



Union Bay Community Club Newsletter

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

NOVEMBER 2022



# CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Souper Luncheon



Union Bay Hall

Sunday November, 20<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am ~ 3:00 pm



Come out and meet the talented crafters!

Get your Christmas shopping done early!

No more tables are available for crafters.



## Beaufort Watershed Stewards

### Normal is just a setting on the washing machine

What we think of as normal was at one time unusual. In a recent edition of the Waterbucket, Dr. Daniel Pauly, Global Fisheries Scientist at UBC is quoted: "We transform the world, but we don't remember it. We adjust our baseline to the new level, and we don't recall what was there."

But some of us do remember what was there. Ken Keenan has lived in Fanny Bay his whole life, all 94 years of it. He worked the land as a logger, starting at age 14, and after forty years, as a farmer. His grandfather traded the mineral rights of his Denman Island land to Lord Dunsmuir. In exchange, the Keenans got a parcel of land that includes the Tsable River delta and much of the land on either side of the river, past the E&N Railroad trestle. It includes the river bottom itself, a very rare form of riparian ownership.

There is a well-worn trail along the Tsable starting at the old highway. When we decided to start sampling the Tsable, it might have been tempting to just waltz in and get our readings, but BWS is careful to always get permission from property owners first. Mr. Keenan sees the value in our work; he cares about this river. So he graciously allowed us access. And as a bonus, he offered to guide us to the best site and tell us about the river along the way.

He showed us where the best swimming hole had been, where he would occasionally ice skate during the coldest winters, where the many different species of fish were caught. He recalled encounters with bears and hunting for deer. He described watching the railway trestle being rebuilt, stick by stick, with the coal powered steam crane perched at the edge of the artificial precipice. He described standing below and taunting his friend who had gotten a job stoking the boiler. His friend responded, in typical teenage fashion, by pegging chunks of coal at his tormentor. Mr. Keenan calmly gathered up the missiles and carried them home. Coal was a valuable commodity for every home in those days.

Of the many stories he told us, one stands out. A man named Fred Gilbert owned a small fishing boat. He wanted to clean the barnacles off the hull. With the permission of Ken's father, he sunk some poles into the mud along the edge of the river and tied his trawler to them when he wasn't fishing. The fresh water killed the barnacles on his hull which saved Gilbert the labour of scraping them off. This worked well for a few years.

But one night, after Gilbert had crawled into his bunk in the tiny cabin below decks, a heavy rain pelted the Fanny Bay area. Later that night, he was thrown from his bunk and tossed about, as the river swept his trawler into the bay. The boat eventually snagged on a small sandbar, awash and on its side. The Tsable did not usually respond so dramatically to a rain storm. This was not normal.

Gilbert spent days righting his vessel, bailing it out, and getting the engine running after its sudden bath. Eventually things returned to normal and he was able to tie up to his fresh water moorings every night. But then there was another deluge and the Tsable flooded and roared all over again. Gilbert was once more washed away. This happened three times over the course of three years. After the third time, Gilbert gave up. He had to accept that normal had changed.

What had turned the gentle Tsable into this raging monster? Mr. Keenan ascribes it to increased logging in the watershed. Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing, an American company, had been cruising the island looking for prime timber near the E&N railway. The Tsable watershed fit the bill. Victoria Lumber had no connection to the land. Their mandate was to haul out as many logs as possible and make money for their foreign owners. The broad lower bowl of the Tsable watershed was soon opened up and the soil exposed to heavy rains. The hydrology was changed forever. A peaceful river now had the potential to be a monster, rising faster and further than ever before.

This is the Tsable we now know: a river quick to respond to rainfall, as are all of our local creeks. This is what we now count as normal. There is no turning back the dial to a previous setting.

Mike Mesford



Ken Keenan





# UNION BAY & FIRE RESCUE PANCAKE BREAKFAST



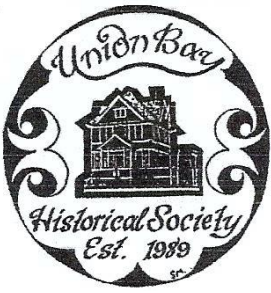
On October 15, the Union Bay Fire and Rescue held a very successful open house. The crew prepared the pancakes, sausages, and bacon, and their trucks and equipment were put on display. Ian Ham, the fire chief, and his fellow fire rescue team would like to express their gratitude to the community for its tremendous interest and support of the department.



