



September 2004 *Castaways* Fly Fishing News

The Mid-Island Castaways Fly Fishing Club – Parksville & Qualicum Beach, B.C.

The Mid-Island Castaways Fly Fishing Club is a non-profit society formed in 1996 by a group of anglers in the Parksville/ Qualicum area. The purposes of the Club are;

- to practice & promote the sport of fishing with artificial flies
- to practice and promote the research, conservation and enhancement of all sport fish in British Columbia
- to support and encourage the preservation and enhancement of lakes, streams and beaches and the access thereto for the practice of fishing with artificial flies
- to encourage fellowship, ethics and sportsmanship amongst anglers.

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Ian Beveridge	<i>Historian</i> lbeveridge@shaw.ca	248-8662
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Cub Meeting: September 21

Doors Open : 6:30 pm

Meeting Starts : 7 pm

Guest Speaker : Ron Heuson
Conservation Officer

LOCATION : Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

Flytying : See Teddy or Frank

Fishouts : Stay tuned for further info.

FUTURE EVENTS

September 20 th (Monday) Andy Murray Back in town flycasting Demos
More info at meeting .

October Meeting : Fishing on the Dean River
By Courtney and Bill Rattray

November 6th : Annual Auction

Don't forget the 50/50 draw
Bring two flies to the BBQ

See Ticket Master Ron Dodd



It seems that summer is over and many things will come back to some kind of normalcy. The weather today was windy, rainy, foggy and sunny. The Coho fishing at Oyster River Estuary is finally in full swing, Coho are appearing at Nile Creek, Deep Bay and Royston. Beach fishing is our special treat that enables many of us to endure the wet winter and long spring. On our agenda for September is several exciting events our club can be very proud of. On September 20th, in Parksville, we once again will be hosting Andy Murray, House of Hardy's expert caster and historian. He will be conducting several casting sessions on the beach, with special emphasis on overhead casting with both single and two handed rods. If we are lucky, we may even see a few Coho on the beach. Make plans to invite friends and family to these sessions, and ask questions during those times. Casting is a pleasure to watch and to take part in. This past week we also had a visit from Bob Sheedy during our scheduled fly tying evening. Bob managed a video presentation and had some of his published books on Stillwater fishing techniques and fly's for sale. We are a very lucky club and I want to welcome all back from the summer breaks. Ahead we need to concentrate on gathering Pink Salmon eggs for the Nile

Creek hatchery, and Rod can use all the help he can get. Also, we will be needing to assist the Fanny Bay hatchery group during their Coho egg collection ,and with some of the Riparian work on Wilfred Creek. Of very significant note, our Auction is upon the horizon, Nov. 6th, we will be needing to put together a team with Bob Kirkwood for this, please get off your behind! and help. We are now collecting Items for this, contact Mr. Kirkwood for info' etc ,or I am always available. Lets make this the best auction ever and lets make this a club that enjoys being together. Also, on the Horizon, November 13 & 14, is a fishing Symposium put on by our brother club, the Haig -Browns, at the UVIC Campus . I ,on behalf of the Mid Island Castaways, offered assistance in any way they can use our expertise .Their event is a Two Day series of speakers and presentations. Their list so far of presenters is very good ,with names like Trey Coombs, Les Johnson, Kathy Ruddick, Brian Chan to name just a few. There will be a cost to attend , \$75.00. BCFFF is working very hard on our behalf and all seems to be well. Our August BBQ was a hit and an example of last minute planning. Thank you Ziggy! Fish outs will begin to take on a new face beginning in the New Year, we will have scheduled events for all to take part in and several of the trips will be off the Island. In October Bill Rattray and I will do a special presentation of our wild trip to the Dean River ,so bare with us and share in the fun. Welcome to new members and I look forward to seeing you all soon. Ken Fyfe will be taking the reigns for the September meeting ,since I am away on a fishing assignment in the Nootka Sound Area. Tight Lines and "Remember, the children are watching"

President
Courtney Ogilvie

MEMBERS BUSINESS DIRECTORY

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS

B.STEAMED CARPET CLEANING (Bill Kreibom 468-1823)
CELL : 250-240-1000 NANOOSE BAY

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OGILVIE'S SPORTFISHING (Courtney Ogilvie, 752-7189)
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HIGH FIELDS THE SHOP (David Thompson) PH / Fax 1-250-954-1911 Parksville
(www.hardybc.com)



Andy's Back

When fishing on the beach, are you having trouble casting on a windy day? Do the fish seem to be jumping just beyond your casting range? Are you spending as much time untying wind knots as you are fishing? - Or maybe you simply want to improve your fly casting technique. Andy Murray may have the answers to your casting questions.

