

We're getting there - once more!

We now have five pages of names of members paid for 1988 or later. This leaves about 30 membership dues still not paid for 1988, according to N.H.S. records. This late in the year we would like payment of dues for both 1988 and 1989. If mailing, please make out cheque to the Natural History Society of P.E.I. Rates and address on page 2, paragraph 2.

If your copy of the Island Naturalist has two prominent black spots in the margin of this paragraph it will indicate overdue dues. -M.E.M.

Natural History Society news

Without a summer newsletter, things may have seemed a little quieter than usual for the Natural History Society. Here's an update from the late spring and summer activities, and also what's planned for the fall.

The slide show competition at the May meeting was judged by Charlotte-town photographer Lionel Stevenson, who gave a lot of useful tips and insights into photography as we looked at the 120 entrants. Colin MacKinnon took first prize with a close-up of Indian Pipe. Tony Reddin's slide of roosters in a barn window was chosen second, and Marion Copleston took third with a shot of ploughing. Tony also won the Touch Nature prize for his slide that looked up the trunk of a large tree.

In June, the Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs, Gilbert Clements announced the winners of the 1988 environmental awards, and several NHS members were honored. Here is the full slate of winners and honorable mentions. Individual citizen category: T.L. "Babs" Fitzgerald, honorable mention to Wayne Gairns. Organization category: P.E.I. Federation of Flyfishers, honorable mention to New Annan Concerned Citizens Committee. Industry or government category: Kinkora Area Business Commission. Honorable mention to Geoff Hogan's Bird's Eye Nature Store. Education category: Daniel Guignon, honorable mention to Glen MacEachern. Congratulations to all.

The NHS received an Environment Week grant to supply every grade six teacher in the province with a kit outlining Operation Lifeline. The grant also allowed for day-long workshops in Summerside, Charlottetown and Montague with the teachers and Tim Beatty of Sunbury Shores Nature Tours in St. Andrews, N.B., who coordinates Operation Lifeline. This was a big step in getting the kits used in P.E.I. schools and reaching and teaching many school children. If you are interested in taking part, either as a resource person, speaker, trip leader, etc. with students, please let someone on the NHS executive know. Your help will be invaluable.

The LUC hearings on Greenwich will probably still be taking place when you receive this newsletter, but the hearings on Boughton Island will not begin until January 3, 1989. A lot of time and energy by the Natural History Society and the Island Nature Trust have gone into trying to protect these areas, but we feel it is part of both groups' mandates and would be negligent to ignore these issues. The Trust is still racking up lawyer's bill and could especially use donations at this time. Please do what you can to help.

Also, it's time for more people to get involved with the NHS. Anything you can do to help - lead a field trip, give a talk, write a story, do an illustration, send letters, whatever - will make the Society a better group. It takes more than just a small group of people to keep the NHS active and growing.

And thanks to the people who responded to the questionnaire in the March-April Island Naturalist. Although there weren't many, there were some good suggestions for field trips and stories that we'll try to follow up on. If you'd still like to reply, please feel free.