## Contact Info

Chief: Ian W Ham CD  
Assistant Chief Training: D'Arcy Rainey  
Assistant Chief Operations:  
Sandy Pridmore  
5471 S. Island Hwy  
PO Box 70  
Union Bay, BC V0R 3B0  
For Non-Emergencies  
Phone: (250) 335-2345  
Email: [firechief@unionbayfirerescue.ca](mailto:firechief@unionbayfirerescue.ca)





## EARLY COMMERCE IN UNION BAY.

**Janette Glover-Geidt**

The first trader at the Bay was Jack Hart, who owned a store in Comox where the Hudson Bay Post was built. He loaded his canoe with goods, plus alcohol, and paddled over to the Point to trade with Natives who lived there. The land at the mouth of Washer Creek was named Jack Hart Point.

George Howe left England in 1870 with his cousin, John Howe. They bought land on Hornby Island, which they farmed. In 1876 George also worked for the Baynes Sound Mine on Tsable River. He then preempted land south of the Union Mines land. In 1893 he built the Nelson Hotel (on the highway at the south side of McLeod Road) named after the Nelson District where it was built. The first commercial building at the Bay had nine guest rooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. On the first floor an 18' x 22' room designated for billiards was used as the first store. Then, as the town grew, Howe built the first real store across the highway, just above high tide. Here, a long rock pile stretched out to accommodate the mail boat, and those bringing goods to the store. A big, strong Chinese man, Hungo, tended the farm which stretched from the school to McLeod Rd. The big barn accommodated the delivery horses, cows for milk and beef, pigs for pork and bacon. Chickens were kept for their eggs and meat. As well, the large garden supplied vegetables and fruit to be sold in the store or used in the hotel kitchen. Extra cattle were taken by barge by Hungo to Henry Bay on Denman, where they ran wild until needed, then brought back to be slaughtered in the slaughter house on the property. A tall water tower collected water for the garden, store and Hotel.

In 1894 the small store became the Post Office, with George Howe sworn in as first Post Master. It had no boxes. When the mail boat dropped the mail bag off into Hungo's row boat it was taken to the store where the community waited the mail, hoping for a letter. As George pulled the letters from the mailbag he announced the recipient, and often read the Post cards to the delight of the crowd. People crowded around to read the messages. Once, Violet Glover received a proposal of marriage from George Harwood, which was read by her friend at the same time as she read it.

After building a larger store and several houses, George sold out to his long-time employee Jack Fraser, and Charlie Bishop. George Howe was one of the first settlers and property owners at Union Bay, as well as being the first entrepreneur, yet his name has not been memorialized on any area, road or building.

Note: After the big store was built, the small store was used as a laundry for the hotel, presided over by two Chinese fellows. Later still, in the 30's and 40's, it was used as a change room by swimmers at Sandy Beach.



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Website: [WWW.endoftheroll.com](http://WWW.endoftheroll.com) Newly Renovated! New Owner Operators! Free Estimates!**

## The "Down By The Bay" Newsletter

Is available on the website [www.ubcc.ca](http://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](mailto:ub.dbtb@gmail.com) with the subject line "sign me up"

### 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](mailto:ub.dbtb@gmail.com)  
The order form with instructions, cost and payment options is on the Community Club website at [www.ubcc.ca](http://www.ubcc.ca) Click on newsletter and then on advertising in the newsletter. Ads must be prepaid.

### Thank you to the following advertisers for supporting this month's Newsletter!

ABC Printing	250-338-6364	Black Water Plumbing	250-897-8153
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J.LG Contracting	250-331-5347	DF Holdings	250-703-0891
The Fix It Shop	250-702-2191	Fanny Bay Hall	250-335-2832

**WE NEED MORE ADVERTISERS!**

### Current Events

The hall is home of many activities and meetings. For information about renting space, contact Trina Gable at [rentals@ubcc.ca](mailto:rentals@ubcc.ca). Outdoor space, concession stand, meeting rooms, dining room, kitchen facilities, and large hall, with stage are available.

