



## DELTA NATURALISTS SOCIETY

P.O. Box No. 18136, 1215C 56<sup>th</sup> Street DELTA B.C. V4L 2M4

### DNS MONTHLY MEETING.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015

**Welcome:** Tom introduced the Executive and welcomed back Hans who is now free to attend meetings on a regular basis. Visitors were invited to identify themselves and were warmly welcomed by Tom. Dunc Kline of the Optimist identified himself.

**Minutes:** Jim moved, and Val seconded that the minutes of the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meetings be approved and circulated with the December newsletter. Tom expressed thanks to Judy Kilcup for her authorship in lieu of Anita den Dikken who was on her way to Brazil during the meeting. The draft minutes of the AGM were circulated with the December newsletter. Further Tom tabled Elizabeth's draft Executive minutes of November 17<sup>th</sup> as important issues regarding membership were discussed and determined at that meeting. See details below under Treasurer & Membership report.

**Mail:** Kathy Elwood was thanked for her \$1500 donation towards a scope for the Delta Nats. She will be issued with a tax receipt.

**Treasurer & Membership:** The Executive has decided that membership cards will be issued to Delta Naturalists members. We are currently awaiting a quote from the Ladner print shop for printing. There has been a lot of discussion within the Executive regarding dues, and the decision has been reached for the following. Full memberships at the annual cost (\$35 single and \$45 family) will be issued for people who apply for membership prior to the end of February. From March 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, new members will pay \$15, and family members \$20. It was noted that B. C. Nature charges \$14. per member for dues plus \$2.13 for liability insurance. The charge to branches is based on the number of memberships effective December 15<sup>th</sup>. . September 1<sup>st</sup> will remain as the date that membership renewals will be due.

Jim Kneesh also reported that the bank balance effective November 30<sup>th</sup> was \$5899.22. We currently have 46 individual members, and 26 family memberships for a total of 72 Memberships.

**Newsletter:** Audrey will be publishing a December newsletter. As always, Tom expressed our appreciation to Audrey for her informative and well presented newsletters. Audrey indicated that she always welcomes submissions from our members.

**Publicity:** Valerie reported that the Optimist ads under Coming Events work well.

**Social:** Elizabeth/Liz/Audrey/Joanne comprise the New Social Committee. Roberta will also be joining this committee. Tom thanked the committee and everyone else who provided the wonderful assortment of goodies for our Xmas meeting.

**Environment Issues:** Jim reported that BBC will not be appealing the decision of the County court which denied BBC's case. Hooray for our side. Now, outstanding debts to our lawyers need to be repaid. There will be a benefit event in Point Roberts in February.

b) Birds & Biodiversity Strategy: Tom and Anne Murray made a presentation to Delta Council in November. Delta has been requested to develop a birds and biodiversity strategy. Delta municipality has also indicated that they will pay for printing of 3000 Birds in Delta and 3000 Birding in Delta brochures. Their caveat is that they wish to incorporate the Delta logo into the brochures.

c) The Delta Senior Management Team supports Delta contacting the 2018 International Ornithological Conference organizers to determine how Delta can help support the conference. This conference is to be held in Vancouver and is viewed as important to the status and future of birding in Delta and the lower mainland.

d) Ursula reported that there will be a public forum and information on WESPAC's plans to construct LNG (liquid natural gas) shipping facilities in Tilbury. The forum will be held in North Delta. Audrey recommended that members of Delta Nats. attend. (Note: there was also a subsequent forum held in Ladner on Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Several of us from Delta Nats. attended that forum and can report back at the next meeting).

**BCN & Speakers:** Ursula also reported that the B. C. Nature AGM meeting will be held in Comox in May of 2016. Speakers for the rest of the 2015/16 Delta Nats. meetings have been tentatively scheduled.

**Archives Committee:** Geof – no new news. We have received the Delta Archives Deed of Gift Agreement for the materials donated to the Archives.

### **Activity since Nov 3 Meeting:**

Five outings since Dec. 1 meeting to:

- 1) Pt. Roberts
- 2) Stanley Park,
- 3) Terra Nova Park,
- 4) Harrison Mills, and
- 5) Sunnyside Acres Urban Forest.

Check DNCB Blog at: [www.dncb.wordpress.com](http://www.dncb.wordpress.com) for reports and photos. Outings leave Petra's at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesdays unless otherwise advised.

Other Activity Reports since Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>:

- 1) Fri. Nov. 6, BBPA Meeting and AGM, Cammidge House, 10:00 a.m.
- 2) Sat. Nov. 7, Metro Vancouver Parksfest, SFU Burnaby Campus, 8:30 a.m.
- 3) Thurs. Nov. 12, Barn Owl Box Inspection Tour of Kings Links GC
- 4) Mon. Nov. 16, BC Naturalists' Foundation meeting - \$500K is in investments. Grants will be made to clubs for worthy projects.
- 5) Tues. Nov. 17, DNS Executive meeting, 7:30 p.m. Tom's home
- 6) Fri. Nov. 19, Delta NatureKids Outing at BBRP, Cam House 9:00 a.m. Over 30 kids attended.
- 7) Sat. Nov. 21, Barn Owl Wilderness Cttee event, Earthwise, 2:00 p.m. approximately 100 people were in attendance.

#### **Future Meetings/Events:**

- 1) Fri. Dec. 4, BBPA Christmas meeting and Lunch, CH at 11:30 a.m.
- 2) Sun. Dec. 6, Santa at Cammidge House, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 3) Wed. Dec. 9, Birds on the Bay outing, Cammidge House, 9:00 a.m.
- 4) Thurs. Dec. 10, Barn Owl Box Installation at Kings Links, 10:00 a.m.
- 5) Sun. Dec. 27, Ladner annual Christmas Bird Count. Jude Grass is organizing; Anne will not be available to do so this year.

**Other Issues for Discussion:** New Scope for DNS was already discussed and contribution from Kathy Elwood noted, with appreciation.

**Sightings; 50/50, Collect 2015/16 Membership fees, and Christmas Break.**

**8:15 p.m. Terry Carr gave us a** presentation on his and Janan's adventures in Haida Gwaii. Many photos were shown of both wildlife and of past relics and the scenery.

**Next meeting** on Tuesday, January 5, 7:30 p.m. at Benediction Lutheran Church. Professor David Lank of SFU will give a presentation on his Study of Ruffs.

**All the best to all of our members for the festive season, and for 2016!**