



# Shawnigan Focus

Volume Two - Issue Ten

OCTOBER 2012

*A Non-Profit Community Publication*

## Cycling in Shawnigan

**Glenn White**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

Fall is officially here and, last week, we did a great ride up the Trans Canada Trail from Shawnigan Lake to Marie Canyon. With the Kinsol Trestle open, we now enjoy easy access from Shawnigan Lake without driving.

I just love the old naming used for the various trestles along the way – all based on mileage from Victoria. We biked up to Mile 66 Trestle / Marie Canyon. What a glorious day with the leaves turning bright yellow and carpeting the trail. This made for a quiet gentle ride, but also hid some of the dips.

We started on Renfrew Road and crossed the newly rehabilitated Kinsol Trestle. We have been there many times and each time I am so thankful for the insight and vision of the people who made

the rehabilitation of the trestle a reality. There are always people admiring and enjoying this marvel.

We rolled past access roads and into farmland. In Glenora, the scenery was marvelous with farmland populated by beautiful homes, barns and tree lined roadways. The hay was all safely taken off the fields and now the sheep, complete with their pre-winter wool coats, were cleaning up the last little bit of grass still on the fields.

We crossed a small bridge where crystal clear water flowed below in the spring - now it is a giant rock garden. As we moved along, we saw old and new logging areas. Times have changed. We no longer have the massive stumps where big trees were removed years ago. Today we have massive empty spaces with the hope of future

growth spread amongst the broom and alders.

We gladly shared the trail with other non-motorized users contributing to our collective peaceful enjoyment of the ride or walk. At the Glenora Recreation area, near Holt Creek, we took a break and admired the facility built there. How fortunate we are to live in this area where the foresight of the CVRD provides a place so accessible to all people with play grounds for kids, shelter, interpretive maps parking and, of course, washrooms.

From there, we crossed the Holt Creek Trestle, marveling at the depth of the canyon and configuration of the rock formations below. The creek was moving, but at a very reduced flow.

We continued our quiet ride for another 10 kms towards Marie Canyon. We traveled



through deeply shaded areas with some muddy sections (which surprised us given all the warm dry weather we have had), to sunny spots with dry creek beds and, as usual, more visible signs of the logging history in the area.

At Mile 66 / Marie Canyon, we stopped for lunch at another wonderful facility. Taking a break, we talked to a hiker with his dog returning from hiking on some side trails, and a cyclist visiting

the area from Ontario. The visitor was here on business and borrowed a friend's bike. He commented how great this trail system was and we compared notes about the progress of the dream of the Trans Canada trail in his area, and ours.

We headed home, making fewer stops on the way back, still soaking up the wonderful scenery and thankful for having access to such a great trail system.

## Take a Hike!

**Robin Massey**  
*Shawnigan Focus*



*Walking the trail*

Probably one of the easiest, most beginner friendly trails around our parts here is the Cowichan Valley Trail also known as the Trans Canada Trail. Upon further cyber investigation and viewing websites such as the CVRD or Trails BC we are informed that the trail is quite extensive and can take you 47 kilometers all the way from Shawnigan Lake to Lake Cowichan.

According to Trails BC a good portion of the trail follows along the old CNR railway line. And if you like trestles you will be excited to see a few crisscrossing the Koksilah River. Trestles like Holt Creek, Marie Canyon, and Mile 66 are but a few, lest we forget about the mother of all trestles - the newly rehabilitated Kin-

sol Trestle being one of the largest and highest wooden trestles in the world, right here in our own locale!

Back in the day the main purpose for the railway system was to transport freight and forest products but due to costs, road construction and decreasing timber supplies, the railway service was discontinued. The last train went over the Kinsol Trestle in 1979.

Our hiking fieldtrip of the month took place at this trail because it had been a couple years since our last visit. On this occasion we launched at the Sooke Lake Road trailhead, gently followed the main trail to then conclude at the Renfrew Road trailhead about three hours later. We really recommend it for beginners because seriously the grade barely ever increases more than 1%.

The beginning of the trail follows farmland and gradually transforms into views of Shawnigan Lake. It continues along following behind homes and properties peeking through the trees and foliage along the way. The walk is serene and lovely on a very well maintained trail. At 8:00ish am on a Sunday morning it is quite quiet, with the exception of one quad that passed us making us duck for cover from the floating plumes of

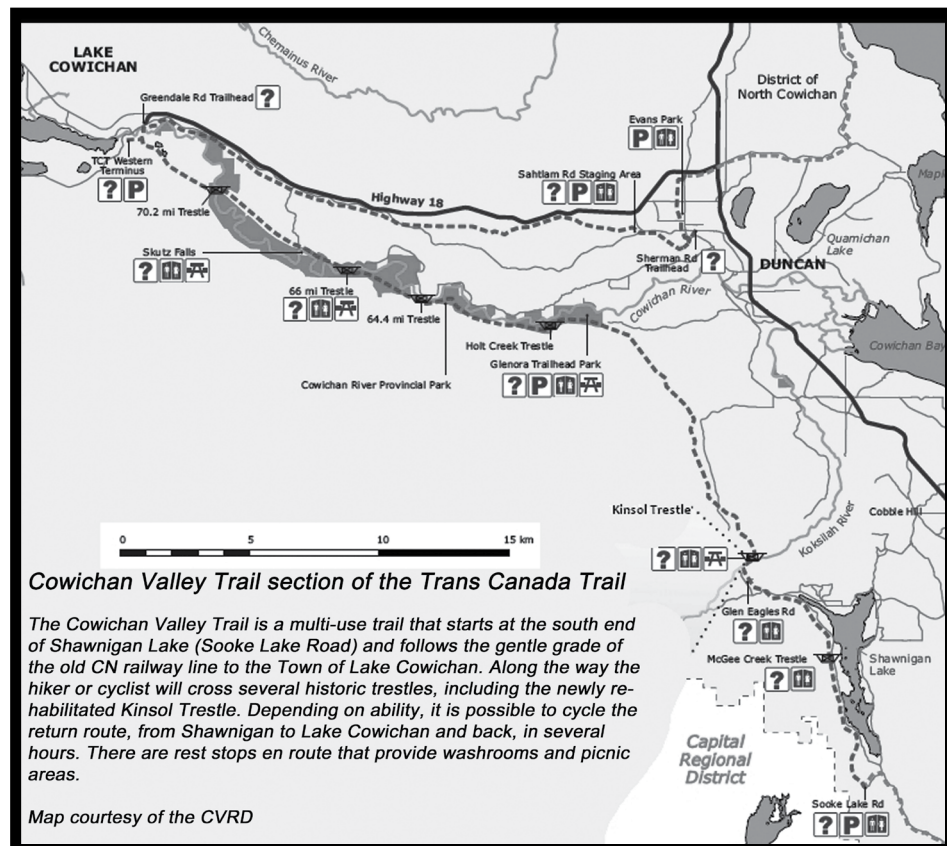
dry dirt and dust. However, as we are all self-proclaimed optimists and we live where we live, we quickly remembered to be thankful that it was only just one that we came upon and not a large convoy of motor enthusiasts!

The trail has many branches and access points in addition to this one and can be found easily online. We love

how this trail is always a perfect place to visit any time of the year!

