayed together in familiar groups during breeding and migratory seasons. We looked at cedar waxwings which demonstrate intermediate connectivity with more mixing of populations. And, we looked at greenwinged teal which demonstrate a great deal of mixing throughout their annual cycle.

Grasshopper Sparrows weigh 17 grams and are cryptically colored and difficult to find in their highly camouflaging habitat of grasslands. Their songs are soft and buzzy and are also difficult to pick out. In 2015, the researchers mist-netted 180

birds and tagged them on grassy military installations in six states from North Dakota to Massachusetts with tiny backpack-style sensors (3% of the bird's weight) that would record light levels during their annual migration cycle. In 2016, 35 birds were recovered that yielded information about the whereabouts of their time when not in the breeding season.

Their findings were very revealing and would help inform management practices to stem the decline.

- 1) Grasshopper Sparrows arrived one to two months before and left one to two months after what was presumed to be the breeding season.
- 2) Their short duration daily flights (70 km/day) suggest that they use a wide variety of habitats as they migrate and over winter.
- 3) Midwest sparrows wintered in Texas and Mexico and East Coast birds wintered in Florida and the Caribbean; so a one size fits all approach to management would need to be refined.

The much larger species, Upland Sandpiper, weighing in at 170 grams, could be outfitted with backpack-style solar-powered geolocators that would give much more information. The birds demonstrated dramatic variation in habitat-use patterns and migration strategies. Covering 10 K miles in 3 months, they would often travel non-stop 1000 km; with one record flight by one bird being 3700 km non-stop over ocean during 5 days continuously. It is thought that the bird can rest part of its brain in flight.

It is through countless hours in the field and patient research by scientists throughout the hemisphere that will produce the knowledge that will help inform resource managers about how best to conserve these and other beautiful species.

See an interactive presentation highlighting Jasons and Roz's research on grassland birds in "Fantastic Flights – Technology Tells the Tale of Avian Travels". Go to www.vtecostudies.org, then select "Projects" "Grasslands" and "Grassland Bird Migration Project".

### FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2019:

"Botanical Exploration in Uapishka, Quebec", by Matt Peters, Independent Botanical and Ecological Consultant.

We enjoyed following four hearty travelers - botanist/hiker/backpackers – Matt Peters and his partner Sacha Pealer, and Bob and Kay Zaino, as they visited, on two separate trips in 2017 and 2018, "Uapishka" (="White Mountains"), a 1200 square mile area in north central Quebec next to the Manicougan impact crater. It is the largest low-altitude alpine area in the northeast.

In all of New England and New York, alpine regions at the summits of mountains here cover 17 square miles: about 100 acres in New York, 116 acres in Vermont, 6.5 square miles in Maine and 10 square miles in New Hampshire. A recent book by M. T. Jones and L. L. Willey, titled Eastern Alpine Guide: Natural History and Conservation of Mountain Tundra East of the Rockies describes these familiar special places in language including "felsenmeer" or rock sea, "krummholz" or broken wood, tablelands, snowbeds and are given the names of famous people and places: The Gothics in the Adirondacks, The Chin on Mt. Mansfield, North Basin and Chimney Pond at Baxter State Park, Mt. Washington, the Southern and Northern Presidentials, the Alpine Garden, Oakes Gulf, Mt. Monroe, and Mt. Washington's Great Gulf – all places that have held well-documented botanical exploration for hundreds of years.

Uapishka is 25 miles by 60 miles in area and ranges as a tableland/plateau from elevation 1300' to its highest elevation at the summit of Mont Veyrier at 3623'. One third of the area is classified as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. It sits upon Grenville Province Canadian Shield bedrock.

In looking over herbarium records and what limited digital databases that exist, there are 218 plant species known that occur in 53 families and

130 genera. Matt and his team collected 208 species (125 specimens) during the two visits which added 38 newly documented species, including 16 new genera and 4 new families, or an increase of 27% of the known vascular plants all this while backpacking from one location to another. "Fortunately, alpine plants tend to be small." Most of the landscape is old-growth subalpine white spruce woodland carpeted in moss with low growing snowbed vegetation; krummholz appears lush below and ice blasted above indicating a snow depth of about 2 metres.

They found 5 Provincially rare species, including Alpine Ladies' Mantle, Alpine Lady Fern, Norwegian Cudweed and Glacial Sedge. Of the 38 new species, 14 were arctic/alpine species, and several were extreme snowbed species; there were also calcicoles, such as Tofieldia, Draba glabella, Fragile Fern and Poa glauca, and a few aquatic species. One extreme snowbed species was Allan's Buttercup and its discovery helped fill in a distributional range gap. We saw Phyllodoce (mountain heather), Cassiope (moss plant), swamp dewberry, black sedge, Selaginella, alpine groundsel. Cloudberry (which do taste like baked apples). It was odd that Juneus trifidus was not seen on either trip, a common plant of New England and NY alpine areas.

And then there were the biting flies: black, deer, horse, mosquito, no-see-um in life threatening profusion. The only protection was to wear clothing that maintained a physical barrier between fly and flesh. Other creatures were: Arctic Fritillary, willow ptarmigan, a dragonfly, brook trout (delicious and fun to watch feed on black flies), and tantalizing indications of caribou (tracks, paths, antler rubs) but not the animal.

