

# Shawnigan Focus

Volume Three - Issue Two

FEBRUARY 2013

*A Non-Profit Community Publication*

## CONGRATULATIONS!!



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36th Annual CARHA Pacific Cup  
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### Shawnigan Lake Men's Hockey Club wins 40+ division of Pacific Cup

The Pacific Cup is played throughout Victoria. It is the largest old-timers hockey tournament in Canada and started in 1975. This year, there were approx. 150 teams, broken into 22 divisions by age and talent, ranging from 19+ to 50+.

Shawnigan Lake Hockey Club finished in second place after the round robin play. They played the Edmonton Gators in the final and Won 5-2. The team is sponsored by Aardvark Backhoe Services Ltd and the Black Swan Pub.

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**Kim Hennecker  
joins the Shawnigan  
Focus team**

Kim will handle new and existing advertisers and their needs. Kim brings a wealth of experience in this area. Among other things, Kim and his son Chris produced 111 issues of Shawnigan Times.



# Dense Fog Blamed For Plane Crash



Searchers found the aircraft relatively undamaged.

Tragedy was averted Wednesday January 30th when a small plane flew into a tree just off Renfrew Road near Discovery School. The aircraft disappeared shortly after takeoff from Shawnigan Hills playing field. It took

several hours before an intrepid team of volunteer searchers managed to locate the wayward machine high up in a cedar tree. Luckily no one was on board so emergency services were unnecessary.

## Letters On the Edge, as told to Mick Cuthbert

Roz Cuthbert

Dear Mick,

Well my wee willful plane once more decided to strike out on its own. It appears to have an unnatural need to find a nesting site. The day was lovely, not a cloud in the sky, no fog, but a teeny breath of breeze, all this lulling into a false sense of bucolic wonder touched by a waft of wind came together as a recipe for more disaster. One teeny detail I seem to have overlooked in my zeal to prove my Ace pilot status was to neglect to “bind” the plane when the battery is reconnected, this actually has the stunning effect of letting plane and remote connect. Result was plane took to the air like a vaulting condor, a thing of freedom and beauty, a joyous outburst of delight in breaking the shackles of its earthbound existence. Unfortunately it seems the plane and remote were not on speaking terms, I did, in effect send the wee wonder up without a brain, it did many mad circles, I twizzled the sticks fruitlessly, once again to my eternal shame I thrust the controls into Ron’s hands, hoping against all odds that being somewhat taller perhaps he could help, alas even his stature could not reverse the calamitous turn of events. The “Flying Fish” as I had named her is now firmly wedged in yet another tree, this one very tall and spindly; I would need a tiny child with apeline qualities or a very light midget to be able to climb this one. The plane seems to have taken a liking to spruce.

I shall keep all posted, on another note the formerly loveable “Onward and Upward” has taken on a dire new meaning for me. Roz

Dear Mick,

Well, the saga continues. My wee wandering dove needed encouragement to return to the fold. After much examination from below it was determined that the “Flying Fish” as my contrary plane is known, was perched high above in her new found “Aerie” and firmly entangled, no amount of “Zub Zub” from control box could persuade her to let go. Nor did there seem to be any winds quite powerful enough to jostle her free. My “Stand By” rescue crew, who had barely time to cool their jets from the last heroic mission before being summoned once again to march into the fray, hatched a cunning plot. It was decided that as the plane was probably 80 ft in the tree and said tree was too spindly to climb, but proved to be entirely too robust to be shaken from the base, much harsher measures were needed. A ladder of somewhat obscene length was erected and a sturdy rope was tied at near “empire waist” height. Then the two stalwart Knights ( Sir Ronald of the Bog, Sir Stephen of the Van) pulled with all might and main to start the tree to wobble, and wobble it did, but not enough, the tree swayed like a debutante at her first waltz, but would not give

up her “treasure” Yours truly had been summoned to attend with remote, which seemed to have expired sometime during the night (the remote, not Moi) T’was then my sharp and discerning eye notice a tall man who seemed well versed in the goings on, calling “Buddy, Buddy” and as he was looking somewhat lower than my kneecaps I realized it was not I he was trying to charm, but it was a very small woolly wookie like creature, p’haps Buddy was a dog, but think “Mr Winkle” (Google that) anyway I digress, after New Man had located Buddy he lent his Herculean muscle to the team effort, now the tree was wafting back and forth causing great concern for the home below (not ours, LUCKY) Like magic my Darling Dove, My Sweet Swallow, my Perfect Penguin let go her bonds and came to earth, not in the hideous way I thought, but like a Lady she settled almost unscathed into a rather convenient Broom shrub. It does remain to be seen tomorrow if the engine still works, a night in the rain may have proved too much for it, we shall see. The other damage was truly minimal. I will have to rethink my membership in the Islands Rid the Scotch Broom Society, it now retains a soft spot in my heart. Once my nerves have had time to heal I shall continue to encourage “Flying Fish” to “Do Better” and move “Onward and Upward” with all humility, roz

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February 2013

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#### ABOUT THE FOCUS

The Shawnigan Focus is an independent, local, non-profit publication, produced by the volunteer Focus team. Shawnigan Focus endeavours to inform; promote harmony and involvement in the community; and interest a broad cross-section of the residents of Shawnigan Lake.

Shawnigan Focus is delivered, free of charge, to postal addresses in Shawnigan Lake (Area B). Out-of-town subscriptions are available. Contact: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

*Views expressed in articles are not the opinions of The Shawnigan Focus, but of the authors.*

Additional copies are available in The Village.

#### MAILING ADDRESS

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### Shawnigan Moments





WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND US LETTERS...

The Focus will publish your thoughts on Shawnigan issues; bouquets you would like to offer to special people; things that strike you funny; challenges you want our civic leaders to consider; and/or ideas that would better our community. Letters to the Editor must be accompanied by the author’s full name, address and phone number, but the contact information, other than the name, will not be published. Letters should be limited to 300 words and we reserve the right to edit for brevity or to refuse inappropriate or abusive language. Letters should attack issues - not individuals. Send letters to [editor@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:editor@shawniganfocus.ca)

“A waste site goes against everything I’m proud to call home.”