Resources: Cowichan Valley Trail <http://www.cvrld.bc.ca/index.aspx?NID=121> and Trails BC [http://www.trailsbc.ca/v\\_island\\_region/cowichan-1.html](http://www.trailsbc.ca/v_island_region/cowichan-1.html) (both cited October 3rd, 2012)

[www.theomtree.com](http://www.theomtree.com)





# The Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable

Georgia Collins

*Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable*

The Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable's progression is striking. This initiative, built up by the residents of Shawnigan Lake, is a model of integrated participatory education and community building that is transforming the way we deal with our ecological, economical and social structures. Plainly put, Shawnigan has got it going on! We have the opportunity here to make a difference, not only for our own Shawnigan community, for every other community out there. Why are we in this leadership role? Well, here are a few reasons to start us off:

1. The Shawnigan Watershed sits literally butted up against a pristine drinking water reservoir (Sooke Lake Reservoir, which supplies water to the CRD). In other words, in studying our watershed, we have the perfect scientific control and we will continuously be able to compare our inhabited, developed, harvested watershed to an untouched version right next door.
2. Our watershed is contained within one electoral region, and therefore does not have an arbitrary border running through it to divide it's citizens, allowing us the opportunity to work together with a little less 'red tape'.
3. We have just been informed that we are on the brink, and have ultimately two choices: do something, or do nothing and lose the lake (something many community watersheds have faced or will be facing shortly).

So, we're up to doing something! At our recent Regulatory Agency Roundtable Discussion, Rod Davis of the Private Managed Forest Land Council and Luc Lachance of the Ministry of Environment presented. It was very clear in the discussion that ensued that there is no one organization, agency or level of government that is accountable for the cumulative impact of all that goes on in a watershed. Each organization is responsible for it's own piece, each resident thinks of what is contained

within his/her own property lines, we deal with bits and pieces without thinking of the whole, and as a result our community loses the capacity to maintain a healthy balance in the watershed.

"Watershed Thinking" is what we are now creating. On our Timber Company Tour, led by TimberWest, Island Timberlands and a local woodlot operator, we got to see some pieces of the puzzle that is our watershed. During our workshop, where we assessed the health of a stream and a now preserved wetland, we witnessed what can be accomplished with a collaborative approach, when some of those pieces fit together to maintain the integrity of the whole watershed.

Focusing on cumulative impacts is the key to this kind of thinking. What happens to the whole watershed system if I decide to excavate a pond on my property? What if two or three timber companies decide to harvest at the same time? What impact does one failing septic system have on the whole watershed? Where are our weak spots? What has been stopping us from having total and complete health in our watershed... in our community?

What has been stopping us is fragmentation.

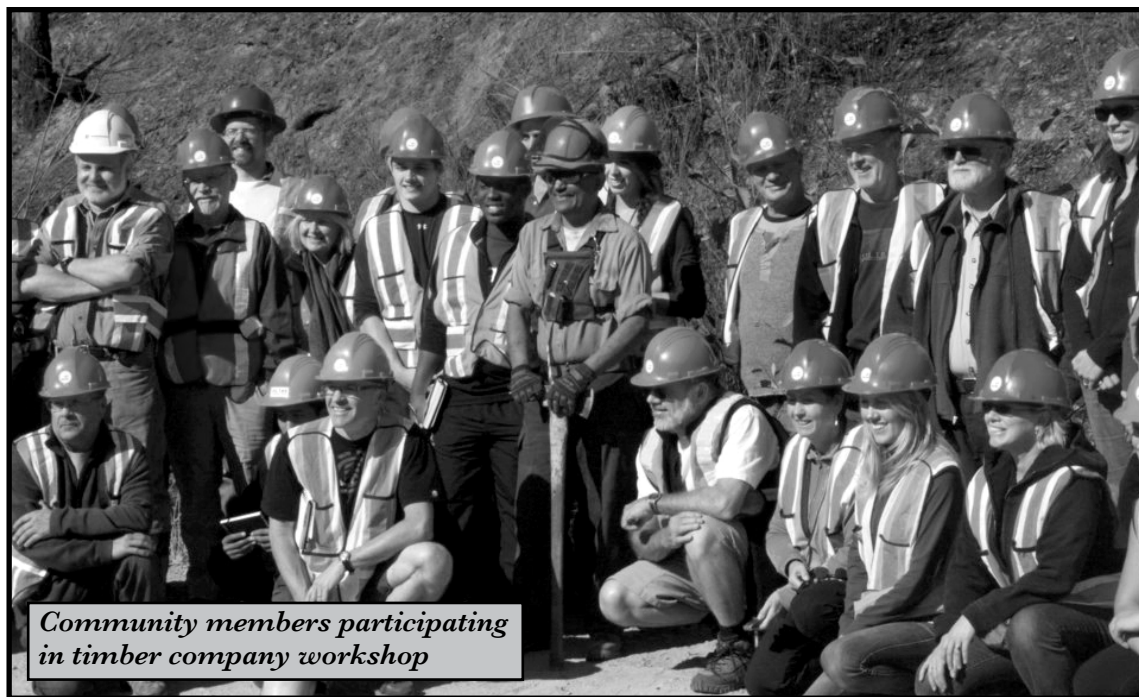
With that clear, the fourth and perhaps most important reason we, the Shawnigan Community, are being called into a leadership position is that:

We have an amazing collection of individuals here in our community who continue to work diligently on anything and everything related to water, and we are willing to collaborate!

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www.shawniganwatershedroundtable.ca  
FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Shawnigan-Watershed-Roundtable/36463991027272?ref=hl>

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/ShawniganWater>

Stay tuned for upcoming tours, meetings, presentations and workshops! 250-743-WATER



*Community members participating in timber company workshop*

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OCTOBER 2012

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*Ready for Winter*

### Woodsmoke

I like a nice wood fire. For the most part I also enjoy the seasonal activity of coming up with the three or four cords necessary to heat the cottage over the winter. Depending on windfalls and other sources, about half is purchased and the rest cut and split by yours truly. My wife likes the stacking – she calls it wood aerobics.

Back in 1990 I took advantage of BC Hydro's Electric Plus program offering cheaper rates for electric heat, providing the residence had an approved backup heat source. An efficient wood burning stove was an option so I installed a Regency insert into the old granite hearth and have been using it each winter since then. It provides a pleasing dry heat and the flames seen through the large glass panel on the door are cozily enjoyable. Most visitors find the mild emission of woodsmoke an agreeable experience. Aromatic wafts from dry cedar, fir or alder can be pleasant in the sharp chill air of a frosty winter's day.

I also like trees. They are an essential component of our local ecosystem. Not without mess, their debris fouls our roofs, gutters and driveways. There is also the risk of significant property damage associated with windstorm or wildfire. For many, the mess and risk are acceptable costs for being able to live a little closer to nature. The risk is managed by judicious culling and trimming. The mess is gathered and disposed of,

most commonly with bonfires in the spring and fall. You have to judge the conditions and pick the right day. There are many who enjoy this ritual and a hot clean fire on a windless day can be something shared with friends and neighbours.

