



Langley Field Naturalists



To encourage nature appreciation, conservation and education

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

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Newsletter

September 2017

BEE MOTHS:

<http://nurturing-nature.co.uk/wildlife-garden-videos/bumblebees-and-wax-moths-the-silent-but-deadly-killers-must-see-video-2>.

The cocoon I found in a chickadee nest box was that of the wax moth (*Aphomia sociella*) also known as the bee moth, a parasite of bees and wasps. This is the only moth that occurs in bumblebee nests and is not to be confused with the lesser wax moth (*Achroia grisella*) which is attracted to honey bees. It is not shown to occur in British Columbia on the Moth Photographers website <http://mothphotographersgroup.msstate.edu/species.php?hodge=5629>.



Moth larva

Photo: Bob Puls

of what is left of the nest, find shelter out of the nest debris and make even tougher silk galleries, gregariously, side by side, each gallery or tunnel containing one caterpillar, in which they overwinter.

In my nest box, the galleries were made inside the wooden box and I don't know what hosted them as nothing was left of the original bee or wasp nest. I tried to remove them from the roof and walls of the wooden nest box and this proved very difficult. Physically trying to pull the strong, incredibly tough silk from the wood was like trying to tear a soft cloth. I used a screwdriver in the end. It really did take much longer than I ever expected. I have placed the nest in a plastic bucket and will keep it until spring until the moths hatch and I can confirm their identity.

The female wax moth lays about 100 eggs in a cluster inside the nest. They hatch after a week or so. They are very active and can move forward and backwards very easily and relatively fast, something they would have to do if chased by bees inside the nest. Gradually, as they grow, they build silk galleries right in the heart of the nest itself, actually burrowing galleries through the wax cells. If they were found by the resident workers, they would either be removed or killed. It is likely that the caterpillars only move inside the tubes they spin for themselves, in and amongst the wax cells containing food. This would enable them to eat in safety undisturbed and also further acquire more of the nest scent as they rummage in the nest cells. The caterpillars have a vegetarian diet and feed on the old wax cells, detritus, pollen, nectar, and droppings. Then totally abusing the hospitality of their hosts, very unusual for a moth species, they become predatory, feasting upon the young bee larvae themselves and dead adult bees found in the bottom of the nest.



Moth cocoon in nest box

Photo: Bob Puls

Once fully fed and developed, they will crawl out

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE!
Individual: \$32 Family: \$37

Please complete attached waiver and bring it to the September meeting.

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Member Participation Committee: Joanne Rosenthal
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**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



I hope you have all had a wonderful, stress-free summer. It has certainly been sunny, dry and really much too hot for most of our native flora and fauna.

Note to self for stress relief: when doing a bird count remember to take binoculars and camera with you!

On August 16th I did a bird count at Jackman wetlands park and was treated to the best ever view of a pair of Black-throated Gray warblers; at chest height 2 meters away, and no camera!

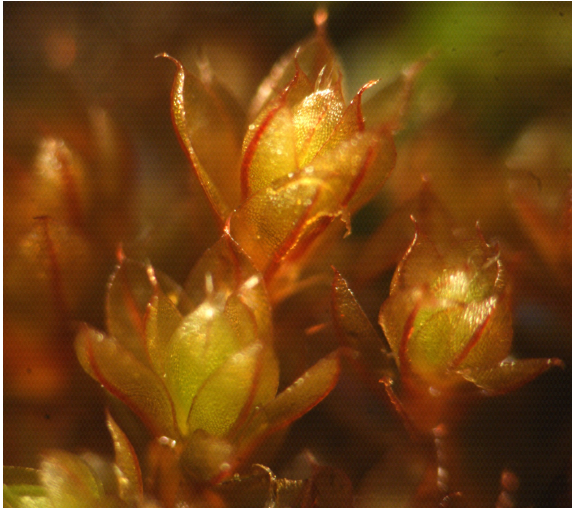
On August 24th I opted to do a bird count for the Aldergrove Regional Park - Marvin Marsh and Gordon's Brook project. Having arrived at Pepindale I discovered that I had neither my binoculars nor camera with me - oh well I had an old pair of bino's in the truck, they would do. I started down the trail to the wetlands and looked over the north side of the Pepin Brook bridge, but no fish or birds to be seen. Then I turned to look over the south side to discover that I was being watched. A Barred Owl, less than 2 metres away; a perfect photo opportunity, but no camera. So being ever the improviser, I took a bunch of pictures with my IPod, which seems to be very wide-angled. Once home I got a 10 year old to show me how to get the photo off my IPod and onto my computer! Actually it is quite a nice photo.

