





We need volunteers!

Please contact Rick Weaver at 604-309-1571 or Dave Davidson at 250-335-2317

Union Bay Japtown

Janette Glover-Geidt



In 1892 Dunsmuir (the coal company) imported 100 Japanese workers to work in the mines in Union (Cumberland). By 1896 a crew of them were grading the land at Union Wharf for the coke ovens for as little as \$.75 per day. But a big change took place in the Japanese community after the 1907 riots in Vancouver. This led to the signing of the "Gentlemen's Agreement", which restricted immigration to Canada to 400 men a year from

Japan. However, it did allow wives and families to join the men. This resulted in the "Picture Brides". Marriages were arranged in Japan and the pictures of prospective brides were sent to the men in Canada. So, unlike the Chinese, who were mainly single men, the Japanese had families: the Nakamura, Higashi, Ucheda, Nakano. Land was granted from the company on the north side of Washer Creek, and Japtown was created. There were about six homes built in the western style near the creek. Higashi's home was built on stilts as it often flooded. Charles Nakamura built the family home at the top of Washer Hill. All the homes built in the Western style are long gone now. Cleanliness was very important, so each house had a bath house attached by a walkway. A brass tub was set into the floor and heated with a boiler from below. After work the men were scrubbed by their wives, then left to soak in the tub until dinner. Their diet included rice, dried and salted seafood, and soybean products like tofu and miso.

The children in the families went to Union Bay School. They were well- integrated, popular athletes, and good students. Many of the white kids learned to cycle on the Higashi's bikes. When she finished school Hutchiko was Mother's help to Mrs. Christie, where she learned to drive a car and taught her brothers. Then when they started work, the boys, who were snappy dressers, bought cars, and were popular and generous with their friends, taking them to the movies in town. There was a large Japtown in Cumberland, and a large group who worked in the Japanese lumber mill at Royston.

In the 1930's there were rumbling of advocates for Japanese expatriation, with the Comox MP advocating to exclude all Japanese Labour Immigrants from Canada. Then came Pearl Harbour on December 7, 1941, followed by a law to remove all alien enemies (Japanese) from coastal defense areas to the BC Interior. By the end of January, the RCMP were in the District registering the Japanese. They were not allowed to have telephones or be in possession of cars, radios, cameras, or explosives. It was an anxious time as to what to take, leave or sell. Each adult was allowed two suitcases and a clothes bag, while the children were allowed one suitcase and one small clothes bag. They sold their possessions at ridiculously low prices. Their properties, boats and cars were "held in trust" – a trust that was broken when later the items were sold without the owners consent. On April 16,1942, eight buses delivered the Japanese to Union Bay Government Wharf. Friends from the Bay gathered on the wharf to say their tearful goodbyes.

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



Spring is here! And not a moment too soon. For the Beaufort Watershed Stewards (BWS), spring means more than sunshine and robins. It also means time to train! A formal, documented training program for our stream samplers is critical. It assures those who might use our data that standardized protocols were followed in its collection.

On a cool but pleasant March morning, the three newest members of BWS gathered around a dining room table for some classroom instruction. We covered basic concepts:

what we measure and why, principles of measurement, common pitfalls, etc. We covered the care and handling of our specialized gear. We demonstrated our calibration procedures, a key component of high-grade data. We discussed the actual sampling protocols, another important component of reliable data. Then we all headed to Waterloo Creek for some hands-on practice.

Later that day, core members of our flow monitoring team took part in a very different kind of training – an informal course in swift water safety. Measuring the water flow in Mud Bay Creek or Waterloo Creek is never a problem. They're both gentle little rills. Yes, Cook Creek can be more robust, but where we sample, the bottom is flat and free of large boulders. It never feels treacherous. Wilfred Creek and Cowie Creek, on the other hand, have irregular streambeds with slippery boulders and deep holes. And the water level in these larger creeks can be waist-high, or higher. One of our newer BWS members has extensive experience in white water kayaking. He agreed to help us develop safer methods for when we measure flow in these larger, faster streams.

The biggest change to how we work? No more waders. Waders are the norm for the hydrologist crowd. Sometimes we wear them, sometimes we don't. But if you fall in a stream, your waders can quickly fill up with water. This makes it harder to get up and harder to maneuver to shore. For the training, we ditched the waders and struggled into wet suits. It felt like overkill; the water was barely over our knees. But we played along. We started by doing some float drills. The idea is that if you fall, rather than thrashing desperately to get your footing, you should simply go with the flow. You're warm in your wet suit and you can just lie on your back and gaze at the canopy above. The current will take you to the next shallow spot where you can roll over and stand up. And while a fall in waders can be a disaster, a fall in a wet suit is no big deal. In fact, one begins to feel a bit like an ungainly otter, unworried about splashes and mis-steps and happy to be wet from head to toe. We spent some time in this new, freer mindset, going about the normal steps of a transect. By the end, we were all wet suit converts. And as we were packing up to leave we realized there was another benefit to wetsuits. The gyrations and contortions required to actually get in and out of them is better than yoga for maintaining flexibility and balance!

