

Join us in the Valley

Campbell Valley Park Association Park News

Who are the Partners?

The partners are made up of individuals in the community, as well as groups from in and around Campbell Valley Regional Park. These partners have come together to form a partnership with the GVRD and to take an active role in planning and managing Campbell Valley Regional Park for the benefit of the community and GVRD.

We are:

- o Back Country Horsemen's Association
- o Butterfly Garden Resource Group
- o Campbell Valley Equestrian Society
- o Critter Care
- o Langley Field Naturalists
- o Langley Heritage Society
- o Little Campbell Watershed Society
- o Visitor Centre Hosts
- o White Rock and Surrey Naturalists
- o Many other community groups.

Goals of the Park Partners

- o To assist in implementation of the park management plan
- o To protect and enhance the natural and cultural features of the park
- o To encourage responsible public recreation
- o To promote public education and a park use code of ethics
- o To raise revenue for special local park projects

The partners provide a valuable forum for expressing community ideas and concerns about the park. It also provides a practical framework for working with the GVRD.

YOU can give input and discussion on issues pertaining to the maintenance and use of Campbell Valley Regional Park, its features, facilities and heritage sites.

Membership details on the back page



Photo: Al and Jude Grass ©

Volunteer Opportunities In the Park

What to Bring: Please wear clothing suitable to the weather, and footwear you don't mind getting dirty or wet. Bring work gloves, if you have them, and thick clothing to protect you from thorns, etc. Refreshments will be provided.

Blackberry Removal

Saturday October 14, 2006

9am to 12 noon

Hosts: Campbell Valley Park Association and Evergreen

Location: Meet at the horse trail gate on the north side of 8th Avenue, between 200th Street and 202nd Streets; project takes place along 8th Avenue hedgerow.

How to Register: contact Andrew Appleton at Evergreen 604 689 0766 ext. 22.

Butterfly Garden Work Party

Saturday October 28, 2006

10am to 12 noon

Hosts: Campbell Valley Park Association and GVRD Parks

Calling all green thumbs and wildlife

enthusiasts! The demonstration gardens around the Visitors Centre are due for a fall cleanup. These unique gardens were created by volunteers interested in enhancing habitat for songbirds, hummingbirds and butterflies. If you like to plant, prune, weed or dig, drop in and join us.

Location: Meet at the Visitors Centre at the corner of 8th Avenue and 204th Street in Langley, via the South Valley Park entrance.

Free, registration not required.

Volunteer Opportunities cont.

Habitat Restoration and Tree Planting

Saturday November 18, 2006

9am to 12 noon

Hosts: Campbell Valley Park Association and Evergreen

Location: Meet at the Visitors Centre at the corner of 8th Avenue and 204th Street in Langley, via the South Valley Park entrance.

Project location: will be at the Peacey Farm (along 4th Avenue or the Little River Loop (TBC)

How to Register: contact Andrew Appleton at Evergreen 604 689 0766 ext. 22.

Campbell Valley Park Association Meetings

Board Meetings - 7pm at the East Area Office

- o Monday September 18th Board Meeting
- o Monday October 16th Board Meeting
- o Monday November 20th CVPA Annual General & Federation Meeting Location TBA
- o Monday December 11th Board Meeting
- o Monday January 15th Board Meeting
- o

Campbell Valley Park Association Board of Director 2005-2006

Jude Grass

CVPA Chair, GVRD Park Forum Rep, Langley Field Naturalists.

Marg Cuthbert

Little Campbell Watershed Society, Friends of Semiahmoo Bay

Marilyn Gregory

Campbell Valley Equestrian Society

Gerri Jack

Back Country Horsemen's Association

Deb Jack

GVRD Forum Chair

Guy LaFramboise

GVRD Park Forum alternate

Ian Robertson

White Rock and Surrey Naturalists

Greater Vancouver Regional District Parks Partnership Program and Forum News

The Forum is: a body recognized and empowered by GVRD, to make recommendations and to participate in the implementation of system-wide activities, programs and processes. (Note: Park Associations do some of the same functions but on a park specific theme) The Campbell Valley Park Association has a representative who attends the bimonthly meetings.