The evening wrapped up with a great appreciation for the enormous amount of energy to undergo these expeditions and to make their contributions. And members felt the trekkers' purpose to expand the appreciation of the arctic/alpine community in northeast North America from those regions closer by to this journey to the far north.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019:

### Annual Business Meeting Pavilion, Pine Valley/Quechee KOA 7:00 PM

### **1. Secretary's Report** – Bulletins Past, Present and Future.

Secretary Scott Bassage reported that on May 2, 2019 Debbie Benjamin visited Curator Ryan Polk of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park and looked at the Billings/Kittredge Herbarium, especially the water-colored painted photographs by Elsie Kittredge. In preparation for that visit it became apparent that there were nine Vermont Botanical and Bird Club Bulletins which contained articles by Ms. Kittredge and Elizabeth Billings from the 19-teens into the 19-twenties. Debbie was able to collect from the Club archives an original Bulletin for each of the nine issues and present them to Mr. Polk as a gift from us. Several issues contained E.M. Kittredge's signature on the cover in stout pencil. They were delighted to receive the original material to add to the collection.

Present - The most current Bulletin was published in 2012 and edited by Arthur Gilman. There are a few of those Bulletins for those who didn't attend the 2012 meeting to take this evening.

Future – Arthur Gilman has volunteered to edit the next Bulletin and will be sending out requests for articles. Everett mentioned that an article can be a longer research paper; but it also can be a shorter article such as an observation.

### 2. Treasurer's Report

2018 – Motion to approve 2018 Treasurer's Report. Move – Ann Burcroff, Second – Deb Parrella. The vote was All in Favor.

2019 – Treasurer's Report

Charlotte Hanna said that the Club's fiscal year is

the calendar year and that she would report on the whole year 2018. She presented a sheet of all income and all expenses and the totals (at the time of this Newsletter) are \$20,615.00 in General Funds, \$14,298.00 in Scholarship Endowment and for a Grand Total of \$34,913.00 in Total Funds.

Scott Bassage moved and Everett Marshall seconded that the Treasurer's Report as presented be approved. The vote was All in Favor.

Charles Gracie Davis, Jr. Bequest – Debbie Benjamin summarized the efforts by the three appointed people – Debbie, Marvin Elliott and Charlotte Hanna – to pursue and receive the balance of the \$10,000.00 beguest made by former member and Club treasurer "Pete" Davis after his death in 2015; and passed out a two-page summary of that process. Each step of the way – from Marvin's eloquent letter in June, 2018 to our lawyer's involvement in Fall, 2018 and ultimately a court ruling from the Gunnison County, Colorado Court in March, 2019 - is in a three-ring binder notebook. On April 8, 2019 the Club received a check for \$9,450.00 after a favorable 5-page judgment by Judge James Steven Patrick. The Bequest is to be used for scholarship students over the next several years.

### 3. Scholarship Report

Scott Bassage thanked Peter Hope for recommending Claire Scherf and Everett Marshall for recommending Jo Robinson. He encouraged members to "beat the bushes" in search of qualified students going forward.

### 4. Nominating Committee

Peter Hope presented a slate of Officers:

Deborah Benjamin – President
Everett Marshall – Vice-President Plants
Susan Elliott and Connie Youngstrom \* –
co-Vice-Presidents Birds
Treasurer – Charlotte Hanna
Secretary – Scott Bassage

Deb Parrella moved and Mary Hill seconded that the Slate be approved. The vote was All in Favor.

\* Susan Elliott will prepare the master bird list and highlights write-up. Connie Youngstrom will organize the Morning Bird Walks and cover scouting.

### 5. Field Trip Reports – Plants

Everett reported that the Club welcomed three phenomenal young botanists on this year's trips: Michael Sundue, Matt Peters and Aaron Marcus. He then asked for people to give favorite plant encounters.

Sue Elliott said that she enjoyed the tiny naked mitrewort in Eshqua Bog that "looks like a little dead thing". Deb Parrella liked the saxifrage with the "bi-carpalate pistil". Michael Sundue pointed out the Equisetum scirpoides, the smallest horsetail on Earth, and how lucky we are to live nearby. Ann Burcroff was thrilled with fringed polygala. Steven Lamonde said there were a lot of paler Jack-in-the-pulpits at the Gorge. Jo Robinson had two favorites – the bog buckbean at Eshqua Bog and a fungus which she captured in her notebook of drawings. Mary Hill liked the funky wild ginger flowers on the way to the Pogue. Everett said that Dewey's Mills Pond is a great place to teach about invasives. The Chestnut tree was a treat both days at Marsh-Billings Park.

### Field Trip Reports - Birds

Sue Elliott said that this year was a banner year for warblers and that the field trips yielded 17 species of warblers including 5 blackpoll a Tennessee "typewriter", and a Blackburnian warbler bathing in a pool at Marsh-Billings Arboretum Trail as we watched for three minutes. Signs of nesting were evident: 2 adult and one immature bald eagle at North Hartland Dam; brown creepers, 2 separate nestings of Baltimore orioles, as well as least flycatcher and flicker. Catherine Sells said she saw her first warbling

vireo and Sue asked if she did a Life Bird Dance.

Besides birds we enjoyed turtles, dragonflies, morel mushrooms, woodchuck, millipede and the yellow slant-line moth.

### 6. & 7. 2020 Meeting and Other Business

Debbie thanked Catherine Sells for her prompt search for a place for this year. Steven suggested that the Club visit West Haven and perhaps stay at Castleton University in 2020.

