



Union Bay Community Club Newsletter

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

☘ MARCH 2023 ☘

SPRING CRAFT FAIR

Sunday April 2nd

Union Bay Hall

10am - 3pm

Souper Luncheon

UNION BAY COMMUNITY CLUB

AGM

THURSDAY MARCH 16th

UNION BAY HALL

7:00pm

Info on AGM & Craft Fair on inside cover

Our Spring Craft Fair is always very popular and have up to 40 very talented crafters. A delicious lunch will be served in the dining room by our volunteers. Our famous clam chowder and sandwich are very popular. And another soup is hot and ready for those who don't like seafood. Our craft fairs are overseen by our director, Starr who is full of great ideas to make this event successful. If you would like a table, you can go onto our website, ubcc.ca and register, or email Starr at craftfairs@ubcc.ca. Tables go fast, so don't delay!

Our Union Bay Community Club Recreation Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, March 16th, in the main hall at 7:00 pm. Come out and meet your directors and listen to the 2022 reports. Coffee/tea and goodies will be served after the meeting. This will give you a chance to chat with your directors. We hope to see you there!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community Club AGM	Thursday, March 16th	7 pm
Spring Craft Fair	Sunday, April 2nd	10am - 3pm
Easter Egg Hunt	Sunday, April 9th	11am
Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast	Sunday, May 14th	8am - 11am
Bay Day & Car Show	Sunday, June 11th	10am - 6pm
Fall Craft Fair	Sunday, September 10th	10am - 3pm
Fall Supper	Sunday October 22nd	5pm
Halloween Party/ Fireworks	Sunday, October 31	4pm & 7:30pm
Remembrance Day	Saturday November 11th	10:45am
Christmas Craft Fair	Sunday November 19th	10am - 3pm

All events are held in the Union Bay hall or field except the fireworks, which are held at the boat launch.



The Story Behind St. Patrick's Day



St. Patrick's Day is right around the corner. If you're anything like me, then you've probably wondered why we celebrate this Irish holiday. For many, whenever they hear the words "St. Patrick's Day," images of leprechauns, clovers, and pots of gold pop into their minds. However, why do we associate those things with this holiday? If you're interested in finding the answer to this question and learning more about this notoriously green holiday, then keep on reading!

Who was St. Patrick?

As you can probably guess, the holiday centers around a man named Saint Patrick. The holiday is always on March 17, which is the day of his death. Saint Patrick is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland, which was previously a pagan country. Interestingly, he was not Irish! Born in British Rome, he was enslaved and brought to Ireland later in his life. In Ireland, Saint Patrick is respected as an important religious figure.

Why do we celebrate in Canada?

In Ireland, the holiday is celebrated by feasting and drinking. March 17 falls during the season of Lent, so many break their fast from meat in order to commemorate this special day in Irish history. However, you'd probably be surprised to hear that the U.S. and Canada have larger and grander St. Patrick's Day celebrations than all other countries, including Ireland! In fact, the first parade for the holiday was held in the Spanish colony located in Florida in 1601. Today, cities throughout the U.S. and Canada celebrate with huge parades, the biggest of which being the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. One lesser-known celebratory tradition is the Chicago River being dyed green!



Why do we associate shamrocks and leprechauns with the holiday?



Legend has it that when Saint Patrick was spreading Christianity throughout Ireland, he used a three-leaf clover, or shamrock, to assist him in explaining the Holy Trinity. As for the leprechauns, they were fairy-like creatures often found in Celtic folktales. Before Saint Patrick converted the country to Christianity, many Irish believed in the pagan Celtic religion. The leprechaun and the legends associated with it led to the tradition of pinching people who aren't dressed in green, as well as the popular image of a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. The shamrock and the leprechaun have evolved over time to become symbols not just for St. Patrick's Day, but for Ireland itself. This year, the holiday falls on Friday, March 17. Don't forget to wear green!



Message from the Fire Chief

Union Bay Fire Rescue has much to celebrate.

