



# The VICTORIA NATURALIST

PUBLISHED BY THE  
VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
VICTORIA, B.C.

ISSN 0049-612X

JULY - AUG 1979  
VOL. 36, NO. 1

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 APRIL, 1979

<u>TOTAL</u> 1978		<u>TOTAL</u> 1979	<u>Nehring</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Audubon</u>	<u>Scholar-</u> <u>ship</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>						
\$ 8,403	Cash in bank and on deposit	\$10,754	\$ 1,845	\$1,337	\$6,814	\$ 758
	Investments at cost (market value 1979: \$77,040; 1978: \$78,073)	81,062	67,835	291	-	12,936
<u>\$88,632</u>		<u>\$91,816</u>	<u>\$69,680</u>	<u>\$1,628</u>	<u>\$6,814</u>	<u>\$13,694</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
\$ 1,346	Accounts payable	\$ 927	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 827	\$ -
507	Memberships paid in advance	738	-	738	-	-
<b>RESERVE</b>						
2,400	Audubon contract 1979-80	2,800	-	-	2,800	-
2,466	Christmas Hill Nature Centre	2,500	-	-	2,500	-
81,913	<b>FUNDS BALANCES</b>	84,851	69,680	790	687	13,694
<u>\$88,632</u>		<u>\$91,816</u>	<u>\$69,680</u>	<u>\$1,628</u>	<u>\$6,814</u>	<u>\$13,694</u>

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS

I have examined the balance sheet of the Victoria Natural History Society as at April 30, 1979 and the statements of income and expenditure for the year ended on that date. My examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of accounting records and other supporting evidence as I considered necessary in the circumstances, except that in the case of all revenue it was not practicable to extend my examination beyond accounting for receipts as reported by the Society.

In my opinion, except for the effect of any adjustments that might have been required had I been able to carry out a verification of revenue (see preceding paragraph), the accompanying statements present fairly the results of the Victoria Natural History Society for the year ended 30 April, 1979.

Victoria  
May 22, 1979.

J. R. Levey  
Chartered Accountant.

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL, 1979

<u>1977-78</u>	<u>GENERAL ACCOUNT</u>	<u>1978-79</u>	<u>1977-78</u>	<u>AUDUBON ACCOUNT</u>	<u>1978-79</u>
<b>Income</b>					
\$2,365	Membership dues and donations	\$3,301	\$6,808	Ticket sales and admissions	\$5,950
185	Publications	157			
365	Interest	718			
19	Other	122	2,390		
<u>2,934</u>		<u>4,298</u>	1,001		
<b>Expenditure</b>					
2,533	Naturalist - production and mailing	1,798	1,346	National Audubon Society	2,676
322	Cost of meetings	420	503	Advertising	836
247	Postage and stationery	246	222	Co-sponsorship expenses	827
534	Affiliation fees	547		Cost of meetings	595
80	Accountancy and audit	100		Other	188
176	Legal expenses	-	1,346		
211	Miscellaneous	397	1,413		
<u>4,103</u>		<u>3,508</u>	-		
(1,169)	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	790	-	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	828
884	Funds on hand at beginning of year	-	\$2,759	Funds on hand at beginning of year	2,759
(319)	Equipment at cost written off	-		Increase in reserve for Audubon contracts	(400)
604	Transfer from Nehring Account to cover deficit	-		Transfer to Christmas Hill Nature Centre Reserve	(2,500)
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>FUNDS ON HAND AT END OF YEAR</u>	<u>\$ 790</u>	<u>\$5,127</u>	<u>FUNDS ON HAND AT END OF YEAR</u>	<u>\$ 687</u>
			2,661		
			2,466		
			-	CHRISTMAS HILL NATURE CENTRE RESERVE	
			\$2,466	Funds on hand at beginning of year	\$2,466
				Deduct development expenses	2,466
					-
				Add transfer from Audubon account	2,500
				<u>FUNDS ON HAND AT END OF YEAR</u>	<u>\$2,500</u>

Notes:

- 1) Interest is recorded on a cash-received basis.
- 2) It is the financial policy of the Society that:
  - i) The Nehring and Scholarship accounts shall be retained as endowment funds.
  - ii) The surplus from the Audubon account shall be used for conservation or educational purposes.
  - iii) The General account shall be self-sustaining.

