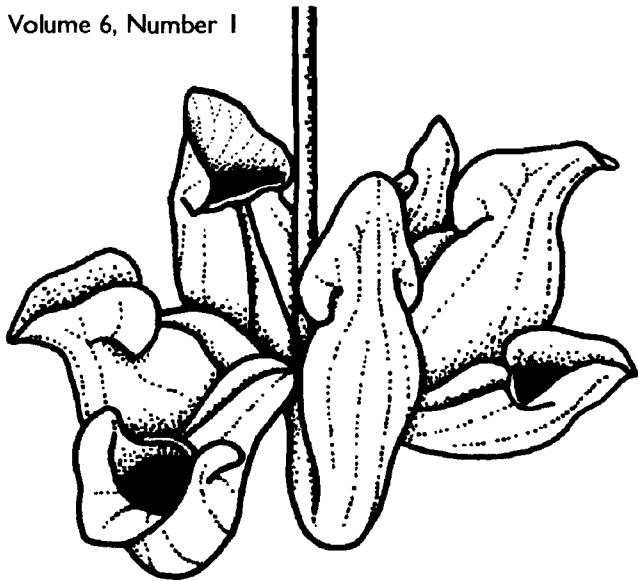


SARRACENIA

Newsletter of the Canadian Wildflower Society
Volume 6, Number 1

Newfoundland Chapter
Fall 1995



Fall Schedule

October 4: 1995 Field Season Highlights

by Sue Meades and other CWS members

A show of our members best slides from the summer of '95, followed by Sue's talk on Burnt Island and the highlights of the 1995 field season.

October 15: Mushroom Walk

by Jean Bérubé, Canadian Forest Service

A repeat of last year's mushroom walk, which will be held at Butterpot Pot Park. Meet at the gate to Butterpot at 2:00 p.m.

November 1: Protected Areas:

What can you do to help?

by Laura Jackson, PAA, & a rep. of the Natural History Soc.
A talk about areas proposed for ecological reserves and National Parks, including the Torngat Mts. in northern Labrador, and what you can do to help attain protected status for these unique areas.

November 29 : Waterford River Valley

by Lydia Snellen, CWS

A slide show of natural history changes over time in the Waterford River Valley, as seen through Lydia's great eye for detail. *Note new date:* To accommodate Lydia's schedule, we have moved our usual December meeting to the last week of November.

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by Glenda Quinn /11
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All talks will be held at the MUN Botanical Garden, 8:00 p.m., unless otherwise stated.

1996 Field Trip: Northern Peninsula

We have decided to return to the Northern Peninsula during July for our 1996 field trip. The tentative dates for the trip are July 10-15. Our trip will start out at Burnt Island to see the *Calypso* and proceed south to Plum Point, Bellburns, and Gros Morne. If there is enough interest we may consider including southern Labrador in the itinerary. Call Alice for early sign-up. More information will appear in the next newsletter.

Changes to the Executive

Due to Sue Meades' move to Ontario, the following changes have been made to the executive committee. The revised **1995-96 Executive** & numbers to call for information about future meetings, newsletters, or field trips are:

Gordon Ringius, president	579-6613
Luise Hermanutz, vice president.....	895-6851
Alice Close, treasurer.....	579-1474
Glenda Quinn, secretary.....	834-8588
Todd Boland.....	753-6027
Howard Clase.....	753-6415
Mary Woodruff, <i>Sarracenia</i> staff	738-3001

Robin Day has moved to Corner Brook, and although he will remain on the executive, we do not yet have his new phone number.

Any member who would like to write an article for the newsletter or submit a black and white graphic (preferably pen and ink), please contact Luise or Mary. Articles should be submitted on 3 1/4" computer disk (if possible) in Word Perfect 5 or 6, IBM (PC) compatible; b&w illustrations should be no larger than 4 X 6 inches. Articles and artwork published in the newsletter may not be reproduced without the authors' or artists' written consent.

Correspondence can be sent to Luise at MUN's Biology Dept. or to Alice Close, 20 Laughlin Cr., St. John's, Nf., A1A 2G2.

General Announcements - Dues

Our fiscal year runs from June to May. Dues (**\$10.00**) are payable in June. If your dues are not received by December, this will be your last newsletter. Dues may be sent to our treasurer, Alice Close, 20 Laughlin Cr., St. John's, Nf., A1A 2G2.

Notes from the President

As most of you now know, Bill has been transferred to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario to head up the Forest Ecology Section of the Great Lakes Forestry Center, so we are moving to the "Soo" at the end of October. Our new address will be Box 14, Peace Tree Drive, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 5K7. Although I'm sure we'll enjoy our new surroundings, we will always consider Newfoundland our home and we greatly regret having to leave this province and all of our friends and colleagues. However, I will be back next summer for more field work and will lead the Burnt Island portion of our Northern Peninsula field trip in July. Gordon Ringius has agreed to take over as president for the remainder of our 1995-6 season, and Luise Hermanutz will fill the new position of vice president. Glenda Quinn has taken over my position on the executive and will now serve as our secretary; Alice will continue as treasurer. Articles for the newsletter should be sent to Luise at MUN's Biology Dept.

I want to take this final opportunity to thank everyone who has helped with or participated in our chapter's field trips, meetings, and newsletters. It is your support and cooperation that has made our organization so successful. I'm sure the chapter will continue to grow stronger with Gordon and Luise leading the way. Thank you all again for your friendship and active participation.

Sue Meades, *outgoing president*

CWS 1995 Conservation Awards

by Jim Hodgins

CANADIAN WILDFLOWER SOCIETY



Press Release: Canadian Wildflower Society
Toronto, Ontario

Each year the Canadian Wildflower Society gives one or more awards to persons or groups who have demonstrated an ongoing and extraordinary contribution to the conservation of some aspect of the native flora of North America.

