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DO NOT REMOVE

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Financial Year — May 1st to April 30th

Members joining Jan. 1st to April 30th - half dues

RARE BIRD ALERT - 478-8534

ABOVE THE ARCTIC CIRCLE WITH JESSIE WOOLLETT

The Twin Otter gained altitude over Great Slave Lake, and we could see the vast expanse of the Canadian Shield spread out below us. The surprising amount of water sitting on the glaciated rocky landscape provided a fascinating panorama as far as the eye could see. Above the treeline, we saw glaciers and ice still on some lakes in mid-July, and here and there, small herds of caribou. Too soon we were over the drainage system of the Burnside River, and then over its estuary. Suddenly, we came down onto the water and up to the small dock. We had arrived at Bathurst Inlet!

An enthusiastic welcome from the Inuit and the proprietors, Glenn and Trish Warner, made us feel at home in Canada's Central Arctic. Bathurst Inlet Naturalist's Centre is 30 miles above the Arctic Circle, 360 miles north of Yellowknife, and approximately 1,000 miles north of Edmonton. The several lodge buildings were those built as a Hudson Bay Post, and later abandoned by that Company in 1965, when it took its business further north to Bay Chimo. There is a most friendly and delightful small band of Inuit living here -- mostly living off the land.

The weather left much to be desired. In 1978, a most unusual and severe blizzard swept in near the end of June. The blizzard was a tragedy for the shore birds just when they were starting to nest, and many were found frozen on the shores. The song birds suffered too; with the severe cold there were no insects, hence no food. On the first morning a Harris'Sparrow was found dead on her nest near my door. She had been desperately trying to cover her young, and they were also dead - starved and frozen. The male was seen lamenting for sometime after. There were several sparrows, redpolls and swallows around the buildings, but I do not know if they nested within the sheds or not.

When I went again to Bathurst in 1980, it poured rain most of the time with few interludes. This, too was unusual as the Arctic is a near desert with an average rainfall (including snow) of 10 to 12 inches. I think it all fell while I was there! In 1980, my nine-year-old grandson, Ian, went with me, and it was inspiring to see a new world through the eyes of a child.

Every day we were taken out in a boat to some of the scenic places such as up rivers to glorious waterfalls, along the banks of which we would see the nests of Gyrfalcons with young; in another place the Peregrine or a Golden Eagle's nest, or perhaps the Rough-legged Hawk and young perilously perched on the stony ledges.

COVER:

Common Goldeneye on Ice in Beacon Hill Park by Bertha McHaffie-Gow On the water we saw the Oldsquaw, Red-throated Loon, Yellow-billed Loon, Arctic Loon, Whistling Swan, Glaucous Gull, Parasitic Jaeger, Arctic Tern, Greater Scaup, and Common Eider. Continuing with birds, while walking along the tundra and among the willows (at least 25 to 30 inches tall) we saw the Willow Ptarmigan and young, Harris' Sparrow, Hoary Redpoll, White-crowned Sparrow, Lapland Longspur, both Cliff and Violet-green Swallows. Along the shore suddenly a sandpiper would be trying to entice us away, but if we did not go and looked carefully we might see the walnut-sized baby. In a small pond beyond the lodge lived the Northern Phalarope and by quietly approaching, we could see this bird making circles in the water to stir up dinner. I know real "birders" would have seen much more. One day we went to Bird Island and on going ashore found nests of the eider, scaup, and Gulls, but we did not stay long as we did not want to disturb the nests as some of the eggs were pipped, and the mothers were quite concerned.

Whenever we walked the dry tundra ground-squirrels popped their heads out and whistled at us. The local name is "sik-sik" and they are the only truly hibernating animals, digging their dens on a ridge where they will not awaken in a puddle of water. They were all nice and fat and busily collecting grasses. The natives eat them. The largest number of animals we saw were the caribou and I will never forget being out on the tundra, standing on a couple of tussocks, taking pictures of the cotton-grass, when I looked up and caribou by the hundreds were pouring over the rocky hills to feed on the tundra grasses. As long as I stood still, they did not worry about me, were just curious. I fell off the tussocks and the caribou took off running, all 1500 to 2000 of them! Mostly they were cows and calves and yearlings, but we did later see a big bull with his antlers in the velvet.

