

NATURE BAY



SALMON ARM BAY
NATURE
ENHANCEMENT
SOCIETY

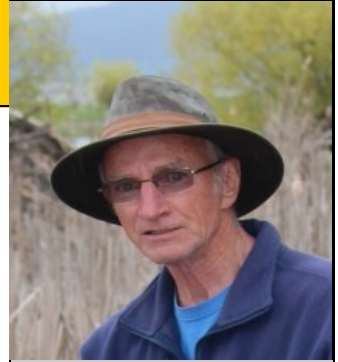
NATURE BAY NEWS

Newsletter of the Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society
PO Box 27, Salmon Arm, B.C. Canada V1E 4N2

Email: sabnes.org@gmail.com

Website: www.sabnes.org

Spring
2014



AGM Presenter
Ed Dahl

PLEASE JOIN US

SABNES AGM

7:30 pm Thursday June 5th

At the District Education Centre (DEC)
10—2960 Okanagan Ave S.E. Salmon Arm

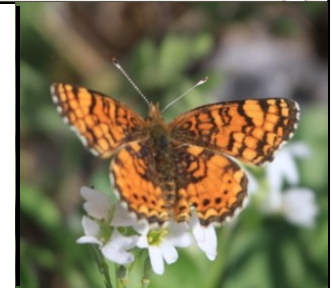
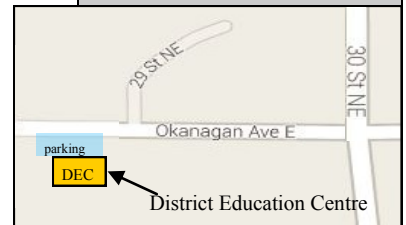
There will be a short business meeting and then a



Video Presentation by Ed Dahl on Butterflies.

This will mark the initial release of Ed's Butterfly DVD

Refreshments will be served after the presentation



Business will include the consideration of financial statements, directors' reports, the election of directors as well as membership approval of a special resolution which will authorize the directors:

“to create an agency endowment fund with the Shuswap Community Foundation and contribute up to \$10,000 to that fund.”

What is the Purpose of creating a SABNES Agency Endowment Fund?

A SABNES Agency fund would provide a very attractive way for people to make a donation towards keeping and improving our Nature Bay lands. The fact that this money is held in trust with the Shuswap Community Foundation and managed by expert third parties would be a plus. SABNES could advertise the existence of the fund on a regular basis to solicit donations, which would grow this fund over time. The funds would be held in perpetuity by the Shuswap Community Foundation, and the income from the fund would create a permanent source of stability and future income for SABNES.

Why create a SABNES Agency Endowment Fund at this time ?

SABNES has no regular source of income. Maintenance and ongoing operation of facilities is undertaken by members working for free and using revenues from selling memberships for necessary purchases and to pay ongoing bills. Over the years SABNES has built up a reserve of around \$10,000 which has been languishing in a money market low interest account. This can be used to create an agency endowment fund and initiate a regular income stream in perpetuity.

President's Message

It is a lovely time of year in the Shuswap. The birds are busy nesting, and the flowers are blooming. The SABNES Board of Directors has been busy getting things ready for another season. The Brighthouse Nature Center will open the first week of June. We are pleased to announce that **Janell Bawtree** has been hired as our Interpreter again this summer. Be sure to stop in and say 'hello' to Janelle. While you are there, you may notice



SABNES President
Janet Aitken



our new bright new look thanks to Kathy Atkins, one of our SABNES Board members. See if you can find our newest addition, the Grebe who met his untimely demise last summer and was recently 'stuffed' thanks to the efforts of Tom Brighthouse. (A taxidermist in Kamloops is responsible for the actual work, not Tom!)

Tom Brighthouse continues to teach and has recently had the Bastion French Kindergarten class into the Center to learn about nature in the bay. School groups will be welcomed to the center again in June. We will also have a beautiful new sign along our deck thanks to a grant from the **Shuswap Community Foundation**.



Thanks to **Salmon Arm Observer** for permission to print this photo and caption

On display: Tom Brighthouse shows the recently acquired Taxidermy Western Grebe available for viewing at the Brighthouse Nature Centre. Local Naturalists have wanted such a specimen for years.



Have you noticed the new sign at the Beaver pond? There are more signs in the works. Geoff Benson has done most of the sign writing with the help of his wife, Judith. The installation of the signs requires other skills. We are most fortunate to have Gary Lomax, Ed Dahl and Mike Saul on our board. Together they can build or fix almost anything!

Have you had an opportunity to see Ed's DVD's on the Birds in the Bay or the Dancing Grebes? You will enjoy the new DVD on the Butterflies that he will be showing at our AGM.

With the guidance of Steve Genn from Rotary we will be finishing off the bridge

on Christmas Island as soon as the high water recedes. Long term, we have started the planning process to erect a bird viewing platform in Peter Jannick Park.

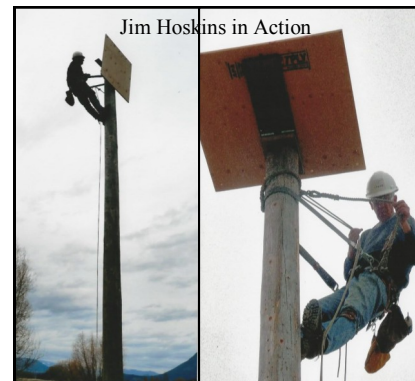
It has been an active year with many projects on the go. My sincere thanks to all the SABNES Board Members for their generous donation of time and expertise. You are wonderful group to work with!

We are still looking for sign sponsors. If you would like to donate money for a sign, please send us an email, or talk with our Treasurer, Geoff Benson. It is a great way to advertise your business and get a tax receipt at the same time.