### 8. Adjourn

Deb Parrella moved and Lynne Arnold seconded that the meeting adjourn. The vote was All in Favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

### **Slides by Members Show**

Six people showed slides of this meeting and of birds, plants, people and places from afar.

- 1. Everett showed three pictures of visual beauty: moss pictures from scouting capsules showing sporophytes and gametophytes; a beautiful shot of Uvularia grandifolia "It's kind of a messy flower I'm kind of a messy person"); and Apios americana, hog peanut, which conjures up memories from the Summer of 1985 when he spent a lot of time at Lake Champlain shorelines.
- 2. Tig loves to take pictures of anything that is in bloom: Polygala, chokecherry, bluet, columbine ("I'm a sucker for columbine") Chestnut Oak, American Chestnut, Uvularia ("the messy one"), saxifrage, yellow lady's-slipper, marsh marigold, sundew, mitrewort, golden alexanders, and some nice pictures of morning birders.
- 3. Sue Elliott showed pictures of Sitting Bull Falls, NM jewel flower; larkspur, feather plume shrub at West Texas, Chihuahua Desert fern, acorn woodpecker, black-throated gray warbler near the camper in New Mexico; black-chinned hummingbird just before almost stepping on a

rattlesnake; Stellar's jay; cactus wren, and a jack rabbit with big feet and big ears.

- 4. Marvin entertained us with pictures including a sprightly Road Runner and a Spotted Towhee. We saw Gambel's Quail at Bosque Apache National Reserve, a Great-horned Owl, Black-throated Sparrow, Loggerhead Shrike. They were glad to see Lucy's Warbler and Curve-billed Thrashers real aerial clowns. A White-tailed Kite showed up in New Mexico and another Great-horned Owl which they heard from a small juniper tree and the next morning they found the owl about 20' from the camper. Marvin said that out of 4,000 pictures taken in 2 months, it is challenging to pick out 10 to show.
- 5. Debbie Benjamin showed a list of the Club Bulletins that she assembled from the archives to give to Curator Ryan Polk of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park collection of articles written by Elizabeth Billings and Elsie Kittredge in the 19-teens and twenties, as well as a photo of them. She read some of the titles – one (VT Botanical Club Bulletin # 9) in which Miss Billings questioned the practice of sending school children out to collect plants as part of a child's learning; and two others by Miss Kittredge which discussed proposed amendments to legislation – Joint Bulletin # 9, 1923 to Act 260 of 1921 and Joint Bulletin # 6, 1924 to Present Wild Plant Law. She showed several of the hand-colored black and white photographs by Elsie Kittredge: pink lady's slippers, yellow lady's-slippers, showy lady's-slippers and the colored drawing done on Mt. Tom of Platanthera macrophylla July 25, 1928. Aaron used his hand lens to examine a flower close-up when we looked at the drawing on Friday morning at MABI Herbarium.

Interlude – Everett entertained us with slides from his computer – Bicknell's Thrush, Small-footed bat, American marten, American sturgeon - while Peter re-loaded his pictures.

6. Peter showed back-lit ducklings on Lake Carmi; immature bald eagle with Hope Bros.

Band in the background; green frog from VT and NY; from Costa Rica a group of Stilts and another of a group of humans – Peter's students in Palo Verde. An eye-lash viper which has the quickest strike of all snakes. How do you find arboreal snakes that are camouflaged? - You watch the reaction of the other animals in the canopy. A basilisk or Jesus Christ lizard with a bug on its nose. A trip to the Everglades - "I never saw so many snakes – Florida water snake, more stilts, an immature wood stork; a scorpion under black light (before you put your boots on). The student crew and a strangler fig, a tree fern from above, a white-whiskered puff bird and a grand finale of a video of black skimmers cruising around in a large circle finished out the evening.

### **Henry Potter Scholarship Students 2019**

We enjoyed the participation of two scholarship students this year.

Claire Scherf will be a senior at St. Michael's College. (PH)



Josephine Robertson, botany and art student.(LN)



#### **FIELD TRIPS:**

### I. EAST TRIP: Quechee/Hartland eBirding Hotspots:

### **Leaders:**

**Friday – Everett Marshall,** Natural Heritage Information Manager

Nathaniel Sharp, Vermont Center for Ecostudies, Citizen Scientist Outreach Naturalist Assistant – Scott Bassage

**Saturday - Everett Marshall,** Natural Heritage Information Manager

Assistant – Scott Bassage

### 1) Quechee Town Park, Quechee:

Quechee Town Park is a small public space with open fields along the north shore of the Ottauquechee River upstream from where it flows over a Falls and into the Gorge. There is a narrow strip of riverine floodplain forest with interesting plants and birds. Optional look at **Lake Pinneo** adjacent (west) to the Town Park (\* eBirding checklist shows 128 species plus 9 other taxa)

### 2) Dewey's Mills Pond, Hartford:

Formerly an impounded water body for wool production, the pond now is home to ducks and other waterfowl. We will park at the north end of the pond and walk down the causeway between the pond and the river with tall trees and a shrub edge which serves as nesting habitat for many species and affords great views. (\* eBirding checklist shows 173 species and 12 other taxa)

## 3) Quechee Gorge Trail, Quechee Visitor Center, Hartford:

The Trail departs from the Visitor Center down into a wooded area with ferns and wild flowers on a trail running along the spectacular deep limestone Gorge.

