

THE HALIFAX FIELD NATURALIST



No. 144
September to November, 2011



In This Issue.....	2	HFN Field Trips	5
News & Announcements.....	3	Almanac	9
HFN Talks	4	Hfx Tide Table: October to December	11
Nature Notes	12		

Return address: HFN, c/o NS Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 3A6

HFN

is incorporated under the Nova Scotia Societies Act and holds Registered Charity status with Canada Revenue

Agency. Tax-creditable receipts will be issued for individual and corporate gifts. **HFN** is an affiliate of Nature Canada and an organisational member of Nature Nova Scotia, the provincial umbrella association for naturalist groups in Nova Scotia. **Objectives** are to encourage a greater appreciation and understanding of Nova Scotia's natural history, both within the membership of HFN and in the public at large, and to represent the interests of naturalists by encouraging the conservation of Nova Scotia's natural resources. **Meetings** are held, except for July and August, on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax; they are open to the public. **Field Trips** are held at least once a month; it is appreciated if those travelling in someone else's car share the cost of the gas. **Participants** in HFN activities are responsible for their own safety. Everyone, member or not, is welcome to take part in field trips. **Memberships** are open to anyone interested in the natural history of Nova Scotia. Forms are available at any meeting of the society, or by writing to: Membership Secretary, Halifax Field Naturalists, c/o N.S. Museum of Natural History. Members receive the quarterly **HFN Newsletter** and **HFN Programme**, and new memberships received from September 1st to December 31st of any year are valid until the end of the following membership year. The regular membership year is from January 1st to December 31st.



IN THIS ISSUE

News & Announcements	3
From the Editor	3
NatureNS 2010/11 – Bob Bancroft.....	3
New and Returning	3
HFN Talks	4
Atlantic Coastal Species – many in Nova Scotia	4
HFN Field Trips	5
Purcell's Cove Lands – three new birds!.....	5
Crystal Crescent Hike – many, many species.....	6
Indian Path Common – a first trip for HFN	7
Frog Pond – Frogs, Ring-necked Ducks, Barred Owl ..	8
Almanac	9
Natural Events	9
Interesting seasonal phenomena	9

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FEES 2010/2011

Student	\$15.00 per year
Individual	\$20.00 per year
Family	\$25.00 per year
Supporting	\$30.00 per year
NNS (opt.)	\$5.00 per year

Organisational Events	9
Blom. Nat. Soc. – Canoe trip; birds; plant IDs.....	9
Burke Gaffney Observatory – 1st & 3rd Saturdays..	10
N.S. Bird Society – Mystery birding; Tancook trip	10
N.S. Mus. of Nat. Hist. – “Science on a Sphere”	10
N.S. Wild Flora – Invading roses!	10
N.S. Inst. Science – Joggins; Shubie; orchards	10
Royal Astronomical Society – 3rd Fri. each month .	10
YNC – Beaches; squirrels; cetaceans	10
Halifax Tide Table – Oct. to Dec.; all times AST!	11
Nature Notes	12
Sept. – Foxes, turtles, hummers, plovers	12



GRAPHICS All uncredited illustrations are by H. Derbyshire or from copyright-free sources. **p.3** and **Front and Back Covers** - Anne Ophelia Dowden, *The Blossom on the Bough*, Ticknor & Fields, 1994; **p.8.** Barred Owl, James Coe; **Tide Table** - Canadian Hydrographic Service, Fisheries & Oceans Canada.

HFN NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE EDITOR

– **Stephanie Robertson**

Coming upon unexpected animals and plants while walking through green spaces is one of the greatest rewards for a naturalist. On Wednesday, September the 19th, at the southernmost end of Point Pleasant Park Battery, on the landward side of the small path and just before the area of Japanese Knotweed, I spotted two beautiful specimens of the same plant which I had never before seen, with long and slim lanceolate leaves up the stem (not just at the base), sporting mostly-closed blue flowers. The closest 'match' I found was in K. Mackenzie's Wild Flowers of Eastern Canada, Tundra/Collins, 1973 – the Closed Gentian, *Gentiana andrewsii*.

On our way out of the park on the following Wednesday, near the south wall of the entrance to Black Rock Beach, we came upon something even more exciting, something I hadn't seen there for 15 to 20 years (and in the same place, but older and larger). It was a very wiggly and energetic ±10 cm long (recently hatched?) black, with an intense yellow neck ring, Northern Ringneck Snake, *Diadophis punctatus edwardsii*. I failed abysmally to record it, as, even with camera in hand, I was so engrossed with getting it off the gravel road, I forgot! Chasing it gently with feet and hands, it finally disappeared into the underbrush away from the danger of dogs, vehicles, and running feet. See also Patricia Chalmers' exciting Barred Owl sighting, on a field trip to the Frog Pond (p. 8).

NNS 2010-2011

DIRECTORS REPORT, AGM, JUNE 5th, 2011

– **Bob Bancroft**

The issue of the relevance of NatureNS to its member naturalist clubs has been raised repeatedly over the year and we have spent considerable time discussing ways of better servicing the groups. Declining memberships, burnt-out volunteers, and a general malaise about tackling the environmental issues of the day seem to be themes to overcome. Not that one person has the answers, but letters were sent to each member club asking if President Bob Bancroft could attend one of their meetings and make a presentation.

The NatureNS website has made steady improvements with more information and links. Board meeting minutes will be posted once they have been approved. There is now a blog site open for member contributions. Larry Bogan has also established a Facebook page, which seems to have been adopted by NatureNS email list members as a site for posting photos.

Our participation in the Canadian Nature Network continued with Joan Czapalay doing an excellent job of representing the Nova Scotia naturalist community. We supported her nomination and election to the Board of Nature Canada.

We have maintained watching briefs on a number of policies of importance to the province. With the N.S. Dept. of Natural Resources this has been done through the Nova Forest Alliance (Doug Linzey) and through the strategic planning exercise (forests, biodiversity, and parks). Larry and Sue of the N.S. Coastal Coalition have been dealing

with coastal development. Other initiatives include wind power, tidal power, aquaculture, mink farming and biomass exploitation. Elder Albert Marshall, Ray Flourde (EAC), and Bob Bancroft addressed a press conference in Halifax regarding important forestry issues on April 13th. Individuals representing 54 groups attended this press conference and then proceeded to participate in a rally at Province House. They demanded a stop to current forest practices that degrade the environment ("*Rally at Province House*", p.5, *Summer Issue #143 - ed.*). Jim Wolford represented NatureNS and Joan Czapalay represented Nature Canada. A letter to the editor was written, approved by the NatureNS Board, and published in the Chronicle Herald Opinion page, entitled "Masts to Moonscapes".

A closer working relationship has been established with Laura Lambie and the Young Naturalists Club. This needs to be continued!

Sue Abbott has kept us abreast of developments with Important Bird Areas and the activities of Bird Studies Canada. Sue helped Bob write a letter to the Environment Minister, Peter Kent, with comments and recommendations regarding amendments to the list of Wildlife Species at Risk.