The last few years have seen more frequent calls for bans on burning. Increasing density, unreasonable expectations and silly people are all factors. As neighbourhoods grow, properties get smaller and trees become fewer. Incomers often bring city expectations including sidewalks, streetlights and no backyard burning. The calls for clean air are strengthened by those who have no notion of fire aesthetics – they think nothing of tossing a styrofoam cup on the campfire while the food is being grilled. Plastic, cardboard, old tires, milk cartons, wet leaves and a host of other items do not make for a good burning experience, nor does incinerating garbage in your woodstove. Indoors or out, the emissions are noxious. Why some characters create these toxic fires is perplexing but they are the primary cause of complaints about household burning. They are spoiling things for the rest of us who want to burn responsibly.

As Shawnigan grows, the debate about burning will become heated. I expect those of us who like our woodfires will eventually be overwhelmed by the righteous zealotry of the clean air crusaders. The argument that wood is a good and appropriate fuel at the urban fringe will be nullified by our transi-

tion to a suburban community - our increasing numbers resulting in less woodsmoke but more vehicle exhaust and cattle methane. Another paradox brought about by uncontrolled growth on a finite planet, however that is a topic for another day.

*~Dave Hutchinson*

### When are our local leaders going to start representing taxpayers interests?

Dear Sir:

Many of our Cowichan Valley politicians and staff enjoyed good meals, fancy hotels, per diems and full expenses while attending the recent annual convention of the Union of BC Municipalities in Victoria. In the midst of this taxpayer funded largesse they neglected to discuss the most serious financial issues facing local governments that drive taxes up every year in most municipalities and regional districts.

They never talked about the out of control executive and staff salaries or rich annual raises being paid to their employees who are already blessed with generous benefits and pensions all paid by taxpayers, most of whom don't share similar benefits.

Many of these local government employees are already in the top 5% of Canadian earners making well over \$100,000 per year or much, much more. Instead our local political leaders wasted time and energy debating and approving the legalization of marijuana -an issue that is way beyond their jurisdiction or their business.

But I guess that debate took their minds off things that really matter to taxpayers! They did a lot of whining about downloading from senior governments but refused to acknowledge their own wasteful spending on things like our own EcoDepot debacle or other municipal boondoggles and excessive pay to employees. Missing as well was any real talk or strategies to reduce spending, or to streamline their operations, including amalgamation.

When are our local leaders going to start representing taxpayers' interests instead of

the bureaucrats that work for them? Budgets are now in preparation for 2013 and we have heard almost no guidance or direction to staff from the CVRD board.

This year the CVRD board told their staff to hold the line at 2% on spending increases then laid a 7% tax hike on taxpayers. Let's hope they don't do it again in 2013 and start to move from a very amateur budgeting process to something that focuses on real deliverables and accountabilities - things that are important to taxpayers generally instead of all the special interests who like to access tax money for themselves.

*~W.E. (Bill) Dumont R.P.F.*

### Cowichan Drought Crisis

You might not know it but the Cowichan watershed, and our "national heritage" Cowichan River, is in the midst of a drought crisis.

Scanning back over the long-term hydrometric record, it appears this event certainly fits in with the predicted climate-change forecast. Declining mean annual precipitation should be an obvious concern to every one of us. Perhaps less obvious, yet no less critical, are the demands currently placed on this diminishing water resource and the faltering stewardship of catchment lands that cradle our Cowichan water supply.

The Cowichan Watershed Board and the Cowichan

Stewardship Roundtable deserve much praise for their valiant efforts over many years to bring attention to this growing water deficit and for their attempts to grapple with workable solutions. It must be disheartening for these earnest souls when water conservation measures are ignored, groundwater tables continue to drop, and fish are put at increasing risk.

Public awareness about water availability and consumption is so very important—as consumers, we all share a responsibility to be mindful of water. No less important should be our concern for the stewardship of a healthy watershed catchment. Unfortunately, vast tracts of private forest land in the upper Cowichan Valley are not treated kindly. Although managers of these lands may follow certified industrial "best practices" to farm trees primarily destined for the log export market, this standard falls far short of caring for the full array of ecosystem values and the greater community's longer-range and wider interests.

Our government's reliance on self-regulation, with its attendant lack of public control over the stewardship of these private forest lands, is inadequate and unacceptable in the face of climate change, stressed ecosystems, and a watershed in crisis. It is time for our provincial government to fix this broken arrangement. There is a great deal of mending and healing to do.

*~Roger Wiles*



*New toddler park at Shawnigan Hills*

**Where there is ruin, there is hope for a treasure. ~Rumi**



# SIA science in question

Recall the public meetings about the South Island Aggregates application to deposit five million tons of contaminated waste in our watershed; remember the professionals from Active Earth Engineering claiming that “... the Proposed Soil Management Facility is ideal in terms of its accessibility, geology and hydrogeology”? In recent weeks two credible and independent reviews have raised serious concerns about the accuracy and completeness of the proposal.

A report from the Water Protection Division of the Ministry of Forests states that “Additional data and site characterization are required prior to this permit application being considered further.”

In a report commissioned by the Shawnigan Lake Residents Association, Lowen Hydrogeology contends that “Several environmental and human health risks regarding the landfill have been identified”.

# Water Protection Experts Question SIA Application

The following Summary is from a review of the South Island Aggregates application undertaken by the Water Protection Division of the Ministry of Forests:

*The present application for establishment of a contaminated soil disposal site at the South Island Aggregates quarry has been reviewed with respect to technical detail in the hydrogeologic characterization of the site. Additional data and site characterization are required prior to this permit application being considered further. The specific areas of concern are as follows:*

1. Assumptions related to the thickness and very low permeability of the underlying bedrock unit are not sufficiently validated by the field investigations and data presented. In some cases they are counter to prevailing opinion, and hence need to be properly substantiated. Additional data, including construction of monitoring wells using core drilling and distributing the monitoring sites more widely over the site should be undertaken to better characterize the formation permeability and location/density of shallow fractures. The proponent should also include the onsite water supply well as a part of their site characterization.
2. The occurrence of limestone and karst formations in the local area should be investigated and the importance of this to the hydrogeology of the site must be better understood.
3. The cause of high bacterial counts observed in onsite monitoring well MW3S should be investigated with respect to implications related to permeability of the shallow bedrock formation.
4. Additional field investigations are required to identify adjacent water users (surface and groundwater) rather than relying solely upon data from the MOE Water Resources Atlas and WELLS database.
5. The characterization methods and calculation of travel times to adjacent water sources (wells and streams) should utilize, in part, methods that consider the preferential flow and heterogeneity of bedrock systems (i.e. presence of fractures), which is a more conservative and realistic approach compared to treating the rock aquifer as equivalent to porous media.
6. Insufficient information is provided to understand whether the pit bottom will intercept the water table, and whether dewatering, collection and treatment of groundwater will be required as part of the operational plan.

*The importance of groundwater for both present and future local water supplies and the long-term nature of the possible impacts related to the site, warrant such a detailed evaluation of site hydrogeology.*

# Residents Association tackles SIA’s contaminated soil landfill proposal

Garry Horwood  
SRA President

Recent issues of the Shawnigan Focus have provided news about the proposal by South Island Aggregates Ltd. (SIA) to fill the cavity created at its rock mine with contaminated soils from Greater Victoria and other Island areas. At the July 12th public meeting on the matter, Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) president Garry Horwood, stated that placement of contaminated waste in this community’s watershed is primarily an ethical issue; “a matter of right or wrong.” Following the meeting, the SRA board decided to bring in an expert to examine the information and data that the SIA had presented about its landfill proposal. The SRA chose Mr. Dennis Lowen, (P. Eng., P. Geo.) of Lowen Hydrogeology Consulting Ltd. to provide a report on the matter based on his expertise, experience and available information.