Other Forum roles include the support and advance of park partnership and the sustainability of regional Parks and greenways.

Two examples are the major information sharing event that are held each year - the **Super Saturday** in November and the **Ideas Fair** in March. It is here where all park associations / partners are invited to attend these events to share ideas, to see what others are doing, attend skills workshops, and to develop ideas for new programs within regional parks.

Super Saturday - November 4th BCIT - Burnaby 8:00 am - 4:30pm Sustainability: Putting Passion Into Practice

Below is a preliminary list of the workshops and presenters. A brochure will be mailed to Park Association members shortly. Registration deadline is October 20th.

Topic	Speaker
Here's Johnny Breakfast with Ed	Johnny Carline Ed Andrusiak
Build it and they will come	Kelly Pierce
Working the Media	Dawn Hanna
Producing community events	Dolly Hopkins
A Passion for Rivers	Mark Angelo
Finding Hope Amidst Environmental Uncertainty	Dr. Rick Kool
Interpretation Making a Difference	Cal Martin
Invasive Species	Dr. Valentin Schaefer

There will also be a series of workshop for out Youth members:

**For More Information Contact:
GVRD Parks at 604 432 6359.**

Nature Note: When The Owls Gave a Hoot!



Photo: Al and Jude Grass ©

Barred Owl – photographed at Campbell Valley Regional Park – seems to be asking “who are you?”

April 7th, 2006 was the perfect spring evening for 'owling' at Campbell Valley Regional Park in South Langley. A 'good owling night' is one where it's not raining (owls seem to hate rain) and the air is still. After you've been owling for as many years as we have, you just have an inner feeling that it's a perfect night.

Campbell Valley Regional Park has long been a favourite with Owlers. In the early years (25+ years ago), we commonly called in the Western Screech-owl, but sadly, this species has declined, not only in this park, but also regionally. The cause is a matter of some debate but the Barred Owl is often blamed, which was not seen in the park around the early 1970's. This eastern North American species has expanded its range and now is the most commonly encountered owl in the Vancouver checklist area. Other owl species that occur in Campbell Valley Regional Park include the Great Horned Owl, and the Northern Saw-whet Owl.

To call in owls we either use recording or our own voices, or a combination of both. The owls usually respond by answering back, but not always; sometimes they silently fly in to have a look.

The Barred Owl, famous for its “who cooks for you all” call, is also capable of a variety of barks, shrieks, as well as some that need to be heard to be believed, especially if two are answering each other.

Owling is a lot like fishing - sometimes you're lucky, and sometimes you are 'skunked'. But on the evening of April 7th we were all treated to a thrilling owling experience. You could say that the owls 'gave a hoot'!

Al and Jude Grass

History Note: Early Surveys and Trails in the Vicinity of Campbell Valley

The gold rush of 1858 drew thousands of American miners into British Columbia. This uncontrolled influx of Americans into British territory was of great concern to both British and American officials. They formed an International Boundary Commission to firmly establish the international boundary line along the 49th Parallel, both on the ground and on maps. The commission held its first meetings at the United States Boundary Commission camp at Semiahmoo on August 13, 1858. Royal Engineer Colonel J.S. Hawkins was the British Commissioner and Archibald Campbell was appointed American Commissioner. Campbell River was eventually named after the American Commissioner, but maps produced in the course of the survey still show the Indian name “Thataloo Creek” (no English translation was found). It appears that Native Indians did not live permanently in Campbell Valley. They moved through the area to hunt and probably had seasonal camps. The commissioners agreed to “ascertain points on the boundary line by the determination of astronomical point at convenient intervals on or near the boundary, and to mark such astronomical stations or points fixed on the parallel forming the boundary by cutting a track of not less than 20 feet in width on each side for the distance of half a mile or more, according to circumstances”.

Between 1858 and 1860 axemen cut the first trail through the Campbell Valley area, running from Semiahmoo Bay to Fort Langley. The route followed the Campbell River inland for about four miles, and then struck off to Fort Langley in a north-easterly direction. One author claims that an Indian trail existed in the same location before construction of this trail. Allegedly it was used in 1858 by American miners who tried to avoid the customs office at the mouth of the Fraser River, hence also the name “Smugglers Trail”.

