



Oystercatcher

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2008

ON SOCIALS AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENT

On December 9 we are having our Christmas Luncheon, which this year will be in Harbour House Hotel. The Legion was not able to provide what we wanted, so we had no choice but to change venue.

During the fall we had two socials: Nature in Cuba by Ashley Hilliard and Antarctica by Margaret Spencer and Andrea Rankin. Except for a minor projector snag, both socials were a success. Attendance is improving. At the last social we 62 were present. I also like to thank David Denning and Deborah Miller for their entertaining Grand Canyon slide show in September.

For the first half of 2009 I anticipate to have four socials with topics as diverse as California deserts, Wild Flowers of Salt Spring Island, Hiking on Salt Spring Island and Geology of Salt Spring Island. Stay tuned for these.

On the spring and fall trip front for 2009, we are still thinking about a trip to Gold River in May, and a possible fall trip to Cathedral Lakes in mid September. The last one, if we can reserve the spaces, will be more expensive than usual and will have limited participation.

Details will, as usually, appear in the next Oystercatcher, in the Driftwood and on our website www.saltstpringtnc.ca.

Kees Visser, Vice-President

PRESIDENT'S POINT OF VIEW

On your behalf I would like to recognize the top-notch work of Nieke Visser, the editor, coordinator and driving force behind the Oystercatcher. Our newsletter not only comes out as regular as clockwork, but I think its content and professional layout are an accurate reflection of what our Club is all about. Well done Nieke for your continual diligence and creativity.

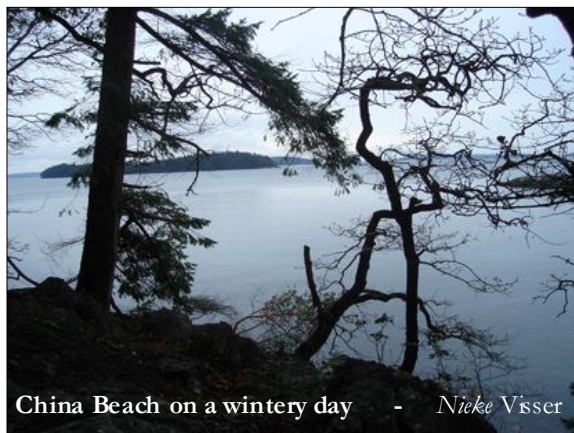
Congratulations are also in order to those individuals who are continually volunteering to lead the weekly hikes, walks and rambles. Leading these activities is not a difficult task but it does require some planning and preparation. The Club's Executive has been offered the possibility of training for potential leaders and we expect to be able to give you further information about it in the coming weeks. Please be prepared to volunteer as an activity leader

when your friendly coordinator asks you to do so.

Finally I would remind all members to wear the proper footwear during our outings. You put yourself, your companions and the Club at risk if you do not wear the proper gear for the topographical and weather conditions on the day.

The Holiday Season is almost here and on behalf of the Executive I wish everyone a good one!

Zeke Blazecka, President



China Beach on a wintery day - Nieke Visser

This is a FRIENDLY REMINDER from the Membership Secretary to the 118 members who have not yet paid their 2008 - 2009 membership fees that your membership expired and fees (and a new membership form) were due in September.

There is a membership form included in this issue of The Oystercatcher. You can also download one from the club's website at www.saltstpringtnc.ca or you can pick up a paper copy from the blue plastic envelope in Trail & Nature Club box at the Village Cobbler in Ganges. Your completed form and \$20 fee (cheques preferred) can be put in my envelope in the box at the Cobbler's or mailed to the address on the form.

Not sure if you've paid your fees? Send me an email (sspence@telus.net) or ask me at the Library on a Wednesday afternoon (subject to change, of course).



Christmas Luncheon December 9, 2009

At the Harbour House
Hotel, Green Room from 11:30
AM

Buy your tickets at
Soap Works (\$19 each), cash or
cheque. No reservations. Sale
closes on December 6 at noon.

No ticket sale at the door!