NatureNS financially supported the tour of Bridget Stutchbury.

We continue to discuss ideas for the using the funds attained through the 2007 Nature Canada conference in Wolfville, which we sponsored and organised.

Joan Czapalay is doing a fine job representing NatureNS on the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Board.

The NatureNS Board meetings each year provide an opportunity for each club representative to give updates on the activities of their respective clubs.

Much of our work and discussion takes place between the face-to-face meetings of a very active board email list. Physical meetings (other than the AGM conference) take place three times a year. The last three were in Wolfville, Truro, and Halifax. Any member is welcome to attend.

The NatureNS AGM for 2011 was held from June 3rd to 5th at the Gaelic College in Cape Breton. It could be more accurately described as a social, educational, and multiple field event for naturalists, with an AGM that took up part of one morning. The 68 participants agreed that an excellent time was had by all. Special thanks to Jim O'Brien of the Bras d'Or Stewardship Society, to Jean Gibson Collins, and to Doug Linzey for organising this fine weekend.

NatureNS currently has six active organisational members and about 130 federate and individual members. Thanks also to all the Directors for their enthusiasm and participation, and to Doug Linzey again, who helped the President assemble this report.

NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Bernie Hart
John Kubicek and Agi Csollany
Amy Moores
Ashwin Varghese
Jennifer Veres



HFN TALKS

COASTAL FLORA

1 SEPT.
– Janet Dalton

“The Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora” (ACPF) was Alain Belliveau’s presentation at our September, 2011 monthly meeting; and congratulations to Alain on graduating with a Master of Resource and Environmental Management from Dalhousie University. Alain grew up in Saint-Benoni, Clare, N.S., holding diplomas in Forest Technology and Wildlife and Forestry Conservation. He has worked at the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute since 2007, and is passionate about wilderness tripping, botany, photography, mapping, and classical piano playing as well as permaculture. The oldest tree he has measured was 454 years old, a hemlock near the Medway River.

The Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora is a group of 93 species of taxonomically unrelated wetland plants that inhabit lake and river shores, bogs, fens, and estuaries. The Atlantic Coastal Plain was formed at the end of the last glacial period (10,000 to 14,000 years ago) when sea levels were as much as 100 m lower than present day levels. It covered a lot of what is today the Grand Banks. There was a land bridge then between Nova Scotia and Massachusetts, and plants were able to migrate northwards to southwestern Nova Scotia. As a result, Nova Scotia has some of the world’s largest and least disturbed populations of Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora.

Two examples of Atlantic North America’s coastal plains are the Bayous of Louisiana and the Everglades of Florida. In Nova Scotia, ACPF are found in Metegham River, Digby Co.; Quinn’s Meadow, Shelburne Co.; and Great Pubnico Lake, Yarmouth Co. Recently, ACPF have been studied in two other areas – Shingle Lake, Lunenburg Co. and Kejimikuiik Seaside, Queen’s Co.

Commonly, coastal plain habitat is flat or gently sloping; wet (or barren); and their ecosystems undergo frequent disturbances. Its flora adapts quickly to changes, surviving because of natural selection and also genetic drift.

12,500 years ago the Gulf of Maine was half the size it is today; Cape Cod almost joined Nova Scotia. By 9,500 years ago the Boreal Forest had formed here and the Gulf of Maine had enlarged; by 7,000 years ago the Acadian Forest had developed; and by 3,000 years ago the Atlantic Coastal area had shrunk to nearly the size it is today. Some of the seeds or barbs of these plants may also have been carried north by birds in their migration travels. They all had to survive fire, ice scour, wave action, and flooding! ACPF thrive in areas with poor bedrock and little acidic soil with very low levels of nutrients.

Early ACPF research was carried out by Merrit Fernald, Ralph Bean, Charles Bissell, David Linder, and Bayard Long. Their expeditions, the ‘Gray Herbarium Expeditions’, were sponsored by Harvard University in 1920-21.

In Nova Scotia, NSAC’s Albert Roland, Acadia’s Earnest Smith, PEI botanist David Erskine, and N.S. naturalist John Erskine located and identified the flora from the 50’s to 60’s. Roland’s *Flora of Nova Scotia*, is still in use. Since the 70’s, more work has been done by very many, including Nick Hill, Paul Keddy, and Sean Blaney.

There are 93 unrelated ACPF species. One third of them are here in Nova Scotia and are found nowhere else in

Canada. Eleven ACPF are listed under the federal Species At Risk Act (SARA); ten of those are in southwest Nova Scotia. Twenty-five species are provincially ranked ‘at risk’; four rank ‘Blue’ (extirpated).

ACPF are mainly found in three areas: Tusket Valley in Yarmouth County; Barrington Area in Shelburne County; and Molega/Ponhook in Queen’s County. Alain shared some of the plants found in them.

Tusket Valley: The Plymouth Gentian, *Sabatia kenne-dyana*, is found here. A delightful pink flower with a yellow centre about as tall as a buttercup, it is found in eleven lakes in Canada, and all of those lakes are in Nova Scotia! Nick Hill and Sherman Boates are monitoring this plant.

Barrington area: Here is found the Tubercled Spike-rush, *Eleocharis tuberculosa*; it looks like a grass with a small cone shape at the top. They have red roots.

Molega/Ponhook: Redroot, *Lachnanthes caroliniana*, also looks like a grass, with clusters of nodules at the top. There is a reddish area near its base.

Found in all three areas: Long’s Bullrush, *Scirpus longii*, appear as large circles of tall grass (clones) which can live for 1,000 years! Eastern Lilaeopsis, *Lilaeopsis chinensis*, is also a green, grass-like plant. It sports yellow clusters of berries and likes muddy tidal estuary shorelines. Screwstem, *Bartonia Virginica*, looks like a stem with a bud at the top. Found in stony areas, its stem is like a spring or screw in shape.

Found near Halifax: False Foxglove, *Agalinis neo-scotica*, (this is also found in N.B. and Maine); Southern Twayblade, *Listera australis*, a very tiny orchid, only discovered in Nova Scotia in the 1980s; and the water-dwelling, carnivorous, Purple Bladderwort, *Utricularia purpurea*. This sports a small purple flower, and it eats insects through its little ‘bladders’.

A very good reason for studying these flora is to discover the full biodiversity of our lands. The Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora are necessary to pollinators such as bees, and they are good environmental indicators of climate change. The Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, Nick Hill and Sherman Boates, and the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre are all presently researching them.

The Mersey Tobeatic ACPF research team was formed in 2010 and is funded until 2114. It surveys 36 lakes for rare ACPF, tests the water quality in ten of the lakes, and chats with local landowners for their knowledge of any ACPF that may be present on their property. Data on the Atlantic Coastal Plains Flora is held by the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, and it conducts rare species surveys.

If you are interested in more information about our Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora, there is a relevant publication put out by the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute. It can be obtained by phoning 902-682-2371, or by emailing info@merseytobeatic.ca.

Many thanks to Alain for his very informative (and well-attended) presentation.



