

# ***Blomidon Naturalists Society Newsletter***

Spring 1995 --  
Volume 22, No. 1



## **Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists 1995 Annual Meeting June 2, 3, 4**

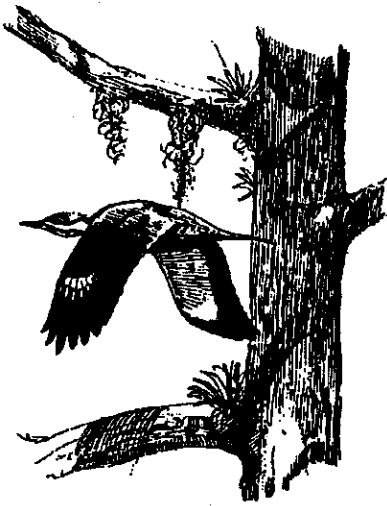
**Host:** Blomidon Naturalists Society, Wolfville, N.S.

**Theme:** *Nature's Ark - Who's at the Helm?*

On the first weekend of June, naturalists from across Nova Scotia will gather in Wolfville to share a weekend of talks by prominent artists, naturalists and conservationists; numerous field trips; a country banquet; a barbecue and more. As hosts of the sixth annual FNSN meeting (we also hosted the inaugural meeting in 1990) we hope that many BNS members will attend. Enclosed with this Newsletter is a detailed program and a registration form. We encourage you to register early (before May 10) to assure your participation in the events that are of most interest to you. Hope to see you there!

### **Request for Volunteers**

As hosts of the 1995 Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists Annual Meeting, we require volunteers to assist with registration, general logistics, field trips, etc. If you wish to volunteer, please contact **George Alliston** at **542-3651**. Your assistance will be most appreciated.



## NOTES on this NEWSLETTER:

This issue is smaller than usual in order to get it to you early enough to announce our Spring Programme and include with it your registration material for the FNSN Annual Meeting.

The Summer issue will contain the second part of the collection of articles on the Black River System.

The deadline for that issue is May 19, 1995. ----- Larry Bogan

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## Spring 1995 Programme

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### Monday Evening Meetings

Meetings are on the third Monday of the month and start at 7:30 p.m., at Acadia University. This spring we will be using Room 244 in the Beveridge Arts Centre. (Note: for the May and June meetings, the Highland Avenue entrance to the Beveridge Arts Centre is usually locked in the evening so use the Acadia Street entrance.) All meetings are open to the public and BNS members are encouraged to bring friends and neighbours. Any changes in place, time or subject are announced on posters, Kings Kable Notice Board and The Kentville Advertiser and The Hants Journal.

**April 17 "Reflections on Natural History"** by Harry Brennan and Ross Baker - We are especially fortunate to have two long-time amateur naturalists, give us a joint presentation.

**May 15 "Tides of Fundy"** by David DeWolfe - David will explain why we have such large tides in the Bay. He will show how important the sea level is and what it would be like if it were lower.

**June 19 "Dragonflies"** by Tom Herman and Paul Brunette. This will be a fascinating presentation with wonderful pictures given by two experts in the field. Keep an eye out for the supporting field trip on July 8.

**There are no evening meetings in July and August**

A map of the Acadia University campus is include at the end of the Newsletter for those not familiar with the campus.

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## Field Trips

Unless otherwise noted, meet at the Robie Tufts Nature Centre on Front Street in Wolfville at the time indicated. Leaders' telephone numbers are included to allow participants to confirm trips in case of uncertain conditions. Everyone, BNS members or not, is welcome on all field trips.

**21 April (Friday) "95 Frog Walk"** lead by Jeff Frankin. Explore the old Wolfville reservoir for amphibians. Meet at the Nature Centre at 7:30 pm. More details at the April Evening Meeting, 542-9145

**23 April (Sunday) "Pond Hopping for Ducks and Early Migrants"** Judy Tufts will lead this joint BNS/ Nova Scotia Bird Society outing. Meet at the Nature Centre at 10:00 am. Bring a lunch. Waterproof footwear is highly recommended. Trip will go rain or shine. 542-7800

**29 April (Saturday) "Work Day for the Robie Tufts Nature Centre."** Help fix and clean up the Nature Centre and enjoy the comradery of fellow members. Meet at 9:00 am. Bring tools if you have them. contact Harold Forsyth for more information, 542-5983.

**27 May (Saturday) "Walk to CapeSplit for flowers and birds"** lead by Marian Zinck. This is an all day trip. Wear sturdy footwear; bring a lunch and your binoculars. Meet at the Nature Centre at 9:00 am or at the parking area at Cape Split at 9:30 am.