The next day was the end of our training trifecta. Ten of us attended an all-day first aid class taught by Alpine First Aid. We practiced CPR on the dummies and took turns pretending to be injured. We came away with certificates (Occupational First Aid, Level 1) and a better sense of how we might handle medical emergencies

when we're on our sampling rounds. Now we can go back to our creeks feeling better prepared. We can have confidence in the accuracy of our work. We can approach a fast-flowing stream without trepidation. We can dig the first aid kit out of our gear box and have some idea what to do with it. And we can return to the joys of spring: warm sunshine and the joyful song of robins.

By Mike Mesford



Blast from the Past

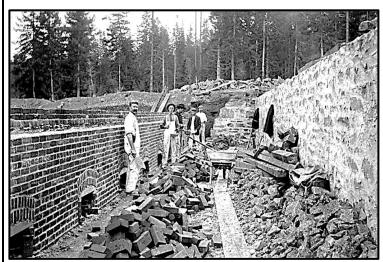


Union Bay Ladies softball team 1981 Sponsored by the Baynes Sound Lions Club

Back Row Left: Bill Pettigrew, Rosie Barkley, Rhonda Sampson, Janine Welch(McKay), Chris McKay, Brenda Bitten.

Brenda Stewart, Jo-Anne Moulaison, Susan Lindstrom, Barb Barkley, Pat Sampson,

Front Left: Annette Moulaison, Laurie Pratt, Sandra Kerr and Donna Kennedy



The coke ovens being built in Union Bay 1890's



Exploring the abandoned coke ovens 1967

BAY DAY

SUNDAY JUNE 12th





CAR SHOW 10am

KIDS PARADE 11:00 am
Kids races start at 11:30 am
Kids parade theme is
I AM CANADIAN!



Pies, Horseshoes, Beer Garden, Pipe Band, Car Show, Kids Races & Games Concession, Slo-Pitch Games, 50/50 Draws, Bay Day Raffle, Fire Truck Display & Tons of Fun!

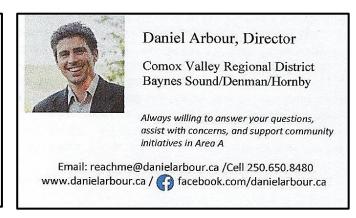
Bay Day Raffle prizes are

1st prize \$300.00 2nd prize \$150.00 3rd prize \$50.00

\$1.00 each or a book of 6 for \$5.00

Sold at the Mothers Day Breakfast, on Bay Day or from any UBCC Director







Union Bay United Church Sunday Services 11:00 am



SLO-PITCH WILL BE STARTING SOON!
A TRUE SIGN OF SPRING!!

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, VOR 3BO 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!

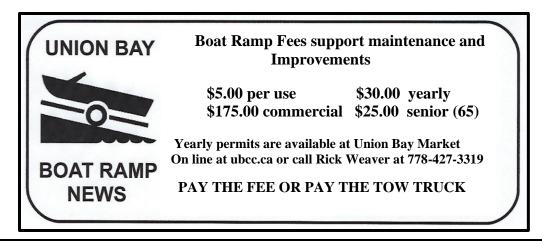
Current Events

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 BOAT LAUNCH TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP

New volunteers are needed to replace some of the very dedicated ones that have had to step down for various reasons. We need the volunteer base to expand so we can continue our great success and longevity. We are looking for boat ramp fee collection, boat ramp and 19A boulevard mowing. CALL RICK WEAVER AT 778-427-3119 FOR MORE INFO





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.

Congratulations!

Union Bay Fire Rescue would like to congratulate
Lt Mike Jager, Lt Joe Tarnowski and Captain
Marty McRae on their recent promotions. Well
done, and thank you for your commitment to the
Department and the Community.

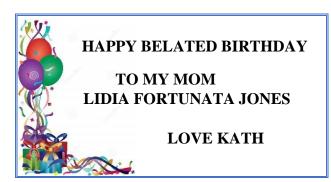


Happy Birthday

To

Susan Lindstrom
Kerry Etherington
Cheryl McCaffrey
Gary Hargreaves
Stephanie McKnight
Paul Skinner
Rick Bitten

Linda Paterson



Happy 53rd Wedding

Anniversary

To

Rus & Gracie Chapman

On

May 17th

NO COST CHIPPER SERVICE



Do you have fallen branches, overgrown brush and other vegetation that needs chipping?