Craft Fairs contact is Starr McFadyen at [craftfairs@ubcc.ca](mailto:craftfairs@ubcc.ca)

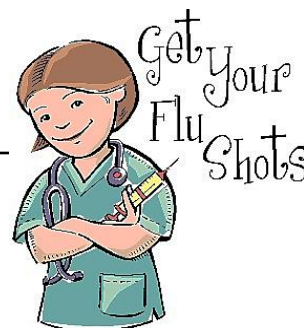
Hall activities contact Jen Balcke at [activities@ubcc.ca](mailto:activities@ubcc.ca)


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

### FLU SHOTS

The Union Bay Market, UB Community Club and The Courtenay Pharmacy will be holding a flu shot clinic at the hall on November 6th. Please pick up your medical info form at the UB Market. You need to have it filled out to present it at the time of your shot.

UNION BAY MAIN HALL      WALK IN ANYTIME BETWEEN      10:00 - 2:00





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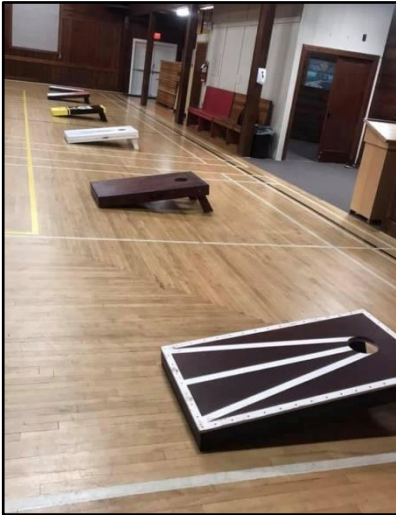
# HALL ACTIVITIES

The newest activity at the hall

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT CORN HOLE

**The rules for cornhole. Simplified overview.**

Toss the 16oz cornhole bag into the hole of the cornhole board for 3 points. Land the bag on the board for 1 point. The first player or team to 21 wins. The distance for cornhole is 33 ft from hole to hole or 27ft from the front of each board. It's a simple but addicting game.



Must have a UB club membership to play.  
\$3.00 drop in  
Main Hall 6:00pm



## FLOOR HOCKEY

Contact Wild Bill at 250-898-7246 for more info  
on times and dates  
Hall membership and \$3.00 drop in fee



## FRIENDLY PORT CRIBBAGE

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 1:00 pm Kovar Room  
For more info contact Susan Hargreaves at 250-335-3124  
Hall membership and \$3.00 drop in fee



## PICKLE BALL

Tuesdays Main Hall  
2:00 - 4:00  
Hall membership and \$3.00 drop in fee



## AEROBICS

Monday, Wednesday & Fridays  
9am - 10:30  
Hall membership and \$3.00 drop in fee



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Get Prepared



Daniel Arbour, Director

Comox Valley Regional District  
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Email: reachme@danielarbour.ca / Cell 250.650.8480  
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## D.F. Holdings Waste Water Management

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## Interested in Earthquake Preparedness?

Register today for a free earthquake preparedness information session.

Alison Bird, Earthquake Seismologist with Natural Resources Canada, will be providing a virtual presentation to our community about earthquakes, tectonics, local hazards, and how we can all get prepared.

When: Tuesday, November 8 from 7 – 8:30 pm

Register today at: [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getprepared](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getprepared)

For more information,  
call: 250-334-6000 or visit:  
[www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getprepared](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getprepared)



comoxvalleyrd.ca

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Union Bay Community  
Church  
Winter Hours  
11:00am

Everyone Welcome!



