

ARROWSMITH NATURALISTS - MEETINGS AND OUTINGS for 2008

Wed. Jan 2nd - French Creek, Little Qualicum Estuary, Columbia Beach.

High tides but good birding at various spots along the water's edge. Bring lunch. Meet at Qualicum Totem at 9:30. Leaders Tony and Connie.

Sun. Jan 13th -Englishman River Estuary

Another high tide day. Good birding spots for sea and inland birds. Bring lunch or warm up at Tim Horton's afterwards. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30. Leader Maggie.

Wed. Jan. 23rd - Hamilton Marsh & Englishman River Falls Park. A walk through the woods to the marsh for some bird spotting, then on to Englishman River Falls Park. Bring your lunch, good footwear. Meet at Craig and Jensen at 9:30 am. Leader: Betty.

Mon. Jan. 28th - Members night at Springwood School - 7:30. Hosted by Will Lemmon, this is the night of our "Nature- related raffle and members' slide show. Bring your own favorite slides to show and any items you'd like to donate to the raffle. Raffle tickets are 5 for \$2. Put your ticket by the item you hope to win.

Sun. Feb. 3rd - Deep Bay area and usually lots to see at the various stops Bring lunch. Meet at Qualicum Totem at 9:30. Leaders John and Lois.

Wed. Feb. 13th - Ships point, Berray Rd. area.

Easy woods and dike walk for winter birding. Bring lunch and good footwear. Meet at Qualicum Totem at 9:30. Leader Will.

Sun. Feb. 24th - Nanoose Area, Madrona Point, Beachcomber, etc. Lovely views and good birding from various spots in the area. Bring lunch. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30. Leaders: Pam and David.

Mon. Feb. 18th - General meeting at Springwood School - 7:30 Nancy Whelan will talk on her visit to Nova Scotia for the Nature Canada Conference.

Wed. Mar. 5th - Craig Bay

Always an enjoyable walk and informative walk through the area with Allen. Bring Lunch. Meet Craig & Jensen at 9:30. Leaders: Helen & Allen.

Wed. Mar 12th Parksville/Qualicum area herring spawn and eagle viewing

Location depends on previous day action - eagles, ducks, ealions, fishboats. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30. Bring Lunch. Leader: Sandy.

Wed. Mar. 26th - The Notch, Nanoose. Uphill but worth the climb. Great views and

(hopefully) spring flowers. Bring lunch. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30 am or Arlington at 9:45. Leaders: Chris & Dave

Mon. Mar. 31st - General Meeting at Springwood Middle School - 7:30 pm. Speaker: Dr. Remchen will talk on "the Ecological Genetics and Future of the Spirit Bear". Note change of date because of Easter Monday holiday.

Sun. Apr. 6th - Duncan Sewage Ponds and Somonos Marsh. An easy birding and dyke Walk. Bring boots. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30 am or Arlington at 9:45 . Bring lunch or dine in Duncan. Leaders: Chris & Dave

Wed. Apr. 16th - Springwood and Rath Trevor Parks. Two easy walks to find birds or spring flowers. Bring lunch. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30 am. Leaders: Chris & Dave

Tues. Apr. 22nd - Earth Day. Watch local media for events related to Earth Day.

Sun. Apr. 27th - St. Peter's Church and Mt. Tzouhalem, Duncan. Easy to moderate walk to enjoy spring flowers, e.g. fawn lilies. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30 am or Arlington at 9:45. Bring lunch or dine in Duncan. Leaders: Chris & Dave

Mon. Apr. 28th - General Meeting at Springwood Middle School - 7:30 pm. Speaker: TBA

Sun. May 4th - Top Bridge - Allsbrook. Pleasant river & woods walk. Bring lunch. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30 am. Leaders: Chris & Dave

Wed. May 14th - Denman & Hornby Is. An easy walk along the bluffs at Helliwell Park, spectacular ocean views, spring flowers. Bring lunch. Meet at Qualicum Beach Totem at 9:00 am sharp to catch 10:00 am Denman ferry. Leader: Maggie

Sun. May 25th - Seal Bay Nature Park, Comox. A comfortable 3km walk among native trees and shrubs and around a forest marsh - of interest to both birders and botanists. If desired, another 15 min. walk takes us down a ferned gully to the beach for lunch and/or birding. Bring lunch. Meet at the Qualicum Totem at 9:30 am. Leaders: TBA.

Mon. May 26th - General Meeting at Springwood Middle School - 7:30 pm. Speaker: TBA

Sun. Jun. 8th - Morrell Nature Sanctuary, Nanaimo. An easy walk along forest trails, taking in a beaver pond and native plants, etc. Bring lunch. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30 am or Arlington at 9:45 am. Leaders: Pat & Jim

Wed: Jun 18th - Neck Point & Piper's Lagoon, Nanaimo. Two beautiful areas with easy walking. Shoreline, botany, marvelous views. Bring lunch. Leaders: Chris & Dave

Mon. Jun 23rd - General Meeting at Springwood Middle School - 7:30 pm. Speaker: TBA.

