



Sarracenia

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Menyanthes trifoliata

John Maunder

Field Trips – 2016

This year we have planned five types of field trip. More details will be available – probably by e-mail and a notice on our web-site closer to the times. All are tentative depending on season, weather, availability of leaders etc.

- **Long:** involving at least one overnight stay.
- **One Day:** to places a bit farther out of town.
- **Half Day:** closer to St John's, a.m. or p.m.
- **Short:** a couple of hours in the City area
- **Pop-up:** short gatherings called on very short notice, by e-mail, in response to a “new discovery”, a rare sighting, or some other noteworthy event – the plant equivalent of a “rare bird alert” outing.

These events will be informal. There will be no set number. They may or may not even happen. They are an experiment. Anyone can call a “pop-up” trip by quickly notifying Heather, John, Karen, or Carmel (who each have the WFS membership e-mail list.)

Long (2 day+):

Baccalieu Trail Loop: July 23-24

John Maunder/the Herzbergs

Gathering point: Carbonear.

Accommodation:

[reserve soon; check hotel cancellation policy]

Fong's Hotel, Carbonear [15 rooms]

[<http://www.fongsmotel.com/>] [15 rooms]

Carbonear Motel

[<http://www.carbonearmotel.ca/>]

Hotel Harbour Grace [15 rooms - housekeeping]

[<http://www.hotelharbourgrace.ca/>]

Sophie's Heritage Inn [4 rooms]

[<http://myavalonexperience.com/sophias-heritage-inn>]

plus the next-door “annex”, Merchant's Manor

Cape Shore Loop: Aug. 6-7 *John Maunder*

Gathering Point Placentia.

Accommodation:

[reserve soon; check hotel cancellation policy]

Capeway Motel & Efficiency Units, St. Brides

[<http://www.thecapeway.ca/>]

Bird Island Resort, St. Brides

[<http://www.birdislandresort.com/>]

Driftwood Cottage, Branch [B&B] [2 rooms]

[<http://www.driftwoodcottagebranch.com/>]

The Cliffhouse at Red Point, Branch

[phone: (709) 338-2055]

Gannet's Nest RV Park, St. Brides

[phone: (709) 227-4997; (709) 237-2175]

One day:

Brigus: June 25 - *John Maunder* -

Bellevue: July 9 - *John Maunder* -

Spaniard's Bay to New Harbour: August 13

John Maunder

Whitbourne Lichens: August 20 or 27

Mac Pitcher (with Nature NL)

Bristol's Hope: September 3 or 10

John/Gene/Howard – (depending on flowering dates)

Half day:

Little Soldiers Pond: July 16 *Todd?/John?*

Shoe Cove Beach: July 30 *Carmel*

Short (2 hours + travel):

GEO Centre: June 4 or 11 *John Maunder*

(depending on Chuckly Pear flowering date) [flip with “Branscombe's Pond” if necessary]

Branscombe's Pond June 11 or 4 *John Maunder*

(off Topsail Road or Columbus Drive)

: [flip with “GEO Centre” if necessary]

Downtown Sidewalks (westerly direction): June 18

John Maunder

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Uncommon Wildflowers of Newfoundland 16: Sulphur Cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta* L.)

By Henry Mann

So you will likely say, “Give it up, Henry! Another weed, another alien, another invasive! Give us an orchid, a *Braya*, or at least a rare Newfoundland *Potentilla* like *pulchella*, or maybe *litoralis*!”

Reminds me of a CBA field trip many years ago to the limestone alvars of the Bruce Peninsula. One of our expert guides was a prominent Canadian botanist, the nicest lady in the world. We were all full of wonder at the unique limestone flora when in a crevice was spotted a common dandelion. In an instant the botanist clutched the dandelion tearing it from the earth and vigorously throwing it to the pavements, exclaiming in no uncertain terms that it did not belong there. In an instant this mild-mannered lady transformed into a vicious “weed Nazi”, something I still vividly remember and marvel about!

