



Langley Field Naturalists



To encourage nature appreciation, conservation and education

c/o 200-4839 221 St, Langley, BC V3A 2P1

www.langleyfieldnaturalists.org

e-mail: langleyfieldnaturalists@shaw.ca

Newsletter

December 2017

SIGHTINGS

There have been some great birds around this year. Here is a Clay-colored Sparrow from Brydon Lagoon from October 30th, 2017. The bird was found by Cos van Wermeskerken, a Langley birder. The find attracted birders from all over the Lower Mainland for several days before it moved on.

Also of interest but not in Langley was the discovery of three Western Bluebirds at Blackie Spit. The find is considered "mega" with many twitchers converging on the Crescent Beach site; many who have been birding forty years or more had never seen a Western Bluebird in the Lower Mainland.

As an added bonus a flock of Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches circled around us at close range but never landed. To top off a memorable afternoon, a flock of five Tundra swans flew overhead as we left.

By the next day the bluebirds had gone.

John Gordon



Clay-coloured Sparrow

Copyright © John Gordon Photography

Photo: John Gordon



Western Bluebird at Blackie Spit

Copyright © John Gordon Photography

Photo: John Gordon

A GREAT SURPRISE



Jenna White presents cheque to Bob Puls

Photo: Doug Hawley

On Tuesday 27th December Bob Puls received a phone call from Doug Hawley of Redwoods Golf Course - Langley Field Naturalists had been chosen to receive a donation of \$1,000.00. Bob visited Redwoods the following day, and Marketing Manager Jenna White presented the cheque, with Doug taking the photo.

The original owner of Redwoods, Lawrence Hope, was a strong supporter of LFN, and was a keen environmentalist - the golf course was planned with environmental concerns in mind, maintaining wildlife habitat where possible.

Sheila Puls

LANGLEY FIELD NATURALISTS 2017-2018 DIRECTORS

President & Conservation: Bob Puls
604-856-7534 ~ bob@puls.ca

Vice President: Lisa Dreves
604-532-0081-lisabob2@yahoo.com

Past President: Jude Grass
604-219-2043 ~ judegrass@shaw.ca

Secretary: Nora Truman
604-533-4585
~ lfnsecretary@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Caren Porter
604-427-4499 ~ caporter@shaw.ca

Membership: & Newsletter: Sheila Puls
604-856-7534 ~ sheila@puls.ca

Programmes: Jude Grass
604-219-2043 ~ judegrass@shaw.ca

Field Trips: Gareth Pugh
604-576-6831 ~ gareth@intergate.ca

Publicity: Lillianne Fuller
604-533-0638 ~lillianne101@shaw.ca

FBCN Director: Kathy Masse
604-513-8927 ~ wmasse@telus.net

Webmaster: Lisa Dreves

REPRESENTATIVES & CONVENORS

Historian & Librarian: Toots Tucker
604-532-6398 ~ llyod@telus.net

Greeters: Rebecca Tin Tun/Helen Thompson

Refreshments: Cecily Isler / Monica Newman
604-514-9697 ~ pcangus@telus.net

Forslund-Watson: Ryan Usenik
604-530-3257~jrusenik@telus.net

Campbell Valley Park Association: Jude Grass
604-219-2043 ~ judegrass@shaw.ca

Derby Reach Brae Island: Anne Gosse
604-888-1787 ~ corkie1@shaw.ca

Nature Kids: Anthea Farr 604-576-7731
nicomekl@naturekidsbc.ca

Member Participation Committee:
Joanne Rosenthal
604-455-0116 ~ jrrose77@yahoo.com

**Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month
from September to June, starting at 7.15 pm
at the Langley Community Music School,
4899 207 St. Langley**

**Executive meetings are held
on the first Wednesday of each month Sept - June
at the LEPS office or at Executive members' homes.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



So here we are back in the rainy season, the vernal ponds have refilled and most of the leaves have fallen and blown away. I recorded a new bird species on my property as three Pine Grosbeaks searched for the remaining few Rowan berries on my Mountain Ash trees. They didn't stay long, but I wonder if these new visitors have been displaced from their normal site by the forest fires this summer in the interior. I also recorded a Northern Shrike at the Marvin Marsh wetlands yesterday as it caught insects and then returned to the same high perch in a dead tree after each hunt, again a first record for this site.

