

24 March 2014

Hook, Line & Sinker

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE "SIDNEY ANGLERS' 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, 28 April 2014

Where: Mary Winspear Centre

MINUTES OF THE ANGLERS' GENERAL MEETING 24 March 2014

Members and Guests Present – 45

President Brian Dunic called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm It was moved by Grant MacPherson and seconded by Larry Dalziel that the minutes of the last meeting (February 24, 2014) be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS/VISITORS

Geoffrey Couzens

We hope that we haven't misspelled your names.

CORRESPONDENCE

N/A

TREASURERS REPORT: – Ken Clements provided the membership with an update on current assets, a copy of which was made available to the members for review.

A motion was made by Bob Haney and seconded by Miles Primrose to accept the report. The membership were all in favour.

TOWN OF SIDNEY – Brian Dunic

Of direct interest to Anglers was that they discussed trying to move two rocks at the boat ramp that have fallen off the breakwater. They are going to try to do something about this as it poses a hazard.

RAMP DUTY – Jim Dunn

Nothing to report as ramp duty doesn't start up until next month.

ANNUAL DERBY UPDATE – Jim Dunn

Tickets – The Derby is coming up fast – May 2nd and 3rd. The tickets are available for purchase tonight for \$125. Per rod/person (tickets include dinner both Friday and Saturday night). Books of tickets are also available so that members can assist with the sales.

Update – 35 tickets sold to date, we are trying to sell 300. It appears most people are waiting until the last minute.

Volunteers – Richard Lake – Richard read out the list of duties and who had been assigned to date, he then circulated the list so members could sign up for remaining spots.

SALMONID ENHANCEMENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE – Grant MacPherson

Recommendations for Funding:

"Avid Anglers" DNA Analysis

Including fishing partners, Sidney Anglers has at least ten members participating with DFO in the "Avid Anglers" catch logging and DNA sampling program within our club fishing boundaries. SAA has joined anglers from further north in the Strait of Georgia who started this work last year. Some of the data taken for Areas 17, 18 and 29 are shown in the attached spread sheet (adjust the column width to see the dates). Participants use their own boats and fish at their own expense. They try to sample (and release) undersize even when legal size fish are not anticipated. Some are targeting coho to obtain movement data during the closed season.

DFO has no formal budget for this program but officials informed participants that about \$25,000 will be taken from various places to fund this pilot program over the next two years. Costs will include data entry and analysis and the cost of DNA testing. Participants have been cautioned that, although all coho samples will be tested, DNA testing for chinook will be budget constrained. DNA analyses currently cost \$17 but DFO hopes that an improved system will reduce this cost to about \$10.

After informal conversations with others Sidney Anglers participants expressed the sentiment in a DFO/participants meeting that there are participating anglers and clubs who would prefer a deeper involvement than merely as samplers. We would like to participate in the analysis and interpretation of the results, and that we would ask SAA to consider contributing financially to formalize the partnership. This elicited two specific offers:

1. Gil Gingras of Courtney offered, as a contribution in kind, to develop and manage a spreadsheet data entry system such that angler participants could do their own data entry, either singly or as groups. This would save DFO money that could be used for more DNA analyses.
2. During the break, Ted Brookman of BC Wildlife Federation and Ed George from Abbotsford, Chair of the BCWF Tidal Waters Committee, approached Sidney Anglers representatives and offered to raise \$1,000 from BCWF and the CWF to match \$1,000 from Sidney Anglers.

We thus propose that SAA allocate \$1,000 from the club's salmon enhancement funds to cover the cost of DNA testing and other out-of-pocket costs of the Avid Anglers program. Eligible out-of-pocket costs would include supplies such as punches, vials and log sheets/books and the transport of these and perhaps samples. And there might be 3rd party data entry and processing costs. Because this is SAA's contribution to a partnership with BCWF and hopefully others, travel to meetings would not be included. That would be the responsibility of the individual partners. SAA and BCWF should individually decide who represents the organizations at meetings and whether to reimburse travel cost, and to what extent.

The request is for an allocation rather than a grant because, at this point, there is not an entity to receive the funds. That will be decided jointly with the BCWF when they have their funds lined up.

Annual derby and club derby DNA analyses

Understanding where and how different populations of salmon migrate is crucial to the protection and enhancement of threatened runs while allowing anglers' and other harvesting of fish from healthy populations. Not only do the threatened runs benefit but the consequent fuller utilization of spawning and rearing habitat leads to a larger total number of salmon entering the ocean.