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL, 1979

<u>1977-78</u>	<u>NEHRING ACCOUNT</u>	<u>1978-79</u>	<u>1977-78</u>	<u>SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT</u>	<u>1978-79</u>
<b>Income</b>					
\$ 5,202	Interest	\$ 6,255	\$ 629	Interest	\$ 1,110
<b>Expenditure</b>					
1,950	Maintenance Francis Park	2,056	200	Scholarships	1,100
-	Junior Summer Camp	88			
167	Bird alert system	204	429		
-	Donation re Sidney Island	25			
<u>2,117</u>		<u>2,373</u>	12,155	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	10
3,085	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	3,882	-	Funds on hand at beginning of year	12,584
64,089	Funds on hand at beginning of year	66,570	-	Barbara Chapman Fund donations	328
(604)	Transfer to General account	-	-	Barbara Chapman - Nehring transfer	772
-	Transfer to Scholarship - Barbara Chapman	(772)	\$12,584	<u>FUNDS ON HAND AT END OF YEAR</u>	<u>\$13,694</u>
<u>\$66,570</u>	<u>FUNDS ON HAND AT END OF YEAR</u>	<u>\$69,680</u>			

## VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1747, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y1

All correspondence, including membership applications and renewals,  
should be sent to this address.

### HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Albert R. Davidson, Miss M.C. Melburn, Miss E.K. Lemon, Mrs. L.E. Chambers,  
E.E. Bridgen, Dr. Douglas B. Sparling, Mrs. H.W.S. Soulsby

### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 1979-80

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Victoria Naturalist (Editor) ..... Mrs. E. Merle Harvey - 477-9634

Annual dues, including subscription to "The Victoria Naturalist"

Juniors - \$2.50      Golden Age Single - \$6.00      Regular - \$7.00  
Family (Golden Age or Regular) - \$9.00      Sustaining - \$25.00

The financial year is May 1 to April 30. New members joining after January 1 and  
before March 1 - half dues.

Rare Bird Alert  
383-0211

## THE VICTORIA NATURALIST

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### BOTANY AT GOLDSTREAM

By Iola Stasyshyn

What a nice sunny day for our May 19 Botany Trip! Our leader, Katherine Sherman, divided us into 3 groups, as there were around 30 members, with Katherine taking one group, Teresa Todd and Jessie Woollett taking the rest.

We trudged along the cool trail, with many shades of green below and over our heads, heading for the nature house and Goldstream Flats. Many dainty flowers were found; 3 that are of interest to the Goldstream area are the False Bugbane (*Trautvetteria caroliniensis*), Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum capitatum*) and Mitre Wart (*Tiarella*). Three types of wild Geraniums were of interest to many with their corkscrew seeds that burrow into the ground. Also while at Goldstream Flats, some birders spotted Violet-green Swallows, Osprey, Bald Eagles, and a Blue Heron. We kept on the lookout for Deer Fern (*Struthiopteris spicant*), which is native to that area, but we weren't lucky enough to spot any.

After lunch we crossed the bridge and wound our way up Mount Finlayson trail, where Katherine showed us the interesting kink in the Twisted Stalk (*Streptopus Amplexifolius*) and the Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum aleuticum*). On the way back to the parking lot, we stopped to see the Oak Fern and the Dwarf Roses; Teresa looked for the Dipper birds, but no sign of them.

With many thanks to Katherine Sherman, we spotted 92 species in all.