That magnificent herbivore, the musk-ox, makes us wonder how it adjusted to year-round existence on the Arctic tundra. It's a large animal weighing some 800 pounds and it must require large quantities of food to survive in the cold of winter. It is thrilling to see the shaggy animal with enormous curved horns in the wilderness, its homeland.

We had a quick look at the huge barren-lands grizzly before she disappeared over the ridge with her yearling young. The grizzlies den in the hills near the river, and digs were seen where sik-siks had provided lunch. Wolves, foxes, and wolverines are seen in the area but I did not see them.

Plant life in the Arctic resembles, in a good many respects, that found in alpine regions of southern latitudes. It is an adaptation to the short Arctic summer that most of truly Arctic plants are perennial and develop next year's flowering buds before the onset of winter. Summer is too short for annual species to complete a life cycle in one season. Most Arctic plants require many years from germination to the first flowering, and many depend on vegetative reproduction to augment seed production. Plants are protected in most instances by tough, leathery leaves or are very hairy to retard evaporation in the dry rock deserts.

If we urban dwellers lived in the Arctic, we would probably call the "saxifrage" a weed, for I have seen it covering an area 15 x 20 feet solidly with flowers, particularly the "tricuspidata var.". At another place it could be seen growing 50 to 60 feet above on the rocky ledges. Quite an unforgettable sight! There are some fifteen varieties growing in suitable locations at Bathurst Inlet, among them oppositifolia (purple) cernua, aizoides, caespitosa, tricuspidata, hirculus (yellow marsh) and that beautiful family member, Parnassia Kotzebuei. The last named is deeply impressed on my memory, with its beautiful green-veined white petals decorated with shiny staminoidia, like jewels in the sun.

In the rose family were Dryas integrifolia, the emblem flower of the North West Territories, which grows everywhere, several potentilla of which "nivea" chooses to grow in the sheltered pockets of cliffs, and "egedii" which grows along the shore as does our "answerina". Legumes are, of course, represented by the Arctic lupine, very beautiful and plentiful but only 7 to 10 inches high, and the Astragalus or milk vetch of which Richardsonii is the most colorful, being a dark wine red. There are several Oxytropes growing in the lowlands with colors ranging from yellow, purple, cream, to the red of Oxytropis nigrescens with the calyx covered with black hairs. On the sandy banks we find Hedysarum, the Alpinum and Mackenzii, both a bright pink. Together with golden arnica, these plants formed most of the beautiful beds of wild flowers — we never dreamed of such glory above the Arctic Circle.

The Figwort family is ably represented by at least eight members of the genus pedicularis, all interesting and colorful, and apparently more or less parasitic on lupine. Probably the most interesting is the "woolly pedicularis" which begins with the budding plant completely wrapped in its own white wool. This plant is often called "Lousewort", which I assume is on account of the "beak". The castilleja or paintbrush is also plentiful in the moist tundra or sandy shores. It comes in shades of pink, rose, and often creamy white, and not the orange-red of our coast.

Along a salty shore I was delighted to find two members of the gentians - "tenella" with its long tube flowers and Lomatogonium rotatum. The latter was growing just about on the tide-line, and is a purplish-green with slender branches with linear leaves which, to me, were purplish-brown, and the flowers like purple-blue stars. I had never seen them before and there were dozens along the shore.

Along another part of the shore, an Arctic dandelion, much to my surprise. In among the rocks, Primula borealis, and the silver leafed potentilla egedii var. groenlandica, as previously mentioned, together with sea-beach sandwort (Arenaria peploides). It was along this low path I found Pyrola grandiflora

and grand it was; the large white flowers were at least an inch across with several on the red stems. Here also Pyrola secunda var. obtusata, which was smaller than ours.

Where a small stream flowed, Caltha palustris, the yellow one, with its petals seared by the wind. Coralroot trifida was here also and I did see the only other orchid growing in the Arctic, obtusata.

Labrador tea (decumbens), Bog rosemary (Andromeda polifolia), were among the Ericaceae seen in the wet areas, and higher on the slopes were Rhododendron lapponica, Loiseleuria procumbens (alpine azalea), Cassiope tetragona, Arctostaphylos, the Alpine bearberry, Vaccinum uliginosum (Bilberry), and V. vitis idaea (Mountain cranberry). Along with the mosses, Black Crowberry and Bearberry form the main ground cover in higher areas.

