



Langley Field Naturalists



To encourage nature appreciation, conservation and education

Box 56052 Valley Centre Post Office, Langley, BC, V3A 8B3

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Newsletter

June 2013

BUTTERFLY BASICS WITH AL GRASS

What makes a good backyard butterfly garden? Basically, it's by providing two essential kinds of plants:

- * Larval (caterpillar) food sources
- * Nectar sources

Common local species that can be attracted with a good combination of plants are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| * Margined White | * Milbert's Tortoiseshell |
| * Western Tiger Swallowtail | * Satyr Anglewing |
| * Pale Swallowtail | * Painted Lady |
| * Lorquin's Admiral | * Mourning Cloak |
| * Red Admiral | |

Some good nectar sources include: thistles, butterfly bush (non-invasive types), mallows, oregano, goldenrod, sweet (dame's) rocket, sweet William, lilac, columbine (native species).



Mourning Cloak

Photo: Al Grass

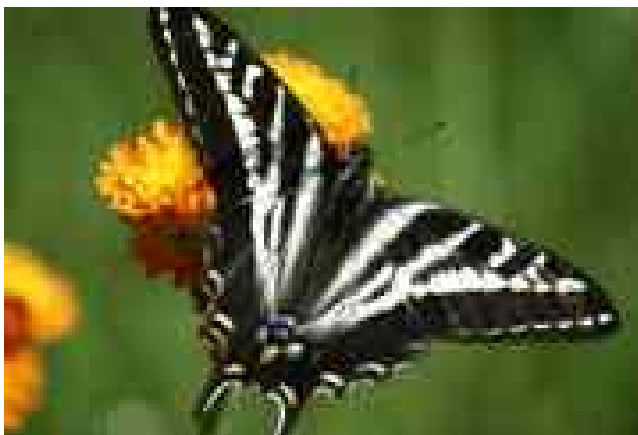
Larval plants include: red alder (pale swallowtail), willows (mourning cloak), stinging nettle (red admiral, Milbert's tortoiseshell)

There should be some tolerance of 'weedy' species, since some are very useful butterfly plants. For example bitter cress (*Cardamine, sp.*) is a common larval food of the Margined White, but it is also a common weed.

In our garden, there are places for popular garden plants, but also room for some weedy types, like stinging nettle, dandelion, and foxglove. NatureScape BC is a good place to find information about our butterflies and their plants.

www.naturescapebc.ca/

Al Grass



Pale Swallowtail

Photo: Bob Puls

Mark your calendar:

**EARTH, WIND, FIRE AND WATER;
THE SPIRIT OF NATURE
BC Nature Fall General Meeting**

19th - 22nd September 2013
Cranbrook, BC

Details in BC Nature Summer edition

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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 Executive members' homes.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



June is the transition month between spring and summer in the Fraser Valley; with a bit of sunshine and a little warmth, we can expect to see our wildflowers growing in abundance, our birds nesting and insects doing their thing, both harmful and beneficial. It is also the month of renewal for the Field Naturalists with our AGM on the 20th and Wednesday evening summer walks starting at the end of the month.

The executive meetings are a fun and social time, along with a bit of a decision and organizational component. If you feel you would like to contribute to the running of the club, please let Jude Grass know and come what may, we will find you a position and role to play. We would like to add a few member-at-large positions to the executive which would give exposure to the group without necessarily having set duties, more of a learning position. In particular we need a new conservation chair as Bruce will be stepping down this year and also a new chair of the Forslund/Watson Wildlife Area committee to replace Jenny & Ben who will be moving to Vancouver. Last but not least we have been without a Vice Chair for the last couple of years and need someone to take on this challenge.

The B.C. Nature AGM in Abbotsford was a great success with a record number (15) of our members in attendance for some or all of the proceedings. You can read more about this event in the newsletter.

See you at the meeting on 20th June!

Bob



The Pitch-in Haul for LFN

Photo: Dave Sam, LEPS

SUMAS MOUNTAIN



The 600 year old tree

Photo: Bob Puls

One of the field trips offered by the Abbotsford-Mission Nature Club at the B.C. Nature AGM was an ecology trip up Sumas Mountain. I took this trip on Saturday morning led by John Visser who has spearheaded attempts to save the ecology of this mountain.

