

Discovery

Islander

Community News and Events from the Discovery Islands

Legion Donates to Fire Department



ISSUE #158
MAR. 16TH 1998



THE OAK BAY MARINE GROUP MAKE
A FEW CHANGES TO APRIL POINT.

Discovery Islander

#157 March 16th, 1998

The **Discovery Islander** is published every two weeks and distributed free throughout the Discovery Islands by:

Hyacinthe Bay Publishing

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Cartoonist: Bruce Johnstone

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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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Laurence Hargreaves & Cathie Armstrong, present a 'clamshell' to members of the Volunteer Fire Dept. Photo: Tanya Storr

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Editorial

Spring is imminent now, the calendar says so and as the mild winter of 1998 passes, a blaze of blooms testifies to its departure. Islanders will be very busy in the coming weeks as our burgeoning News & Events department shows. No less than six pages packed with exciting things to do and see.

Our renewed call for submissions of some issues ago has been overwhelmingly responded to. This issue we present the first of a regular monthly report from our Regional Director Jim Abram. Along with the now familiar 'Money Matters', 'Sierra-Quadra Report' and 'Notes from an Artist' the pages of the *Islander* are jammed with articles of all kinds.

With many new contributors and the ideas they express appearing in these pages, the dividing line between the *Islander's* content and the editorial views of the publishers is important

to stress.

As the disclaimer in the masthead (opposite) states, the opinions expressed by the writers are their's and their's alone. It seems in particular that the absence of an author's name attached to the 'Sierra-Quadra Report' has left some readers to conclude that the article arises from the *Islander* staff. This is not the case. The Quadra branch of the Sierra Club submit this report as a whole and have expressed a reluctance to assign authorship to any one person as a result. An address appears along with the column to which any communications might be directed on this or any other matter.

We welcome submissions expressing any and all view points (within certain bounds of course). We can only print what we receive it is that simple. The only place where our personal opinions will be expressed will be under this heading.

Deadline For Next Issue 5 pm Wed. March 25th

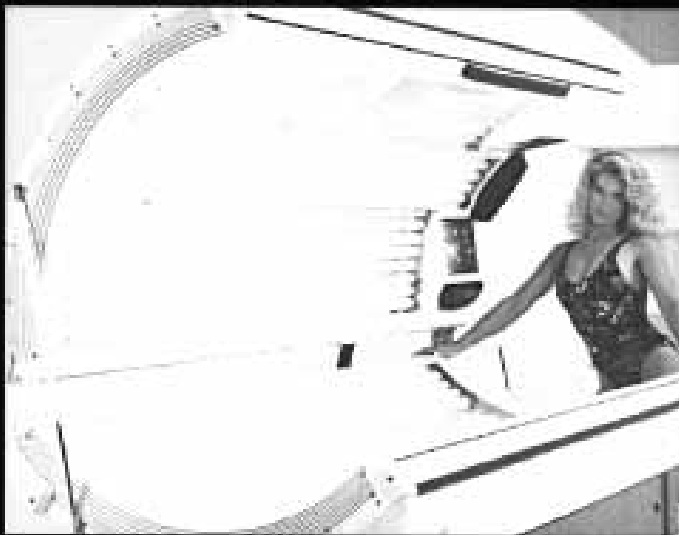
Only Items Received Before The Deadline

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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Island Tides

For Quathiaski Cove March 17-27, 1998

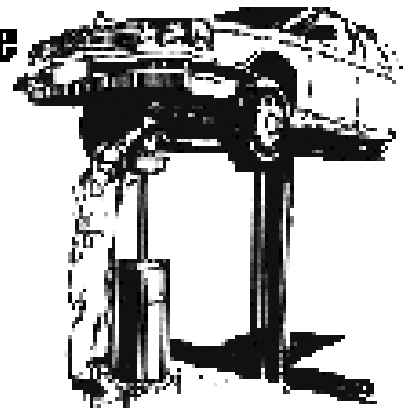
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Island Forum

The value of compromise

Re: The Promise of Ravens to Come.

By: The Sierra Club of Canada

Correct me if I'm wrong, but wasn't the clearcut area spoken of in this article promised to our elementary school if Quadra residents allowed Raven to build a small subdivision on the existing clear cut bordering it?

Did the residents of Quadra not vote to turn down this application, thereby sacrificing this area to the promised logging by Raven should the vote go against them?

The way I see it, when driving or walking past this area we should not only think about the brutality of logging practices, but perhaps we should consider the value of compromise in dealing with these matters in our ever changing world.

Sincerely, *Nancy Nitsch*

Thank you Quadra friends

Thank you to the many Quadra friends who have offered me care and support since my recent accident. I have been mending quickly and know that your gestures and kind thoughts have contributed greatly to my recovery. To the dedicated volunteer ambulance crew - you are invaluable! Until in need, one doesn't fully realize to what extent!

In appreciation,
Carol Foort

Dear Editor,

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:

Whooooo!!! when I opened your February 16 issue I was sure I was getting flashbacks to the eighties and was reading a copy of the old Evergreen Alliance.

In reply to the Sierra column I suggest that Quadra Island was, is and always will be tied economically to our renewable resources. How can minimum wage tourism jobs for three or four months of the year replace well paid year round forestry jobs? The Sierra Quadra column conjures up the "big, bad corporate TimberWest bogeyman". The facts are that to date TimberWest have been very innovative, cooperative and are using Island loggers. It seems to me that logging when carried out under the strict regulations in place today should have no measurable impact on tourism. O.K., so you're going to bring up the Raven clearcut on West Road, but keep in mind that our politicians blew that one when they failed to reach a compromise that might have preserved part of the area as greenspace, and anyway I'm talking about Managed Crown Forestland not private land which is a whole other issue all together.

Based on tens of thousands of hectares of logged forestlands that I have sampled I can tell you that well managed forests can provide greater diversity and better habitat for most of our plants, birds and mammals. You don't believe me? Go out at dawn and sit in the middle of one of our island's cutblocks and keep track of what you see, then try the same thing in a patch

of old growth. I am not saying that we should not have old growth, but just trying to make the point that nature adapts, and is often enhanced by natural and man made events.

The Northern Gulf Islands need the benefits to be gained from renewable, well managed, sustainable forestry, fishing and farming. We may not be there yet but I firmly believe that we are heading in the right direction. Put your boots on and take a walk through one of our managed forests and what you see may surprise you.