Anna's Hummingbirds *Nieke Visser*

From befriended Victorians I learned that Anna's Hummingbirds were staying year round and we had the privilege to watch a male Anna fiercely defending the feeder our friends had put out on the balcony of their home. That was in February 2004. We also were informed that sightings of Anna's were common on Salt Spring in the Fulford area. Needless to say, we left a hummingbird feeder out all winter hoping to attract an Anna, but we Rourke Road had no so luck. Last year in particular we felt "left out" when we heard of reports that Anna's were visiting feeders north of us, namely at Price Beach and near the Sailing Club on Douglas Road.

It was about mid October that we suddenly noticed a hummingbird on the feeder off our sunroom: it was an Anna! It kept on coming back for more and presently (late November) we see it on a regular basis. So, after five years of waiting, our patience finally paid off. After several good looks with my binoculars, I am pretty sure it is a female.

Nesting and territory

In the fall, fledgling Anna's are in search of a future territory. They are looking for places with a good supply of food: reddish flowers with a high sugar content and/or feeders. Once they are sure of their food source they will establish an core area of about 0.1 hectare with a buffer zone of 4 to 5 hectares. Intruders are fiercely chased by the males. Females, less conspicuous than males, sometimes defend feeding territories but usually away from those of males. They associate with males only long enough to mate. The female constructs the nest, incubates the eggs, and cares for nestlings, typically in winter and early spring, timed according to the availability of nectar and small insects for food. A hummingbird nest is about the size of an eggcup, and is made of moss, lichen and spider web. A second clutch is laid in the spring. The winter breeding is perhaps something that Anna's have carried over from their native California, where the rains of winter months brought on a bloom of desert flowers.

Jean Brouard keeps track of the Anna's on our island, both in numbers and locations, and he would like to receive any sightings. So if you have an Anna in your neighbourhood, **please phone (250-653-2335) or email Jean (johnbro@saltspring.com)** and report the number of birds and their location (e. g. your address if you have seen it in your garden). Here are some facts about Anna's to help you with identification:

Female AnnaHummingbird



Identification tips:

Length: 10cm

Long, straight, thin bill

Green back

Gray under parts with greenish flanks

Adult male identification tips:

Rosy-red iridescent crown and gorget (throat)

Entirely dark tail

Female/immature identification tips:

Green crown

Gray chin and throat with variable amounts of thin dark streaking or rosy red spots depending on age and sex.

Dark tail with white tips on outer tail feathers

Note: Males are unmistakable when red crown is seen but beware of poor lighting conditions. Females and immatures are fairly large and gray breasted, and often show the distinctive rosy-red gorget color on the throat (see picture).

References:

1. Ehrlich, P., Dobkin, D., and Whye, D. (1988). *The Birders Handbook: A Field Guide to the Natural History of North American Birds*. New York: Simon and Schuster Inc.
2. Russell, Stephen M. 1996. *Anna's Hummingbird (Calypte anna)*, *The Birds of North America Online* (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/226>

HONORARY MEMBERS

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Simon Rook
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Bill Harrington
Paul & Beth Ranney
Owen Benwell &
George Hignell
John Myers
Ian Fraser
Bob & Betty Ball
Dick & Chris Pattinson
Betty Kirk
Brian Radford
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Contents:

Mushrooms	4
President's point of view	1
Vice President's report	1
Memberships	1
Anna Hummingbirds	2
Special members	2
Christmas bird count	3
Contacts	3
Calendar	5
Volunteers needed	5
Economic geology (1)	6
Trailblazer Fred	7
General information	8
Membership form	9

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CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Last year, the Christmas Bird Count was held in cool and overcast conditions on Saturday December 29, 2007. Despite this, 93 counters covered the 12 Salt Spring Island zones and recorded 16,745 birds spread over 88 species. The total was the highest in six years and third highest in the past 10 years.

The Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club has sponsored the annual Christmas Bird Count for the past 21 years. This year the count will be held on **Saturday December 27th, 2008**, so polish up your binoculars and set this date aside. Various factors like weather

will, of course, affect the count but over the years such annual bird counts produce useful information on winter bird distribution and population trends.