To whom it may concern,

My name is Adrienne Hollings, a 23 year resident of west Shawnigan Lake and owner of Everything Grows Organic Landscaping and Design. I am writing this brief message to express my strong opposition towards allowing contaminated waste to be stored in our watershed. I work and live with a goal of promoting ecological awareness through sustainable organic practices and the implementation of a waste site goes against everything I am proud to call home. I am very passionate about keeping Shawnigan a clean, natural contaminant free place for my family and friends and the generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

~Adrienne Hollings

Shawnigan Lake Rd. - NOT Germany’s Autobahn

To: The Editor, Shawnigan Focus

“Rules of the road” I have resided up here at beautiful Shawnigan Lake for a little over three (3) years and I felt the urge to write you folks with an observation/ concern...Whilst driving/walking to and fro, I have been witness to such poor driving by fellow residents of this area...As far as I’m aware, the posted speed limit along most of our “rural-roads” is 60kmh and at certain points 50kmh and when there are children/school buses on the roads, the speed-limit drops to 40kmh...This is NOT Germany’s Autobahn, or the U.K.’s motorway where apparently the speed is unlimited...There are so many variables to consider whilst behind the wheel of one’s chosen mode of transportation...Very few if any street-lights...Most cross-walks are hidden and then there are the deer and other wildlife whom we share this awesome place with...PLEASE, PLEASE for all of our sakes, slow-down...Use your road-safe skills and let’s all get to where it is we all need to be safely and alive...

A very concerned and frustrated resident and “Road-Star” 17 years plus driver...

~Kevan-Jay Stevens, Shawnigan Lake.

Lordy – when will it stop?

The self decreed ‘consciences’ of the Community, Messrs. Gollner (C.T.?) and Dumont (R.P.F.?) continue to harangue and crow their respective (and seemingly only roads in life), Taxes and the late, lamented (I’m sorry it failed) ECO Center.

We elect people to ‘represent’ us, to make decisions, to take us forward, not backward. Tax wise we could save a lot of money just listening and acting on the advice of the isolated Vigilante posse that constantly attacks the Democratic system – ‘my way’ not ‘for the good of ALL’.

Let me just get this ‘little bit’ off ‘my’ chest....the proposed (still maybe a breath of life I hope) ECO Center. The rallying cry against it was FARM-LAND. I can say without blinking that I have been driving ‘that’ immediate area since 1988 and in

those adjacent fields have yet to see a Cow, Horse, Pig, Sheep, or any other bovine species Potatoes, Carrots etc. etc. Now if it is multi-crop Hayfields you are are talking about, that is accurate for that is all I see except for (another issue) an abundance of Deer....life sustaining crops would not last long in that area....except for the Hay/grasses which feeds those little beauties. I can live with that serene scene, but it is NO reason to have excluded a ‘seemingly’ well thought out, protected from distasteful public view, ECO Center to replace the roadside Garbage, refrigerators, mattresses etc. rampant in the side roads of South Cowichan.

I believe and indeed certainly hope so, that the Directors past and present, who ran for office, were Elected and did so for the ‘good’ of ALL – not isolated self-interest Groups. Their attention HAS to be directed to the better good of ALL....often a tough decision in the face of protest and all the more admiration for that official for ‘justifiably’ acting for the majority. That may be wishful thinking, but that is what I hope.

I’ll take the liberty of attributing this comment to Richard Hughes (I did/and do think highly of Richard) in the early days of Kerry Park when a Pool was not thought of.....I phoned in and suggested/asked if a Pool were possible – the answer (and I believe the correct one) – “you can have whatever you want, you are paying for it”.

Thanks for listening, and please – no garbage in my driveway, thanks,

~Reg Blackmore, Shawnigan Lake

Malahat Nation clearcut in the Shawnigan Watershed

Blaise Salmon  
Shawnigan Resident

I was surprised a few nights ago to find myself up at 2 am, thinking about tall trees, a logging road, and a creek. The day before, I had heard some words which were haunting me.

“You will probably be the last people to ever see this, other than loggers,” local forester Barry Gates had said. A group of five of us were in the south Shawnigan watershed, which feeds the drinking water source for thousands of Shawnigan residents. We were standing beside a small creek running through a grove of tall trees and lush undergrowth, less than a mile up Sooke Lake Road.

I could detect a trace of emotion on Barry’s face when he said this. It was a beautiful spot, an oasis of undisturbed second growth forest, particularly welcome after our two hour hike through gravel pits, bush and clearcuts higher up. The creek itself seemed

a perfect little ecosystem, with its curving sand banks and overhanging plants, criss-crossed by mossy fallen logs.

Unfortunately, there was trouble in paradise. The sound of heavy machinery could be heard in the distance. Two empty logging trucks passed within metres of us as we stood by the creek, hidden by the foliage. They soon passed us again, going the other way, fully loaded. The section of tall trees ended abruptly, in an active clearcut logging operation by the Malahat First Nation on crown land. Any day now, the grove by the creek will be gone.

I was a bit surprised by how this affected me. I mean, I’m not a big fan of clear cuts (who is) but I suppose I’ve accepted that a certain amount of logging is necessary and probably not such a bad thing, if it’s done properly. However there’s something deeply disturbing about seeing first hand the devastation of a recent clearcut in such stark contrast to a beautiful

section of forest, and realizing that the beautiful part will be destroyed, very soon.

Preventing this from happening seems unlikely, but there is one slight ray of hope. The location of the grove and creek near the narrow logging road, gently winding and on a slight slope, would make it a suitable and attractive addition to the nearby TransCanada Trail. Apparently this idea has been discussed, but never acted on. If the grove could be preserved somehow, very soon, what a beautiful destination and picnic spot it would make.

As I thought about this late into the night, a quote from an anti-clearcut poster from the 1970’s came back to me: “Pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth, that I am meek and humble with these butchers.” Shakespeare was right. “Meek and humble” is not the right response to this situation in our own back yard. Let’s see what we can do to preserve at least one small piece of it.

We need your help!  
Volunteer positions available!

- Raffle Co-ordinator
- Website Content Co-ordinator
- Site & Cleanup Co-ordinator
- Food & Refreshment Co-ordinator
- **Something Special** : a dry secure storage space for our signs and supplies.

Volunteers for rest-stops and kitchen on Sunday June 2, 2013. Have fun while helping others - lunch and entertainment included!

PLEASE CONTACT : Kathy at [kathy@familycaregiverssupport.org](mailto:kathy@familycaregiverssupport.org) or 250-748-9937  
FOR MORE INFO CHECK OUR WEBSITE : [www.shawniganlakeadventure.com](http://www.shawniganlakeadventure.com)



# Everybody talks about the weather ...

## Brent Beach Shawnigan Focus

Pretty nice weather for the last month or so, wouldn't you say? Bright, sunny days. It is so depressing.

Grant Price, Graham Ross-Smith and I put in 5 water level gauges along the creek to document this year's flooding. What happened? Drought!

You can read about the Shawnigan Creek level gauge project and see pictures of us kayaking down the creek in the October Focus, or at [Brentatthefocus.blogspot.com](#) - Shawnigan Creek Cleanout Update. [1] Follow up articles describe our water level gauge project. [2,3]

### Those were the Days

What would a January flood look like? The article at the first link has a picture from the Times Colonist January 1951 showing flooding at the Shawnaire Resort. How much rain does it take to produce a flood like that? It turns out that Environment Canada has been collecting weather data from Shawnigan Lake since May 1911. You

can look at those records, one month at a time, by visiting the weather office website. [4] That site provides weather data one month at a time. They have data for 102 years. That is 1,224 pages of data. I can't believe I collected them all. So, back in the winter of 1950-51, rainfall in December was 235.4 mm, in January 302.0 mm.