The report is now completed. It focuses on “... the [SIA] site hydrogeology and potential for negative impacts on the local groundwater flow system and those dependent on this system for their drinking water;” and is packed with interesting and worrisome findings. Here are some examples:

- a. The aquifer beneath the landfill site is “highly vulnerable to contamination from surface sources.”
- b. With reference to aquifer

#203, which Mr. Lowen found extends beneath the SIA site, “any contaminated surface water runoff or landfill leachate that escapes the site may reach the aquifer readily and this would constitute a health hazard.”

c. On the claim by SIA that the bedrock beneath the landfill site has extremely low permeability (i.e. low hydraulic conductivity), Mr. Lowen estimates that its hydraulic conductivity is “1,000 times higher” than the conductivity rating reported by SIA.

d. Although SIA claims that it will take 100,000 years for water to migrate downward from the landfill to the aquifer, Mr. Lowen points out that this is not consistent with “the extensive body of data available from observation wells on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands” where, due to fractures in the bedrock, water in the wells rises quickly following a rainfall event. The time lag between a rain event and rising water in wells is “usually less than a few days.”

e. As for SIA’s claim that its landfill liner system will protect Shawnigan Lake by preventing contaminants from leaking into surface and ground water, Mr. Lowen observes that “many studies have shown that landfill liners eventually leak. In fact they generally leak soon after

filling has begun.”

f. Mr. Lowen is of the opinion that “rainfall that infiltrates the ground at the subject site will flow downward to the aquifer and then flow toward the north west (toward Shawnigan Lake).”

It is clear from the findings reported by Mr. Lowen that the directors of the SRA and the residents of this community have good reason to be concerned about the prospect of contaminated soil being stored in our drinking-water watershed. The SRA forwarded a copy of the Lowen report to the Vancouver Island Health Authority, which prompted the VIHA to undertake its own investigation of the matter. Five VIHA officials are now aware of and involved in the issue along with a person on staff at the Office of the Provincial Health Officer. In addition, the Ministry of Forests has reviewed the matter and issued a report.

The SRA will convene a public meeting in November to review the SIA proposal based on all the information available by then and to provide an opportunity for Shawnigan Lakers to express their thoughts and feelings about whether or not the Province should approve the SIA application. Time, date and place to be announced. For more information, please visit the SRA website at [www.shawniganresidentsassociation.com](http://www.shawniganresidentsassociation.com).



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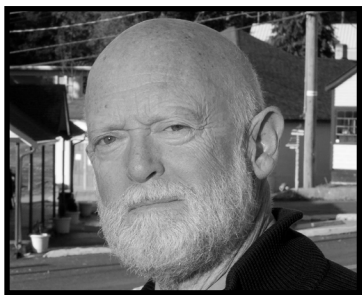
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## Director's Report October 2012



**Bruce Fraser**  
*Area Director*

### Progress on Contaminated Soils

We have now made two visits with the Minister of Environment expressing the CVRD's strong concerns with contaminated soils being trucked into the Region, and specifically to community watersheds. As we have several sites in the upper reaches of our Shawnigan watershed, we have emphasized our community's condemnation of this

ongoing practice. When we met the Minister in May, we asked that he initiate testing of materials being trucked and the materials already on the dumpsites. We reiterated this request at our second meeting in September and the testing has now begun. Land owners with known dump sites have been notified that inspection teams will be on their sites by October 11th to conduct the necessary chemical tests. Copies of the letters are posted on my web site and I will post the test results when they become available.

In the meantime, Minister Lake has asked to tour the Shawnigan watershed headwaters in late October to see for himself the nature of the dumping. We will be able then to illustrate to him how

close the current dumpsites, and the proposed SIA site, are to Shawnigan Creek, its tributaries and the lake. The Minister will also tour the Evans Products site on the Koksilah River where contaminated soil from the Esquimalt DND base is presently being dumped and testing is taking place.

### Watershed Tours

The Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable, chaired by Georgia Collins, continues with its series of watershed tours. The objective has been to familiarize Shawnigan residents with the geography of our watershed, the condition of its streams and wetlands and the current threats to its health. We have visited the upper reaches of Shawnigan Creek and its main tributary

Van Horne Creek. We have visited one of the largest intact filtering wetlands on the Mann property along the south Shawnigan road and we have looked at the large abandoned gravel pit along the south forest service road that was the main silt source to the lake. Recently TimberWest and Island Timberlands hosted a tour of their operations along Shawnigan Creek, McGee Creek and the forest fire site in the upper Koksilah basin. The fire, started by careless ATV'ers, resulted in around \$800 thousand in fire fighting costs and burned a newly planted site that will have to be rehabilitated at further cost. A video compilation of the tours will be available on my web site and on the roundtable website as well

(shawniganwatershedroundtable.ca) (fraserforshawnigan.ca).

### Next Director's Meeting

My next Director's meeting will be held at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre at 7pm on Monday November 5th. CVRD Chair Rob Hutchins will be there to discuss the CVRD initiatives to curtail dumping of contaminated soils and the recent arrangements with the Ministry of Environment. Chair Hutchins has established a formal Soils Relocation Committee at the October 10th Board meeting so that our working agendas and meetings will be advertised on the CVRD website and open to the public.

## Shawnigan Lake (Area B) Parks & Recreation Commission



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

For more than two decades, it has become a tradition for island runners to meet at Shawnigan Lake on the last Sunday in October for the oldest "running" half marathon event in British Columbia. The annual half marathon run is organized by Cowichan's Ceevacs Road Running Club, a non-profit running group aimed at fostering the enjoyment of running for adults (of all ages). Up until two years ago, local residents would have glimpsed Half Marathon participants (including a fair share of "locals") dashing through burnished maple leaves on

the road loop around the lake. Last year, the Ceevacs revitalized the event with sweeping changes, providing participants with a new course: a "long" (traditional 21 km half marathon) or "short" ("half a half" 10 km) option. Both provide an opportunity to run across the newly rehabilitated Kinsol Trestle.

Following the changes introduced in 2011, this year's start line for all participants on Sunday October 28 is on Meadowview Road in the Shawnigan Beach Estates. Half marathoners run west along Renfrew Road to the TransCanada Trail, then head south on the trail for a few kilometres, turn around near Rebecca Road, then run north along the trail and cross the Kinsol Trestle, turning around a short distance north of the trestle, returning to Renfrew Road and back to the finish line at Discovery School. "Half a halfers" are also treated to a run across the Kinsol Trestle. The "Half a Halfers" run a 10 kilometre "back to back" loop from the Beach Estates, along Renfrew Road

to the TransCanada Trail and Kinsol Trestle, returning to the finish line at Discovery School.

Last year over 400 participants of all ages and calibers participated in the Shawnigan-Kinsol Half Marathon and Half a Half event. Finishers were awarded with custom-made trestle medallions. Hand-made trestle socks were also available for sale. The Ceevacs were very pleased to present a cheque with the proceeds of the 2012 event – in the amount of \$5000 – to the CVRD Parks, Recreation, and Culture Department, to be used for the ongoing rehabilitation of the Kinsol Trestle.

