

**The Merritt Lyndon Fernald Award
For Best Paper published in *Rhodora*
Volume 107, 2005**

presented to
**Craig W. Greene, Linda L. Gregory, Glen H. Mittelhauser,
Sally C. Rooney, and Jill E. Weber**
for their paper entitled
“Vascular flora of the Acadia National Park region, Maine”

This year's recipients of the New England Botanical Club's Merritt Lyndon Fernald Award are Craig W. Greene (deceased), Linda L. Gregory, Glen H. Mittelhauser, Sally C. Rooney, and Jill E. Weber for their paper in *Rhodora* 107: 117-185. 2005.

The winning paper represents a monumental and long-term study of the Acadia National Park region of Maine, a large, federally owned area that is heavily used by the public. The authors combined 20 years of field work with examination of historical accounts of the flora in the literature, and verification of specimens in the region's herbaria. Their analysis included an assessment of native vs. non-native taxa, established aliens vs. taxa that have merely escaped from cultivation, the current vs. historical flora, and state-listed and invasive taxa. They also draw comparisons with other long-term floristic studies in the region.

The award committee felt that this paper was noteworthy for the level of effort and scholarship. It is Fernaldian in being floristic and a bit biogeographic in focus, and in illustrating the value of herbaria, their use, and preservation.