But back to *P. recta*. Yes it is an alien from the drier regions of the Mediterranean. It came to North America as a stowaway with the baggage of another European alien,

the greatest alien invasive this “world” has ever known. And yes, *P. recta* has spread across the continent becoming an “invasive” in a few parts of North America, for example the drier regions of the Pacific west where climatic conditions might be described as “Mediterranean”. There, as in much of North America, it is a species of roadsides and waste places, but sometimes flourishes (i.e. “becomes invasive”) in dry grasslands where it is viewed with jaundiced eyes by cattle ranchers, although goats are said to relish it. However, we in Newfoundland need not fret, run to and fro uttering “woe is me”, and such. I doubt that more than a tiny handful of persons have ever seen it in the province, so we should just consider it a pretty and uncommon wildflower. It is uncommon here for the same reason that Newfoundland is not overrun by Ugandans, Dayaks or Costa Ricans. Why would they leave a year round balmy climate for six months of bone-chilling winter,

three months of in-between, and three months of hoping for enough sunshine to mature the carrots. Wet and cold are not the Sulphur Cinquefoil’s cup of tea either. It may pop up in our province here and there in nature’s game of chance as it has here in Pasadena in what appears to be an old field with open grassy patches now reverting slowly again to a woodland.

P. recta is a perennial upright herb (hence the epithet “*recta*”) of about half a meter in height. Flowers are about 2.0 cm (+ or -) across with petals described as sulphur-yellow, but a very pale sulphur-yellow, slightly brightening at their bases (Figure 1). Petals are notched at the tips and longer than the sepals (Figure 2). Characteristic of the species are palmately compound lower leaves of 5 – 7 leaflets, the leaflets being serrate and often oblong (Figure 3). Leaves are hairy, but green and not densely whitish pubescent beneath as in some species of *Potentilla* (Figure 4). Also



Figure 1: *P. recta* flower and buds



Figure 2: Underside showing sepal and petal length.



Figure 3: Leaf of seven leaflets, upper surface.



Figure 4: Lower surface of leaf.

characteristic are long white spreading hairs on stems and leaves. It has no known economic use, but is recorded as being occasionally used as a showy flower in "wild" gardens.

P. recta deserves a notice, a mention, and a few photographs, partly as a record of presence in the Pasadena area, but also as an interesting and pretty member of our flora. And despite the claims of some, it has never been a catastrophe anywhere; it simply fills a need and a niche wherever it takes up residence in any numbers. Like the dandelion and even purple loosestrife, it provides back to nature

as much as it takes by nourishing pollinators, seed eaters, and who knows what else, as do all so-called "plant invasives". Contrast that with the world-wide invasive I alluded to earlier which provides nothing positive to the natural world. In fact in its billions it causes degradation of the natural world wherever it thrives, often all-out destruction. And when the remnant of nature no longer can supply its burgeoning needs and wants, it turns on itself. If the reader is yet unsure to which terrifying species I refer, it is the one uttered by Walt Kelly's Pogo in the immortal phrase, "We have met the enemy,

and he is us".

In my view we need to get over this "invasive phobia" of nature's flora and focus on what really matters, that which we do not wish to confront. No plant of any kind has ever created a worldwide disaster. Perhaps a local hiccup now and then, but nothing that really mattered on a global scale. How does that compare to that terrible invasive alien from the plains of Sumer?

Well, though not intended at the outset, it appears I may have come up with a wildflower rant! Must be the weather!

Happy Botanizing!



Chamaedaphne calyculata Carmel Conway



© Gene Herzberg 2016
Amelanchier bartramiana Gene Herzberg

Newfoundland and Labrador Place Names having a Botanical Theme

John E. Maunder

Recently, while thumbing through a paper copy of the "Gazetteer of Canada: Newfoundland and Labrador" (1968), for another project entirely, I was struck by the number and variety of place names having a *botanical* theme.

While no match for Newfoundland and Labrador place names having a *zoological* theme (the word "gull" appears in 183 place name entries, and such gems occur as "Centipede Rock", "Mad Dog Lake", and "Calf Cow and Bull Islands"), and no match for some place names having a *more general* theme ("Slam Bang Bay", "Sly Boots" (rock), and "Crazy Betty" (rock)), the list of place names having a *botanical* theme is, I submit, still worthy of our close attention.

I should state, from the beginning, that the place names included in the Gazetteer are not an exhaustive, historical, list. Rather, they are those names approved by the "Geographical Names Board of Canada" *at the time of the Gazetteer's publication*. They are thus just *contemporary* names, which will change, and have changed, over time (why else would we need a "board")?

So, perhaps not surprisingly, many such names differ greatly from "local usage"! For example, on our Society's 2013 summer field trip to the Great Northern Peninsula, we climbed "Cape Ardoise" (= "Slate Cape") at L'Anse aux Meadows, a feature which is known, locally, *only* as "Round Head". For a better sense of the history of Newfoundland place names, see Seary (1971, 2000), and Porter (1999).