FIELD TRIPS

PURCELL'S COVE LANDS

– Grace Beazley

Date: Saturday, June 18th, 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Place: Purcell's Cove Lands, off Purcell's Cove Road
Weather: 15°C to 23°C; sunny with cloudy periods
Leaders: Richard and Grace Beazley
Participants: 13



This annual field trip to experience the flora and fauna (big and small) in the Nova Scotia Nature Trust's (NSNT) first urban property, Purcell's Cove Conservation Lands (PCCL), was jointly sponsored by HFN, NSNT and the Nova Scotia Wild Flora Society. NSNT Conservation Manager Dennis Garratt was with us as the 'bird resource person'. NSNT Land Stewardship Coordinator Alice Morgan helped to interpret the flora and fauna of this "rustic jewel nestled within the Halifax Regional Municipality" (PCCL-NSNT leaflet available at the trailhead). As well, Nova Scotia Wild Flora Society President and HFN member Charles Cron was our 'flora resource person'.



The composition of the remaining participants (other than the trip leaders who are HFN members and the three participants mentioned above) was as follows: one HFN member, one NSNT member, and six others who were not members of any of the sponsoring groups. One of these six was a 14-year old boy along with his mother; he was very interested in all aspects of the trip.

Our first stop was at the two interpretive panels at the trailhead, which contain information about the Captain Arnell Conservation Lands and the neighbouring Napier Family Conservation Lands which formed the PCCL in 2008. Also at that point, a map of the area was shown to the group. We then walked slowly from the trailhead to Purcell's Pond, one of the bodies of water with "undeveloped shorelines within an undisturbed watershed", looking at the flora and listening to the birds. On the pond were beautiful reflections with the early morning light. Alice told the group about two recent NSNT land stewardship projects: path upgrading and tree planting in 2010 to discourage camping in the area near the Pond. We hikers then turned to follow the paths which lead to the other side of Purcell's Pond for another view.



We continued along paths over granite barrens to enter the area where there was extensive damage due to the Spryfield forest fire of 2009. The amount of new growth was amazing and it was a highlight of the trip to have several members of the group point out different aspects related to post-fire regeneration, such as what trees and bushes grow up first, and how Jack Pine trees require fire to open the seeds tucked in their cones. (More information about the Spryfield forest fire is available on our HFN website, www.halifaxfieldnaturalists.ca.)



The abundant huckleberry and blueberry plants were not quite in bloom, nor was the Indian Cucumber Root; but Lady's Slippers (mostly pink but two white or albino pink ones were seen), Labrador Tea, and Golden Heather were in full bloom. Charles Cron wrote in an e-mail to me that "seeing *Hudsonia ericoides* (Golden Heather) and *Medeola virginiana* (Indian Cucumber Root) made his day!"



This over urban wilderness of over 30 hectares includes in its rich diversity of habitats Flat Lake, which could be

seen as we enjoyed lunch on top of one of the high granite outcrops. "The tops of these barren knolls associated with the exposed granite headlands provide excellent scenic viewing points". With the time constraints of our group, it was decided to not go to this lake. In addition, we walked through a number of freshwater bogs and in one place there was a great new boardwalk constructed by NSNT staff and volunteers earlier this June.

One highlight for a few of us walking near Charles was to see two moths – one brown and the other green – mating on a Wild Sarsaparilla leaf. Charles supplied the following information. "The moths are Geometrid moths and there are 18,000 species worldwide. I cannot break these down any further. The sexes are often of different colours, the caterpillars are inchworms or 'lopers', and many are serious tree pests. His reference was the Pocket Guide to Insects of the Northern Hemisphere, McGavin and Lewington, Pargate Books, 1998, p.167.

During our return trip, several small, separate groups formed out of our larger number, so it's not possible to elaborate further on the sightings. Dennis Garratt was kind enough to supply the checklist regarding the birds that were observed on the field trip. The participants appreciated the knowledge shared by Dennis, Charlie, and Alice. A number of the participants also enjoyed seeing the PCCL for the first time and learning about the NSNT's volunteer land stewardship. Many a picture was taken, and only footprints were left behind!

The following list of birds observed on this hike was based upon 38 species observed by Bob McDonald, bobathome@eastlink.ca, on the 10th of August, 2010. It was updated by Dennis Garratt (DG), dennis@nsnt.ca, on this field trip. Note the three new species added by Dennis. The PCCL bird list now comprises 41 species.

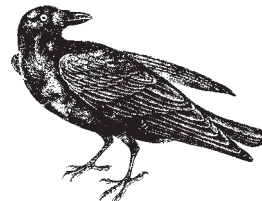
PURCELL'S COVE CONSERVATION LANDS SPECIES

Plants

Hudsonia (in bloom) *Hudsonia ericoides*
 Black Crowberry (?) *Empetrum nigrum*

Birds

Red-Eyed Vireo (new/DG) *Vireo olivaceus*
 Blue Jay *Cyanocitta cristata*
 American Crow *Corvus brachyrhynchos*
 Black-capped Chickadee *Poecile atricapillus*
 Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus*
 Yellow Warbler (new/DG) *Dendroica petechia*
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (new/DG) *D. pensylvanica*
 Yellow-rumped Warbler *D. coronata*
 Black-throated Green Warbler *D. virens*
 Palm Warbler *D. palmarum*
 Black-and-White Warbler *Mniotilta varia*
 Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas*
 Song Sparrow *Melospiza melodia*
 White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis*
 Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*
 Purple Finch *Carpodacus purpureus*



CRYSTAL CRESCENT HIKE

– Jenny Medill

Date: Saturday, July 23rd

Place: Crystal Crescent Beach/Pennant Point

Weather: Foggy offshore; sunny on land; later, overcast

Interpreter: Jim Medill

Participants: 6

The day started off sunny and warm, but as we arrived at the parking lot at Crystal Crescent Beach Provincial Park, we could see the fog just off the shore obscuring the usual view of Sambro Island and its lighthouse.

After waiting around a bit and checking the other parking lot for stragglers, we set off along the boardwalk. Our first stop was at the pond where we found the shoreline teeming with tadpoles. It was actually black along the waters edge and if you stepped gently on the mud you could send them scattering into deeper water (a bit of childish fun!). We spotted several dragonflies that must remain unidentified! Further along the boardwalk, we came across a dense thicket of Japanese Knotweed. Was someone attempting to tame it by cutting into the shrubbery and making paths (could it be a maze)?

We noted that it was about five degrees cooler in these tunnels of knotweed. The path changed from boardwalk to gravel and was bordered by various trees, shrubs, and wildflowers. Most of the Wild Raisin had finished blooming and had set fruit, but we came across one flowering specimen alongside a native Mountain Ash that was still in full bloom. A tiny microclimate must occur in this spot because the same plants along the trail had obviously bloomed earlier. Some species noted along the path – Cranberries (blooming), Dusty Miller, Beach Pea, Buttercup, Wild Rose, and Blackberry.