Was that exceptional? Was that enough to cause a flood? The average rainfall for December is 208mm; for January 190mm. It was a little wetter in 1951, but not a lot. That December total was not in the top third of wettest Decembers; the January total was in the top 15% but well below the record 507 mm that fell in January 1953.

Why did it flood in January 1951? In the week starting January 14, there was 80 cm of snow which corresponds to 80 mm of rain. That was at the weather station, which is at about lake level. Up in the hills there would have been much more snow. It was cool during that week, so the snow on the hills would not have melted. It started

to warm up and rain about January 20 and by January 25 it had warmed up to 10 degrees and 80 mm of rain fell in two days. That rain probably melted all the snow. The effect would have been the same as 160mm of rain falling in two days. Is that enough to cause a flood? Has that happened before, or since? Starting on January 20, 1935, it rained 227 mm in 5 days. Did it flood? Anyone remember? January 1953 was pretty wet - 507 mm, but no really big days. The highest 5 day total was 120 mm. November 2006 was the wettest month in these records - 517 mm over the month. There were two five-day periods that had totals near 150mm, but no floods. Ah, those were the days. Now? Sunshine! Bah.

**Why Dry Winters are Bad** Rainfall as measured by the weather office in January 2013 was 97 mm. Is that a drought? Only about 15% of Januarys on record have less rain. If this keeps up, we will be overrun by people from Eastern Canada wanting to work on their winter tans.

The lake level is now 15 cm below the level at which the gate at the weir is normally raised to hold water in the lake. Without the weir, the lake level would drop too low in a dry summer. We might have trouble providing water to users around the lake. We might also start having algal problems in shallow areas at the end of the summer.

In a normal year, we get about 1200mm (from 950 to 1600mm over the last 30 years). This is enough rain in the watershed to flush all of last year's water out of the lake. So far this winter we have had 740mm. Unless we get a lot more water in the next couple of months, we lake will not flush out and pollutants from last year will remain. [5]

### Who is Keeping Track

In addition to the weather office, UVic[6] has records from 4 stations around the lake. This is a great site for current local conditions. They also retain all their rainfall records. You can compare rainfall records among the stations. It appears that the station on the east side of the lake is the wettest of the 5 stations, with the station at Discovery

School usually recording the least rain. The variation among the weather stations is quite large. In December 2012, total rainfall was the least at the weather office station 238mm and the highest at the east Shawnigan Lake station 307mm! This difference could reflect problems with the equipment or real differences in rainfall around the lake. I have bought a small weather station that can connect wirelessly to my computer to download readings of temperature, wind speed and direction, rainfall, ... I can upload those readings to the Weather Underground[7] - a network of people who contribute the data from their home stations. Data from all those stations is available from the Weather Underground web site. You too can install a weather station and become a part of the Weather Underground.

For the weather junkies out there, I have a few additional links on my blog and links to the references numbered above. <http://brentatthefocus.blogspot.com>

Shawnigan Weather JANUARY <small>UVic Weather Network ~ by Grant Treloar</small>									
	January Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012
Average High	5.6	4.8	4.8	5.2	4.7	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.3
Average Low	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-1.2	-1.1	-0.4	-0.4	-0.6	-0.5
Extreme High	14.5	10.9	9.6	11.7	9.3	11.5	10.3	12.0	10.0
Extreme Low	-21.1	-4.7	-5.4	-6.1	-6.7	-5.2	-5.9	-5.5	-6.0
Precipitation	198.3	118.5	245.2	84.8	213.2	91.0	195.1	97.4	238.4
Days w precip	19	18	24	16	24	15	25	14	23
Lake Temperature: Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> : 3° Jan 13 <sup>th</sup> : 2° Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> : 1° Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> : 1°									

Coldest January Ever

Did you know that January 1950 was the coldest on record for Shawnigan Lake? The AVERAGE high temperature for the month was -2.1° and the AVERAGE low was -8.5°. There were 27 days with freezing temperatures. On the 30th of the month the temperature set a record low -21.1°. There were 15 days with snow amounting to a total of 165.1 cm. It rained on only 3 days.

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10:10 - 11:10 am dynamic flow		10:10 - 11:10 am dynamic flow		10:10 - 11:10 am dynamic flow	10:00 - 11:30 am hatha all levels Nicola
				4:30-5:30 pm aerial dance beginners	
5:30 - 7:00 pm hatha/all levels Nicola	5:30 - 7:00 pm hatha/all levels with Robin	5:30 - 7:00 pm hatha/all levels Nicola	5:30 - 7:00 pm hatha/all level with Robin	5:30 - 7:00 pm aerial dance intermediate	
7.15- 8:15 pm yoga for athletes	7:15 - 8:45 pm acroyoga Nicola & Pan	7:15 - 8:45 pm dynamic flow Nicola	7:15 - 8:45 pm back care injury prevention	7:15 - 8:45 pm breathing/relaxation every last Fri/month	



## Lieutenant Governor will open the Shawnigan gathering

**Bruce Fraser**  
*Area Director*

The Honourable Judith Guichon, British Columbia's Lieutenant Governor, has accepted our invitation to open the Shawnigan Gathering on April 6, 2013 at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre. We will be organizing a rousing Shawnigan welcome to Her Honour, so place this event on your calendar.

The Gathering, scheduled for the weekend of April 6th and 7th will be a celebration of the efforts at community building by our many volunteer societies, our businesses and our community leaders. It will also be an opportunity for us to have thoughtful dis-

cussions about our visions of the future.

The events begin with the arrival of the Lieutenant Governor at 9:30 am on the 6th. She will address the community and present recognition to outstanding Shawnigan citizens.

The Gathering Program, with its many participants, is being developed during February and will be published in detail in the March issue of the Shawnigan Focus. The draft program is expected to include:

**Saturday:** Roundtable discussions of watershed stewardship, development of Shawnigan Village, the

pros and cons of municipal incorporation, issues of lake management, the parks and trails master plan, local food markets and the progress towards rejuvenating the island railway.

**Sunday:** Family oriented fun will be generated by performances by local musicians, shows by local artists and a trade show of table displays by civic organizations, local businesses and schools.

Refreshments will be available at the Community Centre both days. The Gathering will be lively, entertaining, serious and fun all at once for both adults and children. Don't miss this wonderful event.