**18 June (Sunday) "Canoe Frog Lake"** lead by Larry Bogan. Frog Lake is an interesting V-shaped lake south of Cloud Lake and is included as part of a proposed protected area. (See the Cloud Lake field trip report in the Autumn 1994 Newsletter for a map) Bring a Canoe and a lunch. Meet at the Nature Centre at 8:00 am or at the intersection of Rt.1 and Commercial Street, South Berwick at 8:45 am. 678-0446

**8 July - "Dragonflies"** - Tom Herman and Paul Brunelle will lead this trip which is a follow-up of their June Evening meeting. Meet at 10:00 am at the Nature Centre. 678-0383

**15 July (Saturday) - "Parks Day"** at Blomidon Provincial Park - watch the next Newsletter for more details.

**July - McGill Lake** - A tour of a proposed protected area just over the border into Annapolis County near Albany Cross. This will be a walking trip to see an interesting wetlands and beautiful pine-oak stands. Bring your canoe if you like as there is a lake to explore. More Detail in the June Newsletter.

**12 August (Saturday) "The Shore Birds of the Minas Basin"** Meet at 11:00 am at the Nature Centre or at 11:30 am at the Tourist Bureau/Visitor Information Centre at Windsor. Bring a lunch and wear rubber boots and clothing suitable for beaches at mid-tide. Leader: Judy Tufts, 542-7800.

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## Editorial Board

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"The primary objective of the Society shall be to encourage and develop in its members an understanding and appreciation of nature. For the purpose of the Society, the word 'nature' will be interpreted broadly and shall include the rocks, plants, animals, water, air, and stars."

*from the BNS constitution*

The Blomidon Naturalists Society is a member of the Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists, an Affiliated Member of the Canadian Nature Federation and a member of the Nova Scotia Trails Federation and the Biar Island Ocean Study (BIOS).

The Blomidon Naturalists Society is a registered charity. Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued for all donations.

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## Society Business and Notices

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### **FOURTH ANNUAL NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT (N.A.M.C.)**

**Saturday 13 May 1995**

Here is a chance to enjoy the outdoors on a spring day while counting birds, and it free ... there is no charge for participation.

Have you ever wondered about spring migration patterns of birds and which northward flight path the neotropical migrants follow to their breeding grounds?

The second Saturday in May has been selected as a count day to try to find peaks of movement of the neotropical bird species. Some areas of North America will have more birds than others so the main purpose of the count is to obtain information on the abundance and distribution of each species as the spring migration progresses northward through our area.

The N.A.M.C. is like a 'Christmas Bird Count' in which many of you have participated. But, unlike the "15 mile diameter" circle of the 'CBC', this count involves the entire county (eg. Kings County, N.S.) or as much as is possible. The count is done on a single day, no matter what the weather. 'Counters' will spend the day or part of the day in a specified area counting bird species and numbers. They must also record hours and miles on foot, car, boat, and/or feeder watching.

Reports at the end of the day should be sent to the appropriate county co-ordinator for tabulation.

For more information and registration for the count, contact:

Judy Tufts (Kings Co. and N.S. Province Co-ordinator) 1-902-542-7800 PO Box 1313 Wolfville, N.S. B0P 1X0

If you would be willing to be a county co-ordinator please contact me.

In 1994, Nova Scotia had coverage in 13 of its counties. Kings County was well represented with 53 participants, 29 of which were feeder watchers, however, we still had many areas not counted. We can use your help.

## RECIPIENTS OF THE ROBIE TUFTS YOUNG NATURALISTS AWARD 1984-1994

- |      |                     |   |
|------|---------------------|---|
| 1984 | Tammy Ashley        | General interest in birds Newtonville   |
| 1985 | Paul Fairclough     | Ornithology - bird identification Coldbrook   |
| 1986 | Kasia Muldner       | Display of the feeding habits of Wolfville the Black-capped Chickadee               |
|      | Sean Timpa          | Dedicated naturalist for several Wolfville years in a number of fields              |
| 1987 | Michael Jodrey      | Herpetology - Study of snakes Hantsport   |
| 1988 | Stephen MacPhee     | Ornithology - Raised funds to Wolfville a Burrowing Owl.                            |
|      | Jelmer Wiersma      | Kept records of local birds - Bishopville especially on tree swallows.              |
| 1989 | Jason Jolly         | For work and compassion for animals. Cambridge Earnings donated to Ducks Unlimited. |
|      | Simon Onyschuk      | Project "Bugs Around My House" Kentville For enthusiasm for natural history.        |
| 1990 | Matthew Buntain     | Interests in environmental issues West Brooklyn Waste management, natural history.  |
| 1991 | First Port Williams | Scout Troop Port Williams Tree Swallow Nest Boxes.                                  |
| 1992 | Jennifer Wright     | Study of food preferences of North Alton birds at feeders.                          |
| 1993 | Charina Cameron     | Study of bees and related science Wolfville projects.                               |
| 1994 | Jonathon Ells       | Keen naturalist with a collection New Minas of rocks and shells.                    |



### Book Donations Needed

**The Town of Canning needs Natural History Books  
for its new library.**

**If you have such books that you would like to donation  
contact Meritt Gibson, 582-9569**

# Chimney For Swifts

by Roy Bishop

This spring Acadia University will be modifying the old chimney at the southwest corner of University Hall. An air intake is needed for the ventilation system in the basement level of the building, and the chimney is the only reasonable way of running an intake duct from the roof to the basement.

