

Jan/Feb/Mar 2019 Newsletter



Presidents Report



Club Directors for 2019

I would like to welcome the new Club Directors for 2019 and thank the 2018 Directors who have stepped down.

The Directors for this year are:

President	Bob Donnelly
Vice President	Ron Meadley
Treasurer	Fred Koch
Secretary	Jude Grass
Hatchery	Ron Meadley (Acting)
Membership	Lea Radford
Booking	Rob Reynolds
Buildings	Randy Hay
Grounds	Don Pitcairn
Newsletter	Elissa Foley
Publicity	Bob Donnelly
Archery	Stan Jones
Range	Allan Johanson
Fishing	Phillip Milligan
Hunting	Jim Helsdon
Director at Large (Treasurer)	Danuta Malarski
Director at Large (Hatchery)	Bill Ridge
Director at Large (Bookings)	Sarah Neeson

I would like to thank John Zawada and Cheryl Zawada for their support as Club Directors over the past number of years. John, as Membership Director, implemented an extensive system that provided immediate access to Membership data. In addition, he was the Club volunteer electrician who was responsible for a large number of repairs and new electrical services in the hall; range; hatchery and on the grounds.

Cheryl, as Newsletter Director, has done an excellent job in creating a very professional newsletter that is the envy of many clubs. John and Cheryl will be missed.

I would also like to thank Ian Murray who is stepping down as Fishing Director. One of Ian's major contributions to the Club was his coordination of the annual Father's Day Salmon BBQ. Ian's excellent management of this traditional Club event increased attendance and made the BBQ a financial success.

Jim Wilkins has also stepped down as the Club's Hunting Director. Among Jim's extensive contributions to the Club is the annual fishing and hunting awards and responsibility for arranging Club merchandize. Jim also contributed to the repair of the trail bridges and the installation of the trail fences.

Without Club members being prepared to be nominated to the Club Board of Directors the Club would cease to exist.

Hatchery Update



It has been a busy time in and around the hatchery over the last few months. The Coho and Chinook salmon egg takes were completed in November. The 75,000 eggs recovered from the brood stock have since hatched and reached the "fry" stage and are now in the four inside rearing tubs.

With March upon us the Steelhead trout have once again returned to the river to spawn after spending the last year or two at sea. School tours have started and over 90 classes are already scheduled to tour the hatchery and nature

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trails as well as to release their classroom reared salmon fry into the river.

Removal of Trees on the Nature Trails

If you have been on the Club trails and elsewhere on the grounds recently you will have seen a significant loss of trees. Some of this loss was due to the windstorm earlier this year while the balance is the result of the planned removal of damaged or dead trees that presented a danger to people on the trails and, of course, our ever active beaver.



The windstorm resulted in loss of 5 mature trees on the trails including the fallen Broad Leaf Maple tree shown above being removed by Ron Meadley, the Club Vice President. Fortunately this tree was scheduled to be removed due to the obvious danger it presented to people walking the trails.

Last fall a survey of the trees along the trails was undertaken to determine which damaged or dead trees (or their branches) were in danger of falling. When identified it was then necessary to establish that if the trees were to come down would they present a danger to people walking the trails. Though the trails are closed during high wind conditions there is always the possibility that visitors would ignore the signs or access the main trails from one of the side trails.

If the trees or branches were in danger of falling onto the trails they were marked for removal. If it was determined that they would fall into the forest they were left standing.

Trees or branches that could potentially fall onto the power lines leading up to the main building were identified and marked for removal.

After a review of competitive bids BC Plant Health Care was selected to take on this challenging project. Over a three day period in March arborists were on site. It was possible to use their specialized equipment to remove the trees and limbs associated with the power lines. However, the work on the trails required a more traditional approach since it was not possible for their equipment to access the trails.



Arborist preparing to clear trees and branches beside the power lines.



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That is not a bird! Dramatic photo of arborist high in the Cottonwood tree beside the trout rearing channels.

Major Water Issues

The City of Surrey water or sewer service is not available in the Club area so like our neighbours we depend on wells for our water and septic fields for our waste.

The reliance on wells for our water supply presents many issues that are only complicated by the fact that we operate a hall / range facility that is open to the public. First, we must maintain and service the wells and operate a backup diesel generator for the main well in the event of a power failure. The water from the main well is then piped to the hatchery complex and to the hall.

