

A Road Back From The Past To The Present (In pursuit of peace)

If I was to paint a picture of you
would it be the picture the picture that's true?
If I was to speak of only the past
would our love be molded in a permanent cast?

In pursuit of peace

If I was to remember the way back here
would you then remember there is nothing to fear?
If I was to tell you that our world needs us now
would you lay down beside me and speak of just how?

In pursuit of peace

If I was to tell you a secret or two
would you then be able to keep it forever true?
If I was to leave and never come back
Would that secret stay locked in the secret stack?

In pursuit of peace

If I was to travel at the speed of light
would I reach the stars that shine so bright?
If I was to listen to the sounds of the night
would the music I know be the music that's right?

In pursuit of peace

God Bless and Thank-You - Thomas A. Marshall, (Ex-Navy)

Keep Pets Indoors on Cold Days

By Christine Urquhart

Please remember to keep your pets inside as much as possible on these cold, windy days. Their feet get very cold and can become cracked and infected, which can lead to more problems for them. Also, how would you like to be tied out or left out all night during a snow storm or minus 20 degree weather? Treat your pets like you wish to be treated!

Don't forget to feed the birds! Birds need to eat three times their weight just to keep warm on cold winter days and nights. Putting out suet along with seeds and bread crumbs will help the birds stay alive. If possible, have a water source for them. I have heard that you can fix up a wooden box with a lit light bulb and a dish of water in a hole on top and have a cheap heated bird bath.

AgSeed Technologies Startup

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(Canada), Inc. is one of a small number of companies focused on research and development, commercialization of plant based polyols (biopolyols) and epoxides (bioepoxides). Our products can be used in a variety of applications including coat-

ings, adhesives, sealants, elastomers (CASE) and lubricants.

We have a wide range of biopolyols which are cost competitive, renewable, sustainable and environmentally friendly. Unlike petroleum based polyols, we make our biopolyols from a variety of plant based oils."

Deficits Reported to Council

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tion of 262 hours of ice time rental from 963 to 701 in 2015, resulting in a reduction of \$15,000 - going from \$90,000 to \$75,000 last year.

Debert's West Colchester United Arena suffered the largest drop in ice rental revenue from \$218,000 in 2012 to \$146,000 in 2015, when hours of rental dropped 31% from 1646 (in 2012) to 1138 in 2015.

Brookfield's Don Henderson Sportsplex reduced its wages from \$97,000 to \$87,000 from 2012 to 2015 as it faced a 26% reduction (449 hours) in the ice time rented from 1702 to 1253 hours, which reduced income by \$50,000 from \$223,000 to \$173,000.

All three facilities have been able to reduce wages by operating the facilities 3-4 weeks less throughout the year. Closures have been made when there was little call for ice time rentals. Adding to the woes of the facilities has been the increase in energy costs for power and heat. An additional \$10,000 is being spent in Tatamagouche with energy costs rising from \$35,000 to \$45,000 in the 2012-2015 period, while Debert's board has been able to reduce energy costs from \$56,000 to \$51,000 in the same period.

Brookfield's Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex is the largest energy user going from \$113,000

up to \$128,000 in 2014, but incorporating changes to reduce costs by \$6,000 to \$122,000 in 2015.

The lessening of demand at each of the three facilities has occurred on days, nights and weekends. With costs continuing to increase, the individual boards are concerned about what lies ahead. In Brookfield annual losses have increased from \$11,875 (2012) to an anticipated \$61,000 this year; Debert up from \$13,871 (2012) to \$54,060 for 2016. Meanwhile Tatamagouche has gone from a 2012 loss of \$13,757 to a slight profit of \$1,241 for 2015. Figures for 2016 were not available for the current year.

The association didn't offer any firm suggestions or make a specific request. Purpose of the presentation was to update council on how things have evolved in recent years. In looking for solutions, the association did suggest council could possibly work with the facilities to cover energy costs, or as an alternate solution, maybe set a rate for each area based on the performance of the local arena.

Boards in Tatamagouche and Brookfield are near to having a full complement of directors, however Debert is suffering from a lack of directors. Currently there are six vacancies in Debert including the 1st and 2nd vice president.

"What is it?" The Wrasse?

Continued from page 1

Mahoney Bay, St Margaret's Bay and Petpeswick Inlet".

After a bit more questioning, Mr. Hebda provided the following information as follows: Tautogs (within their normal range) can grow to about 60 cm, with average maximum weight (in Gulf of Maine) of around 4.5 kg (10 lb), although we have little info on Nova Scotia growth rates. Cunnners are usually quite smaller, but sizes of 30 cm are not uncommon.