I should further state that, for the narrow purposes of this document, I have made no concerted attempt to mine the incredibly rich store of "local" or "vernacular" names (the one exception being the inclusion of the wide-ranging contributions of Porter (1999)), since such would require a "lifetime" of research, and, moreover, would "fill volumes".

Nevertheless, I will offer, here, a couple of particularly wonderful examples of "local" names - again for the L'Anse aux Meadows area: "Man John Pond" (I'm particularly partial to that one, although I'm not sure who "John" was), and nearby "Skin Pond" (a tannin-rich pond where the local residents used to tan sealskins). So much better than "approved names", methinks.

Continuing, unashamedly, with this theme, for just another moment, I will point out that increasingly-more-complex and fantastical place names are often constructed, starting from a single, simple, core name. An extreme example, which I particularly like, that also has a *zoological* theme, is a cluster of names for four related features, once again within the L'Anse aux Meadows area. You won't find this level of detail in the Gazetteer, but, here goes: "Duck Pond", "Duck Pond Cove", "Duck Pond Cove Ponds" (a string of smaller ponds ranging out onto a nearby headland), and "Duck Pond Cove Ponds Head"! No kidding!

Before *finally* proceeding to the Newfoundland and Labrador place names having a *botanical* theme, I should note that I have not included any aboriginal names in this

document. That is a matter for another day, and is a very different challenge. However, I *have* endeavoured to address English, French and some other European place names, at least for the Island of Newfoundland.

In this regard, it should be noted that, over the last 500 years, or so, *various* nations have fished our waters. As increasing jurisdiction over various areas of the coast has shifted between these nations, following various struggles, and as the result of various treaties, many place names have been translated, and, in the process, often corrupted to varying degrees.

But, despite this, most modern place names are English. Seary (2000: 26) found that, for the Great Northern Peninsula, out of a total of 1019 place names considered, only 197 (i.e. 19.3 %) were "French in modern form". But, to add a little perspective, of the 784 present-day English place names, 170 have been translated from the original French. On the other hand, of the 197 present-day French place names, only 10 have been translated from the original English. And, only 7 place names are derived from "other languages".

To find out more about any of the place names listed below, and/or to detect additions, deletions, or changes to any names since 1968, go to the excellent interactive website:

<http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/earth-sciences/geography/place-names/search/9170>.

[By the way, if anyone has wondered about why I originally chose to examine the 1968 Gazetteer, instead of a more recent

edition (e.g. 1983 or 1997) ... it was primarily because the publication date roughly coincided with the middle of the Newfoundland "Resettlement Program" (1954-

1975). I reasoned that the 1968 edition would contain the maximum number of place names possible, prior to the "fading away" of many of our old settlements.]

A List of Newfoundland and Labrador Place Names having a Botanical Theme

[all entries are from the Gazetteer (1968), unless otherwise credited]

Alder Brook
 Alder Gulch (Porter 1999: 96)
 Alder Pond
 Alder River
 Alderberry (Porter 1999: 97)
 Alderberry Cove (Porter 1999: 97)
 Alderburn (P.O. name)
 Apse Cove [= aspen"]
 Apsey Cove (x 3)
 Apsey Point
 Apsey Cove Brook
 Aspen
 Aspen Brook
 Aspen Cove (x 5)
 Aspen Point
 Aspen Pond
 Aspey Brook
 Aspey Cove (Porter 1999: 108)
 Aspey Cove Big Pond (Porter 1999: 124)
 Aspey Cove First Pond (Porter 1999: 124)
 Aspey Cove Pond (Porter 1999: 114)
 Aspey Cove Steadies (Porter 1999: 114)
 Aspey Point
 Aspin Point
 Aspy Cove
 Bakeapple Bay
 Bakeapple Islands
 Bakeapple Marsh (Porter 1999: 97)
 Bakeapple Pond (Porter 1999: 97)
 Bake Apple Island
 Balsam Bud Cove
 Barbace Cove [Basque: "barbaza" = "vines" or "barbot" = "patch of deep-rooted vines" (Seary 2000)]
 Barbace Point
 Barley Point
 Berry Barrens, The (Porter 1999: 100)
 Berry Head (x 5)
 Berry Head Cove
 Berry Hill
 Berry Hill Brook
 Berry Hill Pond
 Berry Hills
 Berry Island (x 5)