Pete Calverley, Forester

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Walk ins Always Welcome

- March 20, Fri.**
"Ecology of Bats" slide show
8:00 p.m. Community Centre
- March 21, Sat.**
Carlos de Junco
Centre
8 p.m. Community
- March 22, Sun.**
Landscape Painting
call 285-3002
- March 23, Mon.**
May Day Meeting
Centre
7:30 p.m. Community
- March 25, Wed.**
QIFRC meeting
7:00 p.m. Quadra School
- March 27, Fri.**
"Tu as crie: Let me go"(flick)
7:45 p.m. Community Centre
- March 28, Sat.**
Goods & Services Auction
Ladies' Aux. Flea Market
Legion
Ethnobotany Workshop
9:30 a.m.-noon
Giant Garage Sale
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 285-3511 QI
CR Museum
Legion Hall
- Mar. 29, Sun.**
Penderecki String Quartet
2:30 p.m. Community Centre
- April 3, Fri.**
Dance-Bonafide
8:00 p.m. Community Centre
- April 4, Sat.**
Teaching Eng. Overseas
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Taku Resort
Patagonia etc. Slide show
7:45 p.m. Community Centre
- April 5, Sun.**
AGM Q.I. Conservancy
7:30 p.m. Community Centre
Giant Rummage Sale
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Quadra School Gym
- April 6, Mon**
CCAP Fundraising Committee Mtg.
7:30 p.m. Community Centre
- April 18, Sat.**
River Blues Club
CR
7:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. T-Bird Hall,
Minor Fastball Bottle Drive
10:30 a.m. Community Centre start

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.

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.

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 19, 7:30 p.m., The Number 14 Bus. A bagatelle of skits boasting 6 performers and some 60 characters all taking place on a transit bus. Silly, brilliant fun that manages to say something about the human condition without being preachy. Tickets: Adults \$24, students/seniors \$20 (GST included), Groups rate: 10 or more people \$15 per person.

March 27, 6:30 p.m., Prostate Cancer Awareness Forum. Prostate cancer awareness explained in layman's terms. Featured keynote speaker is Dr. Charles Ludgate, a specialist in the radiation treatment from the Victoria Cancer Clinic. No Admission Charge.

Fools Gallery



See the sun!

Visit Mexico at the Fools

Works by

Anne Wilson, Doris Ritchie,

Mark Haines and David McLean

Starting March 17th

Island Market, Heriot Bay

News & Events

Goods & Services Auction

The band wagon's rolling. Through the city, the country, the straits. It's been on the ferry and come to the island. And everywhere it goes, people are jumping aboard. It's an ongoing party! To date over 40 items have been donated to the **March 28th Quadra Daycare Goods and Services Auction**. We have for you.

- One hour of aroma therapy in a steam cabinet, followed by a massage (Leslie Doherty)
- Four hours of guided fishing or sightseeing - includes gear for 4-5 persons, leaves from Heriot Bay (Sutil Charters)
- Three hours of the "Best of Adventure" for two adults, or one adult and one child - kayak, canoe, rock climb, or swing on the ropes course - includes lunch in the Whale Room (Strathcona Park Lodge)
- Four hours of woodworking done on your boat (Ken Burns)
- Two carpet cleanings (Quadra Home Maintenance, Monty Cherrier)
- One accupressure session (Marcy Wolter)
- A \$50 start-up for a "Fat Cat Savings Account" for a child under 12 (Quadra Credit Union)

...and much, much more. Want to jump on the wagon? Call us at 285-3511 and tell us about something you'd like to give. Items can be picked up by volunteers or dropped off at the daycare.

On Saturday, March 28th the bandwagon stops. It rolls into the parking lot of the Quadra Community Centre where, at 5:30 p.m. you and your friends roll off. You enter the hall where you can enjoy the bash of the month. Check out the Silent and Chinese auctions and the raffle items while you listen to the magic fingers of Mary Ellen Wilkins. Munch some delicious food. If something strikes your fancy, make your selections. Scmooze with your friends. Make new ones. Then settle in for the antics of favourite auctioneer, Jack Mar, as the main event gets underway. Cheer when your friends' names or yours is called as a door prize winner, or announced as the proud owner of one or another unique item only available here. When the bidding's all over and you've bought what you want, Quadra's newest hot rock band, **Sack of Hammers**, will give you more reason to dance.

Kids are invited too. This year we will have our first ever children's table, where children will be able to view, and buy, items gathered especially for them. If you have something you think a child would like, call us. **Free child care will be available at the daycare from 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.** for up to 17 children. Pre-registration for this is necessary (phone 285-3511), and children must be toilet-trained to be eligible.

Join us now and on Saturday, March 28 at the QCC. It's a heck of a ride!

Babies & Bellies...

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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

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.

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,

Items For "News and Events" Welcome, Brevity Appreciated.
No Business Related Material Please
Next Deadline - 5:00 p.m. March 25th

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 1920's 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 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

CCAP

The next meeting of the Community Centre Additions Project Fundraising Committee will be held on **Monday, April 6, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.** For more information and location please call 285-2841

All Ages Dance!

April 3 all ages dance to Bonafide with an opening Reggae band and D.J.'s No alcohol. Doors open at 8 p.m. \$10 ticket or \$20 for ticket & C.D. Lots of Fun!

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 Arseneault) 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 Project. Thanks for your help.

Hilary Stewart

The Penderecki String Quartet

March 29, 1998, will bring a rare treat to the concert goers of Campbell River, Quadra and Cortes Islands. The Penderecki String Quartet will perform at **2:30 p.m. at Quadra Community Centre.** The Quartet, founded in Poland in 1981, has become one of the most celebrated chamber ensemble in the music world.

Known for its vitality and intensity, as well as its lush warm tone, the Penderecki String Quartet has been greeted with acclaim on its tours in the US, South America, Canada and Europe. Regular European tours have featured the Quartet at concerts in Paris, London, Amsterdam, Salzburg and Berlin, as well as festivals in Merino, Cannes, Montpellier and Krakow. The group now lives in Canada, where they are entering their seventh year as Quartet-in-Residence at Sir Wilfred Laurier University, and are founders/artistic directors of Quartetfest, a non-profit organization which produces a Festival of String Quartets.

The members include Piotr Buczek, violin, Jerzy Kaplanek, violin, Christine Vljak, viola and Paul Pulford, cello. Their Quadra concert will feature works by Haydn, Debussy, Glenn Buhr and Linda Smith.

Tickets for this concert are available at the Tidemark, Joanne's Country Charm and Quadra Crafts. The cost is \$15, and \$12 for

Seniors. Pick-up from either the Campbell River or Cortes ferry can be arranged by calling 285-3700 a week before the concert.

News Item

The following resolution was passed unanimously at the annual convention of the New Democratic Party of B.C. on March 7.

Speakers in favour of the resolution included delegates from Powell River and the lower gulf islands. Final speaker was the Provincial Council delegate from the North Island, Harry Allen. Deputy Premier Dan Miller also voted in favour.

Transportation-BC Ferries

Whereas in many of our coastal communities, working people, families, seniors and young people depend on BC Ferries to access medical services, education opportunities and recreation facilities; and

Whereas ferry fares are escalating beyond the reach of ordinary working people and families, and the underemployed; and

whereas workers and their dependants in such critical industries as Forestry, Fisheries and Tourism are most affected by ferry fare increased.

Therefore be it resolved that the BC NDP urge the provincial government and the federal government to maintain subsidies to BC Ferry Corporation at such a level as to ensure affordability for working people, families and the underemployed.

Giant Garage Sale

Legion Hall #154, **Saturday March 28**, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Tables may be rented for \$5.00 by calling Colleen at 285-3896. Refreshments will be available.

Ethnobotany of the Northwest

Coast

The Museum at Campbell River presents a workshop on Ethnobotany of the Northwest Coast on Saturday, March 28, from 9:30 am to noon.