The walk wasn't as strenuous as anticipated since the ongoing subdivision for housing on the mountain has produced a new road that took us up almost to the top, and our walk didn't involve much change in elevation. John showed us maps of the mountain, pointing out the tree-farm licence boundaries and the fact that the mountain had been logged twice already and was now into its third cutting since European settlement. The licence holder so far has been cooperative in sparing a small bowl near the top of the mountain that for some strange reason has never been logged.

The object of the trip was to show us this area and the 600 year old Douglas fir tree on the site as well as several 300-400 year old Western red cedars. John has been careful not to blaze a trail into the site as he doesn't want uninvited guests in the area, so it was a little rough walking but quite accessible.

Having reached the site, it was discouraging to see how close the active logging is to the old growth, clearly visible (and audible) not more than 100 metres from the subject tree. John is concerned about increased wind with the loss of the surrounding forest; however it looks like the tree lost its growing point sometime in the past and is as tall and wind prone as it might have been.

We were then shown the burrow openings of a Mountain beaver colony, but none of the inhabitants chose to show themselves.

A great trip, thanks John.

Bob Puls

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Another field trip offered was the Sustainable Agriculture tour. Led by Dick Bunbury, a local agriculturalist, we were taken first to the Glen Valley Organic Farm and introduced to Chris Bodner who told us about an innovative system of sustainable organic farming which is practiced there. The land is owned by a Co-operative, a community of individuals who have come together with the goal of sharing, owning and operating a 50 acre property in Glen Valley. The Co-operative uses a consensus model of decision-making, ensuring that all members have a voice. There are two managers, each of whom manage a section of the land on a day to day basis (decide what to grow and how to grow it!) within the management decisions of the Co-operative.

From there we proceeded to the Mt. Lehman winery, owned and operated by Vern Siemens. Vern showed us around the beautiful and scenic property and then led us into the tasting room to check on the quality of these organic wines.

Our last stop was at the Bakerview Eco-dairy demonstration farm, the first of its kind in Canada. This is an organic, low labour, barn where all cleaning, milking and testing is automatic - and the cows themselves decide when to go to be milked! I'm not sure how environmental or sustainable it is (they assure me it is, but I am yet to be convinced); however the ice cream is delicious!

Sheila Puls



High protein formulated ration

Photo: Sheila Puls

**"Along The Fraser -
Adapting to Change"
BC Nature Spring Conference and AGM,
Abbotsford, BC
2nd May to 5th May, 2013**

This Spring's BC Nature AGM, hosted by the Abbotsford Mission Nature Club, had the usual excellent talks and walks all relating to the theme "Along the Fraser- Adapting to change" 15 Langley Field Naturalists enjoyed all or part of the 4 day event. We all came away with new awareness of the wide variety of the ecosystems in the region that need to be protected. We learned about the restoration work to the environment being done along the Fraser River and on Sumas Mountain that have been degraded by settlement and farming since the early 20th century.

The four Friday morning speakers educated us about the ecology of the region. Dr. Jonathan Hughes, assisted by Woods Hole Research Centre, examined 6000 year old core samples of soils to learn more about the flooding history of the Fraser, noting the deposit of sand and silt in the huge flood years of 1894 and 1948. Ryan Durand spoke about stream mapping and diversity of habitat mapping, including that of the sensitive areas on Sumas Mountain. Kent Mullinix spoke about Sustainable Food Systems for the 21st Century. The industrial farming of today, highly mechanized and with chemicals will ultimately deplete the world's ability to grow food. A more sustainable and profitable agriculture can be achieved in the Lower Mainland by farming currently unused agricultural land and processing it and distributing it at the local level. The final talk was given by Ross Vennesland who spoke about the Great Blue Heron and how their numbers are declining, especially in smaller colonies. In the afternoon, Bill and I went on a field trip to view the Silverdale Creek Wetlands in Mission. The Stave



Wetlands planting

Photo: Bill Masse

Valley Salmonid Enhancement Society has worked for over 30 years to restore the wetland to provide a wintering and rearing habitat for salmon and birds. We saw the channels and ponds created and the many plantings done by volunteers to enhance the wetland. The day was warm and enjoyable and we saw many birds, including nesting Tree Swallows, a Kingfisher, a Red-tailed Hawk, a Common Yellowthroat, Wood Ducks, Bufflehead. All participants planted either a tree or shrub to further improve the habitat.

