

Teens with nets seek butterflies
 One caddisfly amid swimming midges
 Sea lettuce from the bay,
 Bright green not for salads
 Absorbs metals and nitrogen
 Rock weed found among intertidal
 Families of rocks
 Oxeys daisies, colonial gardens
 Warblers sing sweet, sweet, sweet
 In camouflage of trees
 Aromas from flora carried
 on a breeze.

Bio Survey in Words

After Andrea
 (at Narragansett Beach)

A herring gull loses its way
 in the storm, crashes upon the beach,
 Neck broken, beak face down in the sand.
 Swimming, surfing – more surfers than swimmers
 Turntuous surf, waves break, a surf board
 Washes up without a surfer.
 Dazed, he rises from the ocean
 with clouds of white foam
 Reaching to the sky.
 Ripples backward to the sea
 Leaving alluvial shapes on the shore.

Homage to Rachel Carson

Children play
 at the edge of the sea.
 Could Rachel Carson be
 Among them?
 Waves so high
 Reach the sky
 surrounding the horizon
 before pounding upon the shore
 in a froth of white,
 Hugging little people feet
 in cool, wild sea foam

Rocky Point Park
New Beginning

from the Bioblitz 2014

Amid ruins of an amusement park,
 nature abounds.
 A house finch perched atop
 the derelict dining hall
 sings a welcome song.

Behind a fence memories of childhood--
 rollercoaster rides and family fun;
 music from a carousel echoes from the past
 blends with the sound of laughter.

Children collect shells and crabs awash
 in salt and sand.

Walk along the shore,
 new amusements to share.

Rocky Point Park remains a natural treasure
 for all to take pleasure!

Fern

A fern lies on the table
 alone, leaves curled.
 Borrowed from the wild,
 it seems sad
 to be away from friends
 in wooded glens.
 Part of a collection,
 It soon may die
 with leaves furled
 encased in glass.


Patti McAlpine and BioBlitz *

My first involvement with BioBlitz was in 2006 as an environmental educator. Kira Stillwell, a RI Natural History Survey organizer, asked if I'd lead a children's poetry workshop. I wanted to use poetry to connect people with nature; this was a perfect opportunity.

In 2013 the RI Natural History Survey added a writing team to BioBlitz and I signed on. While others collect data and specimens of species to annotate for the Survey, I collect words and shape the observations around me as I learn more about RI's Natural History.

* *BioBlitz is an intense period of biological surveying in an attempt to record all the living species within a designated area. (WikiPedia)*

BioBlitz is held every June at a different RI locations. Visit www.rinhs.org



**BORROWED
 FROM THE
 Wild**

PATTI McALPINE

◆

*Poetic Observations from
 RINHS Bio Blitz 2013 & 2014*

Please recycle... to a friend!

ORIGAMIPOEMS.COM
origamipoems@gmail.com

Cover photo by Patti McAlpine

Origami Poetry Project™

**A Random Acts of Poetry
 collection**

BORROWED FROM THE Wild
PATTI McALPINE
 © 2015



Donations **Greatly Appreciated**