

# Coastal Chronicle

Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation Quarterly Newsletter



Issue 6 / Spring 2017

## Heralds of Spring

Greetings, readers! As I write the introduction for this, our Spring 2017 issue of the Chronicle, there are heralds of the season everywhere I look and listen: a robin is hopping outside my window, the croci are blooming purple and bright, and the big maple tree is returning to life, buds glistening beautiful and red in the sun.

For anyone following our Elver and American eel projects, I bring glad tidings straight from the front lines: elvers have once again been spotted in the streams of Nova Scotia! This ends their long journey from the Sargasso Sea, where these tough baby eels originate. More updates on elvers and eels in upcoming issues of the Chronicle; in the meantime, check our website, Facebook, and Twitter for up-to-date news and photos.

And now, to the issue at hand! Our spring 2017 Chronicle contains a wide variety of topics, including: agriculture, parking lot deconstruction, our famous Rum and Chowder Social (June 9), a profile of project partners, and another sure sign of spring: welcoming back our summer staff! Coastal Action's success is thanks, in no small part, to our amazing summer crew. We are encouraging local farmers to collaborate with Coastal Action; we invite you to join us in returning land that was once a parking lot to a functional green space; meet our new partners Amos Pewter and author Beth Ann Knowles; and - as we do each year - Coastal Action is offering a *most* hearty welcome to join our upcoming 5th Annual Rum and Chowder fundraiser. So dig right in and enjoy!

Jennifer McKinnon, Editor 

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The elvers are back!



Coastal Action staff channeling their inner lumberjack on March 31 for Staff Day at the Timber Lounge, "Halifax".

**Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation**, established in December 1993, is a charitable organization that addresses environmental concerns along the South Shore region of Nova Scotia. Our goal at Coastal Action is to promote the restoration, enhancement, and conservation of our ecosystem through research, education, and action. Our vision is a healthy environment supporting thriving South Shore communities.

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## Calling All Lunenburg County Farmers by Sam Reeves



*Residents of a local farm seem interested in their environment, as well.*

Are you a farmer looking to improve the relationship between your property and the environment? Coastal Action is seeking Lunenburg County farmers interested in making their farms more sustainable. Our past collaborations with local farmers include livestock fencing, providing alternative watering sources, riparian planting, and Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation Plans

(ABC Plans). ABC Plans are a great tool for farmers to better understand how their farm impacts the environment (both positively and negatively). ABC Plans also address issues such as poor riparian health and bank erosion caused by livestock trampling, as well as include recommendations for the farmer on how to remediate these issues. Email Sam for more info: [sam@coastalaction.org](mailto:sam@coastalaction.org)

## Depave Paradise by Clare Kellock



*Volunteers remove broken segments of unused pavement in Ontario.*

Coastal Action has partnered with local landowner, Craig Schrader, to implement the Depave Paradise project on May 5 and 6 in Bridgewater. Depave Paradise, a project of an organization called Green Communities Canada, has already been implemented with success in Ontario, Quebec, and Manitoba - this will be the first time a Depave Paradise takes place in Atlantic Canada! The objective

is to bring community members together to tear up unused pavement and create green spaces that capture stormwater, beautify our community, and transform the way rain is managed in urban areas. We're depaving at the old Baptist Church on King Street. If you're interested in volunteering or supporting this event, please contact Clare at [clare@coastalaction.org](mailto:clare@coastalaction.org)

## Welcoming Our 2017 Seasonal Staff by Emma Kinley



*Our 2016 Watershed crew take a break from stream restoration work.*

April showers give way to May flowers - and that also means the return of Coastal Action's seasonal staff! Summer is when we collect most of our scientific data and complete habitat restoration work, and we're very happy to welcome a great team to help with our busiest time of year. As of April 24, Coastal Action will have a compliment of six full-time,

one part-time, four seasonal, and six summer staff for a total of 17 employees! We're very excited to start new projects this year as well, including invasive species removal in the LaHave River, a Depave Paradise project in Bridgewater, and various youth engagement projects - all to be accomplished with the help of our 2017 seasonal staff!