To register for this year's Shawnigan-Kinsol Half Marathon or "Half a Half," go to [www.cee vacs.com](http://www.cee vacs.com). Course maps are available on the website. Registration can be done online, or by mailing. Race package pick-up is only available on the day of the race. As with any non-profit event, volunteers are welcomed. Cheering for runners participating in the October 28th event is hugely appreciated!



*Jolaine Scott, RMT*  
*Registered Massage Therapy*

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# Shawnigan Lake School

**Jo-Anne Kingstone**  
*Shawnigan Lake School*

### Imagine

*Imagine \i-ma-jin\ v: to understand and embrace life's promises.*

For seven consecutive years Shawnigan Lake School has supported the credo of the school "word shirt". Solid backgrounds with contrasting letters, definitions on the back. You may have already seen students wearing these colourful shirts in the Shawnigan Village or at community events. Relieve, Commit, Unite, Engage, Compassion, Inspire, Create, Imagine. A series of verbs that actually read like a clarion call to action. Taken individually, they are clever, inspiring - even fun. Taken together, they tell the story of the school and a value structure firmly founded in a commitment to others.

The shirts chronicle our way of being in the world, of contributing to the combined efforts of others, of connecting what we believe and who we are through awareness and action. Born out of a sense

of collective responsibility, we strive not only to do, but also to think carefully and often about the importance of doing for others, both here in our midst and outside our immediate community.

Since its birth to support the Tsunami relief efforts in Thailand in 2005, the unveiling of the word shirt plays an important part of defining our yearly focus and is the kick-off for our fundraising efforts in support of the Canadian Cancer Society Tour de Rock each fall. This year alone, the Shawnigan Lake School Community generated \$43,000 over a period of two weeks, which was spearheaded by this year's word shirt Imagine.

But our efforts do not end there. The opportunity to live the values of our word shirts spans over the entire year and beyond. And our community responds. Each year brings a new focus or challenge, but the lens is always the same: the School's deep commitment to engaging in the world through service to others. Sometimes we are called to support groups outside the School whose



*A sea of brilliant blue and white*

needs are immediate such as humanitarian support for the Haiti earthquake in 2010; sometimes it is sustaining our commitment to ongoing projects and services we support year in and year out through the School's EDGE leadership program; and sometimes, it is the opportunity to respond to the very personal journey of a friend

and colleague. The word shirts represent the galvanization of our efforts - we are drawn together by our shared values, and we are drawn to the world by acting on these values.

This year is no different. When we stand in the campus quad, the entire school together, welcoming the riders of the Tour

de Rock as they glide past a sea of brilliant blue and white, Imagine splashed across the front, it is difficult not to respond. For this year in particular, we are in the business of imagining big as we embark on the 2012-13 journey of matching our collective responsibility with our passion for action.

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## What is the connection between a lovebird, a Dragon & Shawnigan Lake?



**The answer: a local accountant.**

Luigi, a 9 year old African Lovebird, recently made an appearance on CBC's Dragon's Den and helped to secure a \$10,000 investment for owner, Mary McQueen, of Victoria. During the show, Shawnigan accountant Dewar McCarthy was on stand-by, by phone, to provide financial details as needed. Dewar confirmed that the company was valued at \$40 000. Luigi's talent for shredding paper, including T4's,

cheques, books and other mail (I wonder if his accountant is aware of this habit?), combined with Mary's talent for creating artistic collages from the shreds, convinced the Wealthy Barber, Patrick Chilton, to offer a 25% investment in Mary's greeting card business, Hand and Beak. In addition, Chilton contacted the president of Hallmark Cards who is delighted that Hallmark will be distributing the cards nationwide. Hallmark will donate all of the proceeds from the sales of Hand and Beak cards to Make-A-Wish Canada, the non-profit that helps grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions.

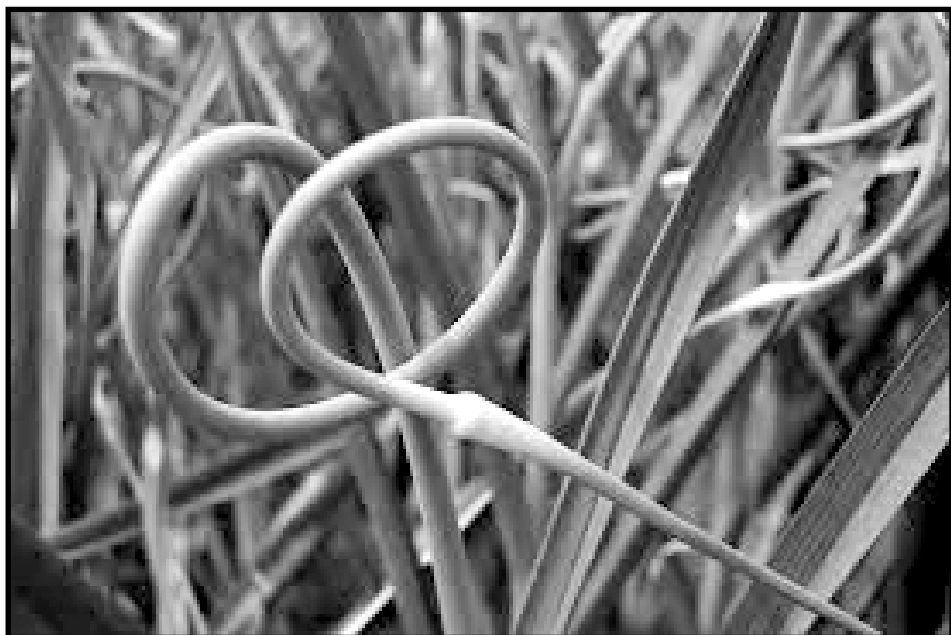
Luigi, the Chief Shredding Officer of Hand and Beak, visited George Bonner Middle School last year to demonstrate his creative talent and to raise awareness of African Lovebirds. It is a common nesting trait of lovebirds to shred paper in precise, narrow strips and then tuck the strips into their feathers. Turning Luigi's shreds into a successful business is, without a shred of doubt, true entrepreneurial spirit!

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## Growing garlic...

Elijah Fraser  
*Shawnigan Focus*



*Garlic Scape*

October may seem like an odd time to start thinking about planting a garden, but there is no better time to start growing more of your own food. Garlic is touted for its health benefits and is a staple in many culinary styles. It is one of the easiest vegetables to grow and store and thus it may come as a surprise that most garlic sold in supermarkets is imported from China. With just a small to medium sized

garden plot it is quite possible grow a year's supply.

There are two distinct sub-species of Garlic. Hard neck garlic grows a long central stalk called a scape that is cut off in the spring to encourage larger bulb formation. Hard neck garlic is well suited to wet conditions and thus most commonly grown in our climate. If it has one flaw, it is that hard neck

garlic will only store for around six to eight months. Typically smaller in size, with no scape, soft neck garlic will store for longer periods. It may be difficult to find a variety that grows well in our area and so if planning for a year's supply it may be a good idea to plant both types.

Individual garlic cloves are planted in October approximately six weeks before the first hard frost. Garlic bulbs for planting can be obtained through gardening stores and seed catalogues. However, it may be cheaper to buy them at a local farmers market. Avoid garlic from supermarkets as they are typically treated with methyl bromide, an anti-sprouting chemical and may have higher instances of white rot. Each clove will produce a full bulb. Be sure to plant enough to have some left over to plant the following year. Planting the largest cloves will result in the largest possible bulbs being produced.

