

DOWN BY THE BAY



Union Bay Community Club Newsletter

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

OCTOBER 2023



FALL SUPPER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

UNION BAY HALL

ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th

UNION BAY HALL



CHILDREN'S

HALLOWEEN PARTY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31st

FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31st

UNION BAY BOAT LAUNCH





OCTOBER EVENTS INFORMATION

Wow what a busy month!

Fall Supper... Union Bay Hall... Doors open at 5:00... Dinner served at 5:30
Turkey Dinner ... Homemade desserts... Entertainment!
Entertainment Tripple Heat dancers ... Lots of prizes donated by local businesses.
More info on page 10

Adult Halloween Dance....U.B. Hall...Doors open at 7:00...Dancing at 8:00
Live music! **The Real Deal!**Prizes for best costume... Snacks
Tickets are \$20.00 each & on sale at Union Bay Market or Jody McKay at 250-335-1420

Children's Halloween Party ...Union Bay Hall... 4:00pm ... Games
hot dogs, snacks & juice. Great way for the kids to start their Halloween fun!

Community Fireworks Show... 7:30pm U.B. boat launch... Set off by the Union
Bay Fire Rescue. **Donation information on page 10**

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HALL ACTIVITIES



When life gives you rainy days, wear cute boots and jump in the puddles.



CORN HOLE
Wednesday nights at 6:00
Contact James Ford 250-650-1659
Membership & drop in fee required



PICKLE BALL
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



Time To Move Your Activities Inside

If anyone has interest in running an activity at the UBCC please contact Jen Balcke at activities@ubcc.ca



Baynes Sound Lions Club
Hold a meat draw every
Saturday at the FBI
Starting at 5:00
Reminder they will be doing
their wheelbarrow push from
Fanny Bay to Courtenay on
Sunday, Nov 5th



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

Our secretary and memberships director Carly Gilchrist has resigned from the UBCC board. Carly assisted with grants and brought a lot of great ideas to the table. We will miss her expertise and smile!

Thank You Carly!



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& SIGNS**

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Beaufort Watershed Steward

It seems so long ago, but it's only been six years since a few of us in Fanny Bay began wondering how climate change might affect our water supply. This idle pondering led to the formation of a watershed stewardship group. At first, we thought the Wilfred Creek Watershed Stewards was the obvious name for our new group. But someone pointed out the importance of Cowie Creek. And what about the Tstable? And Waterloo Creek and Mud Bay Creek watersheds, we decided, must have an effect the water table in south Fanny Bay. Finally, a wise, retired geologist pointed out that all of our water, ultimately, flows from the Beaufort Range. The Beaufort Watershed Stewards (BWS) was born.

BWS early days were filled with expeditionary hikes up our local creeks. We explored where creeks crossed under highways and logging roads. We bushwhacked up hills to find the ideal sampling site and the best path into each site. We got to know the local wildlife, from bears and weasels, eagles, and dippers, to small frogs and wireworms. We studied where natural erosion has created huge cliffs of exposed aggregate and where water rushes over flat expanses of shale and sandstone with only caddis fly larva to provide visual detail. We learned the fine art of measuring the water volume as a stream moves along its course. We had a blast.

And then we began collecting data. Data and empty beer cans. Data because that is the only thing that will answer our original question and beer cans because refundables have become a significant BWS revenue stream. Of course, to have any value, data and refundables must be processed. Now, BWS tasks include crunching numbers and sorting empties. This tends to take away from our time in the woods. So, when our friend, Arin Yeomans-Routledge, owner of Weaver Technical, Corp. invited several BWS members to join him and his colleague, Katie Schulze, to assess stream conditions in one of our larger creeks, we jumped at the chance.

It was a sunny, hot day but there was lots of shade and the water was cool. Despite the low water, there were no spots so dry that adult salmon couldn't make their way upstream. Indeed, we counted about 380 Pink Salmon. (Arin will report this number to Jacob Merville, Community Advisor for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.) We saw lots of small cutthroat trout, a few sculpins, and one crawdad. There were the usual avian delights - dippers, kingfishers, and eagles. We also saw an ammonite in fossilized form. (Though we missed the living version by a few million years.) This time of year, there are often dead salmon on the banks, dragged out of the creek by bears. Once, as we came around a bend in the stream, we scared an eagle off a carcass. We witnessed the awe-inspiring sight of the great bird flying straight towards us and then up and over our heads, the sound of its wings full in our ears.