The issue with teeth is that only the forward ones show readily and you would have noticed that they are somewhat conical, but quite blunt. Both species essentially feed of surfaces (usually the bottom) with a preference for gastropods and bivalve molluscs. (Stomach analyses have also shown consumption of crustaceans, sea urchins marine worms and detritus, although in colder waters, they become quite inactive). The chances of them mistaking a human for a Mollusk are somewhat remote. They are quite inquisitive, but not aggressive.

The specimen that washed ashore could have been carried in from waters to the south (southern Gulf of Maine); we do get occasional mid-summer tropical fish arriving (not unusual to see triggerfish or Mulletts in our waters in July and August.

To provide more information on each species, I went to Wikipedia and downloaded the following information.

Here is the data on the Cunner (Tautogolabrus adspersus): The bergall, also

known as the Cunner, Conner or chogset, *Tautogolabrus adspersus*, is a species of wrasse native to the western Atlantic, where it is found from the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Newfoundland to the Chesapeake Bay. They inhabit inshore waters living near the sea floor at depths from 10 to 128 m (33 to 420 ft), preferring areas with beds of seaweed, shipwrecks, or wharf pilings. They spend the winter months in a state of torpor underneath rocks. They can also be found in the aquarium trade. On May 28, 2015, the NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife has officially certified, and is pleased to announce, the catch of a new state record saltwater fish. The fish weighed in at 3 pounds, 2.4 ounces eclipsing the previous state record by 1.9 ounces. The fish measured 16.5" in length and had a girth of 12.5". Often, bergall is mixed in with blackfish (Tautog), living on or near the same structures. Much of the food eaten by those bergall living among blackfish is the leftovers from the blackfishes prey. They can be distinguished from the Tautog by their pointed snouts. Bergall are generally smaller, so are usually thrown back by anglers who think they caught a "short" Tautog. In past years, they have been important commercial fish, but now are considered pests. They can be confused with black sea bass and other grouper, as well as Tautog, for their ability to change color.

Although he could not be specific as to which species, here is the data on the one, which Mr. Hebda thinks is the

one found by the Barkhouse family on January 1st:

The **Tautog** or **Blackfish**, *Tautoga onitis*, is a species of wrasse native to the western Atlantic Ocean from Nova Scotia to South Carolina. This species inhabits hard substrate habitats in inshore waters at depths from 1 to 75 m (3.3 to 246.1 ft). It is currently the only known member of its genus. Tautog is brown and dark olive, with white blotches, and has plump, elongated bodies. They have an average weight of 1 to 3 lb (0.45 to 1.36 kg) and reach a maximum size of 3 ft (0.91 m), 25 lb (11 kg).

Tautog has many adaptations to life in and around rocky areas. They have thick, rubbery lips and powerful jaws. The backs of their throats contain a set of teeth resembling molars. Together, these are used to pick and crush prey such as mollusks and crustaceans. Their skin also has a rubbery quality with a heavy slime covering, which helps to protect them when swimming among rocks.

Here's some additional information on the Tautog:

Cuisine: "The Tautog has always been a favorite table fish, especially in New York, its flesh being white, dry, and of a delicate flavor." Davidson recommends grilling, baking, and using it in fish chowder.

Sport Fishing: Popular among fishermen, Tautog has a reputation for being a particularly tricky fish to catch. Part of this is because of their tendency to live among rocks and other structures that can cause a fisherman's line to get snagged. The favorite baits for Tautog include green crabs,

Asian shore crabs, fiddler crabs, clams, shrimp, mussels, sandworms, and lobsters. Tautog fishing may also be difficult due to the tendency of fishermen try to set the hook as soon as they feel a hit, rather than wait for the Tautog to swallow the bait. Rigs with minimal beads, swivels and hooks should be used to prevent entanglement with the rocks, reefs or wrecks that Tautog frequent.

Because they are often found in wrecks, they are often seen by scuba divers. They are also popular with spearfishermen, as they are remarkably calm in the presence of divers and are relatively easy to spear.

Lifecycle: Spawning occurs offshore, in late spring to early summer. The eggs hatch and develop while drifting. All of the young take residence in shallow protected waters and live and hide in seaweed, sea lettuce, or eelgrass beds for protection, and are green in color to camouflage themselves. During the late fall, they move offshore and winter in a state of reduced activity.

Management: Slow reproduction and growth make Tautog more vulnerable to overfishing. The species is managed by focusing on reducing fishing mortality rates, as well as restrictions on gear, size limits, possession limits, and limited fishing seasons. At present, the Blue Ocean Institute recommends that consumers avoid eating this fish because the populations are at low levels that are not considered sustainable. Around 1920, 750 tons were harvested annually off the New England coast.

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