Tom Taylor, Director of Acadia's Physical Plant has expressed concern about Chimney Swifts. These birds have used the chimney since the furnace in University Hall was removed nearly half a century ago — and possibly earlier.

At Mr. Taylor's request, I consulted with several people who were involved with the chimney at the Robie Tufts Centre, with Sherman Boates and Gerald Dickie of the provincial Department of Natural Resources, and with Richard Elliott of the Canadian Wildlife Service. Also, Mr. Dickie and I toured the chimney site with Mr. Taylor on March 23.

The consensus is that if the chimney is partitioned, leaving the upper 7 metres or so for the Swifts, and the lower part for a duct, the needs of both the people in the basement below and the Swifts in the sky above can be accommodated. At the attic (partition) level the duct would be run out of the side of the chimney, across the attic, and up into the cupola on the *northwest* corner of

University Hall. Also, a screened vent would be installed in the bottom of the Swift's portion of the chimney so that warm air from the building will continue to drift up the top portion of the chimney as in the past. Acadia is proceeding with this plan.

As in the case of the Robie Tufts Centre, it is a good sign to see concern expressed and money committed to accommodate other living beings with whom we share this planet. How well the Swifts adapt to this change will be interesting to observe.

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## A Response to A Proposed Systems Plan for Parks and Protected Places.

On February 22, in Room 241 of the Beveridge Arts Centre, public hearings were held on the Proposed Systems Plan for Parks and Protected Areas in Nova Scotia. This proposal is aimed at protecting more natural places in the province. A very brief outline of what it has done and plans to do is:

1. Identified the natural landscapes of the Province.
2. Evaluated the landscapes for possible protection.
3. Thirty One potential candidates were identified as having outstanding and unique ecosystems or features. (#26 is the Cloud Lake area in western Kings Co.)

4. A management system for the protected areas will be developed.

5. Methods of and types of protection must be developed with legislation and cooperation from the public.

All this is to be done with public consultation.

The following text was present by Tom Herman on behalf of the Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists and its member organizations (including the Blomidon Naturalists Society). Several members of the B.N.S. helped in its assembly.

In many places, the presentation makes reference to the published paper on the Proposed System Plan. Copies of the plan are available free from any Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources office. Most members of the BNS executive and directors have copies that may be borrowed. -- L.Bogan

## FEDERATION OF NOVA SCOTIA NATURALISTS

### *A brief on the Proposed Systems Plan for Parks and Protected Areas in Nova Scotia*

Presenter: Tom Herman

Wolfville, 22 February 1995

The Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists (FNSN) is an umbrella organization representing 9 regional naturalists groups in Nova Scotia. Several of these groups have already submitted independent briefs on the systems plan. In this submission, we

will limit our comments to the process and overall plan, rather than to specific proposed areas.

We begin by applauding this initiative from the Department of Natural Resources. It is timely and much needed. Any points of criticism that follow are intended to be constructive. In no way do we wish to detract from or diminish the importance of this document.

We recognize the limitations inherent in the approach of selecting candidate sites. The document stresses the importance of representivity. While an increase from 6 to 26 protected landscape types is a quantum leap forward, 51 recognized landscape types will remain unprotected. The concept of representivity is flawed if only Crown land is considered, since it is politically rather than ecologically based. This point is ironically brought home when the document describes Cape Split as an outstanding natural phenomenon to be protected (p. 7). Since Cape Split is privately owned, it falls outside the criteria for selecting candidate natural areas. Crown land is not a random subset of land in the province; therefore candidate areas are picked from largely unproductive (and unsettled, undeveloped) areas. As a result, for instance, coastal areas are under-represented.

The total exclusion of marine ecosystems is not unique to this plan, but rather underlines a systemic bias and shortfall of protected area plans for all coastal Canada. We cannot continue to avoid confronting this



issue, as jurisdictionally sticky as it might be. The vision *must* include marine areas.

In Phase 1, the analysis was limited to parcels larger than 200 ha. This excludes long, linear habitats, such as riparian zones, and highly fragmented habitats. For instance, a 20 km stretch of 100 m wide intervale habitat along a small river would simply not have been considered for designation! Such corridors may become even more important under a regime of increasingly fragmenting landscapes and changing climate.