In the higher, better drained tundra, we found Diapensia lapponica, a beautiful waxy white flower growing on a "shrub", 4 to 5 inches high, along with Saxifraga oppositifolia, and close by Silene acaulis. Up here I found the two lilies that grow in the Arctic, Tofieldia pusilla, a pale yellowish-green, and T. coccinea, closer to the ground and with purplish scape. I found the Campanula uniflora with its bell so small I could draw it through a lifesaver, the only measure I had with me. Saussurea angustifolia was a surprise as I had seen its cousin "densa" at Peyto Lake. The northern one is slimmer. The Arctic poppy (radicatum) I had to search for as its blooming period was nearly over and the wind whipped off the clear yellow petals very soon.

In moist peaty places we find the cloudberry (Chamaemorus rubus) with its large white flowers later replaced by the delicious, juicy red fruit which turns yellow on ripening. Butterwort, that insect-eating plant, lives here also. Along the river bars Epilobium latifoliana we find in profusion; its reddish leaves and flowers are salad for the native peoples, and beauty for our eyes. Crucifers, such as drabas, cardamines, and erysimums are to be found, as well as mouse-eared chickweed, melandrium apetalum (bladder campion), a few artemesias and senecios and others. I am not going to name them as the list is getting much too long, and I want to go to other things.

One very important plant I must mention is the "Salix", willows of several species which grow above the Circle. Larger species provide an important food for Arctic herbivora, such as muskoxen and caribou, and the bark and twigs for hare and lemmings. Willow buds are the principal food of the ptarmigan in winter, and even man eats the catkins, rich in Vitamin C. Many willows run along the surface of the tundra rather than growing upwards. The catkins are beautiful and different, according to the species. Birch (Betula glandulosa) are frequently seen, and I was surprised to be able to photograph an alder tree (24 inches in height) with catkins and last year's cones.

I was surprised to see butterflies at Bathurst Inlet, but was delighted to find a few, a pale brownish one that blended perfectly with dead leaves, a reddish-brown fritillary and the clouded yellow. They never flew more than ten inches above the ground, and rested in the pockets in the tundra where the everlasting wind would not get at them. I also saw several large grey grasshoppers, many bumble bees loaded with pollen, one beetle, a few small moths, a large spider and three small ones. And how could we forget the mosquito? However, in this area they are not as bothersome as elsewhere, and can be kept from devouring us with proper precautions.

As I mentioned before, the land forms on this Arctic coast are very beautiful and must be seen to be appreciated. The rock formations are fascinating - layers of different kinds and colors which have been upended by some prehistoric upheaval. Geologists would indeed be challenged here.

Plant identification reference: Illustrated Flora of the Canadian Arctic, A.E. Porsild, National Museum of Canada.

NEW PROVINCIAL PARKS

Whaleboat Island Provincial Marine Park is located 21 kilometers southeast of Nanaimo at the southeast tip of Ruxton Island, northeast of Pylades Island. It is accessible only by boat from Pylades Channel or from Stuart Channel and the north end of Trincomali Channel via Whaleboat Passage.

Pure Lake Provincial Park is located 7 km from the village of Masset, fronting on the highway to Port Clements. The Park consists of 130 hectares (321 acres) totally surrounding Pure Lake. The Lake has a natural sand beach and water that's warm enough to swim comfortably — an unusual feature in the Queen Charlottes. Another attraction in the new park is the "bonsai" vegetation which provides interesting opportunities for nature study.

For the present, Pure Lake Provincial Park will be managed as a day use area.

BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS FEBRUARY 16

To comply with a request, we are offering this outing for members who are new to our Society, or new to Victoria, or new to the art of Birdwatching. Anne Knowles, the leader, will demonstrate the use of binoculars and telescope. She will talk about suitable identification guides and lists for this area and will touch briefly on the "etiquette" of birding. Come and join Anne for an exciting introductory lesson.

Be sure to dress <u>warmly</u> and wear stout shoes. If you have them, bring binoculars and bird books and lunch if you wish.

