



Presidents Report



Club's 60th Anniversary Celebration Details

Due to a change to the hall schedule we are pleased to announce the Club's 60th Anniversary event will now be held on the actual anniversary date - **Saturday, June 24th**. We invite all current and past Club members to join us in a celebration of the past 60 years and to hear about current activity as well as the plans for the future. The event will be held **between 1pm and 5pm**. Refreshments will be served.

The highlight of the day will be the official renaming of the hall. A motion was passed at a recent Director's Meeting to rename the hall after the late Archie McNair. The recommendation was unanimously approved at the April General Meeting. A sign over the entrance to the hall will be unveiled on the day by Archie's family.

If you are in touch with past members, please pass on the message and encourage them to join us. We would also like to locate old photos of early Club activities. If you can help please contact me at bobdonnelly@telus.net or leave a message on the Club phone 604 535-8366. All photos will be returned.

School Tours Completed

The Salmon in the Classroom Program drew to a close during the week of May 13th. This year 90 classes have participated in the program since the tours started in March. Close to 1,900 Elementary School students (accompanied by over 500 teachers and parents) visited the hatchery this year. The students released their classroom raised Coho salmon fry into the river; learn about the lifecycle of the salmon and tour the hatchery and nature trails.



Hatchery volunteer Sue MacRae showing students how to release fry

I would like to thank the hatchery volunteers who gave up so much of their time this year to escort the school groups during their visits. Bill Ridge, Phillip and Kate Milligan, Randy Hay, Ron Meadley; John Zawada; Sue MacRae and Roy Thompson shouldered the lions share of the tours.

Busy Time of the Year at the Hatchery

Beyond hosting the 90 school tours the latter half of April and the month of May, it is a very busy time around the hatchery. The six month old Chinook salmon and one year old Coho salmon are released into the river to start their journey to the sea. Similarly, the year old Steelhead and Cutthroat trout are taken from the outdoor rearing channels and transported to the river estuary in the Club's tanker trailer for release.

The long task of clipping the adipose fin of the Coho fry in the hatchery is also underway. The trout rearing channels and the large Coho pond must be drained and cleaned. In the case of the Coho pond, once it is cleaned it must also be refilled in anticipation of receiving 30,000 Coho fry from this year's hatch.

While the hatchery is supporting a large number of salmon and trout from last year and this year's hatch, it puts pressure on the hatchery volunteers to balance and monitor the waterflow throughout the salmon and trout rearing areas. It is essential the oxygen level in the water be maintained at a level to ensure the survival of the fish. Aside from visual monitoring of the waterflow there are a number of electronic monitors in place.

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter

Chinook Release

Close to 250 people participated in the Club's Annual Chinook Salmon Release Day on Saturday, April 22nd. Nearly 20,000 Chinook salmon were released by the children who attended the event.



Trouble Shooting Water Flow Issue



Club volunteers (left to right) Dan Kelly, Lloyd McKay, Greg MacRae, Sue MacRae, Ron Meadley, John Zawada and Peter Reid investigating a water level issue in the trout rearing channels.



Trout Release



Hatchery volunteers (left to right) Kent Hillman, Peter Allanson, Lloyd McKay, Peter Reid, Sue MacRae with Ron Meadley (in water) loading Steelhead trout into Club's new tanker trailer. Like the Cutthroat trout, the Steelhead are released into the river on the west side of Highway 99 just south of 8th Avenue.

Fin Clipping



Junior volunteers under the direction of Harry Paddon (back left) are shown fin clipping the Coho salmon. Since the beginning of May close to 30,000 salmon have had their adipose fin clipped. This is the fin on the back of the salmon by the tail. When the fin is clipped it identifies the salmon as a hatchery raised fish.

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter

Draining and Cleaning Coho Pond

One of the more arduous hatchery jobs in May is the draining, cleaning and refilling the large Coho pond.



Hatchery volunteers Ron Meadley, Kent Hillman, Lloyd McKay and Dan Kelly power washing Coho Pond as the water is pumped out to the river. When the pond is drained, cleaned and refilled 30,000 Coho fry will be transferred to the pond from the hatchery indoor rearing tanks.

Pacific Salmon Foundation Grant



I am pleased to announce for the fifth straight year the Pacific Salmon Foundation has approved our annual Grant Application. This year's grant of \$17,000 will be applied to replacing the plywood under the hatchery roof which has badly deteriorated after more than 30 years of exposure to the moisture generated by the open water flowing through the hatchery. The funds will also be applied to a replacement to the hatchery propane motor. The Club must match the grant with funds and/or volunteer labour at a defined hourly rate.