Ideally, a system approach would consider the entire province, rather than excluding 70% of it. This problem of exclusion is not trivial. It raises two issues that are not adequately addressed in the document: i) the need for integration of working landscapes (*i.e.* landscapes that we modify for our own use) into the plan, and ii) the need to consider more carefully integrated land use management approaches within Crown lands.

The preservation of biodiversity is central to the plan, but consideration of working landscapes is absent. As most biodiversity exists, and probably always will exist, outside protected areas, it is ineffectual to design any biodiversity conservation scheme that does not fully integrate working landscapes.

Promotion of protected areas for wilderness travel has a high profile in the plan. As "wilderness travel opportunities" (p. 7, 18-19) loom

large on the economic agenda of other provincial ministries, it is essential that such terms be clearly defined. Wilderness concepts vary tremendously among different groups of outdoor enthusiasts; even within the naturalist community itself, the sense of wilderness is highly individualistic. Co-ordination and control of ecotourism will require integration of land use planning in and adjacent to protected areas. The related issue of "accessibility" in protected areas, although contentious among potential user groups, must also be addressed more thoroughly.

A call for more integrated land use management *within* Crown lands may also be appropriate. It would make the province accountable for its actions, past and present. In fact this document may be a starting point to deal with what some consider to be a crisis of mismanagement on Crown land. However, such an approach should be made with caution. Terms such as "sustainable use of the province's natural resource base" (p. 1) must be clearly defined.

Expropriation of private land is offered as a possible tool to implement the plan for particularly unusual or special features or habitats. We would support judicious use of expropriation, but only as one of a number of tools for effecting conservation of Nova Scotia's landscapes. However, it might be more publicly palatable if it were accompanied by judicious revision of existing mineral and forestry agreements on Crown land, when *they* compromise the

integrity of important landscapes.

The interim management policies applied to candidate protected areas, as outlined in *Management Standards for Protected Areas* (p. 15), deserve pointed comment:

◆ *Minerals* - Policy #2 would appear to be a recipe for disaster; #4 seems ambiguous; #5 seems to imply that *new* mineral developments are possible in protected areas; #7 is laudable, but protected areas with existing mineral claims will *not* by definition be protected until claims run out.

◆ *Energy* - Policies #2 and #3, excluding hydro development and transmission corridors, are commendable.

◆ *Forestry* - Policy #2 seems well-reasoned and pragmatic; would it not be an appropriate approach for dealing with mineral conflicts as well? Policy #3 is highly commendable and long overdue (but it is essential that determination of allowable annual cuts be approached conservatively).

◆ *Wildlife* - We acknowledge the importance of recognizing traditional sustainable hunting, fishing and trapping, but if they are allowed, we would strongly urge that use of all-terrain vehicles be excluded from all candidate protected areas.

◆ *Recreation* - The "low impact" in policy #1 requires definition; policy #2 is essential.

◆ *Leases and Licenses* - It would be useful to describe the activities included here.

◆ The section *Old Forests of Spe-*

*cial Value* (p. 16) raises some important points. Does the figure "less than 1 per cent... forests are over 100 years of age" include all forest types, or were "unproductive" sites excluded from the analysis? This could be misleading. The importance of education in fostering responsible use and encouraging stewardship, and developing value systems cannot be overstated. We applaud all points made in *An Old Forest Strategy for Nova Scotia*, particularly #5, in relation to encouraging private landowners to consider values of old forests.

The statement made in *Species at Risk* (p. 17) that "Scientists estimate that, by the year 2000, half of the earth's terrestrial species will have disappeared" is simply not true. It is essential with this issue to be accurate; to be alarmist is self-defeating.

Under *Proposed Future Actions and Priorities* (p. 18), a number of important initiatives are described:

◆ *Representation and Gaps* - DNR stewardship initiatives, particularly in relation to wetlands, should be recognized and applauded. The concept of *ecological integrity* varies so much with author that it should probably be defined whenever it is used. Similarly, the term "protection-oriented values", used frequently in the Interim Management Policies, requires clarification.

◆ *Natural Areas Legislation* - This section should also include the Wildlife Act and Conservation Easement Act.

◆ *Science and Management of Pro-*

*tected Areas* - The role for science in protected areas and the importance of protected areas for research and monitoring require further elaboration. Protected areas can and must serve as benchmarks for monitoring environmental change, as well as providing ecosystems with opportunities for accommodating environmental change. We feel it is urgent to establish a scientific advisory committee, as suggested.

♦ *Wilderness Recreation and Ecotourism* - This section needs elaboration. We must be monitoring the impact of these activities, since we are charting new ground; there are few good relevant data sets from elsewhere on which to draw. If we want to be world leaders in ecotourism, we must also be world leaders in developing sustainability models for it.

♦ *Protected Areas and Integrated Resource Management* - The first paragraph needs expanding; its intentions are not clear.