The Award may be given for work accomplished at the community, regional, national, or continental level. Accomplishments may be in any field, including: art, science, education, photography, literature, or politics.

Over the past 11 years, 23 Awards have been given to persons and groups. The 1995 Conservation Awards were presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Wildflower Society at the Civic Garden Center, 77 Lawrence Ave. E., North York, Ontario, Oct. 14, 10 am.

Award Recipients:

Sue Meades: St. John's Newfoundland.

For her work in organizing and promoting the Newfoundland Chapter of the Canadian Wildflower Society and editing their outstanding newsletter, *Sarracenia*; her work as a botanical illustrator in numerous publications and for popularizing botany throughout Newfoundland.

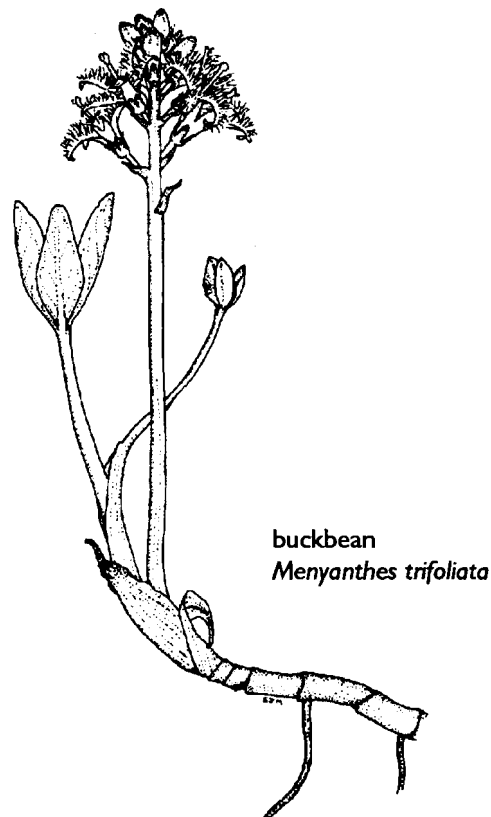
Rosemary Gaymer: Oakville, Ontario.

For initiating a 13,000 mile botanizing "Plantathon", to raise funds for the CWS land acquisitions in Carolinian Canada; for teaching, lecturing and promoting botany and natural history at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario.

City of Toronto Parks & Recreation:
Toronto, Ontario.

For initiating the ecological restoration of a black oak savanna in Toronto's High Park. This ecosystem contains the most northern examples of black oak in North America and many species of prairie herbs in their most eastern limits of their range.

For details of the Award Presentations contact: Paul McGaw (416) 261-6272.



Checklist of Newfoundland Orchids

by Paul Martin Brown

1. *Amerorchis rotundifolia* (Banks) Hultén
small round-leaved orchis

2. *Arethusa bulbosa* L.

dragon mouth

- forma *albiflora* Rand & Redfield:
white-flowered form
- forma *subcaerulea* Rand & Redfield:
lilac-blue colored form

3. *Calopogon tuberosus* (L.) Britt.

grass-pink

- including var. *latifolius* (St. John) Fern.
- forma *albiflorus* (Britt.) Fern.:
white flowered form

4. *Calypso bulbosa* (L.) Oakes

var. *americana* (R.Br.) Luer**eastern fairy-slipper**

- forma *rosea* P.M. Brown:
rose-pink form

*Calypso bulbosa*

5. *Coeloglossum viride* (L.) Hart.

var. *viride***northern bracted green orchis**including var. *interjecta* Fern.var. *virescens* (Muhl.) Luer**long bracted green orchis**

6. *Corallorhiza maculata* (Raf.) Raf.

var. *maculata***spotted coralroot**

- forma *flavida* (Peck) Farwell:
yellow-stemmed form
- forma *rubra* P.M. Brown:
red-stemmed form

var. *occidentalis* (Lindl.) Ames**western spotted coralroot**

- forma *immaculata* (Peck) Howell:
yellow spotless form
- forma *intermedia* Farwell:
brown-stemmed form
- forma *punicea* (Bartlett) Weatherby & Adams:
red stemmed form

7. *Corallorhiza trifida* Chat.

early coralrootincluding var. *verna* Fern.

8. *Cypripedium acaule* Aiton

pink lady's-slipper; moccasin flower

- forma *albiflorum* Rand & Redfield:
white flowered form

9. *Cypripedium parviflorum* Salisb.

var. *makasin* (Farwell) Sheviak**northern small yellow lady's-slipper**var. *pubescens* (Willd.) Sheviak**large yellow lady's-slipper**including var. *planipetalum* Fern.

10. *Cypripedium reginae* Walt.

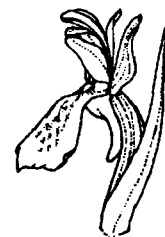
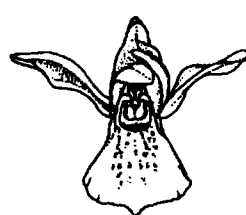
showy lady's-slipper

- forma *albolabium* Fern. & Schub.:
white-flowered form

11. *Dactylorhiza majalis* (Reich. f.) Summer.

ssp. *praetermissa* (Druce) D.M. Moore & Soo**southern marsh orchid**

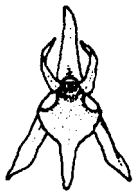
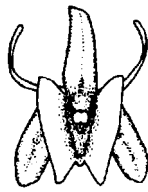
- white-flowered form
(no name until positive I.D. of species)