Andy Murray, professional master fly caster from the "House of Hardy" in England will be paying our Club a return visit on Monday, September 20. Last February Andy demonstrated both single & double-handed fly rods in the Parksville Community Auditorium and on the Englishman River. This time he

will demonstrate beach casting techniques at Parksville Community Beach Park. There will be two sessions, the first at 1:00 PM and again at 5:00 PM. All Castaways members and their guests are invited to attend.

For those of you unfamiliar with Andy Murray, he has been employed by "Hardy" for over 20 years as a professional caster and instructor. Andy is also their International sales representative, chief tester of rods and reels where he has a large input in the design of both, and conductor of casting demonstrations and seminars world wide and on television. He is also conversant with Hardy's history and welcomes questions dealing with antique Hardy tackle.

The Castaways have extended invitations to other Vancouver Island fly fishing clubs and unaffiliated sports anglers. There will be raffle prizes and a 50/50 draw in lieu of any admission fee.

Remember to mark September 20 on your calendar. You won't want to miss this excellent demonstration.

Ernie Pallot

OF SPECIAL INTEREST!

TV :

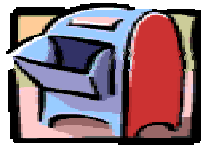
Sports fishing on the Fly, Saturdays 8 am channel 6

WEB SITES :

- http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/nrm_news_releases/2003WLAP0024-000332.htm
 - <http://www.flycraftangling.com/index.html>
 - <http://netvet.wustl.edu/fish.htm>
 - <http://wwwislandfishermanmagazine.com/info@bcfff.bc.ca>
 - www.steelheadrecoveryplan.ca
 - www.islandfishermanmagazine.com
 - http://www.bcfff.bc.ca/Fly%20Lines%20Summer_Fall%202003.pdf
 - www.flyfishingevents.com
 - http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/default_e.htm (online fishing Licence registration)
- * www.members.shaw.ca/iwffnews
(Nanaimo flyfishing web page)

Radio:

1. Joe Easingwood on CFAX 1070 weekdays from 8:22 to 11 am. Also writes articles in Times Colonist every week in Fridays Sports column.



Editors Notes

Bill Kreibom
PO Box 101,
Nanoose Bay , BC
V9P 9J9

billysue@shaw.ca

WANTED: interesting articles, on great fishing tips, recipes, fishing tips anything for sale or free to give away, clean jokes.! (KF?)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR EMAIL:

If you have changed your addresses or email please let Ernie or me know promptly. Or if your partner or kids have email, I can send your issue there. **A.S.A.P please.**
All ads are free

Placed in one issue only unless Specified otherwise

Deadline for next issue
Aug. 1st 2004

I need reporters to write articles of interest for this newsletter, also any pictures or stories of fish outings. Or tasty recipes Just send to me (preferably via email). To keep newsletter costs down we would like to send our newsletter to you via email if you have it. Please ensure Ernie Pallot and I, have your correct, up to date, email address so we can update the list. We are now able to send newsletters via email using Adobe Acrobat Reader . Those that don't have email you can get email address ie yahoo at library or a friends computer. Just ask me or any other members to help you to set one up.

- Andy Murray, master fly caster from House of Hardy is tentatively scheduled to return to the Parksville area to give another fly casting demonstration on September 20 & 21. Dates to be confirmed. More to follow in upcoming bulletins.
- **Tofino accommodation** Planning a fly fishing trip to Clayquot sound? I have a contact for a one bedroom suite including a hide-a-bed in the living room on a daily or weekly basis. This accommodation also includes private moorage nearby. Ideal for members with their own boat who wish to fish unguided in the Tofino area.

