

Hook, Line & Sinkers

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE "SIDNEY ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION"



Our Purpose

To encourage and develop interest in sport fishing and to foster and actively promote conservation and to participate in activities designed to promote habitat restoration and salmon enhancement in the Sidney area.

www.sidneyanglers.com

Next Meeting

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Date: Monday, 26 May 2008

Where: Mary Winspear Centre

MINUTES OF THE ANGLERS' GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL 08

Members and Guests Present – 42

President Jim Halston called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm

It was moved by Doug Kenner and seconded by John Tapio that the minutes of the last meeting (March March 25, 2008) be accepted as circulated. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. We received a letter dated March 26th, 2008, from Roger Dunlop the President of The Nootka Sound Watershed Society thanking Sidney Anglers for our generous donation of \$500.00 which will be used to further the Society's efforts at salmon habitat protection, habitat restoration and salmon enhancement in Nootka Sound. They also enclosed a certificate of Appreciation. This will be available for you to review on our correspondence board up at the front of the room.
2. We received an email request from one of our members, Doug Kenner, attaching an article on the website of a newspaper in the Shuswap area. It was an article regarding the building of a large condo and 160 slip marina just 400 metres of the mouth of the Adams River which has been proclaimed one of the world's great natural areas. This development would disrupt the sockeye salmon spawning grounds in the area. A CSRD hearing was set for April 21st for the marina rezoning project that would also include a 218 unit commercial and residential development.

Doug used to live in that area and advised us that there has been a huge outcry about this – he requested that Sidney Anglers' send a letter to the mayor of Shuswap, the Chair of the CSRD and a City Councilor to express our concerns over conservation of this spawning area. Unfortunately there was no time to consult all of the Anglers because of the urgency to forward the information before the meeting on the 21st. Executive made a decision to forward the letter on behalf of Sidney Anglers' Association. A copy of the letter is available on the correspondence board for your information.

We are happy to report that due to our efforts, the rally, a huge letter writing campaign and a turnout at the public hearing, the development appears to be dead in the water and the government is now looking at purchasing the land to expand the world renowned Roderick Haig-Brown Provincial Park.

3. Doug Kenner has also forwarded to us a commentary dated April 1st, 2008, entitled BC's Wild Salmon Need to be Protected, written by Robin Austin MLA commenting on Minister Bell's recent announcement that an area around the Skeena River will be protected from expansion of salmon farms. He is concerned about the apparent hypocrisy of the government's continuing to support open net pen farming in other regions of the province.

He goes on to states that this announcement shouldn't lull anyone who cares about our salmon into complacency. His announcement did not put a permanent moratorium on salmon farms near the Skeena, nor did it promise to protect this resource from other sources of disruption, like coalbed methane extraction in the Sacred Headwaters.

He believes that now that we have won a small reprieve from the threat of fish farms on the Skeena it is more important than ever for us to lend our strength to communities in other parts of the province. In his commentary he mentions Renowned Scientist Alexandra Morton and her co-authored report that predicts the extinction of several runs in the Broughton Archipelago within as little as five years if immediate actions are not taken to reduce the impact of fish farms on migrating smolts. This article is available as well at the front your review.

4. The previous issue ties in nicely with our next issue. You will recall at our last meeting that members voted to donate \$500.00 to and Alexandra Morton her "Adopt-a-fry" campaign to assist her in transporting salmon fry past salmon farms in the Broughton Archipeligo on BC's Central Coast in an effort to save some of the wild salmon from the damaging effects of sea lice at the fish farms that they pass by while migrating through that area.

Shortly after members voted in favour of supporting Alexandra and the “adopt-a-fry” campaign, we received an email from Alexandra Morton notifying us that DFO hand-delivered the decision not to allow her campaign to pick up young wild salmon, move them past the fish farms on their migration route and put them back into the water out of harm's way. They cited concern for the young salmon, even though DFO hatcheries move young salmon fry all the time, and DFO allows people to rescue wild salmon fry in the rivers. The email goes on to say that she doesn't think DFO is at all concerned about the young salmon and that they have a team out netting and killing thousands for scientific purposes. Alexandra believes that DFO is afraid of admitting fish farms are not such a good idea after all.

