



Union Bay Community Club Newsletter

Box 335, Union Bay BC, V0R 3B0 250-335-2500 WWW.UBCC.CA

 **April 2022** 

Let the events begin!

Easter Egg Hunt



Sunday, April 17th

Union Bay Field

11:00 am

Mother's Day Breakfast

Sunday, May 8th

Union Bay Hall

8 am - 11 am



Union Bay Day

Sunday, June 12th

Union Bay Field

Family Fun Day

&

Car show



Your 2022 Community Club Directors

Darcy Rainey President

Anne Carroll Treasurer

Brenda Bitten Secretary

Rick Weaver Boat Ramp & Maintenance

Marilynne Manning Craft Fairs

Laura Agnew Catering

Carly Gilchrist Memberships

Lindee Zieflie Rentals

Jenny Sagan Director

Leanne Lindstrom Event Planner

Paul Baal Director

Travis Mephram Director

Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Mother's Day breakfast. We need male servers, cooks, hall set up (male or female) and clean up. Below is the schedule if you would like to join our team.

Please contact Rick Weaver at 604-309-1571 or Brenda Bitten 250-702-1457.

- Cooks start at 6:30 am
- Workers eat at 7:00 am
- Doors open at 8:00 am
- Serving breakfast until 11:00 am
- Clean up is from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm

There are two set up days:

- Friday May 6th 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- Saturday May 7th 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

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Union Bay Community Club

Janette Glover- Geidt

As Bill Auchinvole predicted, the Hall was a great success, especially during the war years and just after. It was enjoyed and used. It could be rented by Union Bayites for any occasion for \$7.50. The mortgage was soon paid off. Jimmy Walkers Orchestra from Courtenay played the first dance. Two of the players, Jewels Herbin on sax, and Hank Hatch on piano, made arrangements of the popular Big Band tunes, then joined with four other musicians and formed the Country Club Orchestra. Dancers from all over the Island flocked to the Saturday night dances in the new hall. The players received \$7.00 each for four hours of music. Once a month on a Friday night, Johnny Lockner's Orchestra played for an Old Time Dance. Some of the older women taught the young people the time honoured dances: the Barn Dance, Lancers, the Gay Gordons. The kids became quite addicted following Johnny around the Valley, Denman, Cape Lazo, Merville.

A very devoted Women's Committee of the club met in the afternoon of a dance and prepared the famous ham and egg sandwiches. During wartime this was a feat, as many items were rationed including coffee, sugar and butter. Elizabeth Renwick and Ella Davis went early and by adding gelatin and milk to one pound of butter it could be beaten, with a spatula, into two pounds. They joked that the spatulas were worn down by the beating, and because they were made of rubber, during the war a new one couldn't be bought so the old ones had to be used. The ladies, all mothers, kept busy by forming the Merchant Navy Club. During the war many Merchant Marine ships called with men from around the world, all missing home. So a club room was built in the basement of the Hall, furnished with comfortable chairs, board games and magazines for the Sailors to enjoy. For each ship that came for coal, the ladies provided some kind of entertainment in the big hall perhaps home slides, a dance, a concert. Anyone with a bit of talent was called upon. Often the men entered into the fun. With a song, a Maori crew sang "Now is the Hour when we must say good-bye", a real tear jerker. An Irish step dancer brought his tap shoes, an organist from a big church in England played the piano. All were made special and treated to coffee, some home baking, or whatever was on offer, even strawberries and cream. The popular dances continued into the late fifties. The hall was marked for three badminton courts; basketball hoops were installed along with gymnasium rings, ropes and bars. Everything was well-used, especially by the Athletic Club.

By the late 1960's Weldwood had purchased the Coal company, and wanted the triangle of land that the Hall sat on returned to complete their plot, so offered the Community Club the land where the now demolished Chinatown sat. An offer too good to miss. But how to move such a huge building? There was no Nickel Bros. then. Up stepped Ed Sawchuck who said he could do it. The bets were on and a large crowd gathered to see if Eddy could deliver. He prepared by cutting off part of the dining room, and putting long girders under the main hall. With two logging trucks he pulled it through the old ball field, along the beach side of the highway, then across the road to its resting place in old Chinatown while the crowd cheered.