We are also into the Birds Studies Canada Feeder Watch season and I have lots of Juncos, Sparrows and assorted passerines to enter, not to mention eight Steller's Jays that seem insatiable.

The rains brought out the usual crop of fungi but not an exceptional variety, unless I didn't get out enough to look. My lawn is covered in little brown jobbies at present, probably a *Cortinarius* species. They have brown spores but beyond that the *Cortinarius* species are very difficult for an amateur to identify further.

Looking forward to the Christmas Bird counts, I hope many of you volunteer to join us. You don't need to be an expert birder; we need drivers, recorders and spotters and always allocate at least one confident birder to each team. It is a good learning experience for novices with no age limit.

Bob



Pine Grosbeak

Photo: Bob Puls

BC NATURE FALL MEETING VERNON, SEPTEMBER 21ST TO 24TH, 2017

PRESENTATIONS:

HOW WETLANDS WILL SECURE THE QUALITY OF OUR FUTURE **Carrie Nadeau**

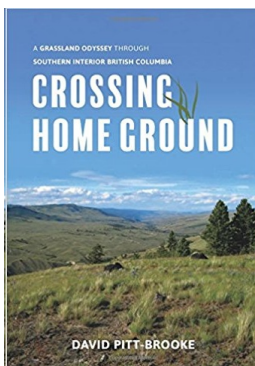
Wetlands have several different names, such as slough, swamp, marsh, fen, bog, mire, and wasteland. Unfortunately, no matter what a wetland is designated, they have nearly all vanished. In the Okanagan, we were told 84% of the wetlands are quickly disappearing due to filling for industry, orchards and housing.

However, according to our speaker Carrie Nadeau, one hectare of wetlands saves money by breaking down water bacteria as it passes through reeds and marshes and recharging the water. They do an excellent job of filtering: trapping and transforming chemicals as water flows back into streams and lakes. Also, with each wet and dry cycle, local wetlands reduce flooding of lakes and rivers by absorbing flood waters into their spongy areas.

Another important job provided by wetlands is an ideal wild habitat to preserve and save many of Canada's species at risk - such as the elegant Sandhill Cranes, many different migrating birds, ducks, fish, and wildlife - even rattlesnakes we were told. Finally, we must start thinking of wetlands as rich and productive wildlife jewels in our landscapes; not barren, deserted, unproductive environments.

Anne Gosse

CROSSING HOME GROUND **David Pitt-Brooke**



David Pitt-Brooke stepped out for a walk one morning--a long walk of a thousand kilometres or more through the arid valleys of southern interior British Columbia. He went in search of beauty and lost grace in a landscape that has seen decades of development and upheaval. In his book *Crossing Home Ground* he reports back, providing a day-by-day account of his journey's experiences, from the

practical challenges--dealing with blisters, rain and dehydration--to sublime moments of discovery and reconnection with the natural world. He presented a fascinating presentation of the pictures of grasslands he found on his walk.

Through the course of this journey, his encounters with the natural world generate starting points for reflections on larger issues: the delicate interconnections of a healthy landscape and, most especially, the increasingly fragile bond between human beings and their home-places. There is no escaping the impact of human beings on the natural world, not even in the most remote countryside, but he finds hope and consolation in surviving pockets of loveliness, the kindness of strangers and the transformative process of the walking itself, a personal pilgrimage across home ground.

Sheila Puls

PINING FOR HOME ***IS ASSISTED MIGRATION 'PLAYING GOD'*** **Dr. Greg O'Neill**

An interesting presentation was given by Dr. Greg O'Neill entitled "Pining for Home: Is Assisted Migration Playing God?".

As we know, some animals and birds are adapting to climate change through migration. But trees can't pull up their roots and move as the climate changes. So scientists are studying how we can help forests adapt by planting programs where the plantings follow the changing climate. The strategy is simple in concept but complicated in execution. We don't know exactly how the climate will change in specific regions.

Trees live for 80 to 100 years and some for thousands. Will a tree planted in a favourable climate now survive the changing climate in the future? And we don't know what individual plants will survive in any given environment other than those that are there now. BC Forest Service scientists are working with US and Yukon scientists and industry on a long term climate change research project to address some of these questions.

