

## The Wisconsin Odonata News

February, 2013

**Volume 1, Issue 1** 

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A Word from the President,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Wisconsin Dragonfly Society! The 2012 field season was a busy one for those of us who have sought to jump-start the new Wisconsin Dragonfly Society (WDS) and much was accomplished. We've formed an able board of directors with some talented officers filling key positions. We've established a society Facebook page, which received a promising amount of traffic in its first few months, and now a Facebook Group. We held a successful society kick-off gathering in July, which is summarized later in this newsletter. We've formed a mission statement that will aptly guide decision-making during the coming formative years. Further, this field season was highly productive in terms of increasing knowledge about species distributions and important habitats statewide. Members reported over 3,000 species observations from 444 locations through the Wisconsin Odonata Survey (WOS) website in 2012. These observations included 121 new county records and a noteworthy total of 3 first state record species! The new county record total is a 32% increase over the total from last year, which is especially impressive when one considers that these records become increasingly harder to establish each year. I don't think we would have seen such an impressive boost in knowledge about our species if we hadn't formed the new society. I want to personally thank and congratulate all who submitted records, and all who helped with society work, on a phenomenal year!

Despite these accomplishments, much must now be done to ensure a successful year in 2013. You can look forward to a schedule of events (outings, meetings, ID seminars, etc.) to be posted prior to the start of the field season. We also intend to upgrade the WOS website, provide a smooth linkage between the website and Facebook pages, and begin to acknowledge those who establish new county records. I'm hoping that traffic on the Facebook pages will increase as members experience the value of posting photographs and questions that others can kindly comment on. Please remember that this is *your* society, so please share your thoughts, concerns, and constructive ideas with the board. I wish you all a peaceful and healthy off season as we await, with much anticipation, another memorable year to enjoy Wisconsin's dazzling array of dragonflies and damselflies! Last but not least, please consider joining the WDS this year (application form on p.11).

Cordially, Bob DuBois

## Mission Statement

The Wisconsin Dragonfly Society fosters appreciation, study and enjoyment of Wisconsin dragonflies and damselflies and the aquatic habitats on which they depend.

### Note from the Editor,

crazy for me.

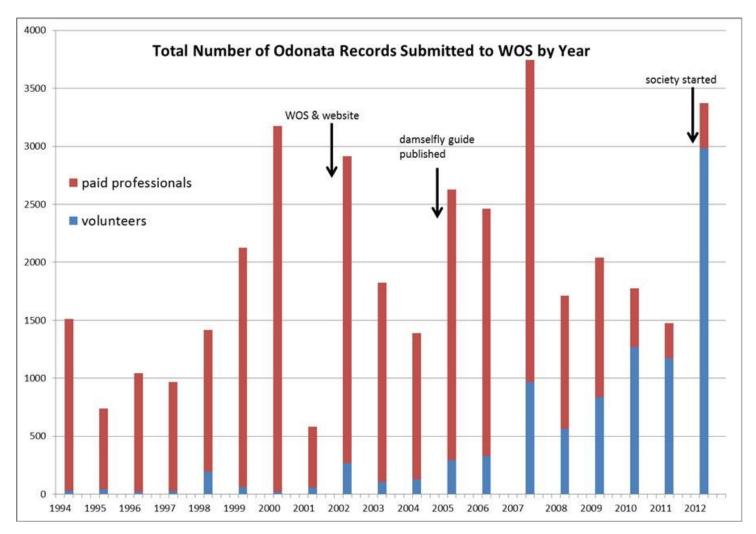
Please feel free to critique this issue and make suggestions for improving it. This is our newsletter — another vehicle for sharing in addition to

the WOS website and our Facebook page.

This is our first newsletter and I apologize for not I will try to give those who don't have access to getting it out earlier. Things have been a little the Facebook page a place to share their thoughts, too. Just send your contribution to erd@msn.com and I'll put it in.

