The Newsletter of the Maine Damselfly and Dragonfly Survey (MDDS)

Enallagma pictum Morse 1895 (scarlet bluet) – this small red bluet has a restricted range in New England, and Andy Brand's collection of two males on July 23rd, at The Narrows of Damariscotta Lake (Jefferson Township, Lincoln County, Midcoast Biophysical Region 13, Delorme 13e4) was very surprising, and a significant range extension for a species which is apparently of conservation concern throughout its range. Males of the species are red and have the foot-like superior terminal appendages similar in size and shape to E. vesperum (vesper bluet, MDDS poster, figure 30s) but lack that species' blue abdominal tip, and the foot is distinctly blunter than that of E. signatum (orange bluet, 30r). Look for this species at the vegetated areas of lakes and ponds, particularly where there are floating-leaved aquatic plants such as water lilies.

Enaliagma pictun

Somatochlora brevicincta Robert 1954 (Québec Emerald) - 1st United States! Jeremiah Trimble from Massachusetts is an excellent collector and determinor of odonata and has many finds to his credit, perhaps the most significant being the taking of the Québec emerald at Thousand Acre Heath (T3R1NBPP Township, Penobscot County, Eastern Lowlands Biophysical Region 8, Delorme 34a4). On June 26th, Jeremiah took a male on the heath and a female over an adjacent dirt road, convincing evidence of a breeding presence nearby. This was one of the very few odonates known in Canada but not in the United States, and is a species of great global conservation interest - at ca. 45.25°N this is the most southern locale for the species by about 48km (30mi). Look for this species (MDDS poster, figure 33b) at fens in peatlands, and particularly at young fens beside roads where water-saturated sphagnum moss / surrounds standing



Feature Researcher

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Professor Harold B. White III

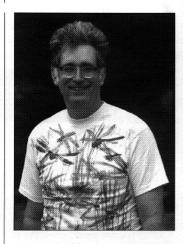
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Hal White is the major contemporary contributor to our knowledge of the Odonata of Maine, and a senior contributor to that of northeast North America. He is a Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Delaware who in his youth developed a passion for dragonflies...

"My early interest in Odonates was kindled by George and Alice Beatty who lived near me in central Pennsylvania. We met one summer evening in 1957 when they stopped for an ice cream at a frozen custard stand where I and a friend, armed with nets and oblivious to the concern car owners have for chrome and paint, were catching Sphingid and Saturniid moths around the lights (and on cars). The Beattys were always more than willing to help emerging entomologists like us and were especially effective in transferring our interest from Lepidoptera, the usual point of entry for youngsters, to their primary interest, Odonata, where there were no field guides.

One day in 1959, I saw the spectacular and unmistakable Anax longipes but could not capture the elusive 'voucher specimen.' George Beatty, knowing the how difficult they were to catch, upped the ante by offering \$10 for a specimen — quite a handsome reward to a teenager four decades ago. Within a week and after many failed swings, I had my specimen and returned to collect the bounty."

Hal has been summering in Maine since 1967, surveying for odonates principally on Mount Desert Island, Hancock County. His fascination with



MDI is due to the northern species found there, many of which he first discovered himself. He has also done considerable work in New Hampshire, and to the south.

Among the species he has added to the state list for Maine are four of our species of special concern (*Enallagma durum, Aeshna subarctica, Boyaria grafiana,* and *Somatochlora incurvata*), and his 1,246 records for the state are a most impressive contribution, the voucher specimens for which will be deposited in the museum of Acadia National Park, along with his extraordinarily clear field notes.

Hal has co-authored the descriptions of the larvae of both of Maine's legally protected species (*Ophiogomphus howei* and *Williamsonia lintneri*), and published extensively on his findings in Maine (see References Cited).

In his vigorous interest, superb data and specimen maintenance, and above all in his generosity with advice and information, Hal has greatly influenced me, and made a formidable contribution to odonate study in the state of Maine.

by Paul-Michael Brunelle

