

The Kingfisher

Our Community's Newsletter

... a publication of the Kingfisher Community Society

February 2017

3337 Enderby Mabel Lake Road, Enderby BC V0E 1V5

www.kingfishercommunity.ca under construction. Thanks for your patience.



from your Chair

Murray MacDonald

It is probably too early to make the call that winter is over but, in the last few days there have definitely been some notes of spring in the air. The sun is packing some extra warmth and the birdsong is decidedly more cheerful. Those birds that flew to Mexico (human and otherwise) will soon begin their journey northward.

Things have quietened at the KCS since Christmas. No big events though groups still come in and use the facilities regularly. Badminton players, hula hoopers, game players, exercisers and directors get together to while away the winter days. If you have an idea for something you'd like to do at the Hall, contact a director. We'll show you how.

Speaking of Directors; Ted Vroon, who has been the KCS secretary for the past three years has stepped down from the board. On behalf of the community, we'd like to thank him for all his efforts and creativity. Ted's place at the directors table will be filled by Marion Fernandez. We're delighted to have Marion on board. FYI; she was part of the team responsible for decorations at the Harvest dinner and Christmas Concert.

And Now! (cue the dramatic music segue)

Real-Life Kingfisher Wildlife Moments as told to me by Jan Lacko

The night was dark and the frost lay heavy as George, Jan and Ricky got into the car for a routine trip to Enderby. Rounding the curves, they were lost in thought, as is the case for most people on the routine trip to Enderby. Suddenly, there was a loud thud! Something very big had hit the car! George looked up and realized he was eyeball to eyeball with a large deer. Before they had time to think, it was over. They turned around and went back to look for the deer, wondering what damage had been done to their car. They found the spot and got out to look. No damage to the car. No deer. Then Ricky held up something and said "look at this". It was one side of a rack of antlers. So, if you see a lop-sided deer with only one side of his antlers, you'll know why.



Photos by
Marieka Vroon



Eye in the Sky 2017

Here is a selection of celestial events for twenty seventeen. With the help of astronomer friend, Nairb Nissul, I have mostly selected those the would be best for naked eye and binocular viewing.

January 31 catches Venus, Mars and a waxing crescent Moon in the SW early evening sky. Lower power binoculars with a field view of about 10 degrees would likely catch all three. The planet duo continues to be seen in the evening throughout much of January and February.

Your opportunity to view Mercury is best on March 29th. It is eleven degrees below Mars that evening and there is a crescent Moon close by. Choose a low western horizon.

Shortly after, on April 10, the full Moon rises with Jupiter close by. The next brightest star is Spica in Virgo. Could be wild astrology time for you Virgo signs.

This year the Perseids meteor shower peaks in moonlight making fainter meteors difficult to see. However, August will be all about the total eclipse of the Sun, on the 21st. The path of totality starts in southern Oregon and stretches to the southern US Atlantic coast. Anyone for a road trip?

Several conjunctions including Venus (now in the morning sky) occur in September, October, and November.

And there is always good Moon viewing each month. View along the terminator close before and after the quarters. The long shadows highlight the peaks and valleys.

Clear skies everyone!
Brian Lussin

Emergency Preparedness/ Evacuation Planning

Herb Latchko : February 2017

For some of us, February is a time for ordering seeds and making plans for spring's outdoor activities. Consider adding to your list: reducing the Fire Hazard around your home. The website: bcwildfire.ca has a great deal of information and links to the FireSmart Homeowners Manual. A faster way to get the manual is to simply goggle search: firesmart homeowners manual bc

The Regional District has hired a Protective Services Manager. His name is Alastair Krick. Alastair will be working under the direction of Chris Mazzotta, whom many of you may have met over the past few fire seasons. Chris plans to bring Alastair out to meet with the Local Planning Groups (LPG) and other interested community members. This meeting will take place in late March or early April. We hope to get started on revising the Evacuation Plan and start the process of reducing fuel loads, as mentioned in the Official Community Plan. Chris will also explain changes to the delivery of Emergency Support Services (ESS), which is still in need of volunteers.

As well, Herman Halvorson wants to have Chris and Alastair join him at the Kingfisher Community Club's Annual General Meeting in May.

As a way to increase public awareness of current fire risk, I have been working on getting a Forestry Hazard Rating Sign erected on the Mabel Lake Road. There are a few prime locations in the Ashton Creek area which would not only alert travelers there, but also those travelers heading down Trinity Valley and those heading toward Mabel Lake.

Local Planning Group (LPG) #2 will be in need of a new Coordinator this Fire Season. LPG #2 runs from Falls Creek to Cooke Creek. If your are interested in taking on this role or becoming generally more involved this fire season, please contact me at 250-838-6525.

Road Hockey

The tennis court.
Sundays about
2.30

**Equipment
supplied.**

Badminton

Kingfisher Hall

Catalin Faget
1 250 999 0945
or the Hall
838 6200

TASS

Tuesday Afternoon Social Scene
Kingfisher Hall Tuesdays 1:00

A variety of activities from Mexican Train dominoes, Wizard cards, Scrabble etc. to ping pong.

Mingle and have fun with friends and neighbours.

Kingfisher Library

Thank you to all the donations for the library. Because of lack of space however, we cannot accept: Reader Digest books, any magazines, books published before 2000.

We accept any children's books as they do not seem to come back from the little ones, which we understand.

