

**Island**  **THE WEEKLY  
Ad-Vantages PACKET**

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

By: Tom Duym

## A Lesson in Contrast and Compare

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Recently, my bride and I took a few days to explore the lower half of Nova Scotia. After sliding aboard the CAT ferry, we landed in Yarmouth. Amazing how different 30 knots feel on a 30' lobster boat versus a 350', catamaran ferry! Like many Mainers, we both have close generational roots, in the Canadian Maritimes. So up the coast we go to Halifax, a beautiful city, with a very friendly downtown waterfront. Next, off to Lunenburg - the homeport of the famed fishing schooner Bluenose, now Bluenose II. We came upon a woman loading halibut gear on her 24' wide, 44' long lobster boat! She was very accommodating and explained how she fished the lobster season (Nov - May) with 375 traps because she had possession of two lobster licenses. Mind you, each license in her district sells for \$1M to \$1.5M Canadian dollars and her boat was fairly new! I estimate it cost close to, or over \$1M to build! Very successful captain but only one of a small handful that hailed from Lunenburg.

Next stop Shelbourne, it had a great dory museum centered around the greatness of the town's fishing past. Beautiful and informative but not a fish boat in sight! At Clarks Harbor, we saw a fleet of lobster boats mostly tied up post lobster season but all high, wide and in my opinion handsome, but not much else. I had a great conversation with a retired fisherman, and yes, the man who built my boat was still alive at 92 and playing golf daily! Back to Yarmouth for a final walk on the wharves and a friendly visit to the local fishing gear store. The takeaway was this: Super friendly people, relaxed and beautiful coastal towns, but a palpable sadness that their legacy of fishing was slipping beyond the reach of the next generation. I pray we pay attention to this lesson.

Join us 8/20 at the REACH at 6:30p.m. for our Coastal Fisheries Fanfare event. To learn more and grab tickets visit [www.coastalfisheries.org](http://www.coastalfisheries.org).

### **Prices to Harvesters in Stonington, as of 8/5/2024**

Lobster (hard): \$6.15/lb.

Lobster (shedder) \$4.75/lb.

Bait (pogies): \$90/box

Fuel (diesel): \$3.45/gal

### **Oceanographic Buoy I-01**

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W – Frenchboro

Top Temperature (1 meter): 54.14°F 12.3°C

Bottom Temperature (50 meters): 48.83°F 9.35°C

Source: [www.neracoos.org](http://www.neracoos.org)