COVER:

ROUND-LEAVED SUNDEW (*Drosera rotundifolia*)  
by Bertha McHaffie-Gow



PILGRIMAGE TO PELEEBy *Charlie Trotter*

At 6:15 a.m., 7 May, 1979 we were standing on Canada's most southerly tip, Point Pelee, witnessing a phenomenon which no one can explain adequately - reverse migration. Thousands of birds were flying south a few feet above us and heading out over Lake Erie - truly an explosion of birds. Red-headed Woodpeckers in dozens, Grackles and Red-winged Blackbirds and Red-breasted Mergansers in thousands, Indigo Buntings, Blue Jays, Bobolinks, Tanagers, Orioles, Warblers - you name it, the air was full of them. These birds had come north only a few hours before and in a confused way were returning the way they had come. We were told that they would turn and fly back to Pelee after covering a few miles over the Lake; some may have overflowed their regular habitat and were making the adjustment.

We were being guided by two Wilsons, young Jim, a member of V.N.H.S., and his father, Dr. Jim of Windsor, a local authority on the birds of the area. Others encountered on the Point were Norm Chesterfield of Wheatley, Steve Canning of Penticton and Pierre Berton, author and enthusiastic birder.

That first day, the trees were bare of leaves with only a few buds beginning to swell; the low bushes had tiny leaves just showing. The wind off the Lake was cold - winter clothing was in order. As we stood in groups, Jim Sr. would point out the species while the streams of birds flew over us. Ripples of excitement would stir the watchers as lifer after lifer was identified. Flying birds are not satisfactory targets for most birders so after an hour, we moved inland where we could observe the birds resting or feeding in the trees and shrubs. Most of them seemed oblivious to our presence, allowing us to approach to within a few feet.

Our group of 21 from Victoria and 7 from Vancouver was thrilled by the number and variety of birds seen. One of our experienced birders, Alf Porcher, got 20 lifers the first day and 35 in all for the week. Eleanor Davidson saw 161 species in toto, 37 of them lifers.

In the "rara avis" category was the Yellow-throated Warbler (very, very unusual), Louisiana Heron (a first for Ontario, according to Dr. Jim), and great numbers of White-eyed Vireos singing their fool heads off. After dark watching revealed the Woodcock's mating ritual first calling and then circling in fluttering flight against the night sky and the Chuck-Will's-Widow perched on a bare limb and sounding its distinctive cry.

One cannot help but pick up some of the local jargon. When several individuals of one species have been sighted, others soon become "dirt birds"; that means that they are as common as dirt and as such become hardly worth noticing even though they may be as exotic in colouring as a Scarlet Tanager or a Redstart. When one sees a bird which one cannot identify, it becomes a "that's a." From visitors from England, we got the expression "crippling view" - an example of this would be our close-up look at an Indigo Bunting sitting on a dandelion in the bright sunlight with all its flamboyant colour on display - colours so shattering that the term "crippling view" applies very well.

I was anxious to see a Cardinal, but for three days not one showed. Everyone was trying to help. Finally, Ed Sing of Vancouver said, "Charlie, if you don't see one soon, we'll phone the Pope and get him to make you a Cardinal." His Holiness was not needed for that very day I found a gorgeous pair and their nest. Ed also suggested that, in a town like Leamington, where the Heinz Ketchup factory dominates the scene, one should be able to see at least 57 varieties of birds.

Some of our pilgrims visited Jack Miner's Refuge at Kingsville and Rondeau Park a few miles to the east.

For a person like myself, interested in flowers as well as birds, there was a difficult choice - whether to look down at the flowers or up at the birds. On our arrival, Dutchman's Breeches and May Apple were all one could see. However, with a change in the weather to 28°C. for a few days and nights, the plants seemed to spring out of the ground and into immediate bloom. By the end of the week, there were great carpets of Blue Violets and Spring Beauty. Soon appeared Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Yellow Violets, Columbine, Trillium. The Spice Bush showed its fuzzy yellow flowers.

It was a wonderful week, enjoyed to the full. Already some of our people are talking about a repeat performance next year.

Anyone for Pelee in 1980???

### HURRICANE RIDGE - SUNDAY, JULY 8TH, 1979

*by Katherine Sherman*

We now have 40 names on our list. Any others interested will be accepted on the waiting list.

