

# DOWN BY THE BAY



Union Bay Community Club Newsletter

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

FEBRUARY 2025



2024  
Was filled with  
Volunteering  
Hard Work  
Appreciation  
Donating  
&  
Fun Times!





## Beaufort Watershed Stewards

Everyone loves a good mystery. Book store and library shelves are stacked with murder mysteries. Police procedurals are a staple of television. True crime podcasts are a hot trend. If you explore the history of science, you will find that it is one mystery after another. A current scientific mystery has to do with the mass of the neutrino. Two different methods for measuring this quantity produce differing results. Physicists are excited about this conflict because its resolution will produce new insights into how the universe is put together.

BWS will not be working on the neutrino mass problem any time soon. We have our own mystery to resolve. We commissioned the firm, Ecoscape, to perform a trend analysis on the data from three of our creeks, Cowie, Mud Bay, and Wilfred. These are the creeks we started sampling first and are the only ones for which we have five years' worth of data. (Trend analysis isn't credible for data sets of less than five years.) This is a milestone for BWS. When we first started sampling local creeks, we dreamed of the day when we would have five years' worth of data.

That day has finally arrived!

Trend analysis, for all the non-statisticians in the audience, is simply looking for patterns of change. The parameters we measure when we sample our creeks are, Dissolved Oxygen, Specific Conductivity, Turbidity, Temperature, and pH. These parameters all change with the seasons as temperatures go up and down and rainfall ebbs and flows. Over a five-year period, however, some of the highs might get higher or some of the lows might get lower. This is important for tracking the health of our water supply. (For those of you in the audience who ARE statisticians, Ecoscape used the Mann-Kendall or Seasonal Mann-Kendall test, as appropriate.)

And now for the mystery. None of the parameters showed a significant trend except for one, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), a basic measure of stream health. On all three creeks, DO showed a downward trend. There is an inverse relationship between water temperature and dissolved oxygen; when temperature goes up, DO goes down and vice versa. We see this consistently in our data. DO goes down during the warmer months and comes back up during the colder months. But the trend of ever lowering DO was NOT matched by a trend of warming water. How could that be? Aha! A mystery! There may be a simple explanation, in which case we will have broadened our understanding of stream health. Or the explanation may not be simple, in which case we may get to do some scientific sleuthing. There is probably no chance that this problem will be the basis for a best-selling mystery novel but it's a fun little puzzle, nonetheless.

**Mike Mesford**

**Director.tech@beaufortwater.org**

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THE BAYS  
BOUQUETS



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To  
Gody McKay!



Happy 102<sup>nd</sup>  
Birthday  
To  
Anna Stady  
5 children  
15 grandchildren  
10 great grandchildren



Happy February  
Birthdays

Trevor Lafountain	Feb 2
Susan Lafountain	Feb 6
Keith McKay	Feb 14
Laurie Pratt	Feb 14
Caleb Overbye	Feb 14
Leanne Lindstrom	Feb 15
Barb Flawse	Feb 17
Gail Buchanan	Feb 21
Dave Godfrey	Feb 27
Craig Lafountain	Feb 28



Congratulations!

Family and friends gathered at the Union Bay hall to celebrate the 58<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Brian and Terri McKay.

Terri & Brian were married in the Fanny Bay hall on Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 1966



LIVE EDGE WOOD

RECORD CRATES

Doug Tottenham

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250.335.3003



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# Union Bay/Fanny Bay Fire Rescue Awards Night 2024

On Nov 29, 2024 we hosted the Union Bay / Fanny Bay Fire Rescue Annual Awards Banquet at the Fanny Bay Inn, an evening dedicated to celebrating outstanding achievements and recognizing the hard work and dedication of our members and our community.

The event brought together attendees, honorary members, their families and other distinguished guests. The night was filled with stories, heartfelt gratitude, and well deserved recognition.

