

Shuswap Naturalist Club Meeting
7 PM Tuesday, December 6 2022
Salmon Arm Senior Secondary School Library

Anne Caughlan, Chair for this meeting, welcomed 18 members to SASS library at 7 PM.

Before and during the meeting, members were invited to view and bid for, in a silent auction, a selection of children's books donated by Gillian Richardson, with funds raised going to the Club.

Minutes: Mike Saul moved acceptance of the November minutes as circulated. 2nd Barbara Raynor.

Treasurer: Ted Hillary submitted his report:

Financial Statement December 1 2022

Bank Balance November 1 2022	\$4829.21
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Receipts

Dues	235.00	
Interest	.37	235.37

Disbursements

Blackburn Park	439.71	439.71
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Bank Balance December 1 2022	\$4624.87
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Patronage	.89
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Ted moved acceptance of this report. 2nd Pam Saul.

Ted will accept dues for the 2023 year anytime: single membership \$25, family \$30.

Announcements:

1) Di Wittner recently attended (via Zoom) a BC Nature meeting. One focus of the discussion was the '30 by 30' initiative to conserve 30% of Canadian lands by 2030. The Canadian Wildlife Municipal Protected Areas Project will provide funds for groups to undertake local conservation projects. Di will put forward a proposal to designate Salmon Arm bay in this regard, and will report back when she has more information.

2) Marcia and John Woods were among those attending the Kamloops event in support of biodiversity, hosted by Nature Canada on Sunday afternoon, November 27. Letters were collected to be taken to the UN's COP15 summit on Biodiversity in Montreal, underway this week. Thanks, Marcia for waving our Shuswap Naturalist Club 'flag' while speaking to others in attendance, so we are on record for our presence at the invitation of the Kamloops Naturalist Club. John Woods spoke to an entomologist who had a display of insects at the Kamloops event. He was interested to discover the bee collection had been preserved in small containers of now, readily available, hand sanitizer. This would make such scientific study easy and practical to do for a school project.

3) Di Wittner has plans to rescue a number of poles that have drifted in along the foreshore, to use them for nest boxes—in particular for the barn owl box that Ken Raynor has completed. She thanked Mitch Olinek, in attendance tonight, a member of the SABNES Board and frequent volunteer on the foreshore, for his help with this work.

4) Eleanor Marshall updated us on her canvassing efforts to collect names for the Mallory Ridge conservation support petition. Door to door work has netted 300 signatures in the Deep Creek area. In a meeting with Tolko representatives, she learned that they are in ‘information gathering mode’ with no plans to proceed with logging through 2023. Encouraging news!

Business:

1) The **Christmas Bird Count** will be held on Sunday, December 18. Ted Hillary reviewed the sectors, coordinators and participants. Let him know if you wish to be included, and he will assign you to an area that needs extra eyes/ears. tedhillary@shaw.ca

2) The January meeting is our AGM. The Executive will be chosen for the coming year in an election, if we have nominations for the vacant positions of **President and Vice-President**. As well, our **Webmaster** Dorothy Parks is ready to pass on this role to someone new, and Ted Hillary would like to step down from his 20-year position as **Treasurer**. In addition, we’d welcome more **Directors** to offer input at Board Meetings which are held several times a year when the need arises.

The AGM is fast approaching. Please read the job descriptions (see below) and consider putting your name forward for any Executive position, or as a Director. Let Gillian Richardson tellgillian@telus.net or Colin Spence colin.spence@telus.net know if you are willing to take on a role to help our Club move forward in 2023.

We are also **seeking volunteers to chair monthly meetings** if we don’t have a new President for 2023. **Will you offer to chair one meeting, February to June? Colin Spence has offered to take on the January 3 meeting; thanks, Colin!**

Sightings:

John Woods – large flocks of Varied Thrush, robins and juncos

Barbara Raynor – Golden-crowned Kinglets, a deer skeleton on Christmas Island

MOTION to Adjourn: Mike Saul

Tonight’s Program:

1) Anne Caughlan invited those in attendance to share a short introduction of themselves, and their interest in the Club. We heard anecdotes from educators and biologists, writers and fishers, scientists and birders, all with a life-long passion for nature. While a few have always lived in the Shuswap, many chose it as a most desirable place to live.

2) Werner Groeschel and Glenda Hanna have been newly appointed as BC Ecological Reserve Volunteer Wardens, to monitor Mount Griffin ER that lies between Three Valley Gap and Mable Lake.

They described the history of the warden program that oversees 158 Ecological Reserves throughout BC, and the roles and responsibilities of their job. They shared photos of their fall excursion to become familiar with their ER, its trails, fauna and flora.

Job Descriptions for Board Positions:

Members currently/previously holding these positions are ready to offer assistance and advice to a new person:

a) The **President's** role is to look after the club, to remind the membership of its purpose, "*to know nature and keep it worth knowing.*" As we have many members dedicated to many aspects of club work, the President should be aware of what is going on and allow it to be brought to the membership. The President needs to be an active email user. He/She would be in charge of calling Executive meetings, planning and running the monthly meetings or having another (e.g. VP, Acting Chair) fill in when necessary. It has been proposed that this role be limited to a 2 year term, unless the incumbent wishes to renew.

b) **Vice President** will take on the role of assisting the President, in particular, running meetings when necessary. It is hoped this person will move on to become President.

c) **Treasurer** manages the Club's finances through SASCUC and brings a report to each monthly meeting. This person maintains and updates the membership list as renewals and new memberships come in, and handles any other correspondence sent to the Club's mailing address.

d) The **Webmaster** will maintain the SNC website with regular updates to notices of meetings, outings, activities, and with postings of minutes, newsletters, various reports including photos. See the website for contents of its pages: (shuswapnaturalists.org) It is currently hosted by Cirrus Hosting. The free software program, KompoZer, appears to be still available for WIN 10, but someone with web building skills might rebuild and update our site using more current software.

Where to send What:

1) Please send information you wish to be forwarded to all club members to Ken Raynor, at ken.r.sa.bc@gmail.com. As Communications Director, he will relay upcoming meeting/activity announcements (or cancellations), meeting minutes, information from any of our committees (e.g. BC Nature, Environment).

2) Please send any items for/correspondence about an upcoming eNewsletter directly to Ed and Marlene McDonald, mcdonald@airspeedwireless.ca

3) Please send agenda items for the January 3 meeting to **Colin Spence** colin.spence@telus.net who will Chair the meeting.