

Discovery

Islander

Community News and Events from the Discovery Islands

Winds of Change at April Point

*ISSUE #157
MAR. 2ND 1998*

#157 March 2nd, 1998

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Letters, artwork, submissions of any kind welcome. Lengthy items are preferred by e-mail or on 3.5" floppy disk in RTF or MS Word for Mac format, **please also supply a printed copy.** Items may be edited for content and/or formatting.

Submissions may be left at Quadra Foods or Heriot Bay Store.

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the writers and are not



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*Winds of Change at April Point Lodge
See story page 18. Photo: Philip Stone*

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Editorial

gjhghg

Island Tides

For Quathiaski Cove March 3-13, 1998

Day	Time	Ht/ft
Tu	0105	7.9
2.4		
3	0810	14.4
4.4		
	1555	5.2
1.6		
	2135	12.5
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4.2		
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9	1015	10.2

Corrections

The photographs of the Artists and Carving Centre construction that appeared on our front cover and page 17 (truck lifting beams) of issue #156 were taken by Julia Bukley. Our

Deadline For Next Issue 5 pm Wed. March 11th

Only Items Received Before The Deadline

can be guaranteed space in the upcoming issue.

Drop off at the Heriot Bay Store or Quadra Foods or fax to 285-2236
Lengthy items preferred on disk, Saved As "Word for Mac" or by email.
Disks will be returned. Any questions...call 285-2234, 9 to 5 Mon.-Fri...

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For information
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From Cortes Is. call 286-9778



Island Forum

Dear Editor:

After reading the Sierra Club article in the February 16 Discovery Islander, I dug out a 1996 article by Mike Halleran called 'Better Neighbours'. I phoned the writer and he gave me permission to quote his article in my letter.

He writes: "BC is becoming a community divided. Human lifestyles in smaller communities are already changing very fast and in some negative ways. Those residing in the rural areas have always felt resentment that their lives were controlled by the urban majority, but this is different. It stems from debate over logging and environment.

"Small communities used to be good examples of neighbourhood. Now, there are great resentments growing within small towns. A growing number of urban-thinking people are moving to rural areas. When you look closely, you see that most of the small town clashes occur between recent arrivals from the city and older pioneer or settlement stock.

"Forest workers have to live in the smaller, outlying communities. That's where the forest is. But many of the newer arrivals seem to resent continued industry presence with its noisy trucks, obvious sawmills, and logging patches on the hillside.

"We are experiencing a strange contradiction in our whole approach to extractive industries, especially forestry. The huge contribution forestry makes to the economy is unappreciated by many. The industry makes new wealth possible. But now, we are working hard to hide all signs of industry presence as though, collectively, we are somehow ashamed of it. Some loggers and mill workers are losing the great pride in their work that used to prevail almost universally. Things are very class conscious out there. Many urban residents sneer about their primitive backwoods cousins who still hew wood, draw water, or heave coal.

"Some urbanites seem to think that loggers are prisoners of their occupation.

What a joke. You want to see prisoners? Watch a Vancouver rush hour. Most people cut trees because they want to. It pays well, it is outside, and although dangerous, keeps you healthy. There are not many ulcers or potbellies out there.

"Bad forestry can cost jobs, too, and we still have some of that. Bad forestry can harm fisheries and water values, wildlife, soil, and landscape. But logging standards have improved. Reforestation is current. The clearcuts of the Sixties are forests again. The new Code, Forest Renewal BC, and the Watershed Restoration Program could become a model for forest communities around the world."

Mr. Halleran makes some great points. My family is one of the oldest logging families in British Columbia. We came here from Nova Scotia in 1855. I'm the last one left. People who live in these coastal communities, pioneers working with the Native community, like their own lifestyles and don't want people looking over their back porches. The freedom and independence of the islands should be preserved. There's room for recreation on Quadra and Cortes—hiking, kayaking, camping. There's room for everybody. The yield of logging on Quadra and Cortes is sustainable, and most island loggers have to work elsewhere as well. When they do work at home, they do all their business at home. The resource workers have adapted to the new rules and regulations in the industry. I hope the people of Quadra and Cortes feel the same way I do. There's room for everybody and every walk of life on these islands.

Craig H. Stephens

To the Editor,

People of Cortes Island.

When I read your paper "Discovery Islander", I was impressed with the intelligence of the writers to the editor. Issue #156, Feb. 16, 1998, really changed my mind. Comparing hard working men to "people who abuse and rape children" is insulting, degrading and not to the topic. We are all entitled to opinions, I hope this is not the opinion of the people of Cortes

Bill Nosky

Falling Contractor

Dear Editor,

This is an angry letter.

Several weeks ago Ken Johnson unloaded his hate list about the people who live on Quadra Island and last year Sharon Brereton wrote with her complaints of noisy inconsiderate neighbours.

Now, it is my turn.

I live on Hooley Road, in what was supposed to be my retirement home. This is a relatively high density section of the island and because of that there is always noise overflow from one property to another. Can't be helped. Lawn mowing, firewood cutting, vehicles and sundry other sources of noise are common and acceptable within normal limits. Also, some music spreads itself around given the amplification powers that these stereos have.

But, lately things have gone really bad.

Recently, a rental house on Hooley Road has become the "party place". At the same time a normally quiet and respectable home has regularly blasted the neighbourhood when a 15 year old practices to become a rock star.

So, what to do? It is midnight and this party is happening at maximum volume and the music is hammering boom-boom-boom-boom through the walls. And then there is the screaming drunks and screeching tires. I wear my ear plugs (\$67.30 the best you can get) and wrap a pillow or two around my head. But, nothing can stop the boom-boom-boom-boom low level sound waves. You could talk to the party people, but you'd only get sworn at or maybe beaten. You could call the police, but they are not effective because nothing illegal is happening.

So, what to do? Seriously. I need some ideas. My tolerance limit has been reached. My blood pressure is way up.

I could move away. I could be driven out of my retirement home by a bunch of moronic drunks who have created their own big city slum, their own ghetto right here on what is supposed to be a nice, quiet little island far from the big city.

Dammit. We need a noise bylaw.

Bob Siverton

Letters for *Island Forum* must include a name and phone number (which will not be printed).

Letters may be edited for content.

Send to us by:

1. Dropping at Quadra Foods or Heriot Bay Store
2. Fax it to 285-2236
3. E-mail to: alpine@island.net
4. Mail to Box 482, Heriot Bay, V0P1H0

Next deadline:

Island Calendar

- March 4, Wed.**
Minor Fastball Registration 3-5 p.m. Quadra School
- March 6, Fri.**
Celebrating Our Diversity 7 p.m. Community Centre
- March 7, Sat.**
International Women's Day 6:00 p.m. Community Centre
Minor Fastball Registration 10 a.m.-2p.m. Heriot Bay Store
- March 8, Sun.**
Drum & Rhythm Playshop Quadra Daycare
Outdoor Landscape Painting call 285-3002
- March 13, Fri.**
Friday Flicks "The Hanging Garden" 7:45 p.m. Community Centre
- March 14, Sat.**
Dance with Whirlwind 8:00 p.m. Community Centre
- March 21, Sat.**
Carlos de Junco Community Centre
8 p.m. Community
- March 22, Sun.**
Landscape Painting call 285-3002
- March 28, Sat.**
Goods & Services Auction 285-3511
- Mar. 29, Sun.**
Penderecki String Quartet 2:30 p.m. Community Centre
- April 4, Sat.**
Teaching Eng. Overseas 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Taku Resort
- April 5, Sun.**
AGM Q.I. Conservancy 7:30 p.m. Community Centre

Fools Gallery



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News & Events

1998 Garden Tour Meeting

A Garden Tour Planning Meeting will be held on Monday, February 16th at 7:30 PM. If you would like to volunteer to help with this years Garden Tour, please call Hilda Van Orden at 285-3458.

