



The Pointer

Winter 2009

To The Point:

I am wrapping up my second Pointer issue. There are a few people who were happy that this time my deadline was not written in stone. It has been a challenge between visits with out of town guests and all the other things that we do this season. I want to thank all of you well wishers who congratulated me on my first Pointer. I hope that this one lives up to your expectations and that you enjoy it. I couldn't do it without all of your articles, pictures and support. If I don't use an article or picture right away, I hope that you don't mind if I save it for another issue. Just keep them coming please.

As many of you know, Bill Douglas is working hard to get his health back. I would like to extend my good wishes and those from all of us to you, Bill. I missed checking in about things and your advice. Look forward to the next issue for that.

We have two positions available. One is the Parks Commission Rep. and the other one is on the Board of Variance. (More information in this issue).

Community events to watch out for are a Telus Tower –APC meeting in January and a Dart Night in March. If you have any other ideas for a social event or fundraiser please contact the WPCA executive.

To my delivery team: I want to thank you for great effort with the last issue and in advance for this one. Thanks again: Ken Leighton, Trevor and Ian Espin, Pat Orr and Family, Ian and Trevor Espin, Joyce Menzies, Dawn Campbell, Helen Resnick , and Tessa Clayton.

I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2010.

Best wishes

--Ida

Ida von Schuckmann

Phone: 652-0050

Email: idavs4@yahoo.ca

Photo credits this issue: Debbie Branson, Sheryl Campbell, , Judy Estrin,Tina Henderson, Ken Ilott, Ken Leighton, Bonnie Manning, Uwe Pawse, Alica Pine, Brittany Tregear, Pat Williams, myself, & anyone I've missed (sorry)

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Who's Who

WPC Chair	Bill Douglas	544-1042
Pointer Editor	Ida von Schuckmann	652-0050
Fire Chief	Greg Elvedahl	886-6635
Hall Custodian	Mariann Malvet	544-1681
Hall Sign	Don Gorling	652-6149
Saanich Inlet Protection	Patricia Sloan	652-0226
Fire & Recreation Chair	Vern McConnell	652-2996
Rural Observer Newspaper	Patricia Sloan	652-0226
Aerobics Instructor	Deanna Roozendaal	744-4891
Land Use Committee	Patricia Sloan	652-0226
Advisory Planning Comm.	Larry Resnick	652-8278
Fire Fighters Assn. Chair	Jim Potvin	544-6757
Parks Commission Rep.	Vacant at this time.	See notice
CRD Advisory Committees: Environment & Solid Waste	Larry Resnick	652-8278

We would normally have a note from Bill Douglas, the Chair of the Executive here. Many of us have sending positive thoughts in Bill's direction. The following is a note from Melanie:

Hi Pointers – as many of you know Bill had open heart surgery on November 18. Unfortunately there were a number of complications during surgery and Bill remains in hospital at this time. It is unlikely he will be home before the New Year. He is doing fairly well now, considering the extent of the complications. We have faced many challenging moments over the past month but we are hopeful the worst is behind us. It is expected to take many months before Bill is fully recovered.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes as well as offers of food, a warm bed and assistance with shopping and chores. It has been lovely to feel so supported and cared for by our friends and our community during such a difficult time. Once again thank you so much for everything!

Our sincere wishes for a very happy holiday season and hoping that 2010 will be a banner year for all of us.

All the best,
Melanie Douglas

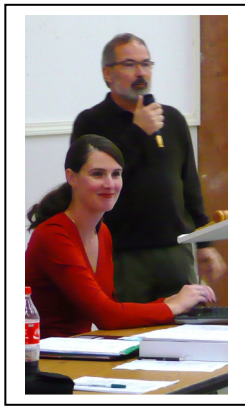
Willis Point Community Association WPCA Executive

Chair	Bill Douglas	544-1042
Vice-Chair	Art Wynans	652-5898
Corresponding Secretary	J.C. Patchell	483-7056
Recording Secretary	Elizabeth Wynans	652-5898
Treasurer	Bob Scott	652-8522
Member-at-Large	David Lawrie	652-1286
Membership Secretary	Ken Leighton	652-2686
Member-at-Large	Laurel Nash	544-0907
Fire & Recreation Rep.	Jeff Irwin	652-6869

Full minutes of the WPCA meetings are posted on the notice boards or can be obtained by contacting the Recording Secretary.