Contact Ernie Pallot @ 752-7955 or
e-mail liner@bcsupernet.com.

ITEMS WANTED
TO BUY

* 10 ft Aluminum Boat or Lite 12 ft Boat

1. **CONTACT** Gary Hough @ 752-7257

Little Johnny attended a horse auction with his father. He watched as his father moved from horse to horse, running his hands up and down the horse's legs, rump, and chest. After a few minutes, Johnny asked, "Dad, why are you doing that?" His

father replied, "Because when I'm buying horses, I have to make sure that they are healthy and in good shape before I buy. Johnny, looking worried, said, "Dad, I think the UPS guy wants to buy Mom."

Submitted by
Unknown
Member

Gotta love us
Canadians EH ?

A small Newfie man was sitting at a bar when this huge, burly American guy walked in. As he passed the Newfie, he hit him on the neck knocking him to the floor. The big, burly American said, "That's a karate chop from Korea." The Newfie got back on his barstool and resumed drinking his beer. The burly American then got up to go to the bathroom and, as he walked by the Newfie, he hit him on the other side of the neck and knocked him to the floor. "That's a judo chop from Japan", he said.

The Newfie decided he'd had enough and left. An hour later he came back and saw the burly American sitting at the bar. He walked up behind him and smack's him on the head, knocking him out.

The Newfie said to the bartender, "When he wakes up, tell him that was a crowbar from Canadian Tire."



* Sage 10 foot 7 wt Graphite
* 3 - 2 piece. rod with sock and Sage Aluminum tube.
* Great beach rod for pinks or coho.
As new condition.
\$250.00
John Leinweber
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Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Foundation **Fall Lecture Series on Local Water Issues**

The Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Foundation is pleased to host a Fall, 2004, lecture series on water issues. The first speaker will be Dr.

Richard Beamish, Senior Scientist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada At the Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo. He will be presenting a talk on Wednesday, Sept 22, 7:30 PM at the Parksville Community Centre, 132 Jensen East, Parksville,

Titled The Future of Fisheries Off Canada's Pacific Coast, which will address the current status of stocks and predictions of future responses to climate and anticipated climate changes.

Subsequent talks will be: Dr. Richard Hebda, Royal BC Museum, Victoria, who will talk on October 27 on climate change implications re water in particular for eastern Vancouver Island, based on the historic climate record here since the last ice age. Dr. Hans Schrier, Professor, Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability, UBC, Vancouver, who will talk on November 17 on aspects of community responses (infrastructure and lifestyle) to climate change in both our area and in developing countries.

Biosphere reserves are areas which residents are showing interest in developing sustainable practices that conserve both their culture and lifestyle. and local ecosystems and biodiversity. Areas, such as Our own, that meet specific criteria receive biosphere reserve designation by the United Nations Environmental, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Currently, there are two biosphere reserves in BC (both on Vancouver Island), including our own; 12 biosphere reserves in Canada and over 440 world-wide in 97 countries. The Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere, established in 2000, extends from the top of Mount Arrowsmith to the bottom of adjacent Strait of Georgia and includes the watersheds of the Englishman River, Little Qualicum River, Nanoose and Bonnel Creeks, the Nanoose Peninsula, and the Winchelsea/Ballenas Islands, including the communities of Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Errington and Coombs. Further information can be found at <http://www.mountarrowsmithbiosphere.ca>.

The on-going lecture series

sponsored by the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Foundation will deal with environmental and social issues involved in creating a sustainable resource use within the Oceanside area. Past presentations have dealt with forest fires, waste management, shoreline protection, community-supported agriculture, and local earthquake risk and planning.

These public presentations are free and refreshments are provided. Please pass this emails to others that might be interested in these talks, even if you are unable to attend any. Thank you for your support.