Meditation

Sunday continues to be a lively, and energizing meditation at the Community Centre, 10 - 12 noon. Call 285-2882 for details. All are welcome, no fee.

International Women's Day

Theme-Bread & Roses (the international anthem of International Women's Day). A gathering for women age 12 and up. **March 7, Quadra Community Centre, Doors open at 6:00 p.m.** Please label your potluck dish with the contents, in consideration of women with food allergies. Please bring your own napkin and place setting - cup or glass, plate and cutlery. Entertainment by local women performers and special guest, Loretta Joseph. Loretta would like us all to bring any percussion instruments and drums we have. She will help us experience the joy and healing that drumming and rhythm can bring into our lives. We will also be honouring many local women who have made contributions to our community.

Call for entry,

The Pacific Region Arts Council hereby invites all artists residing from the Malahat north and including Powell River to participate in the 1998 Pacific Region arts Council JURIED SHOW.

This juried regional show, which advocates public awareness of the visual arts in our Island communities, is a travelling show. The pieces selected for the exhibition are chosen from slide and 35mm photo. Two - dimensional works cannot exceed 36" x 40" framed and three dimensional works cannot exceed 50 lb. If they do exceed these restrictions and you still wish to enter, then the artist is fully responsible for all shipping arrangements of the work.

Thirty (30) pieces of work will be chosen as 'Recognition of Excellence' from the total submissions received by 'blind jury procedures and will travel during a two (2) month period to the communities Port Alberni and Courtenay. Upon acceptance it is the responsibility of the artist to deliver the work to Port Alberni on February 28th and pick it up after the final show in Courtenay April 28th through May 1st.

These two galleries where the exhibitions will be displayed are;

The Rollins Arts Centre (Alberni Valley Arts Council) Port Alberni, March 7th to April 1st, 1998 (724-3412)

The Comox Valley Community Arts Council gallery - 440 Anderton Street, from April 4 through April 25th. Courtenay. (334-2983)

Entry forms may be picked up at your local community arts council or most local art galleries. If you are unable to acquire an entry form, we will fax you one upon request. Please phone George at 753-0584 or fax your request to 741-8899 or Linda at 334-2983 or fax your request to 746-1633. **Deadline for receipt of submission of entries is February 17, 1998.**

Dance with Whirlwind

Dance to the music of WHIRLWIND on Saturday, March 14

News & Events

starting 8:00 pm at the Quadra Community Centre. Dances include reels, rounds, squares and waltzes. All ages and abilities are welcome. There is no need to attend with a partner. Bob Sutherland teaches all the dances on the spot.

Whirlwind plays a variety of Celtic and old-time tunes: jigs, reels, polkas and waltzes. Celtic music developed in Ireland, Scotland, and the English counties of Cornwall, Northumbria and Wales as well as Brittany and North Eastern Spain. The music was passed down from generation to generation, largely through an oral tradition. It is difficult to know if a Celtic tune is a thousand, a hundred or even ten years old. Celtic tunes and techniques crossed the Atlantic with European immigrants, and now flourishes throughout North America. The term "old-time" encompasses the traditional fiddle music of the American South and Midwest. "Country" simply refers to rural origins of Celtic and old-time music shared by common people.

The dance is sponsored by the Quadra Recreation Society. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children (accompanied by an adult please). Refreshments will be served. For more information call Terry at 285-3157 or Bob at 285-3001.

Teaching English Overseas

Teaching English Overseas workshop - **Saturday, April 4**, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Taku Resort. For more info. call Lynne Ramos at 285-3754.

Easter Eggstravaganza!

Have you ever seen a bunny ride a horse? Come to the N.I. Therapeutic Riding Society's "Easter eggstravaganza" - **Saturday, April 11th - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Egg hunt, petting zoo, bounce-a-rama, pony rides, concession stand and more! Special appearances by the Easter Bunny. So, hop on over to **1049 Heriot Bay Road**. Egg hunt starts at 10 a.m. Bring your basket. Donations from local business would be greatly appreciated. More info? Call **285-3669**. Sorry Bowser, stay home.

Former Maypole Dancers

As this is May Day's centennial anniversary year, we wish Maypole dancers of years past to mark the occasion in some way. We'd like any adults (any age) and older teens who participated in any Maypole dance anywhere to contact Barrie Calverly, 285-3087.

The grade 3's will do the Maypole Dance on May Day as usual.

Legion News

As of March 1, the Legion has a new bar manager starting. Her name is Linda Gallagher (nee Lagos). She grew up on Quadra and is now coming home. So, be sure to drop in to welcome her back and to support her in her new endeavour. See you at the Legion!

Minor Fastball Registration

Wednesday, Mar. 4, 3-5, Quadra School

Saturday, Mar. 4, 10-2, Heriot Bay Store

Please bring your child's **birth certificate** for proof of age. A \$50 **deposit** (separate cheque) is required for uniform.

Goods & Services Auction

It's coming. It's fabulous, fantastic, fun-filled and quirky. It's the ninth **Quadra Daycare Goods and Services Auction**.

"How do I help? How do I get there? How do I participate? How do I buy stuff? you yell. Lean close, I'll whisper the answers.

First: the entire inventory of items to be auctioned will be comprised of donated things. People are calling 285-3511 to tell the Daycare staff what they'd like to donate. Or they are dropping washers, dryers, stereos, boats, an old house - okay, I got carried away - more like: hand-painted t-shirts, a VCR, a gift certificate for one night at Steep Island Resort (which includes meals and 8 hours of guided fishing), a promise from the Cape Mudge Boatworks to haul out and pressure wash your boat, two lift passes to Mt. Washington, and things like that. Drop off at the daycare, which is on West Main Road just past the Community Centre. If you want to be a donor, just pick up your telephone and call the daycare. They'd love to hear from you.

Second: The auction will take place at the Quadra Community Centre on **March 28**. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. So, if you're from off Quadra, catch the 5:25 p.m. ferry. Rides from the ferry to the hall will be offered. If you live on the island, come to the Centre. Have children and want to bring them? Free care will be provided for up to 17 children at the daycare from 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. the night of the auction. Pre-registration for this service is necessary (just call the daycare, 285-3511). Children must be toilet trained to be eligible.

Third: there will be oodles of things to do. Along with the regular silent and main auctions, there will be a Chinese auction, a raffle, delicious food, a very special Children's Table, Tina Lewis doing line portraits, and from 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. the rollicking *Sack of Hammers* band will set the joint to jumping.

