

HALIFAX FIELD NATURALISTS' NEWSLETTER

December 1994 to February 1995

No. 77



Return address:
Halifax Field Naturalists
c/o Nova Scotia Museum of
Natural History
1747 Summer Street
Halifax, N. S. B3H 3A6

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HALIFAX • FIELD • NATURALISTS

Objectives 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. To represent the interests of naturalists by encouraging the conservation of Nova Scotia's natural resources.

Meetings On the first Thursday of every month at 8:00 pm in the auditorium of the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax. Meetings are open to the public.

Field Trips Are held at least once a month, **and it is appreciated if those travelling in someone else's car share the cost of the gas.** Everyone, member or not, is welcome to take part in field trips.

Membership Is open to anyone interested in the natural history of Nova Scotia. Memberships are available at any meeting of the society, or by writing to: Membership Secretary, Halifax Field Naturalists, c/o NS Museum of Natural History. New memberships starting from September 1 will be valid until the end of the following membership year. The regular membership year is from January 1 to December 31. Members receive the HFN Newsletter and notices of all meetings, field trips, and special programmes. The fees are as follows:

Individual	\$12.00 per year
Family	\$18.00 per year
Supporting	\$20.00 per year
FNSN (opt.)	\$5.00 per year

Executive 1994	President	Roy John	868-2373
	Secretary	Cathy Strugnell	835-8289
	Treasurer	Greg Crosby	422-4650
	Membership Secretary	Shirley van Nostrand	835-3673
	Past President	Colin Stewart	466-7168

Directors Patricia Chalmers, Ursula Grigg, Bob McDonald, Bernice Moores, John Newbery, Mary Primrose

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Newsletter

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HFN is incorporated under the Nova Scotia Societies Act and is a member organization of the Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists and of the Canadian Nature Federation. It is registered for federal income tax purposes. Official receipts will be issued for individual and corporate gifts.

Illustrations **This issue (No. 77):** p. 11 — tide table courtesy Dept. of Transport; other illustrations from copyright-free sources.

HFN NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDITORIAL

Flowering bulbs are appearing indoors, it's time to admit that Halifax Field Naturalists' lively outdoor season is over.

Recent talks have ranged from the antics of spiders (more delicate than most housewives would credit) to the behaviour of Gray Wolves in the (now endangered) Shubenacadie pack, and to the Natural History of New Brunswick.

We have Clam Harbour Cranberries in our pantries, and memories of lichens, orchids, fossils, birds, and beasts ready to be enlarged by reading during dark evenings.

We can preen ourselves on the success of the CNF Conference in August; Bob McDonald, who chaired it, has a report on page 5. Those who missed the Conference — regret!

Thanks to everyone who helped with this Newsletter: Greg Crosby, Roy John, Bob McDonald, Cathy Fulton-Strugnell, Peter Webster, Shirley van Nostrand, and others; to Patricia Chalmers, who patiently compiled the Almanac, and Stephanie Robertson, who is back with illustrations and an eye for a crooked piece of text.

Venus hangs in the pre-dawn sky like a Christmas orange — very suitable! Have a Happy Christmas and a good 1995!

Ursula Grigg, Editor

THANKS AND WELCOME TO LT-GOVERNOR JAMES J. KINLEY

In a letter to HFN President Roy John, Lt.-Governor James J. Kinley has agreed to become HFN's Patron, commending the club's protective interest in the Province's natural environment.

HFN welcomes Lt.-Governor and Mrs. Kinley as Honorary Members; we hope they may find the topics of some of our meetings and field trips so fascinating that they will join us in enjoying them.

WELCOME TO NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Lt-Governor & Mrs. James J. Kinley	
Greta C. Allen	Debra Roberts-Regan
Penny Annand	Richard W. Russell
David & Phyl Bryson	Trecia Schell
Deborah Burleson	D. A. Scobbie
Alison Clark	Christoph & Marion Sensen
Sharon Findlay	Stephen & Carole Shaw
Karen Lightstone	Marilyn Smallman
Alex MacNevin	Tim Smith & Josee Parent
Karla Moore	Kenneth Williams
Jennifer Neudorf	
Roger Pocklington	

!! TIME TO RENEW !!

It's time to renew memberships for 1995, for all but new members who joined since 1 September 1994. The figure on the mailing label gives the last year for which your membership is paid.

Fees have been increased for 1995, to \$12 for single membership and \$18 for families.

Please send fees to Shirley van Nostrand, Membership Secretary, at the Museum, or give them to her at a meeting.



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HALIFAX FIELD NATURALISTS SPECIAL RESOLUTION

The following resolution will be put before the Annual General Meeting on 2 March 1995.

Be it resolved as a Special Resolution of the Society that the Bylaws of the Society be amended as follows:

1. The Bylaws be amended by:
 - a) substituting the words and punctuation "she/he" whenever the word "he" appears;
 - b) substituting the words and punctuation "her/his" whenever the word "his" appears;
 - c) substituting the words and punctuation "her/him" whenever the word "him" appears.

2. Bylaw 21 be amended by deleting the first sentence and substituting therefore the following sentence:

"The officers of the Society shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer."

3. Bylaw 31 be amended by adding the word and punctuation "Vice-President," immediately before the word "Secretary" in paragraph (a) thereof.