## Geocaching is Now Part the Shawnigan Lake Adventure

**Helen Edley**  
*Landsharkz.ca*

### Geocaching? What is it all about?

Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants (geocachers) navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location.

How does it get there? Geocachers hide the 'cache' and post its GPS coordinates on the internet. Other geocachers find 'caches' by checking the internet for a cache nearby.

Equipment? All you need are a GPS device or a GPS-enabled mobile phone so that you can navigate to the cache.

Where are they? Geocaches can be found all over the world. It is common for geocachers to hide caches in locations that are important to them, reflecting a special interest or skill of the cache owner. These locations can be quite diverse. They may be at your local park, at the end of a long hike, underwater or on the side of a city street.

It's a global activity! Many people plan outings or vacations to find caches in areas of interest. Last summer almost 1000 geocachers descended

on the Cowichan Valley to participate in a geocaching event and find many of the geocaches in this region.

During the Shawnigan Lake Adventure, on June 2nd, you will have the opportunity to learn about geocaching and try it out during the event. An information session will be led by local geocachers who will also escort participants to find some geocaches along a section of the route.

Curious? We hope to see you there!

Join the Cowichan Family Caregiver Support Society on Sunday, June 2nd for their 9th annual fundraising event.

## Zimbabwean Music Enlivens Director's Meeting

**Dave Hutchinson**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

The public meeting held by the Area Director on the first Monday of each month (7pm at SLCC) usually includes an

Arts and Culture component. At the Feb 4th meeting, a vigorous discussion on Eco Depot land sale options was followed by some delightful Zimbabwean music. The two

songs performed by Amy and Tafadzwa were a good advertisement for a full evening of music scheduled for 7pm, Feb 16th at the Inspire Gallery in the Purple Building.



Amy and Tafadzwa play the Mbira and sing traditional Zimbabwean songs.

[ads@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:ads@shawniganfocus.ca)

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# Shawnigan Parks & Recreation (Area B)

**Editor's Note: Inappropriate and illegal activities as described in this article are widespread. We welcome articles and letters on this subject in order to promote community awareness.**

**Margaret Symon**  
*Chair of Parks Commission*

In last month's Focus we took a look at the various types of parkland in Area B. In the same issue, Director Fraser highlighted his priorities for 2013, including support for community members trying to conserve the Koksilah old growth stand. In this issue of the Focus, we turn our attention to the largest of the provincial parks in the Shawnigan area, Koksilah River Provincial Park, located west of Shawnigan Lake and downstream of the Koksilah old growth stand.

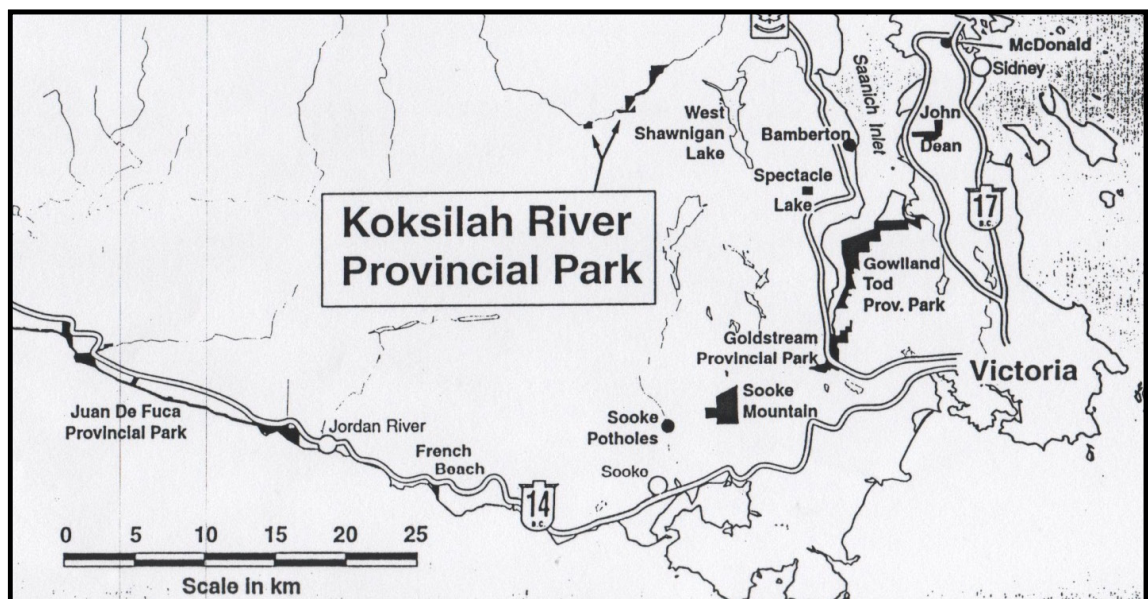
Koksilah River Provincial Park is situated on four individual parcels of land set aside as a protected area along the Koksilah River in 1945 and 1958. Provincial park designation for the 207 hectare park was granted in 1959. Koksilah River Provincial Park provides protection for representative ecosystems and associated habitats within the Coastal Western Hemlock Very Dry Maritime biogeoclimatic subzone, which is restricted in British Columbia to the eastern part of Vancouver Island. The park conserves both old-growth and second-growth stands of Douglas-fir and associated conifers, providing habitat for a number of threatened (rare or endangered) species. The western screech owl is believed to frequent the park's remnant older Douglas-fir stands of Douglas-fir. The Koksilah has a seasonal steelhead trout fishery. In addition, hatchery bred and released trout descend down the Koksilah River to the park.

Historically, recreational activities have not been highly monitored or managed at the Koksilah River Provincial Park (Koksilah River Provincial Park Management Plan, 2000). Visitors with a diversity of interests

use the park for a range of purposes, including hiking, kayaking, fishing, mountain biking, and off-road vehicle use. Unfortunately, as a result of easy and unlimited access to the park, unacceptable levels of inappropriate and unregulated activities also occur: out-of-control parties, illegal use of firearms, drunken raves, burned and stolen vehicles, and unsafe (and invariably, unlicensed) use of vehicles.

Long a contentious issue, access to the Koksilah has its roots in both the logging and military history of southern Vancouver Island. In the 1930's, a logging road travelled west from Shawnigan Lake as far as Williams Creek. The Bear Creek logging camp on the west side of Williams Creek was connected by logging rail line to Port Renfrew. Williams Creek logging bridge (not fit for public use) consisted of two large logs plus a log brace.

