

# Sargeant Bay Society

P.O. Box 1486, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0  
sargbay@dccnet.com  
www.sargbay.ca

## Newsletter #76

Editor: John Newell

April 2, 2007

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

+

### WILD HALFMOON BAY

Slide show by Annette Clarke



**Friday, April 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**(Note the earlier-than-usual time)**

at the  
Halfmoon Bay Elementary School  
8086 Northwood Road, Welcome Woods.

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting.
3. Business arising from the minutes.
4. President's Annual Report.
5. Financial Report.
6. Membership Report.
7. Election of Directors.
8. Any other business
9. Presentation by Annette Clarke

When the necessary business part of the meeting is complete, Annette Clarke will give a slide presentation entitled "Wild Halfmoon Bay". It will show images from nature observations in Sargeant Bay Park and surrounding areas, including examples of our living legacy ranging from ancient yew and juniper trees to tree frogs, bears and eagles.

### **Summer Program**

Elise Rudland has again organized an interesting program of spring and summer events in the park. Make a note of the following dates in your calendars.

#### **Plant Identification Walk; Sunday, April 22**

Meet in the parking lot at 10.00 a.m. and join local botanist Kye Goodwin to walk along the berm and onto The Rock at Sargeant Bay; the spring flowers will be in all their glory.

This walk will be of interest to anyone wishing to learn more about the local flora and has always been enthusiastically received.

#### **Birding by the Bay; Sunday, May 13.**

Join local bird expert Tony Greenfield to learn more about our local birds and their songs. Spring migrants will be back in residence in the wetland and nesting will be in full swing. Meet in the parking lot at 9.00 a.m.

#### **Trout Lake to the Beach; Sunday, May 27.**

Join local forester Brian Smart, to explore the different ecological zones between Trout Lake and the seashore at Sargeant Bay. This leisurely hike will be about two hours long and will include the recently completed trail east of Triangle Lake.

Meet in the south parking lot at Trout Lake at 10:00 am. At the end of the hike There will be a shuttle from Sargeant Bay back to Trout Lake, to take participants back to their cars.

#### **Nature Awareness Day in the Park; Saturday, June 23**

Join Annette Clarke to raise your awareness of the natural world on our doorstep. She will lead a two-hour walk – "Knowing Our Wild Neighbours", and pass on some of her skills in interpreting wildlife tracks and other signs that wild animals leave behind. See the unseen and become more conscious of the animals that share our living space.

Meet at the park gate, on Redrooffs Road, at 11:00 am.

### **Birds**

Perhaps because of the appalling weather we have experienced this winter, and hence fewer visits to Sargeant Bay, there is not much birding news to report. However, much as I would like to be contradicted, I have the distinct impression that bird activity continues to decline, especially with respect to wintering waterfowl.

On a brighter note, six *great blue herons* were present in the wetland at the time of the March Waterbird Survey count. Perhaps these are returnees from the successful nests last year, which offers hope that a heronry may perhaps become established at Sargeant Bay. This would be great news, should it happen, especially so as herons are a blue-listed species.

Apart from the customary chorus of *red-winged blackbirds* establishing their territories in the wetland, there have been many other portents of spring in recent weeks.

Small groups of *trumpeter swans* have used Sargeant Bay as a stop-over on several occasions during spring migration, most recently on 25 March.

From the picture at right it looks like *Canada geese* are already sitting on and guarding their eggs on the island in Colvin Lake. A pair of *mallards*, resting on a log, is probably thinking about doing the same.

### Triangle Lake Trail Extension

Construction of the extension of the Triangle Lake trail, connecting it to the Trout Lake trail, also known as “Little Knives”, was started in August and completed in December. The trail is 800 metres long and winds through scenic old-growth forest on the east side of the lake.

This project was financed by a generous grant from the Union of BC Municipalities, a more modest contribution from Society funds and, thanks to BC Parks, a contribution from the BC Conservation Foundation. It was completed significantly under the original budget.

The new trail can be reached from Redrooffs Road via the 3.3-kilometre Colvin Creek - Triangle Lake trail, the most scenic route. A shorter route, 1.3 kilometres long, is from the Sunshine Coast Highway at Trout Lake.

The extension needed trail signs at both ends. The 12-year-old signage along Colvin Creek and Triangle Lake trails is now out-of-date and all signs along these trails are being replaced with colourful maps and directional signs. All 33 signs display both the provincial and Sechelt First Nation logo, recognizing that the trails are located in the Sechelts’ traditional territory

The new trail has been well received by hikers. So much so that it has been suggested that a similar trail be built around the west side of the lake, to complete a loop back to the Trout Lake trail. The terrain west of the lake is difficult, but

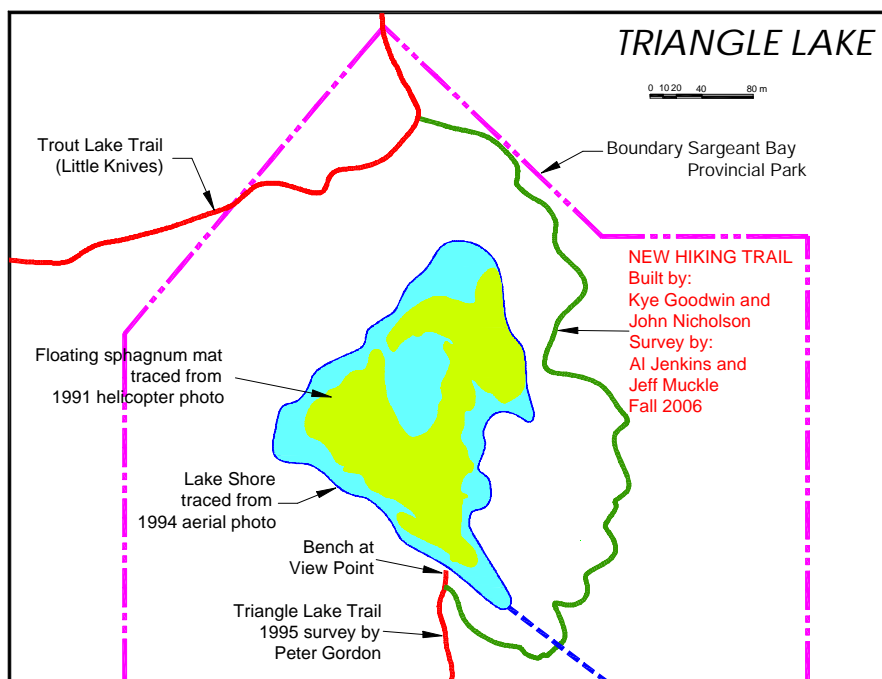


Photo: Joop Burgerjon

we are presently exploring a feasible route. Construction, should it prove to be practical, will be subject to obtaining the necessary permits and funds. Donations for this purpose will always be appreciated.

### Feedback

Finally, the customary note that feedback is always welcome. As you received this newsletter by e-mail, it is easy for you to let us have your comments: Just click the reply button, or: [sargbay@dccnet.com](mailto:sargbay@dccnet.com)



The new trail



The new signs