*Dactylorhiza*

12. *Epipactis helleborine* (L.) Crantz

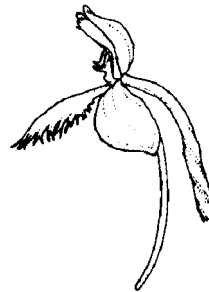
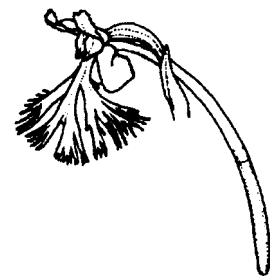
broad-leaved helleborine

13. *Goodyera oblongifolia* Raf.
giant rattlesnake orchis
14. *Goodyera repens* (L.) R.Br.
lesser rattlesnake orchis
- forma *ophioides* (Fern.) P.M. Brown:
southern (widespread) variant
15. *Goodyera tessellata* Lodd.
checkered rattlesnake orchis
16. *Listera auriculata* Wieg.
auricled twayblade
17. *Listera borealis* Morong
northern twayblade
18. *Listera convallarioides* (Sw.) Nutt.
broad-lipped twayblade
- forma *trifolia* - P.M. Brown
19. *Listera cordata* (L.) R. Br. var. *cordata*
heart-leaved twayblade
- forma *trifolia* - P.M. Brown
- hybrid: *Listera* X *veltmanii* Case
(*auriculata* X *convallarioides*)
Veltman's twayblade
20. *Malaxis brachypoda* (Gray) Fern.
white adder's-mouth
- forma *bifolia* (Mousley) Fern.:
two-leaved form

*Malaxis brachypoda**Malaxis uniflora*

21. *Malaxis uniflora* Michx.
green adder's-mouth
22. *Platanthera blephariglottis* (Willd.) Lindl.
var. *blephariglottis*
white fringed orchis
- forma *holopetala* (Lindl.) P.M. Brown:
entire-lipped form

23. *Platanthera clavellata* (Michx.) Luer
var. *ophioglossoides* (Fern.) P.M. Brown
northern club-spur orchis
24. *Platanthera dilatata* (Pursh) Lindl.
tall white northern bog orchis
25. *Platanthera grandiflora* (Bigel.) Lindl.
large purple fringed orchis
- forma *albiflora* (Rand & Redfield) Catling:
white-flowered form
- forma *carnea* P.M. Brown:
pale pink form
- forma *mentotonsa* (Fern.) P.M. Brown:
entire-lipped form
- hybrid: *Platanthera* X *keenanii* P.M. Brown
(*grandiflora* X *lacera*)
Keenan's fringed orchis
26. *Platanthera hookeri* (Torr.) Lindl.
Hooker's orchis
- forma *abbreviata* (Fern) P.M. Brown:
dwarf form
27. *Platanthera huronensis* (L.) Lindl.
green bog orchis
28. *Platanthera hyperborea* (L.) Lindl.
northern green bog orchis
hybrid: *Platanthera* X *media* (Rydberg) Luer
(*hyperborea* X *dilatata*)
intermediate rein orchis
29. *Platanthera lacera* (Michx.) G. Don
green fringed orchis

*Platanthera blephariglottis**Platanthera lacera*

hybrid: *Platanthera X andrewsii* (Niles) Luer
(*lacera X psycodes*)

Andrew's fringed orchis

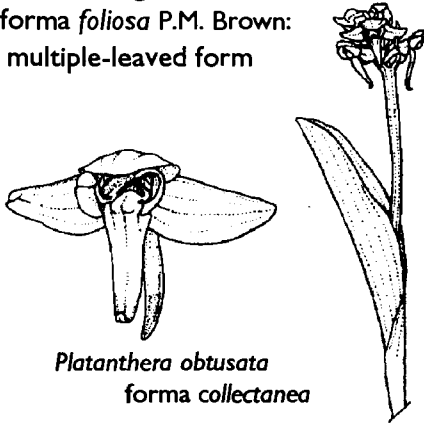
including *P. lacera* var. *terra-novae* (Fern.) Luer

30. *Platanthera macrophylla* (Goldie) P.M. Brown
large pad-leaved orchis

- forma *trifolia* (Mousley) P.M. Brown:
three-leaved form

31. *Platanthera obtusata* (Banks & Pursh) Lindl.
blunt-leaved rein orchis

- forma *collectanea* (Fern.) P.M. Brown:
dwarf, congested form
- forma *foliosa* P.M. Brown:
multiple-leaved form



Platanthera obtusata
forma *collectanea*

32. *Platanthera orbiculata* (Pursh) Lindl.
pad-leaved orchis

- forma *lehorsii* (Fern.) P.M. Brown:
dwarf form
- forma *trifolia* P.M. Brown:
three-leaved form

33. *Platanthera psycodes* (L.) Lindl.

small purple fringed orchis

- forma *albiflora* (R.Hoffm.) Whiting & Catling:
white flowered form
- forma *varians* (Bryan) P.M. Brown:
entire-lipped form

34. *Pogonia ophioglossoides* (L.) Ker
rose pogonia

- forma *albiflora* Rand & Redfield:
white-flowered form

35. *Pseudorchis albida* (L.) Love & Love ssp.
straminea (Fern.) Love & Love
Newfoundland orchis

36. *Spiranthes romanzoffiana* Chamisso
hooded ladies'-tresses

Epipactis helleborine in St John's:

Another Immigrant European Orchid

by Howard Clase

While some members of the Wildflower Society were chasing around the remoter parts of the island in the rain looking for *Dactylorhizas* there was another European species of orchid quietly growing on a grassy bank no further than 10 m from this member's front door. Earlier in the year our neighbour, Maxine Frecker, noticed some interesting lily-like leaves growing in two places in the grass on her side of the grassy bank that separates our two houses and marked them so that they would not be mowed.

