



NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

P.O. BOX 2346, CHARLOTTETOWN

C1A 8C1

MEETINGS are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00 p.m. in Meeting Room #2 in the Provincial Health Building (enter through the parking garage and ask the Commissionaire for directions).

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in the natural history of Prince Edward Island. Membership is available at any meeting or by contacting Margaret Mallett, 53 Fitzroy St., Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 1R4 (894-9595). Annual rates are as follows: regular - \$4; student - \$2; family - \$5. Renewals are due in early January.

1986 EXECUTIVE: President.....Rosemary Curley, Waterside 651-2585
Vice-President.....Terry Power, Newtown Cross 659-2245
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Directors.....Pat Doyle, Charlottetown 566-1171
.....Ruth Richman, Lewes 962-2516

NEWSLETTERS are published bi-monthly. Articles, notes, reports, drawings, etc. are welcomed from members. If you have seen anything unusual, please share it with us. It is important to have your observations recorded so that others may learn from them. "Today's notations become tomorrow's history". All contributions should be sent to:

Gary Schneider,
P.O. Box 879,
Montague, P.E.I. COA 1R0
Phone: 962-2516

The Natural History Society gratefully acknowledges financial assistance from the Department of Transportation and Public Works which enables the newsletters to be distributed to schools and libraries as well as to members. The Natural History Society of P.E.I. is a member organization of the Canadian Nature Federation. The Society is a registered, non-profit organization. Editors of other newsletters are welcome to reprint articles appearing in this issue but acknowledgement would be appreciated.

THIS MONTH'S COVER

The BLUE FLAG (*Iris versicolor*) will soon be in bloom in Island ditches and other wet areas. Tall, swordlike leaves are the first hint of things to come as several violet-blue flowers follow in June. The flowers have yellow-based sepals and are veined. Although it has been used in small amounts as a cathartic and diuretic, the rhizome is extremely poisonous. Look, but don't eat!