**Awards Presentations:**

- Firefighter of the year— Capt. Steve Strachan
- Rookie of the year—FF Mike Payne
- Chief's Award—Capt. Al Roberts
- First Responder Award—FF Jim Hargreaves
- 5 Years Service—FF Jim Hargreaves
- 10 Years Service—Capt. Jon Zand
- 15 Years Service— Lt Rikk Buijs
- 20 Years Service—AC Darcy Rainey
- 25 Years Service—FF Bob Jeffery, and FF Peter Wharram

**Community Recognition:**

- Anna Hay—Union Bay Market
- Brenda Bitten—UBCC, Down by the Bay
- Kathy Warner / Shannon Lowe—First Credit Union (Union Bay)
- Janice Swanson—Department Bookkeeper
- Diana and Eric—Fanny Bay Inn
- Special Guests in attendance:
- Doug DeMarzo— Manager of Community Services CVRD
- Bruce Green—Rural Regional Fire Chief CVRD

**In Recognition:**

Of Capt. Martin McRae for his service to the Department and the Communities. He has moved on to new adventures and has stepped away. He provided added professionalism to the training program, along with creativity, realism, and entertainment. He will be greatly missed.

A special thanks to our supporters, and volunteers who made this event possible. Your support ensures events like this can continue to inspire and unite us.

Ian Ham Fire Chief



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**16 FEBRUARY 2025**

# Live at the Fanny Bay Hall



The Slocan Ramblers are a Canadian Bluegrass music group from Toronto, Ontario. They are most noted for their album Queen City Jubilee, which received a Juno Award nomination for Traditional Roots Album. The Ramblers opened for Jerry Douglas at the Saskatchewan, Jazz Festival. The band performed at the International Blue Grass Music Association Momentum Awards event in Raleigh, North Carolina. The same year they also performed at the Cowichan Valley Blue Grass Festival.

## THE SLOCAN RAMBLERS

*The Slocan Ramblers put on one of the most vibrant shows of acoustic music I've seen in some time. Tom Power, Host of CBC's "Q"*

*I love it—smoking' bluegrass!* BBC Radio

- In Person Advance: \$30 Cash**      **Online & At Door: \$33**
- Weinberg's Good Food, Buckley Bay
  - Laughing Oyster Books, Courtenay
  - Salish Sea Market, Bowser
- [fannybayhall.ticketit.ca](http://fannybayhall.ticketit.ca)

Tickets at the door \$33.00  
 online at  
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## FABRIC ARTISAN CREATIONS

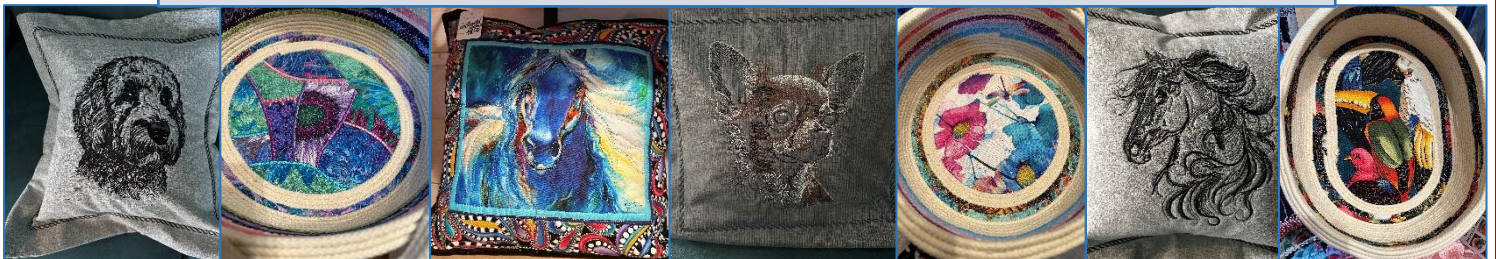
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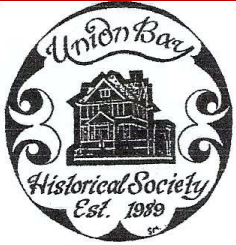
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## CHINESE NEW YEAR

Janette Glover-Geidt

In the past, Gung Hay Fat Choy, words of welcome and good cheer, echoed down the Alleys of Union Bay's Chinatown. The pungent smells of burning sandalwood mingled with the smell of firecrackers exploding on all sides. The men were given Chinese New Year's day off by the Coal company to celebrate in their traditional way. For that day they were replaced by white workers doing the trimming job. A dirty back breaking job which involved spreading out the coal in the hold of the ship as the coal poured in from a box car above. The white men hated it and perhaps appreciated the Chinese work a bit more.

