

DOWN BY THE BAY



Union Bay Community Club Newsletter

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

Merry Christmas From

DECEMBER 2024

Your UBCC Directors





Beaufort Watershed Stewards

Autumn marks the end of many things: warm weather, camping trips, kayaking, long sun-filled days, and, sadly, baseball. And though we continue sampling and monitoring year-round, it's the end of our field season. Autumn also marks the end of the fiscal year for BWS so we're focusing on year-end financial tasks. But as the Daft Punk song says:

Like the legend of the Phoenix
All ends with beginnings

So as many things are ending, many things are beginning. The curling season has started. Folks are waxing their skis. We're using the fireplace again. We're reading more. And for BWS, it's the beginning of our off-season. Once the rains come, high water in the creeks and inclement weather limit our fieldwork. So, we dig into the huge amount of data we've collected. On a cold, blustery, evening there's nothing more comforting than sitting with one's feet up, sipping a cup of tea, and basking in the warm glow of a computer screen.

Our data harvest this year was as productive as ever. Our data warehouse is overflowing, and it needs to be organized, analyzed, and published. This task has outgrown our amateur skills, and we have hired an expert. The hiring of an expert marks a new beginning in our data management and a new stage in our organizational growth.

Another project just beginning is a strategic review. Our organization started small and has grown like one of our native blackberry vines, spreading quickly in all directions. We were ambitious and had a sense of urgency. The range of possible data collection activities was enormous. Now, we want to make sure we are making the best use of our resources. Should we do more flow monitoring and less sampling? Should we do more sampling and more groundwater monitoring? Should we do more resistivity soundings? More watershed health assessments? We know we're gathering useful scientific data, but do we have the right focus? This is where a strategic review comes in. We will look in more detail at what other groups are doing. We will talk with experts in various related fields. Some of us may even read scientific papers. Definitely not a summertime activity!

All of these beginnings should keep us busy through the fall and winter. And when we get to the end, ahhh, the beginning of spring!

Mike Mesford
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250.702.5900



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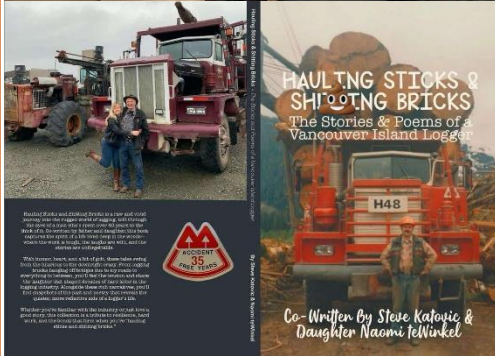
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New Book by Union Bay's Own Steve Katovic and Daughter Naomi TeWinkel

Longtime Union Bay resident Steve Katovic has teamed up with his daughter, Naomi TeWinkel, to bring local history to life in their new book, "Hauling Sticks and Shooing Bricks". This book shares Steve's unforgettable tales from over 40 years in logging, combining humor, adventure, and the true grit of life in the forest. Alongside colorful stories, the book also includes Steve's original poetry and family photos, offering a rare glimpse into both the logging world and a family's journey through it. Perfect for anyone who loves a good story or wants a laugh, Hauling Sticks and Shooing Bricks is available now on Amazon.ca or ordered through Naomi- don't miss out on this Union Bay gem! Contact Naomi by email Dotcombabe@gmail.com or Phone 250-339-3723.



POSTCARDS FROM THE BAY ART EXHIBITION

Union Bay Historical Society presents a showcase of 14 different artists and their views, feelings, impressions and experiences of the Bay.

Friday November 22

5:30-8:30

Gaol House Museum



The exhibit can also be viewed Saturdays From 1pm-4pm

November 23rd 1-4
November 30th 1-4
December 7th 1-4
December 14th 1-4



Baynes Sound Lions

Meat Draw

Every Saturday

At The FBI

4:30

Always looking for new members!

Baynes Sound Lions Christmas of Giving Program

Baynes Sound Lions are once again gathering names for our Christmas of Giving Program.

We are looking for families in Fanny Bay, Union Bay, Denman and Hornby that may need a little boost during the Holiday Season.