The presentation was reinforced for those who visited the Kalamalka Forestry Centre on the field trip that was offered at the same convention. Dr. O'Neill took us on a tour of the centre where blocks of many species of trees are planted. Each block has plantings of trees of a specific species in plots containing 25 trees. Each plot is planted from seeds collected from different areas all the way from New Mexico to Yukon. The success of the trees in each plot are monitored and compared. There are 48 such field test locations between northern California and Yukon. The objective is to gain a better understanding of the success of different seed sources when planted in different environments all over Western US, BC and Yukon.

Bill Masse

Other presentations included Shrimp Fishing in our Lakes, Snakes in the Valley and the Impact of Climate Change in the Okanagan.

BC NATURE FALL MEETING FIELD TRIPS

GREY CANAL FIELD TRIP



Grey Canal

Photo: Bob Puls

This trip was classified as easy so 8 of us set out on Friday afternoon to explore the area. The leaders however decided there were too many dogs and people on the easy trail they had planned and instead took us on the Swan Lake East section which followed the canal route to the north of where we parked.

The canal would probably be better described as an aqueduct and was installed in 1905 and used right up to 1970 for providing irrigation water to the Vernon area. In places it was just dug into the ground, whilst in others it was lined one side or both sides with concrete. Where it crossed a dip it was made of wood and later replaced with galvanised ½ pipe supported by wooden trestles, and in some areas was culverted with pipe.

The weather was fine, hot and the trail long. The views over Vernon were great, but after an hour and a half when we reached the end we were pretty hot and tired. We didn't see many birds, but managed to log about 12 species. The vegetation was extremely dry and yellow reflecting the lack of summer rainfall in the area, but we did encounter many black bear scats along the route, none fresh, indicating it had been a favorite area for berry picking.



Red Squirrel

Photo: Bob Puls

We high-tailed it back to the parking lot in about 45 minutes, stopping only to photograph a red squirrel.

Bob Puls

MIDDLETON MOUNTAIN PARK



View from Middleton Mountain

Photo: Bob Puls

Saturday morning was cool but dry and 18 of us headed for Middleton Mountain. It was listed as moderate in the program but turned out to be far less strenuous than the previous day's 'easy' hike. From the parking lot we proceeded up the hill on a zig-zag trail with some stairs and immediately were greeted by an American Pipit on the trail which turned out to be the highlight as the other 15 species I recorded that morning were all birds well known to us.

The park gives a 360 degree view of the Vernon area and it was a bit depressing to see the obvious areas of agricultural land that had been turned into housing estates and the houses creeping right up to the border of the park.



Bunchgrass

Photo: Bob Puls

The vegetation consisted of areas of bunch grass and closer to the boundary, patches that had been overgrazed by cattle were now covered in Sagebrush. As everywhere else, it was extremely dry with little greenery anywhere. No trees grow in the park, but some shrubs hosted a flock of Yellow-Rumped Warblers,

Ruby-Crowned Kinglets, a Dusky Flycatcher together with a Northern Harrier patrolling the grassland.

Naturalists had installed Bluebird boxes in places along the trails, where they were paired, one for Tree Swallows and the other for Bluebirds which they had found to be advantageous as neither species tolerate competitors too close to them.

Bob Puls



American Pipit

Photo: Bob Puls

PREDATOR RIDGE HIKE

On another lovely sunny Fall day, ten of us carpooled from the hotel to Predator Ridge, a development on top of a mountain overlooking Okanagan Lake. It started as a golf course but is now fast becoming a large housing development that is spreading across the mountain, much to the chagrin of our hosts, the NONC, as they once had a very successful Bluebird nest box trail up there. We parked near a small lake and spent some time there checking out the various species of ducks and other birds before setting off on the trail through the Ponderosa Pine.

We stopped to look at a number of small birds that were flitting through the trees but we could only identify Yellow-rumped Warblers. The trail wound uphill through very dry open pine forest, at one point passing under a hornets nest hanging in a bush only ten feet from us. As we neared the high point, we met two ladies coming down who told us they had seen a snake but that was the only indication we had of any reptiles or mammals.

