

Discovery **Islander**

Community News and Events from the Discovery Islands



ISSUE #162
MAY 11TH 1998

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8 - 6 Mon - Fri Sat 9 - 5

May 11, Mon.

-Sierra Quadra Meeting

7:00 p.m.

-Ferry Stakeholder Com. Election

7:30 p.m.

QI United Church

Community Centre

May 14, Thurs.

Celebration of Wilderness

7:30 p.m.

CR Museum

May 22, Fri.

-Giant Cake Contest

11:00 a.m.

Cape Mudge Hall

May 23, Sat.

-Centennial May Day

all day

-May Day Dance 'Squish'

Centre

8:00 p.m. doors

-May Day Dance "Top Heavy Cat"

9:00 p.m.

Rebecca Spit

Community

Cape Mudge Hall

May 30, Sat.

-China Slide Show

Centre

7 p.m.

Community

June 6, Sat.

-Director's Workshop

9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Community Centre

July 11 & 12

-QI Garden Tour

Island

Quadra

June 20, Sat.

-Skateboard Park Grand Opening

Cover Photos: First Quadra Island community picnic at Drew Harbour, welcoming Robert Grant 1st MP for Comox District, 1897.

Back: A. Joyce, unknown, H. Bull, W. Joyce, A. Hughes, N. Hughes, S. Hughes, W. Hughes, R. Grant, C. De Veine. Seated: J. Hughes, H. Hood, R. Hood, H. Bull & baby Cecil, S. West, Mrs. Hughes, W. Jones. Courtesy of Campbell River Museum.

Below: Rebecca Spit



Seniors Donate Bench at Spit

Tanya Storr

Quadra Seniors have donated a bench at Rebecca Spit to mark the centennial, and a number of seniors came out to the Spit on beautiful Easter Monday to see the results of their efforts. The bench is located at the narrow part of the Spit beyond the parking lot, and enjoys a spectacular view on either side.

Roget Michel, who came up with the idea for the bench, said that part of the Spit is one of his favourite spots to sit. "I've taken many photos of people here because of the view," he told me. When the bench was proposed at a Quadra Seniors meeting, the members approved the plan by a unanimous vote.

The Quadra Seniors Centennial Committee—Joyce Hargreaves, Roget Michel, Colleen Karton, and Ruth Amiabel—has been working on the bench project since January.

"It was a lot of work. The provincial parks people wanted the bench to conform to their standards, so we couldn't be creative with the design," Quadra Seniors president Diane Ettles explained.

A company in Victoria made the bench, and the Parks Board donated the concrete for the foundations and paid for delivery from their headquarters to Rebecca Spit. "Val Harper and her friend Mark, who look after the Spit, did a very nice job of installing the bench," said Joyce Hargreaves.

A plaque on the bench explains that it was donated by Quadra Seniors to mark the 1898-1998 Centennial. No doubt



Pamela Vallee

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Fools Gallery



WATCH FOR
QUADRA QUILTERS
SPRING SHOW

Starting May 14th

Island Market, Heriot Bay

On **Saturday, May 23** come hear "**Squish**", a celtic rock band from Victoria. The five-piece band's influences range from the Rolling Stones and Jane's addiction to Spirit of the West and Ashley MacIsaac. Doors open at **8:00**, and band starts at 8:30. If you would like to help organize the dance, or work at the door, please call Caroline at **285-2557** as soon as possible.

Cape Mudge Recreation presents, **MayDay Dance "Celebrating 100 Years"**, **Sat. May 23, 9:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.**, Cape Mudge Hall. Tickets are \$7 each, 50/50 Draws, Door Prizes, **Music by "Top Heavy Cat"**. Get your tickets early! Call Wendy 285-3111, Lenora 285-2469, Colleen 285-2146, no reserved tickets, up front sales only...Designated drivers available.

Driftwood Fort

May Day Fort. Come down to the beach and help create an **1800's Settlement** out of the available found materials. This time go ahead and help your children. **All ages, all sexes.** Everyone who participates will receive a prize of: Involvement, creative endeavour, and the satisfaction of a group effort. Nothing to gain but your own experience. This year adults welcome. **No cash prizes guaranteed!** 1:00-3:00 p.m. See you on the beach **Face Painting**- put some colour on your cheeks, starting after the parade till 1:00. Enviro 'n' Mental clowns.!

Location Change

The **Campbell River/Nootka Community Health Council** has changed the location for its regular monthly meetings. Starting with the Monday, May 11, 1998 meeting, the meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at: Campbell River & District Adult Care Society, 12-142 Larwood Rd., Campbell River, B.C.

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

No Business Related Material Please

Next Deadline - 5:00 p.m. May 20th



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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.

Homecoming

There is a grand event being planned in your honour! Please join us at the **Cape Mudge Hall on May 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** to meet old friends. We'll share some funny anecdotes and good snacks, in a hall bedecked with copies of old photographs spanning the decades from the 1950s back. Spread the word. This day is for anyone who has lived on the island, or still does, for a "long" time (we'll leave the definition of long up to you). Please round up your old friends and family and join us on **May 22nd**. Gerrie Dinsley has prepared an excellent information newsletter. Phone us at 285-2164 to request a copy, or to ask for further information; or just to let us know you are coming. You can write to us at Box 368, Quathiaski Cove, B.C. V0P 1N0.

Betty Anderson is looking for volunteers to supply snacks - we'll need lots of fuel for talking. Please call Betty at 285-3166.

The Cape Mudge Band is putting on a dance at their hall following the reunion. This is bound to be a very full, entertaining and memorable day and evening so all you "long-timers" please mark May 22 on your list of dates.

Homecoming Committee: Edith Nutting, Chair; Jeanette Taylor; Joan Eccles; Noram Hughes; Betty Anderson; Bill Nutting; Doris Korsaa

Annual Cake Contest!

Big cakes, small cakes, fat cakes, skinny cakes! Cakes! Cakes! Cakes! Enter your home-made extra-special Quadra Island cake in our annual giant "Cake" contest. **May 22, Cape Mudge Hall 11:00 a.m.** Contact Vern Price

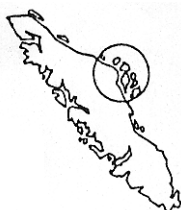
Meditation

Sunday continues to be a lively, and energizing

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News & Events

meditation at the Community Centre, 10 - 12 noon. Call 285-2882 for details. All are welcome, no fee.

Farmers Market

Our Farmers Market is held, rain or shine, from the beginning of May to the end of September, every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. behind the Credit Union. Vendors must be from Quadra or the outer islands. Setup charge is \$3 for adults and \$1 for kids. Bring your own table. Dancers, drummers, jugglers, musicians, etc. are very welcome - this is our village green! Please come join us to make the Market the best it can be. For more information phone Dalysce 285-3180

CR Public Gallery

Children's Spring Art Class Program - only two sessions left! **Clay Creations (May 14 - June 4), The Basics of Drawing (June 11 - 25)**

Director's Workshop

Curious about directing a play? Vancouver stage director, Bob Metcalf will be giving a one day workshop on **June 6th** at the Community Centre from 9 to 5. This workshop is for new as well as seasoned directors. Cost is \$25. Call Patti if you are interested. **285-3839** evenings.

QI Senior Housing Society

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285-3511

The 1998 Annual General Meeting of the above society was held in the Community Centre on Monday, April 20th.

The major announcement of the evening was to advise those present that the one acre of property kindly donated by Bill O'Conner for senior housing in Q. Cove has finally been approved and transferred over to the society. It is a very desirable piece of land and we would encourage all interested persons to view it. The completion of the transfer documents were kindly done without costs to the society by John Grant, and we extend our thanks to him for his professional services.

Now that the property is officially owned by the society, the next major task is to start the design of the units to suit the needs of seniors, but stay within reasonable costs. Fund raising will also be "BIG" on the agenda, and encouraged. The society now has charitable status, so any donations can be provided with receipts good for income tax filing.