The following Bylaw 57 be added:

"57 Every director, officer, or servant of the Society shall be indemnified by the Society against, and it shall be the duty of the directors out of the funds of the Society to pay, all costs, losses and expenses that any director, officer, or servant may incur or become liable to pay by reason of any contract entered into, or any act or thing done by her/him as such director, officer, or servant or in any way in the discharge of her/his duties including travel expenses; and the amount for which such indemnity is proved shall immediately attach as a lien on the property of the Society and have priority as against the members over all other claims."

5. The following Bylaw 58 be added:

"58 No director of the Society shall, in the absence of any dishonesty on her/his part, be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other director or officer, or for joining in any receipt or other act for conformity, or for any loss or expense happening to the Society through the insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired by order of the directors for or on behalf of the Society, or through the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the moneys of the Society are invested, or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency, or tortious act of any person

with whom any moneys, securities, or effects are deposited, or for any loss occasioned by error of judgement or oversight on her/his part, or for any other loss, damage, or misfortune whatsoever which happens in the execution of the duties of her/his office or in relation thereto."

The Board of Directors

ABOUT HFN FIELD TRIPS

A few years ago people going on HFN field trips were asked to sign a form in which they accepted responsibility for their own safety. This formality has fallen into abeyance, but the Board of Directors has decided to bring it back.

Some of our field trips take us to cliffs, and around bogs and sink-holes, which are potentially dangerous, and into forests where it is possible to get lost. Having a list allows leaders to check that everyone is safely present, and the disclaimer reminds those attending that outdoor pursuits are to be enjoyed carefully.

Members may have seen similar forms being used by other clubs; the use of them is a factor in obtaining insurance.

The Board hopes that participants will accept this arrangement and see that their names are recorded; also, those who go home before the end of the programme are asked to be sure to take leave of the leaders or at least tell someone else that they are going.

On another subject, field trips these days do not always start from the Museum parking lot, which has left a few people short of transport. Until this is corrected, anyone who needs a ride should call around, or call one of the programme committee, to arrange it.

Ursula Grigg

STOP PRESS: PARKS & PROTECTED AREAS

The Nova Scotia Government will be holding public meetings around the province, beginning on 4 January 1995, to hear opinions on the proposed Systems Plan for Parks and Protected Areas.

We've been invited; let's tell the Government what we think. Details of Plan and meetings come from Parks and Recreation Division, Department of Natural Resources, RR1, Belmont, N.S., B0M 1C0. Ph. (902) 662-3030, Fax (902) 662-2160.

SPECIAL REPORTS



THANKS!

The executive of the Halifax Field Naturalists asks you to join them in thanking the people involved in this summer's CNF Conference. The Conference was a great success and brought much credit to the HFN. This result was only achieved by a vast amount of hard work and dedicated zeal on the part of Bob McDonald, the Payzants, and all of the people listed below. To these people go our thanks.

Roy John, President, HFN

all: Ken Adams, Wilma Akerland, Brad Amirault, Ruth Ballam, Duncan Bayne, Phyl Bryson, Margaret Clark, Eric Cooke, Dave Currie, Joan Czapalay, Ann Davis, Derek Davis, Howard Donahue, Connie Eaton, Laing Ferguson, Lise Fillmore, Ralph Fleming, Bill Freedman, Sharon Hawboldt, Roy John, Carolyn Lake, Millie Lawrence, Scott Leslie, Janet McLaren, Etta Parker, Bonnie Rose, Margaret Slatkin, Cathy Strugnell, Rick Swain, Liz Townsend, Azor Vienneau, Isabel Wainwright, Ron Williams, Alex Wilson, Jim Wolford, and Marion Zinck.

Robert S. McDonald, Conference Chair

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It goes without saying that the undertaking of the planning and execution of a conference of this scope and magnitude would be impossible without the efforts of a large group of volunteers. The work of volunteers is one of the most undervalued and overlooked aspects of our society. So I take great pleasure in acknowledging all conference organisers and supporters here.

Firstly — the organising committee. We spent many hours together (at 20 meetings over 16 months), and I know that many members spent countless additional hours working on their particular responsibilities, all to ensure the success of the Conference. I hope they all feel it was time well spent; the delegates certainly had a positive experience through their efforts.

The Committee members were: Akie Ackerlund, Harry Beach, Lesley Butters, Regina Maass, Bob McDonald, Wendy McDonald, Bernice Moores, Shirley van Nostrand, Linda Payzant, Peter Payzant, Jeff Pike, Mary Primrose, Jim Ross, Linda Ross, Pat Shires, Clarence Stevens, Colin Stewart, and Joan Waldron.

Others who made contributions to Conference organisation in some way include Louie Coutinho, Michael Downing, Eric Mills, Steve Saunders, and Brian Yates.

Then there was a large group of volunteers who offered their leadership and particular expertise just before, during, or after the conference. Some gave several days of their time (trip leaders and drivers); others gave a few hours. My sincere thanks to you



REPORT ON 23RD CANADIAN NATURE FEDERATION CONFERENCE HALIFAX, N.S., AUGUST 4-7, 1994

The 23rd Annual Canadian Nature Federation (CNF) Conference was held in Halifax during the period August 4-7, 1994. The Conference was hosted by the Halifax Field Naturalists (HFN), and was held on the campus of Mount Saint Vincent University. Planning for the Conference began in detail shortly after the March 1992 offer by the HFN to host the 1994 Conference was accepted by the CNF Board.