BIRD LISTING UPDATE

In the next issue of the Naturalist, we will be publishing a new set of birders' lists as of December, 1981. Please call Ray Williams at 478-8980 now to give him your life and '81 totals for the following categories:

British Columbia Vancouver Island Victoria Checklist Area

WASHINGTON BIRDING MAY 1ST TO 9TH, 1982

A trip including the Olympic Peninsula, Columbia Basin, and North Cascades Highway is now being arranged. For more information, call Dr. George Sparrow at 592-5340.

BOTANY NIGHT

Come and join us for a pleasant evening.

Because it was so successful last year, we are planning a series of 4 evenings (one per month) devoted to Botany. Steve Mitchell (721-7097), a botanist at the University of Victoria, has kindly consented to be leader. The meetings will be of a most informal nature — so bring along your questions, plants for identification or slides of your favourite wild flowers. The program can be anything you want it to be.

WITTY'S LAGOON

by Rita Dickson

Some five carloads of bird-watchers gathered at Mayfair Lanes parking lot, at nine o'clock Saturday morning, October 24 -- a misty day. Our destination was Witty's Lagoon, under the guidance of Vera Guernsey. Even in town we had enjoyed the autumn foliage, especially passing Ross Bay Cemetery, and the road to Witty's led us through lovely wooded areas, where trees in shades of gold and bronze, rose and orange, made the countryside very beautiful.

Reaching Witty's Lagoon, more people met us in the parking lot and others continued to arrive until we numbered over forty. The mist seemed to have dispersed.

Following the path down to the little bridge, we continued along the forest trail, bordered with sword fern, and paved with numerous humps of tree roots. A brown creeper was darting along the underside of a branch. Sitting Lady Falls presented us with a good view of the "pot-holes" — a curiosity usually obscured by rushing water. Down at the Lagoon a golden tree cast a perfect reflection in the water, and along the edge a pattern was formed by the rocks and plants mirrored in the pool.

A kingfisher greeted (or scolded?) us, a flock of wigeon basked in the sun, and a Killdeer ran along the shore. Someone sighted a Bald Eagle, and in a bare tree-top we discovered a flock of Band-tailed Pigeons. The plaintive cry of a quail issued from the brush on the hillside, while below us again on the mudflats stood a Great Blue Heron.

In the 'scope we were shown the unmistakable, Long-billed Dowitchers, probing in the mud with their sewing-machine-like precision. A Green-winged Teal appeared, and amongst the wigeon, a beautiful Pintail. turnstones and scoters showed themselves, and a Lesser Yellowlegs patrolled the shallows near the shore. A raven croaked.

The tranquility of the scene added to our delight in the birds and once again we felt grateful for this lovely outdoor spot so close to our city. At the far side of the water appeared Black-bellied Plover and our Green-winged Teal was observed still dabbling for succulent morsels. One hundred or so Dunlin took to the air and sparkled in the brilliant sunshine.

Gulls were in abundance -- Mews, Bonaparte's, and California, as well as the Glaucous-winged. In the 'scope, a Red-breasted Merganser preened himself taking long enough that we could all watch him. Returning to the path, we found Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and a Bewick's Wren.

THE BATTLE OF BLENKINSOP LAKE

(A Tale of the Tuesday Group)

by Jack Hutchings

A view of Haystack Rocks greeted us at the seaside -- masses of logs were arranged parallel to the shoreline -- eight or ten seals were bobbing up and down, people-watching. Inland, a Red-tailed Hawk soared and from Haystack Rocks the entire flock of gulls swooped into the air. We wondered how they would ever find a place again on their island, but somehow they packed themselves in and the surface became a mass of white feathers. A fog horn sounded -- still misty out at sea.

Eating lunch on the beach, we watched Western Grebe, Horned Grebe, and our seals again. Climbing the steps to the old parking lot later on, we heard people below us clapping to the seals, who responded by splashing and showing off like children.

From the old parking lot down the road towards the highway, we found a rewarding spot. It provided a Steller's Jay, a Brewer's Blackbird, chickadees, towhees, and fluttering Golden-crowned Kinglets. A Savannah Sparrow and a "Fox" showed themselves briefly, and two creepers darted along the branches overhead. Those who returned by the Lagoon saw a European Wigeon.