The rest of the bird count was fairly uneventful - 13 species at Gordon's Brook, 17 species at Marvin Marsh where the Red-wing Blackbirds, Pine Siskins and Goldfinches were flocking, and a group of 13 Killdeer flew over, but the swallows had already left. 18 species recorded at the new Gordon's Brook, Phase II site, including a couple of Turkey Vultures flying over.

Looking forward to the fall season, BC Nature meeting in Vernon and up-coming LFN meetings.

Bob

JACKMAN WETLANDS PARK THURSDAY APRIL 6TH



Capillary Thread-moss (Bryum capillare) Photo: Bob Puls

This was my fourth consecutive 'umbrella' walk for the naturalists', although it didn't really start to rain in earnest until we were just about back at the car park. Five of us ventured out into the brisk fresh air to see how the wetlands looked after record rainfalls, quite a contrast to the walk after the driest summer on record last fall. We had to make one detour due to water on the trail and the ponds were full to overflowing. Bird watching was disrupted due to the presence of dog training as well as the Wildlife Conservation group who had already checked their duck traps (monitoring for Avian Flu). Regardless, we logged 22 species of birds (entered on eBird) seeing our first Savannah Sparrows for the year and one lone Yellow-rumped Warbler. The Bald Eagles were present at the nest on the neighbouring property, but no other raptors. A male Rufous Hummingbird treated us to a magnificent mating display as he flew high into the air and zoomed down again to his starting point.

On the way back to the car, I snagged a small sample of moss, which looked interesting, growing on a concrete block. It keyed out as Capillary Thread-moss (*Bryum capillare*), a species I haven't seen at Mountain View since there are no rock substrates out there for it to grow on.

Bob Puls

BLUE HERON RESERVE, CHILLIWACK SATURDAY APRIL 15TH

A total of six members from LFN and WRSN met at the reserve entrance. After the cold winter, the tulips weren't even close to flowering, but most of the birds were already present. Last year on April 16 the tulip flowers had already been taken off.

On the parking lot, we already picked up a few species before heading out on the dike to walk around - Violet-green Swallows, Tree Swallows and Starlings. Soon these were followed by Mallard, Great Blue Herons, Red-winged Blackbirds and Northern Flicker.

On the dike we met 2 other members from LFN who had not phoned in. As Gareth was dog sitting, we saw him once in a while, and Al took the two less agile members on the walk inside the reserve.

While spotting more birds in the meadows, we also met Bruce and Joanne from Butterfly on My Shoulder. They have the website with that name and write about their walks. They told us where to find the Wilson's Snipe. After a lot of searching and looking, most of us got to see it too.

There were a pair of Osprey building a nest between the two Bald Eagles' nest in the area and we were told this was the 3rd year the young Ospreys tried to nest in that spot, but in previous years the eagles had taken out the nest.

We could not find the Pileated Woodpecker nesting in the area used last year, but we did see the woodpecker. Also Green-winged Teal, Common Merganser, lots of Wood Ducks in the water and in the trees, Herons on the nest, nest building and flying around.

We spotted Pied-billed Grebe and Bufflehead, Rufous Hummingbirds and Savannah Sparrows. The crows were flying around and over the meadows we saw Barn Swallows as well as Northern Rough-winged Swallows.

While we kept on walking to the other side, we kept on finding different species: Kinglets,

Warblers, Woodpeckers more duck species, lots of sparrows, Bushtits, Anna's Hummingbird, Trumpeter Swans, Hooded Mergansers, different wren species and lots of sparrow species.

We had lunch at the building, with coffee from the machine inside and saw more birds around the feeders close to our chosen picnic table. After lunch we did a little extra walk and found some green frogs.

When we were ready to leave, we were still finding birds such as American Kestrel, Turkey Vulture and Common Raven. A lovely trip on one of the first nice spring days this year.

