

## Executive Committee Report

The summer has been relatively quiet with Executive meetings in June and again in September. The issues of regional composting, FAMA development, restructuring, and community water supply that were being addressed earlier in the year have shown various degrees of progress! The regional composting issue has shown the most progress. Larry Resnick, as chair of the Advisory Committee, is representing Willis Point on a special committee set up by Saanich to review the whole composting issue. Saanich is essentially in the driver's seat because they have the power over the zoning changes that are required for the composting facility to be built. The likelihood of Envirowaste getting the contract to build the in-vessel system now seems remote, given the problems with their plant in Chilliwack. The committee is reviewing in-vessel technologies and will meet with people who have operational experience with systems such as Herhof. Larry will present a more detailed account at the AGM. FAMA is still very much interested in developing their properties surrounding Willis Point. They have offered to pay for the additional consulting studies required to reserve future capacity in the proposed Unified Sewage Treatment Plant for the Saanich Peninsula as they have concluded that any development in the Partridge Hills will require both water supply and proper sewage



Photo: Bernadette Boydell

*Autumn Mood*

treatment. They will be looking for support from Willis Point with the offered benefit of providing both community water supply and sewage treatment to Willis Point as well as their own development. In return, they would expect support from Willis Point for a higher density of development in order to pay for the water and sewage treatment. We will continue to monitor the situation.

The restructuring study that was talked about in December of last year has still not materialized. It has been delayed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs as well as by the provincial election. Our Director, Larry West, has recently advised that we should renew our attempts to get this under way and this will be done through a letter to Municipal Affairs, notwithstanding a second attempt by the Ministry this summer to have us included with Sooke as one electoral area!

The community water supply issue is still in the process of gathering more information. The CRD would like to drill a well in the vicinity of the firehall to see if they can find any significant amounts of water. At the last meeting, the Executive Committee decided to request that a portion of the funds be allocated to some preliminary geophysical anomaly work to see whether or not the potential exists for significant quantities of water before we go to the expense of drilling a well. Please note that this is not being paid for by the community but is money that Larry West has made available to continue the investigative work. As I said, the summer has been relatively quiet with about the only excitement being the visits of a black bear and a cougar, and several fires which fortunately were extinguished by your fire department before they

*continued on page 2.....*

## to the Point

Welcome to all of you who have moved to Willis Point in recent months. I know you hail from as far away as Ontario and Saskatchewan. I am sure, however, that you too will come to love Willis Point and the closeknit community that has evolved here over the last 20 years. I would like to invite you to join in by volunteering for the various positions that are available this year. Volunteering at Willis Point is an excellent way to know your neighbours and have a great deal of fun at the same time. It also ensures that the Point retains the beauty and spirit that you fell in love with in the first place. To find out more please come to the Annual General Meeting. (See notice below). This will be my last issue of editing the Pointer. It is with a certain tinge of sadness that I give up the gathering of information and the last minute rush and flurry of activity. Over the last four and one half years many people have helped me bring these issues to press and ultimately to your home. My thanks to you all. Some of you may want to consider the challenge of putting out the Pointer, as a unique way to contribute to the Willis Point community. There is really nothing to be afraid of, as Jason does all of the layout for you and is very charitable with his help. I too will be able to assist you with the first issue, until you can be sure how to proceed. Please consider volunteering for this position so that the Pointer may continue to be published. It has been a wonderful experience for me and I am sure it could enrich your life also.

*Bernadette Boydell*  
Editor

...Continued from page 1

could spread into the community. Illegal dumping of garbage continues to be a problem but we have had some successes in helping the CRD track down offenders. The CRD Bylaw Enforcement Office has asked that you phone 474-3351 between 8.30am and 4.30pm if you come across a garbage problem. The information they need is your name and phone number, the location and description of the garbage, description of vehicle, license plate and person(s) if you see them. If not, check out the garbage to see if you can find any means of identification. The fine, by the way, is \$100.00. The Enforcement officer has been very supportive in tackling this problem. Thank you CRD! Although many of the community activities carry on without much fanfare, they do demand a considerable amount of time and energy from all the volunteers involved. The year has been quite busy and I would like to thank all those who have contributed their time to these various causes. Having completed this "stand-in" year as Chair, I have decided not to run for re-election because of other commitments and I would like to take this opportunity to wish the incoming Executive Committee every success in the coming year.