Fourth: You come to the auction, sign in, receive a paddle with your very own number, check out the goods in the silent auction, Chinese auction, and raffle, and do the appropriate thing to bid in each section; and then you gather for the *Main Attraction* and when auctioneer Jack Mar calls for bids, you keep putting the arm that is holding your paddle up UP UP and awaaaaay! And you are bound to buy something. Guaranteed you'll go home a winner.

There you have it. Donate by calling the daycare, arrive at the Q.C.C. on West Main Road by 6:00 p.m. or so on **March 28**, bid, eat, rock and roll. It all adds up to one fabulous, fantastic, fun-filled, quirky night out. You'll love being part of it.

Jocelyn Reekie, Quadra Daycare Board of Directors

Babies & Bellies...

Are you pregnant, or have a new baby (15 months or younger)? Come meet other moms and moms-to-be. Ask questions, trade stories, get support, drink tea and relax. Babies & Bellies has just recently started up. We meet **Wednesday mornings, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at the Daycare, in the after school room**. No Charge, just drop in. Very supportive atmosphere for both you and your babe!! Need a ride? Want more info.? Call Robyn @ **285-3465**

Tidemark Theatre

March 3-31, Art in the Lobby. The multi-media works of Cecile McCarthy featuring painting, drawing and video relating to the artist's life. No admission charge.

March 4-7, 8:00 p.m., The Mousetrap. Presented by Rivercity Players. Don't miss this popular Agatha Christie murder mystery set in an English country guesthouse in the late 1940's. Tickets: Adults

Items For "News and Events" Welcome, Brevity Appreciated.

No Business Related Material Please

Next Deadline - 5:00 p.m. March 11th

\$12, Students/Seniors \$10.

March 8, 7:00 p.m., The Message. Presented by the Campbell River Baptist Church. Music and drama performed by senior high school students to determine the truth we receive in messages. No admission charge. Reserved seating available at Tidemark Theatre and CR Baptist Church.

March 13, 7:00 p.m., North Island Showcase. Presented by Tidemark Theatre Society. The Tidemark's annual local entertainment series continues with Smooth Edge. Tickets: Adults \$9.00, Students/Seniors \$5.00.

March 14, 8:00 p.m., West Coast Mountaineering. Presented by a Bunch of Heathens. Local Mountaineers from Campbell River, Courtenay and Victoria present a slide show highlighting climbing and hiking along the West Coast of North America and Baffin Island. Tickets, Adults \$8.00, Students/ Seniors \$6.00

March 15, 2:30 p.m. Les Violins du Roy Chamber Orchestra. Presented by the Tidemark Theatre Society. This ensemble of outstanding musicians from Quebec City perform a repertoire of Baroque and Classical Music in a special afternoon performance. Tickets, Adults \$20.00, Students/Seniors \$15.00 (plus GST)

Children's Art Classes

Hey Kids! Make March the month to learn how to draw, paint, or learn what "pointillism" is. The CR & District Public Art Gallery is offering two art classes in March for children ages 7-12 years old. The first class is called **Points, Dots, and Spots**. In this class, you can find out about an art technique used by many famous artists such as Georges Seurat called "pointillism". We will look at how dots or dashes of primary colours (red, blue, yellow) can be mixed together to make all the colours you see around you, and how they can be placed together to create a picture. This will be a three week class which will be held on Thursday afternoons from **3:30-5 p.m. from March 12-26**. The fee for this class is \$30.00.

The second class we are offering is a **Spring Break Art Marathon**. Take a break from math and English and learn how to do some fun art activities such as painting, and drawing, and possibly even some rock stacking. If there is a particular art activity which you would like to learn how to do, please let us know when you register for the class. We would like to try to fit it into this program. This class will be held **March 18-20 from 10 a.m.-12noon**. The fee is \$30.00. Spaces for these classes are limited to eight students, so register early to avoid disappointment. Please drop by the gallery to register for these classes. The gallery is open Wednesday to Friday from 10 a.m.-5p.m. For more information on these classes or any other gallery programs contact the gallery at 287-2261 or drop in to visit us at 1235 Shoppers Row next to the Tourism Info office.

The Whaletown Community Club Presents...

You Must Believe in Spring!...a medley of spring songs and non-seasonal jazz standards including a tribute to Jerome Kern, with Jazz Pianist **Peter Dent** and vocalist **Lorraine Foster**. **Saturday, March 14, 1998, 8:00 p.m. at the Gorge Hall**, Whaletown, Cortes Island. Admission \$12.00. For more info call 935-6615.

Island Skateboarders

Some of you may have thought that Sharon and Lois had found Bram and left for someplace warm with all the Island Skateboarders money. Well, there's not enough money to go far enough for long enough and Bram doesn't think he can handle the energies of these two menopausal mothers!

So, back to reality and building the everlasting, ongoing project of the Skateboard Park. We've had a few setbacks or as they say in

the industry, "construction delays". The pre/post Christmas season and the bad weather alone was enough to stop anyone, but we're up and running again with lots of good energy to keep us going until the project is complete.

A great job was done by Ken Munn, Linden Munn, Fraser Munn & Gabe Gregg who have finished off a form for a present curve. Ken, Dave McPhee and Rod Penner poured the cement for it last week. Once the curve is set and lifted into place it will allow us to finish up the work on three more features. This will bring us to five finished features out of a total of eight features planned for the park.

We have two men from the United Fishermans Alliance working for us. Darcy Guenther and Glen are familiar with the park and the work that needs to be done after having worked on it all last summer. They have been preparing some forms and setting the rebar for the three features to be finished up.

There were many people working on the park in the fall that we haven't had the chance to thank. So, **BIG THANK YOU'S TO: WAJAX** of Campbell River and Peter Dirse for volunteering your equipment and expertise. Peter spent many days studying the plans and executing the welding of the coping to perfection. WAJAX supplied Peter with a mobile welding unit on a number of occasions so that he could do the job on site.

Aldis Hart for donating the styrofoam blocks for fill and Darrel & Harper Graham of Harper Logging Ltd. for towing them to Drew Harbour where with help from Little Richard the blocks were delivered to the park.

Tony Marmol for coming out with his machine to bucket cement to the places the cement truck couldn't reach and before the sun was even up! We had to start the job with our car headlights on.

Valdez Construction for the use of equipment and help with materials.

Quadra Island Building Supply for our discount on material and continuing donation of your flatdeck and driver whenever the need arises.

Rod Penner for his never ending patience and calm, clear advise.

Linda Jeffery who spends many evenings on the phone organizing the work bees.

As always, thanks to our backbone, Murray Johnson, who always seems to make himself available to our beck and call.

Last but definitely not least to all the skateboarders that have come out to work parties rain or shine and worked so hard and still stayed polite even when Sharon and Lois got a little bossy.

We will be having some more work bees over the next little while and will call you when we've set the time. If you want to help and are not on the phone list, please phone Linda Jeffrey @ 285-3880.

To all you skateboarders (and skateboard observers) who have been waiting so patiently for this facility to be completed we can only say, "hang in there and sorry but NO we don't have a projected finish date". It seems this project has a momentum of its own and all we can do is forge on, ride the wave and know that the end is in sight.