WPCA meetings are held in the annex at the Hall on the second Monday of each month. To confirm when the next meeting is scheduled call any Executive member.

For information, or to have an item placed on the agenda, please call the Vice-Chair Art Wynans 652-5898



Annual General Meeting Willis Point Community Association October 18, 2009

Executive Present: Bill Douglas (chair), Arthur Wynans, Elizabeth E-Wynans, Ken Leighton, Bob Scott, Dave Lawrie, JC Patchell

Guests: Mike Hicks (JDF Regional Director), Ron Hamilton and June Classen from CRD

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair introduced the WPCA Executive, welcomed guests

1 Adoption of the Agenda

Additions to the Agenda? New person to take over maintaining the community sign from Bill Wright
Motion to adopt: Vernon McConnell/ Bill Wright
Carried

2 Adoption of minutes of the 2008 AGM

There were no amendments required
Motion to adopt: B. Wright/Jeff Irwin
Carried

3 Reports

3.1 Chair – Bill Douglas

The Chair reported on a year of extremes with our weather, the dominant community issue of the failure of the chip seal road, and noted the increase in crime in the community. The Chair thanked Waste Management for their donation towards community road-side clean up and also thanked all who contributed personal resources to the community. The Chair has been working on trying to mitigate noise and admissions from seaplanes and derelict vessels.

3.2 Treasurer – Chair on behalf

The Association is solvent (copies of the treasury report were available). The Association is paying banking fees on a dormant account that has no record of who opened it. The Chair will continue to investigate in order to get this account closed.

3.3 Membership – Ken Leighton

Ken reported that 4 new families have recently moved to Willis Point.



3.4 WP Volunteer Fire Department

Greg Elvedahl, Chief

The Chief reported that the crew of 25 volunteers have responded to calls such as drug overdoses, brush/grass fires, unconscious patients, vehicle incidents, and requests for assistance from the paramedics. The Chief recognized 4 members for their long service to the community: Uwe Pause, Cathy Crawley, Darren Pine, and Gord Hocks.

3.5 **Advisory Planning Commission (APC)** – Larry Resnick

The APC is made up of members of the community that took part in advising when property becomes “private” from Forestry lands. Solid wastes: there is a movement by the CRD to sell surplus aggregate; question of whether fracturing more rocks than necessary will result in a leaching effect. Larry also has taken an interest in the prospect of liquid waste (biosolids) being spread on agricultural land, he is against it as is Director Mike Hicks.

3.6 **Land Use Committee (LUC)** – Patricia Sloan

Nothing to report as the committee has not had a meeting since July and the next meeting is scheduled for November.

3.7 **Parks Commission** – Pat Sloan

There are no Juan de Fuca (JDF) parks at Willis Point. Pat would like to have the entrances to the parks at each end of Mark Lane protected.

3.8 **Status of actions on motions from the 2008 AGM:**

Nothing to report.

3.9 **WP Fire and Recreation Commission** – Vernon McConnell

The Commission administers to the needs of the building and the fire department, appoints the Fire Chief, maintains the fire department budget, monitors operations of the hall, and receives reports from the Fire Chief. The hall was upgraded this year with energy efficient lighting (a grant was obtained for this). The Commission has not spent much of their budget to date. There are 8 directors and 3 were up for election this year.

The Chair suspended the AGM so WPFRC could hold its election

Motion passed by B. Wright/Bob Halsey

Carried

Election of WPFRC Commissioners – Vernon McConnell

Nominees (must be residents of Willis Point) were garnered to forward to the CRD board for the 3 positions that were open. Joel Cotter, Jeff Irwin, and Ken Illot were all re-elected for another term each.

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

4.1 **Report from Regional Director-** Mike Hicks

Director Hicks described Willis Point as being part of the bigger picture of the JDF electoral district. The East Sooke region may join Metchosin and this merge could effect WP taxes. Director Hicks encouraged WP to seek out and apply for grants to use within the community. Questions arose from the floor:

- Director Hicks will send the Chair a document listing fuel surcharges info
- June Classen advised any grant requests be sent to her via email so she can forward them to the appropriate person in charge of reviewing these
- Director Hicks will speak with Chris Gordon from MOT(?) to look at the ends of Mark Lane to see if “turn-arounds” could be made for the fire trucks

