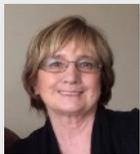




BEEPS Board of Directors



Darlene Hartford
President



Doris Muhs
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Doreen Hall
Director



Patrick Van Minsel
Director



Joey Byatt
Director



Borana Bach
Secretary

Membership

BEEPS has 31 members!
A good size group...or
should we say **colony**.
Thanks for hanging out
with us!



Our Year In Review

Logo Contest Winner

Local artist Susan Druissi created the winning logo for BEEPS. Susan captured the sense of our cause in her portrayal of the schoolhouse, a bat and our official title. A cheque for \$100.00 was presented to Susan at the AGM but she promptly returned one half to BEEPS in support of the newly formed society. We tip our wings to you, Susan!



What's New In The Attic?

Thanks to the success of the 2015 Rubber Ducky Race we purchased an *Anabat Roost Logger*. This device records the sounds made by bats. Our logger was installed in the attic. This assists in *telling us what?*

- o Species ID - how many types of bats do we have? Two species with our last read out. Yuma myotis are the predominant species, but we're also home to some Little browns.
- o What day the first bat returns to the attic from hibernation - and its species



Corporate Sponsors

Todd's RV & Camping, our proud corporate sponsor, is celebrating 60 years in business. The Todd family continue to be great community supporters by helping with the protection and preservation of our local colony. Here's how they do it!

- o bat houses placed in their trees for bats who want to camp
- o Send their *other* guests to help count schoolhouse bats
- o Hand-out Bat House Interpretive Trail Maps
- o Donated the launching trough for racing rubber duckies
- o Volunteer at the Rubber Ducky Race
- o Helping out when we're in a pinch

For only \$200.00 you can be a Corporate Sponsor too. Check it out with Money Bat, Doris Muhs.

New Honorary Members

The **Peachland Volunteer Fire Brigade** became Honorary BEEPS Members at the District of Peachland Civic Awards. This agile team opens the **attic hatch** whenever needed by our Biologists - this is not a simple feat. They've also taken on the not-so-glamorous task of collecting **guano** from the attic! But they can feel richly rewarded for their good deeds because guano is gold to gardens and house plants.

Biologist, **Tanya Luszc** also became an honorary member for her bat knowledge, skills and presentations. She has taught us the talk and showed us the walk when it comes to **going batty**.

- o What day the last bat leaves the attic for hibernation - and its species

We recently purchased *two, HOBO 64K Temperature Data Loggers* through funds generated by memberships, donations and fundraising. Thanks to all who helped out! But what the heck is a HOBO?

- o These are thermometers that will be placed at the north and south ends of the attic
- o Temperatures can be recorded as frequently as we choose: by the minute, day or week etc.
- o This includes software that will plot, analyze and extract data creating an easily legible graph
- o Graphs can be compiled daily, weekly yearly etc.
- o They create high-quality visual presentations of the data

What will this tell us?

- o What temperature is cozy enough for the bats to return
- o What area & temperature is too hot making them move within the attic (they move around as a group!)
- o What temperature is too hot/cold and they want to leave

What's next?

Come to the AGM and learn more about Roost Loggers, HOBOs and what they've taught us from biologist, Tanya Luszc.

Bat Chats

Jessie and Joey, summer students at the Visitor Centre, gave Bat Chats to visitors, groups and families throughout the summer.

Two international bus tours, over 100 people each, were our largest audiences. Throughout June, July and August, the bats are here and at their best. June is birthing month. Bat Chats are continuing throughout the Fall with visitors including Our Lady of Lourdes in West Kelowna, Summerland Montessori and David Livingstone Elementary, Vancouver.

Book now for 2016-17 Bat Chats at the VC. **Bats are in the building April to September** for exciting live footage viewing, or enjoy pre-recorded footage throughout the year.



Westwood Retirement Home Residents

Rubber Ducky Race Sponsors

Thanks for your support:

Ace Hardware
Beach Ride Co.
Blue Rooster
Coldwell Banker
Edward Jones
Effective Printing
Gone Kayaking
Johnston Meier Insurance
Lakeside Auto Care
New Monaco
Peachland Massage Therapy
Peachland View
Todd's RV & Camping
Winelicious
Your Dollar Store With More



Bat House Interpretive Trail

A Trail of Thanks goes to:

Peachland Council

For believing in our dream

Peachland Rotary Club

For dishing out the funds

Biologists Cori and Tanya

For assisting with facts

Jared Hobbs

For incredible photography

District Staff

For propping up poles, houses & signs

Henry at Bug Sense

For cleaning & prepping bat houses for spring

You

For enjoying the Trail!

Rubber Ducky Race

600 Rubber Duckies took their turn racing down the swift waters of Trepanier Creek. Kids, throwing in Duckies from the Beach Avenue Bridge, quickly raced across the street to see if their ducky was the first netted by Peachland Sportsman Association. Fast flowing water created problems for the Sportsmen, thus many duckies escaped to wider waters, only to be rounded-up by Peachland Search and Rescue. Okanagan Wolfman and Papa Thom



entertained while face painting, chili dogs & nachos kept excited contenders happy between races. The duckies *donated* \$1,200.00 to their flying friends, *Peachland Bats*. BEEPS purchased thermometers for the attic, home of 2,000 bats, from the proceeds.



Bat House Interpretive Trail

BEEPS had a *BIG DREAM* of a bat house interpretive trail meandering throughout Peachland. Peachland Rotary Club and the District made it reality. Many hands brought the Trail to completion and a ribbon cutting ceremony honoured our sponsors. Learn about bats as you enjoy the lakeshore and back woods of Peachland. *Trail Maps* are available at the Visitor Centre and Todd's RV & Camping.



White-nose Syndrome Fungus

One case was detected in Seattle, Washington. No signs of the fungus were detected in guano collected from our attic. Sleep tight this winter little bats.

Scarecrow Festival

BEEPS was there



Bat Trivia

What about those **bat legs**?
Bats do not stand, walk or run with their legs. Only the Vampire Bat might chase its prey on the run.
Okanagan bats' legs:

- o assist the wings when **climbing**
- o the skin between the legs makes a scoop that helps catch bugs while **flying & feeding**.

Gaming Grant

The BEEPS Board of Directors anxiously awaits news on the *Gaming Grant Application*. Dollars should be designated by the end of November. New & exciting things will happen when we get the grant!

We'll keep you posted.



MEADOWLARK FESTIVAL

The inaugural walk of the Bat House Trail took place at **Meadowlark Festival** as everyone took part in *Go Batty in Peachland*. Going Batty in Peachland expanded to a 2-day event, including the grand opening of the Trail, Biologist Tanya's presentation and a *Bat Wing* art lesson by local artist, Wayne Powers.



Counting Bats

Can you see well in the dark? Good eye-to-hand coordination? If so, then join BEEPS for the **BC Bat Watch, Bat Count**. We're building a team of Bat Counters, required 4 times throughout the summer to assist collecting bat stats for the Province. Children are encouraged to participate in the bat counts, using hand held tally counters, but BEEPS requires a core team of Counters to ensure accurate numbers. August 2016 numbers of bats counted while exiting the attic were consistent with previous years, indicating our colony returned in full numbers and reproduced successfully. That's Batastik!