Ethnobotany is the study of the traditional uses of plant materials by First Nations people on the Northwest Coast prior to European contact and up to the present day. The natural bounty of the forest and ocean provided food, medicines, technology, clothing and shelter. Interest in the knowledge and application of collecting, handling, and use of wild plant materials is enjoying a renaissance today.

The ethnobotany workshop is presented by Zelda O'Connor, who will display plant materials and discuss how they were employed, including herbaceous and marine plants that were important foods and beverages and those that were macerated into paste for dressing wounds and applying medicinal compresses. Workshop participants will also take an interpretive forest walk through the museum grounds.

O'Connor, who has had a lifelong interest in traditional plant uses, identifies, collects and utilizes wild plants from the woods, and cultivates native species on her farm. She has conducted traditional plant workshops and served as ethnobotany guide for many First Nations' educational programs. O'Connor's insightful articles on food, restaurants, gardening, local history, and profiles of working people appear in *Focus* magazine on a regular basis.

Pre-registration is required for Ethnobotany of the Northwest Coast. The cost is \$15.00 per person, with a 10% member discount. Pre-register at the museum, located at 5th Avenue and Island Highway, open Tuesday to Sunday, noon to 5:00 pm. For more information call 287-3103.

The River Blues Band

The Elks Lodge is partnered with the

CAMPBELL RIVER'S



North Island Showcase

Julian Austin

Friday, March 20th -8pm

Irish Rovers

Wednesday, April 1st- 8:30 pm

Rita Chiarelli

Thursday, April 2nd- 7:30 pm

Hypnotist Wayne Lee

Saturday, April 4th- 8:00 pm

Funny Stuff Circus

Sunday, April 5th 2:30pm

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Set in an imaginary Chicago blues night club circa 1930 called the "River Blues Club" (Thunderbird Hall), The "Howlin' Dogs" 7 piece band will be supplying the music. But there's more! The Rivercity Players are also going to present an original "whodunit" mystery written by Paul Rudan. Their large expert cast will blend with the 1930's club theme and people are encouraged to dress in their Blues attire. Action will start early (8 p.m.), so don't be late.

Finger snacks, and door prizes along with an in house draw is also planned. The draw is for a trip for two, destination: the legendary San Francisco Blues Festival, Sept. 18 & 19.

The clubs have also arranged for a hand picked group of fun loving hosts to ensure a comfortable evening is had by all. This is an event that you won't want to miss!

The Howlin' Dogs have made arrangements with their friend, Captain Bob and his 31 foot catamaran the "Nauti-Cat" to shuttle a limited number of people back to Quadra starting at 1 a.m. from the Discovery Marina. For more information on the shuttle contact Explore on Quadra Island 285-3293. Tickets are available at 4 locations: Doghouse Store, Snaggs, Elks Lounge **287-4642, Explore Gallery. \$15/ticket. 19 years+, April 18 Sat.** River Blues Club (T-Bird Hall), **7:30 p.m.-1 a.m.?** (8 p.m. mystery action)

Point of View

The Campbell River and District Public Art Gallery presents its next exhibition, **Point of View**, Stephen L. Goulet, **March 6 -April 24, 1998**. Opening Reception: Friday, March 6, 7 p.m. It features the artwork of North Saanich artist, Stephen L. Goulet. The exhibition is made up of multidimensional work using a variety of media including pen and ink (dot), photography, pencil, watercolour, print, and rock. For more information call the gallery at **287-2261**

Portraiture Workshop

The Campbell River and Public Art Gallery is pleased to be hosting a workshop on portraiture with local artist Sandra Lamb. This weekend workshop will take place on **March 28-29 from 9 a.m.-4p.m.** Each day will be packed full of informative demonstrations, drawing exercises, and individual work time. Students will begin with pencil, graphite, etc. the first day, but will be free to experiment with a medium of their own choice on the second (ie, pastel, watercolour, acrylic, etc.) if they wish to do so. For more information call the gallery at **287-2261**

Giant Rummage Sale

Bargain galore and fundraising by Jack Mar's class. Browse and treat yourself at our concession on **Sunday, April 5, 10 a.m. to 2p.m.** at the **School Gym**.

Perfect timing to get rid of your extra stuff too! For **donations** please call: Lise Burnett 285-3558.

Legion News

March 28 is the date for the **Ladies' Auxiliary's Annual Flea Market**. So, start your spring cleaning early. Then, get together with ant a table. Tables are \$5.00 each. Phone Colleen at 285-3896

The Legion Hall is available for rent for weddings, anniversary parties, birthdays etc. See our Bar Manager for details. See you at the Legion!

Spectacular Slide Show!

"Patagonia, Cape Horn & the South Seas".

Imagine life on a remote atoll, or among the descendants of the mutineers from the "Bounty" on isolated Pitcairn Island. Imagine the thrill of sailing wilderness coastlines, rounding elusive Cape Horn - and then picture the beauty of glaciers that tumble into the sea along Beagle Channel, a coastline unchanged since Darwin was there.

British Columbia adventurers Al and Irene Whitney will be giving an absorbing slide show account of some of their 20,000 mile sea voyage, by sailboat, from Turkey to New Zealand. Join them, together with their two young daughters and a small number of passengers, aboard the "DARWIN SOUND" as they navigate through uncharted channels and unnamed bays that make up the west coast of Chile for thousands of miles. The Whitneys take you from the shivering wilds of Patagonia to the balmy paradise islands of the South Pacific; to the massive mysterious stone sculptures of Easter Island and lush, tropical jungles of Polynesia. Feel what it's like to sail offshore for days at a time and then arrive beneath the beautiful volcanoes of Tahiti and Bora Bora, or to sail into remote island villages, or have whales and birds come close to the boat. Meet happy children who love to be photographed and to show off their village in "the friendly isles" of Tonga; then sail on, dropping anchor at dozens of small, remote islands en route to New Zealand.

This two hour presentation comes to life on the not-so-remote island of Quadra. The superb slides are coordinated with music to create an entrancing voyage of discovery which is sure to awaken the wanderlust in each of us. After the show, meet and talk with this unusual family, in person, (the youngsters have spent more of their lives aboard the boat than at their home on land!)

This special Quadra showing is presented by the Community Centre Additions Project. The date is **April 4, 7:45 p.m. at the Quadra Community Centre**. Admission is by donation, so bring the whole family for a great experience.

Friday Flicks Film Club

Tu as crie: Let me go, the final film in Friday Flicks winter/spring series, begins with the "filmmaker's stunning eye". An iceberg cracks and shifts in the sea while a mother's sorrowful voice laments, "Yanne, the tightrope walker, the acrobat of the heart. Yanne, forever plunging head first to fill the void. Yanne the strong. Yanne the fragile. Yanne. My difficult darling".

Thus we begin, with director Anne Claire Poirier, her search for meaning in the tragic loss of her child to the world of drug addiction. Poirier's daughter Yanne was a talented loss of her child to the world of drug addiction. Poirier's daughter Yanne was a talented and fiercely independent young woman in her twenties who was found strangled to death in a Montreal back alley. She had also been a heroin addict and a prostitute.