4.2 **Report on Parks Commission initiatives** – Ron Hamilton

Ron identified that there were 22 community parks/trails systems that are being investigated. He has been working on a draft for the plan for these community parks, including MOT foreshore accesses (~57). Ron notes there is a need between MOT and the CRD for clarity regarding the issue of liability within these community parks and foreshore accesses. If there is signage displayed for a community park then the Parks/Recreation have to assume liability. The Commission feels the public should know about these parks/trails/foreshore accesses and is working on maps/pamphlets showing public access routes. Concern arose from the Willis Point community in attendance; don't want to publicize these accesses. Ron noted that the community doesn't want to advertise this fact and said he does have discretion on what gets printed. Ron will be meeting with the Parks/Rec Commission at the end of October and will discuss further with them regarding the community not wanting public accesses published. Ron stated that the Commission mandate is to focus on parks/trails as they don't have the funding/energy to look at all foreshore accesses.

4.3 Thank you to the community from Saskia Ages, Executive Director of the Victoria Hospice Society. Willis Point recognized with a plaque for its fund-raising efforts.



4.4 Willis Point security issues – Chair

The Chair posed to the community members present whether there was a desire or interest in taking a proactive approach to investigate a neighbourhood watch program due to the rising instances of vandalism, b&e, and dumping. Interest was apparent.

Motion for WPCA to investigate: Ken Blunt/Gabrielle Halsey
Carried

4.5 Sponsor for the Children’s Christmas Party – Chair

Sheryl Campbell will sponsor and organize the party again this year and requested an additional \$100 in funding to buy a new faux tree for next year.

Motion: Larry Resnick/Bob Scott Up to \$600 available for the party and a further consideration of \$100 to be made available for acquisition of a tree.

Carried

4.6 Earmarking funds for playground improvements. – JC Patchell

Explorations and research have been made in regards to upgrading/replacing the playground equipment. Some prices were presented for the installation of equipment. Eg. “Swingtime” could supervise the installation of equipment for ~\$11,131 or could install it themselves for an additional \$2000. The community has a grant of \$2000 to go towards this project with a further \$1000 pledged by Director Hicks. There was an unanimous show of hands to continue this investigation.

Motion: B. Scott/S. Campbell for \$5000 to be allocated from the WPCA to go towards this project (with \$3000 from the CRD), and further fundraising initiatives to be explored

Carried

4.7 Fireworks Funding – Jeff Irwin

There is \$525 from last year to go towards the Halloween party this year with a total of \$800 needed to cover all costs.

Motion: That the Community Association match the amount collected through public donations up to \$300. V. McConnell/ Al Campbell

Carried

4.7 Membership Fees – Ken Leighton

Motion to waive annual membership fees.

K. Leighton /Bob Halsey

Carried

5. Elections:

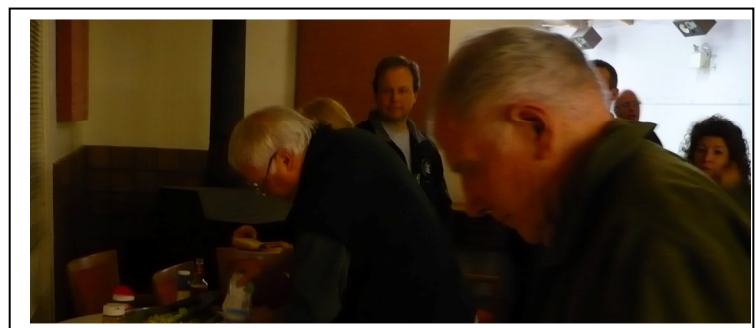
Slate of Nominees for Vacant Positions:

Vice Chair: Art Wynans

Treasurer: Bob Scott

Member-at-Large: Laurel Nash

Membership: Ken Leighton



There were no further nominations from the floor. The Slate was elected by acclamation.

6.Hall Signage – Bill Wright retired, Don Gorling nominated/accepted the duty.

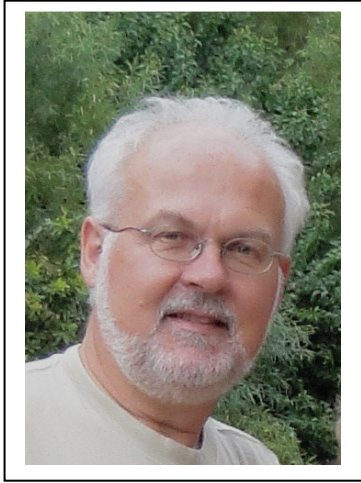
Motion to adjourn: BD

Passed

Meeting Adjourned: 6:15 P.M.