We meet at the booking office at the new Black Ball Ferry Terminal, 430 Belleville St., at no later than 5:40 a.m. Return ferry fare is \$6.80 (Canadian). Bring driver's licence, passport, or other good identification. Cars can be parked free all day at any B.C. Government parking lot (Superior or Michigan Streets).

A bus will meet the ferry in Port Angeles. Return fare on the bus will be \$5.00 (Canadian) which will be collected on the ferry. Nothing can be left on the bus while we are up on Hurricane Ridge. Bring a pack sack with warm sweater, rain gear, and a generous supply of food!

There is a possibility that the 6:00 a.m. sailing may be cancelled owing to a reduction in the tourist traffic, but this will not be known until June 15th. Failing the early run, we may either re-schedule the trip for another weekend or leave on the 10:30 a.m. ferry. So please CHECK THE BIRD ALERT, 383-0211 July 7th, or phone me, 598-3237 or Marianne Pearce, 598-4928, for final instructions.



### BIRDING FIELD TRIP TO FRANCIS PARK

*By Richard Vanson*

Now it may not be the same for those who have been birders for some time, but for myself, each field trip is a new exciting experience. This one started with being told there were Evening Grosbeaks on the roadside. Did you see them as we drove up? I didn't, but I'm sure the other 26 people on the trip did. That's okay, though, as each time I see a new bird, well, you know how it feels. So I'm quite content to let it last as long as possible.

We started off down the swamp trail. Red-breasted Nuthatch, Swainson's Thrush, and what's making all that racket? Oh, just a Song Sparrow. I'm still not very good at nodding approvingly, smiling, looking in my book, in my binoculars, where's that branch? Oh, the bird's gone. Well, next time. For now I'll just have to be content to write it down for others. We were passing some wild roses when Anne Knowles, our leader that day, brought a Western Flycatcher to our attention. A Traill's Flycatcher was soon sighted, as well as some mosquitoes. The latter I had no problems identifying, very, very often. In fact it's the only time other birders have drawn closer when I've lit a cigarette.

Next, as we came through a clearing, we noticed a squirrel running along its aerial highway. We also startled a Black-tailed Deer which quickly bounded out of sight. Sedum, Orange Honeysuckle and Sea Blush were added to my day's records, along with 8 or 10 Rufous Hummingbirds, a White-crowned Sparrow and a Flicker, the latter dipping along the power lines.

The highlight of the whole trip for me was a Turkey Vulture. What a fantastic sight! Slow, majestic, such a methodical calculating flight. An Orange-crowned Warbler, a Red-tailed Hawk and a McGillivray's Warbler also drew our attention. The trip ended with a good look at a posturing Western Bluebird, a Yellow throat and a Towhee.

Mr. Turnbull had driven to where we would emerge, in order to give some a lift back, and his list had Cedar Waxwings, Pileated Woodpecker, Quail and Chickadee as well as all the other birds we had seen. And did I see the Crossbills or Chipping Sparrow while we lunched? No, but it will come with time. Thanks, Anne!



VISIT OF WHITE ROCK BIRDERSby *D. Turnbull*

Fourteen birders from the White Rock and Surrey Society visited the Victoria area on Saturday, April 21st. They were met at Swartz Bay about 8:30 a.m. by an equal number of VNHS birders and the group then proceeded to explore some of the good birding spots of our area.

A first stop was made at Island View Road and Lochside Drive to see Skylarks and in addition, Red-tailed and Cooper's Hawks, Barn and Violet-green Swallows, Snipe and Savannah Sparrows were seen.

Next to Beaver Lake, where we were greeted by Canada and White-fronted Geese. The highlight was the Ospreys on their nest. Numerous warblers, finches and wrens were seen, as well as a Rufous Hummingbird, Wood and Ring-necked Ducks, Double-crested Cormorant and others.

The next stop was Lover's Lane at Beacon Hill Park, where we had lunch. Here the highlight was a Black-throated Grey Warbler plus siskins, chickadees and kinglets, a sharp-shinned Hawk and a Raven.