Poirier, the first Quebecois woman to direct a feature length film (1967), roams through the haunting, now empty spaces her daughter once occupied. She seeks to understand what ultimately led Yanne to her death. But, not unlike the iceberg, much of her daughter's life and death remain submerged "beneath the surface of comprehension."

The poetic first-person voice-over is written with the "incomparable Marie Clare Blais." It goes beyond documenting personal loss to examining social solutions to the problems of addiction and violence. *Tu as Crie: Let me go* is an "Intimate and provocative documentary which crashes through the silence surrounding the looming heroin crisis we all face sooner than later" (McIntosh).

Don't miss the last of what has been an excellent and thought-provoking series of films. The **doors open at 7:30 p.m.** for the best seats and cappuccino bar. **Showtime is 7:45 p.m., Admission \$4.50**

May Day update:

1. Next May Day meeting is Monday, March 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Community Centre. See you there. See where we are

Federal Budget Highlights

by Steven Halliday

The Federal Budget will be old news by the time you read this, and the road show to sell the budget will have packed up and gone home, having encountered little serious opposition as usual. I was pleased to note that Paul Martin must be a regular reader of the *Islander*, seeing that he incorporated most of my suggestions (see Discovery *Islander* # 146 - September/97) into the budget. In that column, I suggested that the government would be wise to follow a course with 3 main initiatives at its core - split the surplus between program spending and debt pay down, increase funding to education, and hold the line on tax relief to the tax payer for a few more years. 2 out of 3 ain't bad, with the absence of a serious debt reduction plan being notable and somewhat disturbing.

The decision to create the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Fund with \$2.5 billion in funding is tremendously good news for our coming crop of university bound students. It is estimated that some 100,000 students could receive an average of \$3,000 per year to a maximum of \$15,000 over 4 academic years, distributed to students demonstrating merit and financial need. This fund will not commence spending until 2000, but will be funded from the current budget. Additionally over the next 3 years \$405 million will be spent for advanced research by graduate students, \$100 million in Canada Study Grants to students in financial need who have dependants, \$345 million in relief programs involving Canada Student Loans, and \$205 in tax relief for part time students. Additional program spending of \$1.05 billion in other areas related to education brings the total to \$4.6 billion, which will go a long ways

in preparing our youth for the challenges of the 21st century.

The Federal Government is planning a "fiscal dividend" of some \$27 billion over the next 3 years, and has allocated it on the basis of 40% to additional program spending, 34% to tax relief and 26% to debt reduction. The current years budget contains no provision to pay down public debt, a true disappointment to me. We currently have a direct federal debt of \$583 billion, the debt charges on which represents 5% of our Gross Domestic Product and 29% of government spending. This is the second highest debt to GDP ratio among the G-7 countries. *WE are going to pay approximately \$43 BILLION dollars in interest over the next year, out of a total budgeted revenues of \$148 billion.* The debt to GDP ratio is expected to decline over the next few years, but not because the debt is reducing, but rather the GDP is expected to increase at approximately 3% per year. In other words, the debt will look smaller, because the economy will be bigger. The government has made no *commitment* to when and how much will be applied to debt reduction, and this may mean our colossal debt load may yet cause us grief. Besides, who knows what will happen in the next 3 years, what with the Asian crisis, falling commodity prices, etc.

So, as predicted folks, no tax cuts (of any significance) this year. Mr. Martin is hinting that maybe within 3 years, and I hope he's right. In the meantime, don't hold your breath.



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Regional Director's Report

Moving Ahead

by Jim Abram

This issue marks the beginning of at least a monthly report from your elected representative on the Comox-Strathcona Regional District. I strongly believe in public participation, communications and local control. I know that most of you share these common beliefs.

This past month has been incredibly busy but also very productive. I've attended the Association of Vancouver Island Municipalities annual three day meeting, the Treaty Negotiation Advisory Committee meeting of the third-party interests in Land Claims, two forums on the Port Divestiture process which we are involved in, various meetings in the community and with constituents and regional district committee and board meetings ad nauseum.

Some of the highlights are as follows:

The John Fryer report to Min. Dan Miller on the B.C. Ferry "situation" has been issued and Miller says he will adopt the recommendations. They are certainly not all that we had hoped for, but I am sure that our very strong community can make them work in our favour. We need to have a public meeting or at least an expression of interest from members of the public regarding participation on the stakeholder committee for Quadra Island. If you are interested please call me at 285-3351 or Peter at 285-2908.

With regard to the divestiture of Transport Canada wharves in our regional district, I have helped to initiate a "common front" approach to this latest example of Federal downloading. This will bring together local governments coast-wide through my involvement in the Union of B.C. Municipalities to get the best possible deal when Transport dumps wharves such as Surge Narrows in our lap.

I met with Paradise Bay Sea Farms and the C-SRD last week to discuss

their need for a wharf at Granite Bay and the public's need to retain general public access. We are working together on a very innovative approach in cooperation with Crown Lands to meet everyone's needs without creating a tax burden to go along with those needs.

The "spectre" of pay-parking at the Q.-Cove parking lot was attempting to raise its 'ugly head' once again but I think we have managed to deal with that one in a creative manner through a meeting with the Harbour Authority, myself and the C-SRD. The proposed solution is one that I hope you can support. The C-SRD is looking at a lease of the entire area of the upland either from the Harbour Authority or D.F.O. so that the C-SRD can, for a nominal fee, design a very user friendly parking area with some 'green area' / 'park' features incorporated into the design. I have heard people talk of a need for places to sit and enjoy a snack or just a place to get out of the sun while waiting for the ferry in the summer line ups. This could provide all of the above along with some greenery and still provide for an increase in available parking spaces while assuring

spaces for use of the dock, taxis and the handicapped. I believe this will provide a long term solution to a problem that is not going to go away otherwise.

Another important breakthrough is in the area of Recycling. After months of applying pressure to the C-SRD to accept a greater variety of items at the drop-off depot, I have succeeded in getting them to agree to the above and also to seriously explore a part-time staffed depot with enclosed storage and compactors for the efficient shipping of materials in large quantities by ferry.

So, all in all, it seems to have been a month of moving ahead instead of the usual putting out "brush fires". Hopefully the trend will continue!!! Stay involved and contact me when you need to at 285-3351 or fax 285-3533.

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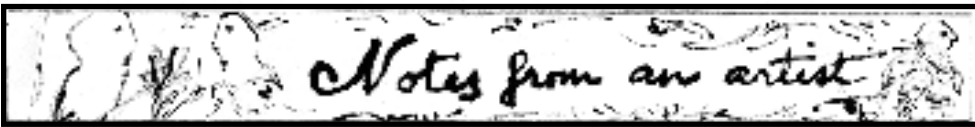
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By Bettina Sluzki Lewis

Why do we say "This is beautiful, I like it"? A sculptor once said to me: "As an artist I am after the pursuit of beauty wherever I can find it". Why is beauty so important to us? Why do music, poems, paintings and books matter? Why are all the artists still alive even though most artists, writers, musicians

and composers have lived, and live close to poverty, and many of them are cursed with illness and addiction? Why do some persist in spite of tremendous odds against recognition and financial remuneration? Why do kids do it? and primitives? We do not know why, but we do know that the Arts nourish some place in us that is hungry for something other than what the material

world has to offer.