In total we had 174 registrants at the Conference; every province and territory was represented. By all accounts, the conference was a tremendous success; some participants said it was the best they had ever attended.

The pre-Conference, early morning (during the Conference), and post-Conference field trips (13 in all) took a total of 160 people on a variety of excursions; they ranged from an early morning walk through the campus arboretum, to a four-day tour of south-west Nova Scotia. Included were a sea-kayaking adventure on the Eastern Shore, a visit to the internationally famous fossil cliffs at Joggins, whale-watching off Brier Island, and a panorama of shore birds on the Fundy Shore. The leaders were friendly and knowledgeable, the organisation excellent, and the weather cooperated magnificently.

The three days of symposia began with a full day — Thursday — which focussed on issues of national importance — Songbird Conservation, Environment and Economy Round Tables, Our Ancient Forests, Canada's National Parks, and Preservation of Endangered Species.

The next two days featured local experts speaking on many aspects of the Natural History of Nova Scotia — biodiversity; the flora, including the arctic-alpine specialities of the Cape Breton Highlands and the Coastal Plains Flora of the south-west; and the fauna, including the eagles of the Bras d'Or Lakes, the seabirds of Pearl Island, and the whales of the Bay of Fundy. We took audio-visual trips to the Annapolis River, Cape Chignecto, Brier Island, and around Nova Scotia's coastline by sea kayak! The quality of the speakers and their presentations was almost uniformly excellent; all sessions were very well attended and much enjoyed by the delegates.

The accompanying children's Young Naturalists' Program on Thursday and Friday included presentations by Karen Moors, a conservation officer with the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, on some of Nova Scotia's mammals, and by Susan Atkinson-Keen, a local geologist and author of children's books, on dinosaurs. The children also visited the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and went on an on-campus nature hike.



Social events included the traditional wine-and-cheese reception at which people were encouraged to meet Board members and staff of the Canadian Nature Federation. They were welcomed to the University by MSVU President, Dr. Elizabeth Parr-Johnston. On Friday evening, our waterfront dinner was followed by a twilight Halifax Harbour cruise aboard the "Haligonian III." At the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, our keynote speaker, well-known Maritime naturalist, author and poet, Harry Thurston, gave an illustrated presentation, "The Life and Tides of the Bay of Fundy," the title of one of his books.

Another highlight of the Conference was certainly the proclamation of the avian symbol for the Province. On Thursday, August 4, Hon. Donald Downe, Minister of Natural Resources, proclaimed the Osprey the Provincial Bird of Nova Scotia. This was the culmination of the efforts of the Nova Scotia Bird Society, the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, and the Conference Committee, who collectively had spent many years deciding on a suitable symbol, and then lobbying several government departments and the Premier's office to make the decision official. The CNF Conference proved to be the appropriate venue to make the proclamation. Thus Nova Scotia joins, at long last, eight other provinces which have provincial birds (only Newfoundland lacks one).

On Sunday morning, the HFN sponsored a complimentary farewell breakfast. After that, the Annual General Meeting of the CNF focussed on Federation business but also announced that the 24th CNF Conference would be in mid-to-late June in Whitehorse, Yukon.

In summary, the Organisers feel that the Conference was a tremendous success. We are delighted that we did it, and relieved that it's over!

Robert S. McDonald, Conference Chair

FIELD TRIPS



BRIER ISLAND PELAGIC TRIP

DATE: 11 SEPTEMBER 1994

WEATHER: SUNNY; CHILLY AT FIRST, WARMING UP

LEADER: ROY JOHN

PARTICIPANTS: 24?

During the highly successful Canadian Nature Federation Conference here in August, attempts were made to put together a pelagic trip. Some people were able to attend on Monday; others, on Tuesday. As fate would have it though, we had to cancel entirely due to the fact that we could not charter a boat for either of those days.

But — undaunted — Roy John contacted Carl Haycock of Brier Island Whale and Seabird Cruises. Carl had delivered an informative session at the Conference about his years of studies of the whales in Fundy and is a great fellow. So he agreed to take us out on a special cruise, provided we could recruit enough people to fill his boat.

The weekend of September 11th saw birders and naturalists from all across the province head for Brier Island, including four HFN members. The day dawned sunny and brisk; it was a beautiful morning as we steamed away about 7 a.m., and warmed up comfortably as the day grew older.

Of course we took with us a bucket of chum — bits of fish and other unmentionables to lure birds (mostly) close to the boat for viewing. I think Stephanie John was the happiest person aboard the little vessel that day — the cruise meant that she would finally be delivered from the Chum Monster living in the freezer.

And chum we had! A whole garbage pail full, which Roy patiently cut up and mixed and played in. It was funny to watch people edge away from the stern of the boat, where Roy was chopping and spraying frozen squid, mackerel, bread and various other smelly things.

And so — armed with a bucketful of goop, our Chum Master lured the critters. We attracted several species of seabirds — Herring and Greater Black-backed Gulls (*Larus argentatus*, *L. marinus*) (of course!!), Manx, Sooty, Greater Shearwaters (*Puffinus puffinus*, *P. griseus*, *P. gravis*), Northern Gannets (*Sula bassana*), a couple of Razorbills (*Alca torda*), and a Puffin or three (*Fratercula arctica*).