For purposes of the local count, SSI is divided into 12 zones, each with a coordinator and several counters who go out on the day and collect the data. The zone coordinators then send their results to Gil Schultz who does the final tally for the island.

Last year, and again this year, the Christmas bird count will be coordinated with the Bird Studies Canada/ Audubon Society Christmas Bird count for North America. Salt Spring Island is divided into north and south circle zones; the north being combined with Galiano Island and the south with Sydney and the Saanich peninsula. This does not affect how we do our local bird count except that all of these regions need to do their count on the same day. Our SSI bird counts that fit each of these regions (zones 1-2 for the south circle and zones 3-12 for the north circle) are forwarded by Gil Schultz to a Bird Studies Canada Circle coordinator (Mike Hoebel in Galiano for the north circle and our own Jean Brouard, who is also our zone 1 coordinator, for the south circle) who combines data and enters it for the national count. This data can be viewed online by going to either www.audubon.org/bird/cbc or www.bsc-eoc.org/national/cbcmain.html.

Last year was the 108th cross-Canada bird count and involved over 11,000 volunteers who counted 3.2 million birds spread over 283 species. Those counters who paid their \$5.00 fee

for Bird Studies Canada to help cover costs of the national bird count and support their programs will have received the Bird Watch Canada summer 2008 publication that contains the full Christmas Bird Count National Summary along with regional reports. In that report you will see that Ladner led the way with the highest species total (138) in the country.

The counts are a great excuse for friends to get together over the festive season for some winter birding. It also allows birders with different levels of expertise to participate and in-

volves some folks who simply count birds at their own feeders and yards to others who cover several kilometers of territory and major components of their particular zone.

Anyone interested in joining in this year's Christmas Bird Count should contact Gil Schultz by telephone at 250-537-9469 or electronically at

gschultz@saltspring.com and provide him with their address and phone number and relative level of bird watching expertise. He will

try to pair them with the appropriate regional coordinator for participation in the forthcoming count.

As indicated earlier, there is a small fee of \$5.00 for participants in the Bird Studies Canada count. This helps cover costs of the nationwide bird count and the publication of the Christmas Bird Count Cross-Canada Report which each participant receives. Bird Studies Canada members, feeder watchers who provide counts to regional coordinators and new counters do not have to pay the fee unless they wish to receive a copy of the final report and have their names recorded on the national web-site. To encourage members of the Trail and Nature Club to be involved in the count, the club has committed up to \$100 to help cover the Bird Studies Canada fees for our members who will be out there on December 27th. This means that the \$5 is waived for participating Trail & Nature Club members.

Gil Schultz, Salt Spring Coordinator

Lincoln sparrow

Nieke Visser



DEAD MAN'S FINGERS OR XYLARIA POLYMORPHA

It was a typical November day on Salt Spring. The grass was wet, eaves dripping, and mist hung in the huge firs. Was it only yesterday we harvested corn in the warm sunny haze of October? It looked like we'd be socked in for days....Hooray! I cried, and dug out my rain gear. While some of us are dreaming of a beach in Mexico or hunkering down with a good book, many of Salt Spring's fungophiles rejoice in the endless drizzle, the cool but not-yet-cold days of autumn.

Looking over my mushroom journal, I read on July 15th, 1998 the following entry: "First find of the Season! Has been raining since Sunday, 4 days. Found two Chanterelles just showing in wet moss. Later, down in a wet patch, found a lot more small ones. Bill and I had a mushroom omelet, salad greens from the garden, and white wine. YUM!" I copy this exactly, including large case, and this gives a general sense of the enthusiasm in that early year of my mushroom career.

Old-timers on the island say 1997 was the first big 'shroom year since the early 80's, and may even have beat



the last banner year which occurred in the early 1900's. "Someone keeps track of this?" I thought. In 2003 it began to rain early in September, while the ground was still warm, and it rained steadily throughout October and into November. You could hardly walk in the woods without kicking over a stray Short-Stemmed Russula or a fragrant Stinkhorn.