While entertaining these thoughts, I came across these words: "I define beauty as something that breathes forth from every part of creation when it is perceived by a child's heart. To see beauty in the world is to see the divine revealing itself" (from *Speech of the Grail* by L. Sussman).

Colours are beautiful. Just colours, without a shape. We see two red dots on the canvas. Are they two ladybugs? No. Two cherries? No. Two faces? No. What then? Anything you want them to be. That is the miracle of painting, and the gift artists give to the world. It is your world once you gaze at it. "There are painters who transform the sun into a yellow spot, but there are others who, thanks to their art and intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun", said Picasso.

While creating it is possible to experience the freedom we cannot have in the limited physical dimension. Anything goes once you have paints and paper, or clay and plaster, or pen and paper. A tree can have a purple trunk and blue leaves. Why not? A horse can fly, a face can have three eyes, a child can be taller than a house. This is the world of the imagination, and without imagination we are but mere automations, slaving in a dull world, while living half lived lives. "Happily I surrender to creative flights of imagination without losing sight of the fact that I am simply pretending", writes Sheldon Kopp in *An End to Innocence*.


Colours give out an energy. This fact is well used in marketing. A child's room with pinks or baby blues and bright reds, blues and yellows, gives out a happy feeling where we feel like playing, bouncing, smiling and laughing. Would anyone paint a child's room black?

So, next time you look at a painting and you cannot relate to it, just pay attention to the colours, and enjoy or dislike them, or get sad or angry at them. Feel. That's the main thing. And, enjoy the feelings you are having.

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Sierra Quadra

A Perspective From Space

Submitted by Sierra Club-Quadra Island

The most important and unexpected consequence of exploring space has been the discovery of Earth. Anyone with a touch of awareness and a hint of heart was deeply moved by the first photograph of this delicate globe of green and blue floating in an immense blackness of silence and cold.

This small, round planet—set in a backdrop of countless stars and measureless distance—is the only location in the vast universe where we know there is life. It's also our home—our only home. And in a single vision we can see that it is whole, one indivisible place. The geography of oceans and continents, of clouds and stones, of plants and animals, of cultures and languages join at a glance into one simple unity.

With this insight, we are left with no alternative but to honour Earth's integrity, to recognize the imperative of keeping it whole and healthy. Protecting it from harm—especially from our own collective foolishness—becomes a matter of critical importance. Once awareness has superseded unawareness, we have little choice but to preserve the colour and vitality of our home, to respect its hospitality and diversity, to live harmoniously with each other and with all the countless other creature that share it with us.

The first photographs of Earth from space were impressive enough to be an epiphany for many people. Other extraordinary technical accomplishments in space travel that followed have merely confirmed and amplified the unique importance of Earth in the universe. Robotic journeys to other planets in our solar system have shown us hostile and barren places unfit for human life. The Hubble telescope has revealed nebulae and galaxies of awesome forces and proportions, adding to our sense of a small and fragile Earth.

Satellites, once such a marvel, are now commonplace. They, too, are increasing our understanding and appreciation of Earth—and its vulnerability. Beyond just relaying communication signals, they are now performing invaluable scientific tasks—digital mapping, monitoring ozone depletion, measuring ocean temperature and currents, sensing the ebb and flow of seasonal vegetative cover, watching global

rainfall patterns, tracking desertification and shrinking rainforests.

This source of information integrates into a global awareness that was previously unimaginable. We can now see the whole Earth, like a living cell beneath a microscope, shifting and changing beneath the careful scrutiny of our own eyes. As active partners in this changing, we can no longer be innocent or naive about the implications of our own actions—either collectively or individually.

When the whole planet has become an object of worried scientific scrutiny, concerns about it's well being can no longer be dismissed as eccentric paranoia. We are now monitoring its health like we monitor our own personal health. Scientific data, like photographs of Earth from space, have an immediacy and intensity that are compelling and arresting.

Since 1987, a digital map of Desolation Sound has been available in local stores. This map, photographed from Landsat 5 in orbit 720 kilometres above Earth, is able to resolve details as small as 30 metres. With astonishing accuracy, it reveals the particular place on Earth where we live. Occupying less than 5% of the map of about 200 square kilometres, Quadra Island can be seen in its relatively pristine condition.

Conifer forests are dark green. Alder forests are light green. Rocky bluffs and ridges are beige—the colour of sunburned summer moss. Beaches appear as white lines ascribing the irregular borders between land and brilliant blue ocean. Where the ocean is shallow, the blue lightens. A long swath of this blue drifts south-east from the mouth of the Campbell River, past Cape Mudge, and then onward to the shoals off Mitlenatch.

Lakes are also brilliant blue. The interconnected pattern of the Main Lakes Chain dominates the whole north-west section of Quadra. Morte Lake snuggles like a jewel between the clustered beige bluffs of the Chinese Mountains Ridge and the dark green forests of the Morte Lake Ridge to the south. Long Lake to the north-west sits like a flake of blue flint in a surrounding of dark green. No trails are visible on the map.

Major roads—like thin, dry riverbeds—are pale lines that seem to follow courses of least resistance. Quathiaski Cove and Heriot Bay—except for the angular lines of nearby woodlots—show no signs of human

habitation.

Recent logging clearcuts appear as white anomalies on a rich tapestry of interacting greens and beiges and blues. The map, a snapshot of Earth in 1987, indicates a large clearcut between Okisollo Channel and Chonat Lake. Another is strikingly visible just north of Octopus Islands, the park boundary clearly identified by a long, straight, unnatural line.

On this map of Desolation Sound, Quadra Island looks largely untouched, a multicoloured patch on the northern rim of a blue Georgia Strait. The rugged mountains of Strathcona and the high ranges above Bute and Toba Inlets also seem untouched. But there are discernable scars from logging on many of the Discovery Islands, and the lowlands from Campbell River south to Denman and Hornby Islands at the bottom of the map are no longer the dark green of mature forests.

Still, this digital information identifies a place that is beautiful, dramatic and inviting. It's a small part of the wholeness of Earth, a planet on the edge of the Milky Way where everything ecological has suddenly become important.

Think about it. Earth is like nowhere

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Legion Donates to Fire Department

by Tanya Storr

Once again, Quadra Island's Legion has generously donated to the island's emergency services. Thanks to a \$700 donation from the Legion, Quadra Island's Volunteer Fire Department was recently able to purchase an important piece of life-saving equipment called a 'clamshell'.

"The donated money was raised at Legion Meat Draws," said Legion Branch 154 president Cathie Armstrong. "We're always looking to donate Meat Draw charity money on Quadra, as much as possible."

A clamshell serves the same purpose as a spine board, but splits in two and the halves lie on either side of the patient. Emergency workers then slide the two pieces together underneath the patient. Rails along the sides of a clamshell make it easier to hold than a spinal board, a big advantage when the footing is awkward.

"If the person is on uneven ground or in a difficult spot, we can come in and almost scoop them up with the clamshell. We don't have to move the person half as much as we would using a spine board. Moving a person who has a spinal injury is a big concern," explained firefighter Sharon Clandening.

