trip report: Point Grey Tour August 13

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Barbara Waldern

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Five members and two guests climbed the stairs of Jericho Hill to admire the panoramic view of English Bay and Vancouver Center. After passing by some fine houses, we entered the south section of Pacific Spirit Regional Park. There we proceeded at a relaxed pace, enjoying the comfort of the shaded paths. We noted at least three types of ferns that filled the forest floor below tall and straight fir trees: deer, sword and another. After passing through the middle and north sections of the park, we paused for 10 minutes before completed the last part of the loop to arrive at Spanish Banks in the noon hour. That packed beach was buzzing with various activities. We found a shaded patch of grass at Locarno Beach and pulled out our picnic gear from the "shuttle car" we had left there that morning. It was calmer and less crowded there. We ate together in peace, marveling at the kayakers, kite sailors, windsurfers and parachute boarding under the bright sun. Then we waded in the gooey mud flats, had ice cream and explored the area. When fierce wind gusts whipped up stinging sand into our faces, it was time to pack it up and go.