♦ *Partnerships and Cooperation* - The goals outlined here should be more easily realized if a Round Table model for implementing and managing the Systems Plan is put in place. We also applaud the establishment of a protected areas working group.

The summary of goal, objectives and principles in *A Protected Areas Vision for Nova Scotia* (p. 20) is essential to the plan, and requires careful thought and wording.

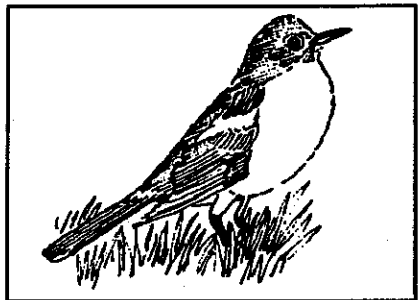
Is the Goal really to "enhance the quality of the environment"? We suggest that a more careful wording

be considered.

♦ In Objective #3, what does "managed at a high standard of environmental integrity" actually mean? In Objective #4, we would suggest that "but secondary to" be inserted before "protection objectives".

♦ Under the principle of *Viability*, is it really desirable to "sustain...incompatible uses"? The principle of *Permanence*, as worded, is dangerously ambiguous and requires further elaboration. Under *Planning*, "balance" implies equality of protection and use. This could also be a dangerous concept. We are pleased to see *replication, research and stewardship* as major principles.

In conclusion, we applaud and support both the initiative and the vision of the Systems Plan. It represents a major breakthrough in approach to effect protection of our Nova Scotian landscapes. The Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists extends an offer of its varied and considerable human resources, when required, to help make the Plan a reality.



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## Field Trip Reports

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### WINTER WALK

- FEB 25, 1995

by Larry Bogan  
Cambridge Station

This winter was not a good one for winter outings. On the previous Thursday, I had previewed this walk in beautiful snow. That day I had enjoyed listening to two White-winged crossbills singing melodically at the top of spruce trees. There had also been abundant tracks in the snow (rabbit, squirrel, mouse, and grouse). On Friday, it turned warm and rainy, and most of the snow in the valley disappeared. Snow 15 cm deep made for difficult walking - some used snowshoes

On the day of this trip, however, the snow averaged 15 cm deep on the north mountain. The area gets heavier snow falls than the Valley due frequent flurries blowing in off of the Bay of Fundy. The depth of snow was enough to make walking awkward and some of us used snowshoes. There were snow flurries at the start of the walk but it changed into a nice, sunny day, at -4 or -5 C.

The location of the walk was a woodlot on the brow of the mountain north of Woodville. (Hiltz road) It is covered with a mixture of birch, beech, maple, ash, spruce, fir, and pine. A maze of woods road wind through the area that could provide routes for all sorts of exploring.

Unfortunately, we had time to follow only one route.

We saw few animal tracks - a couple of red squirrel and one grouse tracks. The crossbills were present but they flew over and did not settle near us. There was a heavy cone crop on the spruce trees to attract them but brisk winds kept probably discourage them from singing.

Birds were sparse but we did see chickadees (Boreal and Black Capped), Golden-crowned Kinglets and nuthatches. A flock of about 50 crows were circling and calling in the area. It was reminiscent of the activity near the municipal land fill and we were curious why they would be here. But shortly, they slowly paired off and dispersed in various directions.

Our path had taken us from the Hiltz road to the brow of the north mountain and back. A pleasant but uneventful winter walk in a new area.



## Sky Observation

### Session:

March 3, 1995.

Larry Bogan

The sky was clear and sharp but it was very cold (below -10 C) this evening. Roy Bishop, Larry Bogan and Sherman William showed and described the sky to a small group of hardy observers.

This evening there was a beautiful, two-day-old, thin, crescent Moon hanging low in the western sky. It's dark side could be clearly be seen by the reflected sunlight from the Earth (Earth shine). Mars was a month past its opposition with the Sun but we could still clearly see its bright, north polar cap and dark, Syrtis Major region in Roy's 4 inch telescope.

Orion was the dominant constellation and along with it, the Great Orion Nebula below Orion's belt. This nebula could be seen in Sherman's 10 inch telescope with its intricate, ghostly structure of grays and pinks.

What delighted some observers was to discover, that many of these distant objects were easily seen in a pair of binocular, once you knew where to look.

Before we got too chilled, we looked at the Andromeda Galaxy, the Double Cluster in Perseus, the double galaxies in Ursa Major (the Big Bear), and others. But I must admit, most of us were very chilled by the time the session was over and I was looking forward to my seat by the wood stove.

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## Natural History Reports

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The following is reprinted from the Halifax Chronicle Herald, February 18, 1995 -- L.D.B.