During World War II, the Department of National Defense needed access to defend the west coast of Vancouver Island with heavy armament, as well as troops. A military training camp was established west of Shawnigan, and a 25 ton cable bridge was built across Williams Creek. At the same time, the military extended West Shawnigan Lake Road to the current Renfrew Road. Faced with a particularly steep, 2.5 mile section alongside the Koksilah River, large logs were braced together to make a narrow, single-lane road. As an alternative to this precarious route along the river, construction of the Renfrew Diversion ("detour") Road began. A concrete bridge (to be known as Burnt Bridge) was built over the Koksilah River (at what is now one of the Koksilah River Provincial Park parcels), and a road was surveyed and gazetted



upstream (to the base of the Kapoor Hill, which is also now contained within Koksilah River Provincial Park). Costs of constructing the concrete Burnt Bridge were prohibitive, and it was deemed not feasible to construct a bridge further upstream.

In the early 1990s the Williams Creek bridge was dismantled due to safety concerns. As a result, "public" access between Shawnigan Lake and Port Renfrew was severed. Renfrew Diversion Road, which had never used for public access, was permanently deactivated (serviceable only by off-road vehicles). And for decades, public traffic has used the non-surveyed ("not public") portion of Renfrew Road to access the Koksilah.

Most recreational activity occurring at Koksilah River Provincial Park emanates from the vicinity of the 'Burnt Bridge.' The Renfrew Road connecting Koksilah River Provincial Park between Burnt Bridge and the base of the Kapoor hill is located on "private" forest land. As is routinely reported in local media, the Shawnigan RCMP are often called to "the bush areas in an around the gravel portion of Renfrew Road and the Koksilah River Provincial

Park" regarding the "reckless use of ATV's, motorbikes, and other off-road vehicles" (Cowichan NewsLeader, May 17, 2006). All vehicles, state the RCMP, are "unlicensed, uninsured, and illegal to use on that roadway" (the unsurveyed portion of Renfrew Road)

Local first responder agencies receive frequent calls to the Koksilah. In 2011, a young female ATV'er was severely injured at the Koksilah. Response time was delayed; the Chemainus ambulance crew was dispatched to the accident because Mill Bay paramedics were busy with another call. Getting provincial clearance (the site was out of Shawnigan's Protection Area), then finding and reaching the scene presented difficult challenges. Another incident, two seventeen-year olds escaped serious injury after the pickup truck in which they were riding tumbled down an embankment during a student campout west of Burnt Bridge.

As a result of a growing plethora of problems, BC Parks no longer allows camping at Koksilah River Provincial Park. Fires are not permitted. In early 2013, in the face of increasing vandalism to their equipment, and an expensive,

human-caused wildfire at the Koksilah in the late summer of 2012, TimberWest installed a gate on their lands at the base of the Kapoor Hill.

Should the non-surveyed portion of Renfrew Road – 2.5 miles (approximately 4 km) between Koksilah River Provincial Park at Burnt Bridge and Kapoor Hill - remain a "public" road? Some back-country recreational vehicle operators will argue that restricting access to the Koksilah would be unfair in view of increasing restrictions on all terrain use at other areas of Vancouver Island. BC Parks budget has been systematically slashed in recent decades, severely limiting its capability to manage Koksilah River Provincial Park and access to the park. The 2000 Management Plan for Koksilah River Provincial Park proposed vehicular access to the park be restricted by gating Renfrew Road, which runs through the park, at each end of the sections accessing the park.

How can we ensure Koksilah River Provincial Park continues to provide a range of outdoor recreational experiences for visitors, while protecting the natural attributes of the river and its scenic surroundings?



*Accidents, makeshift biffy & garbage at Koksilah. Photos by B. Starkey*



# The Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable

Gerogia Collins  
*Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable*

Here we are, it is 2013 U.N. International Year on Water Cooperation, and January just flew by, perhaps to the delight of all those who have finally recovered from the various pathogens floating about. Health, it appears, is always at risk. And much like an immune system, which serves to protect against disease by detecting pathogens and distinguishing them from our own healthy tissue, the Shawnigan Watershed is at work. The whole system is at work: creeks, streams, aquifers, trees, networks of roots and fungi, animals, the lake and us. And the big question on our minds this year is how we go about supporting this giant immune system?

How many people can populate the watershed before health is jeopardized? How many trees can we cut and still keep our watershed alive? How much recreation and development can we sustain? How many wetlands do we need to protect or restore? How will we collectively respond to minor attacks on the health of the whole system? And will this make us strong enough for the more severe attacks?

The Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable, not at all alone in its endeavors, is committed to having a healthy watershed. Please join us in our efforts to promote Water Cooperation in the Shawnigan Community:

February 24th – Watershed Tour! You are invited on a tour of your watershed. We will meet at 10:30am at our new office space in the village and carpool to view

newly harvested Crown land and consider the potential impacts to the Watershed. Special guests will discuss alternative and sustainable forest practices.

March 1st – Keep your eyes open as you drive by the once empty 1760 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road. Along with Inspire! Shawnigan Arts Culture and Heritage Collective, we have secured a storefront office space, which will serve as a Community Office and Gallery. We are inviting all civic organizations to participate and contribute to this evolving gathering place/studio/work space/board room/etc.

March – date TBA – In cooperation with the CVRD, The Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable will host a Septic Workshop at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre. Stay tuned, this will be a good one!

April 6th & 7th – THE SHAWNIGAN GATHERING – You are invited to participate in visioning for the future of our community, you are invited to showcase your organization, you are invited to perform, you are invited to celebrate, YOU ARE INVITED! Debate the pros and cons of Incorporation; meet the Lieutenant Governor; participate in a workshop, a discussion, or even a community jam session; demonstrate your place in the community and witness what everyone else is up to at the same time!

Finally, we would like to thank Grant Price and Janet Neilsen for your photo submissions, your beautiful photography was chosen for MP Jean Crowder's 2013 Calendar 'Water, water everywhere'... thanks to your contributions the Shawnigan Watershed is heavily represented!



Photo by Janet Neilsen



Photo by Grant Price




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SHAWNIGAN FOCUS | 7



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Since beginning her creative studies in 1995, Trisha's books and artwork have been published in Somerset Studio, Handcraft Illustrated and Bound & Lettered. She has participated in group shows with the Fairbank Calligraphy Society, Printmakers Only Group, Canadian Book Binders and Book Artists Guild, Warmland Calligraphers, The Escape Artists and The Sooke Fine Arts Show. In 2011 she had her first solo show.

# Langford Lake in Trouble A Warning for Shawnigan?

**Dave Hutchinson**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

A severe algae bloom has officials warning Langford residents and their pets to stay away from the water.

Algae blooms are likely to occur during sunny, calm weather when high concentrations of nutrients are present in the water. Two nutrients required for algae growth are phosphorous and nitrogen. These are found in animal and human waste (sewage) and in fertilizers. Low oxygen levels combined with high amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus often lead to algae blooms.

Some blue-green algae produce toxins or poisons. In their toxic form, blue-green algae produce nerve and liver toxins which can kill pets, waterfowl, and other animals. They can also cause serious illness and death in humans.