I quickly learned a lot. That little fungus you bring home from your nice walk in the woods might KILL you! I discovered there were other weird people who wore their shirts inside-out and got up at the crack of dawn. (I read this in a 'shroom book, and it took me three years to figure out what it meant....kind of like a koan). But, now I get it. I found that other mushroomers will tell you anything, feed you

some soup, share half of the only Prince they've found this season, but they will never, ever, tell you where they found it. They won't take you 'shrooming with them; don't even ask.

Canada is known as a fairly fungophobic (mushroom-loathing) country, and we probably inherited this trait from the British, who invented the toadstool to enliven their fairy tales. The French, Italians, and Eastern Europeans, like me, learn to hunt in early childhood, and my Bohemian parents let me bring home Meadow Mushrooms and fry them up when I was eight or ten. But here, 'shroom hunting has become an unusually bold and curious pastime and 'shroomers are known as a fairly eccentric and even slightly bizarre bunch.

There are almost 120,000 species of fungi, and the bountiful Pacific Northwest may well contain more of them than anywhere in the world. Our coastal area is home to such intriguing specimens as the Death Cap, the Destroying Angel and other not-so-amiable Amanitas. Yes, there are species here that can kill you, and will, given half a chance.

A nice lady who heard about my quaint hobby appeared at the office one day bearing a lovely specimen. "Can I eat it?" she asked. "You could," I replied, "but I wouldn't if I were you." With fungi, as with humans, some people seem to equate beauty with usefulness, or with desirability. Hence my first rule: don't eat anything lovely and white. Most of the deadly Amanitas look pretty and stand there quite innocently, just asking you to take them home, eat them, and spend several days writhing in pain. Fatalities range around 50% even with a liver transplant. Another brave soul, a fascinating lady I met on a hike, had eaten part of an *Amanita pantherina* in her hippy days and hallucinated for seventy-two hours. "It was an interesting experience," she said, "but I wouldn't do it again." There you have it.

The old pastures on Salt Spring, like my own orchard, are home to several dainty little brownish-gray Psilocybin, like the Liberty Cap and Magic Mushroom. Some of the Amanitas and Psilocybes have long been used in ritual and shamanistic practices by North American aboriginals, and more recently by teenagers. These LBJ's (little brown jobs, as I call them)





Cantharellus cibarius—Chanterelle

are responsible for most of the stomach-pumping incidents we hear about, and there are hundreds of such fungi around. My advice: don't eat them!

Luckily, Salt Spring is also home to many culinary delights, my own personal favorite being *Cantharellus cibarius*, or the elusive Chanterelle. I eat this almost exclusively, so for the last three dry and despairing years, I have eaten almost no fungi at all. This year, September finally brought an end to the lean years, and we have feasted well and often. My October 4th entry reads greedily, "Hit pay dirt on Mt.

Maxwell off Armand Road, 12 pounds of juicy white Chanterelles."

Another journal entry, May 17th, 2006: "Rained all day, went for a walk with Hunter. Found a log full of fresh oysters (*Pleurotus ostreatus* or Oyster mushroom). Picked my hat full – 1 pound and freed them up for dinner." On second glance, I think it must have been "fried" them up, which brings up the point of this whole thing....it's the Hunt!

The hunt is everything. My fungi-friends agree. Sometimes it's not even the meal, or the fun of identifying something new, it's just that old primal instinct to wander quietly through the woods, avoiding other humans and their habitations, with senses alert, the eyes moving quickly over the uneven terrain, the nose held high, seeking that first elusive smell of rotting leaves, wet wood, and there! Under that log! It's my very first Poor Man's Gumdrop!

The other thing I like about fungi are their names. A Hideous Gomphidius really is – with its slimy gray cap, its ugly yellow base, and its general smell of the dead. Even mycologists (weird people who like fungi so much they get a degree) disagree on how to pronounce these names.

Some are simply lovely, like Angel Wings and Apricot Jelly Mushroom. There are the interesting, like Artist's Conk, (yes, you can draw or paint on it), Big Laughing Gymnopilus (causes unmotivated laughter and foolish behavior), or how about the *Peziza domitiana*, an indoor fungus which grows on dirty carpets.



Angel wings—*Pleurocybella porrigens*

I could go on and on, but it's raining on Salt Spring, and.....bye.

