

◆ The Watershed News ◆

Volume X, Issue I

Winter 2007

A Quarterly Publication for the Ossipee Watershed Published by the Green Mountain Conservation Group

Wildlife on the Rebound: Bald Eagles at Annual Meeting

On Saturday, January 27, the Green Mountain Conservation Group will celebrate its 9th annual meeting at Runnells Hall from 6 to 9 p.m. The evening will commence with a look at the year in review and financial report, followed by a potluck dinner, awards ceremony and election of officers.

The featured speaker this year is Chris Martin, Wildlife Biologist for the New Hampshire Audubon Society. Chris will give a presentation on the exciting recovery of Bald Eagles in New Hampshire. Chris has worked for the past seventeen years rebuilding populations of Bald Eagle, Osprey and Peregrine Falcon in the state.

Until recently, the state has seen a decline in these species due to the use of DDT and increased recreation and development pressures in their habitats. In an effort to curb these trends, Chris helped educate and train volunteers to become local conservation advocates in their communities and coordinated statewide surveys that contributed to improved understanding of the birds' populations, ecology and the challenges they face. Information collected through the surveys was added to the species profiles for the new NH Wildlife Action Plan. Chris was awarded the 2006 Environmental Merit Award by the Environmental Protection Agency for his efforts.

The annual meeting also provides a great opportunity to network and learn more about conservation projects you can be a part of in your community. Are you interested in becoming a part of a team of 50 volunteers that samples streams and lakes each year? Or learning more about the fascinating world of aquatic insects? GMCG also leads many monthly programs, field trips and workshops for local schools, summer camps and the greater community.



Photo: Judy Lombardi/Golden Acres Photography

Annual meeting is the perfect time to share your ideas for new programs and offer to lead these educational events.

In 2007 GMCG will continue to work with towns on natural resource based planning with funding from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, the Roy Foundation, the Little Family Foundation and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. We will contract with environmental planner Steve Whitman to assist in updating natural resource chapters in town master plans. 2007 will also focus on the creation of a Natural Resource Guidebook for the Ossipee Watershed.

A new Ossipee Watershed Coalition Steering Committee has formed to help guide this process of inter-municipal planning, adopting the mission statement: The Ossipee Watershed Coalition is a partnership of municipal officials, community and business leaders, and other concerned citizens. Its mission is to sustain and protect our shared resources through cooperative natural resource-based planning. Anyone is welcome to join the Coalition, and every town is encouraged to participate in 2007!

Annual Meeting is open to the public. Please bring a favorite dish to the potluck supper. A donation of \$10 per person and membership renewal is suggested.

Message from the Director

As the plumber was leaving last week, he remarked that while it was nice to not be freezing working outside in December, it was also disconcerting how warm it had been. The unusual weather has given us all pause to consider the role we play in climate change. How can we make a difference at home as well as across the planet? As GMCG heads into the 10th year of conservation work in the Ossipee Watershed, take a moment to reflect on successes over this past year.

Some highlights in 2006 have included:

- The Environmental Protection Agency awarded GMCG the 2006 Environmental Merit Award for conservation work in the Ossipee Watershed applauding our "non-confrontational" approach.

- Environmental Planner, Steve Whitman worked with watershed towns and their planning boards to help craft and edit Natural Resource chapters in Master Plans that will better reflect shared visions for resource protection.

- 2006 marked the completion of five years of Water Quality Monitoring.

- An additional 200 acres were protected through a gift of land and a conservation easement.

In 2007, GMCG will continue to work with towns and the Ossipee Watershed Coalition and fund assistance for natural resource planning projects. We will also continue to partner with towns on the water quality monitoring program and present educational forums for stakeholders to learn more about important shared resources.

GMCG is a community organization. Feel free to contact us with your concerns, questions or suggestions. Please renew your membership today and thanks for your continued support!