When we reached the high point of the trail, we were treated to magnificent views of the Northwest arm of Okanagan Lake and the surrounding area. From there the trail ran along the ridge above the lake for some time before turning back towards the parking area. A couple of hawks soared overhead and occasionally a small bird would appear but otherwise it was very quiet. The hike was very enjoyable and from the map that each of us was

given we could see that there are several miles of trails in the area.

Gareth Pugh

KALAMALKA MOUNTAIN HIKE

Ten of us carpooled to the parking lot at the base of Kalamalka Mountain where there are lots of well maintained trails. Almost immediately we found Pygmy Nuthatches noisily feeding in the fir trees, a species that was on the 'must-see' list for several of our party and one that we came across in other locations during our hike. The first part of the trail was a gradual climb with good views down the valley before it turned upwards through the trees, becoming quite steep in places.

Eventually we arrived at the ridge along the top of the mountain with extensive views across the valley and the uplands to the Northwest. As we continued along the ridge, we found several species of birds including the noisy Clark's Nutcracker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Raven and others. The last part of the trail descended gradually for some way through the woods, where the birders stopped to look at a flock of chickadees and Pygmy Nuthatches, before descending in a series of switchbacks to the parking lot where we watched two Turkey Vultures high up in the sky and a Red-tailed Hawk flew over our heads. Another very good hike on a warm Fall day.

Gareth Pugh



Nashville Warbler in the hotel garden

Photo: Bob Puls

RIM ROCKS TRAIL HIKE

Our group carpooled to the trailhead parking lot on the King Edward Forest Service Road off the Vernon to Lumby road. As we turned off the main road, we could see that there were a number of trucks parked there which had been used to transport ATV's. Fortunately there were none on the trail we took which started as a

steady incline through a mixed deciduous/conifer forest on an old gravel road for about 2 km.

Once we arrived at the top, the trail was an easy one running through open forest along the edge of the Rim Rocks. These are a geological oddity as the hillside appears to have fallen away from the rest of the area, leaving a massive rock pit that is almost devoid of life except for a few stubborn trees that seem to grow out of bare rock. The trail is not for anyone with vertigo as for much of the trail there is a vertical drop-off on one side, interspersed with huge spires 50 to 60 feet high which are the result of erosion of the lava rock over thousands of years.

The birders among us were rewarded by the sight of a large flock of migrating warblers, mostly Yellow-rumped and Nashville plus Mountain and Black-capped Chickadees, Pygmy and Red-breasted Nuthatches to name a few. Eventually we arrived at the old gravel road that led us back down to the logging road from where it was a long but level walk back to the parking lot. Another very enjoyable hike to end a very successful BC Nature FGM.

Gareth Pugh

FORSLUND WATSON, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 23RD, 2017

With the weather man's cooperation, 14 LFN members and friends had an enjoyable evening walk around the Forslund Watson property. Part of the group ventured on the circular trail in the forest area, while the rest chose the open area walk.

The vernal pond was almost dry. Several young green frogs were observed in the area. The pond definitely is developing in a positive natural fashion. The Tree of Heaven continues to take over the area where it was identified last year.

The Bat watch was limited to only a few bats this year. One of the highlights of the evening was the appearance of three Great Horned Owls.

Ryan Usenik

CYPRESS PROVINCIAL PARK (YEW LAKE TRAIL) AUGUST 26TH, 2017

It was a lovely warm morning as our group of four headed out on our journey of discovery. One of the first exciting sightings was a black bear - judged to be about a two-year-old.

The Yew Lake Trail is in the sub-alpine ecozone of the park between Western Hemlock bio geoclimatic zone and

the Mountain Hemlock (BCG2). Trees here consist of some very large (and ancient) Western Hemlock, Mountain Hemlock, Amabilis Fir and Yellow (Alaska) Cedar. Surprisingly, there are no yews! Shrubs included various Vacciniums (Blueberries, etc.), White Rhododendron, Meadow Spirea, False Azalea and Sitka Mountain Ash, Western False Asphodel and to our