On Saturday, I attended the BC Nature Club Directors' meeting on behalf of the Langley Field Naturalists. We had a major discussion about how to recruit new people to serve on the executives of the clubs. It is always a struggle to find new people to serve in positions and a small number of people end up doing all the work. We talked about the reasons for this difficulty (don't have time, experience, dislike public speaking). But clubs should have a plan in place, identify possible individuals and promote job shadowing to overcome insecurities. More ideas will be shared in the coming months. We then had a presentation by Sarah "Harnessing Nature Knowledge Project". It will result in an online nature guide, which will be map-based and would provide a link to BC Nature Club resources that are already there. Clubs will be contacted soon for suggested viewing sites and descriptions. This site could be used by tourists and naturalists alike.

The AGM on Saturday afternoon began with a presentation by Dr. Jasper Lamont of the Nature Trust of BC who outlined nature trust acquisitions and initiatives such as sponsoring "Heart of the Fraser" program. Ian Davidson of Nature Canada spoke about the organization's recent role as joint review interveners along with BC Nature in the environmental hearings about the Enbridge pipeline. Nature Canada also has a new initiative to incorporate youth and urban places into its mandate. The meeting continued with members voting on bylaw changes to clarify the definitions of BC Nature executives and club directors, all of which passed. On Saturday evening we had an excellent banquet followed by the keynote speaker Dr. Marvin Rossenau. His topic was "The Lower Fraser - Crown Jewel of British Columbia Rivers". He spoke to the beauty of the river from Mission down to the mouth of the Fraser. The complex and fragile habitats are being disturbed and degraded by such things as hydro electric operations and dredging of the river. He wants to raise awareness of the threats to the fish habitat and the need for conservation to protect the Fraser River from further damage.

Kathy Masse

DOUGLAS TAYLOR PARK AND MATSQUI FIRST NATION RESERVE FIELD TRIP

Jill Deuling from Metro Vancouver Parks led us on this ecology walk on the Friday afternoon of the B.C. Nature AGM. Since there were lots of flowers to view and identify, we did not get very far along the trail in the allotted time. I had visited this park in its infancy and was interested to see how it had developed over the last few years. One of these days I will have to take another walk on the trail and get down as far as the river.

The trail is now well maintained and easy to follow, although the parking lot is pretty rough.

Jill took us into varying ecosystems to show us the differences in vegetation, describing special features and uses of the various plants. A highlight for me was finding several endangered Oregon Forest Snails on the edge of the trail.

Bob Puls



Oregon Forest Snail

Photo: Bob Puls

MISSION INTERPRETIVE FOREST / STAVE LAKE

While there were many outdoor field trip options, John Gordon's choice was to kick off the weekend with a visit to the Mission Interpretive Forest/Stave Lake with District of Mission's forestry staff Bob O'Neal and Kelly Cameron. His blog shows some of the creatures which were encountered.

<http://thecanadianwarbler.blogspot.ca/2013/05/bc-nature-spring-conference.html>

EARLY MORNING BIRDING FRIDAY 3RD MAY AT 6 AM



White-crowned Sparrow

Photo: John Gordon

An early start for birders meant the rattle of a 5 am alarm clock. A group of about 15 of us took a walk along the the Sumas River. Savannah Sparrow, Osprey, American Goldfinch, Purple Finch, Marsh and Bewick's Wren, Pine Siskins, White and Golden Crowned Sparrows and Rufous Hummingbirds were spotted. A Belted Kingfisher was also heard.

John Gordon

SATURDAY 4TH MAY HOGAN FAMILY NATURE PARK, BRADNER ROAD

How often have I driven past this little park tucked away among blueberry farms and dairy farms on Bradner Rd. The field trip was advertised as an 'Art Experience' and after a walk through the trail we all sat down to try our hand with pencil and paper. I must admit to being more comfortable with a camera.