On behalf of the fire fighters who comprise Union Bay Fire Rescue, I am pleased to present the 2022 Annual report. You can find the full report online at unionbayfirerescue.ca The report online highlights the tremendous work of the fire fighters, their numerous successes and presents data on the delivery of our many critical services. Some of our accomplishments in 2022 include:

- Union Bay Fire Rescue continued to have strong fire fighter engagement despite the numerous variant strains of the Covid-19 virus.
- The department engaged in several fire prevention activities to increase community safety during the increasingly dry summer. A burning permit program was initiated including an online application process. In addition, the department facilitated a community curbside debris chipper program. The program was in partnership with the Comox Valley Regional District and the Community Resiliency Investment grant funding. 31 Union Bay homes participated with over 50 cubic yards of chipped material removed.
- Emergency medical service call volume continue to account for a significant portion of the department's call incidents – 70%.
- The department's duty vehicle has now been replaced with a 2018 Ford F150 to provide greater response stability.
- Tim Pley and Associates were commissioned to undertake a fire services review of the departments administered through the Comox Valley Regional District. This report is nearing completion. The identified deficiencies and recommendations will guide the continued improvement of the department.

On a personal note, I believe we are so very fortunate to have such a strong department which is only made possible through the incredible fire fighters who we rely upon to protect our families and our neighbourhoods. The exceptional teamwork and department collaboration has brought continued organizational growth. To say that I am proud and grateful of their service would be a huge understatement. I am also appreciative of the ongoing support received through the Comox Valley Regional District – Doug DeMarzo Manager of Community Services. Similarly, I would like to acknowledge the support received from Oyster River Fire Chief Bruce Green whose teamwork and collaboration help action the department's visions for growth. This report is a concise summary of our work and achievements in 2022 It continues to remain my privilege to serve.

Ian W Ham

Highlights

Responded to 79 emergencies

Performed over 1672 hours of training

Replaced duty vehicle

Facilitated community curbside debris chipper program

Launched Open Burning Permit Program

Full report for 2022 can be found at unionbayfirerescue.ca



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For more info go
to our website
at
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Dining Room & Kitchen The dining room and kitchen may be added to support your main hall or rented separately. Capacity 80



Outside Field area A ball field along with viewing stands, picnic tables and children's playground.

Concession Booth Give your ball tournament the "ball game" feel by offering hamburgers and hot dogs.



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"

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.

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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Current Events

The hall is home of many activities and meetings. For information about renting space, contact Trina Gable at rentals@ubcc.ca.

Craft Fairs contact is Starr McFadyen at craftfairs@ubcc.ca

Hall activities contact Jen Balcke at activities@ubcc.ca

Membership January to December

\$15 per person \$35 per family

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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.

From Dawn Ramsay's children,

We would like to extend immense appreciation, love and gratitude to everyone for this incredible outpouring of love and support in this extremely difficult time in our lives. We really cannot express enough how much this means to our family and for us. This amazing show of support for our mom just goes to show what an incredible women, friend, gramma and community member Dawn is.

Again, we thank you so much on behalf of Jesse (Casey), Samantha (Jay) and Cali.

Happy March Birthdays

<i>James Barth</i>	<i>March 6</i>
<i>Rus Chapman</i>	<i>March 8</i>
<i>Glenn Carroll</i>	<i>March 8</i>
<i>Laura Elgie</i>	<i>March 10</i>
<i>Mike Jager</i>	<i>March 17</i>
<i>Karen MacGregor</i>	<i>March 19</i>
<i>Laura Osenenko</i>	<i>March 20</i>
<i>Cathy Poje</i>	<i>March 21</i>
<i>Liam Osenenko</i>	<i>March 23</i>
<i>Linda Friel</i>	<i>March 25</i>
<i>Austin Bitten</i>	<i>March 27</i>

Happy 93rd to Ruth Elgie March 6th

Happy 50th to Trina Gable March 15th



Happy 40th Birthday
To
Nick Webb
March 11th



A Celebration of Life George James

The family of the late George James would like you to join them on Sat. March 11th from 2:00 - 4:00, in the main hall in Union Bay. George was an amazing volunteer in our community for many years. Please feel free to share any stories you might have.