Cattle Update

Perhaps you have noticed that there are no cattle on the grounds this year. With the recent passing of Archie McNair and Wes Catton, the Club has lost the volunteers with the knowledge, skills and desire to maintain our twelve head of cattle. As a result, the Club approached the Province to seek an alternative to the cattle to maintain our farm status. I am pleased to advise you the Province has accepted our contracts to produce fish for the Department of Fisheries & Oceans as an acceptable alternative to the cattle. Farm status is critical if we are to hold our property taxes at an acceptable level.

May 2017



Arrangements are being made to have the unusually high grass in the Club pastures cut as soon as the fields are dry enough to bring in equipment.

Recent Club Grounds Photo

The aerial photo below was provided by club member Lester Lightstone. As a professional videographer, Lester has been very generous in providing photographs and videos of the Club grounds and activities. If you access the link below, on a phone or tablet you will see an interesting 360 degree view of the Club grounds.

<https://viewer.hangar.com/A0VapdrV>



The Club History – 1955 to 1992

In the following pages include the conclusion of the Club's history between 1955 and 1992 written by late Ruth Kendall. The first two pages were included in the April newsletter

Bob Donnelly

THE FOLLOWING IS OUR CLUB HISTORY

WRITTEN BY ED KENDALL'S LATE WIFE, RUTH

FROM THE BEGINNING - *Continued from our April 2017 Newsletter*

As area development burgeoned, so did taxes. An appeal to Surrey for a grant in lieu of taxes fell on deaf ears, so in late 1975 we put up the "For Sale" signs and waited. By June 1976 we had our price met and banked \$44,000 into interest bearing savings accounts. We moved our annual salmon barbecue to Centennial Park just west of the playing fields and had fantastic response serving 400 to 600 guests each year until 1986. We also took to the beach during Sandcastle days each August for about five years, cooking our salmon and our cooks to earn us a few bucks. In the 80s the G.V.R.D. parks people hired our Salmon B.B.Q. team to do a couple of special events. This led to annual catering for the 2 day Celebration of Nature in the fall and a two day Fraser River Festival at the beginning of June. In 1990 the burned out volunteers called a halt, no more outside barbecues, even though the money would be missed.

During all this time members kept busy with new projects. One was the wood-duck nesting boxes that we started in 1973. Soon our newly constructed bird houses were decorating the trees in wood duck habitat throughout the Little Campbell watershed. Under Bob Oswald's direction, volunteers hauled ladders up and down the swamps checking for predators and removing unwanted starling nests. The wood ducks prospered and by 1978 were back in the area in healthy supply. Some of our eggs and nesting pairs were later shipped to other parts of the province to similar volunteer groups.

In 1976/77 the Provincial Fish and Wildlife Branch responded to our lobby for a catch and release, fly fishing only season for the summer-run steelhead on the Coquihalla river. This favourite haunt of many Club members had been closed to fishing in '73 so that an enhancement program in effect could be evaluated. Our contention was that there would be a more valuable assessment of the runs if fishermen did an on-site count.

This project consisted of sectioning off the Coquihalla into marked zones, setting up a report card system for fishermen and a collection drop off post for the cards. Our Club made the signs for the zones, put them in place on the river, built the rustic, covered information centre and acted as volunteer patrols during the one month opening that first September of '77. The concept of catch and release and fly-fishing only was just being introduced and proved popular enough for that particular project to stay in place (without the use of the report cards and zones) to this day.

In late 1976 we got word of the new Federal/Provincial Salmonid Enhancement Program with grant money available to volunteer groups. Our application to rehabilitate Jenkins Creek in the Hazelmere Valley was one of the first Public Involvement Programs with S.E.P. We spent that spring rebuilding this cow pasture tributary of the Little Campbell River. We dug our new channels, built log baffles, hauled in fresh gravel and re-directed the remaining water flow to our new creek bed. By fall, the salmon were using their spawning beds again. By 1977, we were really serious and finding property for our long held dream. In the winter of '78, the ideal site came on the market in the Hazelmere Valley. But the sale of the 29 acres that contained our river was tied to the purchase of two other acreages adjoining. The seller needed to sell two of his holdings at the same time.

So a group of our members put their financial necks on the line, mortgaged their own homes, formed a holding company and bought the neighbouring 40 acre pasture, enabling the Club to finalize the purchase of our present site. The speculating investors were able to sell their white elephant within six months at a small profit for each of the four, and everyone was happy. The money in the bank was only part of the cost of the new property so the Club floated demand loans for several members to pay the full shot. Within 5 years the loans were all repaid. We were solvent.

It was about this time that the Club took on the job of demolition of the old Peace Portal Golf Clubhouse for the valuable building materials it provided. The barn on the new property was built out of these materials and housed the first herd of cattle we purchased for our farm tax status.