Our path was tracked by a GPS recorder, and this allowed us to create an updated map of the creek. Existing provincial maps were created in 1998 using aerial imagery and things have changed a lot since then. We noted two new side channels in the creek and a large mid-channel gravel bar.

But what made this outing truly special was that we remembered what it felt like when we first started this crazy project. Just six short years ago. By Mike Mesford



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As You Like It is organizing a Food Safe course in the Union Bay Hall. October 1st at 9:00 am. She will be accepting last minute enrollment if you're interested. Call Laura at 250-335-2625 for more info!

Union Bay Community Club's Fall Craft Fair

The Community Club held their annual Fall Craft Fair on September, 10th. Soup, sandwiches, hot dogs, cookies, muffins and cinnamon buns were served by our awesome directors and volunteers. Volunteer Dawson Jager ran the table, selling Fall Supper tickets and pull tabs. Thank you Starr, for organizing another successful fair. A huge thank you to all our volunteers! Without you, our fundraisers would not be possible! Our Christmas Craft Fair will be held on November, 19th Go to ubcc.ca and click on events to register or email Starr McFadyen at craftfairs@ubcc.ca



We are always looking for volunteers!



Can you volunteer for the Fall Supper?



Happy October Birthdays

Lois Flawse	Oct 3
Brian McKay	Oct 3
Dawson Milburn	Oct 4
Jo-anne Nelson	Oct 4
Sherre Flawse	Oct 7
Don Hastings	Oct 8
Barb Barkley	Oct 8
Pat Hamilton Bayly	Oct 8
Naomi TeWinkel	Oct 12
Holly McKay	Oct 14
Riley McFadyen	Oct 15
Rini Friel	Oct 17
Susan Hargreaves	Oct 17
Noah Milburn	Oct 17
Starr McFadyen	Oct 18
Penny Sexton	Oct 19
Octavia McKay	Oct 19
Nicole Reid	Oct 21
Cristin Johansen	Oct 22
Noah Miller	Oct 23
Sally Kew	Oct 23
Jamie Hoffman	Oct 23
Rikk Buijs	Oct 24
Frances Haraldson	Oct 28

Oct 20th



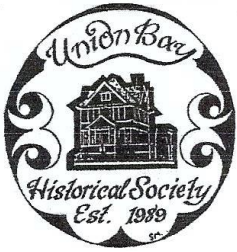
*Happy Birthday
Gloria Royer*



Happy
93rd Birthday
Allan Flawse
Oct 6th



Happy
Sweet 16th
Birthday
To
Paige McFadyen
Oct 21st



EARLY COMMERCE AT UNION BAY: BUTCHERS

Janette Glover Geidt

A Butcher in the early days was a busy man, wearing many hats to provide meat for his customers. If he did not own a farm, he had to locate the animals, then transport them to his shop. Usually this was done while the animal was still alive, as it was easier and cheaper to walk a cow from Curran's farm in Fanny Bay than haul it in a buggy. Behind every butcher shop was a slaughter house, where the animal was slaughtered, bled and skinned. Not a job for the weak bodied or faint of heart.

Over the years Union Bay had many butchers. None of them had such fitting names as Mr. Hackworth of Parksville, or Mr. Hamburg of Cumberland or Mr. Slaughter of Courtenay. Game was the first meat sold, venison, geese, ducks and fish. Commercial hunters delivered them to the shops – venison sold for 5c a pound. Soon the farmers of Courtenay, Denman and Hornby were producing cattle, sheep, hogs and chickens.

George Howe came to the district in the 1880's and opened a little butcher shop in Comox. Then, in 1893, Howe bought five lots at Union Wharf and erected a store and Hotel on the highway at McCleod Rd. Besides his farm on Hornby Island, Mr. Howe let his cattle run behind Union Bay and at Henry Bay on Denman. George, a big strong man, along with the Chinese farmer Hungo, also strong, rowed the animals across Baynes Sound in a large barge. Eventually Mr. Howe retired and his nephew, George Harwood, took over. About this same time William Bowden, who was butchering at Quenell's large shop in Nanaimo, was hired by the Co-op at the Bay. Will next went to butcher at Fraser & Bishops, and taught George Harwood the business.