Blair Folts is GMCG's Executive Director

The Watershed News

The Watershed News is a quarterly publication of the Green Mountain Conservation Group, a non-profit, 501(c) 3, charitable organization established in 1997 and dedicated to the preservation of the natural resources in the Ossipee Watershed. The towns of Effingham, Freedom, Madison, Ossipee, Sandwich and Tamworth make up the boundaries of the Ossipee Watershed. This watershed includes one of the largest and deepest stratified drift aquifers in New Hampshire. It covers 47 square miles and receives drainage from a 330 square mile area. It is a critically important resource for existing and future community water supplies.

GMCG's purpose is twofold:

1. To provide an organizational structure for a coalition of citizens and local officials interested in identifying sensitive areas within the Watershed in need of protection;
2. To offer public educational events about conservation issues and possible solutions regarding the preservation of unique natural resources.

Through research, education, advocacy and land conservation we strive to promote an awareness and appreciation of our watershed's natural resources and encourage a commitment to protect them.

Board of Directors

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Noreen Downs, Secretary
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Effingham, Emelyn Albert
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Maine, Dennis Finn

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Executive Director, Blair Folts
Program Director, Tara Schroeder

Special Places

Farming in a Changing Landscape

Editor's Note: Special Places is a regular feature of the Watershed News, highlighting an historical or cultural resource within the Ossipee Watershed. GMCG continues to endorse the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP,) a public-private partnership committed to conservation of New Hampshire's natural, cultural and historical resources. For more information, on LCHIP call 224-4113, or email www.lchip.org.

BY TARA SCHROEDER

Forgotten stone walls and lonely apple trees deep in the forest tell of farming days gone by and how the landscape has changed dramatically since the colonial era. Much of this change is a result of the migration of farmers west to more fertile soils and the advent of large factory farms in the 1800's. Yet today, there remain some 3,400 commercial farms operating in the state, managing over 450,000 acres of land and producing a wide variety of products, with milk and apples being the most significant bulk crops.

According to the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, the state's agricultural industry generates over \$935 million each year, including tourist dollars associated with fairs and scenic travel. In Carroll County farming is very much alive and on the rise according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture. Approximately 229 farms in the county encompass more than 29,000 acres of farmland and produce everything from ice cream to Christmas trees. These farms contribute to the economy, rural character, recreational opportunities, open space, wildlife habitat and overall quality of life.

Across the state agriculture has become much more diversified over the past few decades. Dairy farmer Steve Taylor of the NH Department of Agriculture explains that there are two distinct trends occurring: the consolidation of traditional, bulk farms such as dairy and apple farms that have a larger acreage, and the emergence of new or "niche" agriculture, including smaller acreage farms such as farmer's markets or farm stands.

The traditional farms tend to be run by aging farmers, are heavily leveraged, must compete with other markets around the world, and are increasingly vulnerable to globalization. The market is shrinking for these farmers with prices

being controlled by larger companies, affecting everyone in the supply chain. The new agriculture tends to include younger, more diverse practitioners, and interestingly enough, New Hampshire has the highest percentage of female farmers in the nation. These farmers have more direct contact with the consumer, do not have to borrow lots of money since they are smaller in scale and there is no middle person involved, and their market is local consumers.

Concern about the source and treatment of food has contributed to the rise in demand in locally and organically grown food worldwide. According to the latest research, demand for organic food is outpacing supply, and growth in the market continues to soar. Worldwide, sales may reach \$40 billion by year end (Organic Monitor, 2006). This trend also seems to be a factor on a local level. From 1992 to 2006 the number of farmer's markets in the state increased from 12 to 62, with 8 new markets added this year. Community Supported Agriculture programs are also on the rise, for example, the Community School's CSA program in Tamworth has grown from serving 15 families in 2003 to 48 families in 2006.

