

Diane LeBlanc- Diane never thought she would become a birder and tagged along with the others just for the exercise in 2015, she spotted a Field Sparrow at Sandy Cove which sparked her interest. Since that chance encounter she has been enthralled with birding. With her background in work psychology Diane is keenly interested in ways that birding enhances people skills such as collaboration, perseverance and patience. Diane served as Vice President of The Nova Scotia Bird Society for 2 years before becoming President in 2019.

Frank Cochrane- Frank is the owner of Cochrane Family Farm which is located on 30 acres in Upper Stewiacke. The farm has been in operation since 2009 and is certified organic. The farm also operates a country store on the property, raising and selling local handmade organic products aimed at offering a wide variety of high quality, moderately priced, nutrient dense, vegetables, herbs and seeds following a permaculture methodology.

Cecil Dunlap – Cecil owns and operates Pheasant Gardens in Salmon River just outside Truro NS. He specializes in Daylilies, some Bearded Iris and has some perennials as well. He has a huge selection to pick from, "Bare root" and potted plants.

Michael van den Hoek - Michael is continuing a gardening tradition in his family having joined his parents operating 'Lowland Gardens' in Great Village. Michael brings new ideas to the family business and ensures its popular support with gardeners into the future.

Lloyd Mapplebeck - Lloyd and his wife Lauranne have operated 'Hill n Dale Perennials' for almost 30 years. They produce a wide array of container-grown landscape perennials, potted herbs and salad greens, vegetable and flower patio pots, decorative Christmas products, outdoor cut flowers, rustic wooden garden animals, and many other crops and products. They market via: their retail nursery, the Truro Farmers' Market and perennial garden design jobs. They also sell perennials to landscapers, municipalities, and other commercial customers. Lloyd is a retired Plant Science faculty member of NSAC/Dal AC.

Andrew Hebda – Andrew, a zoologist (entomologist) comes with a broad background, including as a commissioned Officer in the Canadian Forces, Lecturer in the Biology Department at Saint Marys University, science broadcaster biological/environmental consultant and for almost 25 years, the Curator of Zoology at the Nova Scotia Museum (now retired). With his wife, Gwyneth, he has also been farming on the Noel Shore for the last almost 40 years. During the bulk of his professional career, he has spent most of his efforts studying invertebrates primarily insects, their taxonomy, identification, ecology and how they function in ecosystems be they natural landscapes or homes and gardens. His interests have focused on how they interact with their surroundings, with other insects and ultimately, with us.

Lynn-Marie Mattie - Lynn Marie Mattie is a community herbalist. She grew up on a farm in northern Nova Scotia and has always been passionate about nature and health.

After having discovered herbalism twenty years ago, and studying more intensely over the past five years, she has opened Arisma Holistic Herbal Services in Truro, Nova Scotia.

Her clients benefit from one-on-one health consultations, locally grown herbal products including customized formulas, and from educational workshops and plant walks.

Lynn Marie loves helping people to find their strength.