Union Bay Historical Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Union Bay Church Hall

Monday, May 2nd

7:00 pm

Memberships can be renewed at this time.

We are happy to report the new roof is now completed.

We depend on paid memberships to be eligible for Grants. With your support, The Historical Society can continue to maintain the upkeep and restorations of the Post Office, Library and Museum/Goal.

Thank You

The "Down By The Bay" Newsletter

is available on the website www.ubcc.ca
Previous issues can also be found there.

Sign up and you can get "Down By The Bay" emailed to you. Send an email to ub.dbtb@gmail.com with the subject line "sign me up"

Important Notice

We have heard that some people who requested the Down By The Bay newsletter to be emailed to them have not received it. We are sorry. Please try again by sending an email to ub.dbtb@gmail.com with the subject line "Sign Me Up" We will be sure to get you on the distribution list.

Ideas for new articles are always appreciated. Is there a person you would like to highlight or a story to be told? submit to ub.dbtb@gmail.com.

Advertising and articles in Down By The Bay

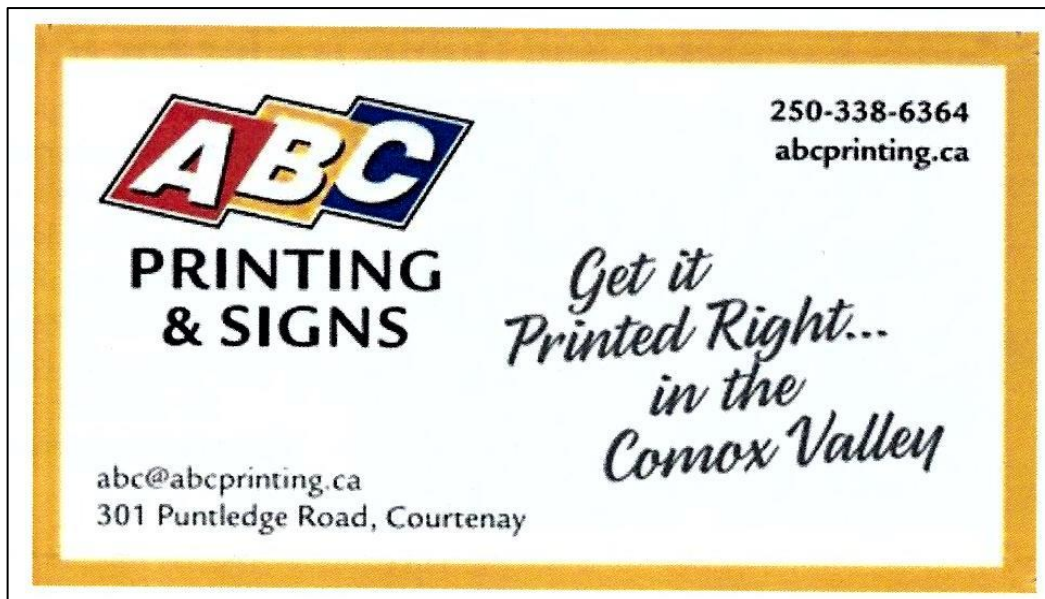
Submissions may be mailed to Box 335, Union Bay, BC, V0R 3B0 or email to ub.dbtb@gmail.com
The order form with instructions, cost and payment options is on the Community Club website at www.ubcc.ca Click on newsletter and then on advertising in the newsletter. Ads must be prepaid

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE ADVERTISERS!

Current Events

The hall is home of several activities and meetings. Hopefully more of these activities will start up again soon. For more information about renting space, contact Lindee Ziefflie at rentals@ubcc.ca. Meeting rooms, dining room, kitchen facilities, large auditorium, with stage are available.

Membership January to December
\$15 per person \$35 per family



The advertisement is enclosed in a yellow border. On the left, the logo for ABC Printing & Signs features the letters 'ABC' in a stylized, overlapping font with red, yellow, and blue colors. Below the logo, the text 'PRINTING & SIGNS' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, the contact information 'abc@abcprinting.ca' and '301 Puntledge Road, Courtenay' is listed. On the right side, the phone number '250-338-6364' and website 'abcprinting.ca' are at the top. Below this, the slogan 'Get it Printed Right... in the Comox Valley' is written in a cursive script.