Respectfully,

Ellen R. Dettwiler, Editor



Hey Folks, Thought I'd share the chart above showing the awesome bump in volunteer records submitted to WOS that we got this year, at least in part due to the new society! Great job so far! ...Bob



©Dan Jackson, 04/12/2012

Onalaska, Wisconsin, USA

Eastern Forktail - Ishnura verticalis

Canon EOS 50D ,Canon EF 100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS USM

1/800s f/10.0 at 400.0mm iso400 full exif

## Summary of Wisconsin Dragonfly Society Board Meeting, July 14, 2010, 8:30 am

The following is a summary draft of the Kickoff Board Meeting held at Horicon Marsh IEC for members' information. The Board is still working on many of the points here. Please consider it as preliminary.

- Mission statement focus on education, appreciation, enjoyment.
- Board structure –3-yr term with staggered rotation; Dan will circulate a written description
- Membership -- \$5 annual single member, \$7.50 for family membership, WDS costs are minimal; members must opt-in before WDS will share their e-mail address or other contact info.
- Communication
  - Web presence support a Facebook page, a Facebook Group page, and WOS for now; Bob plans to update WOS over the winter; Ellen will set up Facebook group page; incorporate members e-mail comments on both (also I agreed to check with DNR folks about permission to link our Facebook page to the WOS website)

- 2. Maintain e-mail list
- 3. Newsletter March & Sept; electronic with a paper option (which would be \$2/year for members)
- Events schedules in newsletter, on Facebook and by e-mail
- 5. 1 annual meeting (get around the state) &1 web-based meeting
- WOS encourage records here rather than only on Facebook;
  - 1. add link to WOS on Facebook pages
  - 2. Suggestions to make WOS the go-to place for records?
  - 3. Website link to WOS

(When people submit records through the WOS page, it goes immediately to Jill (and Bill) and she sends them on to Bob for vetting. I then send them on to a temp person in Madison who does the database entry. Maybe what was meant here is if we get more people submitting records [a good thing!], Jill will need to know that an increase in her workload is coming and plan for it?)

- 4. Plan to provide Bob some relief from vetting entries in 2013 (we can discuss this over winter)
- Governance discussed several options (LLC, private non-profit, attach to another nonprofit, coffee can in Matt's garage . . . )
- Outreach -- build diversity beyond OWFs; plan informal local programs & regional field trips.
- Bill said he would map the geographic distributions of our members – he may need a list of names, cities and/or coordinates?
- 1. Web presence support a Facebook page, a Facebook Group page, and WOS for now; Bob plans to update WOS over the winter: Ellen will set up Facebook group
   We had some brief discussion about compiling a "beginners packet" of information for prospective members. What should a packet include?

# Waukesha Spring Meeting June 7—9, 2013

One of our members, Alex Johnson, Vice President of the Ecology Club UW-Waukesha, has invited us to hold our Spring Meeting at the UW-Waukesha field-station. We have decided to accept the invitation. We will meet on the evening of June 7th for a light supper, look around, and planning meeting. There will be field trips on both Saturday and Sunday.

Here's some info on the area from Ken Tennessen:

"...in an area of nearly 100 acres with diverse wetland habitats, including a clean shallow lake with boggy margins, a spring fed stream, and two different temporary pond areas...along with meadows, fen, prairie, and wooded trails. We would also have access to a lab with dissecting scopes, compound scopes, acetone, containers, and other needs.

This area of southeast Wisconsin has been sorely under-surveyed. There are some old records of species that need verification, and no doubt there are some surprises to be found there. There may be as many as 18 species that we could find for the first time or that we know very little about in our state. Here are some particulars:

- 1. Will two recently recorded species, Erythrodiplax umbrata (Band-winged Dragonlet) and Sympetrum ambiguum (Blue-face Meadowhawk), be found in Wisconsin again? Will we find evidence that either of them breed in Wisconsin?
- 2. We can look for two historically recorded species, Macromia pacifica (Gilded River Cruiser) and Dromogomphus spoliatus (Flag-tailed Spinyleg). The Gilded River Cruiser was recorded from Milwaukee County (Cement Mills, July 2) in 1902 but has not been seen here since. Has the native range of this species shrunk to no longer include Wisconsin? Two of the Flag-tailed Spinyleg records from a paper by R. A. Muttkowski (1908) were misidentifications, but there is a historical, unsubstantiated record from Milwaukee County, and the species has been recorded in Will County, Illinois.