### **RAPTOR REHAB CENTRE DEVOTED TO INJURED BIRDS OF PREY**

By Linda Mason

South Shore Bureau

Elaine Kew keeps her freezer stocked with road kill; but it's not because she wants to add some

speciality item to her weekly menu.

"My sons and their friend are always bringing home anything they find dead on the highway," says Canadian wildlife artist and naturalist Kew. "They know I can use the specimens when I'm painting as well as for teaching."

The mother of four sons, Kew has had a long-time love affair with nature and the wilderness.

"When I was growing up, our family lived in a number of places in Canada and Europe. It was an annual tradition to spend two weeks on a

wilderness camping trip," says Kew, who was born in Kentville. "One of my sisters hated every minute of it, the other was undecided, but I was the happy camper."

Kew says she inherited her interest in nature and artistic talents from her father, Kip Ward, who shared with his family his respect and knowledge of nature.

Kew and her husband, Michael, a conservation officer with the Department of Natural Resources, continue the practice by operating the Raptor Rehabilitation Centre for birds of prey at their St. Margarets Bay home.

Kew was first introduced to caring for birds and animals while working for the Department of Land and Forests (Natural Resources) at Lewis Lake Depot some years ago. "It was the best job I ever had. We cared for an injured fox, a young fawn and a Great Horned Owl, which stayed at our house for six months."

The Kews opened their rehabilitation centre in 1982 with the support of the Dartmouth Veterinary Hospital and the Nova Scotia Bird Society.

Before opening the centre, the Kews did a lot of research as well as visiting Annapolis Valley resident Cyril Coldwell, who spent his life caring for injured birds.

"Mr. Coldwell was pleased to see that we were both young," says Kew. "He told us that once we started caring for birds, we would be with it for a lifetime. We haven't had a vacation in 12 years."

The center cares for birds of prey

from all over the Maritime provinces. The facilities are utilized by the Canadian Wildlife Service, as well as other government departments and individuals.

"It takes time to learn how to handle each species, their likes and dislikes. We never become attached to the birds; our objective is to have the healing process be as quick and productive as possible. Once the birds are healthy, they're released back into the wild."

Kew also spends much of her time visiting elementary schools teaching children about nature. "Children are very honest. They ask what's in their minds and hearts. My message is meat to heighten their awareness of nature. I like to talk to them before they get into junior high school and hopefully, they'll have a greater respect for the environment."

Part of the lesson is a visit to Kew's home, where children learn to paint what they see in nature.

Kew says she tells children what happens to a bird once it has been shot and how much it suffers before it dies from lead poisoning. "Hopefully, the lesson will keep students from using birds as targets."

Ninety-five per cent of the birds that come to the centre for treatment are there because of human intervention, she says.

During its 12 years of operation, the rehabilitation centre has had a 75 to 80 per cent success rate. Birds too ill to be released are put down.

## MID-WINTER WEATHER - 1995

### Larry Bogan Cambridge Station

January and February are the mid-winter months because the coldest part of the winter occurs in the middle of the period. Both months have 30-year average temperatures of -5.3 C.

This year January had an average temperature of -2.7 C while February was -6.3 C. The warmer-than-average January resulted from an excess of cloudy, rainy weather. February was also wetter than average even though the temperatures were below normal.

Extra Sunshine in February almost made up for the cloudy days in January.

The rain and snowfall are shown along with the snow depths in the accompanying graphs. They nicely illustrate the cycles of cold and warm weather we had this year.

Last year, if you remember, we had a much colder mid-winter. January had an average temperature of -8.8 C while February was -7.0 C