Linda Quiring



Amanita bisporigera - Destroying Angel

CALENDAR

Nature Group

When: Dec. 1
Where: Goldstream Prov. Park
Subject: Salmon run
Time: Meet at Portlock Park at 8:30 am to catch the 9:00 am ferry to Crofton.
Leader: John Flannagan

Christmas Lunch

When: Tuesday December 9, 2008
Time: starting 11:30 AM
Where: Green Room at Harbour House Hotel
Costs: \$19 per person, cash bar
 There will be a pre-lunch hike, walk, and ramble. Check the Driftwood or the web for details.

Sunday Hike

When: December 7, 2008
Meet at: ArtSpring
Time: 9:45 AM
Where: Mt Erskine from Toynbee
Leader: Zeke Blazecka

Annual Christmas Bird Count Sponsored by the T&N Club

December 27, 2008
 For details see page 3.

New Year's Hike

When: January 1, 2009
Meet at: ArtSpring
Time: 10:00 AM
Where: 80 Acres/AVNR/Crown land
Leader: Kees Visser

A.G.M. 2009

When: January 22, 2009
Where: Harbour House Hotel
Lunch time: 11:30 AM
Lunch costs: T.B. A.
Meeting time: 1:00 PM
 More details in the December schedule in the Driftwood.

Volunteers needed:

The following positions are or will become vacant at the next AGM: **Secretary , Treasurer, Trail Coordinator, Nature Coordinator.**

For more information and job descriptions: please contact Zeke Blazecka, telephone: 250-653-4782

I like to thank all of you who so supportively reacted to the six articles I wrote on the geology of Salt Spring Island. It encouraged me to do more, this time, however, on the economic geology. The first two articles will be on oil and gas, and the third one on mining. Fortunately I have worked on both areas during my career, first in mining, and later in oil and gas exploration.

My last involvement in the oil business, just before I retired to Salt Spring, was to lead a small group of geologists and geophysicists to assess the true hydrocarbon potential of the West Coast of BC. As some of you might know, the whole of the West Coast is under a drilling moratorium since 1972, but the major shareholders (Shell, Petro-Canada and Chevron) still hold all exploration rights for the BC offshore, because they had acquired these rights for a period of ten years just one year before the moratorium came into effect. If the Federal Government ever would decide to lift the moratorium, these three companies would keep virtually all West Coast offshore lands for another nine years.

Another major bone of contention is that the BC provincial government maintains that they have the jurisdiction over the offshore instead of the federal government. Without going into detail here the Supreme Court of Canada and most constitutional lawyers agree that the Federal Government has the strongest card in this case. Another, even more, contentious issue is the maritime border dispute between the USA and Canada in the Dixon Entrance and the northern Hecate Strait that was never resolved.

Let me now focus on the geological aspects of oil and gas exploration. The offshore BC area can be divided into four "basins":

1. the Queen Charlotte Basin (waters around the QC Islands and between QC and Alaska/BC Mainland),
2. the Tofino Basin (west of Vancouver Island),
3. the Winona Basin (west of the Queen Charlotte Sound) and
4. the Strait of Georgia (between Vancouver Island and BC Mainland, including the Fraser River delta)

Before 1972 a few seismic programs have been done, mainly in the Hecate Strait and the Dixon Entrance, waters between the Queen Charlotte Islands and the Mainland. Ten exploration wells were drilled onshore on Graham Island, the northerly of the QC and Shell drilled eight wells offshore in the Hecate Strait, and six wells in the Tofino Basin. Except for a few oil stains in 1 m of sand at about 1000 m depth (800 m below ocean bottom) in one well (aptly named Sockeye-B10, which was drilled up to 5000 m deep), and a few gas traces in Tofino, all wells are considered dry and abandoned. In short, to date not a drop of oil or a puff of gas has been found, and Shell, Chevron and Petro-Canada will not easily be lured

back into the West Coast. Below I will try to begin to explain why these companies think this way.