Hornby Island has progressed to the point where they have a couple of units up and rented out, and some of our society members are going up there on May 7th to see for themselves what has been done on that island, and to see if it could apply here on Quadra.

In order for progress on this Quadra Island project to move at a reasonable rate the Society needs more active members, to assist in the next interesting stages of design, fund raising and building. Contact Ken Duncan at 285-3787 for further details... **Please bear in mind that you do not have to be a senior to be involved!!**

Quadra Island Garden Tour

The 1998 Quadra Island Garden and Heritage Sites Tour will be held on July 11th and 12th, with proceeds going to the Quadra Island Community Centre Additions Project. Ticket/maps with garden and heritage site descriptions will cost \$12 each and are good for either or both days. There are 12 spots to visit, and they will be open from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day.

The ticket/maps will be on sale from May 23rd at several outlets: In Campbell River, at Page 11 Books, the Campbell River Garden Centre, Mystic Woods and Serendipity; in Courtenay, at Laughing Oyster Books and The Garden Gate; on Quadra Island, at Joanne's Country Charm, Explore Gallery and Heriot Bay Store. On the days of the Tour, tickets may be purchased at the Visitors' Booth in Quathiaski Cove, next to the Credit Union as you come off the Campbell River ferry. For bus tour information, please call Paradise Found Adventure Tours, Campbell River, 250-830-0662 or 800-897-2872; or Forest Bus Tours in Parksville, 888-248-4525.

For further information, call (250)285-3478.

Sailboat Race

May Day, May 23rd, Pursuit start. Watch for posters around the Island. If you or your boat is new to the race please call Dave Wellman 285-2494

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A Celebration of Wilderness

Ric Careless will be in Campbell River **Thursday May 14** to present his multi-media slide show entitled "a celebration of wilderness". Based on his new book, "To Save the Wild Earth", this breathtaking show combines magnificent nature photography with inspirational music, poetry and prose.

Ric is touring the province to promote the book, his personal history of B.C. conservation successes. In this presentation, he provides behind-the-scenes glimpses of critical moments in nine wilderness campaigns (including Tatshenshini, Nitinat Triangle, Spatsizi, and Chilcotin Mountains); discusses the strategies that achieve environmental victories; gives personal reminiscences of political leaders such as Prime Minister Jean Chretien and U.S. Vice-President Al Gore; and interweaves his narrative with heartfelt lyrical appreciation of why protecting wilderness is crucial for the survival of nature and humanity.

Ric Careless is Executive Director of BC Spaces for Nature and serves on the board of Forest Renewal BC.

He is also launching his organization's new program: Jobs and the Environment, a positive, can-do action plan for British Columbia communities and the choices they can make to promote economic diversity and health. Information will be available at the show about this exciting initiative. Everyone is welcome to attend "A Celebration of Wilderness". Ric will be available for signing books which will be for sale at the event.

The Campbell River Museum is located at 5th Avenue and the Island Highway. Admission is \$ 5.00 for adults, and \$ 3.00 for students and seniors. **Show starts at 7:30pm**. Museum members receive a 10% discount. For event information contact:

(250) 287-3103



Late Breaking Skateboard News

Lois Brereton

We are changing the date for our Grand Opening from May 16th to June 20th. The landscaping we had hoped will be filled in won't be quite ready for the earlier date. We hope to have a good viewing area completed by that time. We are sorry to have to postpone it but on further consideration it was necessary. May is a very busy month on Quadra and the long-weekend was just not quite right. Besides, there is a skateboard competition in Port Alberni that weekend and we didn't want the skateboarders to have conflicting events.

Once again Jim Abram has come to our aid with the Regional District and we received another Grant-in-aid to help us finish paying for the park. Thank you from the bottom of our empty bank account.

We also thank the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 154, Quadra Island for their generous donation to our cause. Thank you Discovery Islands Realty for our skill level sign. Thank you Quadra Storage for buying a yard of cement. Remember that our campaign has been reopened. Thank you Casey the Grinder dude.

If anyone has any old used helmets, knee pads, wrist guards or elbow pads Lois will be glad to receive them, we spray paint them blue with is on them at the skateboard park for general use. So far it has proved successful with equipment being used and returned. Remember parents please put protective guards on your children. Skateboarding can be injurious.

Last but not least, kids, please pick up your garbage, there is a garbage container at the park and when it gets full,

May Day Dances

CAMPBELL RIVER'S



Up With People
Monday & Tuesday
May 25-26, 7:30pm

Ian Tyson
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News & Events

Quadra Conservancy Forges Ahead

Quadra Island Conservancy and Stewardship Society (QICSS) has been working behind the scenes for conservation. We contributed seed money for the acquisition of Jedediah Island, a farm on Salt Spring Island, and Ballenas and Winchelsea Islands. We have now approved the final draft of the Linnea Farm Covenant which we hold jointly with the land Conservancy.

On April 17th two people from the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) came from Victoria to see *your* QICSS property, since they hold the covenant on it. Stan Paterson, George Barabas and Dirk van der Minne walked the property with the NCC people. We discovered more about what was on the property as well as tips on performing baseline studies on covenants held by us. Notes, photos and video were taken to start a record of the property.

The Quadra Island Mapping Project, supported by Salmon Enhancement, recreation Society, Mitlenatch Naturalist Society and QICSS has begun development of a computerized map of Quadra Island. This map will become an invaluable resource reference when complete. It contains information on such things as trails, streams, forest cover, terrain stability and so on. QICSS has strongly supported this project thus far but more funds will have to be raised to finish the map.

Two years ago QICSS formed a

committee to examine the feasibility of collecting donations of property or money toward an Endowment Fund. This committee has recently printed a promotional brochure outlining the goals and ways to contribute to the fund. These brochures will be widely distributed in the near future.

Everyone who donated to the 1990 purchase of the Morte Lake property became a lifetime member of QICSS. There is no annual membership fee but we do still rely on donations for stamps, telephone as well as special projects such as the mapping project. We extend an invitation to everyone to become a donor which gives you all the benefits of a membership.

For more information or to send donations QICSS can be reached at Box 202 Heriot Bay, V0P 1H0, by email at bara@oberon.ark.com or call Stan at 3337, Dirk at 2231 or Joyce at 2247.

Legion News

Sunday brunches are still going strong. The food is great so come and join us. Every Sunday 11:00 am to 2:30 pm.

We have free pool every day. The Legion will be open on May Day, May 23rd at 11:30 am following the Parade. The L.A. will be serving lunch.

Coming soon, 1st Annual Heinz 57 Dog Show. No purebreds allowed! Watch this space for further information. See you at the Legion!



Forest Development Plan Public Viewing Notice

Your review and comments are welcomed on the Ministry of Forests Campbell River Forest District's Small Business Forest Enterprises Program's 1998-2002 Forest Development Plan for the Sayward Provincial Forest.

This plan uses maps, tables, and text to describe our proposed activities over the next five years in the Sayward Provincial Forest which includes the lands west and northwest of Campbell River, some lands on Quadra Island and some lands west of Union Bay. Forest development plans indicate such activities as: five years of proposed areas to be harvested, roads to be upgraded or constructed, bridges to be built or replaced, and three years of planned road deactivation and one year of road maintenance. This plan is being made available for review by resource agencies and the public before approval is considered by the Ministry of Forests district manager.

The plan will be available for review at the following locations:

May 20, 1998 in Courtenay at the Coast Westerly Hotel from 2:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Glacier Board Room on the second floor.

May 28, 1998 in Campbell River at the Ministry of Forests district office (see address below) from noon till 8:00 pm.

May 29, 1998 in Campbell River at the Ministry of Forests district office from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

May 30, 1998 in Campbell River at the Ministry of Forests district office from noon to 4:00 pm

Quadra Island at a place and time to be determined.