John Gordon



Pine Siskin

Photo: John Gordon

**SUNDAY 5TH MAY
BURROWING OWL BREEDING FACILITY
PORT KELLS, SURREY**



Coming out to feed

Photo: John Gordon

The Burrowing Owl Conservation Society is a non-profit society whose members want to help with the conservation of the species and its habitats in BC. Steve Howard showed us around the facility and explained the recovery programme which they are following.

Bob Puls and John Gordon both attended this field trip.



Steve Howard with the Burrowing Owl pens which include underground Burrows

Photo: John Gordon

**SATURDAY 11TH MAY
IONA BEACH REGIONAL PARK &
LAGOONS**

It turned into a Three Teal Day! A few Cinnamon Teal, several Blue-winged Teal, plus Green-winged Teal were all found in the sewage ponds! A great find and always exciting to see. We also spent time searching for the rare Sage Thrasher which we were told was in the area by the bird banders from Wild Research.

Fourteen naturalists joined our leader Josh on this lovely warm day and we certainly got off to a good start. Immediately, there were Yellow-headed Blackbirds calling and flying about, making sure that everyone got good views. Before heading off into the marshy areas, we counted the many duck species on the ponds. Visiting the Wild Research Bird Banding Station we were shown banding, sexing and aging of Wilson's Warblers and Common Yellowthroat by young ornithologist Dan Frolick.



Dan Frolick explaining the bird banding Photo: Anne Gosse

We sighted a mother Gadwall carrying her baby ducklings on her back and saw lots of Purple Martins, Tree and Violet-green Swallows swooping and flying everywhere - plus a cloud of Western Sandpipers were seen over the mud flats and also Caspian Terns. Our bird count grew to 49 species by the end of the day! Thanks Josh for a great exploration at this amazingly rich bird life area.

Anne Gosse

**WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL
DECEPTION PASS STATE PARK**



Walking the trail at Deception Pass Photo: Anne Gosse

After a dark winter, if you are anxiously yearning and waiting for the sight of early spring flowers - and wonderful ocean scenery and salty sea air as I do - then Deception Pass State Park is the place for you

to go! Fourteen naturalists joined our leader Elvina on her botany excursion to this very special place. Each spring a magnificent array of natural, beautiful wild flowers are found spreading along the open grassy sea bluffs. There are Chocolate Lilies, Fawn Lilies, and Calypso Orchid, Larkspur and Purple Camus, Sea Blush plus many more spring arrivals - too numerous to list here. We usually end up with a long list of beauties found. Yes, Canada has the same type of beautiful areas but unfortunately ours are on our Gulf of Georgia Islands - or on the Sunshine Coast so you cannot reach them without spending time and money on our BC ferries. A lovely lunch in the sunshine completed our day. Thanks Elvina for a great trip!

Anne Gosse

SATURDAY APRIL 13TH LITTLE CAMPBELL FISH HATCHERY



On the woodland trail at Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club

Photo: Anne Gosse

SATURDAY APRIL 20TH



At Surrey Bend

Photo: Anne Gosse

A small pod of naturalists joined Ivan K for a comfortable fresh air ramble in this wild uncultivated river-bend park. Ivan described what he had previously seen in this park over several years - telling us that the park is nearly as big as Stanley Park - which is very impressive.

First, we strolled the untamed wild, wet, marshy dyke trail to the tree line, being serenaded all along the way by many Orange-crowned Warblers, lots of Common Yellowthroat and Yellow Warblers. Rufous Hummingbirds were everywhere - buzzing and sitting on their perches! We counted about 8 or 10. We managed to find 27 different species on our slow walk - including a Northern Harrier, two Red-tailed Hawks, a Turkey Vulture plus many water fowl on the river and marshes.

We also found one of our stray birders along the river-side trail as well. The early morning peacefulness and sunshine made for a very pleasurable morning. Our thanks to Ivan for taking time to lead our group.