In order to find exploitable oil/gas reserves you need to find:

A suitable reservoir (usually a sandstone or limestone with good porosity and permeability: the oil and water is in the pores but should be able to move)

A source. Oil and gas are formed from a multitude of small marine organism, which when dead drop to the ocean floor (usually a muddy one). Then over time with the correct pressure and temperature this deposit changes into hydrocarbons. Note that oil is not formed from "dinosaurs" or trees.

A trap. Oil and gas, just like water, has a tendency to come to the surface, if it can find a route. So we need an impermeable layer such as clay or shale to stop the hydrocarbons moving upwards and trap them. If there is a structure in the trapping layer too, such as a fold or a fault, then we even have a contained trap (assuming of course that the fault is not "leaky")

The three conditions mentioned above must also occur in the right order. For instance, if the oil has been formed, but there is no trap, then the oil will just flow slowly to the surface and disappear.

This, by the way, is one of the major problems on the West Coast: the tectonics are very young and still active, and the faults, who could serve as a trap, will move, and open up. As a consequence the hydrocarbons escape.

At this point I like to explain what is not always obvious to outsiders. An oil pool or reservoir is not a cave in the ground filled with oil. It can be best described as hardened sugar with spaces between the individual grains. In nature these "sugar grains" consist of minerals of a sandstone or limestone, and the "in between spaces" are called pores. In order to obtain permeability, these pores have to be connected. When oil is formed elsewhere (for instance in a mud layer full of microorganisms below the sandstone), it will penetrate the sandstone and will fill the spaces. In general, the total percentage of pore space is about 20% of the reservoir or often less than that.

When exploring for oil, one has to find answers for the 4 conditions I mentioned above. A combination of geological study (field work, study of previous wells, geological theses and a lot of innovative thinking) and of seismic may arrive to a favourable area for oil or gas and the possibility of an exploration well. Since these wells may cost from \$1 million (onshore) to \$50 million (offshore), and since historically the statistical chance of success is about 10% and sometimes less, it is clear that the risk is very high and that oil company managements need a lot of convincing by geologists and reservoir engineers before they are prepared to invest such a large sum of money.

Continues on page 7...

Fred was born at home (!) in Naicam Saskatchewan grew up in Penticton in the Oka-nagan (there is the Naramata connection). He spent 36 years working for Over-waitea. Starting in Kelowna as a bag boy he worked his way up to relief manager and opening new stores.

Over 40 years ago he and school-teacher Nancy tied the knot. They have two daughters and two grandchildren, whom they totally adore.

In the early 90's Nancy and Fred moved to Salt Spring Island and

ran the Gingerbread B&B on Fairway overlooking Saint Mary's lake for 20 years. Just recently they moved to Brinkworthy after a short "stop-over" in Ganges in one of the townhouses next to Harbour House Hotel. Lately Fred he has been seen riding his new electric bike around Brinkworthy - getting himself ready for longer journeys about the island!!

For many years Fred has been pulling his weight in the T&N Club: first as hike coordinator and secretary; but later he committed himself to the 6-year deal of vice president, president, and past president. He also organized a few overnight trips of which Naramata 2008 was his latest efforts. And what a job he has done! In addition to these T&N Club activities, he is also an active volunteer for the United Church as well as for the NPD political party, not to mention Fred's involvement with Art Spring; he's been a huge

supporter and an active Duty Manager since its opening.

I met Fred for the first time when I volunteered to become the secretary of the T&N Club at the start of Fred's presidency. So I got a real appreciation of the kind of man Fred is: a diplomatic, conscientious, amiable, hard working person with a great sense of duty. Fred is an enthusiastic hiker and hike leader who seldom skips a Tuesday outing. The accompanying pictures series show exactly what kind of person Fred is: a real leader with concern for the group he is responsible for.

Many thanks to Rita and Al Robertson for their assistance.



Fred leading a hike on Mt. Bruce , April 2007

Barry Spence

.....Continued from page 6

Another point I have to explain is the usual depth of these kind of wells. In the offshore BC, Shell's wells were between 3000m and 5000m depth, going through about 200m of sea water first. Just imagine the technical difficulty to drill a hole 5km deep through sometimes abrasive rocks, getting the drilled debris out, handle the frictional heat, going straight, and the enormous torque necessary for the rotation. Shell also drilled from a floating platform!