Steve Genn and SABNES board members discuss how they are going to complete the bridge on Christmas Island, which was started last Fall

We have put in place poles for Osprey nests in three more location (Thanks to Stella-Jones for donating these). Clearing the nests after each year of nesting is a problem which we think has been solved—courtesy of Jim Hoskins and Mike Saul. Jim has constructed and installed a hinged platform which can be collapsed from below using a rope to empty the old nests and can afterwards be raised back ready for the new nests . Thanks Jim. **"Let Osprey and let us hope it works well!"**



I look forward to seeing you at our

Annual General Meeting at 7:30pm on Thursday, June 5th at the District Education Centre

Birds of the Bay 2014

Ted Hillary

The number of bird species reported to have been seen in the Salmon Arm Bay area from the beginning of 2014 to mid May have been 154. These include 6 species of owls and 36 species of waterfowl. Interestingly, **Harlequin Ducks** have been spotted near Christmas Island the past several springs. These birds are denizens of fast moving mountain streams and unusual in the Bay. By far the most outstanding highlight of the year was the **White-tailed Kite** which flew over the wharf late in the afternoon of May 3, following a thunder storm. This is the first kite ever recorded in the Salmon Arm area and an addition to our checklist. Other birds seen at the same time were a pair of **Swainson's Hawks** and 4 **Snow Geese**.



White-tailed Kite

Another notable highlight was a female **Tennessee Warbler** seen in the Nature Park on May 10. This is a rather non descript warbler and has rarely been found here. We do not usually see many shore birds here in the spring and this year has been not much different. However, there have been some interesting sightings. A **Short-billed Dowitcher** was seen feeding with 3 **Long-billed Dowitchers**



American Avocet

along the shore of the pond just west of the Prestige Inn. Of more interest, were the 1 to 6 **Black-necked Stilts** seen almost daily from May 4 to May 15 feeding west of the wharf. They sometimes had company. On May 10, four **Wilson's Phalaropes** were feeding amongst them, and on May 15, seven **American Avocets** were with them. **Stilts** and **Avocets** are irregular visitors in the Bay.

The **Ring-billed Gulls** are plentiful again this year. On May 16 600 nests were

counted on Christmas Island, with an average of 3 eggs per nest. If they all survived that would be another 1800 gulls in the Bay - and this bird is red listed !!! Last, but not least, are the **Western Grebes**. There was a high count of 260 birds on May 5 scattered across the Bay. By mid May courtship was in full display and nesting sites were being sought out. There was at least one pair of **Clark's Grebes** with them, and one **Clark's Grebe** pairing with a **Western Grebe**.



Ring-billed Gulls wheeling above Christmas Island

Elected Directors

Janet Aitken, President; Geoff Benson, Treasurer; Ed Dahl; Hanne MacKay; Pamela Dettwiler; Mike Saul; Gary Lomax; Kathy Atkins

Appointed Directors

Pat Mearns, **Shuswap Naturalists Club** ; Cllr. Ken Jamieson, **CSA**; Elaine Gustafson, **MOE** ; Hank Shelley, **FishNGame** ;Gale-Paule Davison,**DIA**

Non-voting Directors

Georgia McLeod, Secretary
Tom Brighouse, Advisor

We greatly appreciate the financial and service support from the following companies:

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Prestige Harbourfront Resort and Convention Centre
Shuswap Acupuncture and Laser Therapy Clinic
Standard Roofing Corporation
Terratech Consulting Ltd

GRANTING AGENCIES

City of Salmon Arm
Salmon Arm Rotary Club
Shuswap Community Foundation

Annual Membership Fees *

Individual.....\$ 15
Family.....\$ 25
Sustaining Individual.... \$ 50
Sustaining Family..... \$ 100
Life Membership..... \$ 500

Corporate or Organization

1-4 Employees.... \$ 50
5-10 Employees..... \$ 100
+ 10 Employees..... \$ 150
Life Membership..... \$ 2,500

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address _____

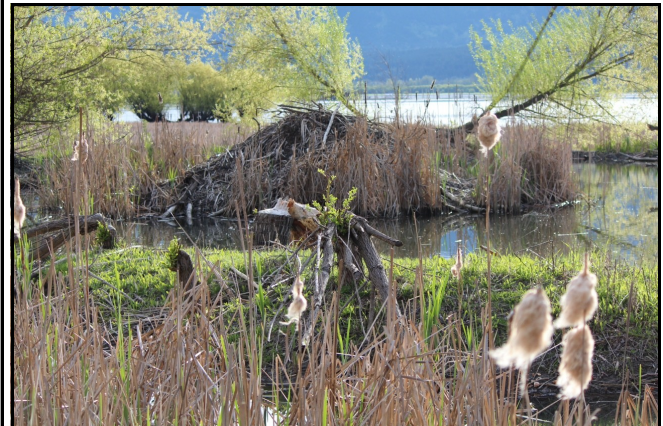
Amount Paid: _____ Date : _____

I would like to give **SABNES** my time Please check
To help staff the nature centre
(June, July and August)

To help with trail clean-up and maintenance

Nature Bay Society (**SABNES**) is a Charitable Organization.
Most of the Annual Fee is tax-deductible.
Receipts for Income Tax purposes will be issued

Nature Bay Society, P.O. Box 27, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4N2
website : www.sabnes.org Email:- sabnes.org@gmail.com



Beaver Pond and Mount Ida taken from the Foreshore
Janet Aitken

I welcome your comments, ideas, articles, poems and photographs for **your** future newsletters. Please e-mail them to me at sabnes.org@gmail.com, or mail them to the **SABNES** postal address on the back sheet.

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Many thanks,

Geoff Benson