



# Newsletter ~ July/Aug 2014

*A Birding Club for Northern Maine*

[www.aroostookbirders.com](http://www.aroostookbirders.com)

Volume 21, Pg. 1 of 1

## Upcoming Events:

**St. John Valley Trip - Fort Kent**  
**Birding along riverside trails &**  
**back settlement parts of town**

**Saturday, August 2**  
**(a rain or shine event)**

Meet at McDonald's Restaurant (Rt. 1,  
east Main Street, Fort Kent) at 8 a.m.

OR

Birders from south/central Aroostook can  
rendezvous at Tim Hortons, Caribou, at  
7 a.m. to facilitate car pooling.

**Sundown Birding Trip - Easton**  
**Lake Josephine/Christina Reservoir**  
**Catch the peak of shorebird**  
**migration & waterfowl breeding**  
**Thursday, August 21, 6-8 p.m.**

6:00 p.m. - Meet on the Johnson Road  
(just off Station Rd. near McCain's in  
Easton) One of the very best birding spots  
in Aroostook County!

*As always, check our website for updates  
and cancellations due to severe weather.*

### **Aroostook Birders Officers:**

President: Bill Sheehan  
Vice-President: Russell Mount  
Secretary: Judy Roe  
Treasurer: Denise Gagnon  
Publicity: Sue Pinette  
Membership: Bob Pinette



*One of Dr. Jason Johnston's "birds in the hand" at the bird netting and banding demonstration was a male Magnolia Warbler.*

**Aroostook Birders is an organization whose members share a passion for bird watching and an appreciation of northern Maine's natural environment through field trips and educational programs. Bird enthusiasts of all ages and ability levels are welcomed.**

## **Northern Maine Bird Festival & 'Taking Stock'**

It looks like Aroostook County birds are having one of the best breeding seasons in a while! Everywhere I go now, I see numbers of health juvenile birds harassing their parents for another meal. From the loud young ravens here that scream for their breakfast at 5 a.m., to busy families of minute kinglets, all seem plentiful and healthy! There have been lots of reports from club members that Tree Swallows, Phoebes, Kestrels and American Robins are fledging successfully in area yards. Good to see!

The Aroostook Birders executive committee recently met to take stock of our club activities and ask ourselves how we are doing and what we want to do to improve. We all agreed that last month's Northern Maine Bird Festival was a great success and exceeded all our expectations:

Two hundred birders, (most from the local area and including many youngsters) came to the Aroostook National Wildlife Refuge to see the live birds, go on bird walks, observe the demonstrations and learn about our local birds. The Chewonki owl presentation was wildly popular with 170 cramming into the refuge garage to see these impressive nocturnal birds up close and personal! There were many many new faces who we were able to introduce to our passion for birds and birding.

Aroostook Birders executive committee has also organized and offered approximately fifteen bird walks and programs in the past year and these continue to be well attended and enjoyed (when the weather cooperates!) The regular colorful newsletter, bird updates on the website and even our attractive logo stickers and patches are things we are all proud of.

### **Support AB-**

Your membership dues help us continue to bring interesting programs and outings. Please take the time to renew/join now that it is the beginning of our membership year. Let us know too, what you like and what you think could be improved. We always welcome your thoughts!

### **Aroostook Birders Website-**

The Aroostook Birders web presence ([www.aroostookbirders.com](http://www.aroostookbirders.com) and Aroostook-Birders Facebook page) would benefit from more attention and time than any of the Executive Committee members can muster. We are looking for a new webmaster to help us keep the information on our sites fresh, attractive and informative. We are confident that many among our number, could help us with this task. Please email me or Sue Pinette if you are interested!

I hope to see you in the field soon! *Bill*

A Reminder - Yearly membership in Aroostook Birders is up for renewal (July 1 - June 30). \$5/Students, \$15/Individuals, \$20/Families  
For a membership form visit: [www.aroostookbirders.com](http://www.aroostookbirders.com) "About Us"