### 4) North Hartland Lake Recreation Area,

#### Hartland:

This flood control impounded lake established in 1967 is named after George Perkins Marsh. (\* eBirding checklist shows 122 species and 4 other taxa) (Admission fee)

### II. WEST TRIP: Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park & Eshqua Bog:

#### Leaders:

**Friday – Kyle Jones,** Ecologist at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP – AM

**Ryan Polk,** Curator; Ana Mejia, Student Conservation Association Intern - AM

**Susan and Dean Greenberg**, Volunteer Stewards - PM

Assistant Trip Leader – Aaron Marcus, Assistant Botanist, Vermont Natural Heritage Inventory; Assistant – Debbie Benjamin

**Saturday – Peter Hope,** Professor St. Michael's College

Intern - Ana Mejia - AM; Assistant – Debbie Benjamin

### 1) Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP – AM Visit to the Arboretum Trail, Woodstock

On Friday, we will meet Kyle Jones and Ryan Polk at the Carriage Barn Visitor Center for a view of the botanical work of Elizabeth Billings and Elsie Kittredge. On Saturday, Intern Ana Mejia will introduce us to the Arboretum Trail. We will leave this end of the Park and drive to Prosper Road Trailhead at 10:30 AM.

2) Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP – Hike to the Pogue, Woodstock

The Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park has a network of carriage trails and hiking trails through the mixed forests. We will walk the MacKenzie Road (shaded, gravel road with a gentle incline) 0.8 mile to the picturesque Pogue, formerly a fen and presently an impounded pond that is the water supply for the mansion and the

farm to the east. There are flowers and ferns of rich woods on the way including large-flowered bellwort, wild ginger, maidenhair fern, wintergreen. We will depart for Eshqua Bog at 2:00 PM by returning the way we came: Prosper Road north to RT 12 to Pleasant Street, to RT 4; At the sharp 90 ° turn on RT 4, go right onto Hartland Hill Road up to Garvin Hill Road. Eshqua Bog is on the right 2.5 miles up from RT 4.

### 3) Eshqua Bog Natural Area, Hartland

The 8-acre wetland and surrounding 33 acres comprise the Eshqua Bog Natural Area. A new well-designed boardwalk allows visitors to see wetland flowers and shrubs, pitcher plants, and orchids up close without compacting the fragile habitat. We hope to see Yellow Lady's Slippers in bloom at this early early Summer season. Stewards Susan and Dean Greenberg will greet us on the Friday visit (and join us for Dinner and Evening Program).

### BIRD LIST 2019 and REPORT, by Sue Elliott:

#### **REPORT:**

Eighty-three bird species (including one Accipiter not identified to species) were observed during the 124<sup>th</sup> annual meeting with field trips covering multiple locations in the Woodstock-Quechee-Hartland area. We saw and heard a good representation of birds for this part of Vermont. Warbler counts were high with 17 species observed.

### Some of the highlights:

The morning bird walks around the Pine Valley KOA campground provided a good variety of species (40 in all during our stay). We also had the opportunity to compare Chipping Sparrow and Pine Warbler songs, always tricky. Northern Flickers, seen on the first morning bird walk, were found nesting on the last day.

On the Friday trip to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park, while admiring the interesting mix of natural and long-ago planted trees and plants, we watched a female Blackburnian Warbler bathing in a small pool. It repeatedly dipped into the shallow water and jumped out, shaking and preening with each dip. An American Robin gathered food for young nearby, plucking worms from the damp edges.

Dewey's Pond was probably the 'birdiest' stop for both field trip days. The second group to visit was a bit envious of the first group which was lucky to spot a Bonaparte's Gull resting on the pond. Bonaparte's Gull migration peaks in mid-May, and, according to eBird, this was the latest sighting for this area in the past 20 years. The birders, who were fortunate enough to see the bird through a spotting scope, generally agreed that this was 'the' bird of the weekend.

Birders and botanists alike were aware that this was one of the best warbler migrations ever in Vermont. Even at the tail-end of the excitement, Tennessee Warblers were heard by both groups in a couple of areas. The second group to visit Dewey's Pond were treated to good looks at five Blackpoll Warblers, both male and female, with the males singing quite a bit despite this not being their breeding habitat.

As migration has morphed into breeding season, Baltimore Orioles were seen building their basket-like nests at Dewey's Pond (one nest found by the first group and two found by the second group). When an unoccupied nest was first spotted, it was thought to belong to a Yellow Warbler, that seemed agitated by the presence of people. A Least Flycatcher settled itself into the nest so ownership was clarified. No doubt by its behavior, however, the Yellow Warbler was also nesting nearby.

At Eshqua Bog, with most of us on our knees and stomachs looking at small plants, we could hear a Nashville Warbler singing as well as a Scarlet Tanager in the distance. Indeed, the value of birding by ear was once again underscored when botanizing and birding at the same time!

Three Bald Eagles, two adult and one immature, were seen at North Hartland Dam and a Louisiana Waterthrush was singing loudly over the rushing water of a stream flowing down to the Ottauquechee River.

One of the most interesting sights of the field trips was winged, but not avian. The emergence of dozens Common Baskettail dragonflies at the edge of The Pogue at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP, provided fascinating picnic entertainment and a dragonfly lunch for one frog.