She goes on to say that she is writing to all who sent donations to www.adopt-a-fry.org to ask if she can use these funds to launch a legal effort to bring reason to this situation? She states that one hundred and fourteen people have donated almost \$10,000.00 so far (not including Sidney Anglers' \$500.00 donation). These funds would have rescued thousands of salmon and if she goes to court with this issue they will need quite a bit more, but this would be a good start. She would like to have our permission to use that money to fund these efforts.

This issue was discussed at the last meeting and the Executive decided that our \$500. donation should be put on hold and this issue should come back to the Anglers' for discussion tonight. The reason is that this started out to be support for the adopt-a-fry campaign and Alexandra is now requesting our permission to use that money to support a legal battle regarding this issue, we assume, against DFO.

She has not started the legal battle yet and in fact on April 15, 2008, she wrote again to DFO's Dr. Paul Sprout to protest their denial of approval to her and sited a number of reasons for this protest. In summary, she requested again that they permit her to pick up and move the young wild salmon near the Marine Harvest Glacier Falls fish farm and move them past the Cermaq Burdwood fish farm. Let her do it once, monitor survivorship and make a decision from there as to whether to allow me to continue or to stop. She goes on to say that The Glacier Falls fish farm lease has expired, this farm is sitting in a Provincial red zone where no fish farms are allowed, it has been moved twice at public expense to protect wild salmon from its sea lice. The Cermaq farm lease was issued as an emergency relocation to escape a toxin algae bloom and has been there ever since. It's lease has also expired.

She states that what she is requesting is a temporary solution, but may ensure that we still have wild salmon by the time the regulatory issues get resolved.

A number of members expressed their views stating that felt strongly about wanting to support Alexandra and the adopt-a-fry program. Some members felt we should find out more about the details of her court case and who she is considering taking legal answer against, etc... In the end Don Mclvor made a motion to support Executive’s decision to put a hold on the \$500. donation to Alexandra for now until we have more information on the situation. Mike Sealy seconded the motion and the members were all in favour.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members: Bill and Clair Jesse, Richard Lloyd, Rob Hades and Don Crowe.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Assets	\$19,500.	Ramp Receipts	\$ 6,000.
Current YTD Earnings	\$ 3,460.		
Membership Dues	\$ 1,300.		
To date: 88 members paid			

A motion was made by Gerry Fisher and seconded by Don Carter to accept the report. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ramp Report - Claude Theriault spoke to members stating that there were 18 more days requiring coverage at the ramp. In particular we need people for the long weekend in May until Labour Day.

Town of Sidney Report – brian & gerry reported thatThere was no meeting in April it was delayed until May so there was nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Sidney Museum Display. Jim Halston advised the members that during the month of May the theme at the Museum was “Gone Fishing” and the display includes a number of antique fishing lures by Terry Venables and other contributors many of which are Sidney Anglers. Colin Franks has made up a display board for Sidney Anglers with photos, our mission, etc... and there is a video of the net pen as well. Jim encouraged members to visit the museum and view the display.

2. A member mentioned that the list of Anglers and Boat names was supposed to be put back in the tide book and this was voted on at a meeting last year, however, they weren't included in the book. Executive recommended that we bring this forward to the next meeting for a motion to have this information included in the next tide book. In the meantime, members were interested in Executive looking into a plasticized list to hand out to everyone wanting one.
3. Wayne Pullen addressed the membership regarding the Port of Sidney Derby. He stated that over 80 boats had registered and there were 3 more major sponsors. He said that he still required volunteers between now and next Sunday. These functions will be emailed out to all members by the Secretary, Shirley Johnson.
4. Bruno Bauer wanted to discuss fishing boundaries, etc... He was advised by Jim Halston that it would be most appreciated if he could email his ideas to Executive for discussion at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A gentleman named Andrew Poultney, who is new to fishing in this area has approached me as he is looking for **used salmon and halibut gear**, his email address is andrewgpoultney@yahoo.ca. Any members who might have some gear that he may be interested in please feel free to contact him directly by email.
2. **Constitutional Changes** – At our last meeting I officially announced a “notice of motions” that a vote would be taken tonight on the proposed change to the wording of Article 1-2 in the Constitution as circulated in our 25th of March minutes. You may recall that I discussed the changes with all of you at the last couple of meetings and at the last meeting I handed out copies of the changes and invited you to voice any concerns or questions you had about the wording. I did not get any feedback at that time. The changed paragraphs were handed out to anyone requesting copies. The new wording is as follows:

Any member in good standing may recommend an individual to receive a Honourary Life Membership, or Honourary Annual Membership. The Executive will then consider any and all nominations, and through the course of an executive meeting and a majority vote of the Executive, the decision to grant a Honourary Membership may be made.