We passed by a number of Rednecked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) in winter plumage and much discussion ensued as to their identity. The experienced birders on the boat were a great help and had lots of information to share.

Unfortunately whales were practically nonexistent that day. We did see the blow from a Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*) off in the distance, and had one Minke Whale (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*) travel along with the vessel about 100 yards out, but that was it. Carl explained that the northerly storm that had blown through recently had persuaded the whales to head south for a few days. My friend was down at Brier Island the next week and saw several species of whales, so I guess we were just out of luck.

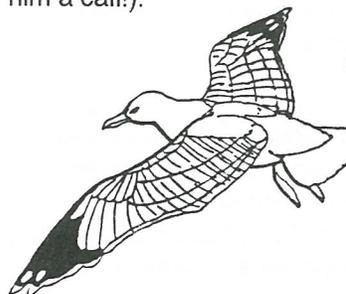
During the trip, the wind came up and the water got quite choppy. It was comical to watch the shearwaters fly through the wave crests, and I could actually hear the slapping sounds of their feet as they ran along the surface during take-off.

Our cruise lasted about six hours, and as we were heading back, we came across a flock of shearwaters following a school of tuna that were chasing a shoal of herring. It was a marvellous example of species interaction.

Carl's crew was great — Harold Graham and Shelley Barnaby added to our pleasure with their superb abilities. And although the temperature dropped around lunch-time, we all enjoyed ourselves a great deal.

It was my first trip to Brier Island, and very rewarding; I added two "lifers" to my bird list, and proved to myself that I do not need Gravol to enjoy a cruise without getting sea-sick, even if I do hang out near the chum barrel!

(By the way, I have seen Roy chum on three occasions now, and I do recommend his style! If you are ever in need of a chummer extraordinaire — give him a call!).



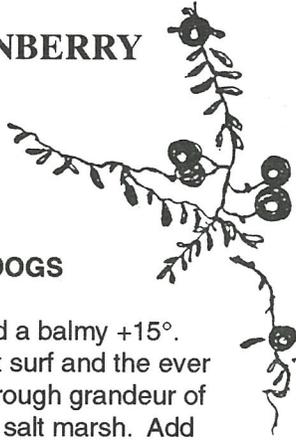
Cathy Fulton-Strugnell

CLAM HARBOUR CRANBERRY WALK

DATE: 30 OCTOBER 1994
WEATHER: SUNNY AND WARM
LEADER: BERNICE MOORES
PARTICIPANTS: 26 PEOPLE, 3 DOGS

Take a beautiful day, sunny, and a balmy +15°. Add the background roar of a 3-foot surf and the ever present brisk sea breeze. Add the rough grandeur of Eastern Shore beach, barrens, and salt marsh. Add the occasional migrant-bird sighting. An abundance of rich, ripe cranberries, and the scattered forms of happy berry pickers, like bears in a blueberry patch, complete this idyllic picture.

The annual Clam Harbour Cranberry Walk led by Bernice Moores was a great success. 26 berry pickers, including 4 junior pickers, as well as 3 dogs, joined in the day of exploring the Clam Harbour shore and collecting a mother lode of cranberries.



With several knowledgeable birders along you'd expect a few bird sightings. They included: 1 Bald Eagle (a 3-year-old?) (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*); a White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*); a Sharp Shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*); a Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*); a Boreal Chickadee (*Parus hudsonicus*); and flocks of Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) and Sanderlings (*Calidris alba*). Add several Black-bellied Plovers (*Pluvialis squatarola*); Yellowlegs (*Tringa* species); 1 Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macrura*); and 3 Ring-necked Pheasants cocks (*Phasianus colchicus*), getting to and from the beach.

It was a great day. Thanks, Bernice. We look forward to next year.

Peter Webster



NATURAL HISTORY

THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY AT THE CANADIAN MUSEUM OF NATURE



If you happen to visit Ottawa, I highly recommend a visit to the Canadian Museum of Nature. They have a remarkable display about the Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). Don't let the fact that it is in the Children's area turn you off - it is a very in-depth and informative display.

The display is the hands-on type, with knobs to turn for answers and lights lighting up to emphasise facts. But I think the most spectacular part is the glass cabinet with live specimens at all stages of the butterfly's life cycle. My adult son marvelled at seeing a caterpillar forming its pupa while he watched.

We also saw Monarchs emerging from their chrysalids. On arrival, I noticed some of what I thought were not too healthy adult Monarchs with crumpled wings, lying on the bottom. On returning to the display a while later, I saw that their wings had dried off and smoothed out to show their spectacular beauty. It is amazing that this small marvel of nature migrates to one place in the world, a mountain in Mexico.

If you are in the nation's capital, this is certainly a most fascinating and informative exhibit and well worth a visit. In fact, we spent so much time there, we only had a chance for a bird's eye view of the rest of the museum.



Shirley van Nostrand

ALMANAC

This almanac is for the dates of events which are not found in our 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.

"A heavy storm of rain, succeeded by a sudden shift in the wind to the north-west, brings winter upon us in an instant: the lakes are covered with ice, the swamps congealed into a solid mass, and the ground frozen as hard as adamant. When the wind relaxes, snow succeeds, until the earth is covered with it to a great depth."

