



www.centralvalleynaturalists.org

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 p.m. in the Seniors' Resource Centre Michael Collins Room 2478 McCallum Road, Abbotsford

Mailing address: P.O. Box 612 Abbotsford, BC V2T 6Z8 Email: haroos@shaw.ca

NEWSLETTER

September 2008

“To know nature and to keep it worth knowing”

The objectives of the Central Valley Naturalists

- To enjoy and interpret natural history
- To promote an understanding and an appreciation of natural ecosystems
- To promote the concept of stewardship of natural resources
- To participate as naturalists in public consultations related to questions of environment and development in the Fraser Valley

Meeting Schedule

September 10, 2008

Jim Taylor of the Stave Valley Salmonid Enhancement Society

will be talking on planned

enhancements to the Silverdale Creek Wetlands wildlife and habitat protected area, the work of the wetlands planning committee and opportunities for the public to become involved.

October 8, 2008

Topic and speaker to be confirmed

November 12, 2008

Topic and speaker to be confirmed

December 10, 2008

Christmas potluck and social

If you have any suggestions for a topic of speaker, please contact Wendy DaDalt at 604-856-2575 or Kathy Wilkinson at 604-854-3203

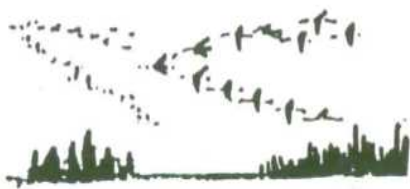
Some topics being explored are:

- Clouds
- Steady State Economy
- Bears
- BC Forests after the pine beetle

CVN EXECUTIVE

President	Hank Roos	604-853-4283 haroos@shaw.ca
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Secretary	Herman Venema	604-826-6872 hcpvenema@uniserve.com
Treasurer	Jacqui Reznick	604-557-1828 mareznick@hotmail.com
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	Kathy Wilkinson	604-854-3203
Field trips	VACANT	
Conservation	Henk Saaltink	604-856-4982 henkjs@telus.net
	Johanna Saaltink	604-856-4982
	Kathy Wilkinson	604-854-3203 kwilkins2@shaw.ca
	Wendy DaDalt	604-856-2575
Hospitality	Kate Toth	604-859-4492 toth_k@telus.net
Displays	Steve Howard	sawhorse4@hotmail.com
	Johanna Saaltink/Gerry Powers	
Newsletter	Alice Roos	604-853-4283 haroos@shaw.ca





FIELD TRIPS

The **FIELD TRIPS** this past year have been organized by **Michael Manley**. Unfortunately Michael has had to resign as our field trip coordinator. Thank you, Michael for your willingness to serve in that capacity.

WANTED/NEEDED/DESIRED:
Someone to take on the duty of Fieldtrip coordinator. Experience not necessary!

September 20th - Saturday

DeBouville Slough and Minnehada

Regional Park (with Langley Field Naturalists - contact Anne Gosse 604-888-1787)

Come out and support Josh Inman as he leads us through a freshwater marsh and slough within this unique birding spot!

Meet at 7:30 am at the Douglas Park Recreation Centre on Douglas Crescent (between 204 and 206 Street, Langley) or at 8:30 am at the corner of Cedar Drive and Victoria Drive in Coquitlam.

October 2 to 5, 2008



BC Nature Fall Conference and FGM in Sorrento

The theme of the conference is "Preserving the Spirit of the Shuswap"

Check out the Summer 2008 edition of BC Nature for details on the speakers and the many wonderful fieldtrips that are planned.

October 19, 2008 - Sunday 1:30 pm ***Return of the spawning salmon and hike the Canyon Trail in Kanaka Creek Regional Park***

From Mission take Lougheed Hwy west to 240th turn right (north) cross the Kanaka Creek bridge and meet in the parking lot at the fish fence. From there we will go to the Bell-Irving Hatchery and hike the Canyon Trail loop past the Cliff Falls. Dress for the weather, bring water, and wear sturdy foot wear. There are some challenging hills.

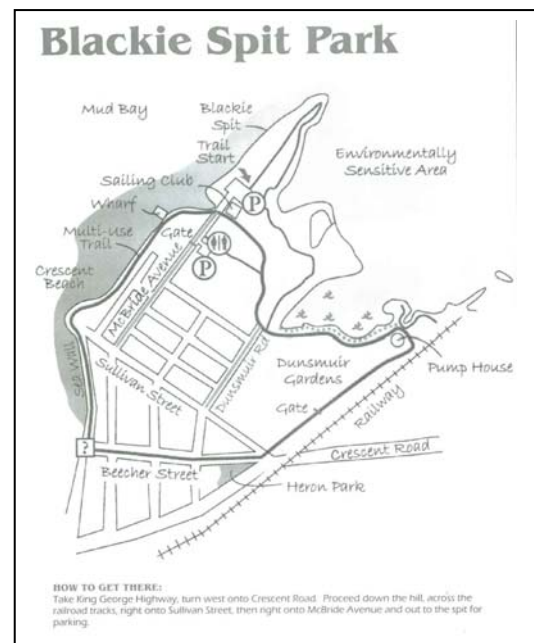
November 15, 2008 - Saturday - 9 am

Birding at Blackie Spit with Steve

Howard (604-751-0282)

Blackie Spit is one of the best bird watching areas in Canada with almost 200 species of birds recorded in a calendar year.

Dress for the weather, bring lunch and birding gear.