Dr. Glen Jamieson
President, Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Foundation,
(250) 248-5593,
info@mountarrowsmithbiosphere.ca

James Craig
Fisheries Technician
Greater Georgia Basin
Steelhead Recovery Plan
www.SteelheadRecoveryPlan.ca

BC Conservation Foundation
3-1200 Princess Royal
Avenue
Nanaimo, BC V9S 3Z7
tel: (250) 716-8776
fax: (250) 716-2167
email: jcraig@bccf.com



MID ISLAND CASTAWAYS
ANNUAL AUCTION

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6th

ORGANIZED BY BOB KIRKWOOD

PHONE 752-2523

E-MAIL : bobkat@shaw.ca

Time to get prepared for the event of the year . Save your pennies, and help by donation of items or your time . Bob needs all the help he can get as he cannot do it all himself as he has done so well in the past . Call Bob for details on how you can help .



A Brief Bio of Bob Sheedy

Bob Sheedy writes " I was born near the Town of New Liskeard, Ontario in the Spring of 1946, the son of third generation Irish parents, one side from Armagh, Northern Ireland and the other from County Clare, so we could keep all wars in the family--and so we did. We did agree on one thing though and from the earliest of days. Fishing!

It is said that my family was originally transported for poaching the landlord's trout and salmon. Well, I guess! They probably trolled off the back of the Coffin ship that originally dumped them in "Lower Canada". I'd like to say that they fly cast but I know that's unlikely on a sailing vessel so I won't touch that one. In any case, I'm certain that my ability to spend spring days along the shores of various nearby water flows and reservoirs stemmed from the classical Irish work ethic--or lack of it.

Besides having a "Masters degree" in Fly Fishing, I have been a Forest Ranger, a bush pilot and a prospector, among other things to keep close to the forests, rivers and lakes. Unfortunately life has dealt me a cruel twist lately, and I have degraded into a part time turncoat computer programmer. I am now forced to live in the flatland lakes and reservoirs where water fertility makes ten lb. trout commonplace and Fly Fishermen rarer than truth.

Life was not however always this bad. When I was 5 years old my family bought a farm 9 miles from town where we grew up. Life was idyllic back then by today's standards. Greatest of all was the creek that flowed through the property right behind the barn. It

was a wonderful place filled with cow trails, magnificent creatures and best of all "speckled" trout. These fish were not big. I remember my mother's major coup of snigging a 9.5 incher on spring evening and the admiration my younger brother had for her exploits. We had great success using small earthworms and whiled away hours in my boyhood discovering undercut banks, logs and tangles where you could lose your tackle without you even hardly half try.

Hooks were always at a premium so one had to be careful. In those days they came as an Mustad assortment in a sliding covered tin box. My dad and older brother usually got the best sizes for bait and my younger brother, even then a fisherman of some note, and I ended up with the odd ball sizes that no one else wanted.

One day my younger brother tied a couple of feathers on a oversized hook and lowered them into the creek under his favorite overhanging bank. No, he didn't catch anything because the feathers were longer than the trout he was after but he did manage to notify me that such a thing as fly fishing existed. I think I was seven or 8 that year.

When I told Dad what he had done, verbally doubting what Wayne was doing, Dad told me that there was indeed such a thing as fly fishing and that my Mothers brother, uncle Ross, was VERY good at it.

Came a time when we were visiting this Uncle who lived in North Bay Ont. During the visit some of the older folks vanished for a few hours and when they returned they had a basket of Speckles varying in length from 5 to 10 inches. Limits being what they were in those days we all snipped heads and gutted fish and I think that's the only time in those early days that I ever had enough trout to eat at one time.

This as before TV and the Internet so we gathered around and listened to the men talk which was what you did in those days. The story came out over many an ale how Uncle Ross had nailed most of them by floating a bug over the water. Now, I knew that when you want to catch a trout you used a worm and so I thought did everyone else. I believe I said so. Uncle Ross went away and when returned he had a metal fold out box and in it were

(Continued on page 9)

(*Sheedy Continued from page 8*)

some of the most beautiful little things I had ever hope to see--tiny colorful and delicate looking flies, some so small that I couldn't believe it. Immediately I thought of all the rejected hooks we had stockpiled because all they ever caught were %7#7* Shiners that also shared the stained waters of the Hudson Creek.