Thomas Chandler Haliburton: "The Seasons" in
The Old Judge or Life in a Colony (1849).

NATURAL EVENTS:

Dec. - Feb.	White-tailed Deer shed their antlers
22 Dec.	Winter Solstice: winter begins
24/25 Dec.	annual nocturnal migration around the world by Arctic Reindeer
3-4 Jan.	Quadrantid meteor shower: rate is 40-100 per hour
18-22 Jan.	Mercury visible in the west after sunset
mid-Feb	Chickadees begin their spring song: "sweet spring" or "phoebe"
late Feb.	Bald Eagles begin to leave their winter grounds in King's Co., to return to summer nesting grounds in Cape Breton
6 March	the first successful introduction of the European Starling to North America took place on this day in New York City in 1890
early March	Great Horned Owls begin laying eggs
mid-March/April	sap starts running in the Sugar Maples
mid-late March	Blue Jays start nesting; they lay eggs in early April
mid-March/mid-April	rafts of thousands of Common Eider seen off our coasts
20 March	Spring Equinox: Spring begins
last week March	first tentative peeps of awakening Northern Spring Peepers heard in Halifax County
last week March	Skunk Cabbage in bloom
last week March	Crocuses bloom in sheltered gardens
22 March	return of migrant Robins (some have wintered here)
23 March	Killdeer return
late March	Pussywillows appear
late March	Crows start nesting; they lay eggs in later April
late March/early April	Woodchucks (aka groundhogs) emerge from hibernation
27 March	Fox Sparrows appear, "a common transient sight in Spring"
2 April	Daylight Savings Time begins: turn clocks ahead one hour
5 April	Piping Plover returns
first week April	Coltsfoot comes into bloom

Sources: Blomidon Naturalists Society, A Natural History of King's County, 1992; Sue Brown, Frogwatch '94; Colombo's Canadian Global Almanac, 1995; Gibson's Winter Nature Notes for Nova Scotians, 1980; Tufts' Birds of Nova Scotia, 1986; the personal observations of Jim Wolford, Gordon Yeadon, and the compiler.

Sunrise and Sunset on late Autumn and Winter Saturdays:

3 Dec.	7:33	16:35	7 Jan.	7:51	16:50
10 Dec.	7:40	16:34	14 Jan.	7:49	16:58
17 Dec.	7:46	16:35	21 Jan.	7:44	17:07
24 Dec.	7:50	16:38	28 Jan.	7:38	17:17
31 Dec.	7:51	16:43			
4 Feb.	7:30	17:27	4 Mar.	6:47	18:06
11 Feb.	7:21	17:37	11 Mar.	6:35	18:15
18 Feb.	7:11	17:47	18 Mar.	6:22	18:24
25 Feb.	6:59	17:56	25 Mar.	6:09	18:33

courtesy of David Lane, Burke-Gaffney Observatory, St. Mary's University

ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS:

Blomidon Field Naturalists: Meets third Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m., usually in Room 244 Beveridge, Acadia U.

- 17 Jan. Bird migration local and regional - Richard Stern
- 22 Jan. Winter Walk/Ski to North Mountain call Larry Bogan 678-0446
- late Jan.? Watch for announcements about the Eagle Watch at Sheffield Mills, King's Co. in late January or early February
- 20 Feb. Show and Tell by Members - bring slides or collections. This meeting is in Patterson Hall, Room 308

Friends of McNab's Island Society:

Plans to hold a number of ski and snowshoe trips to the Island: no dates have been set yet. For more info. call Dusan Soudek at 422-1045.

Nova Scotia Bird Society: Meets fourth Thursday of the month, 8 p.m., at the N. S. Museum.

- 14 Jan. Sewer Stroll I with Fulton Lavendar (477-7808). Meets at Hartlen's Point at 8:00 a.m.
- 26 Jan. Members' Slide Night
- 11 Feb. Sewer Stroll II with Fulton Lavendar (477-7808). Meets at Hartlen's Point at 8:00 a.m.

Phone the N.S.B.S. Bird Information Line at 852-CHAT (i.e. 2428) to hear news of what birds are around, province-wide, and any other Society news of note - field trips, meetings, etc. This line is usually updated at least twice a week.

Wild Flora Society: Meets fourth Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the N.S. Museum.

- 23 Jan. Natural History of Brier Island, by Marion Zinck
- 27 Feb. Members' Slide Night
- 27 March Annual General Meeting

And a final note on the hunting seasons:

The Black Bear season is from 15 Sept. to 27 Oct., and from then through the bow-hunters' deer season (24 Sept. - 15 Oct.), the Ring-necked Pheasant season (1 Oct.-15 Dec.), the Ruffed Grouse and other small game season (1 Oct.-31 Dec.), the Duck and Geese season (8 Oct. - 31 Dec.), the regular Deer season (28 Oct.-3 Dec.), and the Rabbit season (5 Dec. - 15 Feb.), there are hunters abroad: **Remember, it's hunting season, so dress to be seen in the woods!**