By late July there were three flowering racemes (two others didn't miss the mower) about a foot high and large enough for me to

notice them and wonder if they could possibly be some sort of orchid. A week or so later when the lower buds began to open, revealing a greenish orchid like flower partly hidden among large green sepals, something said "Helleborine" to me. Sure enough when I looked it up in a European flora (Blamey and Grey-Wilson) that was clearly what it was, but which one? The most likely seemed to be *Epipactis helleborine*, the **Broad-leaved Helleborine**, which has already become naturalised on the mainland and in the N.E. US, but no nearer than southern Quebec as far as I can find. The only other one in the flora that was a possible candidate was *E. muelleri*, but I eventually ruled that out because of some

details in the flowers, and Todd Boland came to the same conclusion. In early September, Maxine discovered another plant, still in full flower under a fir tree at the point where her back garden merges into the woods. This one was growing in a quite shady spot, but a fine 60 cm high plant and still in flower when the others were already over.

The history of the plant in N. America is worth repeating. Luer says that it was first reported from woods near Syracuse NY in August 1879, and he comments that as large a plant as this could hardly have been overlooked for long in such a well botanised area. By 1890 it had appeared in Toronto and has now spread all around the Great Lakes area with isolated populations further west; his map shows no records further east than Quebec City, but I have had a report via the Internet that there was a short-lived outbreak in Nova Scotia recently. There appear to be no previous records of this species from any part of Newfoundland. Fernald comments that it appears apparently spontaneously and then spreads quite rapidly. This species and/or its associated micorhizal fungus seem to be much less demanding than most orchids: it occurs in a wide variety of natural habitats from rich woodlands to sand dunes, and is found widely in such unnatural ones as roadsides and rubbish tips. In Ontario it is considered a bit of a weed.

The flowering racemes, which are from 30 to 60 cm high, have 20 to 30 flowers on the upper half of the stem and up to a dozen rather broad leaves on the lower half. The flowers themselves are rather small, reminiscent of a small Lady's Slipper flower although the lip is just curled under and not a full "slipper". Our flowers are whitish green with a large dark purple spot on the inner part of the lip and they are hidden inside rather large green sepals; it is too green and too coarse to be one of the more attractive of orchids and is unlikely to

have been brought in as a garden plant. In other places some plants have red or purple flowers and reddish sepals.

How did it get here and has it come to stay? Since the location is at the back of Holland Nurseries, about 50 m from where they unload their trailers it seems to me most likely that seeds have come in from the mainland with nursery stock sometime in the past. I do not think anyone has brought it here deliberately; Frans Nap, the original owner of the house, says he knows nothing about it. According to Summerhayes *Epipactis helleborine* takes eight or nine years to reach flowering size and, since our plants must have been regularly mowed in the past, they could have been here unnoticed for much longer than that. We have seen wasps, which are known to be the pollinators, visiting all the plants at different times and the ovaries of the plants out on the exposed bank have been swelling as though they were forming seeds - but it is now late fall, and there is no sign of the seed pods ripening. In Europe the flowering season is also July to September, but maybe our fall is too cool for the Broad-leaved Helleborine to produce ripe seed and spread here as it has done elsewhere; at least these will be easy to keep an eye on. One of the stems which was blown out of the ground by a gale in August has been preserved as a specimen.

References:

- Blamey, M., and C. Grey-Wilson, 1989. *The Illustrated Flora of Britain and Northern Europe*. Hodder and Stoughton, London.
- Luer, C.A., 1975. *The Native Orchids of the United States and Canada*. New York Botanical Garden, New York.
- Fernald, M.L., 1950. *Gray's Manual of Botany*. Eighth edition. American Book Co., New York.
- Summerhayes, V.S., 1951. *Wild Orchids of Britain*. Collins New Naturalist Series, London.

The Waghorne Memorial Expedition

by Sue Meades

Early this spring, my friends Anne Marceau, Michael Burzynski, and Brian Bonnell hiked from Trout River to Chimney Cove - a day and a half journey by foot over boggy terrain. Although not searching for any particular species, they always keep an eye out for anything different. Towards the top of the cliff above Chimney Cove, Anne's spied a tall yellow mustard on a rocky overhang. There are not many native yellow mustards in Newfoundland, so after a mental check of all the possibilities, Anne remembered seeing a picture in the Mingan Islands flora that seemed to fit the specimen - *Erysimum inconspicuum* var. *coarctatum*, the **tall tower mustard!** This rare plant is what brought us back to Chimney Cove on August 6, 1995, with our friends from the Université de Montréal: André Bouchard, Stuart Hay, and Luc Brouillet.

This species of tower mustard was first discovered by Rev. A.C. Waghorne in 1896 at Chimney Cove, which remains its only known location in Newfoundland. Until now, the *Erysimum* had eluded even Dr. M.L. Fernald, who, during his many trips to Newfoundland, was unable to verify or duplicate Waghorne's find. In his 1933 account, Fernald describes his disappointment at not being able to visit all the sites his team would have liked to visit:

"Bonne Bay, which we had originally passed by in our schedule as "all worked out," had proved to be a mine of new discoveries; and we hadn't been on Gros Morne, Gallie's head, the Peak of Teneriffe, nor the fascinating tablelands to the north, nor the spectacular mountains slightly to the south, about Trout River. Further south, Chimney Cove, where the invalid Waghorne got choice things, was again unvisited; and we did not see the deadwaters of Main River where grow "every kind of flower." Mr. Preble tried to lure us back the next summer but, unfortunately, although his quite unnecessary bait was most tempting, further expeditions have thus far been out of the question."

In late July, we had explored the deadwaters of Fernald's Main River, renamed the Lomond River, and I was curious to see another site that had evaded this famous botanist. Time would not permit a 3-day round-trip hike to Chimney Cove, so we decided to travel by boat - a half hour ride from Trout River, south around Cape St. George. Although I have lived in a Newfoundland fishing community for 17 years, I had never been in a dory and did not relish the idea of travelling in a small, open boat on the ocean. However, the lure of accompanying our friends from Montréal to this seldom-visited (by botanists) site far outweighed my apprehension. It's a decision I will never regret!