My uncle got out his vise and gave us a tying demonstration. I never knew that things could be so complicated as he talked about the flies and how they were fished. Most of the others gravitated off to other things but I stayed on and listened and then he took a very small hook and wrapped a piece of string around it and showed it to me. He said that it would be just the thing to catch the Brookies in the Hudson. I think he gave it to me but I don't remember ever fishing with it. Later, I undertook to tie my own.

Living on a farm and since my mother had numerous and multicolored Bantam Roosters I had a never ending source of neck and saddle hackle, IF I could catch them. The things flew like crows and after you got them once they were worse than a hook jawed Brown. The old stick and sting on a box worked once and then lurking around in the cow stalls with sudden lurches and pouncing techniques were only partially successful. Stealth was very important both to avoid letting my mother discover what I was up to and to catch the tiny nimble little roosters. A trip to the barn one night got me several nice neck strippings and a good hiding from my mother. I lost most of my hard-won and ill gotten loot. After that the roosters never roosted in the barn and even following them around at sundown to locate their hide out proved futile. They never roosted till after dark and my mother insisted that a boy should be in bed before then. Curse those late Summer sunsets.

I did get enough feathers to get started but I had by no means mastered the art of tying and more often than not the "fly" floated off down the stream in a perfectly true drag free float but with the hook still tightly knotted to my 18 lb. Dacron.

I had no concept of the delivery of a fly so I got rather discouraged until I remembered the string on a hook. A carefully planned and brilliantly executed a maneuver to abscond

with one of mom's spools of thread and I was in business. I'd like to say that it was a pretty fly with a perfectly tied off head but I had no head cement or shellac so it probably wasn't. It must have been segmented well enough though because the fourth or fifth time I floated it under my favorite dogwood hangover a little Brookie pounced on it and I became a fly fisherman.

Roll over, Halford

Came the day my Uncle Ross came and fished the mighty Hudson one Saturday AM. He never caught anything, because he was fishing dry and the Hudson Brookies rarely rose, but I did see a fly rod and learned that you cast the line and not the fly. I made a mental note to drop the 9/16 " rusty nut from my presentation. After a fairly good display of temper which I found often accompanies intensely creative people (and the Irish) who find their expression through fly fishing and unprintable expletives, the company of fishers gave up with me and my brother still trying to give Uncle Ross a worm. Such were those heady days.

Later, on the lawn I was initiated in the actual art of handling a fly rod. I was even allowed to flick the line out a couple of times.

On the summer that I turned 12 Uncle Ross reappeared and left me standing open mouthed with a split bamboo fly rod, 3 lines, dressing and a handful of flies. He spent the afternoon with me on the lawn and later on open stretch of the Hudson. I learned more about casting that one afternoon than I will ever watching the now-a-days famous videos from even more famous fly fishermen. As a bonus I learned some nifty and useful new swearwords too.

I was in business.

It was a heady summer. Armed with my trusty bamboo I caught trout, tied flies, having surreptitiously pressed my fathers newly acquired Vice Grips into service as a vice. I caught bass and trout learned to fling the line out a goodly distance.

I was completely ruined from ever amounting to anything forever after."

(*Continued on page 10*)

(*Shеды Continued from page 9*)

After 43 years on the water, I am more known for falling asleep in my float tube while tubing lakes for Browns, when they're available and Rainbows when they are not, muckfestering along shorelines, flipping stones, examining spider webs, examining bugs and doing other mystifying research. My sanity is often called into question by those who think you catch fish in the water. Sanity is seldom a problem here!

Years ago when my family moved to Manitoba I resisted mentally but relented when I saw that Montana was right nearby with its famous rivers and lakes. I could always slip down there and do some fly fishing.

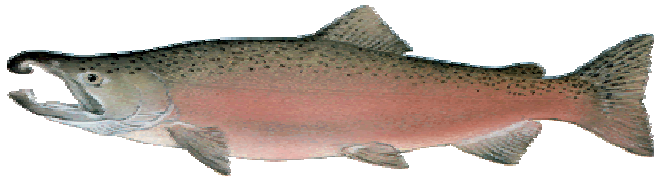
I got as far as the border where I discovered Lake William with its Browns and made some trips to Duck Mountains to fish. On the way, I ran into what we call the Big 7 Lakes here in Western Manitoba. Any fly fisherman who has fished them knows why I'm totally unknown on the Montana scene.