Firefighter Barb Williams added that there are also times when using a spine board is more appropriate. Both the ambulance and the fire department now have spine boards and clamshells.

The fire department's new clamshell was put to use almost immediately after it was purchased, when the ambulance was in town taking a patient to hospital and another call came in. The First Responders rushed to the scene of the second call and had



The clamshell demonstrated

the patient in the clamshell ready for transport by the time the ambulance arrived.

Barb Williams said the First Responders, who are members of the fire department, are usually the first to show up to a medical call.

"The First Responders only go when the ambulance is called. We don't transport patients but we know CPR and can stabilize them. When the ambulance crew arrives, we support their work. The clamshell is really super to have. We'll use it a lot—it's amazing the number of First Responders calls we get. The fire department is thrilled to acquire the clamshell," she stated.

Fire chief Bill Williams called the clamshell "a proven piece of lifesaving equipment that the fire department is very happy to have," adding that the Legion's support of emergency services

on Quadra is greatly appreciated.

Just over a year ago, a donation from the Legion enabled the Quadra ambulance service to purchase a \$1,200 patient assessment tool called a 'pulse oximeter'. The device allows the ambulance crew to measure the oxygen level in a person's blood and also indicates his or her pulse rate. Barb Williams said the pulse oximeter is fantastic and is used all the time.

The Legion helps out many other causes on Quadra as well. All the money raised in the February Meat Draws is going to help replace items lost in the school fire.

Laurence Hargreaves, first vice-president of Branch 154, said: "The Legion is always proud and happy to help out where we can. That's what we're all about."

Bonnie Pronk: Masters Swimming Champion

by Tanya Storr

If you've spent time up at the Village Bay Lakes in the summer, there's a good chance you've seen Bonnie Pronk training for her next swim meet. In the warmer months, the 55-year-old masters swimming champion spends a good deal of time in the water in front of the property she shares with her husband Gary, next to the bridge on Village Bay Lake.

"I can get a good work-out in the lake. From our place it's 50 metres to the rock in the middle of the passage. We have two docks that happen to be 25 metres apart and we've put turn boards on each dock, so I can swim 25 metre lengths close to the shore and not have to worry about boats," she told me. Bonnie added that despite numerous attempts, she still hasn't found a way to avoid swimmer's itch.

Bonnie first gets in the water at the lakes in April or May each year, and trains at the swimming pool in Campbell River three times a week in the winter. She also has a 'flume pool' in her garage, which is a very small pool with a propeller-driven current that she swims against, much as one would try to swim upstream in a river. All her hard work has led to excellent results, with 1997 being her best year to date.

Competing in the women's 55-60 age group, Bonnie broke a total of eight world records last year. Her world records were in the following events: 400 metre individual medley (6 minutes: 32 seconds), 50 metre breaststroke (39:30 seconds), 50 metre breaststroke long course (39:18 seconds), 100 metre breaststroke (1 minute: 25:90 seconds), 200 metre breaststroke (3 minutes: 08:70 seconds), and 200 metre breaststroke long course (3 minutes: 16:90 seconds). She also re-broke her own world records in the 100 metre and 200 metre breaststroke.

The June 1997 Pan Pacific Games in Maui, where Bonnie won two gold and four silver medals, were a highlight of her year. She set 36 Canadian records last year also, some of them at the Pan Pacific Games.



Masters Swimming Champ Bonnie Pronk

This year is looking promising for Bonnie as well. She has already re-broken her world record in the 50 metre breaststroke with a new time of 39:01, and is training for the World Masters Games taking place in Portland, Oregon this August.

All the masters swimming results are sent to the international swimming organisation, FINA, in Switzerland, and FINA publishes lists of world records every six months. Bonnie, whose favourite stroke is breaststroke but who enjoys swimming all the strokes, said the lists are very motivating.

"Sometimes I read them and think, 'Gee, I'd better get going, somebody's just beaten my world record.'"

Bonnie's recent string of successes is even more remarkable considering she took over ten years off competitive swimming and just got back into it four years ago. At the age of ten, Bonnie began swimming competitively. When she was 16 she represented Canada at the Pan American Games, coming fourth in breaststroke. Masters swimming started in the early 1970s and Bonnie

swam in masters events from 1976 until the early 1980s. She then took over a decade off, but when she found out that the 1995 Canadian Masters Championship was taking place in Victoria's new Commonwealth Pool she started training again.

"I went in seven events at the 1995 Canadian Masters Championship and won six of them. I was really surprised," she said.

In addition to competing, Bonnie puts considerable energy into her roles as president of Masters Swimming BC and BC representative for Masters Swimming Canada. She travels to meetings in Victoria every couple of months and writes two columns for the BC newsletter 'Great Lengths'. One of her columns, 'The President's Puddle', focuses on provincial and national events, while the other, 'The Wet Spot', offers hints on drills and techniques.

Bonnie was president of Masters Swimming Canada in

the late 1970s, and is very enthusiastic about the organisation.

"Anybody can swim in the races—it doesn't matter what skill level you're at. Only a few events have qualifying times. It's mostly about fitness, and the competitions give people something to aim for. There are people who have had heart problems or cancer, and they've come back and they're incredible," she said.

Some of the older swimmers are particularly inspiring for Bonnie. Canadian masters swimming is for ages 20 and up, with different age categories every five years, and there is a 91-year-old woman currently competing in events in BC.

"She uses a walker to get to the pool and mainly does backstroke. When I saw her I told her, 'You're a tremendous inspiration.' She replied, 'Oh, thank you!'" Bonnie recounted.

Bonnie has watched the evolution of strokes over the years with interest. Some of the older masters swimmers do a double armed backstroke with a breaststroke kick, because that's a stroke they learned when they began to swim. When Bonnie was a kid, they were allowed to swim most of a breaststroke race underwater, but that practice was outlawed in 1956. She also remembers that butterfly became a legal stroke in 1956 and flip turns weren't allowed before the 50s either.

While growing up in Toronto, Bonnie used to compete against kids from Vancouver regularly. Now she meets many of the same competitors at masters swim meets.

"It's fun when you meet these people. Masters swimming is very supportive and you make a lot of new friends," she told me.

Bonnie pointed out that there are two other masters swimmers on Quadra, Richard Pielou and Barry Davis, both of whom have also broken Canadian records.

Masters swimming practices are coached, but the practice times don't fit well with the ferry so Bonnie trains mainly on her own with some coaching from Gary. Both she

and Gary have backgrounds in physical education.

In the past, Bonnie worked as a professor of physical education at the University of Manitoba and Lakehead University in Thunder Bay. After she got married to Gary, who was in the military, she taught part-time at Queens and Acadia. She has also coached swimming at all levels: youth, university, and masters.

In 1991 the Pronks moved to Quadra from Comox, having purchased their property on Village Bay Lake a couple years earlier. Bonnie, who also enjoys kayaking and sailing, loves living on the lake.

Gary plays competitive squash and built a squash court on the property, where a number of islanders play in a league. Bonnie also enjoys a game of squash when she isn't in the water.