There are many benefits to maintaining a strong, local agricultural base. Perhaps most import is the long-term protection of agricultural lands to ensure future generations have access to arable soils in order to grow food. Good soil is a precious resource in the granite state, and much of the best farmland is still unprotected. Only 5.6% of the state is comprised of prime agricultural soils according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, and good soil is even more scarce in the Ossipee Watershed. There are only 2,555 acres of prime agricultural soils in the towns of Effingham, Freedom, Madison, Ossipee, Sandwich and Tamworth, of which 414 acres are currently protected, or roughly 16% (NH Forest Society Report, 2005). FMI:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/frpp/

www.nofanh.org/

www.extension.unh.edu/Agric/Agric.htm

www.agriculture.nh.gov/index.htm

www.nhfarmtorestaurant.com

www.communityschoolnh.org

www.nhfarmtoschool.org/

Watershed Birder The National Bird: Bald Eagles in the Watershed

BY SUSAN LEE

The Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), a majestic member of the fish-eagle family, and the national emblem of the United States, was until fairly recently a state and federally endangered species. Now off the federal endangered species list, the Bald Eagle is still endangered in New Hampshire. Legally hunted in the lower 48 States until 1940, and until 1962 in Alaska, the Bald Eagle population suffered drastic decline in the 1950s and 60s.

A significant factor in the Bald Eagle's disappearance from New Hampshire skies was organochlorine pesticides such as the infamous DDT. These toxins caused direct mortality of Bald Eagles and other large predator species, as well as thinning of the shells of their eggs, with consequent nesting failure. Although organochlorine pesticides were banned in the United States in the early 1970s, these pesticides are still used in the tropics and are often "imported" into this country each spring in migrating songbirds. Lead poisoning from fishing sinkers and destruction of habitat continue to jeopardize the full return of the Bald Eagle to pre-1950 numbers.

Easily recognizable by its striking white head and tail, only the adult Bald Eagle has this distinctive plumage. Juvenile and immature eagles have dark plumage with differing amounts of light and white feathers, depending on age and are easily confused with other large raptors. Bald Eagles molt, or change their feathers, annually and each year the head and tail feather become shorter and lighter. It is usually four or five years before the birds reach full adult plumage.

Exactly when Bald Eagles reach sexual maturity is not really known, although so called "sub-adult plumaged" birds will mate and raise

young. Juveniles actually have broader wings and longer tails than their parents. Seen from below, Bald Eagles have long, broad, plank-like wings. With a wing span averaging 80" and measuring 31" from the tip of the hooked beak to the end of the tail, they are truly awesome birds.

Historically Bald Eagles summered on many lakes and bodies of water in New Hampshire, including Umbagog, Squam, Wentworth, the Connecticut Lakes, Winnepesaukee, Great Bay and Hampton Harbor. Prior to 1989, the last recorded nesting pair of Bald Eagles on Umbagog Lake produced two chicks in 1949. No other successful nests were found until 1989, again at Umbagog.

Since then, the Bald Eagle has made a slow steady recovery in New Hampshire. In 2006 breeding pairs were distributed across four of New Hampshire's five major watersheds. "The Androscoggin River, Connecticut River, Great Bay/Coastal, and Merrimack River watersheds all hosted nesting pairs in 2006, and only the Saco River watershed lacked a confirmed nesting or territorial pair. One quarter of all the state's successful nesting attempts (10 of 40) recorded since 1950 occurred during 2006". A total of 21 checks reached fledging age.

Bald Eagles are territorial with a pair returning to the same nest site year after year, often to the same nest, simply adding another "story" on top of the previous year's nest. The territory typically extends for a half mile radius around the nest, and both male and female eagles will defend the territory against intruders. Large stick nests are built in tall, strong white pine trees generally along or near the edge of a lake or river. Eagles will also build nests on cliffs.

Studies suggest that there are different patterns of migration depending on where the eagles have spent the summer. In Florida and along the Gulf Coast,

eagles breed in November and December and make a reverse migration north in late spring and early summer. In the Northeast adult eagles tend to stay around the nest site as long as food remains plentiful and the weather allows. Some eagles are able to stay in one location year round; others, such as those in northern New Hampshire, must move during the coldest months to open water where they can find food. Eagles are opportunistic hunters and will take fish from Osprey in flight. There have also been anecdotal reports in the past two years of eagles stealing fish laid out on the ice beside fishing shacks and holes on Conway Lake.