*Tony Boydell. Chair, WPCA*

**Please note that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS for the Willis Point Community Association and for the Fire and Recreation Commission will be held on October 7, 1996. Please make a note of the date and plan to attend.**

## WILLIS POINT POINTER STAFF VOLUNTEERS

### POINTER PUBLISHER

Jason Funnell

### POINTER EDITOR

Bernadette Boydell

### POINTER COMMITTEE

Denise Tregear

Pat Williams

Connie Melnis

Jason Funnell

## CONTRIBUTORS

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Bill Wright

### WILLIS POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Tony Boydell

### BEST OF STITCH

Pat Cradnell

### HILLTOPPER

Gaybrielle Halasz

### WILLIS POINT HISTORY

Karl Loughran

### SAATCHIHEET

Jason Funnell

### Letters to the Editor

Comments, letters and articles should be submitted to the editor at 6877 Markel Ave, Victoria, V9E 2A1. Minor editorial changes may be made. Visual art has to be original by the person credited and be suitable for photocopy. Please call if you have any questions.

## SUBMISSION DEADLINES

October 1, 1996

November 1, 1996

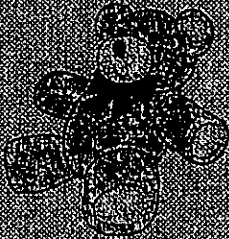
## BABY-SITTING REGISTRY

Brittany Tregear is 14 years old and has successfully completed two baby-sitting courses. She has lots of experience with one to six year old children. Brittany prefers not to sit outside of the home or late on school nights. For more information please call Brittany Tregear at 652-6893.

### Call Karissa Crawley

She is 14 years old and has successfully completed her Red Cross baby sitting course and Standard First Aid. She is experienced with young and older kids. Her phone no. is 652-0360.

Call Lacey for all  
your  
Baby-  
sitting  
needs!

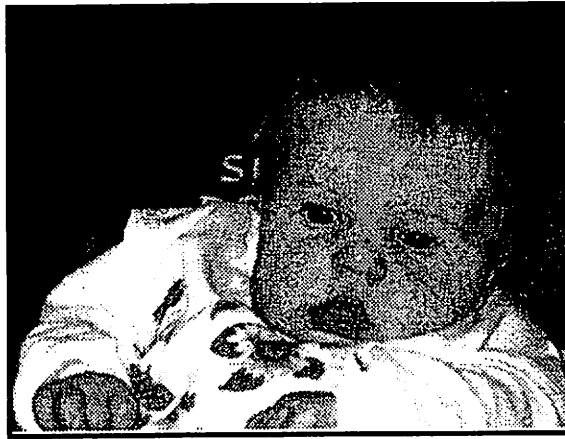


Lacey is 12 years old successfully completed the Red Cross baby sitting course. She is experienced with young kids and loves children. Her number is 652-0360.

Tanis Herriot will  
baby-sit for you!

Call her at 652-5478. Tanis is 14 years old and has her St. John's Baby-sitting, CPR, and Red Cross Lifesaving II certificates. She has experience nanning children from babies to 11 year olds.

## Congratulations!



*"Summer"*

daughter of Iiro and Jennifer  
was born July 29th 1996

Proud Grandparents are:  
Maisa and Ron Korhonen and  
Marlene and Lenny Hughes.

### WANTED COORDINATOR BLOCK PARENT PROGRAM

THE W.P.C.A. EXECUTIVE IS LOOKING FOR  
SOMEONE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER IN  
THE ABOVE POSITION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE  
CONTACT DENISE TREGEAR 652-6893

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# WILLIS POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## TREASURER'S REPORT AUGUST 31, 1996

### Balance Report, August 31, 1995

Account #944017 general revenue	\$ 7,529.05		
Account #168633 gaming	\$ 1,104.74		
Pacific Coast Savings Shares	\$ 10.00		
Term deposit	\$18,099.32		
Bar stock	\$ 259.00		
Petty cash	\$ 2.29		\$26,998.40

### Revenue:

Bank interest	\$ 204.09		
Term deposit interest	\$ 943.80		
Pointer grant CRD	\$ 675.00		
Happy Hour	\$ 408.50		
Hilltopper	\$ 4 074.91		
Sale of bar stock	\$ 40.00		
Term deposit redemption	\$18,093.32	\$24,439.62	

### Expenses:

Operating supplies	\$ 65.17		
Pointer expenses	\$ 429.78		
Registrar of companies	\$ 15.00		
Halloween Fireworks	\$ 250.00		
Children's Christmas party	\$ 225.00		
Copying	\$ 14.98		
Shop expenses for new bar	\$ 330.00		
Bar-B-Q purchase	\$ 385.21		
Flowers for Larry West	\$ 39.96		
Term Deposit	\$ 18,000.00		
Hall maintenance assessment to CRD	\$ 3,410.00	\$23,165.10	\$ 1274.52
			<u>\$28,272.92</u>

### Balance, August 31, 1996:

Account #944617 general revenue	\$ 8,895.93		
Account #168633 gaming	\$ 1,107.50		
Pacific Coast Savings Shares	\$ 10.00		
Term deposit	\$ 18,000.00		
Bar stock	\$ 5.79		\$28272.92

Respectfully submitted,  
by David H. Carley, Acting Treasurer.