#### **BIRD LIST 2019:**

Canada Goose

Warbling Vireo Blue-headed Vireo Red-eved Vireo Blue Jay American Crow Common Raven

Tree Swallow

Swamp Sparrow **Bobolink** 

Mallard Common Merganser Mourning Dove Chimney Swift Ruby-throated Hummingbird

**Baltimore Oriole** Red-winged Blackbird Brown-headed Cowbird Common Grackle Northern Rough-winged Swallow Ovenbird

Spotted Sandpiper Bonaparte's Gull

Barn Swallow Black-capped Chickadee Louisiana Waterthrush Black-and-white Warbler Tennessee Warbler

Green Heron Turkey Vulture Bald Eagle Accipiter sp. Broad-winged Hawk **Tufted Titmouse** Red-breasted Nuthatch White-breasted Nuthatch Brown Creeper

Nashville Warbler Mourning Warbler Common Yellowthroat American Redstart Magnolia Warbler Blackburnian Warbler

Red-tailed Hawk Belted Kingfisher

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Yellow Warbler Chestnut-sided Warbler

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Veery Hermit Thrush Wood Thrush

House Wren

Winter Wren

Blackpoll Warbler

Hairy Woodpecker Downy Woodpecker Pileated Woodpecker Northern Flicker

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Eastern Wood-Pewee Alder Flycatcher Willow Flycatcher Least Flycatcher Eastern Phoebe

American Robin Pine Warbler **Gray Catbird** Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle) Black-throated Green Warbler

**Great Crested Flycatcher** Eastern Kingbird

**European Starling** Cedar Waxwing Purple Finch American Goldfinch

Scarlet Tanager Northern Cardinal Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Dark-eyed Junco Song Sparrow

Chipping Sparrow

House Sparrow

### **Members Memorable Moments**

- ... whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger
- ... signs of Cyrus
- ... we watched one dive right into a frog's mouth
- ... sorry, I'm the bird guy

- ... they're cute, they're fun, they're barely viable
- ... alpine plants tend to be small
- ... botany crawl pace
- ... there are these plants that get in the way
- ... keeping up with the plant people
- ... worst mosquitoes in my life

# Vermont Botanical and Bird Club Plant List 2019, compiled by Everett Marshall

Marsh Billings - The Pog	ue
Scientific Name	Common Name
Woody	
Acer pensylvanicum	striped maple
Acer saccharum	sugar maple
Acer spicatum	mountain maple
Amelanchier laevis	common shadbush
Betula alleghaniensis	yellow birch
Fraxinus americana	white ash
Picea abies	Norway spruce
Pinus resinosa	red pine
Quercus rubra	red oak
Salix discolor	pussy willow
Salix bebbiana	Bebb's willow
Salix eriocephala	wand willow
Sambucus racemosa	red-berried elder
Tsuga canadensis	eastern hemlock
Ulmus americana	American elm
Viburnum lantanoides	hobble-bush
Herb/Fern	
	northern
Adiantum pedatum	maidenhair
Agrimonia sp.	agrimony
Asarum canadense	wild ginger
Athyrium filix-femina	lady fern
Carex lasiocarpa	hairy-fuited sedge
Carex pedunculata	peduncled sedge
Caulophyllum	
thalictroides	blue cohosh
Cirsium sp.	Thistle
Clintonia borealis	bluebead lily
Cystopteris tenuis	slender fragile fern
Dendrolycopodium	flat-branched tree
obscurum	clubmoss
Dicentra canadensis	squirrel corn
Digontro que lleria	Dutchman's-
Dicentra cucullaria	breeches intermediate
Dryopteris intermedia	woodfern
Dryopteris marginalis	marginal woodfern
Di yopteris marginans	I marginar woodiem

	T
Equisetum hyemale var.	
affine	scouring-rush
Eurybia divaricata	white wood aster
Hydrophyllum 	
virginianum	Virginia waterleaf
Maianthemum	false Solomon's-
racemosum	seal
Matteuccia struthiopteris	ostrich fern
•	rattlesnake root
Nabalus sp. Onoclea sensibilis	sensitive fern
Osmunda claytoniana	interrupted fern
Phegopteris connectilis	long beech fern
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas fern
	shinleaf
Pyrola elliptica Rubus odoratus	
Rubus odoratus	flowering raspberry Canada black
Sanicula canadensis	snakeroot
Taraxacum officinale	common dandelion
Trillium erectum	red trillium
minum erectum	large-flowered
Uvularia grandiflora	bellwort
Uvularia sessilifolia	wild-oats
Viola rotundifolia	early yellow violet
	stemmed yellow
Viola pubescens	violet
•	northern white
Viola pallens	violet
Trillium erectum	red trillium
Trillium grandiflorum	white trillium
Marsh Billings - Arboretu	ım Trail
Scientific Name	Common Name
Woody	
Acer rubrum	red maple
Acer saccharum	sugar maple
Castanea dentata	American chestnut
Picea abies	Norway spruce
Quercus montana	chestnut oak
Quercus rubra	red oak
Herb/Fern	
Arisaema triphyllum	Jack-in-the-pulpit
Carex albursina	white bear sedge
22.27.4124131114	1c Scar Scage