In 1922 George was pushing the cut-up meat into the big electric grinder, when three fingers were caught in the gears and severed at the 2nd joint. It was Will's job to retrieve the finger out of the grinder and discard the hamburger for that day. Although an extremely painful accident, George's misfortunes were far from over. A car was soon commandeered to take the poor man to Cumberland Hospital. In those days cars were unreliable, and in January the already terrible roads were in poor repair. The car broke down opposite the Royston School, two of the wheel spokes and rim coming right off. Mr. Edwards of Royston came to the rescue and transferred the injured man to his car. As they approached the Happy Valley turn-off Mr. Edward's car broke down. Here they waited until another motorist chanced along and willingly took the nearly unconscious butcher to hospital. Back home, infection set in but eventually the hand healed and he became very adept with just a thumb and little finger on his left hand. Customers marveled at the neat way he tied up the meat packages and broke the heavy string with his little finger.

Mr. Harwood was very active in the Church, and often played Santa Claus at the Christmas concert. To the unbelievers, intent on identifying Santa, the glove with three limp fingers was a dead giveaway.

After having served in butcher shops in Cumberland and Deep Bay, Mr. Bowden returned to the Bay and built a butcher shop onto Hudson's store. Both men's shops were kept scrupulously clean. The floor behind the counter was spread with fresh sawdust every day. In the middle of the floor stood a butcher block, a huge fir round mounted on a four-legged stool. Hanging from nails on the block were knives of different sizes and a long steel to hone his knives razor sharp. It was cleaned after each purchase with a strong steel brush. Several stout beams with "S" hooks hanging from them crossed the shop. Beef, mutton and pork carcasses hug from the hooks when not in the cooler.

In the 1930's, cured meat could be purchased from Vancouver, but before this each butcher made his own. Mr. Harwood was known far and wide for his sausages with just the right blend of spices. Mr. Bowden was just as renowned for his delicious corned beef.



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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!

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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. 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

Hall activities contact Jen Balcke at activities@ubcc.ca

Membership January to December \$15.00 per person \$35.00 per family

Memberships are due in December!



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UNION BAY



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\$175.00 commercial \$40.00 Senior (65)

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Remembrance Day Service

Saturday, November 11th
Union Bay Community Hall

10:45am

Janette Glover Geidt will be presenting an
overview on WW1

If you are presenting a wreath, we need to know
the name of the organization, name in memory
of and the presenter.

Please call Dave Davidson @ 250-335-2317 or
email him at dadavidson34@hotmail.com

The UB Historical Society & The UB Community
Club together will be hosting a chili and bun
lunch by donation after the service.



Union Bay Fire Rescue Prevention Week

OPEN HOUSE & PANCAKE
BREAKFAST

UNION BAY FIRE HALL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 14th

9:00am - 12:00pm

For more information please call
the Fire Hall at 250 335-2345 or
email

firechief@unionbayfirerescue.ca



U.B. Historical Society Memberships

You can purchase a new or renew your
membership by calling Jan Aitken at 250-335-2571.

The membership fees allow us to continue
maintenance to the post office, library and Gaol
/Museum.

Thank You for your support!

THANK YOU TO THESE DONORS FROM THE U.B. GARDENERS

Paris Smith and siblings - Nursery voucher in memory of their
departed mother who had enjoyed many happy summers staying
with relatives in Union Bay in her youth.

The Griessel Family of Nanoose Bay who own Kevco Timber and have
a Woodlot Licence on Green Road - Cash donation.

Mike Kosten, the Mechanic at Union Bay Auto - Cash donation to
help the cost of buying mulch.

Assistance

Mike Kosten and his friend Lorne Marling who sought out and
transported loads of mulch in their pickups at short notice on a
Saturday that was a Statutory Holiday when many businesses were
closed.

Thanks. Mike Robson.