## *the Waters of Saanich Inlet*

I promised **SHARKS** so here's the low down. Just when you thought it was safe to swim in the inlet, you hear that sharks inhabit the waters. Well it's true, except that the sharks are docile and generally live in waters below 100 feet.

Apart from your basic dogfish there are two types of sharks that have been spotted in Saanich Inlet. The first is the Sixgill Shark and the other is the Blue Shark.

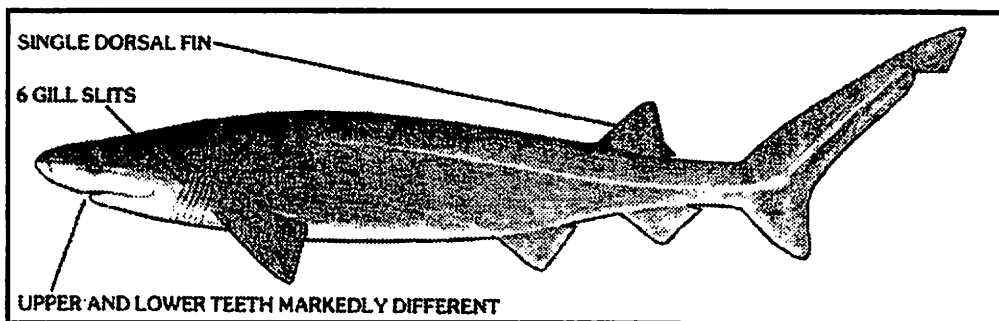
The Sixgill Shark (also known as sixgill cowshark, shovelnose shark, and mud shark) has been around for 150 million years and has not changed very much throughout its existence. They are considered to be the most primitive of their species because of their six gills (generally, the majority of sharks have only five gill pairs).

Sixgill Sharks live primarily in deep water (below 300 feet); however, in the summer time they frequent shallower waters (below 70 feet) and

usually frequent the same spots year after year. On Vancouver Island, the Sixgill Shark can be spotted by scuba divers at Flora Point off Hornby Island, Tyler Rock in Barkley Sound, and occasionally at McKenzie Bight (end of road area). I was fortunate enough to swim with a 12 foot Sixgill Shark (they can reach up to 18 feet in length) this summer at Flora Point off Hornby Island at a depth of 110 feet. The sharks are very docile and do not attack people unless aggressively provoked. I swam within 5 feet of the shark for 7 minutes. The Sixgill Shark is of no commercial value to fisherman.

The second type of shark is a Blue Shark which is more slender in shape than the Sixgill and can reach lengths of 13 feet. They range from Alaska to Chile and generally feed on schooling fishes. One was spotted this summer by a scuba diver at the dive site by the fire lane in Brentwood Bay and appeared to be injured as it was swimming somewhat sideways - this shark is not generally considered common in Saanich Inlet and I think it was just by luck that it was spotted.

*Jason D. Funnell*  
*Divemaster*  
*Frank White's Scuba Shop*



**Sixgill Shark**

## *the best of STITCH*

With the heat of summer finally upon us - at least temporarily - and everyone in holiday mode, this will be a short summary of Stitch activities. In April, we were able to share a Stitch night with Georgina Farmer in Sidney. Arrangements for drivers and passengers went smoothly for the drive to Sidney, with one exception. On arrival at Georgina's we were given the grand tour and eventually returned to the lounge for our first libation of the evening. As we all sat down and looked around, a cry went up "Where is Beth?" For a few moments, there was a stunned silence until we realized to our dismay that

Beth had been left stranded at the foot of her driveway. A couple of quick phone calls and "Operation Speedy Pickup" was put into action and Beth was restored to our midst, ushered to the best seat in the house and revived with a large glass of wine. With Beth's late arrival, 11PM came round quickly but Beth did not rise and gather up her knitting, her signal that it is time we were on our way! As a result, we were considerably later getting home than usual. Despite our somewhat traumatic start to the evening, we all enjoyed ourselves immensely and delighted that Georgina, Clive and Bandit are very

happy in their new home. Many thanks to those who donated baked goods, preserves, etc. for the Hilltopper Bake Sale and to Andrea Martin for once again bringing her beautiful doll cake for us to raffle. Stitch wind-up in June was held at Four Mile House and this year we welcomed Kay's grand-daughter who was visiting from Australia. And so ended another year of productivity! We look forward to September when we will catch up on all the summer activities.