Stores were decorated with paper lanterns and red streamers. Gung Hay Fat Choy, words of welcome and good cheer echoed down the alleys. The pungent smells of burning sandal wood mingled with the smell of firecrackers exploding on all sides. The New Year was always celebrated with lots of food: chicken, Chinese pastries, dried lychee nuts, candied ginger, sugar cane, and fruit piled on their table for all guests to partake of. The men visited each other and had a drink to celebrate the new year. Good Luck money was wrapped in red paper and if you were offered food you left a packet of lucky money. The kids of the community gathered in Chinatown and went from door to door knocking and shouting Gung Hay Fat Choy. The men were happy to see them and generously invited them in for some goodies, fruit, candy and nuts. The boys enjoyed scaring everyone by letting off firecrackers, bought from the Chinese store. All the notables from the town were invited: Colliery bosses, postman, storekeepers, nurse and teachers. One teacher was presented with a beautiful string of cultured pearls.

Chinese New Year this year was celebrated in 2025 on January 29 th . It is the traditional Spring festival on the Lonisolar Chinese calendar. It celebrates the end of Winter and beginning of Spring and lasts from the new year until the Lantern festival held on the 15 th day of that year. The Zodiac is divided into 12 years with an animal representing each year. The year you are born depicts which Zodiac animal's traits or attributes you will have. This is the "Year of the Snake" which is associated with flexibility. The Chinese saying is Flexibility without Strength leads to Compromise. People born in the year of the Snake are known for their intelligence, creativity, and resourcefulness. As the world navigates the complexities of 2025 these traits will be in in high demand.

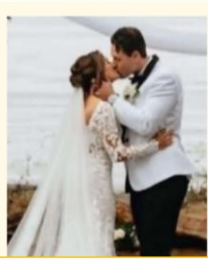
**Daniel Arbour, Director**  
Comox Valley Regional District  
Baynes Sound/Denman/Hornby

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*Valentines Special*



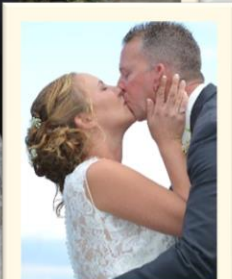
Wyatt & Hailey (Skinner) Meiers  
Sept 14<sup>th</sup> 2024



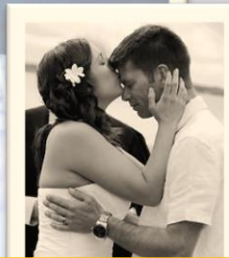
Jon & Alexis (Royer) Barents  
April 27<sup>th</sup> 2024



Brent & Jody (Wilson) McKay  
Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> 1999



Rod & Megan (Blacha) Bitten  
Sept 17<sup>th</sup> 2016



Noah & Stephanie (McKnight) Miller  
August 9<sup>th</sup> 2014



Riley & Starr (Hymers) McFadyen  
August 21<sup>st</sup> 2004



Kevin & Karen (McKay) MacGregor  
April 24<sup>th</sup> 1993



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### Polar Bear Swim

Thank you to Union Bay and Fanny Bay and surrounding communities from the Baynes Sound lions for showing up to our Polar Bear Swim, fun was had by all. See you all next year. Same time same place!



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### 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.

### Events

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

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

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# Lawn Maintenance Volunteer Service Needed

We are seeking reliable lawn maintenance services for the UBCC Hall and Boat Launch area from April to October. The scope of work includes:

- Operating gas trimmers, ride-on lawnmowers, and push mowers
  - Mowing and maintaining the lawn every two weeks (minimum)
- All equipment provided.



If you are interested in volunteering and available, please contact us for more details and to discuss the requirements further by calling the hall & leaving a message at 250-335-2500 or by calling Rick at 778-427-3119

Thank you!

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

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“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart.”

The UBCC invited all their volunteers and sponsors to a fun filled night of food, drink, games, and laughter just before Christmas to thank them for all the support given to them throughout the year.



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The Union Bay Firehall is lining up well, and there was good attendance at the Open House held at the Union Bay Hall in December. The Fire Department and broader CVRD team believe they have come up with a great, simple design for the firehall, and expandable if Union Bay grows. Next step is the Alternative Approval Process in January/February, and if that passes they will start the build this Spring/Summer/Early fall.



## HALL ACTIVITIES



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**PICKLE BALL**  
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 1:00pm - 5:00 pm

Friday: 10:00am – 12:00pm  
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