Next to Clover Point where there was a good assortment of gulls, shorebirds, diving ducks and alcids, among them Oldsquaw, Rock Sandpipers, Dunlin, Sanderling, Marbled Murrelet and Rhinoceros Auklets.

Visits to Cadboro Bay beach and Cattle Point produced relatively few birds. Unfortunately, the two Marbled Godwits who had spent the winter at Cadboro Bay could not be found. The party dispersed here, with some returning to the ferry and others going on to other interesting spots. At this point, 62 species had been seen, but some of the adventurous ones racked up a total of 84 for the day before they called it quits.

PINK FAWN LILIESBy *Elsie G. Turnbull*

To the Botany Group of the Victoria Natural History Society, spring wouldn't be spring without a visit to Sutton Creek to see the famous Pink Fawn Lilies (*Erythronium Revolutum*). After some juggling of dates, the expedition led by Leon Pavlic of the Provincial Museum Botany Department got underway on Sunday, April 29. It was perhaps the peak of the season and a sight hard to surpass. A carpet of the pink up-curving blooms, rising from their flecked green stems, were massed beside a golden spread of Yellow Wood Violets, clumps of the delicate Bleeding Heart and patches of Trillium or Western Wakerobin leaves dotted with white waxen flowers.

The flood-plain of Sutton Creek supports luxuriant growth. Dominant on the forest floor was False Bugbane whose big leaves crowded the aromatic Vanilla Leaf and the shiny heart-shaped Lily-of-the-Valley. Tall stalks of False Solomon's Seal, not yet in bloom and young new shoots of nettles gave promise for the future. Here and there along the trail, we found the small delicately pink flowers of the Toothwort, the pale candy-striped blossoms of Western Spring Beauty, the rosy-red petals of the Geranium Herb Robert or straggling stems of Youth-on-Age, the Piggy-back plant whose new leaves grow out of the base of old blades. Close to the ground we uncovered the leathery leaves of the Wild Ginger hiding rusty three-lobed flower blooms.

Towering above the lilies were trees of the forest with moss-hung twisted trunks and branches. In the wet Cowichan Valley, the Western Hemlock flourishes, easily distinguished by its drooping top. Flowers of the Broad-leaved Maple hung from leafless branches, while Red Alder was still winter-naked except for bands of lichen. On the ground, fallen logs served as nurse to ferns, Salal bushes and Red Huckleberry shrubs.

Distant call of Varied Thrush, Steller's Jay and Robins drifted through the grove while eager eyes spotted Pine Siskins, Lutescent and Townsend Warblers and a Western Flycatcher. As an added bonus, a pair of Dippers sported and played in the bubbling waters of Sutton Creek. In short, it was day of delight for botanist, tree-lover and birder.

THOSE MARBLED GODWITS

By A.R. Davidson

The appealing photograph by Bertha Gow on the cover of the May-June magazine of the two marbled godwits at Cadboro Bay deserves a story, as these birds have never, as far as I can ascertain, wintered in Victoria before, and in any case are only accidental visitors to this area, their normal wintering grounds being southern California, Mexico and further south.

It was on August 19th, 1978 that one of these birds was identified at Cadboro; then on September 1st another one showed up on the Victoria Golf Course at Oak Bay, the distance between these two localities being about two and one-half miles.

On September 5th, they got together on the Golf Course where they stayed until October 31st and then moved to Cadboro Beach and stayed there throughout the winter until April 20th, when they left. We can only hope they managed to find their way to their normal nesting grounds in Saskatchewan or Alberta.

We were very anxious to include these birds on our Christmas Count which was taken on December 16th, and well do I remember that day of violent winds, extreme cold, and the abnormally high tides, covering the beach, showering spray over the trees and shrubs and ourselves. We were frozen, and there were no birds anywhere. We thought they had gone to more agreeable climes, but no, they liked that beach, and when the wind had subsided and the tides became normal they reappeared and stayed there, mostly close together, for the rest of the winter.