Our 1980 application for an S.E.P. grant got us started on a fish counting fence at our new home. We experimented with broomsticks and chicken wire for two seasons and were met with high water washouts, beavers breakfasting on the broomsticks and back breaking labour to clean the debris off the upstream side of the first fence that stood the floods. Several Rube Goldbergs in the Club invented a steel fence that would be self-cleaning (with a little help). A metal work class at Cloverdale Junior High under the direction of Lorne Halliday, fabricated the components and soon our permanent fish fence and counting trap was being imbedded in the concrete in the river. D.F.O. adopted our fence as a prototype to be used at other similar projects.

Our next S.E.P. grant involved the building of our hatchery which was constructed with the assistance of the White Rock Lions and opened with a big public ceremony in October 1985. The hatchery has proved successful and the spin-off in the public education programs conducted, has done a great deal to enlighten school children, their teachers and their parents about the needs of our fish, the river habitat and the overall environment. It was quickly apparent that the hatchery building, which doubled as a classroom/clubhouse, was too small. When a busload of three school classes arrived for a tour, Bob needed a shoehorn to fit them in for the blackboard talk. Even the regular meetings often saw standing room only. Our Club membership had expanded to better than 300 members with up to 50 at meetings.

So we stuck out our necks again and started working on a new Education/Clubhouse facility, big enough to hold small meetings or big ones. Big enough to have a range in the basement should permission be granted. This has been a real challenge for all our talents at fundraising, finding volunteers and scrounging donations of materials. But we've don't it! It took five long years but WE'VE DONE IT!

So we come to 1992. Thirty-six years of hard work, fun, learning and growth. We have accomplished more than the most optimistic of us could ever have believed. Every time we spent more money than we had, it came out right in the end. We have done some good things for the environment and especially for our beloved river. Our efforts have won us the Roderick Haig Brown Memorial award from the B.C. Wildlife Federation. The Knowledge Network's Westland program has featured us more than once.

Many of the charter members are still with the core-working group. Many new members have come and some have gone. Some of our former juniors have graduated into jobs with Provincial and Federal Fisheries. Some are bringing their children into the new junior program. We have made a pretty good name for ourselves and have every reason to be proud of our effort.

This Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club has come a long way.

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter



ARCHERY

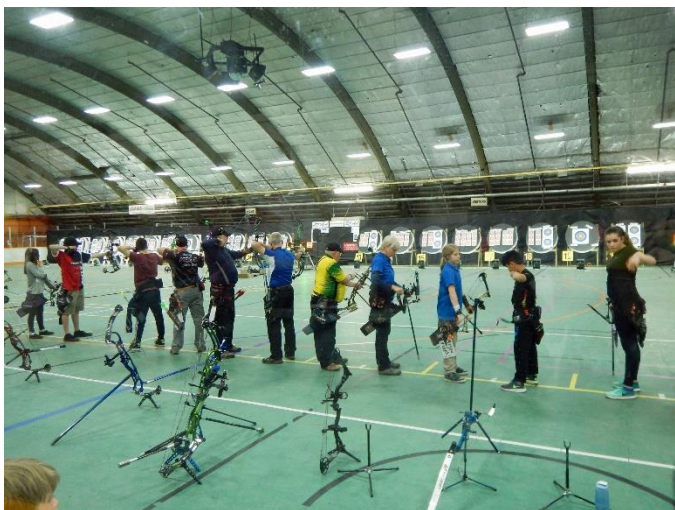
The Club had a strong performance at the BC Provincials at Armstrong during Easter Weekend, bringing in ten medals. Special note goes to Andrew Cook who attended his first Provincials and Angela Foley who shot two categories winning two medals. Great job everyone!

Elissa Foley – Gold
Cecilia Flaming – Bronze
Tammy Moyer – Gold
Angela Foley – Silver
Bob Roe – Gold
Angela Foley – Gold
Johnny Zawada – Gold
Paul Van Tassel – Bronze
Andrew Cook – Silver
Emma Chylinski – Gold

Below are pictures (courtesy of Cecilia Flaming) of the event.

For more photos visit her site at:

<https://client.ceciliaflaming.com/bcindoorprovincials2017/>



JUNIOR OLYMPIC PROGRAM

In April we had our annual Easter Fun Shoot. As usual, we had novelty targets, balloons, and other themed targets setup in the range. Everyone enjoyed the change of pace, as well as all the treats that were available in class.

April also marked the beginning of the spring tournament season. A few students from our classes have started competing in these events and have already had some great results. As we move farther through spring and summer we can't wait to see how they continue to do in the local, provincial, and national tournaments.

Thanks to Johnny Zawada for painting and installing our class score display board! The board is installed in the hallway outside the range (as pictured below) and we have already started displaying our class award sheets. This is a great way for our students to see how they and their classmates are doing with their class scores and levels. Thanks Johnny!