The outing yielded over fifty species -- a very satisfactory and happy day; thank you, Vera.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD

by Anne Knowles

Your Board of Directors have decided that a study of our natural areas with an inventory of the flora and fauna, would be an excellent and worth-while project for the Society to undertake. When such a guide is written, it would be of assistance in protecting any natural area if, and when, development threatened; we would have authoritative information to present to provincial and civic governments as well as for individuals and other organizations.

Greater Victoria is a naturalist's delight, at all times of the year. We would welcome your comments and/or ideas, and if this proposed project becomes a reality, your active participation, no matter how little. Please let your board members know your feelings on this matter - we are only a phone call away!



A shrike atop a willow tree, bored at the lack of prey, Launched an attack, quite unprovoked, upon a Steller's Jay.

The jay, a bird of dignity - and twice the other's size - Reacted to this rude assault with rather pained surprise.

"Don't worry, pal" the shrike explained, "It's just to tease that bunch Of birders, looking for a thrill before they have their lunch."

"They've only seen a few dull ducks and one Snow-Goose today: Let's give them action - feign a fight ... "

"One moment", said the jay, "Will it not shock these gentle folk to witness seeming strife
Between us ...?" "Shock them?", scoffed the shrike, "Not on your blooming life".

"You ought to see the violence they look at on TV; They're only human after all; come, mix it - and you'll see."

The jay, to test this scathing view, consented to the bout, So up and down the willow tree they chased and in and out

In mock combat they dived and pecked: the birders were enthralled And cheered the feathered fighters on ... The jay was quite appalled

To see how the excitement grew, until one lady birder Appeared to hope, without a qualm, for bloody birdie murder.

At length, "I'm sorry, shrike", he said. "I'll really have to stop: I have a far more seemly date on Upper Blenkinsop".

He left ... Aloft, the preening shrike, in phoney victory, Savoured the comments from below with quite unholy glee.

The accolade came up at last: words even he thought callous - "With more of this, birding could be as popular as "Dallas".

EDITOR'S NOTES: By Marjorie E. Elston

Once again an appeal for field trip reports and articles for the Magazine. I've only received "birding" information so far! This magazine is designed for communication by and to our membership. Please note there is now a set deadline for every issue and if you have any questions, please call me. All the best for the New Year.

SPEAKERS

DAVID BAIRD A native New Brunswicker with a double major from Mt. Allison University in Biology and Geography. He is presently doing his teacher's practicum at Oak Bay High School in Outdoor Education. David has worked as a park naturalist at Fundy National Park, 3 summers at Pacific Rim National Park and 2 seasons at Francis Park, which he will be speaking on at our January General Meeting.

YORKE EDWARDS Presently Director of the B.C. Provincial Museum, he is a past president of our Society and well known to us all. Yorke will be the speaker at our Annual Banquet in February.

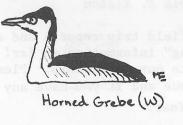
BIRDING ON THE SAANICH PENINSULA

By Art Durkee

On the morning of November 21st, in spite of thickening black clouds in the North, about 40 persons arrived at Mayfair Lanes for a day of birding on the Saanich Peninsula. Mike Shepard was our leader.

The first stop was Swan Lake. There were coots, Double-crested Cormorants, and a single Pied-billed Grebe on the Lake itself. In the low bushes and grass nearby, we observed the Long-billed Marsh Wren and heard the Virginia Rail calling. In the higher bushes off the boardwalk were Fox and Song Sparrows. Swan Lake produced the first raptor of the day, apparently a large female Cooper's Hawk, sitting at the top of a tall conifer. Green-winged Teal, Mallards and American Wigeon were abundant in the flooded fields on the west side of the Lake.

We proceeded next to Cordova Bay and looking out over the Strait were able to identify Western, Eared, Horned, and Red-necked Grebes. Duck species: there were Bufflehead, Old Squaw, Surf Scoter, and Common Goldeneye.



Martindale Flats was the next stop. On the way there, a Northern Shrike and a Red-tailed Hawk were spotted. On arrival at Martindale Rd., the sun came out and we had excellent lighting, for perhaps 20 minutes. All telescopes were put into action when two hawks were spotted, one in a tall tree and the other one on a post. After some discussion and much looking through the scopes, it was determined that the one in the tree was a Peregrine Falcon and the one on the post was a Gyrfalcon. A flock of Killdeers was active in the air and on the ground and a fair distance off a group of Canada Geese and a Snow Goose were feeding in a farmer's field.