All information is held in the strictness of Confidence.

Please email baynessoundlions55@gmail.com to get yourself or someone you know in need on the list.

Please include Name, Address, Phone number, Email address and number of family members in the household and if they are adults or children.

Deadline for submission is Dec 10th 2024



"Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall."



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SORRY NO LINE DANCING UNTIL SPRING

HALL ACTIVITIES

CLUB MEMBERSHIP & \$3.00 DROP IN FEE

CORN HOLE
Wednesday Nights
Contact James
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CRIBBAGE
1:30 – 3:00
Every Tues.

Mary Bowen
250.335.1748



PICKLE BALL
Contact Janice Foster
250.335.0686

AEROBICS
Mon, Wed & Fri 9:30 – 10:30
Contact Lucie Fast
250.335.1607



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PING PONG?
Contact Mary Bowen at
250.335.1748

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



MAH JONG
Every Friday
Downstairs 1:00
Mary Bowen 259.335.1748

Live at Fanny Bay Hall
7793 Island Highway South, Fanny Bay, BC

*Get the festive season off to a special start!
Enjoy a cappella renderings of holiday favourites performed by the sweet and sassy Scarlettes!*

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 1st 2024**

**Matinee Performance
1:30pm**

Wintersongs

In Person Advance: \$30 Cash

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

Online & At Door: \$33

- fannybayhall.ticket.ca

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS & ADVERTISERS AND DONATORS
We are having a Christmas Party!

Thurs Dec 12th

UNION BAY HALL AT 7:00

Your volunteer work is what makes our events such a success! You are too many to count, and we openly invite you all for a fun evening of games, prizes, refreshments, and Appy's. If you have volunteered, please come and join the fun!

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





The Bays Bouquets December



December Birthdays

Sue Elgie	Dec 2
Brenda Mann	Dec 4
Braiden Royer Bitten	Dec 7
Dianne Jager	Dec 8
Jan Weaver	Dec 8
Joost Buijs	Dec 9
Anna Hay	Dec 10
Steph Buijs	Dec 10
Trish Campbell	Dec 14
Sally Granger	Dec 16
Scott Paterson	Dec 20
Lisa Eccleston Gawryluk	Dec 23
Debora McMahon	Dec 31



**A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!**

JANUARY

Gracie Chapman	Jan 4
Jess Cooper	Jan 12
Robyn Miller - Gordon	Jan 19
Megan Bitten	Jan 19
Jody McKay	Jan 21

Happy 63rd
Anniversary
To
Gary & Susan
Hargreaves

Union Bay Community Church

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love are the themes of the four Sundays in Advent. Advent is a uniquely joyous and hopeful season for the church. The word "Advent" means "a coming, approach, or arrival." That arrival, the birth of Jesus, changed the world.

Every Sunday we light another candle on a wreath, symbolizing more and more light coming into the dark of winter until the brightest Light is born on Christmas Day.

- December 1, Advent week 1 – Hope: Prophecy Candle (purple)
- December 8, Advent week 2 – Peace: Bethlehem Candle (purple)
- December 15, Advent week 3 – Joy: Shepherd's Candle (pink)
- December 22, Advent week 4 – Love: Angel's Candle (purple)



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Halloween Dance 2024

Thank you Jody McKay and all her helpers!



Kids Halloween Party



Thank You to Cindy Daneliuk and her helpers for planning the party, and feeding our little goblins before trick or treating!

Creating memories for our children!



Fireworks Show

Another fantastic presentation put on by the UB Community Club and UB Fire Rescue.

A big thanks to Travis Mephram and our local fire department for lighting the fireworks!

Thank you once more to the UB Market for collecting donations.



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CELEBRATIONS: CHRISTMAS: Janette Glover-Geidt

Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat! Please put a penny in the old man's hat! Like today, in days gone by Christmas was the biggest family celebration of the year. Many of the men hunted, so in lean years often a goose was substituted for a turkey.

Before 1900 many of the early settlers: the McCartneys, Muschamps, Rays, McKays, Drews, and Cooks lived in the big Colliery Boarding House at the head of the bay. A community Christmas was held there with a decorated tree, the first most of the children had ever seen. Mrs. Drew, dressed as Santa Claus, gave each child a gift, bought at Howes store from a fund collected by the ladies.