It was 99 years to the day since Rev. Waghorne had first discovered the *Erysimum*, so we dubbed our trip "The Waghorne Memorial Expedition". Our cheerful guide, Junior (Harvey) Hann, of Trout River, navigated the boat carefully along the rocky cliffs - in places, passing close enough for us to feel the back swell. When viewed from the ocean, you can fully appreciate why the towering, solid mass of our island is nicknamed "The Rock". The sights were glorious - Junior pointed out a bald eagle, its white head and tail fan clearly visible as it soared gracefully above us. A second eagle peered down from its high perch on the cliff. Guillemots, called sea pigeons locally, darted over the waves; - white wings contrasting against their squat, black bodies. Each headland we rounded brought more interesting views of the rocky coastline, interrupted by an occasional lush valley.

Shortly after our departure, the mist turned to light rain and the sea started to get a bit rougher. The seats were wet from spray, as waves splashed, then crashed, over the bow. Luc, protected by his poncho, sat in the bow

with his back to the waves and acted as a wave breaker for those of us fortunate enough to be positioned in the middle. By the time we reached the beach 30 min. later, everyone was wet from the waist down, despite our rain gear.

Just past the rock "chimney", we caught our first view of Chimney Cove, an idyllic community situated in a broad, grassy valley at the mouth of the Gregory River. During high tide and calm seas, it is possible to bring a boat into the river, but such conditions were not ours that day. So, as we cruised along the coast, Luc & Michael kept lookout for the two rocks that marked safe passage across the reef. Once ashore, we hiked the 1½ km up the sandy beach, which was strewn with intertwining strands of various brown kelps and clumps of pink, sun-bleached **Irish Moss** (*Chondrus crispus*) and other reds. Our destination was the 500 foot "hill" overlooking the entrance to the Gregory. Michael and Anne's indispensable sport sandals crossed the river 3 times as we took turns fording the cold water. Before starting our climb, we ate lunch in a decaying shed at the base of the hill.

At one time, Chimney Cove was a thriving community, but few families maintain even a summer residence there now. Several cows and horses, visible on the low hills across the river, are the only remaining year-round residents. They graze on the marshes and meadows throughout the valley, as well as the steep (35-45°) slope of the hill we were about to climb, and their hoof prints provided us with much appreciated toe-holds beneath the slippery grass. We were told that last winter a couple of cows & a horse fell over the cliff atop the hill. Most of the vegetation on this slope is, predictably, introduced, but native species survive by growing on those portions of the cliff that cannot be reached by grazing animals.

About 400 feet up, Luc found the first fruiting specimens of *Erysimum inconspicuum*

var. *coarctatum*. Then, in quick succession, we encountered the rare, pinnate-leaved **coast cinquefoil** (*Potentilla pensylvanica*, =*P. pectinata*), **rusty cliff brake** (*Woodsia ilvensis*), **white mountain-saxifrage** (*Saxifraga paniculata*, =*S. aizoon*), and **field oxytrope** (*Oxytropis campestris*). At the top of the cliff, which formed an overhang above the rocky shore, Stu held on to André's legs as he leaning over the cliff edge to collect a voucher specimen of the *Erysimum*. Further along the crest was a "flowerpot", which is like the seastack of Cape St. Mary's that houses the main Gannet population. However, instead of birds, a flowerpot supports vegetation. This particular stack was connected to the main cliff by a narrow strip of earth, which sloped down on either side. As most of us strained our eyes to see if we could spy any interesting species - not daring to risk the walk, André casually sauntered over the precarious connection to collect a few choice specimens of the rare **cut-leaved anemone** (*Anemone multifida*).

Along the top of the cliff face, a large population of red- and white-fruited **red baneberry** (*Actaea rubra*) caught our attention. On top of the cliff, the tuckamoor was very grazed, but we did find a very pale **purple fringed orchis** (*Platanthera psycodes*) & an interesting double-flowered **tall buttercup** (*Ranunculus acris*), along with the more predictable **dwarf enchanter's nightshade** (*Circaea alpina*). Our search for interesting species had made us temporarily oblivious to the worsening weather. However, as the rain picked up and started falling in near-horizontal sheets, we shifted our attention to getting back to the beach.

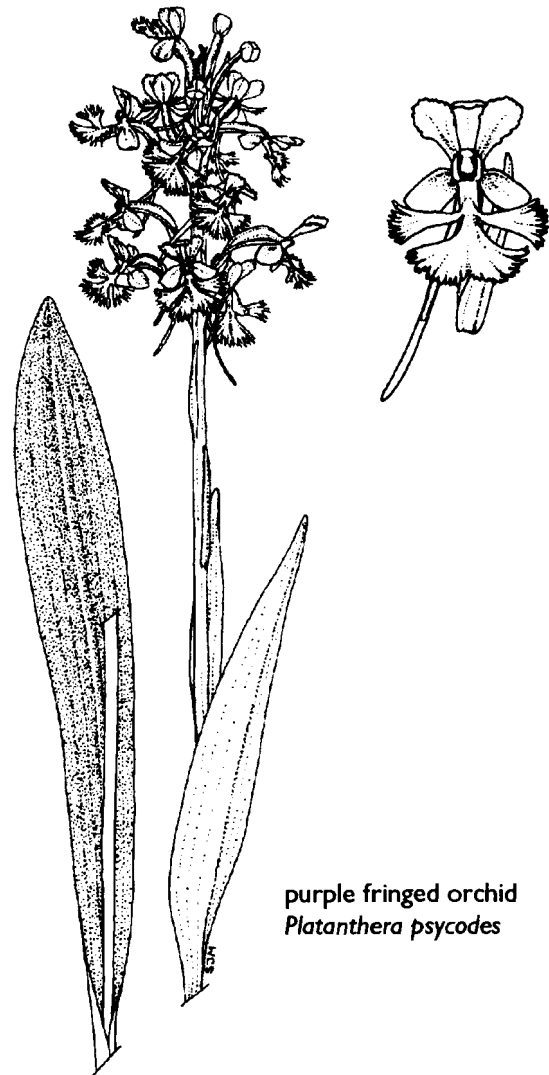
Our descent was quicker, but more precarious - the slope was pocked with deep ruts, hidden from view by the tall grasses & sedges. The pelting rain stung our faces and reduced visibility to such an extent that my