## RAINE HAMILTON STRING TRIO

7 pm FRIDAY  
4 NOVEMBER 2022



### TICKETS AVAILABLE:

In person: \$30 Cash

Weinberg's Good Food, Buckley Bay  
Laughing Oyster Books, Courtenay  
Salish Sea Market, Bowser

Online: \$32.50

[fannybayhall.ticketit.ca](http://fannybayhall.ticketit.ca)

*Resonant, acoustic chamber folk  
with an otherworldly edge,  
& a lyrical presence that cuts deep.*

*Prism-clear vocals and strings:  
Anchored in the ancient mountains,  
reaching up beyond the earthly.*



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LIVE AT

THE FANNY BAY HALL

Raine is the recipient of the 2018 Canadian Folk Music Award for Emerging Artist of the year! She has toured Canada extensively. Highlights include: performing songs with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (5 times), performing with the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, playing at festivals across Canada (Vancouver Folk Festival, Vancouver Island Music Fest, Atlin Festival, Home County, Filberg Fest, Harvest Moon and Trout Forest) to name a few.

You will enjoy this resonant, acoustic chamber folk with an other worldly edge, and a lyrical presence that cuts deep.

Raine Hamilton

String Trio



Once again the Baynes Sound Lions Club will be doing their annual wheelbarrow push for the

Child Development Center. They will be meeting at the Fanny Bay Hall on November 6th at 8:30 am. They are asking locals to join them. All the way is 32 k or 1/2 way starting around noon from Union Bay.



A local is looking for seasoned firewood  
Please call Helmut at 250-897-6648 if you can help him.


*I have learned two  
important lessons  
in my life.*

*I don't remember  
the first one, but  
the second one is  
to write everything  
down.*




# 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](mailto:bmbitten@gmail.com) with your well wishes by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.



Happy Birthday  
To  
Alexis Royer



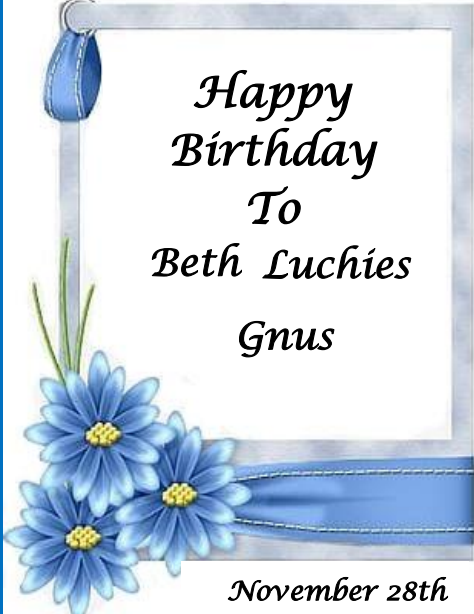
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42 November 28th 42

Happy November  
Birthdays  
To  
Cindy Schumacher  
Addison Flawse  
Cindy Olsen  
Scott Royer  
&  
Millie McKay

Happy  
Birthday  
To  
Beth Luchies  
Gnus  
November 28th

Happy Anniversary  
Brian & Terri  
McKay



November 19th

Happy Birthday  
To  
Chris McKay




Love from your  
Family  
Nov 14th


Happy Anniversary  
Brent & Jody  
McKay



November 20th



The squirrels must be expecting a cold winter.  
They're gathering more nuts than usual.  
Yesterday, my sister disappeared!





## Boat Launch Vandalism & Theft



On October 7<sup>th</sup> sometime through the night someone cut off the pipe and stole the pay station and roof. BOAT LAUNCH FEES ARE COLLECTED EVERYDAY.