After 1906 when the church was built, all Christmas celebrations were held there. The Sunday School children put on a pageant of the birth of Jesus, with the latest baby wrapped in swaddling cloth. And the other children in their dressing gowns and crowns represented the Wise men and Shepherds. With a fund of \$80.00 donated by the community, a delegation of ladies travelled on the Colliery train to Cumberland to purchase gifts for the children. Later, for several years, the Sunday School sent the ages of all the children to Woodward's or Eaton's department store and the "personal shopper" selected appropriate gifts and mailed them back.

In November the Housewives began their Christmas baking with help from the children. Each lady had favourite recipes, Would it be a dark cake loaded with raisins and currents or a light cake featuring pineapple and cherries. Why not make both? Shortbread made with white sugar or brown? The kids loved helping make and stirring the mince-meat and Christmas pudding, with the little sticks to be taken out of the raisins and currants, with an odd piece of fruit, popped in a mouth.

Extended families came home for the holiday. The two Glover families living in town got together for Christmas dinner. With Harry at one end of the long table and Herbert at the other each carving a big Tom, always keeping the Parson's nose for themselves. It was an exciting time for the 14 cousins to be together. Dinners were the highlight of the festivities. Mrs. McKay, with her daughters, prepared food for about 45. Two turkeys were stuffed and cooked in the oven of the giant coal and wood stove. Mountains of home- grown vegetables were cooked. Cranberry sauce, pickles and relish were opened. Dessert was plum pudding with lemon sauce, and Christmas cake topped with almond paste. In the end, not only the turkeys were stuffed.

<p>Rope Baskets BO HO 4U Clothing Embroidery Local Hand Crafted Gifts</p>	<p>FABRIC ARTISAN CREATIONS Watch for large yellow sign</p>	<p>3844 Warren Ave, Royston 250-792-0885 Open daily 10:00 – 5:00</p>
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	<p>GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS!</p>	
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Did You Know?



Transit Service Improvements

New Connections to Deep Bay

The Comox Valley Transit System is now offering a connection from Fanny Bay to Deep Bay, allowing residents to travel to Qualicum, Parksville and Nanaimo.



HandyDART Extended Hours

Increased hours allow you to plan trips in the evening and on weekends. To book your next trip call:

250-339-5442.

For more information, visit: bctransit.com/comox-valley



Help Wanted

Santa needs new reindeer.
The first bunch has grown old.

Dasher has arthritis;

Comet hates the cold.

Prancer's sick of staring
at Dancer's big behind.

Cupid married Blitzen
and Donner lost his mind.

Dancer's mad at Vixen
for stepping on his toes.

Vixen's being thrown out
she laughed at Rudolph's nose.

If you are a reindeer
we hope you will apply.
There is just one tricky part:
You must know how to fly.

By Timothy Tocher



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LIONS WALK FOR THE KIDS



This year the Baynes Sound Lions raised \$13,186.00!

Imagine pushing a wheelbarrow for over 25 kilometres, with it getting heavier and heavier each step.

For the Baynes Sound Lion's Club, that's just a normal part of what has become an annual tradition. Member Tom Hawtree had the idea of pushing a wheelbarrow from Fanny Bay to Courtenay to raise money for kids with disabilities. The idea was a hit, and the Lions chose the Comox Valley Child Development Association as their recipient and got to work raising funds. The funds raised are presented during their annual telethon, held the first Sunday of November. That was 42 years ago, and the tradition is still going strong.

Club members start pushing an empty wheelbarrow at the Fanny Bay Community Hall at 9 a.m. The event is a group event, with group members as old as 94 helping out with the walk. One walker in particular, Ann (94) has made the walk a tradition, with her granddaughter dressed up as Treasure, the club mascot. Many other people join in along the way, with drivers tossing coins and bills out of their car windows into the wheelbarrow as they pass by.

People watch the procession from their homes, and Lions walk down their driveways to ask for donations.

"The walkers take rest stops at some establishments along the route where they're given snacks and drinks, and encouraged to solicit patrons who generously donate," a release from the Lions says. "And coming into Courtenay, pushing up the last tough hill, people on the sidewalks stop to chat and throw money into the wheelbarrow.