Last year's 45 species were beaten by this year's 54 species.

Wim Vesseur

HOPE AIRPARK AND AREA FRIDAY MAY 26TH

A fine bird list thanks to all who came. Highlights included Western Kingbird (2), Western Tanager, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Turkey Vulture, Mountain Bluebird, Band-tailed Pigeon, two hummingbird species (Anna's and Rufous). No Calliope this time. Vaux's Swift, Evening Grosbeak (at Jack Delair's feeder) 4 warbler species, and Cedar Waxwing. Total species 43.

Thanks to Jack Delair for letting us bird on the beautiful property.

There is lots of information on the internet (Valley Birding) about the Hope Area.

Al Grass

SKAGIT VALLEY PROVINCIAL PARK THURSDAY JUNE 1ST

We met at our usual gathering place – at the Silver Skagit bridge. We checked for a dipper, but no luck. The water was high, thundering down on its way to the Fraser River - the dipper's traditional perching rocks were awash with foaming water. Then off to the Skagit, past Silver Lake (across from Silver Lake Provincial Park) where swallows were found nesting in

their usual "drill holes" in solid rock, including Rough-winged and Violet-green. Swifts were spotted, possibly Vaux's – a few Canada Geese (and young), Mallards, Common Merganser, and Spotted Sandpiper.



Lodgepole Pine Gall

Photo: Al Grass

The road wasn't too bumpy having been recently graded. We headed straight for the border (Ross Lake) and the huge day-use area. Red-breasted Sapsuckers were observed at their usual birch trees along with Rufous Hummingbirds feeding on the sap. Other birds seen in the area included Cassin's Vireo, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Barrow's Goldeneye, Red Crossbill, and Swainson's Thrush. Jan Perrin reported hearing a Least Flycatcher. Purple Violets, Spreading Dog Bane, Arctic Lupine and Orange Trumpet Honeysuckle were a few of the flowers.



Ruffed Grouse

Photo: Al Grass

Dark bees (like a mid-sized bumblebee) were seen in Whitworth Meadow nesting in the

ground. Mammals observed were Black Bear, Mule (Black tail) Deer, and Yellow-pine chipmunk.

On our way home we were treated to two excellent sightings of Ruffed Grouse.

There were few fungi to report - Lodgepole Pine Gall, on many of the pines. (Fungi shedding spores).

Thanks to all for a fine day and for your help with our flat tire!!!

Al Grass

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK SATURDAY JUNE 10TH

Eight of us gathered in the 16th Avenue parking lot at 9.0 am on a cool and cloudy, but dry, morning. We walked the Little River Loop trail with a detour to the Little River Bowl Historic Racetrack Bowl, back to the loop trail and then the Vine Maple trail, returning to the parking lot by 11.15 am.



Douglas Squirrel

Photo: Bob Puls

We recorded 24 species of birds on route, with the highlight for many being a particularly close-up view of a female Black-headed Grosbeak at the listening bridge. We were delighted and encouraged to see so many of our native Douglas squirrels, many of which were quite tame and obviously looking for a handout. The Pacific Ninebark shrubs were in full bloom, as well as native Honeysuckle which added some colour to the various shades of green seen in the forest.



Black-headed Grosbeak

Photo: Bob Puls

It was nice to lead a rain-free walk for a change.

Bob Puls

IRENE PEARCE TRAIL SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH



Photo: Anthea Farr

Even though a very warm morning was unfolding, the temperature was just right in this lovely mature forest. Nine of us, including two granddaughters of one member, ambled along slowly to savour nature's gifts. Although more birds were heard than seen, we had good views of pairs of Cedar Waxwings and Hairy Woodpeckers. Other birds seen or heard were American Robin, Swainson's Thrush, Song Sparrow, Spotted Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, Purple Finch, Black-headed Grosbeak, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Wilson's Warbler, Rufous Hummingbird, Eurasian Dove, Northwestern Crow and Pacific Wren.

The two girls were excellent at spotting orange tiger lilies alongside the trails. They also enjoyed investigating spittle bugs (aka spit bugs), once Annabel had pointed these out to them. Clearly two budding naturalists!