Since 1980 New Hampshire Audubon and New Hampshire Fish and Game Department have conducted Bald Eagle monitoring and management activities. A mid-winter Bald Eagle survey conducted over two weeks in January 2006 counted 55 Bald Eagles, 31 adults and 24 immature eagles. Seventeen were seen in the Lakes Region. Two detailed reports on the Status of Breeding and Wintering Bald Eagles in NH in 2005-2006 were written by Audubon Senior Biologist Chris Martin. Both of these fascinating reports, with terrific color photos, are available on the NH Audubon website, www.nh.audubon.org. Chris Martin is GMCG's 2007 Annual Meeting guest speaker. He will share what he has learned in the past seventeen years of researching Bald Eagles in New Hampshire at this event.

References:

1. *Status of Breeding Bald Eagles in New Hampshire in 2006*. Christian J. Martin, NH Audubon.
2. *A Guide to Bird Behavior Volume. III* by Donald and Lillian Stokes (1989).

Susan Lee is an avid birder and longtime resident of the Ossipee Watershed. Share bird sightings or comments with her by email: leegull1@earthlink.net.

Conservation Conversations

Editor's Note: *Conservation Conversations is intended to provide a forum for the conservation commissions in the six towns of the Ossipee Watershed to share news of their activities and an opportunity to find creative solutions regarding watershed issues.*

Think Locally; Act Watershed.

Effingham

A University of New Hampshire Senior Project team completed the analysis of culverts this fall. The team consisting of Mary Dellenbaugh, Kristen Nelson, Brett Newman, Logan Reese and Anthony Jackson identified, georeferenced, mapped and photographed culverts under the main roads in town (54 in all). The group analyzed discharge rates, flood stage elevation, and capacity of the culverts and bridges to handle a 25-year event as well as fish and wildlife movement and aquatic habitat fragmentation. The team presented their findings on December 4 (8 culverts need restoration). A formal public presentation is scheduled for February 26, 2007.

Madison

The Madison Conservation Commission is partnering with GMCG to host a workshop on conservation easements for February, 2007. Over 100 landowners will be invited to learn more about easements and conservation options.

University of New Hampshire's Natural Resource students have completed their fall semester project and will present their results on the Wold Property in December.

Town Property reports are nearing completion, and the commission is still exploring the possibility of mandatory recycling at the transfer station.

Ossipee

Members reviewed the 2006 Wildlife Action Plan, noting that much of Ossipee and the watershed is deemed "Highest Quality Wildlife Habitat and Supporting Landscapes." This document, and the draft Master Plan revision and proposed site plan review regulations will be used to strengthen measures to protect wetlands, uplands and riparian corridors.

Bob Pratt is a newly appointed conservation commission member. Bob is well known as founder and President of the Dan

Hole Pond Watershed Trust.

The four largest parcels of town conservation land are now a certified Tree Farm totaling 291 acres. They will be managed under a Forest Stewardship Plan for sustained forestry, wildlife habitat, watershed protection and low-impact, non-motorized recreation. Three parcels are off Route 16: Sumner Brook at the fish hatchery; the Town Forest located between Northern Tire and Deer Cap Campground; and a small parcel on Milliken/Boulder Hill. Also included is a 108-acre parcel on Depot Road in Tamworth that was given to the town.

Sandwich

The conservation commission is currently reviewing the wetland section of the Zoning Ordinance.

Nine conservation easements have been monitored, one containing multiple properties protected by the Land Conservation Investment Program in the early 1990's. Three landowners have discussed donating conservation easements on their properties. Conservation commission members have raised concerns about future stewardship responsibilities. These range from timber violations that incur damage to wetlands, development violations that result from the improper construction of buildings or roads, and recreational violations from the improper use of motorized vehicles. An interesting concern with one easement has had to do with the planned closure of a gravel pit, which includes restoration according to an as yet-to-be-determined restoration plan.

Freedom

After many months of work, the natural resource chapter for the updated Master Plan has been completed. Thanks to Anne Cunningham for her help in editing the chapter. There will be a presentation of the master plan to the public later this winter. Town Forester Barry Keith presented information on proposed nature trails in the Trout Pond Town Forest. This project is part of the Mooseplate Grant Program which has paid for three kiosks installed at the main entrances to the property. A trail map including natural history information will complete the work for which the grant was awarded. Commission members are actively attending workshops and reviewing the new Wildlife Action Plan.