Langford Lake has been in decline for decades. An aerator installed in 1984 to compensate for decades of fertilizer and pollutant runoff was replaced last summer with a larger unit in an attempt to provide more

oxygen. It is a cautionary tale for other lakes, including Shawnigan.

The following actions are intended to help decrease nutrient loading:

1. Maintain or restore native plants around lake shorelines and streams that feed the lake. Native wetland plants help filter water and do not require pesticides or fertilizers for maintenance.
2. Avoid using lawn and plant fertilizers and pesticides.
3. Use proper care and maintain your septic system. Damaged septic systems are a source of nutrient loading into nearby water. Have your system pumped and inspected every 3-4 years.
4. Prevent surface water runoff from agricultural and livestock areas. Do not allow livestock to drink or defecate in streams or lakes. Do not feed waterfowl.
5. Take steps to prevent erosion around construction and logging operations. Erosion can carry nutrient-rich soil into nearby lakes.



Photo: Juliana Wigmore

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# Shawnigan Lake RCMP

**Sgt. Rob WEBB**  
*Shawnigan Lake RCMP*

Shawnigan Lake RCMP continue to receive numerous calls from residents in the Kingburne and Renfrew Road area for shots fired especially during the weekends and evenings. RCMP attended on the 13th of January to the Kapoor Main area West of Shawnigan Lake around 3 PM and charged two Victoria males with Discharge Firearm in a Non Shooting Area with a fine of \$345.00 were issued.

Police are asking both local citizens and non-residents of the area to take advantage of the

local gun clubs on the Malahat and in Glenora to do their shooting. Police and the folks who live in these areas are concerned for their safety as well as those utilizing these weapons. Shawnigan Lake RCMP has been working with area neighbours in the Renfrew Road area, as well as Timber West, Island Timberlands and Margaret Forestry Company. These companies do not want illegal shooting on their lands for obvious reasons.

Shawnigan Lake RCMP will continue to help educate and will be increasing patrols in these areas.

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Email:shawniganfire@shaw.ca

*Department Members Attended 13 Calls in January:*

- ★ Tuesday, January 1 - 1st Responder on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, January 2 - Extinguished Fire in the Village
- ★ Thursday, January 3 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Sunday, January 6 - 1st Responder in Hillcroft Acres
- ★ Sunday, January 13 - Chimney Fire on Wilmot Rd
- ★ Tuesday, January 15 - CO Detector Alarm in Arbutus Mtn
- ★ Tuesday, January 15 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Wednesday, January 16 - MVI on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, January 21 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Tuesday, January 22 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Friday, January 25 - Chimney Fire on Wooden Rd
- ★ Sunday, January 27 - Chimney Fire on Forsyth Ln
- ★ Tuesday, January 29 - 1st Responder in the Beach Estates



# UBC Students Visit Sooke and Shawnigan Watersheds - the Good, the Bad & the Ugly



Joel Ussery of CRD Water provides students with an overview of the history of the Sooke Watershed.

### Shawnigan Residents Association

On Saturday January 26th, Aqua-Tex Scientific hosted a full day comparative watershed tour for graduate students from the UBC School of Community and Regional Planning and invited guests. Graham Ross-Smith and Sally Davies attended on behalf of the Shawnigan Residents Association and Briony Argue attended on behalf of the Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society. This is the first of a series of 2013 outreach events to be hosted by the SRA and Aqua-Tex as part of the Shawnigan Lake Watershed Proper Functioning Condition Assessment and Mapping Project. The students will be drawing on the first-hand experiences of this tour in developing their class projects focused on the Shawnigan Watershed.

The tour began at Capital City Centre in Colwood where ground is being broken on a 14-acre brownfield site for a new mixed-use commercial and residential development. The project is aiming to reclaim water and energy on site and significantly reduce its resource

needs. The next stop was Colwood Creek at Royal Roads University where students had a chance to see a stream system that looks much as it did 300 hundred years ago. Never logged, and protected first by private owners and then by the Department of National Defence, the site has not been subjected to the same development pressure as the rest of Southern Vancouver Island over the last 150 years. From Colwood Creek the group met with Joel Ussery, Manager of Resource Planning and Annette Constabel, Sr. Manager, for CRD Integrated Water Services. Joel led the tour through the Sooke Watershed, stopping to display photos of the clearcut logging that occurred in the 1920's and to explain watershed features and protection measures and describe how the watershed has recovered. Lunch was enjoyed at Sooke Reservoir before the tour continued north and out the gate into the Shawnigan Watershed where participants were confronted by the development on Cougar Ridge. The stark contrast between the protected nature of the Sooke Watershed and the developed lands of Shawnigan were a

surprise to most. The tour then stopped at South Shawnigan Creek where Patrick Lucey explained details of surrounding land uses and issues while his presentation was punctuated by the sounds of rifle shots and dirt bikes roaring in the background. The tour continued up the east side of the lake to the Village before heading back to Victoria for a last stop at Dockside Green. Dockside is a LEED™ Platinum green development and home to a completely man-made stream that is maturing into an ecologically functional ecosystem. The tour thus came full circle from a protected site, through a watershed that was once open and is now protected, to an unprotected watershed and finally to a brand-new stream in an urban core. This trip through time was reflected in comments from students and guests:

*"Takeaway- the importance of working at multiple scales simultaneously - While legislative and institutional reform is essential, the rate of change is too slow. We cannot rely solely on such an approach without the risk of suffering irreparable harm to both our watercourses and the communities they support. This points to the necessity of engaging developers, the natural resources sector, and the local community directly to create innovative near-term solutions that further serve to speed-up the necessary large-scale reforms."*

*"I can't emphasize enough how much of an impact seeing a reservoir- the source of the water that magically flows from our taps- had on me."*

*"The challenge associated with*

*cumulative effects: what may not be harmful when done by one person can contribute to the degradation of the watershed and/or natural spaces when many people are partaking in the practice... it really underscores that many people do not have bad intentions, they may simply not be aware of the effects of their actions."*

*"There remain many unharnessed opportunities for partnerships with developers which can be mutually beneficial, from the developer's perspective of adding value to their product, as well as from a watershed perspective of minimizing negative impacts and even beginning to reverse damage done by existing development."*

*"The Watershed tour was informative and presented a 'study in contrasts' for me as a long-time resident, and consumer of water from the 'Shawnigan Watershed'."*

*I was aware of the zealously protected waters of the Sooke Watershed but had no idea of the scale or level of protection."*

*"The levels of governance and complexities in watershed governance is challenging, but finding opportunities within that structure is inspiring."*

*"...what do I take away from all this? It would be the need to raise the bar when it comes to environmental literacy among residents, developers & municipal government..."*

*"...our field trip has shifted my perspective somewhat so that what I hear is mentally digested a little differently... I now have the advantage of being able to call up a vision of a place that is real, that is changing, and that a group of committed individuals are prepared to maneuver to ensure its integrity is maintained."*



Graham Ross-Smith points out key features of the Shawnigan Watershed to the tour group.