The trail made a dramatic change at the end of the third beach and we hiked over the granite boulders with the waves crashing against them. The fog hadn't receded at all, but it did not impede our progress over rocks and through the trees. Some of the junipers and firs resembled bonsai and we wondered how old some of these could be. We crossed Sambro Creek which was down to a mere trickle compared to two weeks previous when we hiked the same trail and got our feet soaked! Grass-pink Orchids were plentiful and a few Blue Flag iris still bloomed in this boggy area.

Further along we stopped to admire a Savannah Sparrow perched on a huge granite boulder. Where the trail turned into a low boggy area, we found the fruit of Bake-apple, or Cloudberry. I had not had the experience of tasting this east coast treasure so we each had just one berry and, yes, it tasted like baked apples and is apparently the favourite treat of the Whimbrel. So, we kept an eye out for that bird and later we were rewarded by the sight of one flying over our heads. (On our return trek, a flock of eight to ten flew by, all the while calling to one another.)

By this time we had almost reached our goal of Pennant Point. We passed the local Inukshuk, but the Point itself was still out of sight in the fog. We stopped for lunch on the orange lichen-encrusted rocks just before Pennant Point. The waves were quite spectacular, crashing onto the rocks. We found Greenland or Mountain Sandwort growing in the cracks of the rocks. The fog lifted and the grey sky lightened a bit but then it became darker, a mist was falling, and the air cooled. We hastily packed up and started to head back at a much faster pace. Back along the shore trail we

went, trying to stay ahead of the rain that we felt was bound to come. It did indeed turn to rain, and we arrived back at the cars damp and tired after an enjoyable and interesting day out.

Thanks to Bob and Wendy for sharing their knowledge of birds and wildflowers and filling in my gaps in the species list. Once Bob had uploaded the track of our hike from his GPS, he was able to inform us that we had covered a distance of about ten kilometres.

CRYSTAL CRESCENT SPECIES

Plants

Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>
Cinnamon fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>
Sensitive fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>
Creeping Juniper	<i>Juniperis horizontalis</i>
Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.
Tall Meadow Rue	<i>Thalictrum</i> sp.
Purple Meadow Rue	T. sp.
Bayberry	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>
Speckled Alder	<i>Alnus incana</i>
Chickweed	<i>Cerastium</i> sp.
Mountain (Greenland) Sandwort	<i>Arenaria grœnlandica</i>
Blunt-leaved Sandwort	<i>A. lateriflora</i>
Curled Dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>
Japanese Knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
Sea Lavender (Marsh Rosemary)	<i>Limonium carolinianum</i>
Pitcher Plant	<i>Sarracenia purpurea</i>
Round-leaved Sundew	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>
Wild Mustard	Family: Brassicaceae
Black Crowberry	<i>Empetrum nigrum</i>
Labrador Tea	<i>Ledum grœnlandicum</i>
Rhodora	<i>Rhododendron canadense</i>
Lambkill	<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>
Mayflower	<i>Epigaea repens</i>
Lowbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>
Dwarf Huckleberry	<i>V. cespitosum</i>
Cranberry	V. sp.
Black Huckleberry	<i>Gaylussacia</i> sp.
Starflower	<i>Trientalis borealis</i>
Roseroot (Sedum)	<i>Sedum rosea</i>
Raspberry	<i>Rubus</i> sp.
Highbush Blackberry	R. sp.
Bake-apple (Cloudberry)	<i>R. chamæmorus</i>
Dewberry	R. sp.
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i> sp.
Black Chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>
Meadowsweet	<i>Spiraea alba</i>
Three-toothed Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla tridentata</i>
Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus americana</i>
Wild Rose	<i>Rosa virginiana</i>
Beach Pea	<i>Lathyrus maritimus</i>
Red clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
White Sweet Clover	<i>Melilotus alba</i>
Yellow Loosestrife (Swamp Candle)	<i>Lysimachia</i> spl
Purple-leaved Willow Herb	<i>Epilobium coloratum</i>
Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>
Bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>
Mountain(?) Holly	<i>Ilex(?)</i> sp.
Canada Holly (Winterberry)	<i>I. verticillata</i>
Sarsaparilla	<i>Arelia</i> sp.
Scotch Lovage	<i>Ligisticum scoticum</i>
Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Marsh Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria galericulata</i>
Hemp Nettle	<i>Gallopsia tetrahit</i>
Heal-all	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>
Seashore Plantain	<i>Plantago maritima</i>
Cow-wheat	<i>Melampyrum lineare</i>
Yellow Rattle	<i>Rhinanthus crista-galli</i>



Witherod (Wild Raisin)
Twinflower
Whorled(?) Aster
Silver-rod (White Goldenrod)
Seaside Goldenrod
Rough Goldenrod
Yarrow
Tall White Aster
Black Knapweed
Canada Thistle
Dusty Miller
Fireweed
Hawkweed
Painted Trillium
Nodding Trillium
Wild Lily-of-the-valley
False Solomon's seal
Rosy Twisted stalk
Blue Flag Iris
Pink Lady's Slipper (white also)
Little Club-spur Orchid
Ragged-fringed Orchid
Grass-pink Orchid
Twinflower
Gall-of-the-Earth/Pearly Everlasting



Viburnum nudum
Linnæa borealis
Aster sp.
Solidago bicolor
S. sempervirens
S. rugosa
Achillea millefolium
Aster umbellatus
Centuria nigra
Cirsium arvense
Artemisia stelleriana
Erechtites hieracifolia
Hieracium sp.
Trillium undulatum
T. cernuum
Maianthemum canadense
Smilacina sp.
Streptopis roseus
Iris versicolor
Cypripedium acaule
Platanthera clavellata
P. lacera
Calapogon pulchellus
Linnæa borealis
Anaphalis margaritacea

Dragonflies/Damselflies

Eastern Forktail
Bluet



Ischnura verticalis
Enallagma sp.

Butterflies

Northern Blue
Northern Pearl Crescent

Lycæides idas
Phyciodes selenis

Amphibians

Tadpoles
Eastern American Toad
Bullfrog (heard)

Bufo a. americanus
Rana catesbeiana

Birds Seen

Common Eider
Double-crested Cormorant
Bald Eagle (immature)
Merlin
Whimbrel
Herring Gull
Great Black-backed Gull
Blue Jay
American Crow
Common Raven
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Cedar Waxwing
Yellow Warbler
American Redstart
Common Yellowthroat
Savannah Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
American Goldfinch



Somateria mollissima
Phalacrocorax auritus
Halæetus leucocephalus
Falco columbarius
Numenius phæopus
Larus argentatus
L. marinus
Cyanocitta cristata
Corvus brachyrhynchus
Corvus corax
Catharus guttatus
Turdus migratorius
Bombycilla cedrorum
Dendroica petechia
Setophago ruticilla
Geothlypis trichas
Passerculus sandwichensis
Passerella iliaca
Melospiza melodia
Zonotrichia albicollis
Carduelis tristis

Birds Heard

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Hermit Thrush
Black-throated Green Warbler
Ovenbird

Regulus satrapa
Catharus guttatus
Dendroica virens
Seiurus aurocapilla



INDIAN PATH COMMON

– Janet Dalton

Date: Sunday, August 14th

Place: Indian Path Common, Lunenburg County

Weather: Sunny and warm

Leaders: Frances Anderson, Barry Clarke, Catherine Pross

Participants: ± 26

The day was sunny and warm as about 26 hikers met at the edge of the forest trail into Indian Path Common. Our three guides were all contributors to the booklet, Indian Path Common: Its Flora Fauna & History, Indian Path Common Land Committee, Lunenburg. Frances Anderson showed us various lichens; Catherine Pross specialised in the fungi of the area; and Barry Clarke identified all the rock formations along the way.