Happy Reading,
Sue Leavitt and Jane Clayton



Kingfisher Quilters

Old Kingfisher School
Barbea Flath 838 0324



Gramma's Playground



Kingfisher Christmas



Photos by Marieka Vroon



Born to Megan(nee Clark) and Kurt Martin a baby girl, Emrie Dodi, January 1st,2017 @ 11:29 pm Weighing 4 lbs,10 ounces

Winter is here
Don't lose
hope...

Call Kent for Snowplowing:
250.838.6248



Ward Dale & Barb Bannister of Kingfisher and Curt & LeeAnn De Boer of Grindrod are pleased to announce the engagement of Colton Franklin De Boer to Reanne Laura Dale. The wedding is planned for summer 2018.



MABEL LAKE BOAT STORAGE

Bev Brookes Tel: **250.838.5712**
#34 201 Kildonan Ave.
Enderby, B.C., V0E 1V2



Community Ads (free to KCS members)

MASSAGE PRACTITIONER

Available for booking in home or studio sessions. Call Catalin 1 250 999-0945

MABEL LAKE RENTALS

www.mabellakerentals.ca

Listings of accommodations for rent by owner.

On February 4, 2017 the Annual General Meeting of the MacKenzie Camp Society will take place in the basement of St. Andrew's United Church, 1110 Belvedere Street, Enderby, BC V0E 1V0, commencing 7 pm. It will be preceded at 5:30 pm by a thank-you dinner for our many donors, members, volunteers, past members, and life members.

Winter Family Fun Day *Shona Bruce*

The Kingfisher Interpretive Centre Society will be hosting a free winter family fun day on Sunday February 26 from 10:00-2:00 at the Centre (2550 Mabel Lake Rd). This is an opportunity to get outside together with families and friends and enjoy the last of winter before the seasons change. Bring your snowshoes, skis and snow gear. Hone your forest detective skills by enjoying a snowshoe or ski through the forest looking for animal tracks and other sorts of animal evidence. An interpretive winter plant walk will take place at 11:00 for anyone interested in learning about our winter forest. Warm up in our kekuli and experience it in a winter setting. Stop and say hello to the baby salmon in our salmon hatchery. There will be snowshoe races, a snow sculpting demonstration, and other activities for all ages. Enjoy a bonfire with free hotdogs and hot drinks. If you would like to be involved or would like any other information please contact us at (250)838-0004.



Kingfisher Christmas Bird Count

George Jameson

While our overall numbers for our December 2016 count were down, there were 3 new birds counted: 2 Golden Eagles at Hupel counted by Susie Everatt, Laura Jameson, Howard Coneybeare and others.



1 Ruby Crowned Kinglet sighted by Keith Richards
1 Barred Owl heard by Carolyn and Art Herbert

[You can see the KCS Newsletter in colour if you're on the email list let George (g67george@gmail.com) know if you want to be on that list.]



You may know that Whiskey Jacks (also called Gray Jays) have recently been nominated as Canada's national bird. What you probably didn't know is that an Algonquin biologist friend of Howard Coneybeare, one of our Kingfisher bird counters, has been studying this species for over 40 years and spearheaded the drive for its nomination and hopes eventual election. He's currently doing studies that many birders hope will eventually see the official name returned to 'Canada Jay.' He's begun a study of Jays he's banded last fall (93 individual birds!) on Vancouver Island.

In addition Howard and a friend from Revelstoke are assisting him by collecting *photographs* of these birds throughout the interior to try to define the range limits of 3 subspecies. If anyone has Gray jays coming to their feeders, or if there are locations where jays are regularly seen, please let Howard Coneybeare howard_c@telus.net know. If you have information/photos on any recent sightings or perhaps photos of Gray Jays from feeder/yard visits please forward them to Howard. The Kingfisher Christmas Bird counters have recorded Gray Jays in nine of the last 19 years and many of you have encountered these gregarious birds, so we know they are common here. Gray Jays have been seen in many locations such as up side roads like Cooke Creek in the spring and around Trinity Valley Rd. Any information on recent sightings would be appreciated.



Birding is another great reason to get outside. If you have any interesting bird or wildlife sightings to share, let us know and we'll share it in the Kingfisher Newsletter. Just email g67george@gmail.com.





Kingfisher Community Society Directors

Chair -----	Murray MacDonald -----	250 838 6379
Secretary -----	Marion Fernandez -----	250 275 5030
Treasurer -----	Brigitte Koch-----	250 838 7350
Memberships -----	Art Herbert -----	250 838 9759
Hall Bookings/Entertainment -----	Jan Lacko -----	250 838 6882
Maintenance -----	Greg Clark -----	250 838 0292
Liquor and Supplies -----	James Latchko -----	250 503 6698

Directors meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month; members are welcome to attend!

Membership

Art Herbert 3080 Mabel Lake Road,
Enderby, B C, V0E 1V5
838-9759 candaherbert@gmail.com.
\$30/family and \$20/single.

Receipts and Invoices

If you have a bill or invoice related to the KCS, contact Brigitte Koch, our treasurer, 838-7350, or 2215 Mabel Lake Road.

KCS Newsletter

Direct your advertising and distribution questions to *George Jameson*
g67george@gmail.com

Email photos and news items to *Brenda Heywood* editorkingfisher@gmail.com

Deadline is 25th of each month. I will acknowledge receipt of your email, so if you do not receive a reply, I did not receive your email.

Please send text as an attachment, not in the body of the email. **If you have 2 items, use 2 separate emails.**



From OUR ARCHIVES Kingfisher Community Society Mandate

The purposes of the KCS are:

- to acquire land and thereon build and operate a Community Hall and Recreation Centre, and
- to foster and promote social, sporting, recreational, charitable and educational activities