A representative will be available to discuss the proposed plan and answer questions. If any interested parties are unable to view the plan, arrangements can be made by contacting the district office.

Concerns or comments must be received in writing by July 15, 1998. They are to be sent to the attention of Bruce McKerricher, R.P.F., Small Business Forester c/o Ministry of Forests, 370 South Dogwood Street, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 6Y7. If you have any questions phone 250 286-9300 or fax 250 286-9420.

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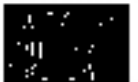
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3.0		
12	0425	12.5
3.8		
	1205	3.0
0.9		
	1835	13.1
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We	0110	9.8
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13	0450	12.1
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	1225	3.0
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17	0740	10.8
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	1455	3.9
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	2225	13.8

Dear Editor

Along with Mr. Calverley, I think good examples of truly sustainable forestry should be publicly celebrated, but we shouldn't be fooled by appearances, shell-games or greenspeak. Since Pete asks us to make up our own minds on what "alternative" might mean, I'll offer some feedback on his reference to MacBlo's "lenses with single tree retention, thinning and dwarf mistletoe rehab." on Cortes Island of late.

I think we have to coin a new acronym for much of what's really going on here: PCL, which stands for "Pre-Culminate Liquidation". This is a worrisome form of short-term "ecosystem management" that results in the removal of the majority of co-dominant trees well before they have actually peaked in terms of annual growth. A close look at most of the stumps in MacBlo's recent patch-cuts will show what I mean. This is not rocket-science, just measurement of annual rings.

In reasonably healthy stands of mid-successional fir and cedar that are not over-crowded, it is widely recognized that culmination can occur well into the second century. What we're witnessing however is a lot of "experimental" logging at 50-80 years old. This would seem to be a general

foreclosure of substantial future returns, in both quantity and QUALITY (where the real money lies) because Stillwater Division has to scramble to meet some increasingly insatiable and mobile corporate "needs". Not just humans are getting downsized, it seems.

Correct me if I am wrong Pete, but I thought that patiently waiting fortrees to at least reach culmination was one of the most important cornerstones of sustainable forestry. Once this primary "timber-oriented" principle gets tossed in the chipper, what is left of stewardship ethics in professional forestry, on a well-known slippery slope towards greatly diminished forests in the future?

I suggest we have to look with a trained eye and a wholistic vision at what passes for much-needed alternatives to clearcutting these days, and not get too warm and fuzzy around lenses, patches, group selection, single tree retention, or "new" forestry (I'll skip thinning, since MacBlo "can't afford it right now"). What we first need is a clear and honest answer to the burning question- "Why are we so often robbing the cradle?"

David Shipway

Windjammer Woodworking

Dear Islanders

Come, all you, who exercise by walking on Quadra's roadsides. We need to do a spring cleanup! The Sierra Club started working on the plastic littering our beaches. Let us work on the roadsides, and perhaps the Back Road walkers could challenge the West Road walkers writing in to say what section you did.

Two hours and three big green garbage bags took care of both sides between Animal Farm to Smith Road, although I notice there is litter there again. However once a section is cleaned up initially, I find it can be maintained as a litter-free zone with a weekly pick up in a small white grocery bag. Let's hear it for more litter free zones on our island.

Yours truly
Joyce Baker

Dear Islanders,

As the warm weather approaches us, more people are using bikes as transportation. I have a concern about cyclists boarding late and feeling that they must carry their bikes to the front of the ferry. Myself and others have sustained damage to our vehicles from this. I mentioned my concern to the ferry crew and was told some people are very rude when asked not to do this. I for one would like to see people leave their bikes at the back of the ferry and ride off when convenient. Sincerely

K Liseth

Letters for *Island Forum* must be signed, and include your phone number (for verification only).

Letters may be edited for content.

Next deadline: **5pm May 20th**

#162 May 11th 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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RCMP Update

Anyone with information concerning the following can contact the Quadra Island RCMP directly or call Crime Stoppers at 287- TIPS. You do not have to give your name and you may remain anonymous .

98 April 08 Attempt break and enter to residence on 580 block of Noble Rd. No entry gained but visible pry marks to side door.

98 April 08 Break enter & theft from residence at 600 block Noble Rd. Entry via front door. Numerous items stolen including: jewellery, cash, RCA VCR, Northstar NP-913 computer, Pentax & Minolta 35mm cameras with various lenses, binoculars etc.

98 April 09 Vessel broken into @ Manson's Landing. Gas can and cash stolen.

98 April 13 Two fifty pound propane tanks stolen from dock on Main Lake.

98 April 15 Vehicle vandalized at Heriot Bay Government Dock. Side window smashed unknown if anything stolen.

98 April 18 Numerous stop signs knocked down on Cortes Island.

98 April 22 Break enter & theft from Heriot Bay Inn. Suspect(s) broke in and stole meat from freezer .

98 April 23 Vandalism to east side of Kwagiulth Museum & Cultural Centre. Suspect(s) used black gloss paint and defaced three walls.

98 April 24 Break enter & theft from residence on Green Rd. Suspects pried sliding back door. Items stolen unknown.

98 April 24 Counterfeit \$20.00 bill passed in Landing Pub. Bill seized and serial # on file.

98 April 27 Two BC Tel vehicles were vandalized while parked at Manson's Landing Cortes Island. Suspect(s) smashed side cargo door on one and rear window on the other. 2 tool pouches and 2 drills stolen.

98 April 27 Sign stolen from bicycle shop on 1000 block Heriot Bay Rd. Sign recovered on Topcliff Rd.

98 April 27 Theft of garbage can and wooden storage box from waiting shelter at BC Ferries dock at Whaletown.

98 April 27 Break enter & theft from residence on Dickie Rd. Suspects broke window on back door. Only item stolen is a camcorder.

98 April 30 Silver bracelet found at ball diamond in Blenkin Park. Owner may claim at Detachment.

Appreciation is extended to those individuals who assisted us with a frightening driving incident last week. Your help prevented the continuance of a dangerous situation. Thank you. The weather has been fantastic and those of us with vessels are beginning to return to the water for summer marine fun. We plan to have more of a presence on our local waters this year. Kindly ensure your vessels/boats are properly equipped, ie: life jackets, paddles, bailers, horn, lights etc. In addition if fishing make sure you carry the appropriate licence and adhere to the pertinent regulations. Have fun out there, be safe, & good luck!!!

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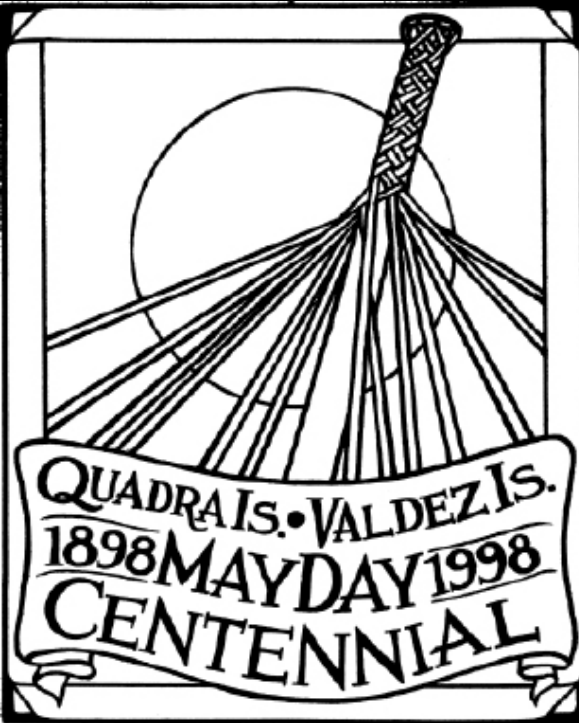
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Quadra Recreation Society

May Day Schedule and Information



May Day at Quadra School 19??

