

## HFN Programme Report

### Talks

The last 12 months saw us have a wide scope of talk topics (10 in total), these topics were: Fossils, Rocks and Evolution, with Rob Fensome, Maritime Walruses with Brenna Frasier, Carbon Run with Eddie Halfyard, Orchid and Fungi Relationships with John Crabtree, Pollinators with Emily McLean, Island Lake and Ingram River with Mike Lancaster, Nature Good News with Clarence Stevens, Leach's Storm Petrels with Rielle Hoeg, Tree Identification with Peter Duinker, and rounding out with the March AGM and the wonderful photos (in sequence) that Richard Beazley, Keith Vaughan and Lesley-Jane Butters provided.

The variety of topics seemed to fit most member's interest and judging by the length and depth of the Q & A sessions the talks were a success. The presenters themselves were so knowledgeable and comfortable in their talks that they easily held everyone's attention. Our attendance (ZOOM included) was back to pre-covid on most nights; however, we were down a handful of people from last year.

### Field Trips

There were 16 walks or field trips and outings during this period, 3 public displays included: A listing of the field trips is: Halifax Planetarium with Stephen Payne, Earth Day 2024 was self-led with 4 parties detailing their results, Harriet R. Irving Garden with Samuel Jean, Miners Marsh again was self-led, Burntcoat Head park with husband and wife team Andrew Hebda and Gwyneth Jones, Caribou Bog Walk with Sean Haughian, Upper Stewiacke River Canoe Run with Gareth Harding, Clam Harbour Coastal Access Trail with Charlie Cron, Mushroom Walk with Clarence Stevens Jr, French Village Walk with Jesse Lewis, Annual Winter Bird Walk with Clarence Stevens Sr., HFN/HRM Bird Walk with Fulton Lavender, and HRM Dartmouth Greenhouse with Jill Burke and Denise Watters. The 3 HFN public displays held were, one each at both the Keshen Goodman Library and the Central Library, and a third at the Cole Harbour Parks and Trails Open House (CHPTA) the latter was to support CHPTA and hopefully increase our membership.

Currently there 3 members on the Programme Committee, Janet Dalton, Clarence Stevens Jr. and myself, times past I believe there were as many as 6 on the committee, it would be nice if we had that kind of interest and commitment again. We do thank those who willingly presented the talks and led our walks/field trips, these leaders and presenters are so critical to the society. A final word: we encourage everyone please keep coming forward with suggestions for the field trips and talks that get scheduled.

Bernie McKenna  
Programme Committee Chair