Hairy Woodpecker Photo: Anthea Farr

We were surprised to find several kinds of newly emerged mushrooms – a strange time of year for them to emerge, perhaps a product of our unusually moist spring. One vigorous gilled mushroom had a stalk about a foot tall, growing right out of a large pile of horse manure.

Anthea Farr

GEORGE C. REIFEL MIGRATORY BIRD SANCTUARY WEDNESDAY JUNE 28TH

The weather was nice, and the first bird seen (other than a mob of Mallards) was a Turkey Vulture. We headed off on the east dyke. Some highlights included: Anna's Hummingbird, Bald Eagle, Purple Finch, Cedar Waxwing, Savannah sparrow, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, a few shorebirds (possible Greater Yellowlegs). We could not call in either a Sora or Virginia Rail; Purple Martins were seen around the nesting boxes in the cattail marsh. Other birds seen were American Goldfinch, Marsh Wren and Common Yellowthroat, and a good morning was had by all. Add one Painted Lady Butterfly.

Al Grass

A ROCHA TOAD TOUR WEDNESDAY JULY 5TH

LFN members met at A Rocha to learn about the history of the gorgeous property and work that A Rocha is doing, mainly in the Campbell River watershed. We heard about the nearby Western Toad breeding population. The tour date of July 5th was when the new born Toadlets normally depart the breeding pond, but because of the harsh winter and late spring their migration was roughly 10 days late this year. Some tour participants were able to see the migrating Toadlets in the vicinity of 197 A St and 18th Ave. One has to see them to appreciate how small they actually are.



Migrating toadlets

Photo: Wim Vesseur

Tour participants were able to view a Hummingbird nest (used this year) and our hosts treated us to coffee, tea and nature discussion in the beautiful old guest house.

Ryan Usenik

Note: According to an A Rocha presentation, the counts were 16 the first year, 10,000 the second year and this 3rd year 100,000 toadlets which is unusually high. It is even possible that both ponds were used as breeding sites but only one pond is confirmed. The other was hard to get to with high spring water. Dispersion towards Brookwood and Surrey and Campbell Valley Park, with less to the south.

Wim Vesseur

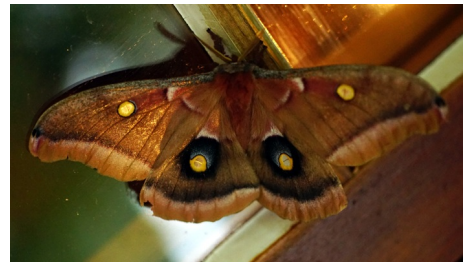
JUNE 2017
NATURALISTS CAMP AT LIKELY, BC

Eight Lower Mainland Naturalists spent from June 24th to 30th in the Likely, Horsefly area of BC at a camp arranged by Gareth Pugh. We stayed at the Northern Lights Lodge located beside the western arm of Quesnel Lake. These are some of the highlights in pictures:

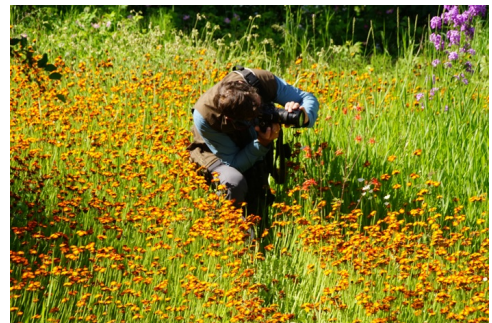


Luckily this was a couple of weeks before the devastating forest fires were triggered in the area.

Bob Puls



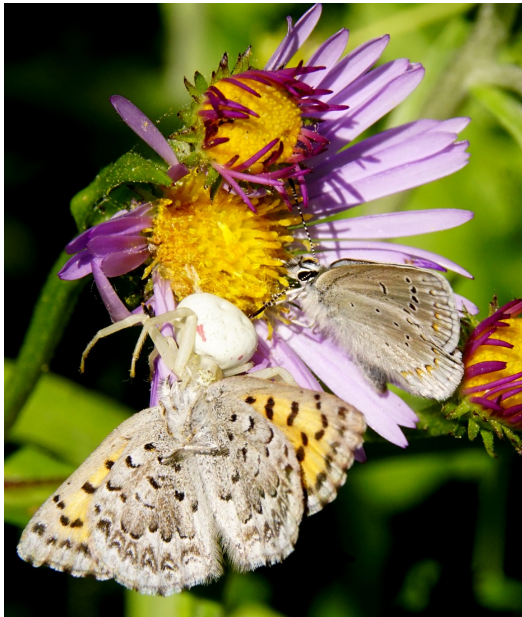
The Lodge	Mountain Ladieslipper
The sign	White Admiral
Broad-winged Hawk	Wild Strawberry
Northern Hawk-owl	Snowshoe Hare
Moose	Polyphemus Moth
Wim lost in the Hawkweed	