The existence of the Langley - Semiahmoo Trail probably accounted for the first survey of lands along the mouth of the Campbell River in 1859 by J. W. Trutch.

From: **Taking a Chance: Homesteading in Campbell Valley (South Langley) 1880's to 1940's.**
Gabrielle Kahrer. GVRD publication 1990.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR....

As we prepare to move into a new season of park association and partners programs it is a good time to reflect on the past year, and to look forward to the upcoming year.

Since our Annual General Meeting last November we have had a number of issues to consider, events to plan and carry out, and meetings to attend. Looking back I think one of the highlights was the Federation Meeting we held in March where we invited all partners and other user groups that have a connection to Campbell Valley Regional Park to a meeting. It was a great opportunity to meet each other, explain about their group and their activities, how and when they use park, and any concerns they have about the park. Most groups filled out a survey sheet and the results were distributed to the board and GVRD staff for future considerations. The GVRD Park Staff and Park Association presentation also helped to explain each others roll and encourage participation in the Park Association. It was a fun evening, a chance to socialize and learn about each other, and to encourage communication between groups and the park staff. The Board has made a commitment to keeping this process going with twice a year meetings.

Looking forward will we are going to have a very busy year in the Campbell Valley Park Association.

On November 20th we will have our **Annual General Meeting and Federation Meeting** where we will again invite all the groups that attended in the spring and perhaps a few new groups or individuals. If you have any names or groups please let me or Lisa know.

We will also need to start looking for more board members to help with our projects and again any suggestions would be welcomed. We are all busy Board Members with one or (many) more groups that we work with. If we can get a few more people involved it will lighten some of the task and also provide new ideas into the group.

Another large project that the CVPA will be hosting is the **GVRD Parks Ideas Fair** on March 31, 2007. This is a major event where all GVRD Park Associations, their member groups, Forum members and Park Committee members will attend. The CVPA will be responsible for designing the various program or activities for the day (8am to 2pm TBC). We will

be looking for each of our Partners and Federation members to work together on activities that will showcase our park and our projects. GVRD Park's staff will coordinate the logistics of moving people from venue to venue, lunch and location, publicity, etc.

These two items are the reasons that that the CVPA Board will be very busy from September to December as the October meeting will be finalizing the AGM and the Ideas Fair program details which must be finalized by November 20th so that promotion can start in early January.

I would like to see the CVPA get involved with the **Catching the Spirit** Youth Program but we need to have a project coordinator to work with the program manager and staff to coordinator work projects in the park during the summer months using teens. We initially had hoped to do project in 2007 but it is looking more like we will not be ready before 2008. If you are interested please contact Lisa at 604 530-4983 for more details.

Jude Grass
Chair, CVPA

Super Saturday

November 4th, 2006

**6th Annual Learning Day
for Park Partners,
Volunteers and Staff**

Registration deadline: October 20th
***Sustainable Region Initiative ... Turning
Ideas Into Action***

**sustainability:
putting passion
into practice**

Campbell Valley Regional Park Staff Updates and Reports

We're pleased to share some of the highlights from Regional Parks this past year.

GVRD Parks

New Regional Park by-laws have been adopted to give park staff better tools for managing activities like camping and dog walking within Regional Parks. The by-law revision process involved workshops with other organizations like the Capital Regional District, Fraser Valley Regional District, DFO, and the Langley Animal Protection Society to name a few.

In East Area, the Park Patroller position has been added to improve by-law compliance and reduce destructive activities like vandalism. Efforts have focused on 'after hours' and during the summer months. With two years into this experiment the public is commenting on the benefits of the program and staff are noticing a drop in destructive activities.

Park staff are sporting new uniforms which feature an updated logo. The tan coloured uniform has less of a military feel and unifies the appearance of all field staff within several departments of the GVRD Corporation.