"After four or five hours on the road the group sighs in relief when they reach the Sid Williams Theatre. Everyone in the theatre has waited for the shout, 'They're here!' and when the Lions roll the wheelbarrow onstage (during the telethon), the applause rocks the house."

Over the years, members have pushed hundreds of pounds of coins into Courtenay.

"We walked the whole distance. It was amazing the number of people who stopped. And we were surprised at how much we raised," said Cec Specht, one of the inaugural walkers. Specht walked that year with his wife Cathy, fellow Lion Roy Miller, and Miller's dog. The whole group — minus Miller — had blisters on their feet as they finished the trek. "Roy wore cowboy boots!" Specht said.

Though Specht retired from the walk in 2021 after 39 years, he said he's excited that people are still doing it.

"It's something the valley's gotten used to," he said. "It's symbolic now of the Baynes Sound Lions."

The club is excited to be pushing the wheelbarrow again this year. Lion Jacquie Miller said she keeps doing the walk because, "with every step I see a child."

Over four decades, the Lions's wheelbarrow walk has raised close to \$500,000 for the CVCDA. Pam Crowe, the telethon committee chair, told the club at a visit, "You say you're ordinary people, but you're doing something extraordinary."

Story By Marc Kitteringham

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Remembrance Day Service

The Remembrance Day Service held on Monday, November 11th at the Union Bay hall was well attended, and a big thank you goes to Peter Jacques for organizing this day to honour and recognize the courage, service and sacrifice of those who served in the military, police, at home and around the world. A huge thank you to veteran Paul Skinner for emceeding the service and to Susan Hargreaves for her scripture readings. Tea, coffee, muffins and cookies were served after the service, where people met for conversation, stories and to reflect. We proudly remember you, we celebrate service, sacrifice, and selflessness. We can never bring back our fallen soldiers, but we can honor them in our daily actions. Everything you do today of your own free will, do it in remembrance of those who sacrificed their lives to make it possible.



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.

Events

The hall is home of many activities and meetings. For information about renting space, contact Raquel Clarke 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 contact Jen Balcke at membership@ubcc.ca

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

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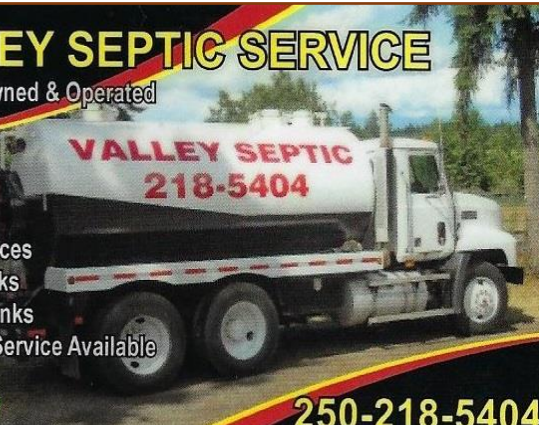


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Christmas Craft Fair



The craft show was incredibly busy, with 49 creative crafters set up both upstairs and downstairs. Hats off to Starr McFadyen for organizing and planning these craft fair events! We are really grateful to her and her dedicated team of volunteers! Laura Agnew and her kitchen volunteers prepared and served the ever-popular Souper Luncheon throughout the day. Santa Claus arrived at midday to speak with the youngsters and place them on his wish list. Thank you, Santa, for taking the time out of your busy season to visit our Christmas fair! Appreciation goes out to all the vendors, volunteers, and shoppers that helped make this event a great success!



Once again this year UB Market will be accepting donations for the Fire Rescue Annual Food Bank Drive. Donations can be left at the store any day between 8 am and 8 pm. (Please leave any cash donations with the cashier). The collection will take place Saturday, December 14th, 5:00 pm at the tree lighting. Hope to see you there!



The Union Bay Historical Society Carol Night and Tree Lighting

UBHS will host a Carol singing led by former Just for Joy singers at 5:00 pm on December 14, 2024, and will light a tree in the Garden of the Gaol. Fire Rescue will be collecting food bank items at the lighting.



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