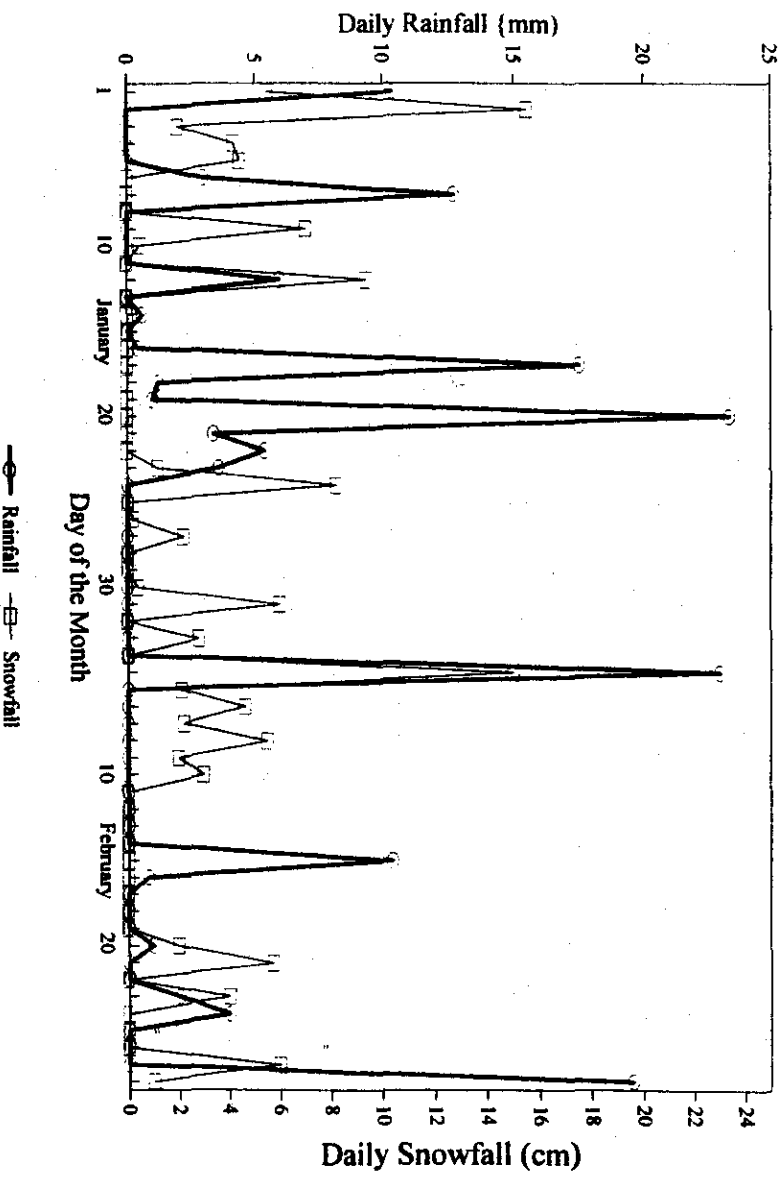
The full statistics for the period are given below:

### Average of Weather Statistics for January and February 1995 Kenville, Nova Scotia Agriculture Research Centre

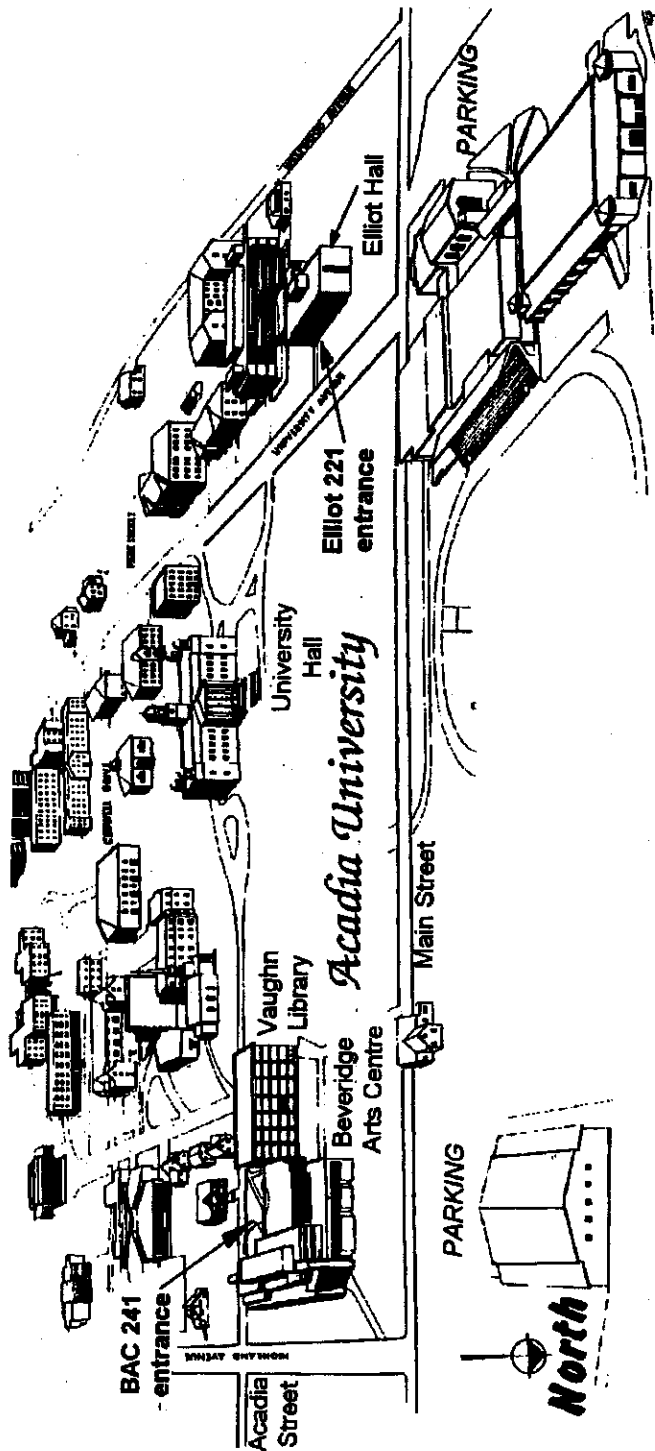
	Mean Temp (C)	Heating DegDay (C-day)	Rain fall (mm)	Snow fall (cm)	Bright Sunshine Hours
January (30yr ave)	-2.7 (-5.3)	641 (725)	88 (53)	67 (73)	52 (79)
February (30yr ave)	-6.3 (-5.3)	681 (659)	61 (41)	56 (65)	122 (102)
Period (30-yr average)		1322 (1384)	149 (94)	123 (138)	174 (181)