MANNING PARK WEDNESDAY JULY 12TH

*"I wandered lonely as a cloud,
That floats on high o'er vale and hill,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
a host of golden "*

no not daffodils, but arnica, cinquefoil, daisies and buttercups. Then there were the whites - daisy, valerian, anemone, foamflower, partridge foot, pussyfoot and of course strawberries as well as blue lupines, larkspur, penstemon, veronica and pink phlox, with red columbine, Indian paintbrush, scarlet gilia and heather - and you missed them all, yes all of you, since no one showed up on this beautiful day. The



Northern Blue, Copper sp. and crab spider

Photo: Bob Puls

sky was clear, the birds (20 species) were singing and a nice breeze was blowing to keep me cool.

I took photos of about 50 flowering species as well as several butterflies and dragonflies. There were lots of Variable Checkerspot (*Euphydryas chalcedona*), and Silver-bordered Fritillary (*Boloria selene*) butterflies in the alpine meadows, and I also saw a Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*), Field Crescent (*Phyciodes pulchella*), Northern Blues (*Plebejus idas*) and Dun Skippers (*Euphyes vestris*). One remarkable photo of a Northern Blue and a Copper sp. on a Mountain Daisy turned out to

have a Goldenrod crab spider attached to the Copper which I didn't see when I took the picture.

I must not forget the mammals: a Snow-shoe hare, a Yellow-bellied marmot, lots of Columbian ground-squirrels, chipmunks, a Pica and deer.

Since Sheila was not up to walking, she sat in the sun or snoozed in the car whilst I walked the Heather trail, Beaver pond, Strawberry flats, 20 minute loop and a sightseeing drive around the Lightning Lake parking lot. Too bad, so sad, that you all missed it.

Bob Puls

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK EVENING WALK WEDNESDAY JULY 25TH



Evening walk in the park

Photo: Al Grass

It was a warm evening as we walked the Little River Loop Trail. Bird highlights included – Western Wood Pewee, Great Blue Heron, Black-headed Grosbeak, Swainson's Thrush and Cedar Waxwing – not a long list but interesting. No nighthawks, swifts, or owls as one might have predicted.

Mammals included Townsend's Chipmunk, Douglas Squirrel. We identified a new plant *Clematis vitalba* - at least none of us had ever recorded it in the park before.

It is always lovely to walk along trails in the cool of the evening – especially at Campbell Valley Regional Park.

Al Grass

**PORTAGE PARK
(NICOMEKL FLOOD PLAIN)
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2ND**

On a nice warm summer evening, Lisa led us down the pathway. Bird highlights were Cedar Waxwings (in good numbers), Common Yellowthroat, Anna's Hummingbird and Northern Flicker, with a total of 15 species.



Cedar Waxwing Photo: Bob Puls

Plants in bloom included Himalayan Balsam (Touch-me-not or Policeman's Helmet). The 'mystery' berries turned out to be Black Hawthorn (a waxwing favourite).

Another highlight was neither plant nor animal, but the blazing red sun seen through the smoky haze.

Al Grass

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9TH
HOUSTON TRAIL SUMMER WALK**

Due to a bad case of asthma in the heat and smoke, Joan and I predicted our evening ramble around the Houston Trail was going to be short. However, thirteen people turned up for this mossy woody circle walk. Gareth led most of the group around the circle trail and five of us headed back. We found the viewing platform bog waters very quiet at this time of year; however as a bonus, we heard the Sandhill Cranes calling on our way back to the parking lot.

