



## Shuswap Naturalists General Meeting

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Ed McDonald welcomed everyone at 7:00 pm. The meeting was postponed by a week due to snowy roads.

### Minutes:

The December 2014 minutes were accepted as circulated; moved by Janet Pattinson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Anne Caughlan.

### Treasurer's report:

Ted Hillary presented the following financial report for 2014:

#### Revenue:

Coffee	\$101.95
Dues	\$1360.00
Conference	\$3652.16
Fundraising	\$276.73
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5390.84</b>

#### Disbursements:

Administration:	
• Room rent	\$88.20
• Newsletter/postage	\$80.01
• Website	\$88.02
• Christmas Bird Count	\$67.46
Federation of BC Nat. dues	\$1001.30
Bird houses	\$66.00
Misc (Writer's Union)	\$79.10
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,470.09</b>

**Bank balance on December 31, 2014 \$5,517.49**

Ted Hillary moved acceptance of the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> Janet Pattinson.  
The 2015 budget was also presented:

### Budget 2015:

#### Revenue:

Membership Dues	\$1,300.00
Coffee	\$100.00
Club Funds	\$1,175.00
Community Foundation (Bursary)	\$1,000.00
Fundraising	\$300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,875.00</b>

*Expenditures:*

Federation Dues	\$1,100.00
Banking	\$25.00
Christmas Bird Count	\$100.00
Room Rental	\$250.00
Newsletter/Postage	\$100.00
Website	\$100.00
Directors' Expenses	\$300.00
Young Naturalists	\$500.00
Bursary	\$1,000.00
Nature Park	\$300.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,875.00</b>

Ted Hillary moved acceptance of the budget, 2<sup>nd</sup> Geoff Styles.

**Announcements:**

Geoff Styles organized the first-ever North Okanagan Christmas bird count, with approximately 18 participants and 63 species spotted.

**Business:**

## 1. Spring project

Ed McDonald would like the club to tackle the woody/bittersweet nightshade (can be found near McGuire Lake) in collaboration with the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society. Someone (possibly Janet Aitken?) should contact the society's coordinator and organize a party to pull up nightshade plants along the foreshore and/or near McGuire Lake.

Other location suggestions: Turner Creek area.

Ed asks approval to go ahead and investigate this. Isobel Anderson asked if we could get some students on board to help out.

Also: in June or early July, Jeremy Ayotte will undertake a botanical inventory of Mara Meadows. There are changes happening, water level changing, etc. It will build on the data that had been collected by John Coffey.

Todd Letourneau is producing a high-def topographical map of Mara Meadows.

## 2. Show and tell:

Jeremy Ayotte brought a caribou antler found at Joss Pass in the fall. It was likely from the Blanket Creek herd, which is very small, at 3-5 in the herd.

Ed McDonald had some books given to him by Roger Meunier, including *Birds of Western Canada*, published in 1926. Illustrated (mostly) by Allen Brooks.

Allen Brooks: 1869–1946. Born in India, then moved to Britain. Collected eggs, then started drawing birds, etc when the family moved to Canada. He discovered the first Baird's Sandpiper in BC. He later settled in Okanagan Landing near Vernon.

A towel was found at the June meeting. Anyone's?

Also, historic Christmas Bird Count records from 1970, 1971.

vegetable garden in chilliwack, skull found by Pat Turner.

### 3. Election

Janet Pattinson led the executive elections for 2015.

President: Ed McDonald

Secretary: Michelle Weisinger

Treasurer: Ted Hillary

Directors: Isobel Anderson, Clive Bryson, Ed Dahl, Dorothy Parks, Janet Pattinson, and Gillian Richardson.

### Reports

#### 1. SABNES

Pat Mearns: members met with Rob Newenhausen about the city sewer lines along the foreshore. Janet Aitken is looking into various grants. Also: SABNES website now links to Clive Bryson's photography and the Shuswap Naturalists' website.

#### 2. Good news (Hanne MacKay):

Hanne was not present.

#### 3. Young Naturalists Club:

Geoff Styles: recent bird count with two enthusiastic attendees.

Geoff received a teacher's Christmas gift of a \$120 donation to the YNC from five families.

Also: on audobonmagazine.org, Noah Strycker is trying to spot 5000+ bird species in 365 days.

### Sightings:

- Geoff Styles: Great Grey Owls flyin and calling to each other on his property.
- Ed McDonald: report of a deer on the ice on the lake. Few days later, saw 12 eagles all along the side of the lake, but no deer carcass.
- Gillian Richarson: pair of Ruffed Grouse outside her window.
- Roger Beardmore: Eastern Fox Sparrow at his feeder.

Geoff Styles: thanks to those who handed in their nest box data sheets. There are more boxes available for this year.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, moved by Susan Mackie.

After the break, member Pat Hutchinson gave a presentation on bird photography.