Only the cormorants spend more time on them.

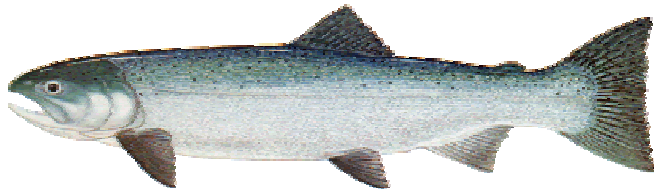
I **MAY** make it to Montana one of these days but first I have a few more Shamus that don't have my hook print in their jaw.

However, I'm working on it!

COHO SALMON



Spawning Male



Spawning Female

SIZE: Coho salmon are smaller and slimmer than the chinook salmon. Coho salmon can reach up to one metre in length and weigh up to 14 kilograms but usually they weigh between 3 to 6 kilograms.

A COHO'S LIFE CYCLE: Adult coho spawn from November to January and the eggs hatch the next spring. Young salmon, called fry, stay in their birth streams for over a year. After spending three years in the ocean, most adult coho return to their birth rivers to spawn. Some male fish return after just two years. These guys are called "jacks." Most coho fry feed on underwater insects and small fish.

DANGERS TO COHO:

The most dangerous time for coho, and for other salmon, is when they are young and living in fresh water. Poor forest and farming practices can cause erosion which is washing away of dirt which can cover up spawning beds or smother eggs. Migrating coho salmon also face dangers from dams and from low water levels when water is taken for farming or for making electricity. Estuaries are also very important to coho. Copyrighted images used with permission of Windsor/Nature Discovery.

Salmon pictures: Chum

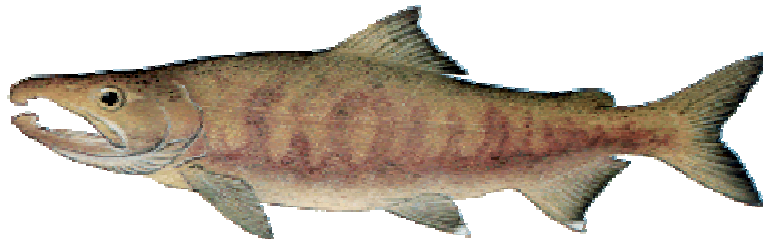
SIZE: An average chum can weigh from 4.5 to 12 kilograms. They are the second largest salmon after chinook.

A CHUM'S LIFE CYCLE: Chum salmon usually spend very little time in freshwater, generally only to reproduce. Newly hatched chum called fry usually migrate to estuaries right after coming out of their gravel nests. During their first spring of life, chum salmon travel, or migrate to estuaries to spend several months before heading out to sea. Chum usually return to their birth rivers to spawn after 2-4 years at sea. They are the last salmon in the season to return from the ocean. When in freshwater, chum feed on insects and other small creatures.

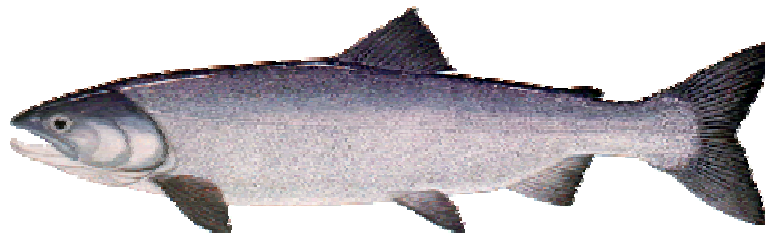
DANGERS TO CHUM: Streams, coastal wetlands and estuaries are very important for chum salmon. On top of natural dangers from predators, some dangerous human activities are poor farming and forest practices, changing the flow of rivers, pollution and destruction of coastal wetlands and estuaries which are very important habitat for chum salmon who spend many months there before migrating out to sea.

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Spawning Male



Spawning Female





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Bill Kreibom Editor, Susan Godkin Layout and Design PO Box 101 Nanoose Bay V9P 9J9 250-468-1823
billysue@shaw.ca