Happy 70th
Rick Weaver
March 3rd

Rick is one of our dedicated volunteers. He maintains the hall, organizes work parties, applies for grants and is in charge of the UB boat launch. Thank you Rick

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Beaufort Watershed Stewards (BWS)

Most of us have a box or two of old photos tucked away somewhere. We may dig through them now and then but mostly they just sit in their boxes. Or maybe we have the modern equivalent: a hard drive full of digital photos that are just as forgotten and much less accessible.

The data that water stewardship groups collect is much like the latter - tucked away on a hard drive waiting for someone to look at it. This is not to say it has no value. Quite the contrary. In terms of data, more is better for measuring change and providing meaningful analysis.

But what if BWS data were available to the wider world? What if researchers at the provincial level or even the global level could access our data? The story of our local creeks could be part of a wider trend and our data could help add weight to the findings. Or, alternatively, maybe our creeks are unique in some way. This could point to areas of new research to figure out why.

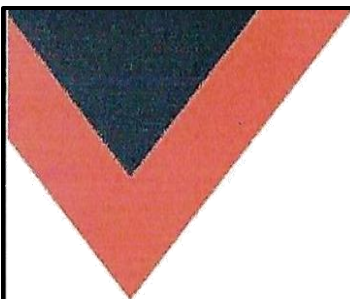
BWS has been searching for a home for our data that would make it more accessible to the wider world. Our criteria included a secure, stable website that would display the data and allow researchers to download datasets. Further, the site must adhere to open data standards. This means the data can be used by anyone, without restrictions or costs. We recently found a site that meets our requirements. We are now in the process of formatting and uploading our precious data. The website is called DataStream and it is run by the Gordon Foundation, "a charitable organization dedicated to protecting Canada's water and empowering Canada's North". The DataStream platform is billed as "open access and built with communities, policy-makers and researchers in mind." Their mission is to "promote knowledge sharing and advance collaborative water stewardship". While we are sold on DataStream, we aren't the only ones. The federal government, several provincial governments, including BC, and many stewardship groups, large and small, are using DataStream for publishing environmental data.

The data on DataStream is available to anyone with an internet connection. You can see our first batch of data for yourself. Go to the story "BWS Stream Data Has Gone National" on our website, beaufortwater.org.

Having a central repository for our data is convenient. Having a secure repository is comforting. And having a repository that is designed from the ground up as a tool for research and decision making is satisfying indeed.

When family comes for a visit and we're feeling nostalgic, we may still dig out that box of old photos. But if our family wants to do some research around the dissolved oxygen levels or specific conductivity in our local streams, we can now point them to DataStream.

Mike Mesford



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COVID SURVIVORS DANCE

On February 18th the community of Union Bay were treated to a free dance. Three different sets of performers played for the audience, filling the room with energy. The young and talented Jacob Eldridge took the stage after Luke Blu Guthrie and Anela, who performed for two hours straight to open the night. The final band, Real Deal, had the crowd dancing the night away. A big thank you to The Union Bay Market, Union Bay Community Club all of the volunteers that made this happen. Union Bay definitely needs more times like this!




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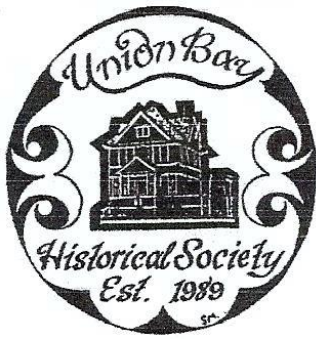


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EARLY COMMERCE in UNION BAY. BAKERS:

Janette Glover-Geidt

In the early years, women baked their own bread cakes and cookies. White flour was mainly used, as whole grain breads were thought of as a poor man's food. In 1917 a "49er" of flour cost \$3.70. The cotton sack it came in was a bonus with many uses. After emptying the flour, all that was required was washing the sack and sometimes bleaching to remove the logo. They could be converted into pillow slips, bags for shopping, school or laundry. Filled with down or feathers, they made excellent pillows or cushions. A 50 lb. sack, opened up, became a yard of material 36" wide which made a perfect tea towel. The 100lb. sacks were large enough to be sewn into a bed sheet. With lace or a crocheted edge, charming curtains, hankies, doilies and table cloths were created. The material was used for many articles of clothing: night gowns, aprons, underwear, sometimes with Royal Standard on one leg and Red rose on the other.

The standard dessert for supper was thick slices of warm bread slathered with butter and homemade blackberry jam. Two pieces put together was usual fare for the children and husband's lunch pail. The stores did not sell bread but carried Pilot bread, a dried biscuit, much like a thick crunchy soda cracker. A 50 lb. box sold for \$2.75.

By 1895 there were three bakeries in Cumberland. Fifteen loaves sold for a dollar. Soon a Scotchman named Halliday travelled to Union Bay by horse and wagon to peddle his bread. His bakeshop later became Auchterlonie's.

About 1912 Mrs. Cook's brother, John Kinnard, with his family, moved to Union Bay. He built a house (3rd from the Post Office) from where his wife sold baked goods and meals.

Alex McCulloch came to Union Bay around 1912. When war broke out he went back to Europe, fighting in France where he was wounded. Returning home with a war pension, he bought the little building on the beach, which had been the first Bank. Mac had trained as a baker, and produced wonderful cakes which he beautifully decorated for special occasions like weddings.

Then, by 1918, McBride's Bakery in Courtenay was bringing bread down and selling it at Mrs. Anderson's Confectionery. As well Rosie, Leithead, Mrs. Anderson's daughter, sold her home-baking from her Mother's store. Later on, Auchterlonie's brought bread down and delivered it door to door. "Don the Baker", with his cheery disposition, was a very popular delivery boy. The children eagerly awaited his arrival, for often the bread would still be warm when he placed it unwrapped on the hall table. It was a treat to bite the corners off the loaves before Mother got them into the bread box.

Many housewives turned out tasty cakes, fancy buns, doughnuts, and desserts. For a fundraiser, the Union Bay United Church collected recipes from all the women of the Bay and produced a recipe book which is still in use today.

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HALL ACTIVITIES



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Hall membership and \$3.00 drop in fee



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Contact Wild Bill at 250-898-7246
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Every 2nd Tuesday at 1:00 pm Kovar Room
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Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:00 – 4:00
Contact Janice Foster at 250-335-0686
Hall membership and \$3.00 drop in fee



AEROBICS

Monday, Wednesday & Fridays 9am - 10:30am
Contact Mary Cochran at 250-335-2128
Hall membership and \$3.00 drop in fee



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1st signs
of Spring!



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Treasurers Position

A huge thank you goes to Dianne Jager who will be taking over for Anne Carroll as our Community Club Treasurer. Since becoming our treasurer five years ago, Anne Carroll has done a great job managing our finances and keeping track of the accounts. Anne and her husband, Glenn, are also very dedicated volunteers at our functions. Thank you Anne for all you do!

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## 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



**UNION BAY**

**BOAT RAMP NEWS**

**Boat Ramp Fees support maintenance and Improvements**

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
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| <b>\$175.00 commercial</b> | <b>\$40.00 senior (65)</b> |

**Permits Due Jan 1st**

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On line at [ubcc.ca](http://ubcc.ca) or call Rick Weaver at 778-427-3319

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For more info email:  
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Get to know the project: [www.cveyc.ca](http://www.cveyc.ca)





Union Bay United Church  
Sunday Services  
11:00 am  
Everyone Welcome!

Watch for more information on the  
Fire Department & Community Club's



**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
In Aprils Newsletter!  
April 9th