Select a spot with well drained soil. The soil should not be too rich, but if really poor amend with compost, manure, and wood ash to aid in bulb formation. Garlic crops must be rotated ever year to prevent white rot. Luckily, it is one of the few vegetables that is deer resistant. Plant the cloves with

the pointy end up, two inches deep, six inches apart, with one foot between rows. Hardy plants may sprout and stand in the garden through the winter before developing in the spring. Mulching with straw in the spring will reduce competition from weeds.

Garlic should only need water in very dry spells. In hard neck varieties the scape can be cut once it forms. Some sources recommend allowing the scape to grow until it makes one to two loops. Don't throw the scapes away as they are quite edible. When lightly steamed, garlic scapes have a mild flavour and the texture of steamed asparagus.

Stop watering in July. Once approximately half the leaves have yellowed, the bulbs can be harvested. Gently lift from underneath with a gardening fork while pulling on the stalk. At this stage care is required to prevent bruising the bulb. Leave the stalk attached and hang or layout the bulbs to dry in an airy location, out of direct sunlight. After a couple of weeks, the stalks can be trimmed or braided and any excess dirt brushed off. Store the bulbs in a cool dry location such as a crawspace, basement, or stairwell.

## Inspire! Profile

Jennie S.  
*Woodruff Music School*

Happy laughter permeates the room during a choir practice, as Laurel Collins animatedly leads the group through one of her famous deep breathing warm ups, and into a diverse selection of songs and chants. With many familiar faces, and some new ones coming and going over the 20 years that Laurel Singers have been meeting, the choir continues to offer a warm, connected musical experience to those looking for an informal community choir with heart!

Born and raised in Ontario "more than half a century ago" to parents in the teaching profession, Laurel studied music at The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and has been teaching music herself for over 40 years. Her principal instruments are piano and voice. She performs her music with passionate abandon and loves to share her passion with others. She also has a degree in Fine Art (drawing and sculpture), and has offered popular "If you can see, you can draw" art classes in the past, in addition to "exploring with clay" in her small pottery studio located in her Shawnigan Lake home. Many years ago, in 1975, a fishing accident left Laurel with two very badly damaged fingers and she was un-

able to play her beloved piano for 12 years, until an innovative microsurgery repair thankfully gave her back the ability to pursue her gift again. After a memorable return concert on Saltspring Island in 1987, Laurel enthusiastically added music composition to her continued studies. She went on to write scores for a number of plays staged by Shawnigan Players, receiving special recognition from Theatre BC for "Death of a Salesman" and "King Lear", among others. Her favorite role as a local thespian was playing a fairy godmother in one of the Christmas pantomimes, "Cinderella".

More recently, her creative outlet has found a home at the Art House, composing and improvising music for dance. Laurel, Lynn Weaver and the Moondance Co. are currently collaborating on a small grant project which will showcase in Duncan in the Spring.

Mother of two, and grandmother of two, Laurel considers her whole life to be a hobby, filled with her favorite activities: music, gardening, pottery, cooking and writing poetry.

"Laurel Singers" meet on Thursdays at 7 PM, except for the first Thursday of each month when a Buddhist-inspired chant circle is offered. Come join in these singing events held at the Art House! 1756 Wilmot, Shawnigan Lake.

**READER FEEDBACK:** Given the record breaking drought affecting our region, and the critical situation in neighbouring watersheds, it interesting to observe that Shawnigan seems to be faring comparatively better. The lake level, while low, is not as low as it has been in years past when we had less challenging dry periods. I can only assume that this is due to appropriate management of the weir. From a previous Focus article I understand that the current weir has been operating since 2008 and follows a "rule-curve", storing water in the lake during the spring and then releasing it gradually during summer and fall. In contrast to Cowichan Lake, this approach seems to be working for Shawnigan. I wonder why this is and whether some rule-curves are better than others. In any case, many thanks to those who manage our local Shawnigan weir. ~ Clayton

  
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# The Wild Side ~ Freshwater mussels

**Dave Hutchinson**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

Few seem to know that our lake is home to a species of freshwater mollusc. I recall observing significant numbers of them in shallow mud-bottom bays in the 1960s. That was back when we still had catfish and bullheads; well before the ecological havoc triggered by the thoughtless introduction of small-mouthed bass. These mussels are still present but considerably less in number.

An online search reveals that they are probably the Western Floater (*Anodonta kennerlyi*)

### A few snippets of information:

- This freshwater mussel is common on Vancouver Island. It prefers the fringes of lakes and lives at depths of between 1-3 meters.
- Thought to be a fast-growing species that reaches sexual maturity in four to five years and lives only ten to 15 years (other species such as *Margaritifera falcata*, which live in local streams, can live up to 100 years).
- Adults vary from 4.75 to 7.25 inches (12 to 18 cm.)
- Outside shell colour can be yellowish, yellowish-brown, brown, or black. Some specimens may have a tinge of green. The inside shell (the nacre) is coloured white or bluish-white, sometimes pinkish toward the central portion.
- All freshwater molluscs evolved from marine

ancestors. Six species of freshwater mussels live in British Columbia.

- Freshwater mussels require a host fish to reproduce and disperse. Female mussels internally incubate fertilized eggs that hatch into larvae, or glochidia, which are then released into the water. Glochidia will attach to fish and form a cyst where they mature for several weeks. Once metamorphosis is complete, juvenile mussels drop from their host fish to the lake bottom.
- In lakes on Vancouver Island, glochidia were found on all fish species examined (four species) but prickly sculpin and three-spine stickleback were more important hosts than the two trout species, possibly because the sculpin and stickleback were more prevalent in areas of the lakes where mussels were concentrated.
- Freshwater mussels can be valuable indicators of pollutants, since they are sedentary, occupy a low position on the food chain, tending to bio-accumulate heavy metals, pesticides, and other contaminants. Toxins in the shell are indicative of past exposure, whereas toxins in the soft tissues indicate more recent exposure. Substances can be detected in their tissues that are too low in concentration to be detected in the surrounding water body.
- Flourishing populations of freshwater mussels are generally associated with high levels of dissolved oxygen and other conditions that are typical of unpolluted water bodies.



*A mussel From Shawnigan Lake – outer and inner shell – Photos by Dave Hutchinson*

- Some Native American tribes historically harvested this animal and used it for food, tools and adornment.
- Although a few freshwater molluscs are believed to have survived the last period of glaciation in BC, most species have repopulated the province within the past 10,000 years, moving in from adjacent unglaciated areas.
- Though, apparently healthy populations exist on Vancouver Island, freshwater mussels as a whole are one of the most endangered groups of animals across North America.

## Yoga and arthritis

**Nicola Cusi**  
*Owner, Kali Yoga*

Don't we all know that vicious cycle: joints are achy, we can't move that much any longer, the sedentary lifestyle adds a few pounds, and we lose even more muscle strength and flexibility. Autumn is here with its cold and dry weather usually making the symptoms worse.

Scientists from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore randomly divided a group of 30 sedentary adults with Rheumatoid Arthritis into two groups: one group participated in an eight-week program of yoga and the other was put on a waiting list and served as the control. Those in the yoga group took two one-

hour classes per week and were instructed to practice at home as well. Traditional yoga poses were modified as needed to accommodate for limitations due to RA. Also included in the sessions were deep breathing, relaxation and meditation techniques. The research team found that those who participated in eight weeks of yoga classes had significantly fewer tender and swollen joints than they did before starting class. Those in the waitlist control group saw no significant changes in their tender and swollen joint counts.