Yew Lake Trail walk

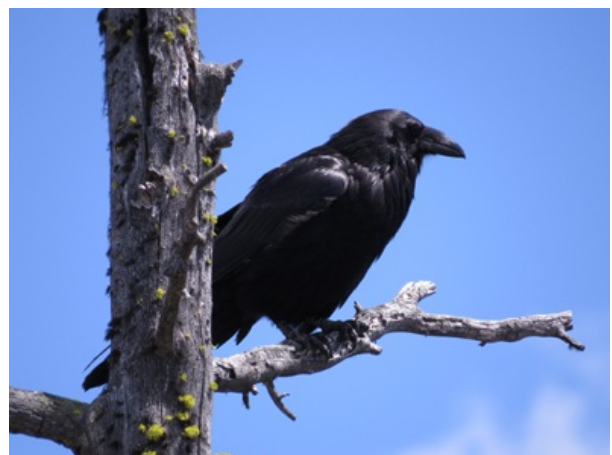
Photo: taken by a stranger!

delight, the Fringed Grass-of-Parnassus. Deer Cabbage and Black Buckbean were recorded on pond edges. There were not many mushrooms – a few Russula spp. (brittle-gills) and of course various Polypores.

Our bird list for the trip contained Canada Jay, Steller's Jay, Common Raven, American Robin, Vaux's Swift, as well as seeing sapsucker wells, mostly in hemlocks.

Mammals seen were the black bear and Douglas Squirrels (feeding on hemlock seeds).

A real plant highlight along the trail sides was Gold Thread (Coptis).



Common Raven

Photo: Al Grass

A delightful day was had by all – and no Horsefly bites!

Al Grass

JACKMAN WETLANDS SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2017



Sandpipers - Pectoral or Sharp-tailed? Photo: Tom Wildeboer

Four of us set out to explore the site on a cool cloudy morning but we were spared the showers that had been forecast.

Since there wasn't much else in the way of nature to observe, the event became a bird count exercise. Tom was able to try out his new camera with some impressive results when it came to bird identification. The LBJ's were a challenge as they didn't want to show themselves as they flitted around in the shrubs, but we still totalled 23 species by the end of the trip.

Northwestern Crows predominated with the runner up being Song Sparrows that seem to be thriving in the Lower Mainland. The biggest challenge for us was identifying the shorebirds on the south pond as none of us were competent 'Peep' identifiers. We settled for Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Least Sandpipers, and mostly Long-billed Dowichers. Turns out they weren't Least Sandpipers, but mostly Pectoral Sandpipers and the experts can't agree on Sharp-tailed Sandpipers but we think there was at least one.

Water levels are still at a summer low and the Wetlands dry, so not a lot of ducks were present and the Pied-billed Grebes were for once totally absent. Tom saw Otters in the main pond last week.

Bob Puls

GOLDEN EARS PROVINCIAL PARK SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2017

On a bit of a drizzly day, our small party of three gathered at the park entrance, where sharp-eyed Jude spotted a cluster of Earth Stars (*Geastrum saccatum*) – very beautiful. Earth Stars and related puffballs compose more than 100 species in Western North America (Aurora, D. "All that the rain promises and more"). Since the weather was not the 'best', we confined our exploration to the Spirea Bog Nature Trail. Mushrooms were far and few between – soil was still very dry.



Earth Star (*Geastrum saccatum*)

Photo: Bob Puls

However, we discovered a few fairy helmets (*Mycena*, sp.), a Paxillus (prob. *Involutus*), Stereums, Fomitopsis (a polypore), and many mosses, liverworts and lichens. Birds were scarce, but our list recorded Pacific Wren, Song Sparrow, Steller's Jay and Golden-crowned Kinglet. The only mammal was a Douglas Squirrel.

Despite the rain, it is always special to be in Golden Ears Provincial Park. We will be back.

Al Grass

CHILLIWACK PROVINCIAL PARK OCTOBER 13TH, 2017

We had originally intended to visit the Skagit Valley (our traditional fall visit) noted for its mushrooms, lichens,



Fernando and Bob enjoy the weather Photo: Al Grass

etc.) but reports from several sources all rated the road in as terrible (or worse!), so the Chilliwack Valley was chosen as the alternative (also well-known for fungi, good birding, and the slight possibility of spotting elk).

Our small party of LFNers and guests from the Chilliwack Field Naturalists. Fernando and Paulina were our guides, and we heartily thank them. Weather was cool and wet (pelted down with rain) but it didn't dampen our enthusiasm. Mushrooms however were few and far between! Lots of fairy helmets (*Mycena*, spp.) growing in the beautiful step moss. One "bolete" (a *Suillus*, sp.), I think due to its very slimy cap. Various polypore's including Ogre's polypore, and a red-belt fungus.