Watershed Town Tackles Global Warming

In 2007, the Effingham Conservation Commission will sponsor programs about the issue of global warming that are free and open to the public. The programs will be held at the Effingham Public Library on Town House Road, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. as follows:

January 22: A Forum: *Global Warming: Impacts and Solutions in New Hampshire* presented by Dr. Barrett N. Rock, Mr. Patrick Miller & Ms. Nancy Girard of the Carbon Coalition.

January 29: A Movie: *An Inconvenient Truth* (96 Minutes) followed by discussion.

March 17: Town Meeting: *Warrant Article on New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution presented as Citizen petition.*

The Carbon Coalition, a non-partisan grassroots organization, is advocating for a sound national energy policy by preventing global warming caused by carbon pollution.

This coalition was started in 2003 by Clean Air-Cool Planet, Society for the Protection of NH Forests, AMC, NH Audubon and NH Public Interest Research Group. Currently, over 200 Carbon Coalition volunteers are working in 165 towns to bring a climate change resolution to town meeting in March. The resolution can be found on the Coalition website: www.carboncoalition.org, and has been endorsed by the Valley News, NH Planners Association, a number of Conservation Commissions, Loon Mountain, Cranmore Mountain Ski Resort, and others.

Watershed Water Quality Monitoring

Notes from Upstream The Last Splash of '06: the State of the Watershed

BY ELENA PIEKUT

In 2006, GMCG continued monitoring water quality in the Ossipee Watershed with great support from the six watershed towns, University of New Hampshire, Saco River Corridor Commission, N.H. Department of Environmental Services, Timberland, N.H. Charitable Foundation, Quimby Foundation, Captain Planet Foundation and local volunteers, summer camps and schools.

In celebrating the completion of five years of water quality data, a full house attended November 17th's State of the Watershed presentation. After presentations on macroinvertebrate sampling from Sandwich fourth and fifth graders and Kingswood junior Elizabeth Ahearn, Dawn Keppler of the DES gave the results for the first year of biomonitoring. Overall, the aquatic organisms collected indicated four excellent streams, five good streams, and two fairly poor streams. Michelle Daley of the UNH Natural Resources department then offered analysis of water quality for rivers. She noted a general trend toward greater acidity, as well as increasing nitrate levels over the past five years. She also noted some sites in the Watershed with elevated conductivity and chloride levels, most likely indicating the influence of road salt runoff. Finally, Bob Craycraft of the UNH Cooperative



Dan Cox and Bryce Frizzell of Sandwich Elementary School present their findings from the macroinvertebrate sampling project.

Extension and Lakes Lay Monitoring Program spoke about water quality analysis of Ossipee Lake and its bays. All presenters emphasized the great need for regular, long-term biogeochemical data collection in the future.

Final reports for monitoring through 2006 will be provided to Watershed towns, and will also be available at www.gmcg.org. Call 539-1859 to volunteer in 2007!

Elena Piekut is GMCG's 2006 Water Quality Intern. Good luck to Elena as she moves on to College of the Atlantic in 2007!

Notes from Downstream

Winter Water Quality Reflections

BY DENNIS FINN

As the holiday season approaches and the earth spins her way toward the solstice, we here at the Saco River Corridor Commission have a slight breather from our hectic regulatory program. The daylight has diminished and the longer nights give us a chance to sit around the fire and reflect on conservation, our communities and the work that we do. Protecting natural resources and particularly working to protect our surface waters is really about protecting our quality of life. Clean water, healthy forests, wildlife and open space are all necessary for our well being. Keeping these resources intact is what separates the standard of living we hold dear in our rural environment and the resources, or perhaps the lack of natural resources that are found in urban areas.

Dennis Finn is Executive Director at the Saco River Corridor Commission in Cornish, Maine. SRCC is made up of 20 towns from Fryeburg to Saco, Maine. GMCG has been partnering with SRCC since 2001.



The Saco River Basin Water from the White Mountains in New Hampshire and empties into the Atlantic Ocean in Maine.

Thank you for your support in 2006!