Lois and Sharon

Celebrating Our Diversity

Film & Video evening in celebration of International Women's Day. A selection of Canadian made film and video by women. Titles include: The award winning **Unbound by Claudia Morgado** (1994 Vancouver). Claudia serves up a visual feast as she explores how women feel about their breasts, beginning with exposing her own. She continues with women holding intimate conversations with the camera as they are done up in the likeness of such figures as Frida Khalo, Joan of Arc, Baccus and even Jesus. **Big Fat Slenderella by Lorna Boschman** (1993 Vancouver) Fat animals in captivity! Dieting tips for poodles! Interviews with fat people are juxtaposed with tongue-in-cheek ads for diet products, and shimmering video effects. **Ten Skakel (My Baby) by Cease Wyss** (1995 Vancouver). A compelling portrayal of birth, life and death through the documentation of a

First Nations woman giving birth to her first child. Stories about naming, the phases of the moon, and traditional First Nations child-rearing practices are revealed in this mingling of oral history, verite documentary and personal narrative. Also **India Hearts Beat by Leila Sujir** and **Mom, I think I'm... by Anna Malkin**.

Everyone welcome, **Friday, March 6th, 7 p.m. at the Community Centre**. Pay-what-you-can sliding scale admission, \$5-\$9. Childcare may be available if there is enough interest. Register early by calling Michelle at 285-2294. Would anyone out there like to sponsor the childcare?

QI United Church

Quadra Island United Church invited you to the next evening service on **Sunday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.** Diana McKerracher will lead the service called "Everyday Heroes: people who inspire us".

Drum & Rhythm Playshop

Drum & Rhythm Playshop- by Loretta Joseph from Victoria. For anyone wanting to free up their own innate sense of rhythm and learn to express it with voice, drums and other percussion. **Sunday, March 8 @ Quadra Daycare.**

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. "Getting Down to Basics"
2:30 - 4:00 p.m. "And the Beat Goes On"

No musical experience necessary. Do one or both parts. For details and to register call Robin @ 285-3185

Friday Flicks

The Hanging Garden - showing at the Community Centre on March 13, 7:45 p.m. is both gripping slice-of-drama and haunting surrealist fantasy. It is the first feature film by director Thom Fitzgerald, and it is an auspicious beginning for him as it has been met with much critical acclaim. "Stunning photography, exquisite pacing, a star studded score and an incomparable ensemble cast make **The Hanging Garden** an intensely heady and sensual pleasure from start to finish" (McIntosh).

Our guide on this cinematic journey is Sweet William, a "slim-trim" 25 year-old gay man who returns to his rural Nova Scotia home after a bitter absence of ten years. The purpose of his homecoming is to celebrate his sister's wedding, but the work of being home again entails much more than nuptial celebration, and includes confronting ghosts of his past.

William finds everything pretty much as he left it. His Dad is still a drunk, his

mom is still lost in a guilt ridden silence, his grandma is even more senile and obsessively religious, and his sister is as foul-mouthed and boisterous as ever.

But Sweet William has changed. Ten years earlier Sweet William was a 300 pound teenager. A frozen image of him haunts his families lives, waiting to be cut free. "Past and present blend seamlessly together" and The Hanging Garden's "robust colour palette and sophisticated floral metaphor add to its strong visual style" (Dippong). Fitzgerald takes us "headlong into a spiralling journey through lusty, comedy, painful confrontation and the elation of reconciliation" and in doing so shows us that not only can we go home again, but we must if our hearts are ever to heal (McIntosh).

BC Ferries Service Notice

Load limit reduction, Quathiaski Cove.

As part of our continued commitment to passenger safety, the maximum ramp load limit on the Quathiaski Cove dock has been reduced to 39,500 kg GVW. This change takes effect immediately. We sincerely regret any inconvenience this may cause our customers.

Landscape Painting

The Quadra Community Centre is offering an outdoor landscape painting workshop with Bettina Sluzki Lewis, on two separate Sundays, March 8 and March 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Instruction will be given on colour, paint application, texture, composition, and participants will be taught how to do quick painting sketches which later can be developed into more elaborate paintings. Any medium welcome, however soft pastels are highly recommended. No previous art experience necessary. Individual and group critiques will be given in a safe and friendly atmosphere. Please call 285-3002 for registration and list of materials. \$25 each Sunday. At the Spit weather permitting.

Bettina Sluzki Lewis is a painter from New York now residing on Quadra Island, Her work is part of collections in Canada, USA, and Europe. She has been teaching art workshops for over 25 years.

Homecoming Reunion

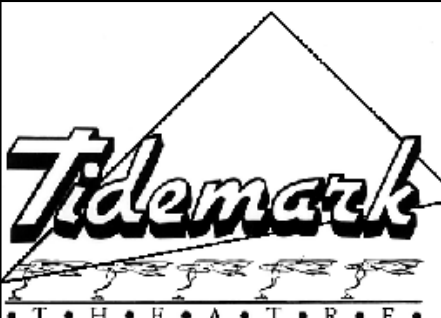
A homecoming reunion for long-time residents of Quadra Island has been set

for May 22nd, from 11:00 a.m./ to 6:00 p.m. at the Cape Mudge Hall, at a charge of \$10 per person. The organizing committee are broadcasting a general invitation to past and present residents - so pass the word! Homecoming organizers expect this event, similar to one held over 20 years ago, will bring people together from far and near to renew old friendships.

Some lively activities throughout the day will help revive old memories. With the help of the Campbell River Museum, the hall will be decorated with enlargements of old photographs and newspaper clippings from the late 1920s through 1950's. MCs for the day are gathering amusing recollections to share and former school classes and May Queens will assemble for photographs. A light snack prepared by island volunteers (if you can help with this please call Betty Anderson at 5-3166) will keep everyone fuelled for a full day of visiting and Museum volunteers will be on hand to capture the proceedings for posterity.

Committee chair, Edith Nutting, hopes the word will be spread far and wide to long-time Quadra Islanders to attend the

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homecoming on May 22nd. To give us a rough count on attendance, those who plan to attend should send a note to Box 368, Quathiaski Cove, BC, V0P 1N0. To receive a newsletter about the event, or to have one sent to a friend, please call Norma Hughes at 285-3489.

The Homecoming is one of many celebrations of heritage planned to mark the 100th anniversary of May Day, the Light House and the Heriot Bay Inn. Community Clubs and organizations have shown wonderful community spirit. The garden tour committee will put a heritage homes and gardens slant on the annual garden tour in July; Quadra Quilters have produced an exquisite theme-quilt for the community centre to be unveiled in April; and the O.A.P. will erect a bench at Rebecca Spit next fall. May Day, will be the most exciting event of the year. All the usual activities, from the parade to races, will take up the old fashioned theme for this 100th anniversary May Day. Committee members, Heather Vandurest and Linda Inrig, are arranging for a gathering of former May Queens from the 1940's to the present.