Berry Point
 Big Bakeapple Pond (Porter 1999: 122)
 Big Spruce Hill (Porter 1999: 114)
 Birch Cove
 Birch Island
 Birch Lake
 Birch Pond
 Birch Cove Rock
 Birchey Head
 Birchies, The (ponds)
 Birchy Bay (x 2)
 Birchy Bay North (P.O. name for "Gayside")
 Birchy Brook
 Birchy Cove (x 8)
 Birchy Cove Head
 Birchy Head (x 5)
 Birchy Hill
 Birchy Island
 Birchy Island Tickle
 Birchy Lake (x 2)
 Birchy Narrows [different from the next, added by JEM]
 Birchy Narrows Tickle
 Birchy Point (x 4)
 Birchy Pond
 Birchy Ridge
 Birchy Steadies (Porter 1999: 108)
 Blackberry Point (x 2) (Porter 1999: 97)
 Blueberry Cove (Porter 1999: 97)
 Bois Island (x3) [Fr. "wood"]
 Boisée Islands [Fr. "wooded"]
 Bouleaux Bay (= Starks Bight) [Fr. "birch"]
 Bread and Cheese [according to Seary (1971: 183): the sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) is called, in SE England, "Cuckoo's Bread-and-Cheese", and "the leaves of these plants are often eaten by young people"; additionally, Vickery (2010) stated that hawthorn (*Crataegus*) leaves, bent grass (*Agrostis*), and silverweed (*Potentilla* [= *Argentina*] *anserina*) were also

known as "bread and cheese", and are eaten]
 Bread and Cheese Cliff
 Bread and Cheese Hill
 Bread and Cheese Point
 Bread and Cheese Cove Pond
 Bread Island (adjacent to) Cheese Island [Placentia Bay - JEM]
 Buttercup Head
 Cabbage Garden, The (Porter 1999: 102)
 Cabbage Harbour
 Cabbage Harbour Head
 Cape Onion
 Cape Strawberry
 Capillaire Mountains [Fr. "maiden hair" (fern) – alternate name for the (serpentine) "White Hills" near St. Anthony]
 Columbine Point (near Bay Bulls) [may not be botanical: Seary (1971: 31, 199) says: "may be a shifted survival of *I. Columbrina* [Coronelli map, 1689] probably one of the ["Witless Bay Islands"]; name apparently derived "from Port. "colubrina" or Eng. "colubrine" ... = Culverin Island, after the kind of cannon" [the latter point seems a little less than convincing? – JEM]]
 Cranberry Island
 Cranberry Point (Porter 1999: 98)
 Currant Islands [also, though perhaps incorrectly, known as "Current Islands"]
 Dogberry Rock
 Dogwood
 Dry Tree Brook
 Flowers Brook ["flowers" may not be botanical: Seary (2000: 91) says: "Translation of Fr. "fleurs", as in "rocher à fleur d'eau" ... "rock that is awash"; "many of the references to "flowers" in the Gazetteer ... indicate rocks, ledges or shoals"; nonetheless, "Flowers" can be a proper name]