GMCG depends on its members to continue to work towards the protection and conservation of natural resources in the Ossipee Watershed. We are very grateful for your ongoing support!

Please renew your membership and invite your friends and family to join GMCG this year!

Individuals

Liz Ahearn	Mary & Bill Cuddy	Jean & George Hurley	David Neils	Claes Thelemarck	Pine Tree Power
Sharon Aiken	Daniel & Katherine Cullinane	Chuck Illig	Craig Niiler	Sherri, Sam & Hannah Therrien	Pizza Barn
Emelyn Albert	Anne & Scott Cunningham	Nancy Johnson	Richard & Jane Nylander	Kevin Thompson	Rivendell Farm
Alice & Carl Amero	Alice Custard	Peggy Johnson	Ruth O'Neal	Maynard & Laura Thomson	Natural Foods
Angelo & Marjorie Amico	Duane & Heidi Frantz-Dale	Pat Jones	William & Lorraine Onufry	Roger Thurrell	Saco Bound
Hayden Anderson	Michelle Daley	Sam & Sara Kaplan	Theodore Osgood	Ruth & Steve Timchak	Silver Lake Hardware
Maud Anderson	Alton & Pauline Davis Jr.	Barry & Pam Keith	Joanna Pennypacker	Carole Todd	Squam Lakes Natural Science Center
Helen Armstorg	Rose de Mars	Brian & Sara Kelley	Bill Piekut & Family	Heli Tomford	Story Land
Scott Aspinall	Laura Deming	Sam Kendall	Peter Pohl	Margaret Turk	Symmetree Yoga
Arthur & Katherine Baldwin	Margaret Dower	Dawn Keppler	Lee Pollock	Fred Van Cor	The Other Store
Stephanie Barnes	Noreen & Dave Downs	Mark Kern	Neil Postlewaite	Joseph & Roberta Upson	Wayside Farm
Mr. & Mrs. Bashe	Norm Dudziak	Ted & Carol Kramer	Alix & Bob Pratt	Rick Van de Poll	Foundations
Pierce & Kathryn Beij	Beth & Peter Earle	Don LaChance	Judith & Mike Previer	Donna & Michael Veilleux	Adelard & Valeda Lea Roy Foundation
Ellie Bemis	Ken Edwardson	Andrea Lamoreaux	Alan & Diane Proctor	Elizabeth Vestner	Captain Planet Fdtn
Joe & Pat Benzing	Anne Filson	Jeff & Susan Lathrop	Cindy Pulkkinen	Judith & Frank Virnelli	Davis Foundation
Richard Birnie	Perry & Susan Fine	David Lawrence	John Putnam	Warren & Tensy Walker	Jackson Ski Touring Foundation
Greg Bossart	Dennis Finn	Jackie Leavitt	Judith Reardon	Virginia Ward	Lakes Region Charitable Fdtn
April Brackett	Barbara Fitzgerald	Susan Lee	Frank & Ann Reed	Mrs. Charles H. Watts II	Little Family Fdtn
Anne Brooke	Mr. & Mrs. James Fitzpatrick	Edward & Betsy Leiper	Elwin & Gwen Richardson	Clifton Wells	National Rotary Fdtn
Sandy & Darin Brown	Esther Folts	Tony Leiper	Jamie Riel & Tamworth students	Tim White	NH Charitable Fdtn
Jay Buckley	Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Folts	Rich & Susie Leon	Margaret Rieser	Terrell Whiting	NH Lakes Association
Haydie & Tom Callaghan	Henry & Susan Forrest	Al & Sis Levesque	David & Emily Riss	Ann & David Wilkins	Ossipee Rotary Club
Amy Cameron	Barbara Fortune	Andrew & Donna Lietz	Nick Robbins	Eric Williams	Pegasus Foundation
Ann Carman	Barry Friswold	Paul Lindahl	Nancy Roosa	Linda Williams	Quimby Foundation