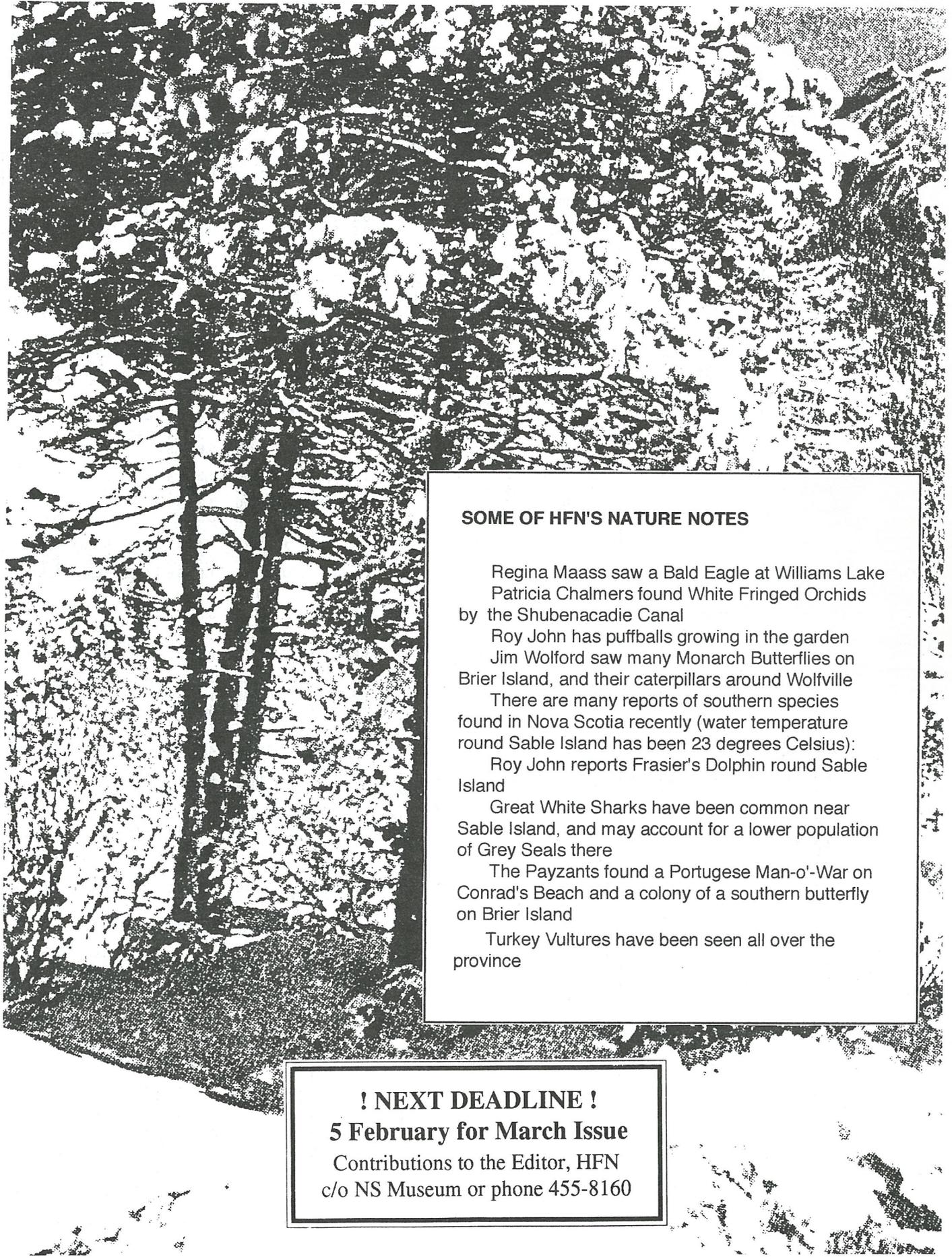
Patricia L. Chalmers

January-janvier

February-février

March-mars

Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m	Jour	Heure	H./pi	H./m	Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m	Jour	Heure	H./pi	H./m	Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m	Jour	Heure	H./pi	H./m
1	0140	1.1	0.3	16	0130	1.7	0.5	1	0305	0.9	0.3	16	0225	1.2	0.4	1	0205	0.8	0.2	16	0120	1.1	0.3
SU	0725	6.8	2.1	MO	0735	6.0	1.8	1	0850	6.7	2.0	16	0825	6.1	1.9	16	0750	6.4	2.0	16	0720	5.9	1.8
DI	1415	0.0	0.0	LU	1400	0.8	0.2	WE	1535	0.2	0.1	TH	1450	0.6	0.2	WE	1430	0.3	0.1	TH	1340	0.7	0.2
	2010	6.2	1.9	LU	2010	5.6	1.7	ME	2125	6.4	2.0	JE	2055	6.2	1.9	ME	2020	6.4	2.0	JE	1945	6.2	1.9
2	0230	1.0	0.3	17	0205	1.6	0.5	2	0355	1.0	0.3	17	0305	1.1	0.3	2	0250	0.8	0.2	17	0205	0.9	0.3
MO	0815	6.8	2.1	MO	0815	6.0	1.8	2	0935	6.5	2.0	17	0905	6.1	1.9	2	0835	6.4	2.0	17	0805	6.1	1.9
LU	1505	-0.1	0.0	TU	1435	0.8	0.2	TH	1620	0.4	0.1	FR	1530	0.6	0.2	TH	1510	0.4	0.1	FR	1425	0.6	0.2
	2100	6.4	2.0	MA	2045	5.8	1.8	JE	2205	6.4	2.0	VE	2135	6.3	1.9	JE	2100	6.4	2.0	VE	2025	6.4	2.0
3	0325	1.1	0.3	18	0245	1.5	0.5	3	0440	1.2	0.4	18	0350	1.1	0.3	3	0330	0.8	0.2	18	0250	0.7	0.2
TU	0905	6.7	2.0	MO	0850	6.1	1.9	3	1020	6.3	1.9	18	0945	6.1	1.9	3	0915	6.3	1.9	18	0845	6.1	1.9
MA	1555	0.1	0.0	WE	1510	0.7	0.2	FR	1705	0.8	0.2	SA	1610	0.7	0.2	FR	1550	0.7	0.2	SA	1505	0.6	0.2
	2145	6.4	2.0	ME	2125	5.9	1.8	VE	2245	6.2	1.9	SA	2215	6.3	1.9	VE	2135	6.3	1.9	SA	2110	6.5	2.0
4	0415	1.2	0.4	19	0325	1.5	0.5	4	0530	1.3	0.4	19	0440	1.2	0.4	4	0410	0.9	0.3	19	0340	0.6	0.2
WE	0955	6.6	2.0	MO	0925	6.0	1.8	4	1105	6.0	1.8	19	1030	5.9	1.8	4	0955	6.1	1.9	19	0930	6.1	1.9
ME	1645	0.3	0.1	TH	1550	0.8	0.2	SA	1745	1.1	0.3	SU	1700	0.9	0.3	SA	1625	1.0	0.3	SU	1555	0.7	0.2
	2235	6.4	2.0	JE	2200	6.0	1.8	SA	2325	5.9	1.8	DI	2255	6.2	1.9	SA	2215	6.1	1.9	DI	2150	6.4	2.0
5	0515	1.4	0.4	20	0410	1.6	0.5	5	0620	1.5	0.5	20	0540	1.3	0.4	5	0450	1.0	0.3	20	0430	0.7	0.2
TH	1045	6.3	1.9	MO	1005	6.0	1.8	5	1150	5.6	1.7	20	1115	5.7	1.7	5	1035	5.8	1.8	20	1015	6.0	1.8
JE	1735	0.7	0.2	FR	1630	0.9	0.3	SU	1830	1.5	0.5	MO	1755	1.2	0.4	SU	1705	1.3	0.4	MO	1645	1.0	0.3
