

**Newport Forest**

Tuesday September 26 2006 2:15 - 4:20 pm

**Weather:** prec. 6mm; RH 74%; calm; clear; LM 23C; FCF 18C

**Purpose:** two-day stay

**Participants:** Pat, Kee

We brought Charlie the Lonesome Squirrel with us for his second visit to the woods. This time he was a much more confident & expert climber, spending a lot of time in the BM over the Nook. The girls, meanwhile, showed up immediately and appeared to be in good health. We walked to the river, noting that water still covered most of the gravel beach. We startled over 30 Canada Geese that were browsing along the semi-submerged beach and they took off with thunderous wings and the usual cacophony of honking. On the way back I checked the cedars that had volunteered two years ago. They are definitely larger and very healthy, but still hidden by the “river daisies” and other vegetation along the bank.

I took the girls for a night walk into the BCF as far as the bench. As I sat there, the girls foraging in the area, I heard a Screech Owl begin to warble downwood, then some coyotes began to sing up on the HB, quite near and above me, then a distant diesel horn sounded in the night. What a strange mixture of sound! Coming back, I spotted some lemon drops (*Bispora* sp.) on a log.

Neither of us slept very well through the night. Charlie slept under the covers, the girls were restless and were constantly on the alert for Charlie’s squirmings, and I ended by going out once again with the girls for a walk to tire them out a bit more.

In the morning, Pat went out early to visit the “Copse” among other places. She found what at first appeared to be a puffball with a leaden blue colour. But it was actually the “button” of a gilled mushroom. (See new species.) We (all) had a breakfast of bacon eggs & toast, hoping that this would fortify us against the lack of sleep.

I walked up the road to spread some more gravel. the sisters tagging along with

**Birds: (19)**

American Goldfinch (LM); American Robin (LM); Black-capped Chickadee (BCF/RL); Blue Jay (GF); Canada Goose (TR); Cedar Waxwing (BCF/LM); Common Flicker (EW); Common Yellowthroat (BCF/RL); Eastern Screech Owl (BCF); Gray Catbird (RL); Great Blue Heron (TR); Mallard (LM); Mourning Dove (BCF); Northern Cardinal (Tr); Red-bellied Woodpecker (GF); Red-tailed Hawk (BCF); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (RL); Turkey Vulture (FCF)

**New species:**

Silvery Blue Cort      *Cortinarius alboviolaceus*      pd/KD GF