glasses were rendered useless. Despite the conditions, André found yet another rare species in the wet meadow - **Canada anemone** (*Anemone canadensis*), which also contained **blue flag** (*Iris versicolor*) and **herb Robert** (*Geranium robertianum*).

Once down the hill, we crossed the river and started exploring the marsh while we waited for Junior to return with the skiff at 4:30. Along the edge of the marsh I found the rare **giant bur-reed** (*Sparganium eurycarpum*), and a curly-leaved **pondweed** (*Potamogeton*), along with **hedge bindweed** (*Calystegia sepium*, = *Convolvulus sepium*). By now, we were all soaked to the skin, but the rain was warm and we, fortunately, were not chilled. We waited near the beach, watching the large swells and wondering if Junior would be able to return. Forty-five minutes later, just as we began to entertain thoughts of how to weather the storm until morning, the boat appeared. However, the waves threatened to swamp it and we realized that our exit would not be as easy as our entry. We consolidated all of our gear in one sack, which could be thrown easily into the boat as we boarded. We waded out into the churning surf and listened as Junior shouting directions over the noise of the waves & weather. After a few attempts to position the skiff safely, Junior yelled for us to board and we made a collective mad dash - scrambling in over the sides - trying to find appropriate places to place our feet. Once aboard, our worries didn't end. The waves formed 6-8 foot swells. When the boat was in the bottom of a wave trough, nothing but water was visible on either side of us. The few times I looked forward, the sight of rolling waves initiated an instinctive response "Oh my God, what am I doing here!?", so I kept my eyes riveted to the wall of water.

By the time we got about half way to Trout River, the storm abated and the waters calmed.

We were again able to appreciate the passing seagulls and the lone cormorant without worries of abandoning ship or drowning. Soaked to the skin, the six of us spent the next hour (or two) at the Seaside Restaurant in Trout River, recounting the days experience and some old reminiscences over a great meal (and a couple carafes of quite palatable white wine). The next day, we took a boat up Trout River Pond to Fox Creek Gulch and hiked about 1000 ft up the serpentine scree slopes. But that's another story. This summer's field trips, especially our Waghorne Memorial Expedition, provided me with many unforgettable memories - a fitting end to my last summer as a resident of Newfoundland.



purple fringed orchid
Platanthera psycodes

Memories of our NE Nfld Field Trip

by Glenda Quinn

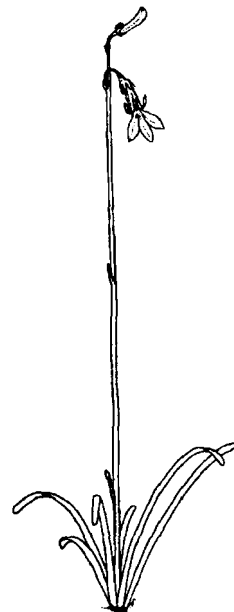
Exploring the northeast coast and our Province's flora on our five-day field trip was a delightful experience and one which I will always savour. What a treat to have so many botanists among our group! Thursday evening, July 20, 1995, we met at Clode Sound Motel in Terra Nova National Park. Our group consisted of nineteen: Marian Bailey, Todd Boland, Leila, Howard, & Andrew Clase, Alice Close, Luise Hermanutz & David, Peter, & Stephan Innes, Henry Mann, Sue, Bill, Debby, & Shawn Meades, Glenda & Lorne Quinn, and Jane & Tom Smith.

Thursday morning we hiked the Sandy Pond trail under cloudy skies and light showers. It was a diverse landscape of bogs, fens, and forest. Sue pointed out one area which was a perfect example of dwarf shrub-lichen woodland, with **black spruce** (*Picea mariana*), **sheep laurel** (*Kalmia angustifolia*) and **caribou lichens** (*Cladonia alpestris*, *C. rangiferina*, and *C. arbuscula*.) We saw many plants of which I can recall a few. This was typical of me for the whole trip because there was so much to see and learn. The scientific names sounded so foreign, but after a few more trips I'll begin to think in the universal language. When I see goldenrod now, I think "Solidago", but not when I see **lance-leaved goldenrod** (*Solidago graminifolia*), because it has been renamed *Euthamia graminifolia*! I did learn the meaning of a few words - *lunaria* (of the moon), *stellata* (star), *maritima* (of the sea), *sylvatica* (of the forest), *rubus* (red), *nitida* (shining), *album* (white), *repens* (creeping), *nigrum* (black), and *officinale* (of the shop). Jane and Todd helped me master the pronunciation of *Dactylorhiza* with a little chant that they had made up. It was on the Sandy Pond trail that I saw **water** or **purple avens** (*Geum rivale*) for the first time and I saw **white mandarin** or **clasping-leaved twisted-stalk** (*Streptopus amplexifolius*)

for the second time. Last summer, in Labrador, I found the latter and I was quite intrigued with its simple beauty and the unusual kink in the flower stalk. It was in fruit and the colloquial name for it is caribou berry.