Sylvia Carney	Bill & Lee Fritz	Tom & Elisha Lindquist Boatman	John Russell	Eugene & Arlene Wrabel	Timberland, Inc.
Thomas Carpenter	Wendy & Stephen Gaal	Art & Natalie Lourie	John & Kathy Schroeder	Ralph Wurster	Organizations
David & Laurette Carroll	Anne Garland	Frank Lucas	Frank & Nancy Seabury	Kate Yarrison	Audubon Society
Mike & Kate Cauble	Trish Garrigan	Mark & Mary Lucy	Jim & Jamie Shea	George & Sally Zink	Chocorua Lake Association
Justin Chapman & Sandwich students	Stan Gemborys	Heidi Ludewig	Carrie Sherman	Cathie Zusy	Dan Hole Pond Watershed Trust
John & Barbara Clark	Elizabeth & Robert Gillette	Ralph Lutjen	Nancy Sheridan	Gerrit Zwart	Friends of Trout Pond
Patricia & Cornelius Clark	Joan T. Gilmour	John Magee	John Shipman	All Sports Auto Racks	NH Department of Environmental Services
Jim Clemons	Sandra & Richard Gleeson	Dawn & Brad Marion	Ted & Barbara Sidley	Bearcamp Gardens	NH Dept. Resources & Economic Development
David Little & Tracy Collins	Jane Goodwin	Jim & Anne Martin	Clint Simmons	Beech River Books	NH Forest Society
Margery Conrey	Bruce Gordon	Bill McDowell	Jody Skelton	Camp Calumet	Ossipee Lake Alliance
Chris Conrod	Eli & Betty Gordon	James McKay	Susan Slack	Camp Cody	Ossipee Watershed Coalition
Harold Cook	Jean Govatos	Thomas McKay	Lyn Slanetz	Camp Huckins	Saco River Corridor Commission
Gail Coolidge	John & Theresa Grimes	Brad McKenzie	Peter Smart	Camp Robin Hood	The Nature Conservancy
John & Martha Chandler	Peg Grimes	Susan & Michael McKimmon	Charles Smith	Canoe King	Trust for Public Land
Julie Clarke	Gayle Grossmann	Carla & Duncan McLaughen	Elizabeth Smith	Danforth Bay Camping Resort	UNH Cooperative Extension
Karen Coffey	Joan Grossman	Barbara McMillan	John & Constance Smith	Eastern Mtn Sports	UNH Natural Resources Department
Herb & Charlotte Cooper	Arvid & Shirley Gustavson	Edith McNair	Neal & Marcial Socha	Flatbread's	Towns of Freedom, Ossipee, Madison, Tamworth, Effingham & Sandwich
Laraine Cormack	Jocelyn Gutchess	Jeff Merriam	Henry Spencer	Hairitage House	
Andrew Cornwell	Jean Hansen	Jack & Ann Middleton	Andrew Stepanauskas	Hatfield's B&B	
Bob Craycraft	Stanley Harsman	Chele Miller	Dan Stepanauskas	Heritage NH	
Sandy Crystal	Ned Hatfield	Michele Miller	Jared Stepanauskas	IME	
	Joan & Bill Hayes	The Miller Family	Bill & Sally Stoops	Kokopelli Landscaping	
	Barre & Marion Hellquist	Peter & Mary Grace Miner	Joan Sullivan	Lakeview Neuro-rehabilitation Center	
	Doug Hill	Alan Moore	Theresa Swanick	Mountain Valley Mall Theatre	
	Richard & Dorothy Hobbs	Alex Moot	Rhonda Szapiel	Patagonia	
	Jennifer Hocking Wiley	Ellen & John Moot	Merrill Tanner		
	Kate Horam	Melissa Myers	Arlene & Don Taylor		
	Bruce & Alice Houghton	Kamal & Klara Nath	Louise Taylor		
	Crystal Hoyt		Peter & Uta Teagan		
			Mahra Teikmanis		