Carex gracilescens flowered sedge Carex intumescens swollen sedge Carex pedunculata peduncled sedge Deparia acrostichoides silvery glade fern Dicentra canadensis squirrel corn Dutchman's- Dicentra cucullaria breeches Dryopteris goldiana Goldie's fern intermediate Dryopteris marginalis marginal woodfern Dryopteris marginalis marginal woodfern Dryopteris marginalis white ash Homalosorus pycnocarpos glade fern Hydrophyllum virginianum Virginia waterleaf Common wood Luzula multiflora common wood Luzula multiflora Canada violet  Esqua Bog Scientific Name Common Name Woody Acer rubrum red maple Betula alleghaniensis yellow birch Betula papyrifera paper birch Cornus canadensis bunchberry Dasiphora fruticosa shrubby cinquefoil Larix laricina tamarack Myrica gale sweet gale Picea rubens red spruce Pinus strobus white pine alder-leaved buckthorn Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow Salix eriocephala wand willow Salix eriocephala wand willow Vaccinium oxycoccos dwarf cranberry		slandar lagga
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Hydrophyllum virginianum  Virginia waterleaf  common wood rush  Sanguinaria canadensis  Viola canadensis  Viola canadensis  Canada violet  Esqua Bog  Scientific Name  Woody  Acer rubrum  Betula alleghaniensis  Betula papyrifera  Cornus canadensis  Dasiphora fruticosa  Larix laricina  Myrica gale  Picea rubens  Pinus strobus  Rhamnus alnifolia  Salix eriocephala  Salix lucida  Virginia waterleaf  Common wood rush  Eanada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Picanada violet  Salix eriocephala  Venmon Name Venmon Name Vellow birch paper birch	Homalosorus	
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Sanguinaria canadensis  Viola canadensis  Canada violet  Esqua Bog  Scientific Name  Woody  Acer rubrum  Betula alleghaniensis  Betula papyrifera  Cornus canadensis  Dasiphora fruticosa  Larix laricina  Myrica gale  Picea rubens  Pinus strobus  Rhamnus alnifolia  Salix bebbiana  Salix lucida  Salix lucida  Salix lucida  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Canada violet  Anada  Canada violet  Canada violet  Anade  Aname  Angle  Sement juliow birch  paper birch  paper birch  bunchberry  bunch		
Viola canadensis  Esqua Bog  Scientific Name  Woody  Acer rubrum  Betula alleghaniensis  Betula papyrifera  Cornus canadensis  Dasiphora fruticosa  Larix laricina  Myrica gale  Picea rubens  Pinus strobus  Rhamnus alnifolia  Salix bebbiana  Salix eriocephala  Salix lucida  Common Name  Common Name  Wellow birch  paper birch  bunchberry  bunchberry  shrubby cinquefoil  tamarack  sweet gale  red spruce  Pinus strobus  white pine  alder-leaved buckthorn  Salix bebbiana  Bebb's willow  Salix lucida  shining willow		
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Dasiphora fruticosa shrubby cinquefoil Larix laricina tamarack Myrica gale sweet gale Picea rubens red spruce Pinus strobus white pine alder-leaved Rhamnus alnifolia buckthorn Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow Salix eriocephala wand willow Salix lucida shining willow	Betula papyrifera	paper birch
Larix laricina tamarack  Myrica gale sweet gale  Picea rubens red spruce  Pinus strobus white pine alder-leaved buckthorn  Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow  Salix eriocephala wand willow  Salix lucida shining willow	Cornus canadensis	bunchberry
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Picea rubens red spruce  Pinus strobus white pine alder-leaved buckthorn  Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow  Salix eriocephala wand willow  Salix lucida shining willow	Larix laricina	tamarack
Pinus strobus white pine alder-leaved buckthorn Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow Salix eriocephala wand willow Salix lucida shining willow	Myrica gale	sweet gale
Rhamnus alnifolia buckthorn Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow Salix eriocephala wand willow Salix lucida shining willow	Picea rubens	red spruce
Rhamnus alnifolia buckthorn Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow Salix eriocephala wand willow Salix lucida shining willow	Pinus strobus	white pine
Salix bebbiana Bebb's willow Salix eriocephala wand willow Salix lucida shining willow		
Salix eriocephala wand willow Salix lucida shining willow	Rhamnus alnifolia	buckthorn
Salix lucida shining willow	Salix bebbiana	Bebb's willow
	Salix eriocephala	wand willow
Vaccinium oxycoccos dwarf cranberry	Salix lucida	shining willow
	Vaccinium oxycoccos	dwarf cranberry
Herb/Fern	Herb/Fern	