There were three trails – a 'yellow', 1.5 km, which is the one we took; a 'green', 2km; and a 'blue', a trail of .5km.

Frances Anderson began our hike by tell us a little about the history of the Common. In 1785 the British Government wished to populate the area around Lunenburg. So they offered land by lots. Each family was allotted land for a house, a garden, and farmland. Most, but not all, of the lots also included a woodlot for most of the families. All of them had access to water for fishing and travel. When all was said and done there was a large parcel of the land that was landlocked, and since no family wanted any of it due to lack of water access, it was decided to make this land into a Common for the use of the Lunenburg population.

There was no evidence that the land of this Common was ever cleared for pasture. It is believed that the most important use of it was to harvest the native Red Oak for use in buildings and for firewood. The Common was also a place for hunting and trapping. All the Red Oak was cleared from it and those who did not have a woodlot continued to gather firewood right up to the 1950's, when it then became poplar to burn oil instead.

Finally, Indian Path Common was deeded over to the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg for recreational use in perpetuity, and today it is overseen by an Area Advisory Committee. Its size is 404.6 acres and it is pretty much as intact as it was in the early eighteenth century.

As we hiked into the forest is was beautifully cool and very shady. There were wet areas in the trail that caused us to detour around these damp spots. Frances pointed out about five lichens that are very common to the area. She also mentioned that lichens on the sides of trees does them no harm.

We spent some time observing 'old man's beard', *Usnea* sp., and Frances stated that it was quite different from the Spanish Moss found in the Carolina States. The guides brought along six magnifying glasses so we had a close look at these delicate lichens and their amazing colours. The lichens viewed were: Lung Lichen, *Lobaria* sp.; Powder-tipped Antler Lichen, *Everniastrum catawbiense*; Ghost Antlers Lichen, *Pseudevermia cladonia*; Blue Felt Lichen (or Leader Lichen), *Degelia plumbea*; and of course Old Man's Beard, *Usnea* sp. There is concern over the Ghost Antler Lichen as it is very sensitive to any pollution and is becoming rare in the area.

Catherine then took over as leader and led the group farther along the 'yellow' trail pointing out the Fungi viewable at the side of the path, such as a mushroom with a yellow top, *Cortinarius senisanguineus*; a small brown-



topped mushroom, *Cortinarius caperatus*; a mushroom with an interesting laciness under its cap where the pores are held, *Bolete pores*; and a red-topped mushroom, *Russula* sp. The most interesting mushroom was white and did not resemble a mushroom at all; it looked more like a miniature coral. It was *Dacrymyces chrysospermus*. Sitting beside this mushroom was a large black slug, *Arion ater*, introduced into the area and now thriving. It is a forest recycler, enjoys the dampness of the Common, and travels mostly at night. It is doing very well as it is not eaten by any other animals, except by Ravens or large frogs. The one we saw was about four inches long, and stretched out; this slug can be as long as eight inches! It is believed that this large black slug arrived in the area on a boat. We ate Blueberries which were along the path and observed that the Cranberries were not quite ripe enough to pick.

We arrived at the side of a deep ravine and Bruce Clarke gave us a quick introduction to the various formations – sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic. He talked about the various rocks that could be seen in this ravine, mentioning that around this area they were similar to those found in West Africa. The reason is that some time 500 million years ago the ocean between ancient North America and ancient Africa began to close, with the two continents finally colliding into one large continent. 200 million years later it slowly opened again to form the Atlantic Ocean, leaving a large piece of Africa behind. The rock that was left behind became southern Nova Scotia; the Cobequid fault line being the boundary between the two types of rock – North American, and African. In the ravine's outcroppings we could see the different layers of mud, silt, and cleavage planes, as these layers were moved or crushed into crescents, or splits or folds.

We hiked the rest of the yellow trail, some hikers leaving at that point for home. Others of us took the blue trail to the pond to eat our lunch.

Although the guides concentrated upon the subjects they were interested in, there were many other plants and also birds observed along the way.

INDIAN PATH SPECIES

Plants

Bracken Fern
Northern Beech Fern
Balsam Fir
White Spruce
Red Spruce
Tamarack
White Pine
Juniper
Water Lily
Wych Hazel
Canadian Red Oak (just planted)
White Birch
Alder
Pitcher Plant
Sundew
Teaberry
Bearberry
Blueberry
Bog Laurel
Bog Huckleberry
Indian pipe
Blackberry
Chokecherry
Bunchberry
Inkberry
Red Maple



Pteridium aquilinum
Phegopteris connectilis
Abies balsamea
Picea Glauca
P. rubens
Larix laricina
Pinus strobus
Juniperis communis
Nymphæa odorata
Hamamelis virginiana
Qercus rubra
Betula papyrifera
Alnus sp.
Sarracenia purpurea
Drosera sp.
Gaultheria procumbens
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi
Vaccinium augustifolium
Kalmia polifolia
Gaylussacia dumosa
Monotropa sp.
Rubus allegheniensis
Prunus virginiana
Cornus canadensis
Ilex glabra
Acer rubrum



Mountain Ash
Pearly Everlasting
Goldenrod

Birds Seen

Ruffed Grouse
Red-winged Blackbird
Chickadee
Blue Jay

Birds Heard

Raven
Woodpecker (likely a Downy)

Fraxinus sp.
Anaphalis margaritacea
Solidago sp.



Bonasa umbellus
Agelaius phœniceus
Parus atricapillus
Cyanocitta cristata

Corvus corax
Picoides pubescens



A FROG POND TRIP, 23 JULY – Patricia Chalmers

On Saturday evening the sun came out, unexpectedly, after an overcast and muggy afternoon that threatened rain. I had a bad case of 'cabin fever', as I had been ill for some time and had not been out enjoying the summer much at all. So, I seized the moment and thought that at least I could walk part way around the Frog Pond, Fleming Park, to see how the season was advancing. It's one of my favourite places but I hadn't been there for a couple of months.

At the entrance to the trail a squirrel was eating Indian Pear fruits, offering both nutrition and moisture after a warm day. There didn't seem to be much bird activity, although I thought it might soon pick up in the cool of the evening. I didn't want to walk far, so after the first boardwalk I decided to find a quiet place along the shore to just sit and watch.

Green Frogs were making their twanging banjo-string calls. There was an immature Great Blue Heron out on the rocks; they often show up here in mid/late summer. A pair of Ring-necked Ducks was unexpected; a few come here in migration, but this seemed early. Surely they hadn't been here all season? I sat and watched for about half an hour, hoping for Chimney Swifts or swallows over the water, but instead, I got to watch a pair of noisy Osprey calling and circling.