As opposed to most sports, Yoga offers a slow, controlled movement that involves the whole body and can be modified to any limitations and special needs. The trick is to

find the right Yoga class to fit your level of strength and flexibility. Most Yoga studios will offer private one-to-one sessions to design a Yoga routine specifically to your needs. Yoga can be done on the floor or sitting on a chair (Chair-Yoga) Pillows, blocks and straps can be used to support your body the way it should be to find proper alignment and deep stretches (Restorative Yoga).

Yoga includes deep breathing techniques that literally help to bring more oxygen to any body part, promoting healing and regeneration. Reducing stress and calming the mind is as important as body movement.

*KaliYoga Studio in Shawnigan Lake Village [www.kaliyoga.ca](http://www.kaliyoga.ca)*



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## What's new at Shawnigan Lake Museum?

**Lori Treloar**  
*Curator, Shawnigan Lake Museum*

The newest display at the Shawnigan Lake Museum, the General Store, is nearly complete. We could not have made this happen without the generous help of volunteers and in-kind donations. It is amazing, and heart-warming, to see how people step up when asked to help. **Mark Woloszczak**, museum volunteer and member of the board, spearheaded

and managed this project. Mark enlisted the help of friends and co-workers and rounded up the necessary materials. He also donated his own time to be hands-on help in every part of the project.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this project. We especially appreciate the help from the following:

- **Doug Gamble** helped to make our vision a reality by advising that “yes, it could be done”

and then donating his time to help create it. Doug framed in, and sheeted, the new space; installed the new door and helped with the drywall installation.

- **Mark Miller**, from MD Installations, and his crew did an amazing job of installing the beautiful siding and trim to the exterior. To contact Mark: cell: 250-812-4081 office: 250-743-0016
- **Paul Stone** - helped with drywall installation and taping. Contact: Stone and Sons Drywall cell: 250-715-5170
- **Brian Hodgetts** - drywall finishing. Hodgett's Interiors 250-709-5704
- **Mike Kadar** - drywall finishing. 250-208-8720
- **Cory Apps** - drywall finishing. App's Drywall
- **Helmut Teunissen** designed and installed a stunning “store front” for the new display that creates a sense of depth and authenticity. For work at your house, call 250-743-7499
- **Grant Treloar** helped with the installation of the flooring and store shelves.
- **Dodd's Lumber** in Duncan donated 32 pieces of 2x4 and 2x6 lumber for the



*New store at Shawnigan Museum*



*Mark in the new Museum space*

project. 250-748-1032

- **Rona** in Cobble Hill donated 7 sheets of 5/8 inch fir sheathing 250-743-7573 Commercial Construction Supply donated drywall, insulation, poly siding and tar paper. 250-715-3730.
- **Gavin**, from **McArthur's Custom Cuts**, Shawnigan Lake, was incredibly generous and provided us with enough of his beautiful cedar boards to trim the exterior and interior and to build the store shelves 250-701-7113.

One recent visitor, who grew up at Shawnigan, walked into the new space and, without prompting, said that our “store” reminded him of Aitken and Fraser when he was a boy. That review says it all for us. We are thrilled with the result and hope it will inspire nostalgia for you as well.

You can visit the museum Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11:30 – 4:00. **Check it out – it's guaranteed to surprise you.**

[www.shawniganlake-museum.com](http://www.shawniganlake-museum.com)

## 36 years a volunteer

### Never out of work

Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is the future. Today is a gift ... that is why it is called the present. I once heard a wise young man say, “It was never yours if you can not give it away.” And I think that is what our Family Caregivers Support Society is all about - giving, or more appropriately, sharing, our strengths and gifts with others.

Our philosophy speaks of another's rights and, by implication, all creatures' rights, to be treated with respect and to make choices to do things which make each day a gift. To say what we mean, and mean what we say, which engenders trust. To nourish strengths so one can take charge of their

life; to open hearts so one can share their gifts. Why? It is a cold day when there is no trust; when others are in charge of one's life; when neighbours do not know neighbours. It puzzles me that we are brought up to be independent when our whole society runs on interdependence, often commercially, but a real treasure when it is spontaneous. Our philosophy reflects our belief that people form a whole as a community and are nourished by what they share.

Ralph Waldo Emerson has written, “It is one of the beautiful compensations of life, that no man sincerely try to help another without helping himself.” To me this is a

win-win situation.

Our philosophy reflects our belief that people form a whole as a community; are nourished by the interdependence that comes from sharing their gifts and strengths; and by what they can give away.

Marshal McLuhan says, “There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew.” H.E. Luccock says, “No man can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it.” No one can do it alone. We need each other.

Have a gift day.

Garth Harvey  
*Cowichan Family Caregivers Support Society*

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May I have a word...Halloween

Monica Foster  
Shawnigan Focus

There are many myths and theories about the origin of Halloween. Just like the English language, it originated with the ancient Celts and has been influenced and modified by immigration, emigration, religious beliefs and the passage of time.

November 1st was a holy day, a day to honour loved ones who had passed away. The Old English word for holy is hallow, and the day was known as All Hallowed Souls Day, subsequently shortened to All Hallows Day, All Souls Day or All Saints Day (it is still celebrated in Mexico

as the Day of the Dead).

October 31st was considered by some Pagans as New Year's Eve - the end of long sunny days, the growing season and harvest. It was thought to be a magical time when our world and the otherworld were the closest - when it was easiest to communicate with the spirits of your relatives. The evening before All Hallows Day would be All Hallows Even, eventually shortened to Hallowe'en, and now Halloween.

While the door was open for the beloved souls, so it was for the evil ones too. The time was apparently ideal for bad spirits to move into you and your home. To protect themselves as they

went out to celebrate, people would disguise themselves as scary ghouls to blend in with the real ones. To protect their houses, offerings of food were left outside because nothing foils an evil plot like a good meal. Trick or treat, anyone? Another version of this activity comes from the practice of the poor going "a-souling": begging for food and offering prayers for the souls of people's relatives in return.

One poor soul who got a lot of prayers was a tricky lad named Jack. According to Irish folklore, his pranks got him banned from both Heaven and Hell. Candles were lit for his spirit, lost and wandering between the two worlds. Turnips carved out to hold

the candles became known as jack-o-lanterns. Irish immigrants to North America found the pumpkin, readily available at this time, easier to carve than a turnip, and better looking too, I bet.

Some may disparage modern Halloween in how different it looks from the original All Hallows Even. Nowadays, people have fun planning cute costumes with their children and taking them to community parties. Anyone not a child will be planning their own cute, funny, or scary costume and going out with friends to a party. An evening that started out as a community and family celebration, centuries later, is still basically just that. BOO!

A work in progress...

Our aim is to have the Shawnigan Focus delivered to as many residents of Area B as possible. This has been a challenge. Many Area B residents have told us that they do not receive the Focus, or that sometimes they do and sometimes they don't. Last month we asked the community to let us know if they were not receiving it in their mailbox. We have discovered that the Shawnigan Post Office has not been receiving the correct number of newspapers from the printer to supply all of their routes and boxes. Because they were always short, the papers were delivered to the boxes in a different order each time so that the same people weren't affected every time. We hope to have this problem resolved for the October issue.