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## 5th Annual Rum and Chowder Social by Bernice Theriault



*Our delicious cake auction selection from 2016.*

Coastal Action prides itself on local support and community connections, and our Annual Rum and Chowder fundraiser is a wonderful example of all things local. Join us on **June 9, 2017 (6-9 pm) at the Lunenburg School of the Arts** to taste our delicious array of local chowders. Last year we had 14 Lunenburg County restaurants donate chowder to our fundraising event. How many can you sample, you may ask? *All of them!*

Ironworks, a micro-distillery located in the historic port of Lunenburg on Nova Scotia's historic South Shore, will also be back with their tasty

rum. Ironworks craft their spirits with a love of traditional methods and attention to detail. A variety of tastes for every palate from an award-winning selection of rums.

Petite Rivière Vineyards produces elegant, complex wines in a sunny microclimate on the slopes of drumlin hills on Nova Scotia's South Shore - their wares will also be available for sampling. Petite Rivière wines are grown in the vineyard, not manufactured in the cellar, and the unique features of the terroir, the rocky soil, the slate in the stone, the ocean breeze, and the vineyard's microclimate each contribute to wines that are distinct within Nova Scotia.

Terra Beata, a maritime cranberry farm nestled next to the Atlantic Ocean near Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, bring their produce to the event, as well. While cranberries are their specialty, Terra Beata uses the best fruit Nova Scotia has to offer in their 10 gourmet preserves, their unique low-sugar flavour-



*Help yourself to delicious chowders!*

packed dried cranberries, blueberries and cherries. We will be incorporating a tasty cocktail from our local growers, come out and see what we have created.

Our 2017 event is being hosted at the Lunenburg School of the Arts. We are using this opportunity to reach out to connect with local artisans to create a local art show and sale as part of our fundraiser. Artisans and crafters on the South Shore are world famous, and we want to continue the promotion and relationship with those who provide beautiful art within our community.

Who will be serving chowder this year? We may have a few local celebrities up our sleeve; you must drop in and see! For tickets call (902) 634-9977 or email [bernice@coastalaction.org](mailto:bernice@coastalaction.org)



*Lining up for a fine selection of local chowder in 2016 - with lots for everyone!*

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## Profile: Coastal Action Partnerships by Bernice Theriault

Coastal Action is expanding our community support and awareness by connecting with new partners, including Amos Pewter and author Beth Ann Knowles.

The artisans at Amos Pewter in Mahone Bay are proud keepers of time-honoured pewter practices and methods, while offering innovative designs inspired by nature and our beautiful coastal surroundings. Amos Pewter was the first artisan shop in Nova Scotia to become a member of the international Economusee Network, whose mission is to showcase traditional trades and skills. Amos Pewter has offered to support Coastal Action with a portion of

proceeds from their Sand Dollar Kits being donated to our organization. Our hope is that the awareness campaign of having their product co-branded with our organization will bring national and international recognition to both!

Local writer, Beth Ann Knowles, a first time children's book author, has generously offered to donate a portion of the proceeds from her new book to Coastal Action. The launch of her children's book, *Row Bot*, takes place on May 6, 2017 at Lexicon Books in Lunenburg. Be sure to check our Facebook and Twitter to see where you will find *Row Bot* over the summer with our staff in the field! 🐦



Top: Amos Pewter in Mahone Bay.  
Bottom: Row Bot, the debut children's book by local author Beth Ann Knowles, available at Lexicon Books, Lunenburg.

## Want to hear more about topics covered in this issue ?

If you'd like to read further, in-depth information regarding the stories highlighted in this issue, please visit our website ([www.coastalaction.org](http://www.coastalaction.org)) where we post more detailed updates on all of our projects. We have lots on the go here at Coastal Action: research, education and outreach, public engagement activities, and volunteer opportunities. If you'd like to see a report on one of our projects or events in the *Coastal Chronicle*, send us an email at [editor@coastalaction.org](mailto:editor@coastalaction.org).



Our home: Captain Angus Walters House in Lunenburg.

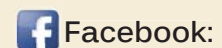
Coastal Action is a not for profit conservation organization. By donating financially to any of our projects we will provide charitable donation tax receipts. We also sell various articles of clothing, accessories, and maps; all proceeds go to Coastal Action!



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