The park forest here is beautiful with Western Hemlock, majestic Douglas-firs and Lodgepole pine. Trees were draped with 'old man's beard' lichen (*Alectoria, sp.*). Bob pointed out a beautiful club moss (*Lycopodium*) trailing over the moss. Salmon were running in the river.

The bird list was very good given the weather – species noted were: Hermit Thrush (good views), Varied Thrush, Pacific Wren, Brown Creeper, Steller's Jay, Common Raven, Belted Kingfisher, American Dipper, Osprey (good surprise), Northwestern Crow.

Douglas Squirrel and chipmunk were the only mammals, no elk or deer. **Al Grass**

**GEORGE C REIFEL
MIGRATORY BIRD SANCTUARY
OCTOBER 27TH, 2017**



*Annabel Griffiths with friends - Red-winged Blackbird and Sandhill Crane
Photo: Joanne Rosenthal*

The weather was sparkling and spring-like -- just perfect for our birding adventure. Sandhill Cranes greeted us by cruising overhead, along with skeins of beautiful Snow Geese, dazzling in the sun. A nearby hummingbird feeder had lots of activity with Anna's Hummingbirds putting on a colourful display (at least 6). As we headed down the path into the sanctuary at least two Black-crowned Night Herons were spotted dozing in nearby shrubbery, and a Cooper's Hawk was noted in a tall cottonwood. Great Blue Herons 'lined' the nearby slough; including the "mobs" of Mallard, the waterfowl sightings included Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser and American Wigeon. Down the East Dyke ("Sparrow City") were Song and Golden-crowned Sparrows, Spotted Towhees, Brown Creepers, and lots of hungry Chickadees. American Goldfinches were spotted feeding in a nearby birch tree and Purple Finches were noshing

on Pacific crabapples (a favourite of many bird species). We searched for owls (Saw-whet, Great Horned, Barred) but no luck, lots of whitewash though!

Along the way Ann snapped our group photo under a golden glowing (it seemed) Horse Chestnut tree.



LFN at Reifel Photo: Anne Gosse

We now made our way to the Observation Tower from which we could see thousands of Snow Geese, Swans which we identified as Trumpeters, as well as rafts of waterfowl which we got to later from the outer dyke. We tried for rails (no luck). Waterfowl in the centre pond (seen from the outer dyke) included Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, and American Wigeons. Marsh Wrens called from the cattails as a couple of Northern Harriers cruised by.

A great flock of dowitchers – identified as Long-billed stood patiently; in their midst a shorebird was spotted, which led to some discussion. The bird had a rusty crown, and broad white stripe of the eye. Group wisdom concluded it was a Sharp-tail, and not a pectoral. As we marched back to the entrance, other birds noted were Ring-necked Ducks, American Coots, Gadwall – but no scaup (?). 42 species in total.

Thanks to everyone for a wonderful day, and to Varri (Gift Shop Manager) for her cheery helpful advice. We then went to have our lunch at the warming hut. **Al Grass**



Sandhill Crane Photo: Al Grass

**CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS:
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**

Birders, Drivers and Recorders needed.

VANCOUVER

Sunday December 17th

Adrian Grant-Duff

angrantduff@gmail.com

PITT MEADOWS/MAPLE RIDGE

(Langley section)

Saturday December 16th

Bob Puls

robert@puls.ca

LADNER

Saturday December 23rd

Jude Grass

judegrass@shaw.ca

WHITE ROCK/SURREY/LANGLEY

Saturday December 30th

(Langley section)

Mike Klotz

mklotz@tybo.ca

ABBOTSFORD

Friday December 29th

Stan Olson

smkd@shaw.ca

CHILLIWACK

Saturday December 16th

Denis Knopp

Bcwillddenis@uniserve.ca

9TH ANNUAL DRBIPA* BIRD COUNT

February 17th 2018

Time: 0800 - 1200

Same place: St. George's Anglican Church,
9160 Church Street, Fort Langley

Same fun. Same danger and intrigue:

"What happened, Mitch." "A gull hit her." "A gull?"