The Pronks have a 33-foot sloop and like to go for sailing trips, and Bonnie has devised ways to train on the boat even when the water is too cold for swimming.

"I do exercises on deck with five-pound weights or vertical kicks from the ladder and then climb out to get warm. People on other boats sometimes look on curiously and then ask me, 'Are you training for something?'"

Bonnie was recently nominated for the BC Masters Athlete of the Year award, and was one of the top three finalists (the award went to former Olympian Debbie Brill, world record holder for her age group in the high jump).

At the Quadra International Women's Day dinner on March 7, Bonnie was recognized for her many achievements in swimming over the years.

As for future plans, Bonnie said she'd like to break or regain some more world records and swim until she's over 90. She'd also like to continue to encourage others to fulfil their dreams in competitive swimming.

"I think offering encouragement to others is what it's all about. If my achievements inspire someone to swim or work harder that's great, because that's what other people do for

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Island Report

Miller Accepts Fryer's Recommendations

by Tanya Storr

In a recent press release, deputy premier and minister responsible for BC Ferries Dan Miller announced that the provincial government will implement all of the recommendations in mediator John Fryer's written report on the BC Ferries' stakeholder advisory process.

"Mr. Fryer's report thoroughly addresses the tariff and stakeholder issues for BC Ferries. I have instructed my staff and the British Columbia Ferries Corporation to act on his recommendations immediately," said Miller.

Fryer's four recommendations are then paraphrased in the press release. Jim Abram, regional director for area 'J', said the paraphrased recommendations "sound much more like what we're asking for than the ones in Fryer's report."

One of the key requests outlined in resolutions passed by the West Coast Ferry Users Group (WCFUG) was for a "full investigative independent 'Value for Money' audit of the BC Ferries Corporation."

Abram pointed out that the audit recommended in Fryer's report "sounds like it would be limited to the commuter runs", although the WCFUG asked for an audit of the entire corporation. In Miller's press release, however, the paraphrased recommendation no longer contains the words "in those areas of its operation which most affect the travelling public and the cost of travel."

While he observed that the audit recommended in the press release appears to be more comprehensive than the one outlined in Fryer's report, Abram cautioned that Miller will probably refer to the report rather than the press release in future discussions.

"I've got really mixed feelings about the press release. Fryer's report contained a lot of wishy-washy statements and didn't go as far as it should have. The press release sounds

much more like what we're asking for, but if we try to hold Miller to the press release he'll probably refer to the report," he said.

Another recommendation in Fryer's report that Abram said doesn't go far enough concerns the "second tier" stakeholder process. The report states that Miller and senior officers of BC Ferries Corporation should attend the inaugural meeting of the second tier committee. Abram argued that there should be a full-time standing committee of those people that the WCFUG or stakeholders could go to when necessary.

Abram said the WCFUG needs to have a meeting with Miller to discuss Fryer's recommendations and what needs to be done to change them. He added that the discussion may take place at the inaugural meeting of the second tier committee.

Although he thinks the recommendations represent a "partial victory" for ferry users, Abram warned that communities should not let their guard down.

"I think they're trying to take the heat off and let communities think they've won, but then next year they'll probably hit us with another fare increase and a decrease in service," he said.

BC Ferries manager of customer and stakeholder relations Ann Carpenter said the corporation intends to set up a stakeholder process for Quadra/Cortes/Campbell River by this summer and a planning meeting will be held soon.

Abram said anyone interested in participating in the permanent advisory committee (to be made up of stakeholders) should give him a call at 285-3351.

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Crimestoppers

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 Jan. 28** Theft of gas from truck parked at Cape Mudge Band Office. Suspect(s) smashed locking gas cap.
 - 98 Jan. 30** Vehicle parked at Bold Point. Vent window popped and ignition tampered with. Glove box searched. Suspect(s) stole change & ferry tickets.
 - 98 Jan. 31** A Raleigh black & red bicycle stolen from victims shop on 1000 block West Rd.
 - 98 Feb. 02** Vehicle parked at Heriot Bay Government Wharf. Vehicle door tampered with & small amount of change taken.
 - 98 Feb. 03** Gas syphoned from vehicle parked at Quathiaski Cove parking lot.
 - 98 Feb. 04** Vandalism to pump house at the sewage treatment plant in Q-Cove.
 - 98 Feb. 05** Theft of 8 Japanese fish floats and one glass ball from residence in 6090 block Noble Rd.
 - 98 Feb. 08** Theft from vehicle parked in Village Bay Lakes parking lot. Windows smashed. Vehicle registration stolen as well as ferry tickets.
 - 98 Feb. 09** Theft of Boston Whaler with 55 Hp. Evinrude from Q-Cove Dock. Vessel recovered intact free floating in Brown's Bay next morning.
 - 98 Feb. 09** Attempt theft of outboard motor from vessel secured in Q-Cove. Suspects were in previously mentioned stolen vessel & fled when challenged by bystander. One suspect described as: portly, straight black hair, less than 25 years of age & wearing dark nylon jacket. Second suspect observed but witness unable to describe.
 - 98 Feb. 09** Break enter & theft from residence in Village Bay Lakes. Items stolen include: 13" T.V., comforter, Honda 7.5 Hp outboard, Mariner 30 Hp outboard, answering machine, tools etc.
 - 98 Feb. 10** Theft from vehicle parked at Heriot Bay Government parking lot. Items stolen include: Pioneer 6x9 speakers, radar detector & halogen spotlight.
 - 98 Feb. 09** Two wooden reindeer stolen from front of victim's residence.
 - 98 Feb. 13** Found, 17ft. Starcraft Aluminium Boat & 14 ft. Orange Coleman canoe in Village Bay Lakes. Owner(s) to contact Det. To arrange return.
 - 98 Feb. 14** A vehicle broke down on West Rd. by Smiths Rd. While stranded motorist went for aid someone smashed a window - nothing stolen.
 - 98 Feb. 16** Hit & run to vehicle parked on Hooley Rd. Witness observed a reddish coloured van back into legally parked vehicle & flee scene. Minor damage to parked vehicle probably little or none to suspect's vehicle.
 - 98 Feb. 19** Theft from vehicle parked at Q-Cove parking lot. Suspect(s) used screwdriver to pop window. Suspect(s) mitt located inside vehicle. 1 pair of sunglasses stole.
 - 98 Feb. 20** Theft from vessel by April Point. Numerous items stolen including: tools, Sony CD walkman, RCA T.V., sleeping bag etc.
 - 98 Feb. 21** Vandalism to vehicle parked at Q-Cove parking lot. Passenger side windows smashed. Nothing stolen.
 - 98 Feb. 26** Theft from vehicle parked on Pidcock Rd. Suspect(s) stole distributor cap off truck engine.
 - 98 March 01** Break & enter to residence on Cramer Rd. Suspects entered unlocked residence & obtained various condiments from the refrigerator. Condiments were dumped in master bedroom, other vandalism also noted, nothing stolen.
 - 98 March 01** Ongoing vandalism to residence on 1500 block West Rd. Suspect(s) have thrown eggs & other foodstuffs at residence three times in last week.
 - 98 March 03** Theft of tongue jack from trailer parked at RPM Marine.
 - 98 March 05** Vandalism to vehicle parked on We Wai Rd. Suspect(s) put spikes in both rear tires.
 - 98 March 06** Kayak found afloat Sutil Channel. Owner may claim by contacting Patrol Vessel Nadon in Campbell River.
 - 98 March 09** Sanyo cellular phone found at side of Gowlland Harbour Rd. Owner may claim at Detachment.
 - 98 March 10** 17 ft white fibreglass vessel with brown trim, found at Q-Cove. Vessel has orange coloured interior.
- As you can tell there has been too many property crimes in the last bulletin. There are many ways to prevent such incidents. They include securing your vehicle or residence, ensure no valuables visible in the vehicle (that includes coins & ferry tickets!), park in high visibility areas and report any suspicious activity to the Police. On another note, in the 1st D.I. a writer identified a neighbourhood concern ie: noise complaints, "screaming drunks and screeching tires" and the fact that the police are "ineffective". Obviously, we, the Police, can address and attempt to remedy such issues and will do so upon request.

