

Meet some new neighbors and Fanny Bay Salmonid volunteers

New neighbors can make a big difference in our enjoyment of the place where we live. This month I'd like to introduce you to some of them who are making a big difference for the salmon that are the heart and soul of what we do at the Fanny Bay Salmonid Enhancement Society, as well as on your street and neighborhood.

Janet Haigh and Doug Barnes, who now live on Bates, are one couple of several in the society who both find salmon enhancement a good place to contribute their efforts and gain satisfaction from them.



For Janet, who developed software patterns for knitters, the appeal of salmon enhancement at Fanny Bay is its science-based and outdoor-oriented atmosphere that allows independent work within a great sense of community.

Doug Barnes says he's a member of FBSES because "it's an opportunity to give back" to the place he's lived all his life. He was born in Courtenay, owned his own home inspection business in Victoria for 20 years and is now "retired full time" in Fanny Bay. Doug is impressed by the amount of work society members do to produce the salmon raised every year by the hatchery. He's attracted by understanding the process that needs so many of us and the "amount of hard work done by a lot of nice people."



Randy Lousier of Vivian Way describes himself as semi-retired, but as a licensed electrician with 40 years experience is also still busy.



. He's one of the many Fanny Bay Salmon volunteers who find the satisfaction of enhancement work is in the doing. As a fisherman all his life, he wanted to give back, a common theme with most of us, and enjoys the camaraderie of work parties.



Keith Thibault retired after a career as a Canadian Army and Air Force logistics supply technician. He got his chance to contribute his organizational skills to salmonid enhancement when Tozer Road neighbor, and FBSES director, Frank Lines once asked him to help. He was "hooked," Keith says, and now enjoys 'working with a group of awesome guys' as one of FBSES's "Wilfred Creek Boys" whose primary task is running the satellite hatchery.

For all of us at FBSES, this is an intense time of year. It's when we go through the whole process of collecting the eggs that will become the next set of 'brood' fish,

both chum and coho, and take their place in the cycle of events at the hatchery and eventually of life in our streams. As always, you're welcome to visit Wednesday and Saturday mornings. It's a good place to meet your neighbors. And there's www.fbses.ca.