Anne Gosse

BARN SWALLOW DISASTER

The day before we were to leave on our annual birding trip I noticed my Barn Swallows milling around the barn in distress. On investigating, I found a Northwestern Crow inside the barn causing the havoc, and he took off as soon as I opened the door. One week later, on returning from the Likely area after a great trip, I was devastated to discover the crow had wiped out every one of the swallow nestlings in the barn. There were 11 nests with an average of 4-5 young in each, adding up to a massacre of about 50 young swallows.



Stringing the barn door

Photo: Bob Puls

I took immediate action 'shutting the barn door after the crow had left' by placing string across the open upper sections of the two barn doors. The swallows have accepted this as they can fly between the strings and hopefully the crow will not. On July 17th there were six new nests with a total of 26 eggs, which hopefully will produce another brood of young, but at least half of the adults have not returned for another try.

Bob Puls

In a previous LFN newsletter, we included the results from the bat monitoring at Forslund Watson that South Coast Bat Conservation Society carried out in the summer of 2016. To our surprise, the list included 7 different species of bats. We were recently informed that this was the first time that the Brazilian Free Tailed bat had been located in Canada. In their monitoring, they also recorded the species on Salt Spring island. It will be interesting to see if the species will continue to be recorded in Canada.

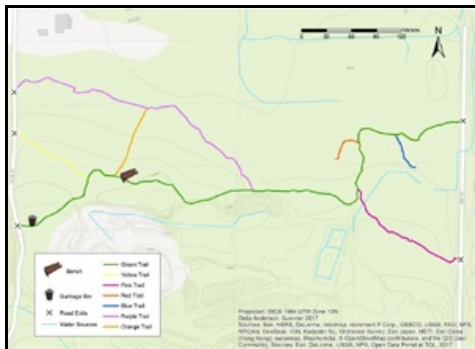
Ryan Usenik

CONSERVATION REPORT BLAUW ECO FOREST

A stakeholders meeting was held on July 21st 2017 at TWU with David Clements in the chair, and 7 participants attending.

LEPS remedial plantings on the fence-line look good, but most of the Vine Maples planted earlier in the year had died. The WEB site update has not yet been completed. Risk trees, public liability and danger warning signs were considered and it was resolved to remove or stabilize any dangerous trees near the trails.

Bob has established an e-Bird site, but has made no entries. He will do a quick survey for preliminary entries soon.



Blauw Eco Forest trail map

Delia Anderson gave a research report on monitoring water levels, pH readings near the bog and their relationship to the distance from the bog centre. Delia also gave a trails report with a map and changes to trails were suggested, along with signage proposals. Funding for trail improvement had been applied for but not granted.

Bob Puls

MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY



The President

Photo: Al Grass

The final meeting of the year - the Annual General Meeting - was followed by a Mad Hatter's Tea Party social. Following the elections, "thank you"s were given to those leaving the Executive, with an especial thanks to Ian Taylor who has been our Treasurer for the past ten years.



Kathy, Ian and Joan Photo: Al Grass

Sadly, we also have to say an "Au Revoir" to Joan Taylor as the couple will move to Halfmoon Bay - we will miss you both but wish you well. They were able to attend the Grass Shack social in August, where Joan was thanked for her services as our Secretary. Thank you to Nora for stepping in to fill that gap!



Bob, Joan & Ian Photo: Al Grass



Party at the Grass Shack

Photo: Anne Gosse

GRASS SHACK SOCIAL

Once again the weather co-operated for the annual Langley Field Naturalists' social at Al and Jude's beautiful "Shack". Nature walks, wonderful food, great friends and lovely surroundings - we appreciate the annual invitation, Al & Jude, for this very special event.

CELEBRATING CANADA 150



Flying the Fort flag

Photo: Ted Lightfoot

Langley Field Naturalists member Ted Lightfoot decided to celebrate Canada's Sesqui-centennial Celebration of 150 yrs with a cross country trip exploring Canada's fur trading routes, canoeing the original water highways and visiting the remaining forts and historic sites. His beaver sculpture wagon helps engage the public and seems to capture people's imagination! He canoed on the Churchill River with his grandchildren (looking for petroglyphs), knowing that 200 plus years ago this was the route that opened Canada up. Five months of the year when the ice was off, goods from Europe were transported upriver and furs were transported down river and out through the Hudson Bay or out through the Great Lakes. This was a six year return trip to Britain. Food was pemmican, a mixture of dried buffalo and buffalo fat, which when buried in the ground and as a stash could last for decades. The whole process was an amazing human endeavour! However by 1875, the buffalo were decimated and the beaver were mostly gone and with the railway pushed through in 1897, these fur trade routes ended.