Jeannette Taylor

Carlos del Junco

Blues Concert

Get ready for a very special Saturday night on March 21st - 8:00 p.m. when the Quadra Community Centre is transformed into the Hall of Blues and the Quadra Rec. Society presents one of the top harmonica players around: Carlos del Junco.

del Junco started on a Hohner Blues Harp at fourteen. He has played in a series of eclectic, underground, R&B, and jazz fusion bands and has performed with the likes of Dutch Mason, Domenic Troiano and Holly Cole. In the process he has wowed the critics.

Carlos is also no stranger to awards. He so impressed the judges at the 1993/94 Hohner World Harmonica Championships that they awarded him two gold medals and he repeated this accomplishment at the 1995/96 competition. The Toronto Jazz Society named his first CD one of their top 10 releases. In 1996 he was the recipient of Jazz Report Magazine's "Blues Musician of the Year" award, and he was just voted Blues Musician of the Year in Canadian Blues Review Magazine. Del Junco has also performed to rave reviews in the Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver du Maurier and Heineken Jazz Festivals.

Whether it's swing, Chicago style blues, jazz or New Orleans funk, material

from Robert Johnson and Howlin' Wolf or original compositions - Carlos del Junco and his band (at best notice guitarist Kevin Breit, bassist Al Duffy and drummer Geoff Arsenault) deliver all the notes in masterful style.

This March 21 concert will be a rare evening of fine, live blues here on Quadra is, more than well worth the effort - especially if you get your great bargain price tickets in advance (\$12 adult /\$8 student /\$30 family) at Quadra Crafts, Explore or the Tidemark, because it'll cost you \$15 at the door.

1998 Visitor Map

I will shortly be updating the Quadra Island Visitors map, ready for the tourist season ahead.

If your business or service definitely has visitor appeal, and is not on the map, or if there are any changes or deletions from last year's map, please get in touch with me before the **end of March**. Phone 285-2805, early mornings or evenings are best.

Because this map is already loaded, I can't promise to include all your needs, but I will certainly try.

All proceeds from the sale of this map go to the Community Centre Additions



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Hilary Stewart

Quadra Resident University Athlete of the Year!

Eric Hinrichsen, a long time resident of Quadra Island presently studying at the University of Victoria, was named University Athlete of the Year by the BC Sports Association at their recent awards ceremony in Vancouver. Hinrichsen, 21 years old, is the Captain of the UVic Vikings basketball team, and has led the team to the Canadian University Championship in 1997, and they are presently the #1 team in Western Canada. Eric also played on the Canadian National Team which earned a silver medal.

Eric is a third year student and hopes to graduate in the Sports Psychology field. He still has strong connections to the Island - his mother, Maureen, works at our local Credit Union, and father Henry is a well known local contractor.

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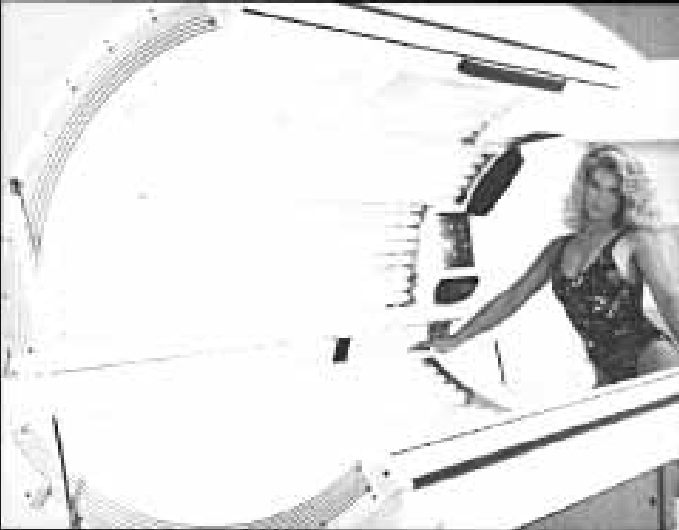
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Money Matters

“Humongous

By Steven Halliday

In the fall of 1996, a medium sized Credit Union on the lower mainland started an advertising campaign that spoofed the chartered banks, using a fictitious bank called “Humungous Bank” as their target. The print ad campaign utilized well dressed “banker” types and catch phrases such as “We want to make your business work for us” and “At Humungous Bank, we treat your money as if it were ours”. We in the industry chuckled at the ads, while the Banker’s Association muttered loudly about the creative license the Credit Union was taking. Well, guess what happened. The ad campaign won the American Marketing Association’s highest honours in its category, and the Credit Union saw a whopping 30% increase in members.

Today, Humungous Bank is about to become a reality, and Gargantuan Bank is probably not far behind. The proposed merger between the Royal Bank and Bank of Montreal will create a colossus ranking in the top 25 banks in the world, and the rumour mills on Bay Street are busy speculating about whom CIBC will choose as a partner. The main reasons for the merger as cited by the respective CEO’s is to achieve a presence as a major player in the global marketplace, as well as to achieve better economies of scale to improve their operating performance. With the kind of profits that the banks have reported recently, how much improvement do they need?? The unfortunate reality with mega-mergers is the economies of scale are generally achieved primarily by downsizing organic assets - in English this means giving the boot to a bunch of employees. It is no secret that the Royal plans to rid themselves of several thousand employees by the end of the decade, and the combined Bank is rumoured to be planning to shed a total of up to 11,000 people. And to Paul Martin and others that feel they won’t just roll over and let this happen, I can’t

conceive of either Mr. Cleghorn (Royal) or Mr. Barrett (Montreal) making a public statement of their intent, and signing a document containing penalty provisions of some \$400 million if either party fails to complete, without their complete confidence that it is a done deal.

So what will all this mean to the Canadian consumer?? That is the big question to which there is no answer, because we have no Canadian precedent by which to judge. Most of the public response that I have seen is negative on the subject of the merger, with most respondents stating that the larger bank will be even less responsive to the needs of the consumer. This coupled with the industry’s growing trend towards automated banking services will likely lead to further alienation of at least a segment of the population. I believe there is a growing percentage of the public that wish to retain or even improve the level of personal service they receive from their financial institution, and the mega merger trend the banking industry is following certainly does not lend itself to meeting the needs of that particular group. Only time will tell, but my bet is that the Canadian public will rapidly tire of the mega banks, mega malls and mega stores, and return to the simpler, friendlier and more personal service they are used to receiving, provided it is still available in the marketplace, and hasn’t been absorbed by the behemoths.

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Sierra Quadra

The Promise of Ravens to Come

Maybe you remember the first time you first saw Raven's clearcut on West Road. Like most Quadra Islanders, you likely responded with some combination of shock, dismay, anger, outrage, or embarrassment.

Maybe in your daily commute to work or school you watched the clearcut progress in slow motion as a forest of nearly a century's age disappeared during a few short days of cutting. Maybe in your silent appreciation of these towering trees you felt some personal insult or pain, recognized an unfolding affront to a familiar piece of land but were helpless to stop what was happening.

Not only is Raven's clearcut uncomfortably close to "downtown" Quathiaski Cove, it is also beside Quadra's most used road, a road travelled frequently by residents and visitors alike. As such, this clearcut stands—the irony is intended—as a lifetime reminder of one company's insensitivity to community values and its cynical indifference to the emerging norms of what constitutes decent environmental responsibility. Sadly, and maybe most uncomfortably, this clearcut is a monument to ourselves—to what we didn't do, or couldn't do, or wouldn't do.