- 3. There are a number of species whose ranges come close to southeast Wisconsin. These include Epitheca costalis (Stripe-winged Baskettail), Somatochlora linearis (Mocha Emerald), Celithemis fasciata (Banded Pennant), Argia sedula (Blue-ringed Dancer), and perhaps others. With global climate change, many insect species have moved northward. We have an opportunity here to record some new state records.
- 4. The southeast corner of Wisconsin also has some rarer species for which we have very little biological and distributional data. Among these are *Ischnura kellicotti* (Lilypad Forktail, currently known from only one site - Lulu Lake), Enallagma basidens (Double-striped Bluet), E. anna (River Bluet), Archilestes grandis (Great Spreadwing), Lestes australis (Southern Spreadwing), Hetaerina titia (Smoky Rubyspot), Rhionaeschna mutata (Spatterdock Darner), Arigomphus villosipes (Unicorn Clubtail), Somatochlora hineana (Hine's Emerald), Libellula vibrans (Great Blue Skimmer), and Libellula semifasciata (Painted Skimmer). Finding breeding sites for any of these species would be valuable information".

## Wisconsin Dragonfly and Damselfly Field Checklist

Created by Dan Jackson

Dan Jackson has created a checklist for us to use in the field. It has been imported as a picture which you may print out for your own use. It follows on pages 5 and 6.

For those of you with Facebook access, it is available on the PDF tab near the top of the page.

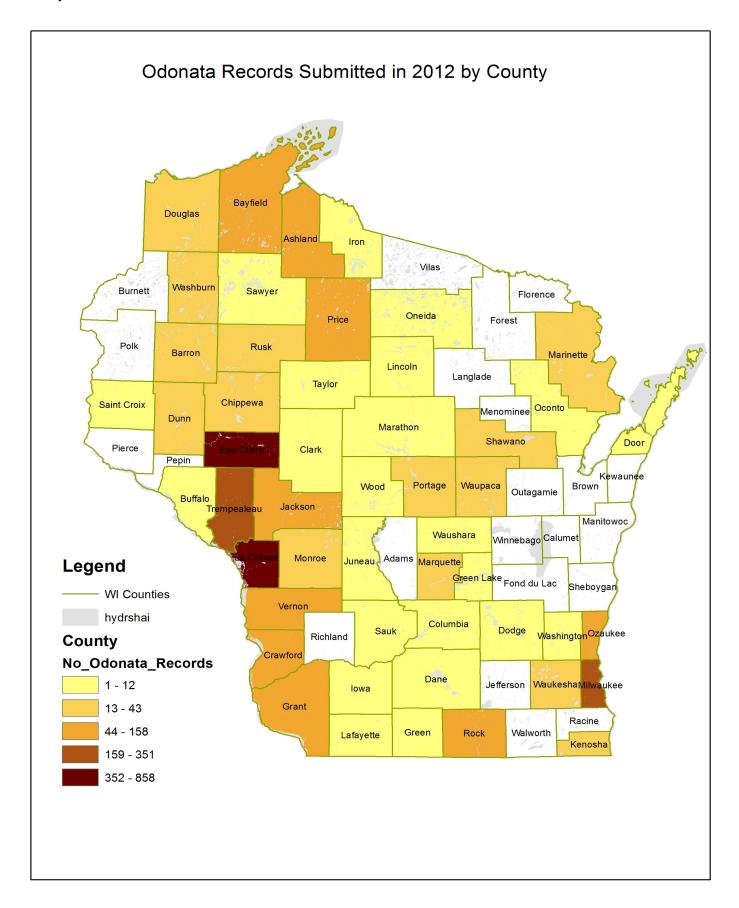
Dan says "Check out the PDF Tab icon on the main page. I have uploaded the current version of the WI Dragonfly and Damselfly Field Checklist and it is linked there. It fits on 8.5 x 11 paper. Print on both sides (preferably on card stock) and fold".

Thanks, Dan!