Winter Calendar

Thursday, January 18th: Night Sky Program. Learn about constellations, nebulae, galaxies and star clusters, and find out how your town can protect the night sky from light pollution. Join Robert Gillette for an evening that will stretch your imagination as he guides a tour of the winter night sky with binoculars and a telescope to view the Double Cluster, Andromeda galaxy, the large Pinwheel galaxy and more. 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Camp Calumet in Freedom. Wear warm clothes for the outdoor portion and bring binoculars if you have them.

Monday, January 22nd: A Forum: Global Warming: Impacts and Solutions in New Hampshire. The Effingham Conservation Commission will sponsor a presentation by Dr. Barrett N. Rock, Mr. Patrick Miller & Ms. Nancy Girard of the Carbon Coalition. 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Effingham Public Library.

Saturday, January 27th: Winter Snowshoe Trip. Enjoy an afternoon of snowshoeing in the Ossipee Mountains followed by hot soup. Meet at 65 Roland Park Road in Center Ossipee. Contact: Dan Hole Pond Watershed Trust at alixandbob@earthlink.net or 539-2073 for details.

Saturday, January 27th: GMCG Annual Meeting. GMCG will celebrate the 9th Annual Meeting at Runnells Hall in Chocorua from 6 to 9 p.m. The evening will commence with a brief business meeting, awards ceremony and election of officers, followed by a potluck supper. The featured speaker this year is Chris Martin, Senior Wildlife Biologist for the NH Audubon Society. Chris will give a presentation on the exciting recovery of Bald Eagles in New Hampshire and the newly published NH Wildlife Action Plan. He has worked for the past seventeen years rebuilding populations of Bald Eagle, Osprey and Peregrine Falcon, and was awarded with an Environmental Merit Award this year by the EPA..

Saturday, February 10th (snow date February 11th): Annual Winter Mammal Tracking Workshop. Dr. Rick Van de Poll of Ecosystem Management Consultants will lead this fun annual event. An indoor presentation on the ecology of winter mammals, tracking skills and an exhibit of pelts, skulls and scats will be followed by an afternoon field trip to a beaver pond and Jackman Ridge. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at Camp Calumet, Freedom, NH. Please bring snowshoes and water, and dress appropriately for the weather. No dogs please. Registration: \$15.00 for SPNHF or GMCG members, \$25.00 for non-members, includes delicious buffet lunch prepared by Calumet. This event is co-sponsored by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and the Green Mountain Conservation Group.

February 13th: Land Protection and Estate Planning Workshop. Phil Auger, Extension Educator from UNH Cooperative Extension will present interested landowners, municipal officials, and other residents with information on recent changes in estate tax laws, land protection options, estate planning guidelines, and financial assistance. 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the Madison Library, in cooperation with: GMCG, UNHCE, & Madison Conservation Commission.

February 21st: NH Green Yards Workshop for Municipal Officials. The Department of Environmental Services will host a workshop on best management practices at motor vehicle salvage yards. Starting in 2007, salvage yards will be required to certify to environmental rules and regulations in order to have their license renewed. This workshop will prepare municipal staff and give attendees an overview of these rules and regulations. Possible topics include: changes in the law; applying the license to the new rule; best management practices at salvage yards; basic inspection techniques; overview of the salvage industry; the difference between certifying as a Green Yard and the licensing requirements. 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Runnells Hall, Chocorua. Breakfast and lunch are included. Pre-registration required.

*All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Please call (603) 539-1859 FMI.

****Please renew your membership for 2007 today!***

Your Membership Will Make a Difference.

(Please make checks payable to Green Mountain Conservation Group P.O. Box 95, Effingham, NH 03882)
 Vernal Pool ___\$25 Stream ___\$50 River ___\$75 Pond ___\$100 Lake ___\$250
 Aquifer ___\$500 Other ___

NAME _____

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The Watershed News

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**Save the Date:
Annual Meeting
January 27th:**

**“Bald Eagle Recovery in NH”
with Chris Martin of
NH Audubon**

**Deadline for
Spring Newsletter
submissions is March 10th**

EVERY PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND EACH PERSON SHOULD TRY.

2007 Kids' Calendar



*Featuring children's artwork
and quotes about the wildlife and
waterways that make this region
of New Hampshire so special.
Please consider supporting
educational programs in the
watershed by purchasing a
calendar today. Mail a check for
\$5.00 plus \$1.00 shipping &
handling to: GMCG PO Box 95
Effingham, NH 03882
Thank you for your support!*