Since the hall in particular is open to the public the Club must comply with all fire and health regulations. This has made it necessary for the Club to construct and maintain two secure water related facilities. The first is a reverse osmosis filtration system that is located under the west end of the hall deck. This sophisticated system consists of extensive filters and two large holding tanks. This system assures that the drinking water in the hall kitchen meets Fraser Health drinking water standards. Samples of the drinking water must be delivered to Fraser Health for testing on a regular basis and Fraser Health staff will occasionally request a visit to inspect the system.



A view of the secure 500-gallon reverse osmosis filtration system.

Close to 10 years ago the City of Surrey Fire Department implemented new regulations for public facilities that did not have access to City water services (fire hydrants). The new regulation made it compulsory that sufficient water must be available to operate the indoor sprinkling system until the fire department could arrive on scene.

In order to meet this requirement, it was necessary for the Club to build a water tower that could hold 6,000 gallons of water. In the event of a fire the water from the tower would feed into the hall and range sprinklers. The water for the water tower is drawn from a well located in the adjoining pump building.

Maintaining all this equipment however, comes at a cost. Aside from the regular fees paid to service this equipment, this winter we had unexpected failures in both systems that required emergency repairs. This amounted to \$5,500 for the reverse osmosis system and \$1,500 for the water tower well pump.



Water tower in the background with the well/pump house in the foreground.

Salmon BBQ Volunteers

On Father's Day, Sunday, June 16th the Club will once again be holding our Salmon BBQ. This will be the 61st consecutive year for this popular event.

We are in need of volunteers to help out in a number of areas so if you could help please call the office 604 535-8366 and leave a message. We will be sure to return your call.

Upcoming Events

Next General meeting Tuesday, April 9 - 7:30pm

Children's Chinook release Saturday, April 27

Swap Meet Saturday & Sunday, May 18 & 19 – 9am to 3pm

Used Fridges

If you have a used fridge in good working order that you looking to dispose of the hatchery is in need of two. Please leave a message on the office phone 604 535-8366

New Newsletter Editor



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Welcome to our new Newsletter Editor, Elissa. Elissa is a long time Junior Club member and one of our top archers.

Bob Donnelly - President



Range Report

Greetings, members! I hope you are all doing well. In case you haven't seen the signs at the range, we have some great indoor practice/training sessions for .22LR rifles, happening on Monday and Friday mornings from 8:00 – 11:30am. Student members are welcome during June and July. Please contact Oliver Bienz at 604-535-6221 or email ticks@telus.net the day before to confirm the range is open, and loaner rifles and shooting lanes are available.

The warm weather is bringing more people out to Wednesday handgun nights and with that, we may have a policy change as we get more crowded. Our goal is to make sure we can accommodate all our members wanting to shoot. In the past, on busy nights, people have shared lanes to make this happen. Thank you for this! We are monitoring our usage and if the popularity grows beyond our regular capacity, we will be exploring options like splitting up the evening into two shifts and/or extending our hours on Wednesday evenings. Extending hours puts more pressure on our volunteers running things, so we need to find a way to make all this work. In the meantime, if it's a busy evening, please offer to share a lane with another member. It's a great way to make new friends!

Please note that the range will be closed on Handgun Night, on Wed, May 8th. Please keep an eye out for range closures on the club website, before you drive a long way in. We'll always do our best to give you plenty of notice.

Allan Johanson,

Range Director



907 Squadron 2019 Zone shoot

The 907 Black Knight Squadron held their 2019 Zone shoot at the Semiahmoo Fish and Game range on Sunday March 3rd. They got there about 8:00 am, set up the range, sighted in their rifles, and commenced shooting at about 9:15 am. They had three teams entered in the competition. Each team consisted of 5 team members, of which 2 had to be under the age of 15. Each shooter had to shoot two sets of targets during the day.

The A team, which is the team that won the National shoot in 2018, had a total score of 1542 points out of a possible 1600. Teresa Liao had a score of 392 out of 400, with one score of 100.

The B team had a tragedy in that one of their better shooters broke her leg a few days before the shoot, and couldn't compete. Their score was 1488 out of 1600.

The C team consisted of all shooters under the age of 15 and mainly first year shooters. The C team shot a score of 1440.

Based on the scores, it is felt the A team should go to the Provincials in Vernon, and there is a good chance the B team will as well. It was a successful shoot, and we thank the Semiahmoo Fish and Game for their continued support.

Verne Brown,

Range Safety Officer
907 Squadron Royal Canadian Air Cadets