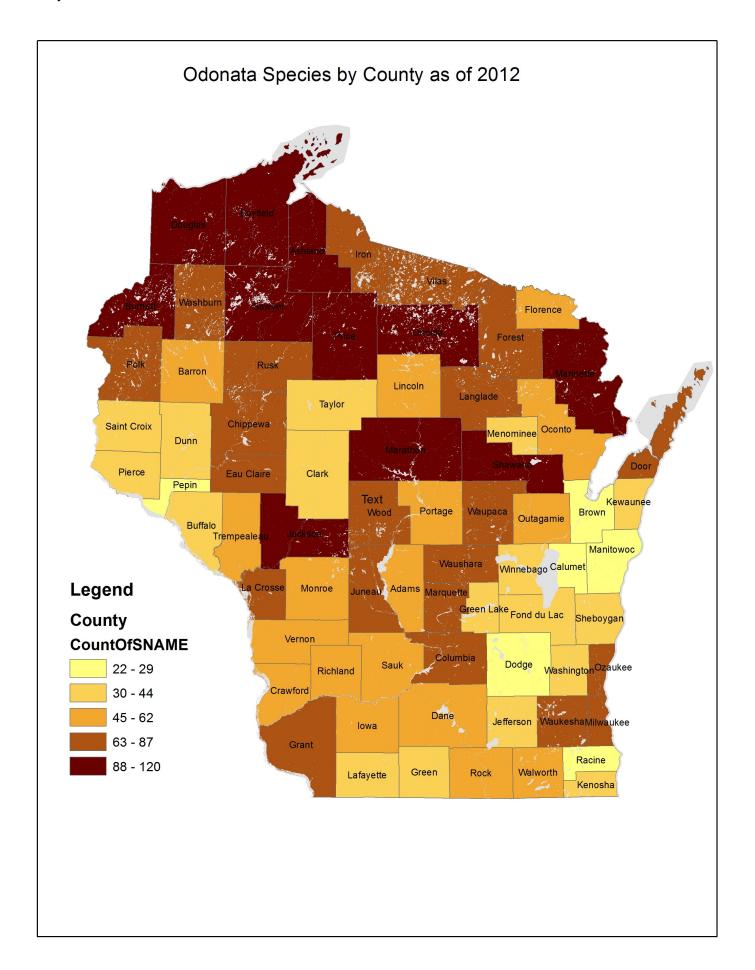
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Enallagma traviatum westfalli	Slender Bluet			
Enallagma vernale	Vernal Bluet			
Enallagma vesperum	Vesper Bluet			
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		Arigomphus villosipes	Unicorn Clubtall	
		Dramagamphus spinosus	Black-Shouldered Spinyleg	
		Gomphus adelphus	Mustached Clubtall	
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Courtesy of William Smith, DNR. He notes that it does NOT include the results from the 2012 Bioblitz. Also note as Bob DuBois did — Nice! Way to show the "Jackson effect"!



# Great Lakes Odonata Meeting (GLOM) Update

Each year since 2002, Bob DuBois and several other regional Odonata enthusiasts have planned and held a dragonfly meeting somewhere in the Great Lakes region.

This past year, it was combined with the Dragonfly Society of the Americas Northeast regional meeting in Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario. There were field trips and everyone who attended seemed to learn a lot and enjoy it.

However, Bob has informed the other leaders of GLOM that he has shifted his focus and energy to the new Wisconsin Dragonfly Society and therefore will no longer have time to do the planning required for GLOM. At this time there are no further plans for GLOM. If any in our group have a desire to keep GLOM going, please contact Bob through his email (Robert.Dubois@wisconsin.gov) and he will try to connect those interested in doing so.

### Resources

One of our goals as a group is to share information and resources for our study. Here is a list of some of them.

===> <a href="http://wiatri.net/inventory/Odonata/">http://wiatri.net/inventory/Odonata/</a> — The major resource for citizen participation <===

<u>http://wiatri.net/inventory/Odonata/Resources.cfm</u> — list of resources from Bob DuBois <a href="http://www.WingsPhotography.com">www.WingsPhotography.com</a>. — site with fantastic pics

<u>http://www.dailywing.net</u> — Bryan Pfeiffer is an enthusiast who loves birds and Odonata — many pix here and news of GLOM, etc.