JOP TOURNAMENT RESULTS

BCAA JOP Indoors (Maple Ridge BC)

Andrew Cook: 3rd place Champion Archer (Compound)

BCAA Indoor Provincial Championship (Armstrong BC)

Emma: 1st Place Cadet Women Compound (New BC Record)

Andrew: 2nd Place: Cadet Boys Compound

Eagles Class Awards

Owl Team:

Bradon Dennis: 6m, 8m

Zac Dennis: 6m

Anna Kulina: 6m

Nysa Agarwal: 10m





RANGE REPORT

Greetings members! You older woodworkers will get the reference, and in my best Norm Abram, (New Yankee Workshop) impression: "Let's take a moment to talk about Range Safety." Your safety is the top

priority for all of us here, and we aim to keep it that way. 😊 I'm sure you have seen the Range Rules posted on the wall, but it's always a good time for a reminder. There are really six top safety rules in my mind. I will go through them here, starting with my version of the four main safety rules.

- **Assume every firearm is loaded** - so always treat them with respect.
- **Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction** – at our range, it is at the black backstop mats. **Not** the walls, floor or ceiling. Our range is a concrete and steel tube and we don't want any ricochets.
- **Keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until you are on target** – if you are not aiming, your finger is away from the trigger. Simple as that.
- **Know your target and what's beyond** – You've set up your target and are ready to shoot. Where are the bullets going after they hit the target? Please adjust your target heights so the bullets hit the black mats. I've seen everyone from new shooters to experienced police officers make mistakes.
- **Be sure the barrel is clear of any obstructions** – if you are shooting and instead of the usual "Bang!" you hear a much softer "Poof", **stop firing immediately** and call a Range Officer over. You may have just experienced faulty ammunition and a bullet may be lodged in the barrel. Our range officers can help you deal with this.
- **Always obey our Range Officers** – what they say goes. They are here volunteering their time to keep you safe, so we all have fun. To our dedicated range officers: Thank you all for keeping our range running safely! We cannot run these nights without you. Thank you.

The additional safety rules posted on the wall are important, so please read them again next time you come in, but I wanted to highlight the critical ones.

For .22LR Rifle Night, where people may not own safety gear, I am in the process of upgrading our safety equipment, starting with new eye protection. Our existing eye protection is fairly scratched up, so I am buying several pairs of over-glasses protection for eyeglass wearers like myself, and several clear and yellow lensed ballistics rated glasses. I have also added some foam ear plugs to the range gear for people who may find our ear protection isn't muffling the sound enough. Please ask a Range Officer for some foam plugs if you need them.

Allan Johanson, Range Director



HUNTING

Hunting issues are ongoing, the new system for Limited Entry Hunt have been changed a bit and will be easier to organize your group. The new tag system will be in place as of April and a hunting license will no longer be given out but rather kept on a Conservation Officer's computer. Individual tags for hunting species will be issued instead of a book type license. Photo ID must be carried at all times and because you are carrying a firearm, you must also carry a PAL OR POL at all times. If you are driving an ATV, you must also carry your BC Driver's License.

POL is now accepted as PAL, so anyone can now buy ammo and firearms at an outdoor store.

James Wilkins

Important Member Notice

Though the club maintains volunteer liability insurance club members are reminded that volunteer activities are undertaken at their own risk. Members are also reminded to:

- Not to undertake tasks for which they are not physically fit or are not qualified to do.
- To observe all safety codes and procedures
- Not to operate machinery or equipment without proper training



EDITOR'S DESK

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A big thank you to all who contributed to this month's newsletter. If you are interested in sharing a story or photos (hunting, fishing, etc...) please contact me, I'd love to hear from you. The deadline for submissions is the **first Tuesday of the month**.



Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron

2017 Cadet Provincial Marksmanship Competition

We went to the Cadet Provincial Competition last weekend in Vernon, B.C. with two teams. The "A" team placed 2nd of the 14 teams attending, and the "B" team placed 5th. Two members of the "A" team placed. Teresa Liao tied for 2nd place overall of the 82 shooters. Morgan Dyke placed 2nd place of the 31 Junior shooters at the competition.

The "A" team was second place in the Province of all teams entering the Zone shoots, and the "B" team was 7th place. The "B" team improved their position by two spots. As a result of the competition, the "A" team has been allowed to attend the Cadet National Competition in Gimli, Manitoba from May 7th to the 12th.

The photos are of both teams with coaches Verne Brown and Tim Dyke. The three top shooters in the competition with Teresa Liao, and the 2nd place team with awards and the two coaches. The A team consists of three seniors, Teresa Liao, Katharine Burnard, and Mark Lin, along with two Juniors Morgan Dyke, and Alyssa Chan. The B teams shooters are Seniors John Calbick, Catharine CUI, Sofia Antoniou, and Juniors Sunny Hou, and Alex Deschamps.

Verne Brown
Range Safety Officer
907 Air Cadets