	2320	6.2	1.9	VE	2240	6.1	1.9	DI				LU	2340	6.0	1.8	DI	2250	5.8	1.8	LU	2235	6.3	1.9
6	0610	1.5	0.5	21	0500	1.7	0.5	6	0010	5.7	1.7	21	0645	1.4	0.4	6	0530	1.2	0.4	21	0525	0.8	0.2
FR	1130	5.9	1.8	MO	1045	5.8	1.8	6	0710	1.6	0.5	21	1205	5.4	1.6	6	1120	5.5	1.7	21	1105	5.7	1.7
VE	1830	1.0	0.3	SA	1715	1.1	0.3	MO	1235	5.2	1.6	TU	1855	1.5	0.5	MO	1740	1.7	0.5	TU	1745	1.3	0.4
				SA	2320	6.0	1.8	LU	1920	1.8	0.5	MA				LU	2330	5.5	1.7	MA	2320	6.0	1.8
7	0005	6.0	1.8	22	0555	1.7	0.5	7	0055	5.4	1.6	22	0030	5.8	1.8	7	0610	1.4	0.4	22	0630	0.9	0.3
SA	0705	1.6	0.5	22	1130	5.6	1.7	7	0800	1.7	0.5	22	0750	1.4	0.4	7	1200	5.2	1.6	22	1155	5.5	1.7
SA	1220	5.6	1.7	SU	1810	1.3	0.4	TU	1325	4.9	1.5	WE	1300	5.1	1.6	TU	1825	1.9	0.6	WE	1855	1.6	0.5
SA	1915	1.4	0.4	DI				MA	2005	2.1	0.6	ME	2005	1.7	0.5	MA				ME			
8	0050	5.7	1.7	23	0005	6.0	1.8	8	0145	5.1	1.6	23	0130	5.6	1.7	8	0010	5.3	1.6	23	0015	5.7	1.7
MO	0800	1.7	0.5	MO	0700	1.8	0.5	8	0850	1.8	0.5	23	0855	1.3	0.4	8	0700	1.6	0.5	23	0735	1.0	0.3
SU	1310	5.2	1.6	MO	1220	5.4	1.6	WE	1425	4.6	1.4	TH	1415	4.9	1.5	WE	1245	4.9	1.5	TH	1255	5.2	1.6
DI	2005	1.7	0.5	LU	1910	1.5	0.5	ME	2055	2.2	0.7	JE	2115	1.8	0.5	ME	1915	2.2	0.7	JE	2005	1.7	0.5
9	0140	5.5	1.7	24	0055	5.8	1.8	9	0245	5.0	1.5	24	0240	5.4	1.6	9	0055	5.0	1.5	24	0115	5.4	1.6
MO	0850	1.7	0.5	MO	0805	1.7	0.5	9	0945	1.8	0.5	24	1000	1.2	0.4	9	0755	1.7	0.5	24	0840	1.0	0.3
LU	1410	4.9	1.5	TU	1315	5.1	1.6	TH	1530	4.6	1.4	FR	1540	4.9	1.5	TH	1335	4.7	1.4	FR	1405	5.0	1.5
	2055	2.0	0.6	MA	2010	1.6	0.5	JE	2150	2.3	0.7	VE	2225	1.7	0.5	JE	2010	2.3	0.7	VE	2110	1.8	0.5
10	0235	5.4	1.6	25	0150	5.7	1.7	10	0350	5.0	1.5	25	0400	5.5	1.7	10	0150	4.8	1.5	25	0225	5.2	1.6
TU	0940	1.7	0.5	MO	0910	1.5	0.5	10	1035	1.7	0.5	25	1105	0.9	0.3	10	0850	1.8	0.5	25	0945	1.0	0.3
MA	1515	4.8	1.5	WE	1425	4.9	1.5	FR	1640	4.6	1.4	SA	1700	5.2	1.6	FR	1440	4.5	1.4	SA	1530	5.0	1.5
	2145	2.1	0.6	ME	2120	1.7	0.5	VE	2245	2.2	0.7	SA	2325	1.5	0.5	VE	2110	2.3	0.7	SA	2215	1.7	0.5
11	0335	5.3	1.6	26	0300	5.7	1.7	11	0450	5.2	1.6	26	0515	5.8	1.8	11	0300	4.8	1.5	26	0350	5.2	1.6
WE	1035	1.6	0.5	MO	1015	1.3	0.4	11	1130	1.5	0.5	26	1205	0.7	0.2	11	0945	1.7	0.5	26	1045	0.9	0.3