Union Bay Fire Rescue and the Comox Valley Regional District will be offering the residents of Union Bay an alternative to burning or hauling hazardous brush.



The Rules

- No rocks, no nails, no roots (to ensure they do not damage the machinery).
- No treated lumber or construction waste.
- No bags of leaves or grass clippings
- Ideally all the "butt ends" of branches pointed the same way so an entire bundle can be grabbed and fed right into the chipper.
- Tree trimmings must be under 38 centimeters (15 inches) in diameter and 10 meters (32') length maximum.
- No invasive species such as Scotch Broom, English Holly, Giant Hogweed and Knotweed
- Contractor reserves the right not to pickup any pile they feel does not meet these rules
- Do not block traffic by piling debris on the road.
- Any debris brought to the end of your driveway after the starting date may not be picked up.
- All chips must be disposed of, as the funding/grant objective is to remove wildfire fuel from the landscape

Did You Know

- More than 50% of homes destroyed by wildfire are ignited by embers blown by the wind.
- Home with a non-combustible roof and 10 meters of clearance around the home are more likely to survive a major wildfire.

For more information:

Email: firechief@unionbayfirerescue.ca or call 250-335-2345





Connect Rocket is the local emergency mass notification system used by the Comox Valley Regional District to inform you about emergencies that may affect your community.

the day, chipped and disposed of for FREE.



Sign up for Connect Rocket, visit:

www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getnotified or call 250-334-6000





Sunday May 15, 2022 7:00 pm



Described by Roots Music Canada as "The Pink Floyd of Folk Music" the multi-award-winning Red Dirt Skinners comfortably blend exceptional, almost telepathic, harmonies with world class musicianship.

ONLINE TICKETS \$27.50 fannybayhall.tickit.ca

IN PERSON TICKETS \$25 CASH Weinberg's Good Food, Buckley Bay Laughing Oyster Books, Courtenay

Live at The Fanny Bay Hall

"Our audience has been anticipating the Red Dirt Skinners return for sometime now. They have been busy and creative in the last two years. Comfortably blending exceptional harmonies with unique instrumentation of soprano saxophone and acoustic guitar, Rob and Sarah Skinner have a natural rapport with their audiences. When they immigrated from Britain a few years ago, it was a huge gain to Canada's music scene."





COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

It was a wonderful and exciting time for local families on Sunday, April 17Th. The Union Bay Community Club in partnership with the Union Bay Volunteer Fire Department held a community, Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Bunny arrived at 11 am on the fire truck and was escorted to the field by his helpers. The weather was warm and sunny as excited children searched and filled their baskets with chocolate eggs. Draw prizes were given to 6 lucky children and donated farm fresh eggs to parents. Holding this event was the 1st in over 2 years and you could feel the happiness and excitement of all who attended. A feeling of many more positive things to come!















250-338-6364 abcprinting.ca

Get it Printed Right... in the Comox Valley

250-897-8153

BLACK WATER

PLUMBING CO.

4636 Montrose Dr Courtenay BC V9N 9S8 kyleshort@blackwaterplumbingco.com Plumbing Service Hot Water Tanks Drain Cleaning Video Inspection Poly B Replacement

www.blackwaterplumbingco.com

abc@abcprinting.ca 301 Puntledge Road, Courtenay

Community Hall Update









Volunteers painted the Bill Wood Room (Daycare) and the lower kitchen.







Dining room with the new floor



Upstairs kitchen



Main hall cleaned and ready to go.



Daycare has moved back home downstairs.

We are happy to announce that the repairs to the Community Hall are now complete!

A huge thank you to Rick Weaver for overseeing the repairs and of course to all of you! who donated!

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

Newsletter Advertisers

ABC Printing	250-338-6364	Black Water Plumbing	250-897-8153
EMS Solutions	778-992-2953	Daniel Arbour CVRD	250-650-8480
Meta Wood Realtor	250-334-9900	First Credit Union	250-335-2122
Your	spot is	available	here

Our newest advertisers are Black Water Plumbing and EMS Solutions. Thank you for supporting our Down By The Bay Newsletter

With the repairs to the hall completed we are happy to announce that the hall Is now ready to book your function!

Go to www.ubcc.ca to look at our events calendar showing what dates are available or email Lindee Ziefflie at rentals@ubcc.ca for more information.

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 Dave Davidson at 250-335-2317

Cooks start at 6:30 am

There are 2 set up days

Workers eat at 7:00 am

Friday May 6th

1pm - 3pm

Doors open at 8:00 am

Serving breakfast until 11:00 am

Saturday May 7th 1pm - 4pm

Clean up is from 11:00 am until 12:30

If you have to choose between being kind and being right, choose kind and you'll always be right.