Photo courtesy of Campbell River Museum

1898-1998 Centennial May Day is Saturday May 23. Gather up your family and friends and join your neighbours for another great community picnic. What was Quadra (Valdez Island), as it was called then, like? Choose some aspect of life 100 years ago and come in costume! Get the neighbourhood together and create a float with an "old time" theme. It's your day. Make it memorable! ...and volunteers are still needed, so phone the Community Centre if you are willing to help.

8:30 a.m. Gates open for parade entries.

9:00-10:00 Free shuttle service from HBI to the Spit
and from the end of the parking area to
the field where it all
happens.

10:00 Parade starts from beginning of Spit to
parking lot.

11:00 Official ceremonies.

12:00 Box lunch auction.

12:30 ish Afternoon entertainment on or near the
stage begins. Former May Queens' tea
"under the big tent".

1:00 ish Driftwood fort building begins.

1:15 ish Foot races begin.

1:30 Sail boat races begin. "Under the
big tent",
demonstrations". "live museum"

2:00-3:00 Shuttle back to HBI

Please leave your dogs at home

8:00 Doors open for Community Centre Dance. Dance
to SQUISH from Victoria. Beer, wine
and cider will be served. *Minors must be
accompanied by an adult.*

May Day is a volunteer-powered, traditional community event,
first held on Quadra in 1898. The Recreation Society Board of Directors
thanks the many dozens of people who contribute to the event in b

Pull this schedule out and take with you on the big day.

Discovery Islander #162 May 11th 1998



little ways and wish everyone, [especially former residents returning for the reunion at Cape Mudge Hall May 22], a happy, joy filled day!

POSTERS: See more details on posters by Leslie Matthews.

PARKING: On arriving at Rebecca Spit, please do not park beyond the park gate as the parade floats, etc. need room to set up. All floats will end up in the parking lot after the parade, so please don't expect to follow the parade up to the parking lot! It will already be full. Thank you Paul Ryan for gate control.

SHUTTLE SERVICE: The Heriot Bay Inn van will make trips to and from the Spit from 9-10 and then from 2-3:00. If you are walking down the Spit road and have a box lunch, small children or are a senior citizen etc., just gave a wave. They'll pick you up. (Thanks HBI.) Also new this year, 3 mini-vans will shuttle from wherever the farthest parked car is on Heriot Bay road to the field.

PARADE: Jeannie Miller is the parade marshal. There are the Credit Union Trophy for best float and Clandening trophy for best kid's costume; prize money for costumes, bike, walker, horses. New this year: please register your name or organization with Jeannie who will be standing at the first roadway past the gate where the floats go to assemble. Registration is vital for the judges. Also come early. Walk your kids to their float. No cars that are not in the parade will be allowed in the assembly area. (It's too chaotic.)

GREASEPOLE: Grant Haydon and Doug Peters have erected a new grease pole. No pyramids please. Note at the top tells the winner to collect \$50 from the person at the information table under the big tent.

GRADE 6 PICNIC: May Day is a time to honour the Grade 6 class which will be leaving for Campbell River next year. Check out the last picnic table with the balloons.

QUEEN AND COURT: Speech contestants in Grade 6 deliver a speech at the Community Centre 3 weeks before May Day. The winner is the May Queen and runners up are in the court. This is done in the spirit of honouring the Grade Sixes' transition to high school next year and having the whole age group being "special" at May Day. Big hugs to Donna Dennis

for being the "Queen Mother" of protocol, and Robin Beaton for organizing this.

STAGE: Special thanks to Mel Doaks for supplying and setting up the stage year after year after year! Thanks to the various volunteers who decorate it too.

Master of Ceremonies: We are pleased to present, Regional Director Jim Abram as the 'official' voice.

MAY DAY DEDICATION: Each year the coordinating committee seek suggestions of citizens who have given positive service to the community over a lengthy period of time.

SOUND: Supplied by our favourite techies...Tony Simard and George Murdock.

MAY POLE DANCERS: Barrie Calverley is preparing the Grade 3 dancers for the traditional May Pole dance. Thanks Barrie for doing this year after year as well!

BOX LUNCH AUCTION: Please support all the local businesses who donate magnificent "box" lunches each May Day. This is a big fund-raiser for next year's May Day. Get your friends together to bid and have a marvellous banquet. Marie Sheran is organizing this.

CONCESSION: Susan Swanson is coordinating CCAP and baseball volunteers to serve food. Special thanks to Paradise Bay Seafarms and Walcan for providing barbecued farm salmon as one of the menu items. As ever, big appreciations to Heriot Bay Store for support as well.

RACES: Jack Mar is coordinating the races. (Thank you Quadra Elementary teachers again!)

ENTERTAINMENT: So far we have belly dancers, Sunday's dance class, "the former May Pole dancers", Laura Appleton-Jones juggling, some members of Whirlwind Celtic band, maybe Sack o'Hammers as well...Bob Sutherland will m.c.

"UNDER THE BIG TENT": Heather Van Der Est and Linda McClusky organize a tea for the former May Queens at 12:30 to 1:30. Thanks for the support from Taku Resort and Heriot



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Bay Store. Wonder who the oldest May Queen will be? Heather wants good pictures of royal courts of '71,-'73, '79 and '84-'86 for her booklet on May Days.

LIVE MUSEUM DISPLAY: Mary Turner has various people displaying "how they did it on Quadra 100 years ago" starting after the Queen tea...

INFORMATION TABLE: Lost? Hurt? Got questions? Want to buy an official Centennial T-shirt or lapel pin with the Centennial Logo? Julie Frank and Maru Jolar will be at your service. Need to phone 911? There will be a cell phone for that purpose and a first aid kit. (Thanks Betty Doaks).

DRIFTWOOD FORTS: Barb Mindell and Laird Fredericks organize an "1800's Settlement" out of found wood on the beach. This year, adults can come and help out the kids. No cash prizes this year: just the fun of involvement!

SAIL BOAT RACES: Larry Hansen is back and purportedly organizing this but who has seen him?

VOLLEYBALL: Pat Field will start you off.

CREDIT UNION DISPLAY WINDOW: Enjoy art by Candace Holmes.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Look for pictures by Rod Clark.

EQUIPMENT GUARDIANS: Thanks Sharon and Robert Clandening for staying over night at the Spit.

MAY DAY DANCE: Want to help? Call the Community Centre at 285 3243. Caroline Heim, Julie Watson, Casey Guildemond are majors on this one. "Squish" is a Celtic Rock band.

CLEAN UP, and Recycling: Help keep the park clean. Pick up litter. Hey, how about everywhere on the island! Dan Bingham is our conscience.

Have a great Centennial May Day. (Visualize sun!)



*Gathering at Cape Mudge Light House, 1903.
Photo courtesy of Campbell River Museum*

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May Day History

Was the First May Day Really 100 Years Ago?

Jeanette Taylor

Prodded into action by our tireless recreation coordinator I began what turned into a major quest, searching for a record of our first May Day celebration on Quadra Island. Scanning primary documents (records from people who were there at the time) proved confusing for while there were many memories of the occasion the dates named fell evenly between 1896, 1897 and 1898. But there was one tangible clue, as I assured Sandy, which would settle the matter. Whichever dates were named many agreed that the "first" May Day was held in honour of newly elected MLA (or MP, according to some) Robert Grant.

On my next trip to the BC Archives in Victoria I scanned the election records. There was a Provincial election in 1898 but Robert Grant's name did not appear as running or elected (he was a Cumberland businessman who was off in search of Yukon Gold in 1898). There was a Federal election in 1896 but Robert Grant's name didn't appear there either until I ran my finger up the roster and found our man's name, elected as MP... in 1903.