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*Get it
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in the
Comox Valley*



Spring Craft Fair



Has been canceled!

Hall repairs have had some delays and may not be completed in time for the Craft Fair.



Local Contact Numbers

Union Bay Market	250-335-2622	First Credit Union	250-335-2122
Union Bay Post Office	250-335-0655	Union Bay Library	250-335-2433
UB Community Club	250-335-2500	UB Automotive	250-335-0312

Newsletter Advertisers

ABC Printing	250-338-6364	JLG Contracting	250-331-5347
Fix It Shop	250-702-2191	Daniel Arbour CVRD	250-650-8480
Meta Wood Realtor	250-334-9900	End of the Roll	250-334-9394
First Credit Union	250-335-2122		

We are looking for businesses to advertise in our Newsletter.
Please go to www.ubcc.ca to buy an online ad.

Baynes Sound Lions Club

The Baynes Sound Lions Club are looking for new members.

They meet every 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00pm

OAP Hall

408 Ships Point Rd.

Fanny Bay

For more info please call Cliff or Jackie Helps

250-335-1112



Union Bay United Church
Sunday Services
11:00 am



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jlgcontracting@shaw.ca

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250-334-9394 fax:250-334-9314
Email courtenay@endoftheroll.com

EASTER EGG HUNT



Union Bay Community Hall Field
Sunday April 17th
11:00 am



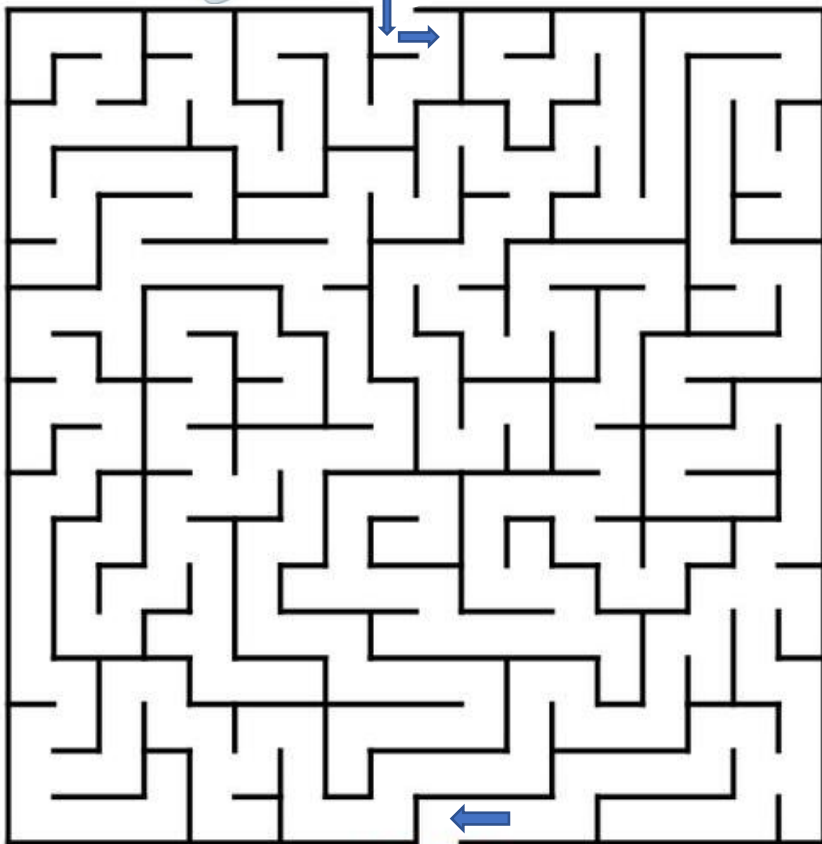
KIDS CORNER

What does the Easter Bunny eat for lunch?

The Easter Bunny eats lots of lettuce, vegetables, and of course carrots. The Easter Bunny loves when kids leave him a healthy snack of carrots the night before Easter.