This Cadboro Beach is always muddy, full of hidden life. Fresh water springs come through the sand and the mud mingling with the salt water on the uprising tide; this seems to produce ample feed for the sandpipers and their kin, making this beach one of the best places to find shore birds in their season.

PINK LILIES OF THE OREGON COAST

By Kaye Suttill

After every spring observing the Pink Lilies beside Sutton Creek, here on Vancouver Island, it was most surprising and joying to discover this same pink Erythronium species, *E. revolutum*, blooming on the Oregon Coast, during the last week of April this year.

We noted the first one deep in the shade of a mixed conifer stand, near the top of Nealikahnie Mountain on the North Oregon Coast.

Then right on the open knife edge summit was a little garden of Pink Lilies, mostly a bit shorter stemmed than our Cowichan Lake ones. Two were proper dwarfs, but several were average-for-Vancouver Island size.

Coming back down the mountain, we observed others on the forest shade slopes with ground cover of *Oxalis oregana*, Oregon wood sorrel, and *Montia sibirica*, and in light shade company with yellow *Viola glabella*. Lower down still, in full sunlight on open ground, were Pink Lilies amid Lady Ferns looking so dried out on the steep rocky slope, while the lilies seemed thrivingly at home. How we missed seeing all these going up the mountain, we can't understand! We must have been concentrating on the steep trail footing, or looking out at the views and blowdowns from last winter's storms.

Still later we found some more pink lilies in an incredible habitat: a very steep east facing slope, the back side of a sea cliff dwarf mountain so deep under thick salal-in-bloom cover as to appear to get no sun at all.

When we came home, I checked out Pink Lily habitat for the Oregon Coast in four reference books; Dr. Clark's Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest, C.P. Lyon's Trees, Shrubs and Flowers to Know in Washington, Leslie L. Haskin's Wildflowers of the Pacific Coast, and the Seattle Audubon Society's Washington Wildflowers "including 1,134 species of wild flowers most commonly found in the State of Washington and adjacent areas of Oregon, Idaho and British Columbia."

Nowhere do they mention bare mountain tops or thick salal cover as Pink Lily sites, and even the baked full sunlight steep slope Lady Fern cover is a fantastic change from *Erythronium revolutum*'s river valley flood plain chosen habitat here on Vancouver Island.

### BOOK NOTES

*By Roy Prior*

Any birder planning to spend time in Europe should know of the existence of two books, published in a paperback edition at a price of about \$4.00 each. The first, Where to Watch Birds in Europe, deals with the whole of Europe, and is divided into separate sections for each country. In each section, a dozen or more principal areas of interest for bird watchers are listed, and details given on the kind of habitats and what birds are to be expected in them. There are maps, information about accommodation - in short, all the information you need, whether you are going specifically to watch birds, or whether you are only incidentally interested.

The second book is entitled simply Where to Watch Birds, and does in much greater detail for Britain what the first does for Europe. The author of both of these, John Gooders, is extremely well known as an author of books on birding, and these two are simply priceless.

### BIRDING ON THE FERRY

*By Helen Rodney*

On Sunday, April 8th an extra birding trip took place. Ten birders boarded the Queen of the Islands at Swartz Bay on a grey wet morning for a four-hour cruise among the Gulf Islands. Greeted by a Rufous Hummingbird at the terminal, we saw a group of 47 Arctic Loons shortly after leaving. During the trip, we saw more of the latter, a few Common Loons, and Western, Red-necked and Horned Grebes. Murres and Pigeon Guillemots were common, and in Navy Channel was a group of 47 Bonaparte's Gulls in their neat black summer hoods.

A magnificent Golden Eagle was at Mayne Island. By kind invitation of Captain Crook, we spent the trip at the best vantage point, on the bridge, and saw in addition three species of cormorant, buffleheads, scoters, and also the once domestic "mountain goats" of Mayne Island. The weather had turned fine shortly after we set out, and it was a satisfied, if tired, group that arrived back at the terminal, to see none other than - presumably - the same Rufous Hummingbird.

This trip must be the finest \$1.50 worth in the region!

