



# The Woodland Observer

Enjoy Nature!

Nipissing Naturalists Club

June 2008

Pres: Angela Martin - welcome@ontera.net

www.nipissing-naturalist.com

## Wildflower Walk

by Karen Major

Despite the overcast, rain-threatening sky and the clouds of blackflies and mosquitoes, the wildflower walk was a pleasant excursion that lasted over two hours. Bonnie Brownstein and Neeltje Senf joined me for the walk on my property located in Bonfield on Sunday, June 1st.

The company was great and the wildflowers plentiful!

Amongst the Black Spruce forest on the Peat Moss floor we spotted Goldthread, Bog Laurel, Pitcher Plants, Sheathed Cotton Grass, Leatherleaf and Creeping Snowberry. In the lower, wetter areas, the Nodding Trillium, Skunk Currant, Kidney Leaf Buttercup, Dwarf Raspberry, Red Trillium, Baneberry, Gooseberry and Foam Flower were found.



*Clintonia borealis* or Blue Bead Lily

Up in the mixed hardwood forest the Mayflower, Bunch Berry, Rose Twisted Stalk and Painted Trillium were flowering. The field offered the Woolly Blue Violet and Hawthorn Flowers and spotted on a rocky outcrop was the Pale Corydalis. Soon to make an appearance are the flowers of the Indian Cucumber Root, Blue Bead Lily (*Clintonia*), Labrador Tea and Sarsaparilla.

Amongst the more common wildlife and birds seen here at this time of the year were a couple of unexpected surprises. A Smooth Green Snake and two birds were observed, that over tea and banana bread, we identified as a male and female American Redstart.

## Annual Summer Picnic Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park

Sunday August 24th at 1:00 pm

This annual picnic has been a tradition for many years; we gather, visit, hike, learn, have a wonderful dinner and enjoy nature. This year, Samuel de Champlain park biologist, Mike Ward, will lead us on a 2.5 km hike up to a lookout on the Kag Trail between 1 and 3 pm. Mike will then take us to an interesting wetland not far from the picnic site. After all that hard work, we can just sit, enjoy the potluck dinner and take in the beautiful area.

Please bring a dish to share, your plates, cutlery, drinks and a chair if you wish. We hope to see you there!

Meet at the North Bay Information Centre at noon or go directly to the park.



*Nodding Trillium*

## New Members

Scott and Jenny Dukeshire

Welcome!