DNA analysis of chinook from last year's Annual Derby, paid for by DFO, produced most illuminating results. A display of confidence in this program and willingness to extend it to our club derbies should strengthen SAA's pending request for DFO support again this year. Presuming \$20/fish for analysis cost and materials, and using trained *Avid Anglers* for sampling, we could handle 100 fish for \$2,000.

Sea Change Society – Nikki Wright and Eel Grass Planting

On the basis of the proposal received from Sea Change, the Committee recommends a grant of \$2,500 to be allocated:

\$1,000 to ongoing work in Tod Inlet

\$1,000 to ongoing work in the Cowichan area

\$500 towards the investigation of other salmon rearing habitat restoration projects in the Saanich Inlet/Cowichan area.

It was moved by Bill Stringer and seconded by Larry Dalziel that the proposed above expenditures be approved. Passed unanimously

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Shirt and Hat Sales** – Brian Smith was asking for volunteers at our last meeting to take over the sales of these items, etc... Are there any volunteers to take this over?

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Canadian Power Squadron rep, Fred Graves, called one of our Executive Members to let us know that they will be down at the ramp to provide complimentary boat checks and some minor safety training and don't want to disrupt any of our activities so they wanted to know when it was best for them to be there and not get in our way. We advised them that it wouldn't be a problem.

- 2. **Derby Trophies** – Claude Theriault spoke about replacing trophies with either pins or plaques as most people do not even want the trophies and when they are awarded one of the trophies, they never pick them up which leaves us with the problem of where to store them. Claude has been storing them but he can't continue to do this every year, it is not fair to him or his wife. The membership discussed.

Richard Lake made a motion that we purchase pins in future and Larry Dalziel seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- 3. **Update on SVIAC Meeting and Upcoming SFAB Meeting** –Grant - regarding prawns, crab, rock fish, etc... in addition to Chinook. Grant provided an update to the membership.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE DRAW

At the last meeting *Bob Bendall's* name was drawn for \$25. and unfortunately he was not in attendance. The draw this evening is for \$50.

Adam Gotleib's name was drawn, however, he was not in attendance. Next month's attendance draw will be for \$75.

FISHING REPORTS OR STORIES

A number of stories were told at this meeting and the summary of which was that there have been a number of good sized salmon caught at Cole. Coyote spoons worked well for another member.

There was a reminder to members that they need to renew their fishing licenses.

A Saanich Power and Sail Squadron representative advised the membership that they would be giving a radio course soon which consisted of a verbal and written test. Everyone was invited to sign up if they had not already taken the course.

LADDERBOARD

FEB 2014:
Winner of Draw is: Michael Knights

DALLAS STOBER HALIBUT DERBY RESULTS – March 23, 2013

1st	Brian D.	55 lbs 0 oz.
2nd	Brian Smith	40 lbs 14 oz.
3rd	Ryan Freeman	34 lbs 6 oz.
4th	Don McIvor	22 lbs 6 oz.
5th	Steve Cote	22 lbs 1 oz.

NEXT DERBY – *Premier Derby* – April 6, 2014

TONIGHTS SPEAKER:

Steve Cote and Christos Macris, two of our younger members and winners of two of the last years' Halibut Derbies spoke to the membership about fishing for Halibut. Steve gave a bio, that he was born and raised in Sidney and his father had a commercial salmon troller. He fished every summer with his father and with a few different commercial boats (for salmon, herring, shrimp, bottom fish) from the time that he was 10 until his early 20's. In addition, he has been commercial prawn fishing in Sidney for the last 3 years. He also advised that he possessed 8 years of guiding experience and was at one time the head guide for a fly-in lodge on the west side of the Queen Charlottes and continued to guide in Victoria, Renfrew, Bamfield and now in Winter Harbour (apparently the best fishing on the island). He works frequently in the fall at the Nitnat Hatchery with the brood stock program. Christos advised that he had a number of years' experience fishing in the area.

Together these young men gave a very informative presentation and shared their expertise. The feedback was good from all of our members in attendance. Some even learned some new tricks! Thank you Steve and Chris!

UPCOMING SPEAKER: confirmed

Tom Davis will speak about fishing in the Derby, etc...

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, April 28, 2014

A Motion for adjournment was made by Larry Dalziel and seconded by

Grant MacPherson. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.