# Precipitation - Kentville N.S.

Jan-Feb 1995







# BLOMIDON NATURALISTS SOCIETY

## 1995 Membership Fees

Each member receives four issues yearly of the *BNS Newsletter*. The Blomidon Naturalists Society is a registered charity. Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued for all donations. The membership fee itself is not tax-deductible.

Members may also join the Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists through the BNS and will receive their quarterly newsletter; the membership is not tax-deductible.

Please enclose a cheque or money order payable to "Blomidon Naturalists Society" and forward to:

**Harold Forsyth**  
R.R. 2 Wolfville, N.S. BOP 1X0

Number	Membership Classification	Price	Total
_____	Individual Adult	\$12.00	\$ _____
_____	Family	\$15.00	\$ _____
_____	Individual Junior (less than 16 years old)	\$1.00	\$ _____
_____	Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists membership	\$5.00	\$ _____
	Tax-deductible Donation		\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

MyName \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type (please check one):

Ind. Adult\_\_ / Ind. Jr.\_\_ / Family\_\_ (# of family members\_\_)

Subscription to *FNSN News*? Yes\_\_ No\_\_

### *Gift Subscription*

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Membership Type (please check one):

Ind. Adult\_\_ / Ind. Jr.\_\_ / Family\_\_ (# of family members\_\_)

Subscription to *FNSN News*? Yes\_\_ No\_\_

Please use additional sheets for more gift subscriptions.

# Sources for Local Natural History Information

(compiled by Blomidon Naturalists Society)

<i>Information</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Office</i>	<i>Home</i>
Rocks & Fossils	Geol. Dept., Acadia Univ.	542-2201	
Fish	N.S. Dept. of Natural Resources	679-6091	
Flora - General	Ruth Newell	542-2201	542-2095
Flora - Fungi	Darryl Grund	542-2201	542-9214
	Nancy Nickerson	679-5333	542-9332
Flora - Lichens	Karen Casselman	424-7370	633-2837
Flora - Seaweeds	Darryl Grund	542-2201	542-9214
Flora - Mosses & Ferns	John Pickwell		681-8281
Birds - General	Bernard Forsythe		542-2427
	Richard Stern	678-4742	678-1975
	Gordon & Judy Tufts		542-7800
	Jim Wolford	542-2201	542-7650
	Jean Timpa		542-5678
Birds - Hawks & Owls	Bernard Forsythe		542-2427
Birds - Falcons & Eagles	Peter Austin-Smith		542-2109
Mammals	Tom Herman	542-2201	678-0383
Amphibians & Reptiles	Sherman Bleakney	<del>542-2201</del>	542-3604
	Jim Wolford	542-2201	542-7650
Seashore & Marine Life	Sherman Bleakney	<del>542-2201</del>	542-3604
	Jim Wolford	542-2201	542-7650
	Graham Daborn	542-2201	542-5373
	Michael Brylinsky	542-2201	582-7954
Indian Prehistory	Ellis Gertridge		542-2816
& Archaeological Sites	James Legge		542-3530
Astronomy	Roy Bishop		542-3992
	Sherman Williams	542-3598	542-5104
	Larry Bogan		678-0446

## APRIL 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Astronomy Group 7pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Evening Meeting 7:10 pm	18	19	20	21 Frog Walk 7:30 pm	22
23 Field Trip BNS NSBS	24	25	26	27	28	29 Work Day at RTNC
30						

## MAY 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 MAG NAMC ** Bird Count
14	15 Evening Meeting 7:30 pm	16	17	18 BNS Executive Meeting	19	20
21	22 Victoria Day	23	24	25	26	27 Cape Spill Field Trip
28	29	30	31	** North American Migration Count Bird Survey Day --		
MAG = Mines Astronomy Group Meeting at 7 pm						

## JUNE 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 FNSN Annual Meeting	3 FNSN Annual Meeting
4 FNSN Annual Meeting	5	6	7	8	9	10 Mines Astronomy Group
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Frog Lake Trip	19 Evening Meeting 7:30 pm	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
FNSN - Federation of NS Naturalist Meeting at Acadie as guest of the BNS						