Help the bunny find
its eggs!



Fill this out with your name and
bring it to the EASTER EGG HUNT.

You can enter a

SPECIAL PRIZE DRAW!

NAME _____

PH # _____

**HAPPY
EASTER!**



Hall Update

By Rick Weaver



Kitchen and dining room now have new subfloor and industrial grade Lino installed. Kitchen cabinets are installed. Granite tops and plumbing will be done soon. The room at the end of the kitchen will be painted to match before appliances go in.



South wall in daycare was stripped, new insulation added and now has a new painted gyproc wall. All the surface wires on the south wall have been moved inside the wall. Leanne's crew will paint the other 3 walls to match and maybe the kitchen as well if time permits. New ceiling tile in the lower kitchen is done and vinyl plank flooring is scheduled to go in week of April 5. This is going well and with any luck the goal is to have the daycare move back home Easter weekend if everything aligns. Ripple Rock Restorations and their contractors have done a great job!



Fire Permits Available

April 1 to Oct 31



Union Bay Fire Rescue Supporting Safe Burning Practices

Fire Permits

Fire permits help keep the department informed about burning activities. A fire permit details safe burning practices that can help reduce property damage, personal injury and wildfires.

Fire Permits are required April 1 to Oct 31 for all open burning in the Union Bay fire protection area, except for campfires.

Large, machine piled, industrial Category 3 burns require permits year-round.

Getting a Permit

Fire permits are free of charge and can be completed online. The online application is available on the fire department webpage www.unionbayfirerescue.ca. A printable PDF version is also available on the website or completed in person at the fire department (by appointment).

Permit Cancellations

If fire hazards change in the area, fire permits may be cancelled. Permit holders will need to check the Union Bay Fire Rescue website prior to burning to ensure that fire bans are not in effect and that conditions are right for burning.



Questions???

Feel free to contact Union Bay Fire Rescue

- We are happy to help -

Call: 250 335 2345

Or email: firechief@unionbayfirerescue.ca

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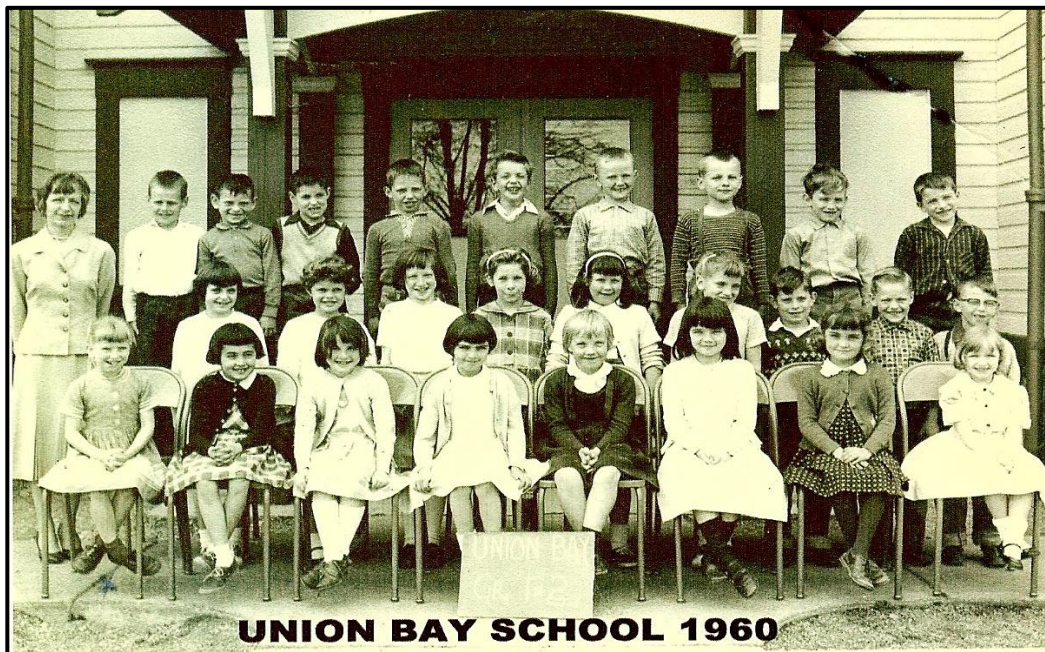
Daniel Arbour, Director