Dairies, letters and newspapers confirm there were definitely May Day picnics before 1903! For a history sleuth this kind of involved chasing of threads is as much fun as a good detective novel. I poured over a picture (of which there are two copies, each from different families) of a happy crowd in their Sunday-best with a caption on the back, "First Quadra Island Community Picnic at Drew Harbour, welcoming Robert Grant." Nearly everyone is named in that photograph, including Robert Grant. One of the copies has 1896 scratched out and 1898 written above. The other remains at 1898, but in the photograph is an irrefutable lead.

Sitting on the lap Hosea Bull (of the Heriot Bay Hotel) is his smiling baby who looks to be about six months old. So off I went to the census records - where I found little Cecil Bull's birthday, December 1898. By May 1900 Cecil would have been about six months old...

So here's the true confessions part of this piece, I was out of clues (for the present!) and, time so I made an arbitrary choice and accepted one participant's opinion.

Katie (Walker) Clarke had a strikingly accurate (though not infallible) and detailed

memory. She came to the island as a child of three years old in 1893 and her first memory of a picnic was one held in June 1897 for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. The 50th year of Victoria's reign was THE event of the '90s, celebrated in grand style throughout her realm. The ultra-English Pidcock Family of Quathiaski Cove organized a picnic. Folks from the scattered settlements around the district made their way by boat (there were few roads at the time) to the Light House, which was then under construction. Young Katie Walker recalled the big day in minute detail, from the excitement of meeting other children, to the prizes for foot races and the lusty singing of "God Save the Queen" at days end. Each mouth-watering dish was described in Katie's memoirs, from Mrs. Yeatman's chicken pie and Mrs. Bryant's roast suckling pig to the candies the Pidcocks store.

According to Katie this wonderful celebration gave rise to the beginning of our annual May Day picnics, starting in 1898.

Alice Pidcock was the chief organizer of many of the May Day picnics in the early years and Cape Mudge continued as the favoured spot though in 1901 Chief Billy Assu and Johnny Moon combined forces to host May Day at the Reserve at Campbell River Spit, where the wild flowers grew in knee high profusion. People gathered for the usual picnic and races, which included a variation on the egg and spoon race, in which contestants had to run to a marker, light a pipe and run with it to the finish line.

George Pidcock noted that the picnic was held at Cape Mudge in 1908 and 1909. May 24, 1909: "Fine and bright, down to Cape for picnic, 49 there, had very good time. Herbert [his brother] beat running and jumping."

Eventually responsibility for the picnic fell into the hands of Mrs. Pidcock's nemesis, Hosea Bull of the Heriot Bay Hotel. Her sons, though grown men, were forbidden to darken the doors of that unseemly establishment where the day ended with a grand dance the upstairs dance hall at the hotel.

By 1910 Heriot Bay was the biggest centre in the entire district, with nearly 100 people registered at the post office in Bull's dry goods store. Hosea and Helen Bull had

the Chinese cook and flunkies from their logging camp serve a feast on the hotel grounds, where the tug of war was the telling feat of strength between the miners and the loggers.

Exactly when folks started congregating at Rebecca Spit, courtesy of a chicken rancher named, Mr. Maxwell, is another unrecorded date. Through some of the 1920s the day was marked at the community hall (where Quadra Daycare is now) but by the 1930s Rebecca Spit had become the exclusive spot, where the Clandening family welcomed visitors to their beautiful property~

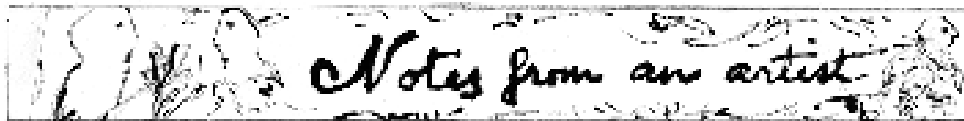
During World War I the ancient English tradition of the crowning of a Queen of May became one of many tools of patriotic fervour, encouraged as a Canadian school event. Our first crowning and May Pole dances took place at both the Heriot Bay and Valdez Island schools in 1923 (not at the annual picnic). By the early 1950s, when the schools were consolidated, the pageantry of the queen -and court had been incorporated into May Day at Rebecca Spit.

No matter when, where or how the May Day picnic has been celebrated on Quadra Island we can thank the past generations for tenaciously hanging on to the charming tradition. While most BC communities dropped the event during times of war, economic depression and changing social values, Quadra Islanders have retained and built upon the event.

Enjoy this special May Day of 1998 when we mark 100 years (or more...) of community and continuity, as the descendants of the first picnic organizers race to the finish line alongside the children of all those, over the many years, who have come to call this beautiful place home.

Jeanette Taylor

With thanks to Campbell River Museum Archives and to Heather VanderEst, who has compiled an impressive archival record of May Day (sponsored by Walcan) which will be available in the local library, museum, school and community centre.



By Bettina Lewis

From Amsterdam

Art is alive and very well indeed in Amsterdam and the Netherlands. Amsterdam in particular, and the Netherlands in general, offered paintings in many unexpected places as I roamed the streets accompanied by the quiet purring of the bicycles going by.

I am not referring to the paintings and sculptures in the museums. We all know about the Van Goghs, the Rembrants, the Vermeers, and the crowds that go to pay homage to the greats that have received history's stamp of approval. The paintings I am referring to appear in all kinds of places: banks, hairdresser's salons, hotels, restaurants, displayed in small studios seen from the street. Even the Prostitution Information Centre in the Red Light district has on its walls 15 small oils, each one of a woman standing naked, without much detail but with a lot of expression and high colour. They were donated by the father of the prostitute who opened this centre. Yes, art as part of every aspect of life, as ideally it was meant to be.

Consistently, all these paintings are original in conception, highly colourful, daring in execution and imagery, with an endearing vitality, full of a child's spontaneity. One can see the influence of the Cobra Group (Karel Appel, Asger Jorn, Corneille, Constant, to name a few) which was an important art movement based in Amsterdam that joined artists from Denmark and Belgium in 1945 till 1950. Their aim was to express in their own individual ways, without restrictions or theories; a daring position at that time. This group gave birth to a very vibrant art and now their paintings are shown in major art centres, and form part of art collections around the world.

I was amazed at the number of painters who open their own small galleries. There seems to be lots of these small store fronts available and, accustomed as they are to small spaces, they know how to use it skilfully and arrange it tastefully. I came upon one such artist in Alkmaar while I was visiting the famous Friday morning cheese market. I was walking the cobbled streets, exploring, when I spotted this

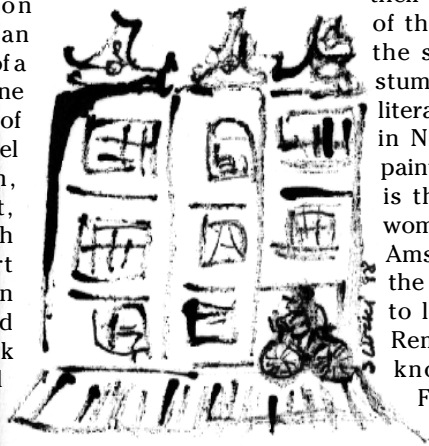
splash of colour which I first thought to be a hallucination: an explosion of wild colourful canvasses at a corner store. This was Marike Rietveld's studio gallery. Her work is, as most contemporary Dutch paintings I saw, colourful, vibrant, showing the spontaneity of children's art plus the sophistication of a trained eye, hand and heart. We chatted (everybody speaks English) and had one of those conversations artists enjoy. Another artist I met shows at her small gallery (actually, the name is Amsterdam's Smallest Gallery); her name is Sonjia. She paints wonderfully imaginative street scenes of Amsterdam's quaint houses, bridges and canals, and flying bicycles. Her space is on the side of a famous old church and is no bigger than 15 feet by 4 feet, and yet it feels and looks spacious and inviting. We shared our experiences over cappuccino. There were many other such encounters I enjoyed, and it was refreshing to see how open and communicative they all were.