A Honourary Membership shall entitle that person to all the benefits of an individual membership without the requirement of annual membership dues. Written notice of the pending recommendation of a Honourary Life or Annual Member must be presented no later than the September monthly meeting, for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

Since circulating the wording in the minutes however, Jim Halston advised that he received an email with some written concerns from one of our new members, Will Keay. As he could not attend the meeting this evening Jim Halston read his email to members.

There was a lengthy discussion amongst members regarding Mr. Keay's concerns, etc..., however the majority spoke out (including past Executive members) in support of the changes to the amendment and did not agree with the concerns raised by Mr. Keay.

President, Jim Halston, then asked if any members wished to discuss this further or if they had any other concerns. He then asked for a motion to accept the new wording to Article 1-2. Alexander Onishchuk motioned, Dave Stephen seconded. A majority of the 42 members present were in favour of the motion and it was passed.

FISHING REPORTS OR STORIES

Cliff Kindree caught a salmon at Moses. Bruce Regensburg caught a 14 and a 21 at Moresby on a purple haze and anchovy on bottom. Grant MacPherson caught a JBL (just barely legal) which he released - It was caught on bottom at Sidney Channel. Alex Onischuk had three salmon "bit off" at Moses.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE DRAW

Ken Clements' name was drawn however he was not in attendance, therefore the next members' draw will be for \$50. It was pointed out that Jim Dunn, the winner at our last meeting donated his money to Peninsula Streams – thank you for your generosity Jim.

LADDER BOARD

Bert Vanderveen provided a report of the following fish caught for April: Steve Dvorsky a 14.6 lb salmon at Moresby, Dave Kerr an 8.8 lb salmon at Coal, Don Carter an 8.1lb salmon at James Island and Dallas Stober a 7.13 lb salmon at Cordova Spit. Dave Kerr's name was drawn as the winner of the ladder board draw, however he was not in attendance – his prize will be mailed to him. Congratulations Dave!

SIDNEY ANGLER'S PREMIER DERBY (APRIL 13, 2008):**Prize Winners – Chinook**

1 st place on	Rick Jakimchuk	20.8 lbs	Fairfax – 123 ft in 160ft
2 nd place	Barry Mayes	17.9 lbs	Anchovy Moses – 115ft on Anchovy
3 rd place	Richard Lake	13.6 lbs	Arbutus – 90ft down in 120 ft on herring
4 th place	Emil Charan	13.1 lbs	Fairfax – 140ft in 160ft
5 th place	Steve Cote	11.5 lbs	Hambly at 95ft – Anchovy

Prize Winner - Halibut

1 st place	Bob Haney	36.8 lbs	11:00 a.m. – South end of James Island
Honourable mention	Ryan Freeman	21.7 lbs	

REMAINING FISH CAUGHT

6 th	Doug Ellison	10.3 lbs	Hambly
7 th	Craig Bentham	10.0 lbs	
8 th	Emil Bukach	9.5 lbs	Moses 25ft down in 95ft
9 th	Alex Onischuk	9.3 lbs	Moresby
10 th		& 8.9 lbs	
10 th	Miles Primrose	8.9 lbs	
11 th	Jimmy Lee	8.0 lbs	Moresby
12 th	Emil Charan	7.6 lbs	Fairfax
13 th	Doug Ellison	7.5 lbs	Hambly

Total of 15 fish caught (counting the two halibut). Miles Primrose won the \$25. draw prize for attendance. **(People whose names are in bold caught two fish).**

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, May 26, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.

NEXT DERBY:

Spring Derby, Sunday, May 18, 2008

REMINDERS

- Just a reminder to everyone who won a trophy last year – please bring them to our next Anglers meeting as they have to be collected and engraved for redistribution at our June picnic!
- Also, just to let members know, at our annual picnic in June, salmon and beverages are supplied but members should all plan to bring something to share such as salad or deserts.
- If anyone has some frozen salmon they would like to donate it would be most appreciated as we will need 70 lbs of fish for the barbecue and at the present time I believe we only have approximately 30 lbs!

GUEST SPEAKER:

Brian Smith from “O”Ki” Tackle spoke about his terrific new glow green flashers and bait heads. In addition he provided some flashers for the prize draw. Thanks Brian!

Motion for Adjournment was made at 9:52 pm.