Take Hwy 1 west to Exit 66/232nd Street, Hwy 10 turn left at 152nd Street, turn right at 32nd Avenue, turn right at King George Highway, turn left at Crescent Road, turn left to stay on Crescent Road, continue to Beecher Street, turn right at McBride Avenue. Meet in the parking lot.

December 27 - Christmas Bird Count

Details to follow

entertainment, exhibits and workshops will lead up to the Spirit Lantern Festival that evening.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS



May 10, 2008 - Saturday

Iona Regional Park

Seventeen keen birders from several different naturalist clubs arrived at Iona Regional Park to meet Dr. Martin McNicholl on this cloudy Saturday. It turned out to be a banner day for bird watchers! - with many bird sightings, good spotting by Martin, and numerous "finds"! Martin showed us a colony of Purple Martins on the posts of the Fraser River. Also, we were very lucky to flush up an American Bittern from the marshes as we walked along, plus we saw many Yellow-Headed Blackbirds singing their "rusty nail" song, along with lots of warblers. Making the day even more fascinating, Martin told us some memorable little stories (or facts) to accompany some of the "bird finds". A total of 56-57 species were found in all. We were very fortunate to have an ornithologist such as Martin to show us around this marsh covered park. Thanks again Martin, same time next year perhaps?

Anne Gosse

COMMUNITY EVENTS



September 21, 2008 - 1 - 6 pm

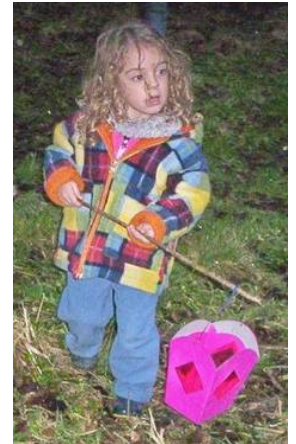
Olde Fashioned Picnic by the River

Come celebrate the 1800s and 1900s with an olde fashioned picnic at Matsqui Trail Regional Park. Come dressed in costumes reflective of the past 150 years, join in the games of a bygone era, and listen to stories depicting our history! Afternoon

September 21, 2008 - 6 - 9 pm

2nd Annual Spirit Lantern Fest at Matsqui Trail Regional Park.

Bring your lantern and join in the parade of lanterns. The evening will end with a fabulous fireworks display! Don't have a lantern? There will be a lantern-making workshop on site from 1 - 7 pm.



September 22, 2008 - 11 am - 12 pm

Rivermania Celebrations at Matsqui Trail Regional Park

Join in for the disembarkation of Simon Fraser as he is welcome by local characters from days gone by.

September 22, 2008 - 1:30 - 3:00 pm ***Cultural Centre Community Celebration at Cultural Centre - Civic Plaza***

A highlight of the celebrations will include an unveiling of a commissioned art piece by premier Salish artist Stan Green. This family event will celebrate the diversity in our community and mark the community opening of Abbotsford's new Cultural Centre. An appearance by the Rivermania entourage will give you the opportunity to "meet" the pioneers.

The above even are sponsored by:

- Abbotsford Spirit of BC
- City of Abbotsford
- Kinder Morgan Canada Inc.
- Metro Vancouver

CONSERVATION

"To keep it worth knowing"

The Toad Rescue

"Yay! We're going to rescue frogs!" we said after our grandpa told us we were going frog catching. There's supposed to be a whole lot of frogs to transfer across the road in Chilliwack, because they're stupid and try to go back to the lake. So, he told us the dates {July 25/08}, picked up our cousins, and away we went to Chilliwack. "Well this is the road!" our grandpa told us after our twenty-five minute ride. "Now where should we park?"

"There sure are a lot of rocks on the road!" I told my brother. My grandpa suddenly said "Wait a minute... those are the toads!!"

We backed up, and parked. Then the race started and we ran off, putting every half-inch frog into our beach buckets making sure we counted every one. I have 10, I have 20, ha! I have 30 we told each other as we continued our rescue. We were having a blast, combining all of our frogs to equal 250. "Man, there are tons!" we couldn't stop saying, putting them all in our buckets. After that, we went to the right side of the road and slowly dumped out the bucket. "Wow!" All five of us said "We must've saved like, 400!" And so as our good deed to nature ended, our grandparents successfully taught us another wonderful thing about creation.

Eric Groot, age 13



Trans Canada Trail

The CVN has purchased 1 metre of trail on behalf of Alan Pit and Dan Rempel. The ceremony unveiling the new donor panel took place on July 19 at the location of the pavilion Matsqui Trail between the Mission bridge and the railroad bridge.



Unveiling of the new plaques on the Trans Canada Trail

NEWSLETTER - the newsletter is published in September, November, January, March and May. Any news items and interesting articles can be sent to Alice Roos at haroos@shaw.ca or 604-853-4283

E-MAIL ADDRESSES - In order to keep our costs down; the newsletter will be sent by e-mail to those that have an email address. Please provide your e-mail address to either Jacqie Reznick or Alice Roos. For those that cannot be reached by e-mail, copies will be available at the monthly meeting.

Membership Fees - Single \$30, Family \$35 which are due January 1 each year.
Membership provides the following benefits: 5 CVN newsletters per annum, automatic membership in BC Nature (FBCN), subscription to "BC nature" (4 issues per year)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

Particular nature interests? (optional) _____

Expertise which could benefit the CVN. (optional) _____

Occupation (optional) _____

Additional donations gratefully accepted Amount \$ _____

Please mail to Central Valley Naturalists, P.O. Box 612, Abbotsford, BC V2T 6Z8, or give to Jacqui at the hospitality desk at the monthly meeting. Membership fees are due January 1st each year.

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HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 10:00-5:00