<u>www.facebook.com/WisconsinDragonflySociety/photos\_stream</u> — our Facebook page photos. You can go to this link even if you are not a Facebook member.

<u>http://wiatri.net/ecoatlas/</u> — the WDNR Endangered Resources Bureau's program page where you can see reports done by any WDNR personnel (some pertaining to Odonata) by typing in the person's last name (e.g. "dubois" or "smith") as the search term. Click on the title of any report, then click "view report" — to see Bob DuBois' recent posting follow the next link.

http://wiatri.net/ecoatlas/Results/displayResult.cfm?ProjectID=1760 Click on "view report" to see Bob DuBois' 2010 Master's Thesis titled "Comparison of Field- and Classroom-Based Forms of Environmental Education to Motivate Adult Learner Involvement in Citizen-Based Monitoring of Odonata."

<u>http://www.odonatacentral.org/</u> — OdonataCentral hosts the official website of the Dragonfly Society of the Americas. The journals Argia and the Bulletin of American Odonatology are online and searchable.



## On Hold

On winter's surface, signs of life -tracks in snow, brush tips browsed, a trepid song -but beneath winter's grip, locked under pond's ice, river's frigid flow, stick-still, holding on, their wildness harnessed, dragonfly nymphs patient as ghosts, waiting on degrees of time.

© by Ken Tennessen, 2009



Note: "On Hold" was published in an anthology called "Perfect Dragonfly" in 2011. The publisher was Red Dragonfly Press

### **WDS Facebook**

### **Group Page**

Paul Sparks has set up a Facebook group page. This page will allow a much larger audience to share our passion.

The address is:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/wisconsindragonflysociety/

Take a look — it's fantastic!

## Membership in the Dragonfly Society of the Americas

Membership in the DSA is open to any person in any country and includes a subscription to Argia. Dues for individuals in the US, Canada, or Latin America are \$20 us for regular membership and \$25 us for institutions or contributing membership, payable annually on or before 1 March of membership year. Dues for members in the Old World are \$30 us. Dues for all who choose to receive Argia in PDF form are \$15. The Bulletin Of American Odonatology is available by a separate subscription at \$20 us for North Americans and \$25 us for non-North Americans and institutions. Membership dues and BAO subscription fees should be mailed to Jerrell Daigle, 2067 Little River Lane, Tallahassee, FL, USA 32311. More information on joining DSA and subscribing to BAO may be found at <a href="https://www.dragonflysocietyamericas.org/join">www.dragonflysocietyamericas.org/join</a>.

## Wisconsin Dragonfly Society (WDS) Membership Application

Membership in the WDS is open to any person in any state

The WDS dues are as follows: \$5 annual single member, \$7.50 for family membership, WDS costs are minimal; members must opt-in before WDS will share their e-mail address or other contact information with other members of WDS.

Send check or money order to:

Matt Berg

572 N. Day Rd.

St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

Name		
Address		
City, State, Postal Code		
Email		Share?
Check membership category that applies:		
Single member \$5	Family membership	\$7.50
Total enclosed \$		

## **Table of Contents**

	W Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y	
$\checkmark$	Officers1	$\checkmark$
	A Word from the President1	
*	Mission Statement	
	Note from the Editor2	
	Odonata Record Numbers by Year Chart 2	
Λ Λ	Summary of WDS Board Meeting3	, ,
*	Eastern Forktail Picture3	*
, () .	Spring Meeting, 2013 Information4	, V
	Wisconsin Dragonfly and Damselfly Field Checklist 4-6	
V	Map of Odonata Records Submitted 2012 by Cty 7	·
*	Map of Odonata Species by County as of 2012 8	
<b>*</b>	Great Lakes Odonata Meeting Notes9	
	List of Resources9	
$\checkmark$	"On Hold," a poem by Ken Tennessen, 2009 10	
***************************************	WDS Facebook Group Page11	***
$\checkmark$	Information on Dragonfly Society of the Americas 11	
	Membership form for Wisconsin Dragonfly Society 11	
W 54		₩ 9 <u>₩</u>