Remember your first feelings when you saw this clearcut. Don't forget them. Hold them deep and fresh in your memory. Every time you drive or cycle

or walk past the wreckage of this forest, remember the way it used to be.

Now watch the slow recovery of this denuded landscape. Check its progress from day to day. Notice what happens from week to week, from month to month, from year to year. Be aware of the changes it has made to the road you travel—to wind, humidity, lost summer shade. Remember in autumn that you can now forget about harvesting chantarelles in its mossy softness.

Even if trees are replanted on this land, ten years or more will pass before they begin to hide the broken stumps. In that time, today's kindergarten students will have graduated from high school. Not until Quadra's children are grown up, retired from work and become grandparents—and you are likely long dead—will time's gentle healing return the Raven forest to its condition of just a short year ago.

What we need to recognize is that a forest cut down is a forest destroyed for a human lifetime. For each individual who is witness to a clearcut, that forest is essentially gone forever. For each living person, the consequences are permanent, not temporary. For the community of Quadra, settled by non-natives barely a century ago, the island's history will nearly double before Raven's forest returns—if other circumstances do not intervene.

Aside from the environmental consequences of Raven's clearcut, what

will be the effect on the community? How will Quathiaski Cove, once cuddled beside the dark cool of a green forest, now respond with a chainsaw scar ripped across its northern flank? From the moment the trees came down, the Cove felt less defined, less friendly, less cozy and homey.

And how will such a scar affect the mood of the whole island? How will it alter the image we have of ourselves and the attitude of others to us? Is this the welcome to Quadra we want for our visitors? When you drive by with a visiting friend, do you feel the urge to look away or divert their gaze with furtive conversation? Do you feel the need to explain or apologize? Do you assign the blame to someone else or do you accept the responsibility as your own because you did not—or could not—prevent it?

The image created by this clearcut will affect what we will do to ourselves and what others will do to us. If this is the treatment we allow for our own neighbourhood, what different treatment can we expect from others? Will it stand as a symbol of our indifference? Of our acquiescence to affront? Or will it become a symbol of our resolve to prevent such a thing from ever happening again?

However you measure Raven's clearcut, it's a symbol of failure—whether the measure is ecological, political, aesthetic, economic, corporate, community or individual.

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And that's sad.

If we keep the Raven clearcut on West Road as a lasting symbol of what should never again happen on Quadra, then it will serve as a reference and a measure for all other logging on the island. As a clearcut, it's about 16 ha and represents about 9,000 cubic metres of wood. Its companion clearcut, the one sprawling behind the cemetery and the public works yard on Heriot Bay Road, is about 14 ha and 7,000 cubic metres.

Compare these clearcuts with TimberWest's five-year logging plans for Quadra. A 41.1 ha clearcut near Chonat Lake on the island's northern peninsula will take 28,000 cubic metres. A clearcut of similar size and volume is planned for Kanish Bay along with an additional cut of 33.7 ha at 18,900 cubic metres. The five year total for sites at Chonat Bay, Kanish Bay, Waiatt Bay, Granite Bay, Open Bay, Discovery Passage, Morte Lake, Saltwater Lagoon, Walcan and

Gowlland Harbour is nearly 400,000 cubic metres. Most of these will be clearcuts, some smaller and some larger than Raven's cut on West Road.

Remember Raven's clearcut and your first response to it. From day to day and year to year, keep it as a measure when you learn of other logging on Quadra. Logging doesn't have to be so industrial, so brutal, so traumatic. It doesn't have to wreak such havoc. If trees are required for building or furniture or paper, far less disruptive ways are available for harvesting the resources of our forests.

This forested island is our home. Before most of us were born, it was logged and burned. A human lifespan had to pass before its beauty could recover from the wreckage and ashes of its history. Now it's our present and our future. Because mistakes take a long time to heal, Quadra deserves to be treated with care and consideration—for ourselves, for those to come, and for all the other living things that also call it home.

Submitted by: The Sierra Club of Quadra Island, Box 219, Heriot Bay, B.C. V0P 1H0



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Island Report

John Fryer's Stakeholder Process Report Disappoints Ferry Users

by Tanya Storr

John Fryer, the mediator appointed by minister responsible for BC Ferries Dan Miller, came out with his report on BC Ferries' stakeholder process on February 19. Local members of the West Coast Ferry Users Group (WCFUG) are disappointed with the report, saying that while it mentions the issues discussed during the group's December 20 and January 22 meetings with Fryer, its recommendations are not nearly strong enough. Miller had not announced his response to the report's recommendations by the *Discovery Islander's* press time.

"I think Fryer basically let the West Coast Ferry Users Group down. We left that room feeling he truly understood the points that were put to him and that he was going to put strong recommendations forward to the minister. While the recommendations touch on the issues we talked about, they don't come anywhere near what we asked for," said regional district director Jim Abram.

Fryer's four recommendations outlined in the report are:

1. That the current stakeholder process within BC Ferries be continued and that at the earliest possible date clear discussion be held with each stakeholder group, with a view to producing a clearly understood and mutually agreeable written terms of reference for each local stakeholder process. Local stakeholder committees/processes should be promptly established in those communities where they presently do not exist. Stakeholder/committee composition should be reviewed for all processes to ensure broad community representation.

2. A new and "second tier" be added to the stakeholder process, as I believe such a group would have a valuable advisory role to play into the future. Again, it will be necessary for the BC Ferry Corporation to sit down with representatives of this group to develop agreed upon terms of reference, as well as to determine committee composition/representation, resources and remuneration. In determining the committee composition, representatives should be elected from local stakeholder committees, to ensure continuity. This second tier would encompass the functions of the existing Cost Allocation Committee, thereby replacing it.

3. The BC Ferry Corporation, agree to an independent, value for money audit in those areas of its operation which most affect the travelling public and the cost of travel:

- a) Efficiency of management and administration
- b) Efficiency of labour utilization
- c) Effectiveness of the service plan (frequency of sailings)
- d) Allocation of overhead costs

For practical purposes I would recommend a budget of up to \$50,000 for this audit and that it be completed, and made available to stakeholders, within a four-month period.

4. To formally initiate the "second tier" stakeholder process, the inaugural meeting of the committee should be attended by the Minister responsible for BC Ferries as well as senior officers of the Corporation. The stakeholders believe, and I agree with them, that the BC Ferry and Marine Workers' Union (BCFMWU) should also be invited to participate.

Fryer adds: "A well-functioning consultative stakeholder process is essential to the successful operation of a Crown Corporation. It is

unfortunate that the process that had been established at BCFC had its credibility undermined during November's tariff increase. That credibility must now be rebuilt with actions rather than words."

Abram said one of Fryer's recommendations that falls short of what members of the WCFUG had requested concerns the audit. "The audit he recommends is nothing like the audit we recommended. The audit he outlines sounds to me like it would be based around the commuter ferries, but we need a corporation-wide investigative value for money audit. He is not allowing the audit to address major amounts of money in broader areas of the corporation. They would still be able to hide that money and inefficiency away, and we'd still have a totally inefficient corporation."