ME	1620	4.8	1.5	TH	1550	5.0	1.5	SA	1735	4.9	1.5	SU	1805	5.5	1.7	SA	1555	4.6	1.4	SU	1650	5.3	1.6
	2240	2.2	0.7	JE	2230	1.7	0.5	SA	2335	2.0	0.6	DI			SA	2205	2.2	0.7	DI	2315	1.5	0.5	
12	0430	5.4	1.6	27	0415	5.9	1.8	12	0545	5.4	1.6	27	0025	1.3	0.4	12	0410	4.9	1.5	27	0505	5.4	1.6
TH	1125	1.5	0.5	MO	1120	1.0	0.3	12	1215	1.3	0.4	27	0615	6.1	1.9	12	1040	1.6	0.5	27	1140	0.8	0.2
JE	1720	4.9	1.5	FR	1705	5.2	1.6	SU	1820	5.1	1.6	27	1255	0.4	0.1	SU	1655	4.8	1.5	MO	1745	5.6	1.7
	2330	2.1	0.6	VE	2335	1.5	0.5	DI			27	1855	5.9	1.8	DI	2300	2.0	0.6	LU				
13	0525	5.5	1.7	28	0520	6.1	1.9	13	0020	1.8	0.5	28	0115	1.0	0.3	13	0510	5.1	1.6	28	0015	1.2	0.4
FR	1210	1.3	0.4	MO	1220	0.6	0.2	13	0630	5.7	1.7	28	0705	6.3	1.9	13	1130	1.4	0.4	28	0600	5.7	1.7
VE	1810	5.1	1.6	SA	1810	5.6	1.7	MO	1255	1.1	0.3	28	1345	0.3	0.1	MO	1745	5.2	1.6	TU	1235	0.7	0.2
				SA				LU	1905	5.4	1.6	MA	1935	6.2	1.9	LU	2350	1.7	0.5	MA	1830	6.0	1.8
14	0015	2.0	0.6	29	0035	1.3	0.4	14	0105	1.6	0.5	29	0555	5.4	1.6	14	0015	2.0	0.6	29	0105	0.9	0.3
SA	0610	5.7	1.7	MO	0620	6.4	2.0	14	0710	5.9	1.8	29	1215	1.2	0.4	14	1215	1.2	0.4	29	0650	5.9	1.8
SA	1250	1.1	0.3	SU	1315	0.3	0.1	TU	1335	0.9	0.3	29	1830	5.5	1.7	TU	1830	5.5	1.7	WE	1320	0.6	0.2
SA	1850	5.2	1.6	DI	1905	5.9	1.8</																



SOME OF HFN'S NATURE NOTES

Regina Maass saw a Bald Eagle at Williams Lake
Patricia Chalmers found White Fringed Orchids
by the Shubenacadie Canal

Roy John has puffballs growing in the garden

Jim Wolford saw many Monarch Butterflies on
Brier Island, and their caterpillars around Wolfville

There are many reports of southern species
found in Nova Scotia recently (water temperature
round Sable Island has been 23 degrees Celsius):

Roy John reports Frasier's Dolphin round Sable
Island

Great White Sharks have been common near
Sable Island, and may account for a lower population
of Grey Seals there

The Payzants found a Portugese Man-o'-War on
Conrad's Beach and a colony of a southern butterfly
on Brier Island

Turkey Vultures have been seen all over the
province

! NEXT DEADLINE !

5 February for March Issue

Contributions to the Editor, HFN
c/o NS Museum or phone 455-8160