We drove to Island View Beach for lunch and enjoyed our coffee and sandwiches in the drizzle and added Red-throated Loon and Common Loon to our list.

After lunch we went to Elk Lake Park. A walk along the muddy trail by the Lake revealed the presence of Hutton's Vireo, Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Downy Woodpecker, Bewick's Wren, Winter Wren and juncos. A few Common Mergansers were in the Lake.

The total for the day was about 60 species. Very good total for a dark, wet and late November day. Our thanks to Mike Shepard.

POINTS TO PONDER

"..... if we have a profound respect for other human beings as co-equal recipients of this precious patrimony of 4.5 billion years of evolution, why should the identification not apply also to all other organisms on Earth, which are equally the product of 4.5 billion years of evolution? We care for a small fraction of the organisms on Earth - dogs, cats, and cows, for example - because they are useful or because they flatter us. But spiders, and salamanders, salmon, and sunflowers are equally are brothers and sisters.

FROM: THE COSMIC CONNECTION by Carl Sagan



BIRD OBSERVATIONS

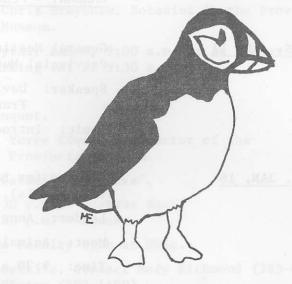
OCTOBER

No.	Species	Date	Area Seen	Observer
4	Marbled Godwit	1	Victoria Golf Course	Ron Satterfield
1	Western Bluebird	ball an	2425 Camelot Road	Jo MacGregor
12	Lapland Longspur	3	Clover Point	Peg & Vic Goodwill
100	Black Duck	4	Harrison Yacht Pond	Ron Satterfield
1 8	Franklin's Gull	4	Harrison Yacht Pond	Ron Satterfield
1	Snow Goose	5	Clover Point	Charlie Bishop
25	Red Phalarope	7	Clover Point	Ron Satterfield
2	American Golden Plover	7	Ogden Point	Ron Satterfield
1	Rock Sandpiper	10	McMicking Point	Ron Satterfield
1	Sabine's Gull	10	Coburg Peninsula	Ron Satterfield
1	Short-eared Owl	10	Victoria Inner Harbour	Harold Hosford
1	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	13	Metchosin Lagoon	Ron Satterfield
1	Snow Bunting	13	Coburg Peninsula	Ron Satterfield
1	Pine Grosbeak	14	Sooke	Ron Satterfield
2	Horned Lark	17	Coburg Peninsula	Ray Williams
1	Great Horned Owl	20	Searidge Drive	Jean Chard
1	Barred Owl	20	Swan Lake	Eldred Williams
1 n	White-throated Sparrow	20	2600 Penrhyn Street	M & R Mackenzie- Grieve
1	Trumpeter Swan	24	Esquimalt Lagoon	Roy Prior
1	Black-legged Kittiwake	29	Clover Point	Ron Satterfield

NOVEMBER

1	Rough-legged Hawk	1	4373 Prospect Lk. Rd.	Giff Calvert
1	Bobolink	7	Martindale Road Flats	Martin Lee
1	Gyrfalcon	15	Martindale Road Flats	Anne Knowles
1	Barn Owl	17	9743 West Saanich Road	Rick West
7	Short-tailed Shearwater	15	South of Trial Island	Wayne Campbell
3	Leach's Storm Petrel	15	South of Trial Island	Wayne Campbell
1	Fork-tailed Storm Petrel	15	South of Trial Island	Wayne Campbell
1	Northern Fulmar	15	South of Trial Island	Wayne Campbell
1	Brant	21	Esquimalt Lagoon	Roy Prior
1	Yellow-billed Loon	22	Laurel Point	Ron Satterfield
1	Snowy Owl	22	Swartz Bay	Dave Fraser
1	Skua	22	Victoria Harbour Ent.	Dave Fraser
1	Harris' Sparrow	23	Madrona Drive	Leila G. Roberts
1	American Bittern	26	Quick's Bottom	Dave Fraser
1	Townsend's Solitaire	27	Merriman Drive	Charlie Trotter

<u>J U N I O R S</u> P R O G R A M M E



JAN. 9	Showing of National Film Board nature films on canoeing, wolves, etc.				
	10:00 A.M 12:00 NOON				
	Place: 3250 Exeter Road				
JAN. 23	Hike at Matheson Lake and tree identification.				
	10:00 A.M 12:30 P.M. Meet at Mayfair Lanes at				
	9:30 a.m. or at the Matheson Lake Parking Lot at				
	10:00 a.m. Bring lunch and wear rubber boots.				
	10.00 a.m. Billig runch and wear rubber books.				