Please call Rick at 604-309-1571 if you see anything suspicious

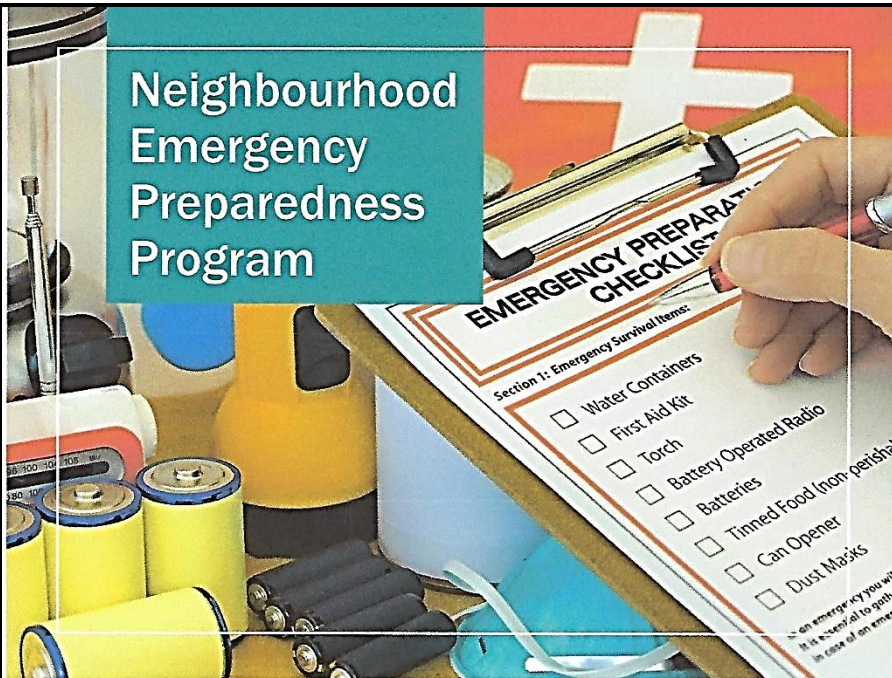
With this new design hopefully this new one will be fool proof.

Everything is reinforced to make it very difficult to cut off and steal. Thank you Rick for getting our new pay station up and running so quickly!

**MONEY COLLECTED DAILY**



## Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program



### Is Your Neighbourhood Prepared?

Neighbourhoods that plan for disaster, recover fast! Helping your neighbours during an emergency is vital to having self-reliant communities.

Learn about the Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program (NEPP) and how each household in your community can get involved. Disaster planning starts at the neighbourhood level!

For more information visit [comoxvalleyrd.ca/nepp](http://comoxvalleyrd.ca/nepp) or call **250-334-6000**

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## Meat Draw

**The Baynes Sound Lions  
hold a meat draw every  
Sunday at the FBI.**

**Starts at 5:00 pm**



## Directors of the Community Club Board

Brenda Bitten President & Newsletter	Darcy Rainey Vice president
Anne Carroll Treasurer	Carly Gilchrist Secretary & Memberships
Rick Weaver Maintenance & Boat Ramp	Trina Gable Rentals
Starr McFadyen Craft Fairs	Jenn Balcke Janitor & Activities
Laura Agnew Catering	Leanne Lindstrom Events Coordinator
Jen Sagan Secretary Asst.	Travis Mephram Fireworks Coordinator
Paul Baal Bar & Horseshoes	Seth Nanayakkara Grounds Maintenance

### ATTENTION!

Our treasurer Anne Carroll will be stepping down in about 6 months. We will be looking for a new treasurer to fill this volunteer position. What we need:

Someone who has a good understanding of basic bookkeeping, and ideally someone who has a working knowledge of SAGE accounting system. We have an accountant who does our year end books and tax return. We need to find someone who is willing to be a replacement and spend a few months learning the ropes so we can have a smooth transition. Training would begin in the new year. If you are interested in this position or have any questions regarding the treasurers position please contact...

[treasurer@ubcc.ca](mailto:treasurer@ubcc.ca)

### Where You Bank Makes a Difference.

#### Partnerships Bring Hope for Natural Spaces in the Comox Valley

How do environmental policies in the Comox Valley affect the people who live there? Where are the mature forests in that area, and how can they be considered in land-use decisions? Where are the carbon reserves in the region, and what part can they play in local carbon sequestration?

These are some of the questions that are being answered in the latest version of Nature Without Borders, a document produced by the Comox Valley Conservation Partnership (CVCP), which is administered by the Comox Valley Land Trust. The last iteration of the plan was published in 2013.

"A lot has changed since 2013," says Executive Director of Comox Valley Land Trust, Tim Ennis. "For example, climate change is way more prominent now in the minds of policymakers—and in the mind of the average person. We realized that there was significant potential to update the document and the plan in a way that reflected these more modern priorities."