The cove where I sat had lots of water lilies in bloom, and in past years I would often see Beavers here, sitting up on the rocks and eating lily roots. However there have been no Beavers in the Frog Pond for the last two years – I don't know what has happened to them.

At about eight o'clock, just as I was thinking I should head home, I saw from the corner of my eye a large bird fly into a clump of maples about 12-15 feet away from me, and land about 12 feet up. A Barred Owl! It looked me over and I tried not to stare, so I looked away after a moment. I have often seen Barred Owls in daylight, but never one so close. It seemed unconcerned by my presence, but was very interested in the people who were passing along the trail right below it. It was interesting to watch its head swivel as it turned to catch the high-pitched voices of children. Did I imagine things or was it particularly interested in a small dog? Most of the passers-by walked underneath without seeing the owl – very few people look up when they are outside. The owl was perched where it could observe a shallow muddy inlet where some Green Frogs were calling; I hoped I would see it try to catch one. A couple of times a Robin would fly by and suddenly throw a panic attack when it saw the owl.

I remained sitting for another half hour, enjoying the owl's presence; when I left, it silently watched me go.

ALMANAC



This almanac is for the dates of events which are not found in our HFN programme: for field trips or lectures which members might like to attend, or natural happenings to watch for, such as eclipses, comets, average migration dates, expected blooming seasons, etc. Please suggest other suitable items.

“ But summer ended this month. I turned the calendar and there was October, just its usual four weeks long. By Halloween, the fields would be empty and the world turning the colour of rot. Autumn, followed by winter. It was an intimidating notion, the kind of menace that demanded a common front ...”

– from “September”, in *The 100-mile diet: a year of local eating*, by Alisa Smith and J.B. MacKinnon (2007)

NATURAL EVENTS

- 22 Sept.** Autumnal Equinox at 06:05 ADT: Fall begins in the Northern Hemisphere.
- 28 Sept.** Eighth anniversary of Hurricane Juan.
- 30 Sept.** Average date for first frost in Halifax (Environment Canada says there is only one in ten chance we will have frost before this date). Look forward to 210 days of frosty weather.
- 12 Oct.** Full Moon rises at 18:31 ADT.
- 6 Nov.** Daylight Saving Time ends (clocks are set back one hour, from Atlantic Daylight time to Atlantic Standard Time) at 2 a.m.
- 10 Nov.** Full Moon rises at 16:35 AST.
- 22 Nov.** Daily minimum temperature goes below zero.
- 7 Dec.** Daily average temperature goes below zero.
- 10 Dec.** Full Moon rises at 16:44 AST.
- 5 Dec. -14 Dec.** Earliest sunset of the year at 16:34 AST.
- 13/14 Dec.** Geminid Meteor Shower.
- 14 Dec. -5 Jan.** Audubon Christmas Bird Count period.
- 22 Dec.** Winter Solstice at 1:30 AST: Winter begins in the Northern Hemisphere. But though the temperature drops, the days begin to lengthen.
- 26 Dec.** Venus and the Moon are visible in the evening’s twilight.
- 27 Dec. -31 Dec.** Latest sunrise of the year at 7:51 AST.

– Sources: Atmospheric Environment Service, Climate Normals 1951-80 Halifax (Shearwater A) N.S.; Blomidon Naturalists Society’s 2011 Calendar; United States Naval Observatory Data Services.

SUNRISE AND SUNSET ON FALL AND EARLY WINTER SATURDAYS FOR HALIFAX: 44 39 N, 063 36 W



3 Sept.	6:39	19:48	1 Oct.	7:12	18:56
10 Sept.	6:47	19:35	8 Oct.	7:20	18:43
17 Sept.	6:55	19:22	15 Oct.	7:29	18:30
24 Sept.	7:03	19:09	22 Oct.	7:38	18:19
			29 Oct.	7:48	18:08
5 Nov.	7:57	17:58	3 Dec.	7:33	16:35
12 Nov.	6:07	16:50	10 Dec.	7:40	16:34
19 Nov.	6:16	16:43	17 Dec.	7:46	16:35
26 Nov.	6:25	16:38	24 Dec.	7:50	16:38
			31 Dec.	7:51	16:43

ORGANISATIONAL EVENTS

Blomidon Naturalists Society: Indoor meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month, in the auditorium of the K.C. Irving Centre, University Avenue, Wolfville. Field trips usually depart from the Wolfville Waterfront, Front Street, Wolfville. For more information, go to <http://www.blomidonnaturalists.ca/>.

- 19 Sept.** “The Bloody Creek Structure”, with speaker Dr. Ian Spooner of Acadia’s Dept. of Geomatics.
- 1 Oct.** “Cloud Lake Wilderness Area Canoe Trip”, with leaders Larry Bogan, 678-0446, larry@bogan.ca; and Patrick Kelly, 472-2322, patrick.kelly@dal.ca.
- 8 Oct.** “Blomidon Provincial Park Hike”, contact Shanna, 826-9384.
- 17 Oct.** “Important Bird Areas in the Bay of Fundy”, with speaker Sue Abbott, coordinator Piping Plover Conservation.
- 23 Oct.** Identifying Common Tree/Shrub Species without the clues of leaves/blossoms, with leader George Forsyth.
- 21 Nov.** TBA
- 12 Dec.** “Population Biology and Impending Issues of Conservation and Management of Maritime Bats”, with speaker Dr. Hugh Broders, Dept. of Biology, St. Mary’s University.

Burke-Gaffney Observatory: Public shows at the Burke-Gaffney Observatory at Saint Mary's University are held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month, except from June through September when they are held every Saturday. Tours begin at 7:00 p.m. between November 1st and March 30th, and at either 9:00 p.m. or 10:00 p.m. (depending on when it gets dark) between April 1st and October 31st. For more information, 496-8257; or go to <http://www.smu.ca/academic/science/ap/>.

Nova Scotia Bird Society: Indoor meetings take place on the 4th Thursday of the month, September to May, at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 7:30 p.m. For more information, Chris Pepper, 829-3478, cpepper@ymail.com; or email the trip leader; or go to <http://nsbs.chebucto.org/>.

22 Sept. "Amazing and Mystery Bird Night". Share your bird stories, photos, specimens (e.g. feathers, nests, egg shells), and such with fellow birders.

23 Sept. "Editor's Field Trip to Big Tancook Island, Lunenburg Co.", with leader Blake Maybank, 852-2077, bmaybank@gmail.com.

1 Oct. "New Birders' Walk in Point Pleasant Park", with leader Bonnie Carmichael, bonniecarmichael@hotmail.com.

Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources: Many outings that will take place in Provincial Parks are listed in the "Parks are for People" Programme, available at museums, parks, and tourist bureaus, and on the web at <http://www.novascotiaparks.ca/>.

Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History: For more information, 424-7353; or go to <http://museum.gov.ns.ca/mnh/>.