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# Film Review: Zero Dark Thirty

**Directed by:** Kathryn Bigelow

**Runtime:** 157 min.

**Release Date:** January 11, 2013

Rating (out of 5): ★★ ★<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

**Reviewed by** Russell Treloar

This latest film from Academy Award winning director Kathryn Bigelow is a gripping dramatization of the CIA's manhunt for Osama Bin-Laden and a rightful nominee for this year's Best Picture Oscar. It skillfully traces a decade of events between the September 11th attacks and the eventual execution of Bin-Laden by a team of US Navy SEALs in May 2011. If you're wondering, the film's enigmatic title comes from the military term for 30 minutes after midnight and marks the time of the fateful raid on Bin Laden's hideaway. Often the failing of a film based on a true story is that its story points are too familiar to create a suspenseful adaptation. I certainly had my doubts going in, but here it's the journey that counts and Zero Dark Thirty simmers with a

heart-pounding level of intensity regardless of the fact that viewers will be well aware of Bin Laden's fate. Zero Dark Thirty is not a war film or an action movie, but falls most appropriately into the procedural genre, as a thoroughly intellectual and investigative piece in the spirit of a 1970s political thriller such as All the Presidents Men.

Although there are many familiar character actors who appear throughout, it is the performances of relative unknowns that drive this film's success. I will put Jessica Chastain into this category because, for most viewers, her courageous performance here as main character Maya, the stubborn CIA officer who knows she's right about Bin Laden's whereabouts, will be the first time they will have seen her on screen. However, Chastain is a rising star and has already delivered outstanding performances in two films from 2011 - the esoteric and challenging Tree of Life and the apocalyptic paranoia thriller Take Shelter. Co-star Jason Clarke is also excellent as Dan, Maya's fellow CIA operative who makes several scenes portraying extreme interrogation tech-

niques look like just another day at the office.

Despite the film's wide acclaim, it has faced some controversy over what some claim to be a "pro-torture" stance, or the idea that "enhanced" interrogation techniques, such as waterboarding seen in the film, were vital for gathering the intelligence needed to locate and dispatch Bin Laden. Bigelow has defended her film as a "deeply moral movie that questions the use of force," and in its endeavours to portray the truth based on "first-hand accounts" one could argue it simply exposes the dirty, ruthless side of the Agency's business protecting their nation from acts of terrorism.

The thrilling raid of Bin Laden's urban compound in the film's finale will steal the show for many with its bold, documentary-like direction and beautiful near-dark photography. However, I will suggest that the film's greatest strength is the story of its strong female protagonist, and her ferocious unwillingness to give up on an idea she believes in who sees it through at the expense of her safety, morality and personal anguish.

**Talking about our problems is our greatest addiction. Break the habit - talk about your joys ~Rita Schiano**

## Take a Hike!

**Robin Massey**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

Mt. Tzouhalem (zoo-hey-lum) keeps a watchful eye over Cowichan Bay and the estuary. Local folklore speaks of a Cowichan Chief named Tzouhalem who inhabited the caves of this mountain attributing to its namesake.

There are countless trails, alcoves and crevices to see and explore, not to mention a main area of focus, the well-known Christian cross. Erected in the 80's, it replaced a wooden cross that had been repeatedly vandalised. Legend has it that Catholic worshippers would travel up to the cross each year in celebration of Easter.

Others say Mt. Tzouhalem is haunted which some visitors feel in its infinite silence and squeaky trees. Although I do not discount that you may intuitively feel a presence of stories untold atop this mountainous beauty, our group thoroughly enjoys its peace and tranquility.

At the end of last month, the Iron Butts took to the mountain from St. Ann's Church adjacent to the Providence Farm property. There are other entry points, of course, but this way is one of the most gratifying and picturesque pathways.

Once embarking on the main trail follow the road in and, then to the left, you will find a gradual butt-working trail upwards. At the

junction, with a steep slope on the right (to the smashed truck), we chose the alternate route to the left to avoid injury on the seasonally wet grounds. Continuing along the trail, you come upon a creek on the right with a path across it. We crossed it into an abundantly forested ridge up to the cross. If you prefer, you can stay on the main trail which loops up to the cross as well.


Typically, when we have reached the cross in the past we've had to hunker behind large boulders to enjoy some recovery time sheltered from the usual high winds and rains. However, on this day, we were blessed with a kind warm wind and clear views to the earth below.

What a beautiful sight – a must see for any Cowichan Valley resident! The particular trail that we chose is for an intermediate to advanced hiker. Beginners can start on the trails above the Properties East of Duncan for gentler route through the Ecological Flower Reserve. Watch for the signs, take a map and enjoy.


I feel extreme gratitude for all the many wonderful places here in the valley. I would be hard pressed to choose just one favourite – they are all my favourites! If you have a favourite that you'd like to share, please write and tell me about it. I'm always on the lookout for new places to explore!

The Iron Butts [www.theomtree.com](http://www.theomtree.com)

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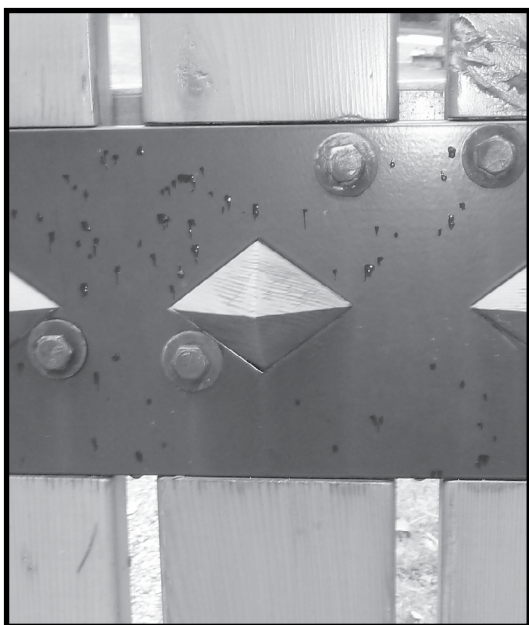


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## WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT? WHY IS IT?



### CONGRATULATIONS

The winner for  
January was  
Jim Schellenberg

The photo was an anchor bolt  
in a concrete foundation block at  
Old Mill Park. The Shawnigan  
Lake Mill (which burned down  
three times and was rebuilt twice)  
operated from 1890 to 1945.  
At its peak, it employed 250 people.

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## May I have a word?

**Monica Foster**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

And now for something  
completely different... a game!  
Match the words below to  
their sentences; the definitions  
are in parentheses.