The journey continued right across the country, and he is now on the return portion of the trip having had a wonderful experience! The people he met on the trip were very engaging and it reaffirmed that Canada is a great country to live in. This being the Sesquicentennial of Canada there are a lot of people who have taken up the challenge of travelling from coast to coast. Some are walking, many are biking and one fellow from France is on crutches with only one leg, tackling a 7 month journey. He hopes to arrive in Vancouver in the first week of November.

Ted has now passed the centre of Canada, and has flown the Fort Langley flag from coast to coast and back again. He looks forward to having his feet on home turf once again and reconnecting with old friends.

UPDATE FROM BRYDON LAGOON

July 25th

I spent a few hours this morning out at Brydon Pond taking flowerheads off of loosestrife at Brydon Pond with the LEPS crew. There is still a lot of loosestrife; in two hours we barely made it a quarter of the way around. There are lots of beetles still, very happily munching holes in the loosestrife.

BUT what I wanted to let folks know about is beaver have moved in!! Very happy to report the pond level is back up, probably to what it was before; the beaver are enjoying snacking on the willows around the pond. I couldn't find any signs of a lodge unless it was what I thought was the dam near the outlet of the pond. I wasn't able to get a good look at it because the water was too deep.

Lisa Dreves

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 SEPTEMBER 28TH

BC SPECIES AT RISK -

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Speaker Fred Bunnell

A look at ecological and legislative reasons why BC has so many species at risk. Points are illustrated by looking at the fate of the first four species legally designated as endangered in the province (in 1980). The rabbit hole lurks because in the Wonderland of BC these are still the only species legally designated as endangered.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 19TH

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.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16TH

RAPTORS OF THE FRASER VALLEY –

HOW ARE THEY DOING

AND HOW CAN WE HELP.

Speaker Myles Lamont

Myles Lamont is a wildlife biologist, zoologist and naturalist. Working professionally as both a wildlife biologist and a zoologist, he has a strong passion for wildlife conservation, reintroduction biology and the management of threatened species. He has worked both internationally and domestically on wildlife conservation projects, from arctic and boreal Canada to the tropical forests of the Indian Ocean.

Christmas Bird Counts

Tentative Dates:

White Rock/Surrey/Langley

Saturday December 30th

(Gareth Pugh/WRSN)

Vancouver

Sunday December 17th

(Nature Vancouver)

Ladner

Saturday December 23rd

(Jude Grass)



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



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.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH

POINT ROBERTS

Leader: Gareth Pugh

Time: 9:00 am at Lighthouse Park.

Join us as we visit Point Roberts to walk along the beach and scan the ocean for whales and the various seabirds that can be found there. We will also visit Lily Point Park and Marine Reserve which is in Whatcom County Park. Bring lunch, snacks and refreshments and, of course, your passports. Phone 604-576-6831 for info and to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH AND

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

COUNTRY CELEBRATION

10 am to 4 pm

Join us in talking about LFN to the park visitors.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH

GOLDEN EARS PROVINCIAL PARK

FALL FUNGI, MUSHROOMS AND MORE

Leader: Al Grass

Time: 9:30 am in the Park Entrance Parking lot (just past the goat).

Bring lunch as we will finish at the Alouette Lake Day use area. We will walk the Spirea Nature Trail and the Lower Falls trails in search of fungi and more. Phone 604-219-2043 for info and to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH

DERBY REACH/BRAE ISLAND

PARKS ASSOCIATION APPLE DAY

11 am to 2 pm

Come and help man the LFN tent at this event.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 7TH

JACKMAN PIT (WETLANDS) PARK

Leader: Bob Puls

Time: 9:00 am at 272nd street/10th avenue across from the Transfer Station.