All Year "Nektukulimk"; experience the sights, sounds, and smells of a Nova Scotia forest.

All Year Every Wednesday evening, presentations around the new permanent exhibit, "Our Amazing World". The NSMNH is the first museum in Canada to feature Science on a Sphere®. This room-sized system displays environmental, geographic, and atmospheric data in shows that are both entertaining and educational.

Nova Scotia Wild Flora Society: Meets on the 4th Monday of the month, September to May, at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 7:30 p.m. For more information, Heather Drope, 423-7032, or go to <http://www.nswildflora.ca/>.

26 Sept. "War of the Roses: the invasion of coastal habitats by *Rosa rugosa*", with speaker Nick Hill, Fern Hill Institute for Plant Conservation.

15 Oct. 16 Oct. rain date. "Fire Barrens in the Fall", with David Patriquin, 423-5716.

28 Oct. TBA. Regular monthly meeting.

12 Nov. "Wyck Hazel & Oak Woods of the South End", with leader David Patriquin, 423-5716.



Nova Scotian Institute of Science: Meets 1st Monday of the month, September to April, usually at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 7:30 p.m. For more information, go to <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Science/NSIS/index.html>.

3 Oct. "The Joggins Fossil Cliffs: Coal Age Galapagos"; speaker Dr. John Calder, N.S. Dept. of Natural Resources.

7 Nov. "Food, Furs & Feathers: History of Human-induced Changes in Coastal Ecosystems"; speaker Dr. Heike Lotze, Dalhousie University.

TBA Nov. "Shubenacadie Canal Lecture", with speaker Cameron Ellis.

5 Dec. "From Picnic Parks to Systematic Protection of Biodiversity: A Review of the Development of Protected Areas in Nova Scotia", with speaker Dr. Martin Willison, Dalhousie University.

9 Jan. "100 Years of Research in the Orchard"; speaker Dr. Charlie Embree, Atlantic Food and Horticulture Research Centre, Kentville, N.S.

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (Halifax Chapter): Meets 3rd Friday of each month in Room L176 of the Loyola Academic Building at Saint Mary's University, 8:00 p.m. For more information, go to <http://halifax.rasc.ca/>.

Young Naturalists' Club: A fun, free nature club for children eight and older. Meetings take place usually every 3rd Saturday of the month, **excepting July and August**, at the **Maritime Museum of the Atlantic**, 1675 Lower Water St., at 10:00 a.m. Field trips take place every 4th Sunday, at 1:00 p.m. For more information, Laura Lambie, 431-0207; or go to <http://nature1st.net/ync>.

Sept 25 1:00 p.m., "Life on a Sandy Coast", a field trip to Conrad Beach, with leader Dr. Dave Patriquin.

Oct. 15 10:30-12:00, "Squirrels and Other Small Mammals", a talk at the Museum of Natural History.

Oct 23 1:00 p.m., "Squirrels and Other Small Mammals", the field trip: **Please register** at yncns@yahoo.ca for directions to the field trip location.

Nov. 19 10:30-12:00, a Nature Presentation at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History.

Nov. 27 1:00 p.m., a field trip. **Please register** at yncns@yahoo.ca for directions to the field trip location.

Dec. 10 10:30-12:00, "Whales & Dolphins", Marine Gallery, NSMNH, with Dalhousie Graduate Researchers Joana Augusto and Catalina Gomez.