Sun. Jun 29th - Biggs Park & Jack Point, near Duke Point ferry. An intermediate level walk - about 4 to 5 km with some stair climbing. Very diverse flora and storm-carved sandstone cliffs as well as views over the mud flats. Bring lunch or enjoy a pub lunch at the Crow & Gate. Meet at Craig & Jensen at 9:30 am or Arlington at 9:45 am. Leaders: Chris & Dave .

Monday, July 28th - Arrowsmith Nats Picnic at Little Qualicum Hatchery. Leaving Qualicum and travelling up the old Island Hwy., turn left onto Laburnum Rd. and travel up the hill to Claymore Rd. turn right and travel on to the Hatchery. Drive past the Hatchery gates for 1.9 kms., turn right (at the power lines) and down the hill through the back gate of the Hatchery. Bring lawn chairs and a potluck dish, your own beverage, plates, cutlery, and item(s) for the raffle. Be aware that there is no drinkable water on site. The fun starts at 4 pm. until ??

Sunday, August 17th - [Kidfest](#)

Be sure to visit this celebration of childhood in the Parksville Community Park from 10 am - 4pm. Among the activities will be the Arrowsmith Naturalists' live display of some of the many creatures which inhabit the Straights of Georgia. If you would like to help out, call Betty.

Sunday, September 7th - A tour of historic Cumberland - Meet at the Qualicum Beach totem at 9:30 am. An easy walking tour of Cumberland - historic sites and heritage trees. Bring lunch or sample local fare.

Monday, September 22nd - General meeting at Springwood Middle School- 7:30 pm.
Speaker TBA.

Wednesday, September 24th - Birding at Rath Trevor Beach & Englishman Estuary - Meet at Craig and Jensen at 9:30 am. Viewing the Fall migration of birds through Oceanside. Bring lunch and binoculars.

Sunday, September 28th - B.C. Rivers Day - A chance to celebrate one of our greatest natural treasures. Club involvement TBA.

Wednesday, October 1st - Cable Bay/Dodds Narrows, Nanaimo - Meet at Craig and Jensen at 9:30 am or Arlington at 9:45. A three-hour intermediate walk through a mixed forest to an interesting narrow tidal channel. With an early afternoon low tide, there will be an opportunity to explore much of an exciting inter-tidal zone. Bring lunch and good footwear. Leader: Robert

Wednesday, October 15th - Enos Lake Walk, Nanoose - Meet at Craig and Jensen at 9:30 am or Nanoose Place at 9:45 am. An easy autumn walk to the lake before winter sets in. Leader: TBA

Sunday, October 26th - Cathedral Grove and Cameron Lake area - Meet at the Qualicum Beach totem at 9:30 am. An easy to intermediate walk on some of the many trails in the area. Bring lunch. Leader: TBA

Monday, October 27th - General meeting at Springwood Middle School - 7:30 pm.
Speaker TBA.

Wednesday, November 5th - Mushroom Walk at the Big Qualicum River - Meet at the Qualicum Beach totem at 9:30 am. Bring lunch and delight in a mature forest as we forage for fall mushrooms. An easy walk with some stairs and hills. Leaders: the club's expert 'shroom hunters.

Sunday Nov. 16th - Winter Birding at Craig Bay. Enjoy an easy walking tour to view shorebirds and the over-wintering regulars. Meet at Craig and Jensen at 9:30 am.

Mon. Nov. 24th - Meeting at Springwood Middle School - 7:30 pm. Speaker: Chris Czajkowski, a naturalist and author with expertise in the plants of her home near Tweedsmuir Provincial Park.

Wed. Nov. 26th - Yellow Point Cranberry Farm. An opportunity to experience a working cranberry farm during the harvest season. The farm owners are practicing sustainable farming, while preserving the natural values of the land. For a 45-minute tour, as well as a coffee or cranberry juice and a cranberry goody when we arrive, the cost is \$7 per person. You will also have a chance to purchase any of the 20 specialty products produced on the farm. Meet at Craig and Jensen at 9:30 or Arlington at 9:45. Bring your own lunch or splurge on a lunch at the Crow and Gate Pub. Leaders: Chris and Dave

Wed. Dec. 10th - Nile Creek Enhancement Society Project.

A tour of this award-winning project which has brought back the cutthroat and salmon populations from the brink of extinction. We will be led by Ernie Buckley, a long-time member of the Society. Meet at the Qualicum Beach Tourist Info Centre at 9:30 am or Sunny Beach Rd. (Qualicum Bay) at 9:50. Leaders: Chris and Dave

Sun. Dec. 14th - Christmas Bird Count and Pot Luck Dinner. This will be the 18th year for the Parksville- Qualicum Beach Christmas Bird Count. If you would like to take part, call Sandra Gray at 250-248-5565. Sandy also has information on the Feeder Count which will take place on the same day, same area. The Pot Luck/Wrap-up dinner takes place at St.

Anne's/St. Edmunds Church Hall in Parksville (behind Wembley Mall) from 5-8 pm. Everyone welcome. Bring a pot luck dish to share and come to hear the tall tales of the day. Bring your own plates, cutlery and mug, etc. Robert and Penny (250-248-6769) have volunteered once again to do the set-up and would welcome assistance.