Arisaema triphyllum var.	
stewardsonii	jack-in-the-pulpit
Caltha palustris	marsh-marigold
Carex crinita	fringed sedge
Carex flava	yellow sedge
Carex scabrata	rough sedge
Chrysosplenium	
americanum	water carpet
Cypripedium	
parviflorum var.	large yellow lady's-
pubescens	slipper
	showy lady's-
Cypripedium reginae	slipper
	southern running-
Diphasiastrum digitatum	pine
Drosera rotundifolia	common sundew
Equisetum hyemale	scouring-rush
Eriophorum virginicum	tawny cotton-grass
Geum rivale	purple avens
	common
Impatiens capensis	jewelweed
	three-leaved false
Maianthemum trifolium	Solomon's-seal
Menyanthes trifoliata	bog buckbean
Micranthes pensylvanica	swamp saxifrage
Mitella nuda	bishop's cap
Onoclea sensibilis	sensitive fern
Osmunda regalis	royal fern
Osmundastrum	
cinnamomeum	cinnamon fern
Packera schweinitziana	Robbins' ragwort
Platanthera dilatata	tall white orchis
Platanthera dilatata Ribes cynosbati	dog gooseberry
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste	dog gooseberry
Ribes cynosbati	dog gooseberry swamp red currant
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens	dog gooseberry swamp red currant
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens Symphyotrichum	dog gooseberry swamp red currant dwarf raspberry
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens Symphyotrichum puniceum	dog gooseberry swamp red currant dwarf raspberry red-stemmed aster
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens Symphyotrichum puniceum	dog gooseberry swamp red currant dwarf raspberry red-stemmed aster foam flower
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens Symphyotrichum puniceum Tiarella cordifolia	dog gooseberry swamp red currant dwarf raspberry red-stemmed aster foam flower broad-leaved cat-
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens Symphyotrichum puniceum Tiarella cordifolia Typha latifolia	dog gooseberry swamp red currant dwarf raspberry red-stemmed aster foam flower broad-leaved cat- tail
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens Symphyotrichum puniceum Tiarella cordifolia Typha latifolia	dog gooseberry swamp red currant dwarf raspberry red-stemmed aster foam flower broad-leaved cat- tail Indian poke
Ribes cynosbati Ribes triste Rubus pubescens Symphyotrichum puniceum Tiarella cordifolia Typha latifolia Veratrum viride	dog gooseberry swamp red currant dwarf raspberry red-stemmed aster foam flower broad-leaved cat- tail Indian poke great-spurred

Scientific Name	Common Name
Woody	
Acer rubrum	red maple
Acer saccharum	sugar maple
Alnus glutinosa	European alder
Betula alleghaniensis	yellow birch
Betula papyrifera	paper birch
Fagus grandifolia	American beech
Fragaria virginiana	wild strawberry
Frangula alnus	glossy buckthorn
Fraxinus americana	white ash
Hamamelis virginiana	witch-hazel
Kalmia angustifolia	sheep laurel
	American fly-
Lonicera canadensis	honeysuckle
Picea rubens	red spruce
Pinus resinosa	red pine
Pinus strobus	white pine
Prunus virginiana	choke cherry
Quercus rubra	red oak
Rhamnus cathartica	buckthorn
Rubus pubescens	dwarf raspberry
Tsuga canadensis	eastern hemlock
	low sweet
Vaccinium angustifolium	blueberry
	velvet-leaved
Vaccinium myrtilloides	blueberry
N'ilanorana a a sifaliona	maple-leaved
Viburnum acerifolium	viburnum
Herb/Fern	a a u truca a d
Aegopodium podagraria	goutweed
Ageratina altissima	white snakeroot
Alliaria petiolata	garlic mustard
Aquilegia canadensis	wild columbine
Aralia nudicaulis	wild sarsaparilla
Aralia racemosa	spikenard
Arctium lappa	great burdock
Arisaema triphyllum var.	iack-in-the pulpit
triphyllum Asarum canadense	jack-in-the-pulpit
Asarum canadense	wild ginger
Athyrium filix-femina	lady fern drooping wood
Carex arctata	sedge
Carex communis	common sedge

Carex intumescens	swollen sedge
Carex platyphylla	broad-leaved sedge
Carex vesicaria	inflated sedge
Dennstaedtia	
punctilobula	hay-scented fern
Dryopteris carthusiana	spinulose woodfern
	intermediate
Dryopteris intermedia	woodfern
Dryopteris marginalis	marginal woodfern
Equisetum arvense	field horsetail
Eurybia macrophylla	large-leaved aster
Fallopia japonica	Japanese knotweed
Galium sp.	#N/A
Heracleum maximum	cow-parsnip
Impatiens pallida	pale jewelweed
Iris versicolor	blue flag
Laportea canadensis	wood nettle
Luzula acuminata	hairy wood rush
	common wood
Luzula multiflora	rush
Lysimachia borealis	starflower
Lysimachia ciliata	fringed loosestrife
Maianthemum	
canadense	Canada mayflower
Maianthemum	false Solomon's-
racemosum	seal
Matteuccia	
struthiopteris	ostrich fern
Mitchella repens	partridge-berry
Mycelis muralis	wall-lettuce
Onoclea sensibilis	sensitive fern
Oryzopsis asperifolia	mountain rice-grass
Osmunda claytoniana	interrupted fern
Osmundastrum	
cinnamomeum	cinnamon fern
Parathelypteris	
noveboracensis	New York fern
Parthenocissus	
quinquefolia	woodbine
Phegopteris connectilis	long beech fern
Don alcodos	woodland
Poa alsodes	bluegrass fringed polygola
Polygaloides paucifolia	fringed polygala
Polygonatum nuhossons	common Solomon's-seal
Polygonatum pubescens	Solomon s-seal