And then I had the most amazing surprise or all; the paintings of Charlotte Solomon at the Jewish Museum in Amsterdam. Twice before I had come across reproductions of her work: the first time, in a film about their life and work shown at one of the Vancouver film festivals; the second time, years later, I stumbled upon her book (quite literally, it is huge) in a bookstore in New York. What makes her paintings and writing so unusual is that when she was a young woman her parents sent her from Amsterdam (then occupied by the Nazis) to the South of France to live with her grandparents. Reminding us of another well known young talent (Anne Frank) in hiding during that period, Charlotte Solomon began to record in paint

and word her life and experiences during that time. She left 700 paintings with text before she was sent to a concentration camp where she died at the age of 26. A valuable testimony of a time from our history, and some wonderful art too.

And then there were the tulips, another amazing feast for the soul. To see 6 million red tulips in the fields from the distance, next to another 6 million yellow tulips and purple ones, was to contemplate a painting done by nature.

The whipping cream, the chocolates, the cheeses and the art fed me and filled me up, and I thank Amsterdam and Holland for that. I



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Money Matters

Greed is Good (for who?)

by Steven Halliday


Those of us who studied economics are generally in awe of Professor John Kenneth Galbraith, the US economist, author and educator, who seems to have a grasp of economic fundamentals unmatched by any other living person. The author of *The Great Crash of 1929* and *A Short History of Financial Euphoria* was featured in an article in the May 2/98 edition of the *Globe and Mail* written by Editor Douglas Goold that I thought readers of *Money Matters* may find of interest. A recent issue of the British magazine "The Economist" featured a cover story labelling the present US economy as a Bubble Economy, likely close to bursting. "Soaring share prices, merger mania and rising prices for property and works of art all suggest that America is developing a bubble economy."

Commenting on this, Prof. Galbraith states "Nobody should be completely calm about the question of a bubble in Wall Street. Stocks have been going up at least largely because people thought they were going up, acted, and [the results] confirm their expectations. This is the classic speculative binge. Coupled with that, we're having an epidemic of mergers and acquisitions, which is the usual accompaniment of a period of speculation. We have far more mutual funds than there is intelligence to go around, and a boom of this sort covers up a certain amount of misadventures of financial institutions, banks and investment companies." Back in January of 1997, Galbraith had said in a lecture delivered in Toronto "We are presently witnessing - and in the frequent case rejoicing in - a stock market boom, a bubble, for which we may be reasonably sure there will be an unpleasant day of reckoning." Unfortunately, Prof. Galbraith was reluctant to make any predictions about the timing or severity of the coming "reckoning" either in 1997 or last week. Others quoted in the same article were also critical of the current laissez-fair attitude by many towards the market. Barton Biggs, of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter was quoted as saying in mid-April "We are deep in the warm and fuzzy embrace of one of the greatest stock market bubbles of all time. I have little cash but a lot of bonds" he offered by way of advice. Greg Smith of Prudential Securities wrote "Under the market's charitable new rules, even disappointments are

rewarded." The article's author interprets this as saying that even though a company reports lousy profits, its stock can still go up, a clear sign of a dubious state of affairs.


Accompanying the article was a graph outlining the price/earnings ratio of the Nasdaq Stock Market from 1985 to present. From 1985 to 1991, the P/E fluctuated from approximately 20 to 30. In 1992 it rocketed to 50, and has fluctuated between 30 and 50 from then until 1997. Since mid 1997, it has gone straight up to its present level of about 85. For those readers who have forgotten the meaning of P/E, it is the multiple of the price paid for a share versus the earnings per share of a particular company. For example, a company with earnings per share of \$1.00 per year at a P/E of 85 means it is trading at \$85.00 per share - you will note I did not say worth \$85.00 per share. In closing the article, Mr. Goold notes that a "normal" correction of between 10% and 15% in the market translates to an almost 1,400 point drop in the Dow (at 15%) and almost 1,200 on the T.S.E.. Those are awfully big numbers from an investor psychology perspective, and the sentiment of the "bearish analysts" is for a much steeper plunge when the correction occurs. The October 1987 correction took almost 25% off the Dow.


As the days go by, I start feeling more and more like the little boy who called wolf. But I take great comfort in knowing I'm not alone in my pessimism, particularly when the likes of John Kenneth Galbraith are sounding the warning as well. To those of you looking at market returns with an envious eye, let me leave you with the advice the old Desk Sergeant on "Hill Street Blues" used to give his men after roll call - "Hey...be careful out there".





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16 *Discovery Islander* #162 May 11th 1998

Into The Woods

Forest Health, A Dynamic Perspective

By Jerry Benner

The health of the forest is important to myself and most people on our forested island. This concern may be for the individual tree in your yard, forest stands on your property or the entire forest ecosystem which covers Quadra Island. The trees are the most dominant component and the aggregated forces that cause injury or mortality to them are part of the natural forces operating within that ecosystem. These forces play an important role in the process of nutrient cycling, habitat creation and succession of the forest.

Like all living things trees have annual cycles and individual species have specific life cycles. In a forest that was regenerated following an individual event, such as the wildfire that swept most of Quadra in 1925, many of the trees are very close to the same age and termed even-aged. The factors that affect their health may be age dependent and therefore many of us share the same problems with our trees. For example red-alder is a relatively short lived tree and many of the stands on Quadra have reached their maturity and have begun to die. In comparison the Douglas-fir stands are able to continue to grow and survive for centuries, with the natural mortality from overcrowding occurring at a declining rate.

When assessing the health of one or many trees there are some common suggestions which may help you identify concerns. The first is to become familiar with your trees, learn their common or scientific names and make periodic examinations in order to identify any abnormal changes. Spring is an ideal time as the new growth of the deciduous and some of the coniferous species is so easy to notice. Common trees like Douglas-fir, grand fir (balsam), Sitka spruce and pine species all have annual growth which can be seen as whorls of branches on the trunk. Each branch on these trees will grow annually and are colour coded a brighter green in Spring. Thus the record of each particular years growth is recorded at the node and can be compared to the current growth rate.

Forest health can be threatened by numerous methods and usually careful examination will determine the cause of the trees lack of vigour or demise. Causes can be grouped under:

numerous methods and usually careful examination will determine the cause of the trees lack of vigour or demise. Causes can be grouped under:

Diseases-these pathogens are primarily fungi, rusts and parasites. Fungal attacks are the most common affecting our trees, and various root rots have the most impact. Root rot of conifer trees is a hazard to homeowners due to the susceptibility to windthrow. These fungi live off of live or dead roots or stumps and can gradually spread out in centres continually infecting susceptible trees. Obvious signs are thinning of needles, reduced growth and stress cone crops which are a profusion of cones produced on a near fatal tree. White pine is severely infected by a blister rust that causes cankers on the branches and trunk that are generally fatal. Early pruning of lower limbs is the best prevention for this hazard. Mistletoe is a common parasite on hemlock trees and is recognised by the so called brooms that develop and are exceptionally thick growth and swellings in the branch and trunk.

Insects-these pests are less of a risk here on Quadra than in other areas of B.C. Often young trees are at the greatest risk and certain species more than others. For example spruce trees are attacked by the spruce leader weevil which burrows into the new terminal leader each year. This causes the death and shrivelling of the top growth which stops the tree from gaining height each year resulting in a very thick and stunted specimen. Control is achieved by growing spruce under the shelter of another canopy that acts as a shield from the weevil when searching for new candidates in the spring. A serious threat to our true fir trees is the balsam woolly adelgid (aphid). It was introduced from Europe and has been expanding its range and is currently approaching Quadra. A quarantine exists that limits the transfer of balsam trees and products off or onto Quadra. A quarantine exists that limits the transfer of balsam trees and products off or onto Quadra.