Anne Gosse

On a cold April morning, eleven hardy naturalists met our leader Roy T. at the Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club in Surrey. This is the first "all volunteer hatchery" in British Columbia and our leader Roy did an excellent job of telling us about all its facilities - how it was obtained and built (in 1979 & 1983) - and how it continues to be maintained by its many volunteers today. On this day, the hatchery area was full of activity with men working on the outdoor structures and with the fish stocking tanks.

We were first given a very informative tour of the fish hatchery and its overall operations. We were shown several fish tanks inside and outside, plus egg baskets and even the "cutting or marking" tanks inside. It had started pouring while we were under a porch, but by the time we finished our inside tour we were able to wander the area's lovely paths rain free.

Located beside the Little Campbell River this 30 acre site is a beautiful quiet green gem. It has several meandering trails along its spawning channels and river's edge, with lots of different types of birds visiting and nesting along its wooded banks. Roy pointed out two owl nesting areas and where the beavers lived along the river bank.

It was also a day of varied amusements - a mouse hidden in the hand - turned into a mouse plant! A fascinating Mason bees nest. The herd of cows were being enticed across the little hatchery bridge by a grain bucket. It was a very interesting and educational day. 22 species of birds were recorded. Thanks Roy, we all enjoyed it very much.

Anne Gosse

**SATURDAY 30TH MARCH
HOUSTON TRAIL**



A beautiful Spring day on Houston Trail photo: Anne Gosse

Fabulously sunny, warm weather finally materialized for our group of 20 naturalists who turned up for our outing with Phil H. around the Houston Trail in North Langley. We witnessed plenty of spring activity, such as the first Trilliums seen, the melodic song of Pacific Wrens, and big bumblebees and butterflies flying about. Red Crossbills were heard high above in the evergreen trees near the parking lot and then seen again later in the meadow. We quietly followed the narrow "bog's edge" trail trying to sneak a view of the waterfowl on the marsh. We managed to find some Wood Ducks, Ring-necked Ducks, Mallards and Canada Geese, but then a pair of noisy Sandhill Cranes, loudly announcing their presence, flew over us.

We then cut across the little used "over-the-top trail" trying to see a possible Barred Owl that some Stellar's Jays were noisily bothering; however, even though a large bird was seen flying away, it could not be identified.

We looked for the Back-throated Gray Warbler on our journey but Phil thought it might be a bit too early for this migrant. On the way up the zigzag ravine trail incline, I tripped over a root, gracefully rolled and disappeared over the ravine's edge! Clinging to a wee tuft of grass on the slope, I was pulled up by our fearless leader Phil! What a hero!

On the Fort-to-Fort trail pond and also on the Fraser River, we found a few more ducks, mergansers plus a pair of Kingfishers to increase our count. We recorded 36 species at the end of our day with lots of great sightings and happy incidents. Our thanks again to Phil for leading us on this excellent outing and also for picking such a wonderful day!

Anne Gosse

**THURSDAY 28TH MARCH
REIFEL REFUGE**



Who's observing who?

Photo: Anne Gosse

Six avid and happy birders made an impromptu trip to Reifel Refuge bird sanctuary on a lovely sunny warm spring morning to catch the sunshine plus the nesting activity. The sanctuary was alive with lots of goings-on, with nest building seen, pairing up and loud defending squawks from Canada Geese and Sandhill Cranes. In fact, the whole sanctuary seemed alive and marvelously bursting with spring activities.

Airborne Mallard ducks kept whizzing across the paths near our heads, so much so - that one of our group nearly got knocked out by a flying duck. How would we explain that? From then on we had to "duck for ducks" all along the trails. We ended up with a count of 41 species, with an exciting opportunity to see a Great Horned Owl in flight and to watch him land in a nearby tree. We all agreed it was a great day to be alive and outside in nature as we rehatched our day's events while eating lunch on the picnic tables. Fabulous Day!

Anne Gosse



Beware of flying Mallard

Photo: Internet

**SATURDAY 16TH MARCH
ALDERGROVE REGIONAL PARK**



Walking in Aldergrove Regional Park Photo: Anne Gosse

Two Varied Thrushes were loudly trilling across the parking lot when we arrived at Aldergrove Park. Ten naturalists had turned out to meet our leader Roy - including two grandchildren. Roy first took us to see Pepin and Gordon Brooks and told us about the very small endangered fish - the Salish Sucker and Nooksack Dace that live in these local streams.