News & Events

now. Can't come but want to volunteer? Please phone 285-3243. We need a parade marshal, box lunch auction organizer and auction, safety patrol people, multipurpose van and drivers for shuttling from parking zone to field, and lots more.

2. Come to the **May Day Preview/kickoff slide show** and heritage quilt unveiling, April 24, 7:30 p.m. Circle the date, we'll tell you more next addition.

"Ecology of Bats"

Susan Holroyd of the Wildlife Branch in Campbell river will show slides and talk about the "Ecology of Bats". Everything you wanted to know about those little creatures of the night: what they eat, how they "see" in the night, where and if they hibernate, how to build a bat-house. Are bats in your own house driving you batty? This is the person to answer your questions. Mitlenatch Field Naturalists, Friday, March 20, 8 p.m. at the Quadra Community Centre.

Storytelling at Museum

The Museum at Campbell River presents a special Spring Break program for children on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday March 17th. Beginning at 1:30 pm, storyteller Hazel Lennox plays Irish music and spins magical tales.

During the performance Lennox will play lively jigs and reels on the tin whistle, accompanied by an Irish drum called a bodhran (pronounced bow-rawn). Her audience will be entertained with stories of the fairies, tiny imaginary beings with magic powers. The "Changeling Child" is the playful story of a fairy child substituted for a human baby. Also included will be a legendary story of a leprechaun and a pot of gold. St. Patrick's Day is observed by Irish around the world in honour of the patron saint of Ireland.

Lennox feels storytelling is a marvellous tool for all ages and cultures. Stories have a healing quality, and carry useful messages which are passed from generation to generation.

Growing up in Scotland and Northern England, Lennox "learned at the knee from other storytellers, in the ancient oral tradition", and has carried that tradition forward with her recently released cassette tape of stories "Where Mountains Meet the Ocean". Hazel Lennox lives in Courtenay and travels Vancouver Island and the lower mainland to share her stories.

The Museum at Campbell River is located at 5th Avenue and Island Highway. Admission to the program is \$2 per person. Participants are requested to pre-register by calling the museum at 287-3103. The museum is open Tuesday to Sunday, noon to 5:00 pm.

Bottles/Cans Needed

Bottles/Cans needed for Quadra Island Minor Fastball Bottle Drive, April 18. Please Support our Kids. Volunteer drivers and sorters needed (contact Karen Sumner). 10:30 a.m. start at the Community Centre..

\$1000 Shopping Spree

Early on the morning of Wednesday March 11th a gathering behind closed doors took place at the Heriot Bay Store. The occasion, the winner of this years Coca-Cola Old Dutch 2 minute/\$1000 Shopping Spree, Barry Davis was there to collect his prize. In a blistering display of planning and athleticism Mr. Davis loaded several carts

with delicious foodstuffs to the delight of onlookers. Despite sustaining a minor injury lunging for an item Barry completed the course in the allowed time tallying a whopping \$1005.82 at the check-out. Congratulations!



QIFRC Meeting

Quadra Island Forest Resources Committee's next meeting will be held on March 25 (Wednesday), starting at 7:00 p.m. and held in the Quadra Elementary School. Public is welcome.

QI United Church

Quadra Island United Church invites you to the next service on **Sun. April 9 at 2:00 p.m.** Rev. Lance woods will lead "Windows on the soul". Come help us celebrate the re-dedication of our stained glass window. Refreshments will be shared after the service. Please note the change of date and time.

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Lightkeepers Still in the Dark about Destaffing

by Tanya Storr

Cape Mudge lightkeepers still haven't heard whether their station will be destaffed at the end of March. Federal fisheries minister David Anderson hasn't yet made a long-awaited announcement about the future of BC's lighthouses, so the keepers remain in the dark about their livelihoods.

"As far as the Coast Guard is concerned, they're still destaffing the lighthouses, but Anderson hasn't made a decision yet. We're doing everything we can to pressure Anderson for an answer but we're not getting a response," said lightkeeper Jim Abram. "I met with him and his staff on March 6, but all he would say is we would know something by the end of the month. He was totally noncommittal."

Abram said if the government does decide to destaff Cape Mudge lighthouse this year, they'll do it by the

Coast Guard's fiscal year end on March 31. As both lightkeeping families at Cape Mudge have school-aged children, they'd be allowed to stay in their houses until the school year ends. However, their lightkeeping income would stop after the end of the month.

Some lightkeepers on the West Coast work on a term basis, Abram explained. The terms are for varying lengths of time and many expire on March 31. Abram said the Coast Guard has told those keepers their terms will be extended by five days if destaffing goes ahead, to allow them to pack up and leave.

"That's the kind of nonsense lightkeepers are putting up with right now. We're being treated with labour rules that probably haven't existed since the 1600s," Abram stated.

Meanwhile, lightkeepers, the Coastal Community Network, and other supporters are continuing to lobby for staffed lighthouses.

"The safety of mariners is the number one issue. Automated equipment cannot replace the services of lightkeepers," said Abram.

Wendy Abram pointed out the automated equipment that was installed at Cape Mudge in October has not been working as it should.

"We just heard they're putting in more solar panels at all the stations with automated equipment because the lights aren't bright enough. Sometimes there's fog right up to the detector and the fog horn doesn't come on. It might eventually come on but when the fog dissipates it doesn't always go off right away. The windows of the lighthouse steam up too," she said.

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Private Waterfront Acreage This 11.3 acres has fairly easy access, over 400 ft. of waterfront, and the possibility of summer moorage. Long views to the east overlooking Calm Channel and the mountains beyond. Partially cleared building site. The western side of the property is well treed and has access by a very basic road from Marks Bay. \$149,000. North Rendezvous Island



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Grand Waterfront Home. Located on a no-thru road, this distinctive 7 year old home enjoys spectacular views of Gowlland Harbour's waters, islands and mountains beyond. Western exposure offers spectacular sunsets and the lot boasts superb protected moorage potential. Bright and spacious with two bedrooms, spacious living area, and a delightful gourmet kitchen. Lots of storage, full undeveloped basement, double garage and a workshop complete the picture. \$359,000. Quadra Island



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