



Glen and Valerie Rushton sang at the Westchester Wild Blueberry Social. They are symbolic of voluntary musicians who enhance many community events and have been singing for about ten years. They sing country and gospel and fund-raise for those who are ill or in need. Recently they volunteered to sing for free at the Oxford Exhibition at August 31."

## Westchester Wild Blueberry Social

By Hope Bridgewater

The Westchester Wild Blueberry Social was hosted at the Westchester Firehall by the local Baptist Church by way of the United Baptist Women's Mission & Service (UBWMS), with the help of neighbours and friends. It began with a prayer by Glen Rushton. The silent auction had fabulous donations from the Cumberland County Merchants and from residents which were collected for many days by Laverne Webb, Rosalyn Purdy and Linda Sanderson.

They also set up tables for the event. Pat Jones sold tickets for the auction held at the end of the meeting when she announced the winners. Vernon and Nancy Rushton from Burlington, Ontario, greeted everyone coming in to this Wild Blueberry Festival.

The most important items for this Blueberry Festival were the blueberries generously donated by Millen's Farms, Little Dyke. Volunteers Byron and Lois Ross, Pat Adams, and Marion Pettigrew decorated the hall and positioned the tables and chairs.

Sam and Matt from Purdy's Lane provided and arranged flowers, and Rosalyn Purdy provided cattails. Lynne Sterling, Toronto and Beth Adams, Springhill were capable and professional volunteers in the kitchen. Linda Sanderman made fantastic blueberry pies. Other many kind residents and patrons made and provided blue-

berry grunts, cheesecakes, coffee cakes, and blueberry tortes "to die for" as Sheila MacNeil described them.

Byron and Lois Ross cheerfully staffed a hospitality table with muffins, punch, free books, children's treats and blueberry jams and jellies graciously donated by Thompsons Jams and Jellies. Byron's blueberry song was an immediate hit with the crowd.

Sheila MacNeil sold tickets at the door and for the Door Prize generously provided by Jean Bentley of Cobequid Maple. Walt Jones took care of the 50/50 tickets, oxygen tank and all for the die-hard gamblers. Sheila MacNeil said, "Many thanks Walt. You were amazing."

Afternoon entertainment was provided on stage by musicians Gordon Moore, Dave Moore, Ken Eagles, Glen & Valerie Rushton, Faye Henderson & her group Encore, Gene Williams and other musical friends.

This Wild Blueberry Social had a full house and was represented by two politicians: Murray Scott, former MLA and present MLA Tory Rushton for Cumberland South, both of who made the rounds to say hello to folks. It was a beautiful afternoon filled with laughter and lots of fun enjoyed by all. Sheila MacNeil, who sent me a report, summed it up by saying, "Many, many thanks to all who made this Social a wonderful success."

## Ski Wentworth's Fall Festival of Colours

By Maurice Rees

A trip to Wentworth Valley to spend the Thanksgiving weekend enjoying the fall foliage is becoming a tradition for many families. Many are already making plans to spend Thanksgiving weekend with family and friends in the great outdoors at the annual Fall Festival of Colours being held October 6&7 at Ski Wentworth.

For a spectacular view of the leaves, ride the chairlift to the top of Wentworth Mountain. It's one of the most amazing views you'll see of the Valley. Get some exercise walking back down the mountain. Please note: this is a one way trip only. There is no transportation down the mountain. Its recommended participants are in good physical condition,

as the hike down can be physically demanding.

There is no mountain bike access. Sorry, no pets allowed on the chairlift.

This event is weather permitting. Please check the website for updates at [www.skiwentworth.ca](http://www.skiwentworth.ca) or [www.facebook.com/skiwentworth](http://www.facebook.com/skiwentworth).

Ski Wentworth General Manager Leslie Wilson says the Fall Festival of Colours continues to grow in popularity. "We had another record setting turnout last season," said Wilson. "It has become part of a family Thanksgiving tradition. You see the same folks back with the kids and grandkids. It's a great, active way to spend the day with the family in a beautiful setting."

The chairlift runs from 10am to 4pm. Cost is \$15 per person or \$40 for a family (maximum 5). There's a barbecue at the base of the mountain at noon.

The chairlift ride up takes about 20 minutes. The walk down is anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. Its recommended participants are in relatively good physical condition as the hike can be demanding.

"New this year, we'll have a climbing wall. We'll also have pony rides, the haystack playground, petting zoo and inflatable jumpy castle available both days of the event from 10am to 4pm," says Wilson. "Plus there's a scavenger hunt for kids during the hike."

If you'd like some more direction to your day, why not take a guided hike to High Head? Depart 10am sharp

from the Old Valley School House on Barclay Road for an 11km (three hour) hike to High Head. This is an intermediate level hike. This is a free tour, however, donations are gladly accepted for the Old Valley School House.

Hiking the Maritimes largest ski area is almost as much fun as skiing it! The Early Bird Season pass is on now until Oct. 31. Applications will be available at the Fall Festival of Colours or online at [skiwentworth.ca](http://skiwentworth.ca).

Need new or used ski or snowboard gear for the upcoming season? The Wentworth Open House, Ski Swap and Craft Sale is Saturday, November 17 at Ski Wentworth.

**Fall Festival  
of Colours  
Thanksgiving Weekend  
October 6 & 7**

## Backgrounder to Jaimie's Nomination

Supplied By Greg Watson

*(The following is the body of the letter which accompanied the application nominating Jaimie Snell-Pollendine as the Central Woodlot Owner of the year)*

Jaimie's father purchased the woodlot in different parcels over the years and managed it for multiple values over the years to include everything especially wildlife. He spent a lot of time experimenting with small patch cuts and different plantings including non native Douglas Fir, Austrian Pine and Sitka Spruce to name a few.

He spent a lot of time at the woodlot in the hut he built from scratch. He had logs milled from the property to be used in the construction in some parts of the homes built at Interhab Homes, the company he owned at the time.

The woodlot is a great example of a diverse Acadian Forest with most if not all of the species found throughout Nova Scotia. It is a great example of low impact forestry falling trees by hand and using horses and tractors to extract the wood to evolving to mechanized harvesting under the guidance of North Nova with little dif-

ference in the outcomes of the two scenarios except for increased revenue to the landowner under the later.

The woodlot also had trails and small roads for the smaller scale harvesting which have been upgraded over years with the assistance of North Nova and money accessed through the road program at Forest Nova Scotia.

The woodlot has had a management plan from the beginning of their ownership from notes written on paper by her father as guidance to a more formal plan written by North Nova more recently. Mrs Snell-Pollendine continues to take great pride in her family woodlot ready to implement the recommendations in her plan on a yearly basis and ready to open the woodlot up to educational opportunities anytime.

Multiple field tours and educational walks on the woodlot have taken place and recently North Nova celebrated their 40th anniversary at the woodlot. Jaimie is very supportive of the Co-op and the local community happy to employ local people. (more 'woodlot' on page 20 & 25)

## Congratulations Jaimie Snell-Pollendine for the 2018 Central Woodlot Owner of the Year Award

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