We noticed many signs that spring was just around the corner! Yippee! A beaver was busy building a large dam, the Pacific Wren was singing its wonderful long melodic song, and there were many Swamp Lanterns, Bleeding Hearts, Salmonberry flowers and Lily of the Valley sprouting up everywhere. We heard and saw a few birds before the rain started. Dark-eyed Juncos, American Robins, Song Sparrows, Spotted Towhees, Steller's Jays, Chickadees, Bewick's Wrens, Bald Eagles and Flickers plus a few more.

We walked to the crest of the hill overlooking the ponds to see a flock of American Wigeon. By that time the rain had started so we headed back to our cars. We drove around to look at this park's unusual feature of a huge boulder - Roy called it a transformer - a glacier deposit from 12,000 million years ago. As we were leaving, four deer were seen grazing in the meadow. We ended our day at Tim Horton's laughing and having coffee. Our thanks to Roy for a very enjoyable, wet but warm walk.



*Bleeding Heart
Photo: John Gordon*

Anne Gosse

**SATURDAY 18TH MAY
HAYSTACK ROCK,
CANNON BEACH, OREGON**

Formed like its namesake, Haystack Rock on Cannon Beach, Oregon, is large, dome-shaped and quite impressive. Its top is covered with bushy grass which extends halfway down its steeply curved sides before it meets vertical cliff walls.

In late May and early June each year, it is covered with numerous loud, boisterous nesting colonies of seabirds - such as Western Seagull, Rhinoceros Auklets, Tufted Puffins, Double-crested and Pelagic Cormorants, Murres. At this time, the dome becomes a hive of busy activity with seabird parents flying back and forth feeding hungry chicks.

However, it also provides an easy feeding frenzy for two opportunistic intruders as well! Two large healthy-looking Bald Eagles appear each day, soaring casually over the dome picking a chick off its



Haystack Rock Photo: Anne Gosse

nest. As they wing slowly above, loud cries arise from the top with the nesting birds taking flight and circling frantically about. Seagull mothers bravely attack and dive at this ruthless pair as they easily pluck a nestling from its nest.



Puffin Photo: Anne Gosse

As I watched, the two predators scooped a Seagull and a Puffin chick and then casually flew home - then came back for more! Such is the life of seabirds on Haystack Rock.

Anne Gosse

WHIMBRELS, WHALES, WOLVES, & WONDERFUL WEATHER! (BC NATURE SPRING CAMP, TOFINO BC APRIL 27TH-MAY 1, 2013)

Our BC Nature Spring Camp in Tofino 2013 turned out to be a wonderful and thrilling outdoor experience. In this beautiful area, we whale-watched on large ocean swells, wandered in quiet old growth forests, dipped in warm hot springs, visited salty beaches and watched the expansive mud flats.

During our four night, five day camp, the weather was sunny and dry. We participate in three different boat excursions while observing grey whales, about 30 Sea Otters, two river Otters, several harbor porpoises, plus harbor seals. We also came across a pine Marten, two black bears with three small cubs, three Coastal Wolves and one snake on our adventures! According to our boat captains, the Coastal Wolves were a very special sighting as they are seldom seen.

Our bird count grew longer each day as we explored - ending up with a supersized count of 76-77 different species! - with lots of sea ducks and shorebirds in our tally. On the wild beaches and expansive mud flats we had close-up observations of the down-curved beaks of large Whimbrels, the red-beaked Black Oystercatchers, the Black-bellied Plovers and of a small group of Red-necked Phalaropes. Several flights of Western Sandpipers and Dunlin, plus a few mixed groups, flew by every so often. We also watched in awe and amazement as an enormous mass of shorebirds displayed flocking behaviour in tight group formation - waving, bunching and wheeling over the wide mud flats. Who says left, or right - and who's the leader?

Our naturalist birding gurus, Andy Murray and Viveka Ohman, shared many "bird facts" to accompany our many bird sightings - including that it is estimated that millions of shorebirds migrate through this area late April and early May every year!