FIREWORKS DONATIONS

Donations towards the fireworks show can be dropped off at the Union Bay Market, deposited into the UB Credit Union fireworks account. If depositing, please state it as fireworks with the teller. You can also donate on line! Go to ubcc.ca, then to events, click on fireworks and you will find the donation button is at the bottom.

The Union Bay Fire Rescue will again put on the show. Thank You to firefighter and Community Club director Travis Mepham for ordering the fireworks and assisting with this event!



FLU SHOT

The Union Bay Market and the UB Community Club will be holding a flu shot clinic at the hall sometime in October. We are just waiting on a date from the Pharmacy. We will advertise on our website, UB bulletin board, new led sign and at the Market. There will be a sign up book at the Market when we know the date. Waiting word on also having Covid vaccines as well.



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OUR NEW SIGN

It has been decided by the club to advertise Down By the Bay advertisers for 10 days in a rotating schedule on our digital sign in hopes of promoting more businesses to place ads in our newsletter. So if you're a business who would like to have an ad on our new digital sign, go to ubcc.ca, then to advertising, and buy a 1 year ad.

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Sarah Jane Scouter
(Scottish singer-songwriter)

Nina LeBlanc
(Fanny Bay singer)



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Laughing Oyster Books, Courtenay
Salish Sea Market, Bowser

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fannybayhall.ticketit.ca



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Live at Fanny Bay Hall Grant Lawrence and Friends ...an evening of Stories & Songs

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1978	2023
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8 tracks	Cataracts
KEGs	EKGs
Streaking	Leaking
Acid rock	Acid reflux
Seeds & stems	Fiber
Hoping for a BMW	Hoping for a BM
Going to a new hip joint	Getting a new hip joint
Rolling Stones	Kidney stones
Bell bottoms	Big bottoms
Disco	Costco
Whatever	Depends
Rock n' roll all night	Sleeping through the night
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BOAT LAUNCH VISITORS

James Barth volunteers as camp host at the boat launch during the summer and has met some very interesting visitors.

European Fire Truck conversion to RV.
The owners are from Germany.

Thank You James!

The Story Behind Halloween

It's everyone's favourite October holiday. That time when you decorate your home with spiders and dress up in costumes. But how did all these Halloween traditions begin? Why is October 31st the scariest time of the year? It's hard to know exactly when everything got started. But most people trace Halloween's beginnings to 2000 years ago. A group of people called the Celts lived in what would become Great Britain, Ireland and parts of France. Their new year began around November 1st. The night before they would celebrate with a festival called Samhain. Samhain was a celebration of the harvest and the start of winter. It was also thought to be a time when ghosts would come out.

The Celts wore masks and built bonfires on the night of Samhain. They'd also put out food for ghosts.

In time, the Romans conquered the Celtic lands. And they noticed that their own festival for the dead was around the same time as Samhain. So they combined the holidays, keeping the traditions going for a long time.

Over 1,000 years ago, the Catholic church decided to name November 2nd as All Souls' Day to honour the dead.

They renamed Samhain, which fell on November 1st to All Saints' Day. Also known as All Hallows' Day.

The night before, October 31st, became known as All Hallows' Eve. And that was shortened to Halloween.

The idea of a pumpkin carved with a scary face came from Ireland. There, people would carve faces into turnips or potatoes. This was to represent a legend about a man named Jack, who wandered the countryside with a lantern.

Over time, the Halloween tradition of a jack-o'-lantern came to North America. And pumpkins were plentiful in October and easier to carve than turnips.

The best part of Halloween – the free candy – started back with Samhain. People would leave out food for any ghosts that might be wandering about that night. Centuries later, people would give out sweet cakes on All Hallows Eve. By the 1800s in England, children were dressing in costumes. And they'd perform songs and dances for candy and pennies.

When Halloween became popular in North America in the early 1900s, kids didn't have to perform. But saying "trick or treat" was a reminder that people should give out candy. Or else expect some kind of trick to be played on them!

Today, Halloween is more popular in North America than the rest of world. And it's become really popular in Great Britain where it got its start. For most people, Halloween is about dressing up and decorating homes and classrooms. Some kids go door-to-door in their neighbourhoods to trick or treat. Others celebrate at school or at parties. Halloween's a good way to have fun scaring ourselves. Even just a little bit, as the nights get longer and the days get colder.



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