Comox Valley Regional District
Baynes Sound/Denman/Hornby

*Always willing to answer your questions,
assist with concerns, and support community
initiatives in Area A*

Email: reachme@danielarbour.ca /Cell 250.650.8480
www.danielarbour.ca /  facebook.com/danielarbour.ca

Blast from the Past



UNION BAY SCHOOL 1960

TOP ROW: Mrs. Dane, Rick Bullen, Bob Morgan, Rob Thompson, Davis Seba, Bill Coe, Len Murdock, Ken Mills, Ricky Robinson, Glen Hadden.

MID ROW: Donna Bradley, Sharon Gustavson, Mona Geary, Rhonda Pratt, Mona MacDonald, Kim Corrigan, Steve Lenox, Lloyd Geidt, Don Davies.

FR ROW: Brenda Cooper, Glenda Hood, Dixie Geary, Denise Adamson, Laurie Peters, unknown, Dorothy Hall, Linda MacDonald.

Old Wharf Timbers Go Out In Blaze Of Glory - Union Bay

UNION BAY (Special) — "We served 180 hot dogs in about five minutes!" said Fire Chief Ken Peters, describing the scene at Union Bay Volunteer Fire Department's annual bonfire, Nov. 4.

Old timbers from the dismantled collieries wharf, built in 1895, had been piled into a massive heap on Coal Beach. In spite of heavy rain, it burned brightly to light up the surrounding area. Treats also included pop and potatoes roasted in the fire.

There were an estimated 75 children and 25 adults in attendance, with firemen and their wives looking after the food.

Doug Kennedy, who recently brought his wife and family to live in the community has joined the Union Bay firemen. He had previous experience with Comox fire department.

"This is a great help," said Ken Peters. "Doug is available for day-time fires, whereas most of the men are at work outside the community."

Fire Chief Peters has emphasized a new problem: "A number of families have recent-

ly come to live in the community," he said. "As we haven't street names or house numbers, it could present a difficulty in case of fire. We would like newcomers to identify themselves immediately with the fire department, giving them their present location, either by former residents' names, present neighbors, or well-known landmarks."

Residents of Union Bay Fire Protection District have received new fire and emergency phone number emergency cards from Union Bay volunteer fire department. This district now has an emergency number, which will not be used except for fire and emergency calls.

The main phone is in the fire hall, with extensions in the Islander Hotel, Home Garage, and in Deputy Chief Gordon Murdock's home for night calls.

Those serving as firemen with the local fire department are: Fire Chief Ken Peters, Deputy Chief Gordon Murdock, Ken Williams, secretary; Gerry and Lal Stewart, Bob Lennox, George Cooper, Bill Hamilton, Reid Roth, Lane McDonald, and Doug Kennedy.

New Ramp At Union Bay

UNION BAY (Special)—Work will soon be going ahead to build a safe and dependable boat-launching area for local fishermen on Coal Beach. Last summer enough work was done to permit launching of small boats, and every evening this little corner became a busy gathering-place for fishermen with their boats and trailers.

Ken Peters reports that an interested group now intends to improve and extend this preliminary work. To do this it will be necessary to change the angle of the approach ground, so they can build a road with room to park eight cars and trailers. Investigation shows that natural conditions there are favorable, making it worthwhile to do the necessary work before next summer.

The Bays Bouquets

Do you have a loved one's Anniversary, Birthday or just want to say a big Thank You to someone? Our newsletter will post it free. Please email bmbitten@gmail.com with your well wishes by the 15th of each month.

Celebrating Milestones

Union Bay Fire Rescue recognizes members with every 5 years of service that they have dedicated to the department. Additionally, there are Federal Exemplary Service Medals (20yrs), as well as Provincial Long Service Medals (25yrs) that are awarded by the government to recognize the longevity of service that fire fighters dedicate to their communities.

The following awards are presented by the department to members in recognition of their commitment of service to the community. The awards recognize service at five-year intervals.