Broad-lipped twayblade (*Listera convallarioides*) was one of several orchids growing beside the trail. At the base of a large spruce we saw an unusual mass of an oozy, white substance and someone jokingly commented that a moose must have been sick. It turned out to be a slime mold, which is a fungus that moves under its own power. Luise explained that they are an interesting and unusual organism that exist where it is cool and damp.

About halfway around the pond we stopped and were amused by the aquatic manoeuvres of two loons. At some point, we crossed a bridge and Henry pointed out **water lobelia** (*Lobelia dortmanna*). The youngest members of our group, three-year olds Peter and Stephen, steadfastly hiked the three kilometers without complaint, but the allure of the sandy beach at the end of the trail proved too strong and away they went - off course, of course.



water lobelia
Lobelia dortmanna

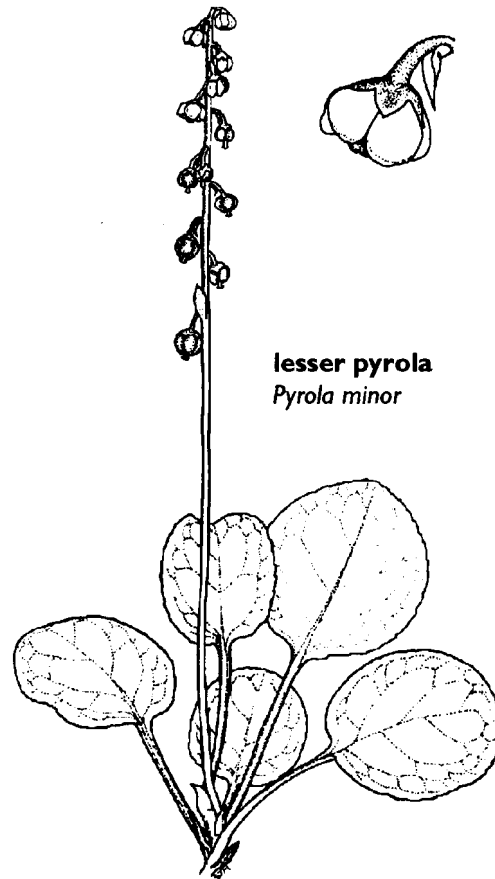
By afternoon, the sun was shining and our spirits were high as we left to explore the salt water marsh in Newman Sound. Henry showed us **strand wheat** (*Elymus arenarius*) and mentioned that the Vikings of L'Anse-aux-Meadows made flour from this tall, bluish-colored grass, which grows in most areas of our province where there are sand dunes. I wonder how that bread tasted? It was in this area that Sue was looking for **sea lavender** (*Limonium nashii*). She didn't find it here, but Henry did the next day just after Boyd's Cove, on the way to Twillingate. We did see **sea milkwort** (*Glaux maritima*), **seaside goldenrod** (*Solidago sempervirens*), **marsh pea** (*Lathyrus palustris*), and **seaside angelica** (*Coelopleurum lucidum*).



Saturday morning we left for Cape Freels and I was disappointed that it rained. This area must be absolutely beautiful in sunshine, with all that sand and rolling coastline. Some things stand out though, Todd's elated shout when he saw a whimbrel (a large sandpiper), the **moonworts** (*Botrychium lunaria*) growing near our parked cars, the fresh, plump strawberries that Howard handed out lunchtime, and varicose veins. Varicose veins? Growing on the sand dunes was a large clump of **silverweed** (*Potentilla anserina*) and it had sent out a network of red runners that formed a striking, criss-crossing pattern. Lorne said it looked like varicose veins. And we saw **northern rattlebox** (*Rhinanthus borealis*), **creeping spearwort** (*Ranunculus reptans*), **bird's-eye primrose** (*Primula laurentiana*), **beach-head iris** (*Iris hookeri*), **blue flag** (*Iris versicolor*), **oysterleaf** (*Mertensia maritima*), **sea rocket** (*Cakile edentula*), and **blue-eyed grass** (*Sisyrinchium montanum*), which here firmly shut against the rain. Around 2 o'clock we left for Twillingate without the Clase family, as Howard was returning to work on Monday, and their son, Andrew, was returning to England. We dined that night at the Anchor Inn Motel in Twillingate. Afterwards, some of us visited the museum. **Cow parsnip** (*Heracleum maximum*) and **lady's mantle** (*Alchemilla vulgaris*) grew in great profusion along the roadside to the museum. Lorne and I returned to Toulanguet Inn, our bed and breakfast, which was charming and cosy. Mrs. Young greeted us warmly the next morning and we became engaged in a conversation about our field trip. She asked us how many of us were there and I replied that our group had shrunk. At this point my witty husband interrupted and said, "Yes, it rained yesterday."

Sunday morning we set off for Davy Button's Cove, where we met Jim Troake, a friend of the Woodruffs, who was to be our guide. We parked again by a fern - little grape