Quadra stakeholders representative Rick Schnurr pointed out that the \$50,000 Fryer recommends for an audit "would hardly cover the audit of a small business." WCFUG member Peter Gellatly said all \$50,000 would cover is a "straight accounting audit which would be a duplicate of what already happens."

Schnurr said the audit must look at other areas, such as the construction of the fast cat ferries, because they affect the total debt of the corporation.

"Fryer is being wishy-washy and giving the government a chance to just do a cursory audit. A full investigative value for money audit would be the equivalent to comparison shopping. For example, the ferry corporation has done all its maintenance in a closed shop instead of contracting out to other shipyards. We need to look at that," said Schnurr.

Gellatly said the Auditor General should send experts in marine transport and public transit in to look at the operation from top to bottom "and see if it's getting and giving value for money."

As for the recommendation stating that Dan Miller, senior officers of the corporation, and BCFMWU members should be present at the inaugural meeting of the "second tier" stakeholder process, Abram said it also doesn't go far enough.

"We want a full-time standing committee of those people, a committee the West Coast Ferry Users Group or the stakeholders could go to when needed. What he has advised is just window dressing," Abram stated.

Fryer includes the resolutions passed by the WCFUG at the December 20 and January 22 meetings in his report. Schnurr said he believes the most important point stakeholders made to Fryer is that there must be a commitment by government to address the issues as presented by the stakeholder group.

"That's where the whole thing went off the rails in November. The stakeholder groups that existed then made good recommendations that were totally ignored. We need a commitment from government that they don't ignore our recommendations if we are going to put all this effort into the stakeholder process."

Abram said the WCFUG is waiting to hear Miller's response to Fryer's report, but the next steps will be to call a caucus meeting of the group and then set up a meeting between the WCFUG and Miller.

BCF customer and stakeholder relations officer Ann Carpenter said BCF is also waiting for a response from Miller before deciding how to proceed with Fryer's recommendations. Although she said she couldn't comment specifically on the report at this time, Carpenter did say "it points us towards the next step for setting

up a stakeholder process for Quadra/Cortes." She added that BCF intends to hold a planning meeting in April for Quadra/Cortes and an inaugural meeting sometime after that, and expects to have a permanent advisory committee (made up of stakeholders) in place by the summer.

In other BC Ferries news, the corporation has agreed to pay the Sprungmans' \$100 deductible after a large wave crashed down on their car on Boxing Day while crossing on Powell River Queen, causing \$4,000 worth of damage. The Sprungmans have comprehensive insurance on the vehicle, so ICBC covered the damages.

In a letter to John Sprungman, Graham Fisher, Insurance Officer for BC Ferries, writes: "I regret that your vehicle suffered significant damage as a result of the two 'rogue waves.' While I can sympathise with your situation, BC Ferries is not liable for the damage to your car. The Corporation is not responsible for loss or damage arising or resulting from an Act of God or the perils, dangers and accidents of the sea. In the interests of good customer relations, however, and as a matter of grace, the Corporation is

prepared to reimburse the \$100 deductible under your comprehensive automobile coverage."

Sprungman, who is urging others to buy comprehensive insurance for their vehicles, said, "I hope the publicity has increased the awareness on BC Ferries and among its users regarding safety and liability concerns. I am also more aware that I am assuming some of the risk by deciding to live where I must travel on ferries to get home."

Ann Carpenter said BC Ferries will be installing video cameras on the car deck when the ship goes in for a refit next fall. The cameras will allow officers on the bridge to observe the car deck during crossings.

May Day Plans Full Steam

Plans for Quadra's Centennial May Day celebration are moving full steam ahead, and the 100th anniversary of the popular event promises to be a very special occasion. Upcoming happenings include a May Day Kick-Off Evening / Quadra Island Heritage Quilt Unveiling on April 18 at QCC, a reunion on May 22 (the night before May Day) at Cape Mudge Community Hall, and the publication of a book on the history of May Day Queens.

May Day itself is Saturday May 23 and the theme is 'Centennial May Day'. Quadra Recreation Coordinator Sandy Spearing said people should design their costumes and floats with the year 1898 in mind.

May Day Kick-Off Evening

The May Day Kick-Off Evening is being coordinated by Friday Flicks. A focal point of the evening will be the unveiling of the Quadra Island Heritage Quilt, which will also be on display at the reunion and May Day itself. The quilt will be permanently displayed at the Community Centre.

Kathy Young from the Quadra Quilters Guild said the guild members decided to make the quilt as a Centennial project, and about 20 people have been working on the quilt since November.

"There have been a large number of hours put into the quilt. We put a lot of work into a 3-D image, which quilts don't usually have," she said, adding that the predominant colour scheme is blue for the ocean and green for the forest.

The quilt has a total of 14 outside panels with different Quadra themes, and a large centre panel based on May Day. Subjects of the outside panels include a button blanket eagle motif, a gillnetter fishing in local waters, Quadra's first passenger ferry the Victory II, the Heriot Bay Inn, and the Cape Mudge Lighthouse.

Also on April 18, Jeanette Taylor will give a slideshow about the history of May Day and what it was like in our community in 1898. "It'll be an opportunity to inspire people about their costumes and floats," she said.

Lapel pins and t-shirts, displaying the Centennial May Day logo designed by Lesley Matthews, will be on sale that night to raise funds for May Day and the May Day Queens book research. Treats made by Friday Flicks members will also be on sale to raise funds, and donations will be gratefully accepted.

May Day Queens Book

Since last fall, Heather Van Der Est has been working on a book about the history of Quadra's May Day Queens. The project began when May Day planning committee members decided to come up with a list of former May Day Queens so they could send them invitations to the reunion and May Day. No lists of May Day Queens have been kept over the years, so identifying them has involved considerable research.

Heather, who has done the bulk of the work herself, with assistance from Jeanette Taylor and Linda Inrig, thought of looking for names in old newspaper articles and soon found herself immersed in island history.

"We were coming up with so much information that we thought we may as well put it into a book format," she said.

The book will feature newspaper articles and photos about May Days arranged in chronological order, and Heather is designing it on her computer. Seven copies of the book will be printed, and the Quadra and Campbell River libraries, Kwagiulth Museum, Campbell River Museum, Recreation Society, and Quadra Elementary Library

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will each receive one. Heather explained that if more copies of the book were printed, each Campbell River Museum archival photo reproduced in the book would come with a \$6 charge, so the cost would be prohibitive.

As well as spending days in the Campbell River Museum archives researching old newspapers, Heather has also talked to many of the former May Day Queens over the phone or in person. Several of the Queens have moved away from the island, so Heather has spoken with people in Victoria, Vancouver, and the Interior.

"I've talked to quite a few old-timers who are totally thrilled about coming here for May Day," she said, adding that some of the former Queens have sent her photos and newspaper clippings of themselves on May Days in the past.

The manner in which the May Queen is chosen each year has changed over time. For early May Days, the Queen was chosen by class vote. Later, popularity contests through ticket sales at dances determined who would be Queen.