Abiotic agencies-these are climate, animal or man made impacts on the health of trees. Environmental states such as wind, frosts, ice, snow or hail cause damage and also provide access for other attacks by decay fungi or insects. Drought is a serious

hazard to trees in very well drained soils or on rock bluffs and can be prevented with irrigation. Trees can also suffer from sunscald, in particular if the trunk of red-alder is exposed to the sun by the removal of adjacent trees the bark will blister and die. This can also be caused by the heat from adjacent fires. Other man caused damage includes removal of the bark or excessive compaction of the area under the trees where roots are near the surface by machinery or vehicles. Animal damage is frequently destructive to young trees, and the plentiful deer population is our main culprit. Physical protection is the common prevention and other repellents are utilized.

If you have concerns about the health of your trees please contact me and I will try to assist you in assessing the cause and hazard.

Jerry Benner is graduating from UBC in Forestry this month and has specialized in forest health issues. He has worked in the forest industry for 30 years in silviculture, logging and forestry and is a member of the Quadra Island Forest Resource Committee.

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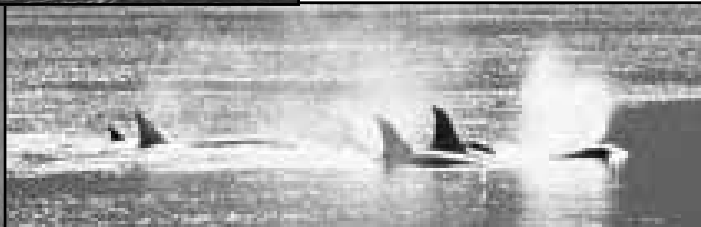
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Sierra Quadra

Earth Day Beach Cleanup

by Geraldine Kenny

By the afternoon of April 25th, the one-ton truck at the Community Centre was stacked high with bags of garbage collected from Quadra's beaches. The Earth Day clean-up organized by Sierra Quadra collected four such truckloads of mostly plastic waste from our beautiful shores.

Two classes of Quadra Elementary students scoured Picnic Beach on Wednesday, and then on Saturday about three dozen people chose their favourite beaches to continue the clean-up. Donated pick-up trucks collected the bagged garbage from designated sites at the south-end of Quadra and delivered them to the Community Centre where they were reloaded to the bigger truck for transportation to the Campbell River dump. For northern Quadra, garbage was packed to roadsides or delivered by boat to other specified pick-up areas.

We were not able to clean all Quadra's beaches but we were able to clean parts of Wa-Wa-Kei, about half the beach paralleling Topcliff Road, most of Rebecca Spit, Open Bay, Valdez Estates, Village Bay, Conville Bay, and the Shellalligin Pass and Bold Point areas. In Crescent Channel alone, one 200 metre stretch of beach yielded 140 kilos of plastic garbage.

Most people worked in teams, returning from their collective efforts with a clear sense of accomplishment. It was an opportunity to visit, to work, and to do something of immediate and tangible benefit for our island home. The weather was bright and warm, the garbage was easy to find, and everyone seemed to agree that the event was effective and fulfilling.

Plastic is one of the wonders of our modern age. It's versatile, durable—and most of it floats. Consequently, when it's discarded, it drifts in the tides and winds of the Strait of Georgia and arrives on our beaches. Here is a list of

some of the things we found, a kind of inventory of our consumer civilization: polypropylene rope in all diameters and colours (blue, yellow, black, green white, purple, red); parts of picnic coolers, crab traps, refrigerators, milk crates, laundry baskets, garbage cans, plant pots and ice cream buckets; oil containers in one litre to 20 litre sizes; milk jugs; empty Bic lighters; dozens of tampon cartridges and shotgun shell casings; bleach and whiskey bottles; pipe, tubing and hoses of various diameters and lengths; cigar tips; strapping; combs; balloons; mesh; one washing machine agitator; prescription bottles and pill dispensers; fishing line; six-pack harnesses; shellfish net bags; swizzle sticks; straws; and containers for sour cream, baby powder, soft drinks and suntan oil. There were junk food bags, grocery bags, fish-food bags and miscellaneous bottle caps and candy wrappers—all in English but one in Japanese. And there were tennis balls, fishing floats, car tires and plastic auto parts. Styrofoam was represented as pieces of smashed cups and broken foam remnants of washed-away wharfs. In the metal department, there were empty flare casings, aerosol cans and one TV antenna. And for those interested in fashion, there were shoes and sandals of mixed leather and foam—but no matching pairs.

From this partial list and the amount of garbage we found, it's obvious we have to be more aware and thoughtful of what we do with our consumer waste—whether we are on the ocean for recreation or business, or whether we are just visiting shorelines, rivers or streams. What we throw away has a way of returning to haunt us and to plague our natural world.

Sierra Quadra would like to thank



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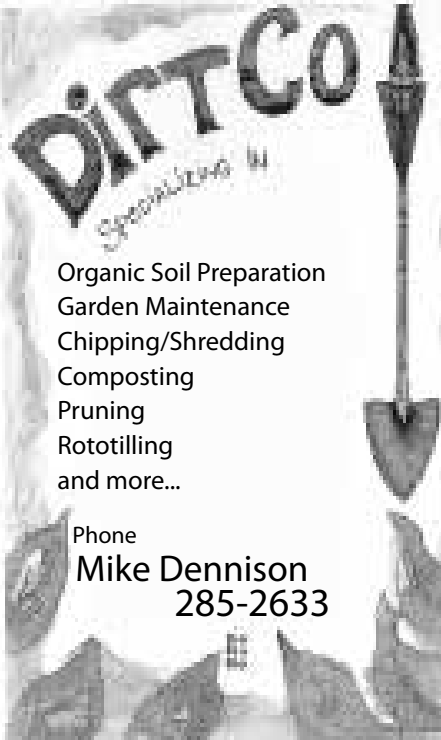
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all the individuals who participated in this Earth Day beach cleanup, with special recognition to organizations for their help and participation: Quadra Credit Union, Klaus Masonry, Quadra Elementary, the Quadra Conservancy, Paradise Bay Seafarms, Brian and Susy Stevenson, and the communities of Valdez Estates and Bold Point. Thanks as well to Quadra's Roy Matza for organizing his Carihi students for a beach cleanup in Campbell River. Also thanks to those who contributed garbage bags and to the Regional District for waiving dumping fees. And a final accolade to all those who make a regular habit throughout the year of picking up garbage wherever they find it.

Geraldine Kenny is four-year resident of Bold Point, a private educator with an emphasis on ecology and eco-tourism.

Sierra Quadra meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the lower floor of the Quadra Island United Church. Next meetings May 11 and June 8th. To write directly to us, we're at Box 219, Heriot Bay, B.C. V0P 1H0.



Quadra Credit Union



Annual General Meeting Wednesday, May 13, 1998 7:30 pm at Quadra Community Centre.

Immediately following the regular business meeting, we are fortunate to have Mr. Wayne Nygren, President and C.E.O. of Credit Union Central of BC with us to address the membership regarding the state of the Canadian financial services industry and Credit Union system in BC. Wayne is a former economist with the Bank of Canada, former V.P. and Chief Financial Officer for Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan, and has occupied his present position since 1985 as head of BC's central banking and service facility. Wayne will be providing an especially insightful overview on this very timely subject.

Refreshments will be provided following his address.

Members and guests are encouraged to attend.

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Island Report

A Vision of Vineyards

by Tanya Storr

The legislation for commercial winemaking in B.C. has recently changed to allow co-operative wineries, and area 'I' regional district director George Sirk is envisioning a future grape growing co-operative winery for Cortes.

Sirk, who has been making his own wine for 15 years, said the new legislation would allow numerous growers to pool all their grapes together to supply one jointly-owned winery.

"Wineries used to have to be independent, but now they can be co-operative. For example, on Cortes there could be eight to ten growers of grapes who also own the winery. The growers could coordinate and produce two or three grape varieties on the island, then pool the grapes and make two or three types of wine."