Recently we lost a good friend and former neighbour. Art Jackson wrote this in Memory of:

Wim Leeuw 1951 - 2009



In early December we suddenly and unexpectedly lost a very dear friend, former Willis Pointer Wim Leeuw. Wim (pronounced “Vim) was recognised by many as the quiet half of Wim and Jan, better known to Pointers as “Vim and Vigour”. Others knew better.

Wim moved to the point January 31, 1987 and on Valentine's Day was married to Janis Chapman at their home. They lived in the house at the end of Willis Point Road where Uve Pause now lives.

Wim was a member of the Willis Point Volunteer Fire Department for about five years, and he and Jan were always fully involved with Pointer life.

We remember one snowy winter's day Wim burning scraps of wood in a old 45 gallon drum in the middle of his driveway, passers by making comments that he looked like a hobo trying to keep warm. Before you knew it Wim had the hot dogs and marshmallows out, home made beer, more food soon appeared and before you knew it there was a full blown Hobo Cookout going on. This was Wim – and Jan as well -- spontaneous and full of fun.

Wim will be remembered first for his huge infectious smile—it seemed to spring from his toes and fully involved his entire body; his grin and laugh were never far away.

Wim was the epitome of kindness, never a mean word or deed no matter how much deserved. Always there with a helping hand and kind word.

Wim and Jan later moved to John Dean park in 1992; they needed a bigger house as they were in the process of adopting a daughter. Sonja is now 17 and a credit to Wim and Jan's parenting skills. Wim and Sonja were extremely close as father and daughter often are. She accompanied him several times to his native Holland where Wim's mother still lives.

Wim, Jan and Sonja later moved to Brentwood Bay then on to Saanichton.

Wim, your legacy is twofold; first your love for Janis and Sonja will always be with them and second, the wonderful example to all of us of how to live the one life we have on this earth.

We miss you terribly and are thankful for having had the opportunity to know you and be your friend.

Wim Leeuw, 1951 – 2009. It's what he did in between that matters.



Fire Department Report

Call summary

Oct 15- car over embankment (near the red gates) no injuries



Oct 21- called out for a shed fire on Durrance rd, (quickly reminded dispatch that this call was out of our response area) Saanich fire was dispatched.

Oct 31 – Duty call to investigate a fallen tree across the South end of Mark lane that may have taken down power lines. We removed the tree off to the side of the road, no power lines involved.

Nov 1st- duty call to investigate a large amount of smoke coming from a neighbours yard.

Nov 11 – RCMP requested our assistance in a night time search for a lost hiker in the Mackenzie Bight area. Multiple agencies were involved such as Highlands Fire, Metchosin Search and Rescue and Coast Guard. Members back at the hall in the “radio room” were able to retrieve the GPS coordinates from the hikers’ cell phone, which pinpointed her location well beyond Mackenzie Bight and closer to the water. This info was relayed to the Coast Guard who ended up transporting her back to safety.

Nov 14 – medical call on Willis Point rd

MEMBERSHIP

Several members have recently trained or refreshed their skills at the Nanaimo fire school. Each member works through a day long course covering multiple fire scenarios. Thanks guys for taking the time to be the best firefighters that you can be!

Our annual Christmas party was an absolute blast with much to celebrate. We congratulated Harrison Parker, Al Campbell and Jim Potvin for 5 years of service. A big thank you went to Marie Pearson who retired after 13 years of service.

Kathy Crawley was awarded with the Fire Commissioners Provincial long term service medal after completing 25 years of service. Kathy you are an inspiration to us all !!

I would also like to recognize Sharon Montgomery who was the recipient of our Citizenship award and Al Campbell who received our Special service award.

Thanks everyone for your continuing commitment in keeping our community safe.

The grand finale to the evening was Aran Puritch’s power point presentation of the Willis Point fire department. Thanks again Aran for putting on this amazing show. (how about next year Aran ??) Everyone did well at the end of our gift game as some very unique and interesting gifts were taken home that night.

Just a few safety reminders..... Willis Point is surely home to some of the most elaborate staircases in the region, please take the time during freezing periods to throw down some salt to keep them clear of ice. For those of us with real Christmas trees, be sure to keep up with watering and have a close eye on any heat sources that may cause a risk of fire.

In regards to winter road conditions, I think “black ice” in combination with speed is a sure recipe for disaster. Ensure that your car tires are adequate for winter driving and please give yourself some extra time to avoid being in a rush.