In the next issue I will deal with the potential of the various BC offshore areas: Georgia Strait, Tofino Basin and the Queen Charlotte Basin.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Salt Spring Trail & Nature Club features Tuesday outings September through June at three levels of ability. The monthly schedule of outings and events is published in the Driftwood on the last Wednesday of the month and on our website at www.saltspringtnc.ca. On the fourth Thursday in October, November and February through May, the Club meets at 7:30 pm at the lower hall of the United Church. The Club is affiliated with BC Nature and Nature Canada.



Ramblers enjoy walking without pressure with frequent "time-outs" to take pictures, to examine plants, flowers, rocks, fossils, and from time to time sample local restaurants. Members of any level of fitness are welcome. Ramblers start at 10:00 am and usually end by 1:30 pm.

Walkers move at a more relaxed pace. They usually try to avoid long steep climbs and will stop to catch their breath along the way. Outings generally cover 8 km or less and end by 2:00 pm.



Hikers like long, adventurous and occasionally quite strenuous hikes, and like to gain a bit of altitude. They need strong boots and a good but not excessive level of fitness. Hikes usually start at about 10:00 am and end between 2:30 to 3:30 pm.



Nature excursions are normally organized every month except December led by an expert naturalist and are open to all levels.



Membership: Annual dues are \$20 per person. All members must sign a waiver annually. Send completed membership and waiver forms with your cheque to the Membership Secretary, PO Box 203, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V9, or drop them off at the Cobbler's box, attention Barry Spence.

Taxi fare: Members are encouraged to carpool during outings and reimburse the driver as follows:

On-island trips: North of Duke Road: \$2 per passenger; South of Duke Road: \$3 per passenger; Ruckle Park and non-paved roads: \$4 per passenger.

Off Island trips: \$0.30 per km per vehicle plus ferry costs.



Spring/Fall trips: No club policy.

Moving? Change of email address? Please let your Membership Director know a.s.a.p. Email: sspence@telus.net; telephone: 537-2332.

Your comments or contributions are welcome. Please email them to Nieké Visser: niekevisser@shaw.ca or leave them in the Cobbler's box.



Publications mail agreement
No. 40049783

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Salt Spring Trail & Nature Club
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2008-2009

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION and WAIVER OF LIABILITY

This document affects your legal rights. Please read it carefully.

NAME:* (Please Print) _____

MAILING
ADDRESS: _____

_____.POSTAL CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

email address: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ Phone: _____

Signature of this agreement is a condition of participation in Salt Spring Trail & Nature Club activities. By signing this agreement you will waive certain legal rights, including the right to make a claim for damages with respect to these activities and you will absolve the Club and its representatives from liability. Participants who are not members of the Club and/or the federation of BC Naturalists (FBCN) will be eligible for liability coverage under the FBCN insurance scheme for a maximum of three (3) field trips.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS

Assumption of Risk

I am aware that certain activities of the Club, including field trips and nature trips involve risks and may result in **personal injury, death**, property damage, expense or related loss, including loss of income. These risks include negligence on the part of the Club, its directors, officers, members, employees and volunteers who organize or lead activities, described herein as the "the Club and its representatives".

I freely accept and fully assume all such risks and the possibility of personal injury, death, property damage, expense and related loss, including loss of income, resulting from participation in such activities.

Release of Liability and Waiver of Claims

In consideration of the club accepting my application to participate in the activities described, **I/We agree as follows:**

1. To waive any and all claims that I/We, or my/our heirs, may have in the future against the Club and its representatives with respect to these activities.
2. To release the Club and its representatives from any and all liability for any personal injury, death, property damage, expense and related loss, including loss of income, which I/We may suffer as a result of my/our participation in this activity, due to any cause whatsoever, including negligence, breach of contract or breach of any statutory duty of care.

I/We have read this agreement and I/We understand it. I/We are aware that by signing this document, I/We are waiving certain rights, which I/We may have with respect to the Club.

SIGNATURE (S): 1. _____ DATE: _____

2. _____ DATE: _____