Sheila has kindly arranged, once again, for birders to flock to the cozy birder's den in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church in Fort Langley, across from the post office.

We have six routes in wonderful Metro Vancouver Parks:

1. Houston Trail
2. Brae Island
3. Fort to Fort Trail, West:
Heritage Area cairn west to Edgewater Bar
(dog off-leash park)
4. Fort to Fort Trail, East:
Heritage Area cairn east to Fort Langley
5. Derby Bog/Langley Peatlands
6. Edgewater Bar off-leash area to 208th St.

Further details will be posted closer to the event on the Langley Field Naturalists' web page:

<http://www.langleyfieldnaturalists.org/>

*<http://drbipa.org/>

Contact: Phil Henderson, strix@uniserve.com

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

AREA F OF

WHITE ROCK/SURREY/LANGLEY COUNT



PROGRAMMES

Meeting at 7.15 pm at the Langley Community Music School, 4899 207th Street, Langley.



PLEASE Bring your own coffee mug - we don't want to keep using disposable ones.



Thursday December 14th MEMBERS NIGHT

Special evening
consisting of a short business
meeting

followed by members favourites
(bring 10-12 slides, photos, a collection)

Finger food pot luck,

Social Hour

From 7.15 pm



THURSDAY JANUARY 18TH 2018

KLEE WYCK JOURNAL

Speaker Lou McKee

Lou has written and illustrated a book, Klee Wyck Journal. She and her husband David are ocean kayakers who, after many years, claimed a wilderness beach on the west coast of Vancouver Island. After being caught in heavy rains with tarps and tents, they decided they wanted better shelter and built a cabin, the participants being family and friends, and it took about 15 summer vacations to complete. During this time, she kept a journal and illustrated the nature around her every day. Besides the drawings and observances, the program also tells the story of the community of people and wild animals, the building of the cabin, food they eat, general musings, adventures in their kayaks, etc.

They will present a power point, do readings from the book, encourage audience discussion, have books to sell, original art from the book, and a copy of the original journal.

FEBRUARY 15TH 2018

HUMAN AND NATURAL HISTORY STORIES FROM ARGENTINA AND CHILE

Speaker: Ron Long

Argentina and Chile have a recorded history extending back five hundred years. Much of that time was tumultuous and has left a legacy of tales and legends.

Both countries are dominated by the high Andes whose crest forms the border between them. The massive Andes Mountains have created a spectacular landscape as well as a unique natural history. Plants, birds and animals have evolved here that occur nowhere else on earth. In one hour we can only scratch the surface of this fascinating region but we are confident that you will find the stories of revolution, national heroes, tragedy, volcanoes and nature to be new and interesting.

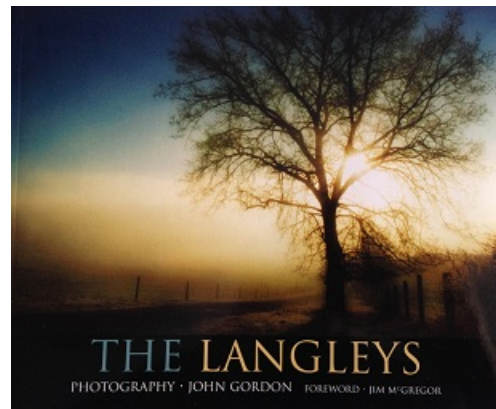
Ron Long worked as a photographer at SFU for thirty-six years. Half of that time was spent in the Biosciences Department and Ron retains a deep interest in biology and nature. Since retiring in 2004, Ron has traveled extensively to out of the way destinations around the world. When at home he enjoys giving talks about his travels that are extensively illustrated with his amazing photographs.

THURSDAY MARCH 15TH 2018

TOPIC TO BE ADVISED

Speaker: Anne Murray

BOOK REPORT



Just in time for Christmas, John Gordon's book The Langleys is now in its second edition and is available to purchase from John at the LFN Christmas wind-up or from Wendels, Chapters, Porters Coffee House and Coles in the Willowbrook Shopping Centre. Cost \$20.

FIELD TRIPS

Please Note: anyone wishing to carpool should phone in to make arrangements beforehand, otherwise please meet at the designated meeting place. **Please call to let the leader know to expect you.** The walks are generally about two to three hours long and are open to all Naturalist Clubs & members of the public (adults & children, but no pets please). Dress for the weather and bring water, binoculars and a snack, plus bug spray in the summer.