Learn how First Credit Union is supporting the Comox Valley Land Trust's Nature Without Borders project & other community initiatives at [firstcu.ca/blog](http://firstcu.ca/blog)



**First**  
CREDIT UNION

Tim, Executive Director, CV Land Trust  
Françoise, Program Coordinator, CV Conservation Partnership

Powell River | Courtenay | Cumberland | Union Bay | Bowser | Bowen Island | Texada Island | Hornby Island





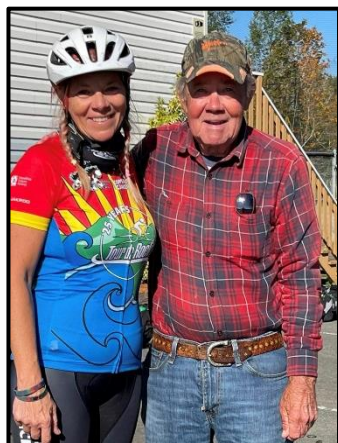
## Remembrance Day Service

Friday November 11th

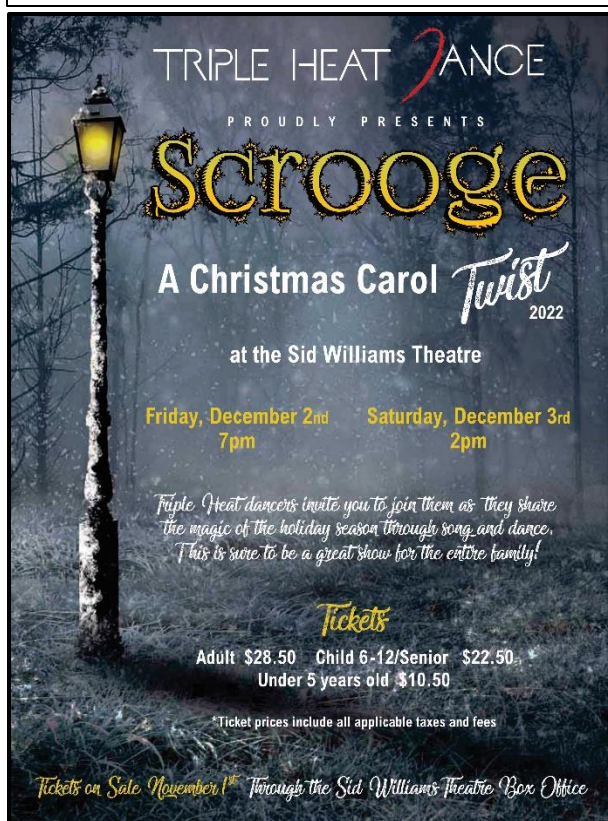
Please plan on attending the Remembrance Day service at the Union Bay Community Hall starting at 10:45. Chili and a bun will be served after the service by the UB Historical Society. This lunch is by donation. If you would like to present a wreath for this service please call Bette Hopwood at 250-218-3212 or email [bette.hopwood@gmail.com](mailto:bette.hopwood@gmail.com). She will need the name of the organization or name of the person in memory of ... and the name of the presenter.



### COPS FOR CANCER



A very proud father Bruce Campbell of Union Bay met up with his daughter Robin on her stop at the UB hall on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments and sweets were served, donations accepted, pictures taken and they were on their way. This year the Vancouver Island Tour de Rock raised over 1 million dollars. Yes Bruce you have a lot to be proud of!



Triple Heat Dance performed at the U B Hall for our Fall Supper. They were amazing!



## Fireworks Show



Update as of Oct 28<sup>th</sup> No Halloween Fireworks Now on Nov 12th

The CVRD are not issuing any fireworks permits unless we get a substantial amount of rain. The Community Club and Fire Rescue are planning to set them off on November 12<sup>th</sup> if there is not enough rain by Halloween. So if we can't get a permit for Halloween meet at the Union Bay boat launch at 7:30 November 12<sup>th</sup>.

### I'm So Old

I have dialed a rotary phone (that didn't have an answering machine), recorded a song that I love off a transistor radio onto a tape recorder, watched a black and white TV (with less than 10 channels) that had foil on the rabbit ear antennas, taken a long walk without counting steps and eaten food I didn't take a picture of.

December's addition will have the highlights of our Fall Supper and Christmas Craft Fair.