On behalf of the Willis Point fire department I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Greg
Elvedahl
Fire Chief



Fire
Department
Christmas
Party



Congratulations:
Nolan William Ilott Burkhart
Proud Parents: Megan (nee Ilott) & Sean Burkhart
Born: October 22, 2009
Time: 1:23am
Weight: 9lbs



Points of Interest

This is a follow-up to Larry Resnick's article from the Autumn 2009 Pointer about the potential use of Bio-Solids on land. The outcome is described in the first paragraph from and article in the Times-Colonist , November 29, 2009, p.A3.

Headline: "LAND-BASED USE OF SEWAGE SLUDGE RULED OUT FOR REGION"

First paragraph: " The capital region won't use sewage sludge - the product left after secondary sewage treatment - for any land-based application because of the potentially high concentration of contaminants in the material."

Larry

WILLIS POINT ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, January 11, 2010

7:00 P.M. [Yes, 7:00 P.M.]

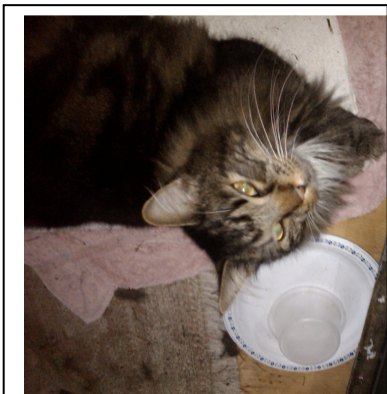
WILLIS POINT COMMUNITY HALL

Telus may seek permission from the CRD to erect a telecommunication tower on CRD land behind the Community Hall where there already is a tower belonging to Rogers Wireless. As a preliminary step Telus is seeking community input. Basically, that is the only item on the agenda.

There are two main issues: first, are there any long range health risks connected with sitting telecommunication towers very near a firehall, a community center and a playground, and if there are such risks, why should we agree to put up with them? Second, even if there are no risks at all, there is still the question of what positive incentives there are for agreeing to a Telus installation at Willis Point.

Two Telus representatives will attend the meeting. This will be a not-to-be-missed opportunity to take advantage of the practice of soliciting community input at the beginning of a problem-solving process instead of at the end.

Larry Resnick, Chair
Willis Point APC



Found Cat: This cat has adopted the Tregear Family but they have enough animals already. They hope that someone will recognize it as their lost cat and take it back to its real home. They can't keep it. Please call: Tregears at 250-652-6893.

WPCA Executive Meeting Points of Interest:

(As mentioned before Minutes are posted on the notice boards at the mailboxes after meetings or available from the Recording Secretary at request).

November 9:

Guest Tom Watkins from CRD (Hartland) was meeting to consult with us was regarding a proposal to sell surplus aggregate from quarrying at Hartland.

December 14:

CRD is looking for candidates to fill the following vacant positions:

- Parks Commission: CRD Posting in this Pointer (No Candidates have put their name forward yet).
- Board of Variance: For information contact Mike Hicks, Director (Two capable members of our community have already put their names forward for this one).

Discussion around possible cell tower for Telus. This has been referred to the APC for a meeting in January.

Watch for a Dart Night in March.

Willis Point Fire & Recreation Facilities Commission Report December 2009

The close of 2009 has seen some important developments in the business of the administration of your Fire Department and Community Hall. As always the development and of a budget and monitoring its expenditure is our prime priority. This year pressures from the C.R.D. have made it a challenge to maintain fiscal responsibility and provide that which is required to get the job done.

We have provided funds to assist the community in upgrading the playground.

We have increased funding to compensate firefighters during the daytime to allow them to respond to calls, without as much financial hardship.

Anticipated costs due to CRD requirements for more accountability in training record keeping mean budgeting for unspecified costs.

Willis Pont is a small community. We enjoy the benefits of fire and rescue protection to the same standards as do larger communities. The minimum costs of this protection are continually increasing. To a large extent the burden of the manpower commitment is born by the volunteers, but the technology required must be covered by taxation. As our community is not growing its tax base, it is incumbent that the existing taxpayers bear this cost. We anticipate that the increase in cost of fire protection will be between 10 and 15 percent. I would like to point out that this is not on your total tax bill but only on the portion for fire and recreation facilities.

Should you wish to discuss any of these issues please contact me or any of the other members of the commission.