Flowers Cove (x 2) (Porter 1999: 104)	Kelpy Cove Point	Rose Lake
Flowers Island	Kelpy Island	Rosedale
Flowers Marsh (Porter 1999: 104)	Kelpy Rock (x 2)	Roses Bank
Flowers Point (Porter 1999: 104)	Kelpy Sunker	Spruce Brook (x 2)
Flowers Pond (Porter 1999: 104)	Lady Slipper Brook	Spruce Cove
Flowers Rocks (Porter 1999: 104)	Lady Slipper Pond	Spruce Gaze Point (Porter 1999: 107)
Forest Hill	Lily Island	["gaze" is a duck-shooting blind]
Forest Pond (x 2)	Lily Mesh [= "marsh"] (Porter 1999: 100)	Spruce Island (x 3)
Forest Field	Lily Pond (x 4 - Porter 1999: 100)	Spruce Islands
Forest Pond Hill	Lily Shoal [!]	Spruce Park
Gooseberry Brook [but, see "Henry Gooseberry's Ponds" (Porter 1999: 119)]	Little Berry Island	Spruce Point (x 2)
Gooseberry Cove (x 4)	Maiden Hair Cove	Spruce Pond (x 4)
Gooseberry Cove Head (Porter 1999: 112)	Nut Brook	Sprucey Cove (x 2)
Gooseberry Cove Pond	Nut Cove (x 3)	Strawberry Cove
Gooseberry Gulch (Porter 1999: 99)	Nut Cove Big Pond (Porter 1999: 124)	Strawberry Harbour
Gooseberry Harbour	Nut Cove Head (x 2) (Porter 1999: 113)	Strawberry Head
Gooseberry Island (x 13)	Nut Cove Lookout (Porter 1999: 113)	Strawberry Island (x 2)
Gooseberry Point (x 2)	Nut Cove Outside Pond (Porter 1999: 124)	Third Berry Hill Pond
Grass Island	Nut Cove Pond (Porter 1999: 113)	Thistle Island
Grass Islands	Nut Cove Rock (Porter 1999: 113)	Thistle Rock
Grass Point	Nut Hill	Thistle Shoal
Grass Steadies (Porter 1999: 99)	Oat Pond (Porter 1999: 100)	Thistles Berth (Porter 1999: 107)
Grassy Bennett Islands	Offer Gooseberry Island (i.e. it is "offer" the coast than the other, nearby, Gooseberry Islands!)	[this, and the above, may well be from the proper name (see Seary 1976: 476) - JEM]
Grassy Cove (x 3)	Onion Cove	Turnip Cove (x 3)
Grassy Cove Pond	Parsnip Lake	Turnip Island
Grassy Gull Islet	Partridgeberry Hills (Porter 1999: 100)	Two Tree Hill
Grassy Gully	Pegwood Pond [according to Seary 1971: 6, 256, "Pegwood" is a "mistake name" for ["pigweed"] = <i>Chenopodium album</i>]	Upper Flowers Cove (Porter 1999: 123)
Grassy Head (Porter 1999: 108)	Pine Hill Pond (Terra Nova N. P.) [added by JEM]	White Spruce Brook
Grassy Island (x 16)	Pine Pond (Porter 1999: 100)	Whortleberry Island [i.e. "blueberry" and relatives]
Grassy Island Shoal	Potato Trench, The (Porter 1999: 102)	Witch Hazel Peak
Grassy Islands (x4)	Plum Point (x 2)	Witch Hazel Point
Grassy Islet	Prune Island (Seary 2000: 141)	Witch Hazel Rock
Grassy Point (x 5)	Red Currant Island	Withrod Pond [i.e. "Wild Raison" = <i>Viburnum nudum</i>]
Grassy Steady	Redfir Lake	Withy Gulch Hill [e.g. "gold-withy" (and variants) = primarily Sheep Laurel (<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>) but, in practice, almost any shrubby plant]
Grassy Pond (x2)	Roncière Bay [Fr. "bramble thicket"]	Wood Bay (x 2) ["Wood" - perhaps from the proper name? (see Seary 1976: 517-518) - JEM]
Grassy Rock	Rose Blanche	Wood Cove
Heather Pond (Porter 1999: 99)	Rose Blanche Bay	Wood Island (x 3)
Hurts Pond (x 2) (Porter 1999: 102) ["hurts" = "whorts" = "blueberries" and relatives]	Rose Blanche Brook	Wood Lake
Indian Tea Island	Rose Blanche Harbour	Wooded Island (x2)
Indian Tea Point	Rose Blanche Point	Wooded Point
Inner Gooseberry Islands	Rose Cove (x 2) ["Rose": may, or may not, refer to the proper name (see Seary 1976: 421-422), or to the colour? - JEM]	Wood Rock Island
Juniper Gully (Porter 1999: 99)	Rose Head	Woods Harbour ["Woods" - perhaps from the proper name (see Seary 1976: 519) - JEM]
Juniper Island (x 2)	Rose Island	Woods Island
Juniper Point		Woods Island Harbour
Juniper Pond (Porter 1999: 99)		Woods Lake
Juniper Ponds (x 2)		
Juniper Stump		
Kelp Cove		
Kelp Cove Point		
Kelp Island (Porter 1999: 99)		
Kelp Rock		
Kelpie Ledge		
Kelpy Cove (x 2)		

Woodville
Woody Bay (x 2)
Woody Bight
Woody Brook
Woody Cape
Woody Cove (x 6)
Woody Head (x 2)

Woody Head Rocks
Woody Hill (x 2)
Woody Hill Brook
Woody Island (x 26)
Woody Island Bank (x 2)
Woody Island Bight
Woody Island Brook

Woody Island Rock (x 3)
Woody Island Shoal
Woody Islands (x 2)
Woody Point (x 4)
Wych Hazel Pond

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Caltha palustris

Joe Brazil

Spring Pictures.

The pictures in this issue (other than Henry's) have been taken by members this Spring. All in the St John's area except for Joe Brazil's from the west Coast where Marsh Marigold is a fairly common wetland plant.

- *Menyanthes trifoliata*, Bog Bean: Cover
- *Chamaedaphne caliculata*, Leatherleaf p.30
- *Amelanchier bartramiana*,
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