Note these walks are weather dependent so if the weather is bad and no calls are received then the leader will not show up.

SATURDAY JANUARY 6TH MOUNTAIN VIEW SPOTTED OWL BREEDING FACILITY 23898 RAWLINSON CRESCENT, LANGLEY

Leader: Gareth Pugh
Time: 10:00 am at the Centre

Join us for a visit to an important breeding facility and learn how the owls are paired off and cared for.

Please note that they want to restrict the numbers to twenty people so the first nineteen to sign up will be able to go. If we get a greater response we will organise another visit that same week.

Phone 604-576-6831 for more information and to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3RD LICHEN WALK CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK.

Leader: Al Grass
Time: 9:00 am to noon

Meet at the 16th Avenue Parking Lot. Bring a hand lens if you have one.

Please phone 604 219 2043 for information and to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10TH WINTER BIRDS OF

COLONY FARM REGIONAL PARK

Leaders: Larry Cowan & Gareth Pugh
Time: 9:00 am in the parking lot at the end of the road by the community gardens in Colony Farm Regional Park off the Lougheed Highway

Join us to walk the dikes and woodlands of this popular Metro Vancouver park to search out the many waterfowl, raptors, and other birds that call this area their home in winter.

Phone 604-576-6831 for more information and to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY MARCH 3RD NATURE WALK BRYDON LAGOON, LANGLEY

Leader: Al Grass
Time: 9:00 am to noon

Bursting buds, and other early signs of spring like a symphony of bird song. Maybe too, a Green Heron? Or early swallows. Meet at the 53rd Avenue parking lot near 198A Street, Langley.

Please phone 604 219 2043 for information and to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY MARCH 10TH HOUSTON TRAIL DERBY REACH REGIONAL PARK. BIRDS & BRYOPHYTES!

Leader: Biologist Phil Henderson
Time: 9:00 am to noon

Join biologist Phil Henderson as we go in search of any early spring bird migrants - plus bryophytes which include mosses and their relatives: tiny but beautiful plants that flourish in moist, shady sites. We will also drop down to the wetland water edge to have a look for waterfowl. Bring binoculars and hand lenses if you have them. Meet at Houston Trail parking lot on Allard Crescent, Langley 9:00 am. Phone 604-576-6831 or 604-888-1571 to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY MARCH 24TH REIFEL BIRD SANCTUARY, DELTA

Leader: Al Grass
Time: 9:00 am at entrance

Signs of Spring abound - a chorus of bird song, early swallows, and the fragrance of bursting cottonwood buds. Love is in the air! And who knows what migration will bring - maybe a Sora? Dress warmly, bring a lunch and a warm drink.

Please note there is a \$5.00 entrance fee for non members of the Bird Sanctuary. There is a seniors rate. Please phone 604 219 2043 for information and to let us know to expect you.

AND JUST FOR FUN
THE BIRDER'S 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the 1st day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
A kingfisher in an old tree.

On the 2nd day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 3rd day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 4th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 5th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 6th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
six Herons wading,
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 7th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
seven Geese a-swimming,
six Herons wading,
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 8th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
eight Eagles soaring,
seven Geese a-swimming,
six Herons wading,
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 9th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
nine Red-winged Blackbirds,
eight Eagles soaring,
seven Geese a-swimming,
six Herons wading,
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 10th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
ten Flickers flashing,
nine Red-winged Blackbirds,
eight Eagles soaring,
seven Geese a-swimming,
six Herons wading,
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 11th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
eleven Crows all cawing,
ten Flickers flashing,
nine Red-winged Blackbirds,
eight Eagles soaring,
seven Geese a-swimming,
six Herons wading,
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

On the 12th day of Christmas, what wonder did I see?
Twelve flocks of Starlings,
eleven Crows all cawing,
ten Flickers flashing,
nine Red-winged Blackbirds,
eight Eagles soaring,
seven Geese a-swimming,
six Herons wading,
five Glaucous Gulls,
four Chickadees,
three Wood Ducks,
two Stellers Jays
and a Kingfisher in an old tree!

Merry Christmas