*Pat Cracknell*

## **Willis Point History #11**

### **The Pears (George and Lillian)**

This is based on an interview with Lillian Pears, comments from others and my own involvement with George at Willis Point. George was the original Mister Willis Point, he was the spark plug to the modern progress of Willis Point.

George was born in Victoria in 1910. He attended the old Boys Central and Victoria High School. He left School to work at Vaughan's Grocery store, and from there moved to A.P. Slade Wholesale Foods where he worked himself up to office manager by age twenty-nine. Much later when son Ron needed a summer job George helped him set up a roadside fruit and vegetable stand on West Saanich road. This gradually evolved into the present Red Barn Market. George and Lillian had moved to Atkins Road near Thetis Lake in 1958. They frequently visited Lillian's sister Ivy Blunt at Willis Point. George was at first hesitant to buy property at Willis Point as there were only six couples living permanently there in the mid sixties. Finally, however, they bought a lot in 1967, built a house, and moved to Willis Point in 1968. The other residents at that time were Mrs. Rickinson, Ralph and Bobbie Anderson, Ed and Ivy Blunt, Malcolm and Margie Dighton, Bill and Doris Moore and Joe and Mame Pye. These few isolated neighbours used to hold work bees to help each other out. Their isolation joined them together for social gatherings as well.

George was one of the main organisers in starting a Willis Point Ratepayer's Association. His main reasons for becoming organized were twofold. Firstly that the road to Willis Point was not a public road.

The owners of the property above Willis Point Road could have blocked it off at any time, resulting in very cheap property values on one hand but on the other hand also made year round living at Willis Point insecure. Secondly there was no fire protection for Willis Point so insurance companies charged their highest rates. It was determined that Pointers needed a gazetted road, and a volunteer fire department for fire protection as well as reasonable insurance rates.

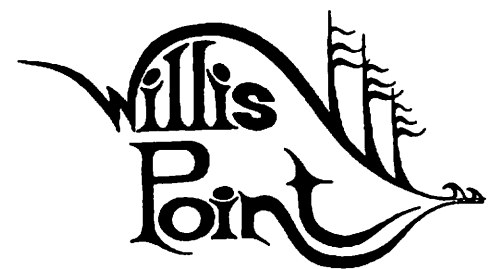
It was George Pears, Tom Mawson, Jack Armstrong and John Pennington who discussed forming a Ratepayers Association at the first formal meeting held at Jack and Muriel Armstrong's place in August 1972. It was decided to proceed with the forming of an association. Money to cover expenses was raised by having Whist Parties, Flea Markets and Strawberry Teas. The first Strawberry Tea was held in Mrs. Johnson's (Lillian Pears' Mother) yard. It was later to become a yearly event at the Willis Point Community Hall.

After the Ratepayers Association was formed, George arranged for a delegation to meet with Highways Minister Wesley Black. They were well received when they requested an officially gazetted road to Willis Point. Mr. Black agreed to set the process in motion, however, he warned the delegation not to expect a new road in the near future. He was right! The Association directed it's attention to building a firehall. George found that there were government grants available for community halls, but not for fire halls, so they decided on a combined building to be used for both purposes. Much money was saved by the thousands of hours of volunteer labour and the use of the Opportuni-

ties for Youth Program supervised by Cameron (Sam) Young. George negotiated the use of two acres of land with Genstar, owners of the land. George was the first chair of the Fire Commission and Dave Carley the first Fire Chief. Meetings and dances were held at the Prospect Lake Hall until our own Hall was completed. Fund raisers to support the operation of the Hall were initiated even before the Hall was built. These included the picnic with races at Ricky's Roost, an annual Fishing Derby, the aforementioned Strawberry Tea with Bake Sale, Flea Market and Raffle. This later became the Hilltopper.

George was an excellent Chair, he ran brisk, focussed and decisive meetings. He resigned from the Willis Point Ratepayers Association due to poor health. He died of cancer on December 7, 1980 at 61. His many contributions to Willis Point are commemorated by his picture in the Hall and a log sign, crafted by Joel Cotter, and located by the Tennis Court.

*Ken Leighton*





Ken Ilott

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