

**Newport Forest**

Sunday May 4 2008

1:00 - 7:00 pm

**weather:** prc. 14 mm; RH 23% (!); BP 99.48 kPa; clm; sn/cld; LM 16 C**purpose:** TTLT Bluebell Walk**participants:** Pat, Kee and 40 others

We arrived an hour before our guests, treated by the sight of a (young?) Northern Harrier swooping over the LM. We did not have to worry about attendance, as it turned out, with some 40 arriving (incl. children) sooner or later. Muriel Andreae took the first group to the Bluebells and I took the second. Two more groups followed over the next hour but people wandered back and forth along the RSF trail and the groups became somewhat intermixed, then dispersed. The bluebells themselves had at least begun to bloom, with about 10 % in full flower, enough for several people to photograph and admire.

I took the remainder of my group, the Kaufmanns, Don Gordon and Bonnie Bergsma along the rest of the trail over the HB and through the BCF. Only a few Western Chorus Frogs were calling. Nina Hurdle came down for some socializing at the Nook, as did Steve and Karen Logan a little later. Other notables attending included Carol Richardson and several members of the Steward's Committee. Back at the Nook, we were all treated to the (rare) sight of a Red-breasted Nuthatch at the feeder.

**birds:** (21)

American Crow (HB); American Robin (BCF); Black-capped Chickadee (GF); Blue Jay (GF); Brown-headed Cowbird (GF); Chipping Sparrow (LM); Eastern Bluebird (Rd); Eastern Towhee (FCF); field Sparrow (Tr); Mourning Dove (Tr); Northern Cardinal (GF); Northern Harrier (LM); Red-bellied Woodpecker (GF); Red-breasted Nuthatch (Tr); Red-tailed Hawk (RL); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (LM); Song Sparrow (LM); Tree Swallow (Rd); Turkey Vulture (EW); White-breasted Nuthatch (Tr)

**new species:**

'Jumping Jack'	<i>Pleuromonas jaculans</i>	VP2 KD Ap27/08
Blue Stentor	<i>Stentor coeruleus</i>	VP2 KD Ap27/08
Pink triclad	<i>Hymanella retenuova</i>	VP2 KD Ap27/08

**phenology:** First Rose-breasted Grosbeaks