### JULY/AUGUST PROGRAMS

- SUN. 8 JULY HURRICANE RIDGE: see p.4 for details.
- SAT. 14 JULY BOTANY/ENTOMOLOGY: Jordan Meadows. Leaders: Stephen Mitchell (Bot.) and Brian Ainscough (Ent.). Meet Mayfair Lanes, 8:30 a.m.
- SUN. 22 JULY BIRDS: Cowichan Bay. Leader: Roy Prior. Meet Mayfair Lanes 8:00 a.m. or Robert Service Memorial, 9:00 a.m.
- SAT. 4 AUGUST BIRDS: Saanich Peninsula. Leader: Helen Rodney. Meet Mayfair Lanes 8:30 a.m.
- SUN. 12 AUGUST HERITAGE TREES: Leader: Mrs. Bartkow (478-5320). Meet Mayfair Lanes, 9:00 a.m.
- THURS. 16 AUG. BIRDS: Dr. Cliff Davies, University of Manchester, will speak on "Swallows". Ring Bird Alert (383-0211) and listen to end of message for time and place.
- SAT. 18 AUGUST BIRDS: Witty's Lagoon. Leader: Mike Shepard. Meet Mayfair Lanes, 8:00 a.m. or Metchosin Road Parking Lot 8:30 a.m.
- SUN. 26 AUGUST BOTANY: Goldstream Estuary. Meet Mayfair Lanes, 8:30 a.m. or Goldstream Park Parking Lot 9:00 a.m.



ITEMS OF INTEREST

The new president of the VNHS, Winston Mair, has been appointed by the Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the B.C. Minister of the Environment to provide an independent review and assessment of the report of the Planning Commission on the use of the Squamish Estuary. There have been conflicting demands from industry and environmentalists over the Estuary's future. For more information, contact: Rod Cameron, Director, Information and Education Branch, B.C. Ministry of the Environment, at 387-3791.

\* \* \* \* \*

Watch for Aleta Karstad's Canadian Nature Notebook, just published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson: a personal interpretation of 25 Canadian habitats, with delightful drawings by the author.

\* \* \* \* \*

For information on the Summer Program of the Mittle-natch Field Naturalists, phone 287-4142.

\* \* \* \* \*

OVERDUE? OVER TO YOU!

*by a member of the Tuesday Group*

*Your dues are due,  
And to those of you  
Who have done nothing about them  
We politely say  
Please hurry and pay -  
We can't get on without them!*

\* \* \* \* \*

REMEMBER: next deadline for the Naturalist is August 1st. We need interesting short articles on any aspect of natural history, so why not become an author?

BIRD OBSERVATIONS

*From Peggy Goodwill*

APRIL, 1979

<u>NO.</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>OBSERVER</u>
1	Barred Owl	5	Beaver Lk. Pk.	Mark Nyhof
2	Wimbrel	16	Bowker Ave.	Merle Harvey
1	Green Heron	21	Blenkinsop Lake	J.B. Tatum
1	Townsend's Solitaire	23	Little Saan. Mt.	" "
1	Redhead	25	Bazan Bay	N. Lovett
6	Semipalmated Plover	28	Metchosin Lagoon	D. Stirling

MAY, 1979

1	Upland Sandpiper	5	Cedar Hill Golf Course	R. Satterfield
2	Blue-winged Teal	5	Quick's Bottom	" "
1	Solitary Sandpiper	6	Raper's Pond	L. Roberts & D. Stirling
1	Horned Puffin	11	Vic. Golf Course	R. Satterfield
2	Hammond's Flycatchers	12	Spectacle Lake	V. Goodwill & R. Satterfield
1	Yellow-billed Loon	13	Sooke Harbour	D. Stirling
1	Lapland Longspur	13	Clover Point	R. Satterfield
2	Western Kingbirds	15	Mount Tolmie	Bill Savale
2	Peregrine Falcon	25	William Head	Beryl Holt
1	Northern Oriole	26	Penrhyn Street	R. Mackenzie-Grieve