Sirk explained that the smallest classification of B.C. winery, the 'farm gate winery', must produce a minimum of 1,000 gallons of wine per year. In order to make that much wine, the winery needs to grow between five to eight acres of grapes.

"That's quite a large investment for any one person. With a co-operative winery, there could be ten growers each growing half an acre," Sirk pointed out.

There are a number of wineries operating in the Cobble Hill area on Vancouver Island, but Sirk said he doesn't know of any on the northern Gulf Islands. Cortes and the south end of Quadra are in a Gulf Island biotic zone with an excellent climate for growing grapes if we pick the right varieties, he stated.

One variety that will work well in this area is called Siegerebe, a white grape that is already produced by some B.C. wineries. Sirk added that great inroads are being made on cloning a Pinot Noir that will ripen two to four weeks earlier than usual.

"In this area we need varieties that ripen by the end of September, because then we can guarantee a vintage, as much as we can guarantee anything that depends on the weather. It takes about four years until you begin to produce a crop, so you need to grow the right varieties or you can waste a lot of time," said Sirk.

As Sirk pointed out, there are other options for commercial grape growers besides creating a winery. One would be to produce an organic grape juice. Although a much simpler product, it would still require government inspection. Another option would be to grow grapes to sell as food or for other people to use in winemaking.

"How you sell wine in B.C. is strictly controlled. In a farm

gate winery, for example, you can sell wine on the property but you can't undercut a government agent. There aren't as many regulations for producing grapes, and there's a market here for selling grapes to home winemakers," Sirk said.

Despite the strict regulations and time required to build up a big enough harvest, Sirk said he'd really like to see a grape growing co-operative winery on Cortes. "I love grape juice but I really like wine. The art of making wine is the fun part."

Sirk is currently organising a two-day vineyard workshop for anyone who is interested in growing grapes and producing their own wine. The workshop will be led by John Vielvoye from Kelowna, one of B.C.'s foremost grape growing experts. Participants will learn the fundamentals of site selection and essentials of basic modern grape production, and a possible outcome of the workshop is the creation of a grape growing co-operative.

"By taking the course, people could see what it entails to grow grapes and what varieties they need to grow. Then people could pick a limited number of grapes and in the future, as they grow, we could form a co-op and produce wine," said Sirk.

On day one of the workshop, Vielvoye will cover topics such as climate and site requirements, rootstock considerations, site preparations, planting, spacing, trellis designs, cover crops, pest problems, pruning of vines, and harvest criteria. Day two will be spent visiting as many Cortes sites as possible to analyse their potential.

"John Vielvoye is extremely knowledgeable. He worked for the Department of Agriculture for many years as a grape expert, and he now works as a grape growing consultant to wineries and gives workshops," Sirk noted.

The course will be based at the North Island College office in Manson's Hall, and will cost \$150/person. There is a minimum class size of 15 required to cover fees and expenses, so a date will not be set until enough people have committed to the workshop. Anyone interested in this vineyard workshop should call North Island College Coordinator Mary Gordon at 935-6442 or George Sirk at 935-6926.

Island Report

Rebecca Spit: A Gift to the Island

by Tanya Storr

As the Centennial May Day approaches, this seems a good opportunity to reflect on the history of Rebecca Spit. As stated on a plaque at the park entrance, the Spit was donated as a park to the people of the island by the Clandening family in 1959.

Rebecca Spit was the property of Gordon and Mary Clandening and the site of many picnics in the pioneer days, including May Day celebrations. Gordon inherited the Spit from his father, James Clandening, a road and railway contractor who served as a Vancouver alderman from 1895-1897. Grace Peterson, who was married to Mary and Gordon's oldest son, Arthur, took the time to tell me about the history of the Spit.

The Clandenings lived in a log cabin between the first narrow bit and the big field in the early 1920s, and Mary used to raise turkeys to earn money so they could send their two sons to King Edward School in Vancouver. In the big field (where May Day celebrations are now held), the Clandenings used to grow potatoes to feed the turkeys. Later, the family built a bigger house to live in, located before the first narrow bit.

The Clandenings also had an oyster lease, and a machine shop and marine ways named J.G. Clandening and Sons. The machine shop and ways were located where the boat ramp is now.

The Clandening family threw open the old picnic grounds, which were located to the right of the 'no enter' road just beyond the park entrance, on numerous occasions. Picnics generally drew people from all over Quadra and the outer islands, and featured competitions and games as well as lots of food.

In the earthquake of 1946, half an acre of the tip of Rebecca Spit sank beneath the ocean's surface. As recounted by Del Clandening in my article on the earthquake (*Discovery Islander* #135), Gordon was in the outhouse at the time. Del was married to Mary and Gordon's younger son, Albert.

"When the shaking started Gordon thought it was his wife, Mary, shaking the outhouse and playing a joke on him. 'Mary, cut that out! Stop that, Mary,' he called. Then he realised what it was and came running out, pulling up his suspenders as he went!"

she recalled.

Fortunately, the earthquake didn't cause any significant damage to the Clandenings' house, but they did lose the tip of their property!

After Grace and Arthur got married in 1954, they lived in the house on the Spit until a fire rendered the house unlivable in 1958. Gordon passed away in 1952, and Mary lived in a little cabin that was also on the Spit.

"I enjoyed the years we lived out there. I liked the quiet and the solitude," said Grace. "I had come from London, England, so it was

government gave her a small sum and a piece of property by Bates Beach on Vancouver Island.

The official opening of Rebecca Spit Park was held on June 20, 1959. Over 1,000 people attended the event, which featured a dedication ceremony, novelty races, a picnic supper, water skiing, an outboard motorboat race, a torch parade, and a council fire put on by the Boy Scouts. At the end of the day, a dance took place at the Community Hall.

Speakers during the dedication ceremony included the Hon. Earle C. Westwood, Minister of Recreation and Conservation; Don A. Huntley, President of the Quadra Ratepayers' Association; Lloyd McIlwain from the Parks Committee; and Chief Billy Assu from Cape Mudge. Presentations of thanks were made to Mary Clandening, and Billy Assu bestowed upon the Hon. Earle C. Westwood the name "Qua-Qua-Kaliss", meaning "One Mountain" or "Big Man".

The souvenir program from the official opening picnic explains that long before other people settled on Quadra, the Spit was the scene of battles between warring First Nations peoples. Today, one can still see the remains of trenches on the Spit. In the late 18th Century, Spanish and British Navy sailing ships dropped their anchors in Drew Harbour. The program goes on to say that before the Spit was purchased by the provincial government for a park, it "acknowledged only two owners." The first owner was the Hon. Mr. Sayward, after whom the Sayward District was named. The second owner, of course, was James Clandening, who passed the Spit on to his son Gordon.

The program ends with the words: "The dedication of the Spit today fulfils a desire of the Clandenings that its beauty be preserved for all time."

Grace said she is looking forward to the Centennial May Day celebration at the Spit, and the Clandening family is planning a float. Del's daughter, Lynn, and Grace's youngest daughter, Cheryl, are both past May Queens.



Picnic at Rebecca Spit 1944

a big change. The only thing I didn't care for was the outdoor plumbing—we had an outhouse and I wasn't used to that. We had to get water from a spring across Drew Harbour from the Spit."

When Grace and Arthur lived on the Spit, they had power, which was installed on the island in 1952, and telephone. "There were 26 households sharing the phone line and each one had a distinctive ring. If you were visiting somebody and their phone rang with your ring, you could pick it up and know it was for you."

After Gordon passed away, Mary Clandening was offered a substantial amount of money for the Rebecca Spit property from developers who wanted to turn it into a resort. "She didn't want that because none of the islanders would have been able to go out there," said Grace.

Instead, Mary decided to donate the Spit to the island as a park. In exchange, the

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