Polystichum acrostichoides Christmas fern Pteridium aquilinum bracken Pyrola elliptica shinleaf Quercus alba white oak Ranunculus abortivus crowfoot Ranunculus recurvatus hooked crowfoot Ribes sp. #N/A Rubus odoratus flowering raspberry Sanguinaria canadensis bloodroot Blue-stemmed goldenrod Solidago caesia goldenrod Solidago flexicaulis zig-zag goldenrod Solidago juncea early goldenrod Solidago rugosa goldenrod Taraxacum officinale common dandelion Thalictrum pubescens tall meadow-rue Tiarella cordifolia foam flower Toxicodendron radicans poison ivy Tussilago farfara colt's-foot kidney-leaved Viola renifolia violet  Dewey Mills Scientific Name Common Name Woody Acer negundo box-elder alternate-leaved dogwood Rhus typhina staghorn sumac Robinia pseudo-acacia common locust Rubus odoratus flowering raspberry Salix nigra black willow Herb/Fern Aegopodium podagraria goutweed Allnis glutinosa European alder Angelica atropurpuraea great angelica	Dolystichum	
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Viola renifolia  Dewey Mills  Scientific Name  Woody  Acer negundo  Cornus alternifolia  Rhus typhina  Robinia pseudo-acacia  Rubus odoratus  Rubus odoratus  Salix nigra  Herb/Fern  Aegopodium podagraria  Alliaria petiolata  Alnus glutinosa  Common locust  flowering raspberry  black willow  Button of the proper of the prop		
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Scientific Name Woody  Acer negundo  Cornus alternifolia  Rhus typhina  Robinia pseudo-acacia  Rubus odoratus  Salix nigra  Herb/Fern  Aegopodium podagraria  Alliaria petiolata  Alnus glutinosa  Common Name  Domenio Name  Average Common Name  Acer negundo  Acer negundo  Acer negundo  Box-elder  alternate-leaved  dogwood  staghorn sumac  common locust  flowering raspberry  black willow  Boutweed  goutweed  Alliaria petiolata  garlic mustard  European alder		
Scientific Name Woody  Acer negundo  Cornus alternifolia  Rhus typhina  Robinia pseudo-acacia  Rubus odoratus  Salix nigra  Herb/Fern  Aegopodium podagraria  Alliaria petiolata  Alnus glutinosa  Common Name  Domenio Name  Average Common Name  Acer negundo  Acer negundo  Acer negundo  Box-elder  alternate-leaved  dogwood  staghorn sumac  common locust  flowering raspberry  black willow  Boutweed  goutweed  Alliaria petiolata  garlic mustard  European alder	Dewey Mills	
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	wild chervil
Anthriscus sylvestris	wha chervii
Bromus inermis	Hungarian brome
Carex lacustris	lake sedge
	northern woodland
Carex leptonervia	sedge
Carex sprengelii	Sprengel's sedge
Dactylis glomerata	orchard grass
Equisetum arvense	field horsetail
Galium mollugo	common bedstraw
	gill-over-the-
Glechoma hederacea	ground
Helianthus decapetalus	wild sunflower
	Jerusalem
Helianthus tuberosus	artichoke
Heracleum maximum	cow-parsnip
Hesperis matronalis	dame's-rocket
	common
Impatiens capensis	jewelweed
Iris pseudacorus	yellow flag
Lythrum salicaria	purple loosestrife
Onoclea sensibilis	sensitive fern
Ornithogalum	
umbellatum	star-of-Bethlehem
Osmundastrum	
cinnamomeum	cinnamon fern
Parthenocissus	
quinquefolia	woodbine
Pastinaca sativa	parsnip
Persicaria virginiana	jumpseed
Phalaris arundinacea	reed canary grass
Plantago major	plantain
Rumex obtusifolius	bitter dock
	common
Sagittaria latifolia	arrowhead
Securigera varia	crown vetch
Turritis glabra	tower mustard
Veratrum viride	Indian poke
Vicia cracca	cow vetch
Vitis riparia	riverbank grape
Zizia aurea	golden Alexanders

Contributers: Everett Marshall, Aaron Marcus, Peter Hope, Kate Kruesi, Matt Peters, Michael Sundue.

### Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park and Early Twentieth Century Botany

Three generations of people from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries called this 643 property with its Queen Anne style mansion, cultivated and wild gardens, and twenty miles of forest trails and carriage roads their home. Each succeeding generation held a high regard for land stewardship. Charles Marsh, Sr. built the original mansion in 1805 (on the original 246 acres) and was father to George Perkins Marsh (1801 – 1882) of conservation fame with his work "Man and Nature, or the Physical Geography as Modified by Human Behavior" published in 1864, the first publication of its kind that initiated a long history of environmental thinking.

Frederick Billings, (1823 - 1890) a Royalton, VT native, was a lawyer who traveled west during the gold rush years of the 1840's and 1850's where he made his fortune. When he returned to his beloved Vermont in 1869, he was shocked to see how much of the forest had been stripped bare with resulting erosion and degradation of streams and land. He purchased the mansion and land from the Marsh family and set about planting many species of trees, managing the forest for sustainability, and developing a farm with modern practices in animal husbandry.

One of Frederick Billings' daughters, Elizabeth Billings (1871 – 1944), learned from her father the value and pleasure in planting trees and carried on the practice. She also developed a lifelong interest in botany. She started collecting and pressing specimens of native plants. In 1917, she realized that she needed help in identifying the growing collection. She asked the New York Botanical Garden for a referral and was introduced to Elsie M. Kittredge (1870 - 1954), a trained botanist and artist. For many years, the two women worked together with the goal of collecting all the species of flowering plants and grasses growing within a six mile radius from the center (the original post office) of Woodstock. Both women were participants in the Vermont Botanical and Bird Club and the Hartland Nature Club for many years.

Frederick Billings grand-daughter, Mary French, married Laurance Rockefeller in 1934 and the couple inherited the property in 1954. They established it as a National Historic Park in 1992.



From Left: Elizabeth Billings, Mary Montagu Billings French, Julia Parmly Billings, Laura Billings Lee, circa 1896