GVRD Parks has begun a bear smart program to ensure human and bear encounters are positive experiences for all. A bear assessment will be completed for all of Regional Parks in 2007. The most important step staff, neighbors and park visitors can take is to properly store food and garbage, as this is often the root cause of many conflicts and confrontations with bears. Bear proof garbage cans and recycling bins are being installed within those Parks with high bear occurrences.

Campbell Valley Regional Park

The Visitor Centre will have a new appearance by the end of the summer with a fresh coat of paint. New colours were chosen with input from the Visitor Centre Hosts and CVPA Board. Thanks to volunteer efforts to trim back the surrounding wildlife garden so the work can take place. Repairs have also been made to the steps, railings and deck surrounding the Centre.

The Park Interpreters are about to pilot the first Operation W.E.B. (Westcoast Exploration of Biodiversity) program targeted to Grade 7s with Campbell Valley being the first test field trip site in the fall. The program targets the Grade 7 Science Curriculum with links to Life Science, Art, Math, English and Social Science Curriculum. Park Interpreters have also teamed up with the Visitor Centre Hosts to offer 'Discovery Backpacks - Pond Edition' as a trial this summer. Hosts are helping to guide family explorations around the pond, and encourage appropriate behavior by lending out these popular tool kits to the public.

Installation of water lines continues along 200th Street. Our Park Planner is working with the High Point Development staff to ensure that Park needs are being met. Members of the CVPA Board were involved in determining the associated trail alignment along the 8th Avenue field which will connect to the Visitor Centre.

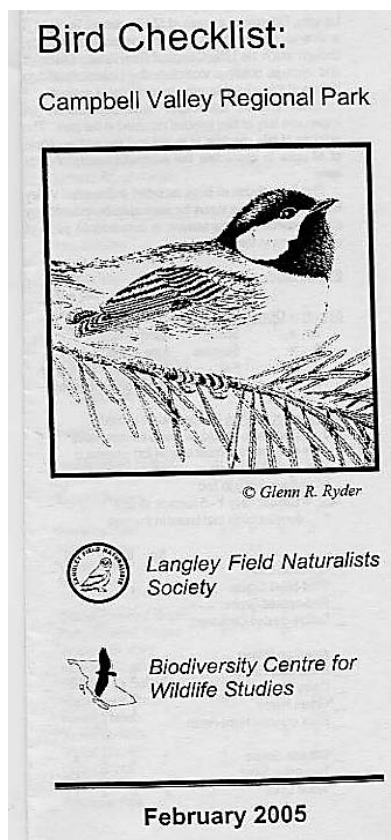
The Langley Speedway Historical Society (LSHS), a local group that is enthusiastic about the raceway history of the Little River Bowl area, put forward proposals for the site earlier this year. After consideration by staff and the CVPA, the Park Committee and Board have both unanimously adopted the GVRD staff report and recommendations submitted on the LSHS proposal. To access the proposal, recommendations and decision please visit the GVRD web site at www.gvrd.bc.ca, and search for the July 21 GVRD Board Agenda. Thanks goes to the CVPA Board for their thoughtful input on this proposal and special thanks to Jude for conveying the concerns and support from the CVPA Board members and affiliated groups. LSHS has been invited to become a park partner. The group is also being oriented to GVRD processes which manage special uses and events within Regional Parks.

Briefly, the Parks Committee recommendations included, that the GVRD Board:

- a) Invite the LSHS to become a park partner to pursue its proposals for use and historical commemoration of the former Langley Speedway site in Campbell Valley Regional Park that prove compatible with the mandate and policies of Regional Parks and the Campbell Valley Regional Park Management Plan as outlined in this report; and;
- b) Advise the Township of Langley and the LSHS that GVRD would support inclusion of the former Langley Speedway site on the Township's official

Listing of Heritage Resources but would not support Heritage Designation.

We're also please to announce that the annual "Ideas Fair", will be offered here in Campbell Valley Regional Park in the spring of 2007! This appreciation event is our way of saying 'thank you' to all of our volunteers and partners. The event was hosted this March by park partners on the North Shore, like the BC Mills House volunteers. We're hoping we can call on many of you and your affiliated groups in offering tours to our partners from around the Lower Mainland. Stay tuned for more details.



