

One of the Truro Junior A Bearcat Mascots "Jack", is joined by Christine and Rylan MacPhee, volunteers with the Bearcat organization. Rylan competed in Chantelle's Pumpkin Blast Pie Eating Contest in support of Cystic Fibrosis. The Bearcat team was on the road in New Brunswick during the event on Sunday, October 29th. (D Brown Photo)

## New Cliffs of Fundy Hiking Challenge Features Geopark

By Janet Barlow

Amazing cliffs, tidal estuaries, beaches, waterfalls, woodland trails and lighthouses. The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark promises all of this and more. And if you get out and explore it, you could earn a free badge. Hike Nova Scotia and the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark are happy to announce the launch of the new Cliffs of Fundy Badge as part of Hike NS's Hiker Challenge.

Janet Barlow, Hike NS executive director, thinks the area is a hidden gem. "The Fundy Shore doesn't get the attention for outdoor activity that other areas of the province get, but it should," she says. "This new badge shines a spotlight on the splendor of the area, especially the hiking."

The Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark is home to the highest tides in the world which have helped shape its stunning landscape. It is also home of the legendary Kluskap and the land-

scape is steeped in his legends. The Geopark honours the Mi'kmaq people and their oral traditions of cultural geoheritage. It also demonstrates the Earth's incredible natural history.

"The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark celebrates the landscape, natural beauty, and incredible people that create a vibrant culture along the shores of the Bay of Fundy," says Sacha Brake, Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Director. "We hope that participants and recipients of the Cliffs of Fundy Badge will learn, explore, discover, and enjoy the Geopark community."

The badge is free and challenges you to hike at least eight trails among a select list of Geopark trails within a year. To help launch the badge, there were upcoming guided hikes: November 4 at Brookville Beach and November 12 at Wards Falls. Learn more about these events here:

<https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/filemanager/files/Fall-HikeWalks2023-November.pdf>

The Hiker Challenge is about inspiring, motivating and rewarding hikers to start hiking or to hike more. Your reward for completing a challenge is a badge to show off on clothing or backpacks and making the Honour Roll Prize

draws happen each season for gift cards generously provided by The Trail Shop. There are several badges to earn across the province as part of the Hiker Challenge. Learn more about the Hiker Challenge at [www.hikenovascotia.ca/projects-hiker-challenge](https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/projects-hiker-challenge).

**Janet Barlow is Hike Nova Scotia, Executive Director**

## RCMP Investigating Pet Deaths

Colchester County District RCMP is investigating an incident where multiple cats were killed in the Debert area.

On October 24, 2023, Colchester County District RCMP responded to a report of three cats being found deceased at locations near a property on Hunters Glen in Debert. RCMP officers learned that the three cats had gone missing between October 15 and 17. A firearm is believed to have

been used in the deaths of the cats.

The investigation is ongoing and Colchester County District RCMP is asking that anyone with information to please contact them at 902-893-6820. Should you wish to remain anonymous call Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), submit a secure web tip at [www.crimestoppers.ns.ca](http://www.crimestoppers.ns.ca), or use the P3 Tips App.

## Carl Douglas Bragg- 2023 Inductee in Wild Blueberry Recognition Book

By Linda Harrington

Carl Bragg believed in the Wild Blueberry Industry and constantly looked for ways to make it grow, make it more efficient and make it more profitable.

Work was Carl's passion, since he was in high school working with his father Doug, co-owner of Bragg Lumber Company and Oxford Frozen foods. He talked a lot about those days where he fell in love with the industry. He also picked up his mechanical aptitude by working on farm equipment and modifying old cars to squeeze out extra horsepower and performance.

Carl started his career working for caterpillar, then a maintenance and service rep for forklifts. He also ran his own forklift service program. Later he purchased his own truck and became an independent long-haul trucker, where he learned a wealth of experience in running a small business and working with people.

Carl's work experience in heavy equipment mechanics at CAT, running tractor trailers and then joining Doug Bragg Enterprises (DBE) in 1991, gave Carl not only a tremendous insight into the mechanical challenges of blueberry harvesting, but also the every-

day requirements of growing a successful business.