Congratulations to the following Fire Fighters

FF Paul Hiebert 5 yrs

Lt Travis Mephram 10 yrs

FF Rob Hollands 10 yrs

FF Joe Tarnowski 15 yrs

FF Susan Hargreaves 15 yrs

British Columbia Provincial Fire Services Long Service Medal Long Service Medals awarded by the Provincial Government in recognition of twenty-five (25) years of long-standing fire service in British Columbia

Chief Ian W Ham

Union Bay Fire Rescue Recognition Awards Fire Fighter and Rookie Fire Fighter of the Year are awarded to a Firefighter for their performance above and beyond. This award is determined by the department members to acknowledge those who are seen as instrumental in the betterment of the department and their support to all members.

Fire Fighter of the Year
FF Mike Jager

Rookie Fire Fighter of the Year
Austin MacInnis

Happy Birthday

To

Bruce Campbell

Linda Spencer

Karen Skinner

Rod Bitten

&

Sue Coe



Happy 50th
Anniversary
To
Don & Pat Seller



A BIG THANK YOU TO
The Fanny Bay Inn
For their generous donation to
The Union Bay Community
Hall



Happy Easter
Everyone!

If you see someone without a smile, give them yours!

CVRD Director Update

Thanks to Brenda Bitten for inviting me to write a little update for “Down by the Bay”. I am happy to report that there is renewed optimism at local government as we emerge out of the time-warp of the last two years. As with other sectors, the pandemic was disruptive at the CVRD, but we managed to keep advancing key initiatives for Union Bay. While I could go on at length on the topics below, I thought I would do flash updates on a few key Union Bay projects... don't hesitate to reach out to me if you want more information on any of these:



- 1) Last year we introduced a new **Communities Facilities Service** that aims to provide better and predictable financial supports to rural Halls. Thank you to the Union Bay Community Club for all their work, and conversations are ongoing on how the CVRD will best support capital needs in the future.
- 2) **Development opportunities and pressures** in Union Bay are truly unique in the CVRD. The last couple of years Union Bay Estates has invested tremendously in developing their lands, and our planning and engineering team has been working along to advance the various clauses in the Master Development Agreement. The Advisory Planning Commission for Area A recently reviewed design elements of the first subdivision and provided constructive and positive feedback, which led to a positive CVRD Board resolution.
- 3) Meanwhile, in April and May we will come back to the community (again!) to present details of the opportunity around **community sewage**. While construction costs are up everywhere, since the last election I have been committed to put forward the best proposal possible for community sewage for Royston and Union Bay, and I believe we have the right approach in partnership with the municipalities, K'omoks First Nation, and Union Bay Estates as contributing partners. I look forward to the engagement sessions and your feedback over the next couple months.
- 4) Another significant initiative has been the transition of the **Union Bay Improvement District** to the CVRD. 9 months in, things are going well. We are adding washrooms at the Treatment Plant, and will decommission the old site as well in the fall. A water master plan is also being completed, which will inform rates for the long-term. Based on your feedback, I also asked that we do a full review of the rate structure and simplify it. Happy to report this will happen over the next few months.
- 5) As part of **Parks and Active Transportation** planning, there is a lot to do in Union Bay over the coming years, in my opinion. Some land transfers for parks are expected from Union Bay Estates, but we also put a project on the map to look at improving the waterfront on the other side of the highway. This would require grant funding and partnership with the Ministry of Transport, but the initiative is now part of our regional plan priorities.
- 6) Another initiative I have been working on is to explore the potential for a new **library branch** for Union Bay. As I am on the executive of the Vancouver Island Regional Library, I have learned that we have the smallest branch of any out there, and that indeed the organization could invest to build a new facility in Union Bay.... so far our Executive Director has connected with SD71 to have conversations about the old school site. Fingers crossed!

There is a lot more of course, but hopefully this gives you a glimpse of our work. I really enjoy working for Union Bay, and welcome your suggestions and feedback. Enjoy the spring and hopefully see some of you around in person!

Daniel Arbour, CVRD Director, Baynes Sound/Denman&Hornby reachme@danielarbour.ca