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Department members attended 17 calls in September

Department Officers attended 6 burning complaints in September

- Saturday, Sept. 1 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd.
- Sunday, Sept. 2 - MVI at Shawnigan Lake & Renfrew Rd.
- Sunday, Sept. 2 - 1st Responder off Silvermine Rd.
- Tuesday, Sept. 4 - 1st Responder off Colman Rd.
- Tuesday, Sept. 4 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd.
- Wednesday, Sept. 5 - MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd.
- Thursday, Sept. 6 - Smoke in the Area off Renfrew Rd.
- Friday, Sept. 7 - MVI on W Shawnigan Lake Rd.
- Friday, Sept. 7 - MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd.
- Friday, Sept. 7 - Alarms Activated off Renfrew Rd.
- Saturday, Sept. 8 - Alarms Activated - Shawnigan Lake Rd.
- Friday, Sept. 14 - 1st Responder off Carlton Rd.
- Saturday, Sept. 15 -1st Responder off S Shawnigan Lake Rd.
- Sunday, Sept. 16 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd.
- Monday, Sept. 17 - Unknown Fire on Wilmot Rd.
- Thursday, Sept. 27 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd.

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Shawnigan Moments



Declan & Taryn enjoying the slide at Shawnigan Lake Community Centre



# Our Voice ~ Our Thoughts ~ Our Community

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



*First correct answer sent to editor@shawniganfocus.ca wins*

## WHAT IS IT? CONTEST WINNER: SEPTEMBER

### We stumped you last month!!

The photo was the center part of the CVRD sign identifying Mason's Beach Park.

*Winners receive two specialty coffees at Moziro's*

## Shawnigan Weather for September 2012

(stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network) ~compiled by Grant Treloar

	September Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Kelsey School	
		2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011
Average High	20.2	23.6	22.9	22.5	21.5	23.8	22.4	22.0	21.2
Average Low	9.2	9.2	10.7	9.0	10.6	9.5	10.7	9.0	10.1
Extreme High	33.5	30.2	31.9	29.2	30.4	30.7	32.6	28.4	29.9
Extreme Low	-3.9	5.2	6.1	4.6	5.9	4.8	5.7	5.0	5.6
Precipitation	37.6	2.3	92.9	1.7	73.0	1.2	59.4	1.2	53.1
Days w precip	9	3	9	3	9	2	9	2	10
Lake Temp: Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup> :21° Sept 9 <sup>th</sup> :19° Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> :19° Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup> :19° Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> :17°									

## Malahat Legion

1625 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road  
For more information: 250-743-4621

### Thursday, Oct 25

- Annual Veterans Dinner. Maximum 80. Signup sheet is at the Legion bar

### Sunday Nov 11

- 10am Non Denominational Church service Cobble Hill Hall.
- 11 am Cenotaph service and tribute Cobble Hill Cenotaph
- 11:15 Malahat Legion is open to the public including children. Singalong with Eric McQuillan all afternoon. Cowichan Valley Pipes and Drums - approx. 3pm

We serve wings, starting at 4 pm on Fridays. Meat Draw on Saturdays with 1st draw at 3 p.m.

We are accepting new members - no Service affiliation required.



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## CLASSIFIEDS

### HEALTH CARE

Do you need something fixed /adjusted /replaced  
doors -windows-stairs-furniture?  
call Helmut 250-743-7499

Caring & Capable, Cat & House-sitter \$50 per day/ \$40  
if away over 7 Days Requirements: Internet, emergency  
contacts, & pet supplies. Shaun 250.885.0206

### WANTED

Cash paid for vintage (1920s -1970s) clothing, footwear,  
jewellery, luggage, purses, etc. Must be in good condition.  
Please email to [spazzycat@shaw.ca](mailto:spazzycat@shaw.ca)

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**Art House**  
a Moondance studio

1756 Wilmot Avenue, Shawnigan Lake Village

Fall Session begins September 10th  
Registration is now open!!!

**Sessional Classes**

- West African Dance
- West African Drumming
- Belly-Fit Fusion
- Yin Yoga
- Modern Dance
- Expanded children's programming

**Monthly Events**

- Chant Circle
- Family Music Night
- Hoopnotica
- Community Events (inquire to rent)

Register online at our website below or call 250-743-5846.

"I want the cultures of all the lands to be blown  
about my house as freely as possible." - Gandhi

[www.MoonDanceArts.ca](http://www.MoonDanceArts.ca)


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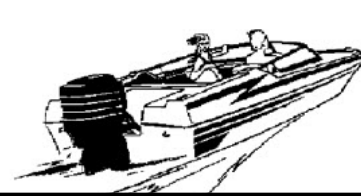
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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **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**  
3rd Thursday of each month 6:30pm at SLCC
- **Shawnigan Improvement District**  
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- **Shawnigan Lake Residents Association**  
The SRA will hold their Annual General Meeting in late November. The South Island Aggregates (SIA) application will be a main item on the agenda. The public is encouraged to attend. Stay tuned for the exact date and location.
- **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**  
October 20th at 2:00 at the Inspire! Gallery (and, as announced). Everyone welcome!
- **Shawnigan Watershed Roundtable**  
Upcoming Dates TBA (see website for details: [www.shawniganwatershedroundtable.ca](http://www.shawniganwatershedroundtable.ca)) -Flight over Shawnigan to document and assess the health of the basin -Core Group Meeting -Volunteer Coordination meeting for the springtime All Basin Symposium -Alternative Land Use Tour
- **Inspire! Arts, Culture and Heritage**  
“Our Water, Our Life” continues in the INSPIRE! Gallery into November. Keep an eye on our website for possible upcoming workshops also being held in the space. - October 27th - Wine, Women and a Paintbrush from 3-6pm - community gatherings and music jams on Monday evenings...open for everyone to connect, discuss, sing, and play music.
- **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/>

## SHAWNIGAN EVENTS

**South Cowichan Toy Drive**

**Dec 1st 2012 ~ Starting location: Country Grocer (Cobble Hill)**  
Time: 12:30 pm to 4 pm  
BBQ burgers, hot dogs, pop, coffee - all proceeds 100% to CMS Food Bank  
Children's Gingerbread cookie decorating, plus other activities  
Vehicle decorating for vehicle parade  
Fire Truck tour (Perhaps RCMP visit - will confirm)  
4:30 pm parade to Shawnigan Village to present prizes for best decorated vehicle  
5 pm celebrate with SLBA Annual Tree Light up with hot cocoa, fires, food, activities, pictures with Santa

**Cobble Hill Badminton Club**

Tuesday nights 8-10 pm.  
All ages and skill levels ~ Must bring your own racquet  
\$5 drop-in or \$80 per season  
Frances Kelsey School  
Information: Diana 250-743-3487

## New Rules for PAN Disposal Correction:

Last month we were trying to help spread the word about the new rules for PAN Disposal but there was an error in what was stated.

We said:

“... alternate weeks are for alternate waste. The schedule started with the first week in September being for garbage, the second week for organics (aka compost), and continues from there.”

What should have been stated is:

“Starting the first week in September they will be switching to compost every week, garbage every second week.”

A schedule is available where tickets are sold, or by calling PAN at 250-743-3053.