fern (*Botrychium simplex*), which is similar to the moonwort, but smaller. At Davy Button's Cove, we saw **meadow cranesbill** (*Geranium pratense*), **bird's-eye primrose** (*Primula laurentiana*), **oysterleaf** (*Mertensia maritima*), **hemlock parsley** (*Conioselinum chinense*), and a very large clump of *Lathyrus* which Todd and Henry couldn't identify because it looked different from *Lathyrus palustris* and *L. japonicus*. Unfortunately we left without a sample and so it remains a question. We drove to Sea Breeze Park, where there are remnants of a copper mine at Sleepy Cove dating back to 1908. Surprises lay ahead for us and the botanists in our group were delighted to find **alpine campion** (*Lychnis alpina*), **moss campion** (*Silene acaulis*) - Luise's baby, **multi-rayed goldenrod** (*Solidago multiradiata*), **hairy goldenrod** (*Solidago hispida*), **butterwort** (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), and several **pussytoes** (*Antennaria* sp.). The significance of these finds is that some of these plants are found in serpentinized areas and others are indicative of limestone, and little has been recorded for this eastern location. Mr. Troake tried, unsuccessfully, to locate **Arctic dwarf willow** (*Salix arctica*) that he had seen on an earlier visit to this seaside cliff. After a picnic lunch, Lorne and I decided to take the afternoon to do some sight-seeing on New World Island. We spent an idyllic afternoon photographing and exploring old cemeteries, fishing wharves, and beaver dams. On the way to Moreton's Harbour, the roadside was lined with **coltsfoot** (*Tussilago farfara*). Many of the gardens in the small communities that we drove through grew beautiful yellow roses. Suppertime we joined our group at R & J Restaurant for a meal of seafood and then we all drove to the lighthouse to watch the sunset. The sunset wasn't inspiring due to cloudy conditions, but Todd's discovery of **white mountain-saxifrage** (*Saxifraga paniculata* - formerly *S. aizoon*) and Henry's of **lesser**



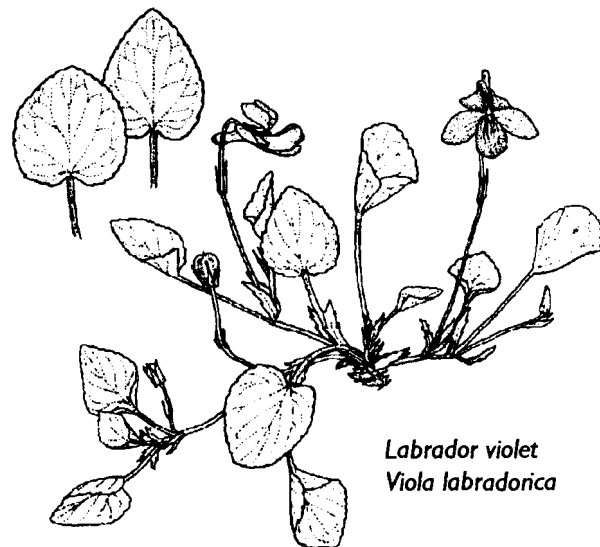
lesser pyrola
Pyrola minor

pyrola (*Pyrola minor*) made up for it. It was there that Todd also found **knotty pearlwort** (*Sagina nodosa*).

Monday morning we set out for Baie Verte. Heavy rain greeted us and we decided to venture to Tilt Cove in the morning. When Sue arrived, she showed me a lovely, sweetly scented species of **valerian** (*Valeriana officinalis*) that she had collected near the road sign to Baytona. We had a leisurely supper at the motel and Sue gave us an interesting account of her recent experiences on the Great Northern Peninsula. The next morning we set off to see the rare orchid, *Dactylorhiza*, that grows in Tilt Cove near an old mine site. Tilt Cove is unique in that it's a small community nestled at the bottom of steep cliffs that together form a bowl. At the bottom of the bowl was Windsor Lake, which opened to the sea. Before mining operations began in

1864 and the hillsides weren't eroded away by excavations and the lake wasn't filled with molten waste, Tilt Cove must have been strikingly picturesque. Some of that beauty can still be seen through the marred visage. Windsor Lake is now referred to as Tilt Cove Pond. *Once Upon a Mine: Story of Pre-Confederation Mines on the Island of Newfoundland*, by Wendy Martin, contains a chapter on Tilt Cove's mining history. Among the **Tilt Cove orchid** (*Dactylorhiza majalis*, subspecies *praetermissa*) grew the **white bog orchid** (*Platanthera dilatata*), **yellow rattle** (*Rhinanthus crista-galli*), **garden sorrel** (*Rumex acetosa*), and **red clover** (*Trifolium pratense*). During the morning, Sue and Henry spoke to Mr. Short, one of the oldest residents, about Tilt Cove's history. We later explored Castle Rock, a steep hike, and Sue pointed out **yellow vetchling** (*Lathyrus pratensis*), **butterwort** (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), **common bearberry** (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), and the leaves of stemmed **Labrador violet** (*Viola labradorica*). On top of the hill overlooking the tiny community (there are now thirteen residents left), John Kelsey, from Baie Verte, lead us to an old tombstone. Calling out to me from beneath the dense growth, Sue dictated to me the inscription on the headstone. It was a monument to two servants who were killed in a snowslide March 11, 1912. They were employees of the mine manager, Francis W. Williams, who was also killed in the accident. Lily-of-the-valley grew on the site. For a description of *Dactylorhiza*, read Sue's article in *Sarracenia*, Vol. 5 (1). Fall 1994.

During the afternoon, we said our good-byes and we headed to Pacquet. Determined to see the Horse Islands, the birthplace of my maternal grandmother, we took a trail which led to a vantage spot. Among the **black crowberry** (*Empetrum nigrum*), which formed a "blackberry" heath, I spied a pretty, purple flower. First I thought it was a beach pea, but closer inspection ruled out that plant. Now I was faced with a challenge. There was no botanist to turn to, so it would take me three days instead of three minutes to determine the name. It was not mentioned in my field guide, nor any of my other books. After two trips to the reference library to peruse *Britton and Brown's Illustrated Flora of Northeastern United States* (Gleason, 1974) and leafing through back issues of *Sarracenia*, I concluded that it was an *Oxytropis* and that a phone call to Sue or Todd would give me the species. Rouleau's book listed two *oxytropes* for Newfoundland - *O. campestris* and *O. foliolosa*. It turned out to be the **field oxytrope** (*Oxytropis campestris*) and it had not been recorded previously from the Baie Verte Peninsula. What a satisfying ending for my first field trip with the Newfoundland Wildflower Society!



Labrador violet
Viola labradorica