There were three schools on the island in 1939, and a girl's name from each was drawn out of a hat. According to a May 18, 1939 article, "Miss Violet Ralph is to be May Queen on May 24. Her maids of honour (the queens of their own respective schools) will be Rosaline Law (Heriot Bay) and Jean Richards (Cape Mudge)."

These days, each year's prospective Queens (grade six girls who are interested) give a speech before former May Day Queens. The speech is about what May Day and Quadra mean to them, and the only judges are the former Queens. The winner of the speech contest becomes the May Day Queen. She oversees the May Day events, gives out awards for contests such as the sailing race, and begins the May Day dance with the Royal Court procession.

Through her research, Heather discovered that the daughters of many former May Queens have become Queens or Princesses themselves. She also found out that Quadra's May Day celebration has been called Empire Day, Victoria Day picnic, and May 24th picnic on different years.

Quadra had Rose Queens or Sports Queens instead of May Queens some years, and the role of the May Queen has at times extended past May Day to opening bazaars,

cutting ribbons, and presenting prizes at different events.

Over the decades, May Queens have ranged from ages 8 to 18. Gloria Dahlnas sent Heather a newspaper clipping about when she was May Queen in 1951. Gloria was in her teens at the time, and Roderick Haig-Brown was her escort.

Gloria's May Queen speech, referring to May Day as a celebration of Queen Victoria's birthday, is included in the article: "If the May Queen ceremony means anything, it must mean that I, like Queen Victoria, am a symbol of unity. Her empire was vast, mine is small. How much more, then should my subjects find strength in being one friendly people, united as you are on this day in a spirit of friendly cooperation."

Heather has uncovered not only names of May Queens, but also a great deal about the history of May Day itself. A 1958 article in the Campbell River Courier looks back to the first May Day picnic, held at the Spit to celebrate the election of Robert Grant as the first member of Parliament for the Comox District.

There were no roads on the island at the time, the article states, "so the picnickers from Cape Mudge, Gowlland Harbour, and Heriot Bay had to walk through the bush." Even so, "this picnic was enjoyed so much that it was made an annual affair and Queen Victoria's birthday was chosen as the day to celebrate."

Not all of Quadra's May Day picnics have taken place at the Spit. According to the article, many earlier picnics were held at the lighthouse. "Mr. Pidcock of Quathiaski Cove used his steam tug Quathiaski to transport the picnickers from the Cove. However, when the Valdez Island Social Club was formed in 1917 and the Community Hall was built, the picnics and sports events were held at Drew Harbour, ending up with a big dance at the new hall."

Quadra Island was formerly known as Valdez Island, and doesn't start appearing in newspaper articles as Quadra Island until 1937. The earliest May Day article Heather found was in the June 10, 1920, edition of the Comox Argus. The article reads: "Large crowds assembled at the Club Hall to celebrate May 24. The kiddies had a great time. In the evening 200 young people found

joy on the club's splendid dance floor. Frank Gagne deserves great credit for the manner in which he managed the celebration."

Fund raising for May Day activities is a tradition on Quadra. A May 20, 1926, article in the Comox Argus has this to say: "\$53.25 left over from the Christmas Tree Fund is to be devoted to Empire Day children's sports, and each postmaster is to be asked to solicit for further funds for the sports."

Sports and contests have long been an important aspect of May Day. Jeanette Taylor writes about the contests held at the 1946 Empire Day picnic in an article published in the May 1982 Discovery Passage. There was a nail-pounding contest for women; tug-of-wars between married and single women, as well as married and single men (the teams of married individuals won each time); a rolling pin contest; a fat man's race (first prize was a tobacco pouch, second prize was an ice cream cone); and a married woman's race with 49 pounds of flour for the first prize.

In 1958, a 100-day beard-growing contest was held, with the results decided at May Day. John Blenkin won for having the

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longest beard, Bob White for the best kept, Bill Nutting for the most original, and John Wilkinson for the most hopeless. A May 1958 Campbell River Courier article declares: "Except for the last one which was an easy win, the judges expressed great difficulty in choosing from the assortment presented."

People used to come from all over for Quadra's May Day celebration. The old newspaper clippings mention people from Campbell River and Read, Sonora, Cortes, and Stuart Islands at Quadra May Day picnics.

Sandra and Linda at the Campbell River

Museum archives and all the former May Queens Heather has talked to have been extremely helpful with the project, she said. "It's been fun and interesting. I've become totally immersed in it since New Years."

Heather is still looking for names of May Queens from 1898-1920, 1924-27, 1935-37, and 1940-46. For 1928-30 and 1933 there are records of Rose Queens but Heather would like to know if there were May Queens as well. She also needs to know who the May Day princesses were in 1952 (Gloria Taylor was May Queen) and 1963 (Charlene Assu was May Queen), and whether Caroline

Oak Bay New Operators At April Point

By Philip Stone

Tourism giants, Oak Bay Marine Group are the new owners of April Point Lodge. The hand over from the Peterson family who founded and operated the Lodge since ??? will take place sometime during the first half of March. In a brief telephone interview Vice President of Corporate Affairs Deane Strongitharm outlined Oak Bay's vision for their new acquisition. There are no drastic plans to alter the site beyond overdue repair and maintenance at both the marina and the lodge site. With Painter's Lodge just a hop skip away on the other side of Discovery Passage Strongitharm stressed that Oak Bay intend to "preserve the rustic look" of April Point while "enhancing the property" through some trail construction and cleanup. The Lodge will become a destination for 'eco-tourism' with hiking, sea-kayaking and zodiac tours offered alongside the well established sportfishing business. Oak Bay aim to keep the emphasis on working with independent fishing guides contracting their services to April Point.

Other staff will be hired locally with favour given to current April Point employees. Strongitharm said that Oak Bay wish "to bring our management practices to April Point rather than personnel". This will certainly be some comfort for the numerous personnel who have been requested to reapply for their positions.

When asked how he sees Oak Bay's role within the Quadra community, Strongitharm said that it is their wish "to become part of the community and avoid being exclusive."



Quadra Credit Union



The Board of Directors of Quadra Credit Union is pleased to announce the declaration of divedends for 1997.

Equity Shares accounts will receive a divedend of 8.0% calculated on the minimum monthly balance during 1997.

Non Equity Shares will receive a divedend calculated on the minimum quarterly balance as follows:

- 1st Quarter - 3.25%
- 2nd Quarter - 3.50%
- 3rd Quarter - 3.75%
- 4th Quarter - 4.0%

All divedend payments will be credited effective February 1, 1998, and will be reflected on T-5's issued for 1998.

Notice of our Annual General Meeting will be issued shortly.

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Cortes Office:
Sutil Point Road
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Classified Ads

The North Island Therapeutic Riding Society is looking for older, quiet horses, 14hh to 16hh to free lease from May through September 30, 1998. Call Vicki **285-3669**

The North Island Therapeutic Riding Society is looking for a physical or occupational therapist from June through to September 30, 1998. Guidance is available. Wages negotiable. Call Vicki **285-3669**

Book Your Travel - with local Quadra Island travel Agent. Call Lloyd Epp. **285-3304**

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