



DENMAN CONSERVANCY ASSOCIATION A Spring Season Up-Date

The Taylor's Checkerspot, endangered butterfly, has expanded its Denman territory. Perhaps you have seen the colourful poster asking for reports of sightings of this butterfly? As the only known breeding site in Canada is here on Denman (formerly on Hornby in Helliwell Park, but now gone), two contracts concerning the butterfly have been let by Parks Canada and BC Ministry of Environment, one to study the known population on the Settlement Lands in detail and the other to explore both Hornby and Denman for the presence of the creature. To further protect the butterfly, locations of the sightings will remain unpublished for the present. Studies will continue until mid-summer.

There has been very good response to the call for sightings and it is particularly encouraging that the sightings are widespread on the island, so much so that individual sites are less critical than were first believed.

Note that **the checkerspot larva** weaves a sticky web not unlike a tent caterpillar although not as large; before destroying it, please consult Andrew or Jenny.

Graham Lake Dock is coming along nicely, a little behind schedule. **Work parties** are needed to build a staircase to access the shore platform and to finish the new path. **The swimming dock should be available for use as you read this.**

DCA's Annual Country Home and Garden Tour will be held June 16th & 17th. Tickets are available at the Craft Shop. More volunteers are required: Please phone co-ordinators Laura Busheikin (335 2089) or Riane daSilva (335 1959) to volunteer your services.

The DCA website has a new look. The bulk of the work to renew the format and bring the content up to date has been done by Harold Birkeland. Take a look at: www.denmanis.bc.ca/conserve

DCA Walks and Talks are continuing. Watch the Grapevine for announcements.

DCA staff persons Jenny Balke and Andrew Fyson were hired on May 1, for part-time duties co-ordinating the management of DCA's lands and covenants.

New Directors were elected at the AGM held on 26th March. The current list of Directors and Officers is:

Sheila Carnegie
Annie Corddry
David Critchley
Patrick Fawkes
Carol Freeman
Dave Freeman, Treasurer
LeeAndra Jacobs
Denise MacKean, Secretary
John Millen, Co-Chair
John Tayless
J Thornton, Co-Chair
Susan Marie Yoshihara

At the AGM retiring veteran directors Roxanna Mandryk, Patti Willis, Brian Miles and Laura Pope were thanked for their many years of dedicated service to the Conservancy cause.

A Stewardship Plan for the Central Park property will be prepared this year and a key step in this process is consultation with the Community. Look for an opportunity to contribute your ideas to this process. Routing of walking trails is an obvious issue and there will be others to discuss.

Visit Abraxis to see the rug and buy your tickets for the beautiful hand woven rug that is being raffled by DCA. This is a fund raiser for Central Park, our 147 acre property across from the Old School Centre. This rug, which its creators, Denman Island Weavers and Spinners, call "Island Palette", is 40 inches by 96 inches and is made of hand-dyed recycled wool blankets. The draw of the winning ticket will take place the evening of June 17. Just 500 tickets will be sold at \$10 each.

Robert Bateman and Merve Wilkinson will be entertaining us at a fund raising evening presented by DCA on July 13th at the Senior's Hall.