George Patterson walked our group through his lovely and unique Tofino Botanical Gardens that boasts several unusual and remarkable pieces of wooden carvings, sculptures and other different works of art. As well, an enthusiastic Kim Johnston from the Raincoast Education Society took us on a wonderful marine journey into the invertebrate environment of the intertidal zone on a sunny beach.

Meares Island's wooden walkways could be dangerous and slippery as they badly need repair; however, the thousand-year-old mossy, green huge cedar trees gave off a majestic solitude that made our wander worth it.

Several very informative slide presentations and speakers were heard - the first one being a presentation by Dan Harrison who gave a very impressive quick overview of what the Raincoast Education Society does in one year. We discovered they wear many hats and contribute to the natural environment of the Clayoquot and Barkley Sound regions with educational programs, interpretive programs, school programs and walks, talks and slideshows for all residents.

Next, we then enjoyed Josie Osborne's informative slide presentation about those adorable-looking Sea Otters - along with plenty of sea otter fun facts. Lastly, Pacific Rim Park Ranger Pete Clarkson told us a few humorous stories along with his very interesting slide presentation about the "The Remarkable Offshore Islets of the Pacific Rim". His love and passion of his "study bird" the Oyster Catcher was very infectious indeed!

We had two mixer fun games in the evenings which everyone seemed to enjoy and which gave everyone some good laughs, plus we enjoyed a "tall tale" night where stork-like activity was displayed and a quiz "answer" teasingly disputed - all with much laughter and ribbing. Finally, the only rainfall of note was after we all got wet from the hot springs! - so we were very lucky.

Anne Gosse



Whimbrels, Whales, Wolves, & Wonderful Weather!

Photo: Janet McIntosh

*Langley Field Naturalist's
Summer Social and Nature Walks
Saturday July 27, 2013
10am to 4pm*



*At the GRASS SHACK
Home of Al and Jude
17375 27A Avenue, Surrey*

*LFN members are invited to join us
for a relaxing day of bird/nature watching
in the backyard,
and/or going on a guided walk led by Al
on our Country Woods nature trails
(10.30 am and 1.30 pm).*

*Please bring a savory or sweet
to share for lunch
and let me know what you are bringing so
we have a good variety.
Bring a chair, binoculars, camera
- rain or shine.*

*RSVP to Jude -
judegrass@shaw.ca or 604-538-8774*

*I will send out instructions for finding
the Grass Shack when you RSVP.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING

SUMMER WALKS, 6:30 till 8:30 pm

We usually meet at Douglas Park Rec Center for car-pooling, however, please call leaders for where to meet - if at the Rec Center or at the designated park. Also please call to let them know to expect you. The walks are about two hours long and are open to all Naturalist Clubs & members of the public (adults & children, but no pets please). Please wear suitable walking shoes, light jackets, bring water, binoculars and bug spray.

WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY

HOUSTON TRAIL - DERBY REACH

Meet at Allard Crescent Heritage Area
Leaders: Anne Gosse & Joan Taylor -
604-888-1787 or 604-888-7261.

WEDNESDAY 10TH JULY

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

Meet at 16th Avenue parking lot
Leaders: Jude and Al Grass - 604-538-8774
Meet at 16th Avenue Parking lot.

WEDNESDAY 17TH JULY

ALDERGROVE REGIONAL PARK

Meet in lower parking lot, 8th Avenue entrance
Leader: Bob Puls - 604-856-7534.

WEDNESDAY 24TH JULY

BRYDON LAGOON

Meet at parking lot 53rd Avenue at 199th Street
Leaders: Jude and Al Grass - 604-538-8774.

WEDNESDAY 31ST JULY

WEST CREEK WETLANDS

Meet on 72nd Avenue, west of 264th Street
Leader: Lisa Parker - 604-532-0081.

WEDNESDAY 7TH AUGUST

FORSLUND WATSON NATURE RESERVE

Meet at end of 26th Avenue east of 224th Street
Leader: Jenny Auxier - 604-999-5047.

WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST

MOUNTAIN VIEW CROWN LANDS

Meet on Rawlison Crescent under railway bridge
Leader: Bob Puls 604-856-7534.