When Carl became President of DBE, his business acumen "hands on" approach and genuine wish to invest in his clients was obvious. Carl loved to have a coffee and talk wild blueberries with everyone. He listened to his customers, researchers and co-workers and would think very carefully what the next steps should be.

Initially he started working on Doug Bragg's blueberry fields along with doing custom work throughout Cumberland, Colchester, and Guysborough, where he picked up a wealth of experience managing and

harvesting wild blueberries.

When his father Doug passed away in 1996, Carl took a more active role in running DBE, mainly focusing on the manufacturing of specialized lowbush blueberry equipment.

In 2000, he became president of the company where he continued to improve the harvester along with developing specialized equipment like the Bragg Mower. Under Carl's leadership, Doug Bragg enterprises become the industry leader in harvesting and mowing equipment.

Carl's positive outlook was one of his biggest assets and

he was constantly looking for innovative ways to solve problems. He had tremendous knowledge of hydraulic systems and was excited to explore and develop a partnership with Dalhousie University's Research Precision Farming Teams. He always looked forward to meeting with the team, challenging the young minds of the students and he would always make time to answer their questions.

Carl quietly and anonymously supported many ventures and individuals in his community... a generous and kind man without whom the wild blueberry wouldn't be where it is today.

For Carl's many contributions to the wild blueberry industry, it is the honor of the WBPANS board of directors to nominate Carl Bragg into the WBPANS Book of Recognition.

Carl Bragg passed away October 20th, 2022. The award was accepted by his son Steven, who is carrying on with Doug Bragg Enterprises in honour of his late father.

**See Carl's Presentation Photo on page 13**

## Gary Brown- 2023 Inductee in Wild Blueberry Recognition Book

Garry Brown graduated NSAC, a classmate of Lee Jenkins and John MacDonald, and worked on the grounds maintenance crew.

In 1973, he joined the Department of Agriculture as a berry crop technician with Jack Sibley and Bob Murray where he developed a unique relationship with the blueberry industry for the next 19 years. In fact, he and Jack worked closely together on many initiatives and even had their own brand Brown and Sibley productions (BS productions for short).

Gary worked with this group at a time when foundational developments in the wild blueberry industry were happening. Land levelling, new broad-spectrum herbicides where being registered, a transition to mowing for pruning and mechanical harvesting was in its infancy.

Gary was instrumental in establishing the Wild Blueberry Institute and became the first manager in 1983. He was responsible for clearing the land, established the field and modified an old WWII shelter as a work centre for research.

Gary was key in developing a strong working relationship between the Department of Agriculture, industry and researchers and worked with Leonard Eaton, Klaus Jenson on getting registration for products like Slnbar and Velpar. Many of the products in our toolbox today have Gary's fingerprints on them in some

way. He still sits on a crop protection committee with FVGC for our industry and keeps in contact with many in the chemical industry.

Gary helped attract a new research team to NSAC and was on the interview teams that hired David Percival and Qamar Zaman. He has served on several national committees related to pest management, both at CHC/FVGC and with the AAFC minor-use program.

Gary can work a room like few others, and he was constantly connecting with companies to try and get wild blueberries listed for their new products. In 1989, John Bragg convinced Gary to join the Bragg Lumber Company.

Gary, being a jack of all trades, became the liaison officer for Bragg Lumber Company. Even after he retired in 2013, he still remains in contact with growers and will share his expertise. He always felt his job was to work and support the grower no matter to whom they sold product. There are very few in the wild blueberry industry or in associated industry who don't know the name Gary Brown.

With Bragg Lumber, Gary spent a lot of time helping that company develop the industry in PEI and New Brunswick (especially the North East). A claim that few can honestly make, Gary can drive to and locate any blueberry field in the

**A man who stops advertising to save money is the man who stops his watch to save time.**



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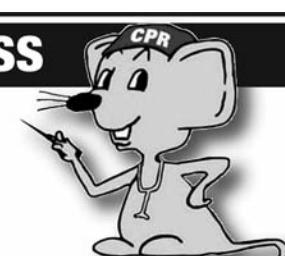
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