Join the Langley Field Naturalists as we walk the trails in this rural park which is the site of a former Township gravel pit and dump. After the dump was declared full in the 1980's and capped, it was designated as a park and LFN helped with the restoration tree planting that took place there. Phone: 604-856-7534 for info and to let us know to expect you.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 13TH

SKAGIT VALLEY PROVINCIAL PARK

Leaders: Al & Jude Grass

Time: 8:45 at Hope Flood Rd. at Silver Skagit Road (take exit #168 from Highway 1 East).

Birding, fungi and more....We will head down to the Day Use Area on Ross Lake at the border, have lunch, explore and then walk the trail to Curley's meadow. Phone 604-219-2043 to let us know to expect you or for more information. Note: please make sure you have enough gas as it is 130 km round trip to Ross Lake and back to the highway. This is a full day trip, so please bring lunch, snacks, water, (sunscreen and bug repellent) and a variety of clothing and footwear for the weather plus a mushroom book (if you have one).

SATURDAY OCTOBER 21ST

GRANT NARROWS PROVINCIAL PARK/

ADDINGTON MARSH WILDLIFE

MANAGEMENT AREA

Leader: Josh Inman

Time: 9:00 am at Grant Narrows Provincial Park parking lot.

Join our leader Josh and the Langley Field Naturalists as we look for any late fall migrants

passing through and for those hardy enough to stay for the winter. This large dyke/marsh area, with several viewing towers, is a major migration route for bird life and has the largest tidal lake in the world. It can be very windy and cold at this time of year so please wear winter clothes and bring a hat and a pair of gloves. Phone: 604-532-0455 for info and to let us know to expect you.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27TH

GEORGE REIFEL BIRD SANCTUARY

Leader: Al Grass

Time: 9:30 am at the Sanctuary Gift Shop.

Fine Fall birding - waterfowl (Snow Geese) will have begun returning, shorebirds and more. Always a good chance to find owls like the Great Horned Owl. Bring lunch and water. Small entrance fee (\$5.00) for non-members of BC Waterfowl Society. Bring an extra sweater and hat, it can be chilly out there. Phone 604-219-2043 for info and to let us know to expect you.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

IRENE PEARCE TRAIL

Leader: Anthea Farr

Time: 9:00 am in the parking lot on 224th at 5th Avenue.

Join us as we walk the trails in this rural park that was turned into a park after pressure was exerted by the Council of Ratepayers and LFN. It is part of the Municipal Natural Park with the Little Campbell River flowing through it and has stands of mature Douglas Fir. Phone 604-576-7731 to let us know to expect you.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16TH

BLACKIE SPIT - CRESCENT BEACH

Leader: Gareth Pugh

Time: 1:00 pm at Crescent Beach Pier, (across from the parking lot by the outdoor swimming pool).

Join Gareth as he takes us on his volunteer bird survey for "Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society" (Birds on the Bay) and he will tell you about how you can participate in "citizen science" which anyone can contribute to. Phone 604-576-6831 to let us know to expect you.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 22ND

IONA BEACH REGIONAL PARK AND SEWAGE LAGOONS

Leader: Wim Vesseur

Time: 9:00 am at Iona Beach Regional Park.

Join us to explore this amazingly rich and varied bird life area. We will be hoping to welcome back the Snow Geese and other returning winter visitors and may even see some birds using the area as a stopover on their southward migration. Phone 604-534-3447 to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT FOR KIDS

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

Leader: Metro Vancouver Parks

Time: 9:00 am to noon

Learn basic birding skills, use binoculars and a field guide to identify and report findings during this winter bird count. Must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required - phone 604-432-6359

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH

BLAINE & DRAYTON HARBOUR

Leader: Gareth Pugh

Time: 9:00 am at Blaine Marine Park (see web site below for directions).

Join us to visit Blaine and Drayton Harbour which is an important over-wintering area for shorebirds and waterfowl. We will also drive around to the West side of the Harbour to visit Semiahmoo Park and have lunch at the cafe in the Semiahmoo Resort. Please dress warmly and wear proper footwear. Bring lunch, snacks and refreshments and, of course, your passports. Phone 604-576-6831 to let us know to expect you.

<https://www.google.ca/maps/place/Blaine+Harbor/@48.9947109,-122.7592769,15z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x0:0x6757baa2c029fcaf>