Vernon McConnell, Chair

Vernon R. McConnell Chair

Robert Halsey

Ken Ilott Vice Chair

Joel Cotter Secretary

Jeff Irwin

Bill Wright

Patrick O'Rourke

Neighbourhood Notices:

Experienced Tutor available

- trained in primary and middle school
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Brad Taylor-Gorling Cell 250-217-8785
Decks – Painting – Yardwork – Hauling

Discreet, Reliable Pointer available for security of Vacation Houses,

watering plants, feeding fish, cats, etc. On-site supervision of tradespeople while you are at work or on vacation, emergency rides or pick-up for kids to sports, appointments or school, and vet appointments. If you can't do it, maybe I can!

Pat Sloan 652-0226

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Ph. 250-516-5980 k7harwood@gmail.com

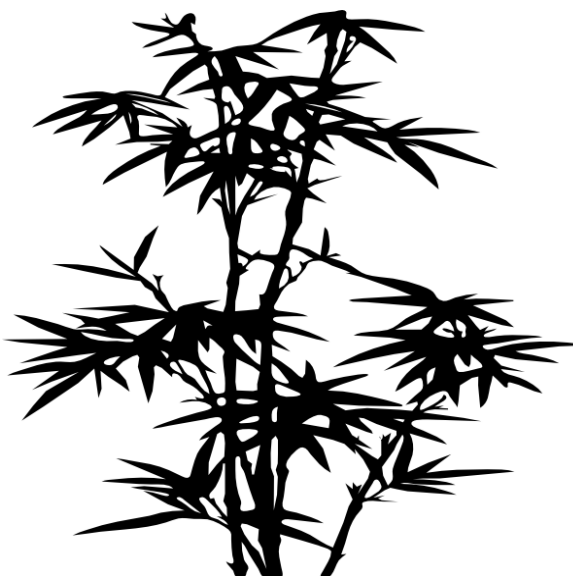
WISHING YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**DEBBY BRANSON R.TCMP.,
B.A.**

Registered Acupuncturist and Herbalist

To book a consultation or for any inquiries
about
Traditional Chinese Medicine
please contact me at:

Royal Oak Chiropractic Natural Health
Royal Oak Shopping Centre
207-4480 West Saanich Rd.
250-704-1178



Willis Point Welcomes New Neighbours By Ken Leighton

Kathryn Harwood
7166 Mark Lane (tenant at Gay Stone's)

Kathryn moved to BC from Ontario 18 years ago and has been fortunate to have lived in three beautiful places, Whistler, Nelson and Victoria (especially Willis Point). She has 3 adult children in Vancouver, Kelowna, and Uxbridge, Ontario and one 3-year-old granddaughter who Skypes with her.

She recently held a position as the Professional Advisor at the College of Dental Hygienists of BC and before that practiced for many years in dental offices. She now has her own business, writing for professional websites and helping seniors with their computers.

Kathryn belongs to the women's fitness club at Willis Point and to the Unitarian Church. She reads a lot (mainly non-fiction), walks the trails, ties flies, surfs the net, tweets, likes photography and classical music, writes haiku and considers family and friends most important. k7harwood@gmail.com



*Congratulations on the birth your baby **Silas**. Another Willis Point baby!!*

Travis and Dawn O'Maley plus **Silas** age 7 weeks.
7166 Mark Lane (tenants at Gay Stone's).



Travis is a carpenter who has worked as a general contractor for 16 years with O'Maley and Strong Company. He has been in Victoria for 12 years.

Dawn lived in Campbell River where she worked as a legal assistant. Her hobbies are scuba diving, hiking and playing the guitar. Travis plays bass.



Capital Regional District



Notice of Applications for Membership Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission

The Capital Regional District (CRD) invites applications from residents interested in sitting on the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission to provide advice on parks and recreation in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. The following volunteer positions are vacant:

East Sooke 1 Position, 2 Year Term
Otter Point 2 Positions, 2 Year Term
Port Renfrew 1 Position, 2 Year Term
Willis Point 1 Position, 2 Year Term

Meetings are held at 5:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Juan de Fuca Planning office, #2 - 6868 West Coast Road, Sooke, BC. Appointments will be for a two (2) year term commencing January 2010.

Send us a one-page summary telling about yourself, your area of knowledge and why you would like to serve on the Commission.

Deadline for receipt of applications is December 31, 2009.