Bird House Building. Make a birdhouse to put in your garden in time for the nesting season. 10:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. Meet at Mayfair at 9:30 or at the Francis Park Nature House at 10:00. Bring lunch, a hammer and some 1"-1-1/2" nails.

Hike in East Sooke Park and identification of coastal features. 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Meet at Mayfair at 9:30 or at the Becher Bay (Aylard Farm) parking lot at East Sooke Park at 10:00.

Bring lunch.

PROGRAMME

JANUARY - FEBRUARY/32

TUES. JAN. 12

General Meeting - Newcombe Auditorium, Provincial Museum, 8:00 p.m.

Speaker: David Baird (598-0555), Naturalist, Francis Park.

Topic: Introduction to Francis Park.

SAT. JAN. 16

Birding for Beginners (see article in magazine for details).

Leader: Anne Knowles (477-3684).

Meet: Animal Pens in Beacon Hill Park.

Time: 9:30 a.m.

FRI. JAN. 15 SAT. JAN. 16 Audubon Film* - Land of the Short Grass Prairie by Albert Karvonen.

Newcombe Auditorium, Provincial Museum, 8:00 p.m.

Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association -Annual Meeting and Birthday Party, Douglas Building Cafeteria, 8:00 p.m.

SAT. JAN. 23

Birding at Esquimalt Lagoon & Ft. Rodd Hill. Leader: Ron Satterfield (598-7345). Meet: Mayfair Lanes, 9:00 A.M. or at the bridge at 9:30.

TUES. JAN. 26

Birders' Night.

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Place: To be announced - check with Bird Alert.

SAT. JAN. 30 Trees and Shrubs in Winter.

Leader: Chris Brayshaw, Botanist in the Provincial Museum.

Meet: Mayfair Lanes, 9:00 a.m. or at Beaver Lake parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

TUES. FEB. 9

Annual Banquet.

Speaker: Yorke Edwards, Director of the Provincial Museum.

Topic: "Garden Adventures".

Time: 6:30 p.m. - No-host Bar 7:30 p.m. - Dinner

Place: New Faculty Club at UVic.

For more details, contact Mary Richmond (385-0504)

or Alice Elston (592-1400).

FRI. FEB. 12 SAT. FEB. 13

Audubon Film * "Barren Ground Summer", by Steve Maslowski.

Newcombe Auditorium, Provincial Museum, 8:00 p.m.

SAT. FEB. 13

Birding at Martindale Road.

Leader: Harold Hosford (387-3288). Publications Editor, Provincial Museum.

Meet: Mayfair Lanes 9:00 a.m. or at Martindale Pond at 9:30 a.m.

TUES. FEB. 16

Botany Night.

Leader: Steve Mitchell, Botanist at UVic.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Swan Lake Nature Center.

THURS. FEB. 18

Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association Meeting, Newcombe Auditorium, Provincial Museum, 8:00 p.m.

TUES. FEB. 23

Birders' Night.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: to be announced.

SAT. FEB. 27

Birding at Witty's Lagoon.

Leader: Harry Davidson (479-1286).

Meet: Mayfair Lanes 9:00 a.m. or at Witty's

Lagoon Parking Lot (opp. Golf Course)

9:45 a.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CHANGES PLEASE CALL BIRD ALERT - 478-8534.

Mayfair Lanes is at the corner of Oak and Roderick, by Bowling Alley. Always take a lunch, and if wet, gumboots or strong shoes.

FINAL DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE MAGAZINE FOR THE MARCH/APRIL ISSUE IS JANUARY 25, 1982.

* For Audubon Nights and V.N.H.S. Meetings, parking is free behind the Museum in the Museum Parking Lot.