View from the Douglas Taylor Park Trail

Photo: Bob Puls

FIELD TRIPS

Unless otherwise noted, meet at Douglas Park Recreation Centre on Douglas Crescent between 204 and 206 Street at 9:00 am for car pooling. If you prefer to meet at the walk site, please phone so we can watch for you. **Please phone in advance so that the co-ordinator does not go needlessly to the meeting site** - if the co-ordinator has not heard from any participants by the evening before the outing, then he/she will not go to the meeting site. Bring water, a lunch, binoculars, field guides and appropriate clothing for the weather. For more information, to make comments, suggest walks or to let us know you are coming, please phone Anne Gosse, 604-888-1787.

Friday to Sunday 14th - 16th June, 2013 MANNING PARK BIRD BLITZ

Friday 21st June, 2013 SKAGIT VALLEY PROVINCIAL PARK Leaders: **Al & Jude Grass**

Birds and wildflowers should be at their best including the beautiful pink Rhododendron. 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. Meet at the junction of the Hope Flood Road & Silver Skagit Road at 8:45 am. The Hope Flood Road exit is # 168 from Highway #1 heading east. **Note: please make sure you have enough gas as it is 130 km round trip to Ross Lake and back to the highway.** For info contact 604 538 8774.

Friday 19th July, 2013 GOLD CREEK FALLS @ GOLDEN EARS PROVINCIAL PARK Leader: **Al Grass**

Join us for a nature walk along scenic Gold Creek - birds, wildflowers, and maybe mountain goats! If time permits we'll drop in on the Spirea Nature Trail. Please bring lunch, snacks, water, (sunscreen and bug repellent) and a variety of clothing and footwear for the weather. Meet in Langley Douglas Cres at 8:00 am or at the Park Gate parking lot at 9:00 am. For info contact 604 538 8774.

Thursday 1st August, 2013 B.C. MANNING PROVINCIAL PARK PAINTBRUSH NATURE TRAIL & VIEW POINT LOOP IN HEATHER MEADOWS Leaders: **Sheila & Bob Puls**

Botany walk. Come join Sheila and Bob Puls as we wander along the lovely alpine meadow trails. This is the time of the first beautiful alpine blush of flowers that grow in our lovely coastal mountains. Let's wander and see what special alpine beauties we can discover and enjoy wonderful panoramic views. Bring botany books. Weather permitting only. Contact Info: 856-7534 or 888-1787. Meet Langley at 7:30 am or Paintbrush top parking lot at 9:30-10:00 am.

* NEW - Friday 16th August, SUMMER BUTTERFLY WALK AT CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK Leader: **Al Grass**

Join us as we look for late summer butterflies (and other insects too!). Meet by the Nature House wildlife garden 8th Avenue (South) park entrance at 9:00 am. Bring snacks, water, etc. For info contact 604-538-8774.

Saturday & Sunday 14th-15th September, 2013 COUNTRY CELEBRATION CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK 8th Avenue (South) Entrance.

Friday 27th September, 2013 GEORGE REIFEL BIRD SANCTUARY

Leader: Joan Wilmshurst - Come join Joan as we look for migrating birds, waterfowl, perhaps newly arriving Snow Geese, plus much more in this wonderful bird sanctuary on the Fraser River estuary! September is one of the best times to visit Reifel to see many returning migrants passing through. There is a small admission fee. Bring lunch, snacks and refreshments. Meet at Douglas Crescent 8:00 am or Reifel Bird Sanctuary on Westham Island, Delta 9:00am.

FALL PROGRAMMES

Check our website for updates!

Please note: The September meeting will be held one week later than usual because of the BC Nature Fall General Meeting in Cranbrook.

Meetings are held commencing at 7.15 pm at the Langley Community Music School, 4899 207th Street, Langley. Unless otherwise indicated, they consist of a brief monthly business meeting, followed by the feature presentation (approximately one hour), followed by refreshments.

Thursday 26th September Programme to be advised.

Thursday 17th October BRITISH COLUMBIA'S MAJESTIC THOMPSON RIVER Speaker: *Bernie Fandrich*

Thursday 21st November OWLS Speaker: *John Neville*