Our journey started on a  
(small ship with four-cornered  
sails); that night we were  
fed (a sailor's dish of stewed  
meat, vegetables, and ship's  
biscuits).

They won the dance com-  
petition with their flawlessly  
executed (ballroom dance in  
triple time). For the occasion,  
he made an effort to (smartly  
dress himself) up, and his  
partner's gown had an (airy,  
light, delicate, heavenly) qual-  
ity to it. Win or lose, there  
would have been a scene since  
they were both quite (given to  
weeping; tearful).

The (fierce, abusive woman)  
threatened us with her sharp

tongue and even sharper  
kitchen knife.

After wading through the  
(lengthy, tedious) draft of the  
speech, I was disappointed to  
find the content so (intellectu-  
ally unsatisfying).

Word list in alphabetical  
order: ethereal, jejune, lachry-  
mose, lobsouse, lugger, prink,  
prolix, veleta, virago

**The answers are in your  
dictionary!**

## Yoga for Runners

The season for running starts!  
With every mile you run, your  
foot will hit the ground about  
1000 times, with an impact that  
is about 3-4 times your weight.  
That's a lot of strain on ankle  
and knee joints and repetitive  
use of the same muscle groups.

Every athlete knows the  
importance of stretching the  
muscles to provide balance and  
reduce risk of injury, but a regu-  
lar Yoga practice can do much  
more for your performance and  
staying healthy with it!

In Yoga, we focus not so  
much on what pose we do, but  
how we do it. As we take time  
to move slowly into an asana,  
we observe our breath, listen to  
the body, listen to the mind to  
find that perfect pose where we  
apply our very best effort and

still being able to relax into the  
pose. In every sport the goal  
is to be faster, better, stronger,  
than the others. It's that dual  
quality of Yoga, of using our  
best effort and still relaxing  
into it, that makes the exercise  
a Yoga pose. It's that focus and  
body awareness, that allows  
us to differentiate between the  
muscles we actually need and  
others we can relax. That's  
how we find our true best  
potential. The body can be  
trained easily - it's the mind  
that plays tricks on us, telling  
us "I can't, it's too hard!" It's  
the fears, the doubts and other  
beliefs that limit us, not the  
physical ability!

Yoga is balance between  
strength and release, effort and  
relaxation, lengthen and com-  
press, in and outbreath, body

and mind. Yoga trains the body  
and the mind, making us more  
aware, more observant, more  
present. That's how we learn to  
be our best - and stay that way  
- not only for one competition!

~Nicola Cusi, KaliYoga Studio

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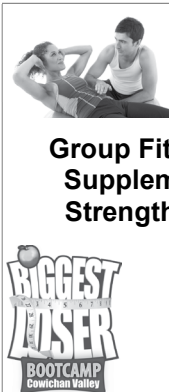
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Phone: 250-743-0511

jazzercise



## CLASSIFIEDS

### WANTED!!

Vintage dealer/collector wants to purchase your clothing, jewelry, purses, footwear, luggage, etc. Call 250-929-4213 or email [spazzycat@shaw.ca](mailto:spazzycat@shaw.ca)

### WHAT IS MISSING IN SHAWNIGAN?

1. A Deli meat counter, also serving smoke meat sandwiches homemade soups etc.
2. A gift and fashion jewelry shop.
3. Pet supply store.

If you believe there is a need for something I have not mentioned feel free to add it to my list. Please respond in order of preference to: [Guinivere555@msn.com](mailto:Guinivere555@msn.com)

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings**  
1st Monday of each month – 7 pm at SL Community Centre (SLCC)
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission**  
1st Thursday of each month. 7 pm at SLCC
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**  
Feb 28th - 6:30pm at SLCC. Usually the 3rd Thursday
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**  
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association Board meeting**  
3rd Tuesday of each month 7pm - [www.shawniganresidentsassociation.com](http://www.shawniganresidentsassociation.com)
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Business Association**  
1st Tuesday of each month 7 pm, currently at the Village Chipperry
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association**  
4th Monday of each month 7pm. Contact [bburr@shaw.ca](mailto:bburr@shaw.ca) to get on the mailing list. Anyone interested in joining is welcome.
- ★ **Shawnigan Village Development Council**  
As announced. Everyone welcome!
- ★ **Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable**  
Everyone welcome! (see website for details: [www.shawniganwatershedroundtable.ca](http://www.shawniganwatershedroundtable.ca))
- ★ **Inspire! Arts, Culture and Heritage Bookbinding Workshops** with Trisha Klus February 21 and March 2 10-2. [www.inspireshawnigan.com](http://www.inspireshawnigan.com)
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Facebook** group has the objective to be for daily postings of people's stories, news and events on a more personal scale. Please view <https://www.facebook.com/groups/129586433786330/>
- ★ **Malahat Legion:** 1625 Shawnigan–Mill Bay Road - For more info: 250-743-4621 -- Current Lounge hours are as follows: Sunday – Closed. Monday - Closed, except in the evening 7:00 – 10:00 PM when hosting darts. See Sports Board for schedule -- Tuesday - 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM except open to 10:00 PM when hosting pool, see Sports board for schedule. Wednesday - 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM. Drop in games night runs from 6:00 to close. All are welcome. --Thursday - 11:00 AM – 6 PM --Friday - 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM Saturday - 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM. Meat Draw 3:00 to 5:00 PM
- ★ **Local Talent:** Home-based business directory. Meets 3rd Wed. of month at Inspire!



### CHOW DOWN AND BUCK-ET UP

Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association's (CTRA) staff and volunteers are busy putting the finishing touches to their 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Dinner Auction, which will take place on Saturday, March 9, 2013. Thanks to the many individuals, groups, and businesses that continue to donate items or services to the auction, this fun-filled evening of entertainment is one of the CTRA's most popular and successful fundraisers.

Kristine Paton, a local artist whose paintings sell through galleries in BC and Alberta, has been donating artwork to the CTRA auction annually for over ten years. This year Paton has donated a large acrylic work on canvas titled *Feed Buckets*, valued at \$1950.00. The

32" x 36" representational painting features five weathered feed buckets atop a worn wooden storage trunk. As you can clearly see, the buckets are empty. "The buckets were once used at Cowichan Bay Farm to feed horses, and so the imagery seemed an appropriate choice to help 'fill the empty coffers' that feed the therapeutic riding programs." Kristine Paton, Artist [www.paton-place.com](http://www.paton-place.com)

EVENT: 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Auction Gala  
WHERE: Travelodge Duncan  
WHEN: Saturday, March 9, 2013  
TIME: 5:30 to 11:00 pm  
COST: \$60.00 Adult/\$420.00 table of 8  
Tickets available by phone at 250-746-1028



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