FREE BIRD CHECKLIST

Enjoy your walk or ride in Campbell Valley with this handy pocket sized list of birds found in the park. Produced by Anthea Farr of the Langley Field Naturalists this checklist the list also notes the time of year and abundance of the species, and gives a short note on other wildlife found in the park.

For copies contact the GVRD Park office at 604 530 4983

Spotlight on a Partner



Langley Field Naturalists

The Langley Field Naturalist (LFN) originally formed in 1973 as a concerned group of Langley residents who wished to see the lands, now part of Campbell Valley Regional Park, set aside as a nature park based on the unique habitats and disappearing flora and fauna found in the Fraser Lowlands.

The club continues to act as a voice for naturalists concerns in Langley, and their members serve on many community committees. The LFN support the very active Nicomekl Young Naturalist Club in conjunction with the White Rock and Surrey Naturalists who offer field trips for youth once a month and a summer camp.

The LFN are the stewards for Brydon Lagoon in Langley City, and the Forslund -Watson wildlife habitat in Langley Township which the club maintains in a joint program with the BC Ministry of Environment and the Wild Bird Trust of British Columbia. The LFN also participates in the Township of Langley's Adopt a Street program on the Irene Pearce Trail in South Langley and the Bakerview Trail in Walnut Grove.

The LFN is an active member of the Campbell Valley Park Association and participates in the Visitor Centre and Butterfly garden projects and has a representative on the CVPA Board. The club leads nature walks and owling trips to CVRP throughout the year and the annual Christmas Bird Count.

The LFN meet on the third Thursday of the month (except July and August) at 7:15 pm in the Langley Community Music School at 4899 207th Street. Please join us - everyone is welcome.

Our fall schedule is:

Sept 21 - Peter Davidson of Bird Studies Canada on Coastal Waterbird and Beached Bird Surveys in the Lower Mainland;

October 19 - J. Duane Sept on Common Mushrooms of the Northwest;

November 16 Dr. Mike Pearson on Protecting endangered fish on private land. Salish Sucker and Nooksack Dace in the Fraser Valley.

For more information on club activities and field trips contact: 604 538 8774

Trail Code of Ethics Around Campbell Valley Regional Park

This is an excerpt from the brochure **GVRD Parks Trail Users' Code of Ethics**. We thought it might be appropriate as a little refresher as we move into the fall season.

Etiquette for Dual-Use Trails

Certain etiquette practiced by all users is easy to do and contributes to a better outdoor experience for everyone. A simple way to adopt the essential habits is to remember the **3 C's**

Common Sense, Communication & Courtesy

Common Sense - Common sense begins with planning your trip and continues to your encounters with others on the trail. Although trail travellers' protocol calls for the most mobile to yield the right of way, assess the situation and use common sense to determine who can get out of the way most easily. Hiker's yield to horses. A group of horses going uphill always has the right of way.

Communication - A friendly word of greeting reassures horses and lets others know of your presence. Communicate with other trail-users to warn them of dangers or adverse trail conditions. It is a good idea to tell other travelers how many people are in your group, so they can prepare to pass them on the trail.

Courtesy - Treat other trail-users with courtesy. User conflicts can lead to trail closures - an unnecessary measure if people cooperate and practice the **3C's**.



GVRD Parks photo

Don't Delay - Join the Campbell Valley Park Association TODAY

Name _____

Address _____

City / Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please check all your interests from the items below.

- ☐ Community park event
- ☐ Dog walking
- ☐ Educational projects
- ☐ Environmental projects
- ☐ Family activities
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Heritage
- ☐ Horseback riding
- ☐ Marketing/communications
- ☐ Nature appreciation
- ☐ Walking
- ☐ Cycling
- ☐ Other _____

For more information on the Campbell Valley Park Association please contact:

Lisa Ferris, Community Development Coordinator
GVRD Parks @ 604 530 4983

Lisa.ferris@gvrd.bc.ca

To contribute to the **CVPA Park News** please contact:

Jude Grass, Editor

Ph: 604 538 8774 or fax: 604 538 8791

judegrass@shaw.ca

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