– compiled by Patricia L. Chalmers

HALIFAX TIDE TABLE



October-octobre

November-novembre

December-décembre

October-octobre						November-novembre						December-décembre											
Day	Time	Feet	Metres	jour	heure	pieds	mètres	Day	Time	Feet	Metres	jour	heure	pieds	mètres	Day	Time	Feet	Metres	jour	heure	pieds	mètres
1	0447	0.7	0.2	16	0359	2.0	0.6	1	0642	1.6	0.5	16	0525	2.3	0.7	1	0008	5.6	1.7	16	0608	2.0	0.6
SA	1730	0.3	0.1	SU	1639	1.3	0.4	TU	1148	5.6	1.7	WE	1100	5.6	1.7	TH	0716	2.0	0.6	FR	1131	5.6	1.7
SA	2300	5.6	1.7	DI	2242	5.2	1.6	MA	1906	1.0	0.3	ME	1757	1.3	0.4	JE	1219	5.2	1.6	FR	1824	1.0	0.3
2	0552	1.3	0.4	17	0443	2.3	0.7	2	0032	5.2	1.6	17	0625	2.3	0.7	2	0059	5.6	1.7	17	0012	5.6	1.7
	1114	5.9	1.8		1041	5.6	1.7		0744	2.0	0.6		1146	5.6	1.7		0813	2.0	0.6		0707	2.0	0.6
SU	1831	0.7	0.2	MO	1726	1.6	0.5	WE	1244	5.2	1.6	TH	1850	1.3	0.4	FR	1315	4.9	1.5	SA	1222	5.6	1.7
DI	2352	5.2	1.6	LU	2320	5.2	1.6	ME	2002	1.3	0.4	JE				VE	2015	1.6	0.5	SA	1917	1.3	0.4
3	0658	1.6	0.5	18	0539	2.3	0.7	3	0132	5.2	1.6	18	0034	5.2	1.6	3	0154	5.6	1.7	18	0101	5.9	1.8
	1206	5.6	1.7		1121	5.6	1.7		0844	2.0	0.6		0726	2.3	0.7		0907	2.0	0.6		0806	1.6	0.5
MO	1932	1.0	0.3	TU	1820	1.6	0.5	TH	1348	4.9	1.5	FR	1239	5.6	1.7	SA	1417	4.9	1.5	SU	1321	5.2	1.6
LU				MA				JE	2057	1.6	0.5	VE	1943	1.3	0.4	SA	2105	2.0	0.6	DI	2013	1.3	0.4
4	0049	4.9	1.5	19	0004	5.2	1.6	4	0240	5.2	1.6	19	0128	5.6	1.7	4	0253	5.2	1.6	19	0156	5.9	1.8
	0803	1.6	0.5		0643	2.6	0.8		0941	2.0	0.6		0826	2.0	0.6		0958	2.0	0.6		0906	1.3	0.4
TU	1304	5.2	1.6	WE	1206	5.2	1.6	FR	1501	4.9	1.5	SA	1341	5.2	1.6	SU	1524	4.6	1.4	MO	1428	5.2	1.6
MA	2032	1.3	0.4	ME	1917	1.6	0.5	VE	2151	1.6	0.5	SA	2037	1.3	0.4	DI	2156	2.0	0.6	LU	2111	1.3	0.4
5	0156	4.9	1.5	20	0056	4.9	1.5	5	0347	5.2	1.6	20	0229	5.6	1.7	5	0351	5.2	1.6	20	0258	5.9	1.8
	0905	2.0	0.6		0745	2.6	0.8		1034	1.6	0.5		0925	1.6	0.5		1047	1.6	0.5		1006	1.0	0.3
WE	1414	4.9	1.5	TH	1300	5.2	1.6	SA	1610	4.9	1.5	SU	1453	5.2	1.6	MO	1627	4.6	1.4	TU	1542	5.2	1.6
ME	2130	1.3	0.4	JE	2014	1.6	0.5	SA	2243	1.6	0.5	DI	2132	1.3	0.4	LU	2247	2.0	0.6	MA	2212	1.3	0.4
6	0319	4.9	1.5	21	0158	5.2	1.6	6	0440	5.6	1.7	21	0332	5.9	1.8	6	0441	5.2	1.6	21	0402	5.9	1.8
	1005	2.0	0.6		0845	2.3	0.7		1124	1.6	0.5		1024	1.0	0.3		1131	1.3	0.4		1106	0.7	0.2
TH	1535	4.9	1.5	FR	1406	5.2	1.6	SU	1706	4.9	1.5	MO	1606	5.2	1.6	TU	1722	4.9	1.5	WE	1652	5.2	1.6
JE	2226	1.3	0.4	VE	2109	1.3	0.4	DI	2332	1.6	0.5	LU	2230	1.3	0.4	MA	2335	2.0	0.6	ME	2315	1.3	0.4
7	0431	5.2	1.6	22	0309	5.2	1.6	7	0525	5.6	1.7	22	0431	6.2	1.9	7	0525	5.2	1.6	22	0504	6.2	1.9
	1101	1.6	0.5		0945	2.0	0.6		1208	1.3	0.4		1123	0.7	0.2		1212	1.3	0.4		1205	0.3	0.1
FR	1644	5.2	1.6	SA	1522	5.2	1.6	MO	1753	5.2	1.6	TU	1712	5.6	1.7	WE	1809	4.9	1.5	TH	1755	5.6	1.7
VE	2320	1.3	0.4	SA	2203	1.3	0.4	LU				MA	2329	1.0	0.3	ME				JE			
8	0521	5.2	1.6	23	0412	5.6	1.7	8	0017	1.6	0.5	23	0527	6.6	2.0	8	0019	2.0	0.6	23	0018	1.3	0.4
	1152	1.6	0.5		1044	1.3	0.4		0604	5.6	1.7		1220	0.3	0.1		0605	5.6	1.7		0603	6.2	1.9
SA	1736	5.2	1.6	SU	1633	5.6	1.7	TU	1247	1.3	0.4	WE	1810	5.6	1.7	TH	1250	1.0	0.3	FR	1302	0.3	0.1
SA				DI	2257	1.0	0.3	MA	1836	5.2	1.6	ME				JE	1853	5.2	1.6	VE	1853	5.6	1.7
9	0009	1.3	0.4	24	0507	6.2	1.9	9	0056	1.6	0.5	24	0028	1.0	0.3	9	0057	2.0	0.6	24	0117	1.3	0.4
	0603	5.6	1.7		1142	1.0	0.3		0640	5.6	1.7		0621	6.6	2.0		0644	5.6	1.7		0659	6.6	2.0
SU	1238	1.3	0.4	MO	1733	5.6	1.7	WE	1322	1.0	0.3	TH	1316	0.0	0.0	FR	1327	1.0	0.3	SA	1355	0.0	0.0
DI	1820	5.6	1.7	LU	2352	0.7	0.2	ME	1917	5.2	1.6	JE	1906	5.9	1.8	VE	1933	5.2	1.6	SA	1947	5.9	1.8
10	0053	1.3	0.4	25	0557	6.6	2.0	10	0130	1.6	0.5	25	0127	1.0	0.3	10	0134	2.0	0.6	25	0214	1.3	0.4
	0640	5.6	1.7		1238	0.3	0.1		0715	5.6	1.7		0714	6.6	2.0		0723	5.6	1.7		0752	6.6	2.0
MO	1317	1.3	0.4	TU	1829	5.9	1.8	TH	1355	1.0	0.3	FR	1410	0.0	0.0	SA	1405	0.7	0.2	SU	1446	0.0	0.0
LU	1901	5.6	1.7	MA				JE	1956	5.2	1.6	VE	1959	5.9	1.8	SA	2012	5.2	1.6	DI	2038	5.9	1.8
11	0131	1.3	0.4	26	0047	0.7	0.2	11	0201	2.0	0.6	26	0225	1.0	0.3	11	0210	2.0	0.6	26	0308	1.3	0.4
	0715	5.6	1.7		0646	6.9	2.1		0750	5.6	1.7		0807	6.6	2.0		0802	5.9	1.8		0843	6.2	1.9
TU	1351	1.0	0.3	WE	1333	0.0	0.0	FR	1428	0.7	0.2	SA	1503	0.0	0.0	SU	1443	0.7	0.2	MO	1535	0.3	0.1
MA	1940	5.6	1.7	ME	1921	5.9	1.8	VE	2033	5.2	1.6	SA	2052	5.9	1.8	DI	2050	5.2	1.6	LU	2126	6.2	1.9
12	0202	1.3	0.4	27	0141	0.7	0.2																



NATURE NOTES

SEPTEMBER

Mary MacAuley found a **dead Hummingbird** on the curb and passed it around so everyone could have a look. She said it looked like it had hit a window. It was bright green, and she thought it was probably female. She asked us to pass it into the Museum of Natural History.

Pat Chalmers noted that many birds are currently in migration mode. At roughly 6:00 p.m. on the previous evening she noted **at least eight different species of warblers** at the her parent's bird feeder. They appeared to take their fill, and then left on their journey south.

Judy Hayes saw a **Red Fox** at the Glen Arbor Golf Course. Earlier in the year she saw **an Eastern Painted Turtle** near their cottage in Queens County, as well as a **bear**.

Jim Medill noted that **foxes** have become a bit of a problem at Glen Arbor. He said that he once saw a fox almost get hit by a ball. The fox turned, looked directly at the golfer, and then proceeded to pick up the ball and drop it in the nearest sand trap.

Regine Maass reported seeing a **turtle digging a hole prior to laying eggs**, just off the path around the Frog Pond.

Richard Beazley reported seeing a **large number of Sandpipers** on Evangeline Beach. They provided a wonderful display of aerial aerobatics, and then landed on the sand for resting and feeding. He felt there were at least 2,000 birds in the flock. He noted, however, that even though there were plenty of signs telling people to stay back, many moved far too close to the birds. There were even cases of parents allowing their children to run at the birds while they were sitting on the beach. In another instance, even a dog was allowed to run at the birds. Given that the birds were trying to bulk up for their trip to Brazil (which can include non-stop flights of up to 72 hours), the people and their dogs were certainly not doing them any favours.

Janet Dalton reported that in Eastern Passage near the Boondocks Restaurant there were **a lot of Plovers** running on the beach. There is apparently very good feeding for them there. She also saw a sailboat washed up on the sand bar after the recent high winds associated with hurricane Irene .

NEXT DEADLINE

21st of November for the December, 2011 Issue
Send contributions to 'Newsletter', c/o NS Museum of Natural History, or
email submissions to sdhaythorn@ns.sympatico.ca