Mail, fax or email your application to:

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area
Parks and Recreation Commission
#2 - 6868 West Coast Road
PO Box 283
Sooke, BC V9Z 0S9
E: wmiller@crd.bc.ca
T: 250.642.1500
F: 250.642.5274

Carolyn Orr is a member of the Claremont Sports Institute. Her rowing team went to Boston to the Head of the Charles Rowing Regatta in October.

Thank you so much for everyone who contributed to the bottle drive! We are very appreciative!

Boston was beautiful and everyone was so friendly. We had perfect snowy weather for the race, but it couldn't have gone any better.

We never could have done it without your generous contributions! Thank you again and Merry Christmas! :)

--

Carolyn Orr



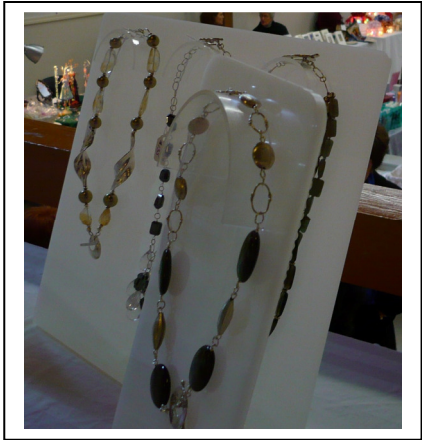
The fitness classes

will start up again on

Tuesday, January 5th.

Classes run Tuesdays/Thursdays 7-8pm
\$3/class or \$20/month.

Thanks and happy holidays,
Deanna

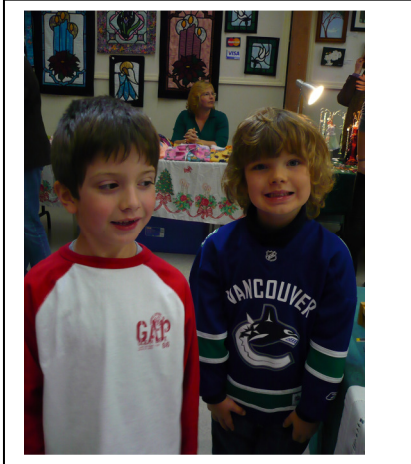


I would like to say
THANK YOU

Willis Point for shopping and supporting our **Willis Point Arts and Craft Fair** that was held on October 24, 2009. We had over 20 vendors; many being fellow 'Pointers' along with others from the Peninsula and also a few from Victoria. We had a fantastic variety of crafts, art, jewellery, baking, quilting and much, much more. We kept our shoppers happy with complimentary hot apple cider, offered warm baked cinnamon buns (thanks Shelley) and along with their \$2 admission the shoppers had a chance at winning one of many fantastic door prizes.

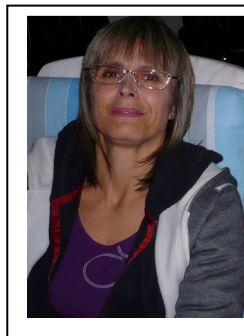
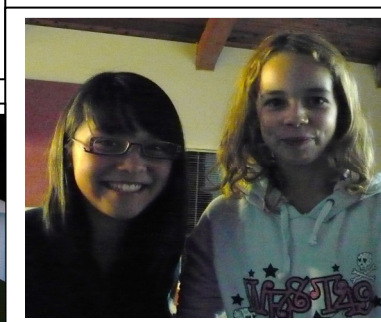
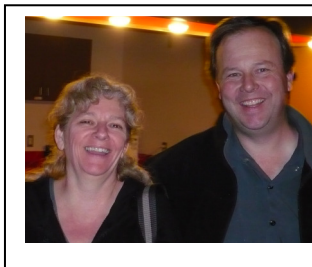
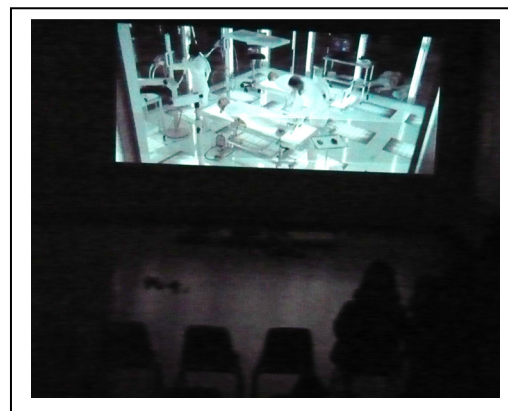
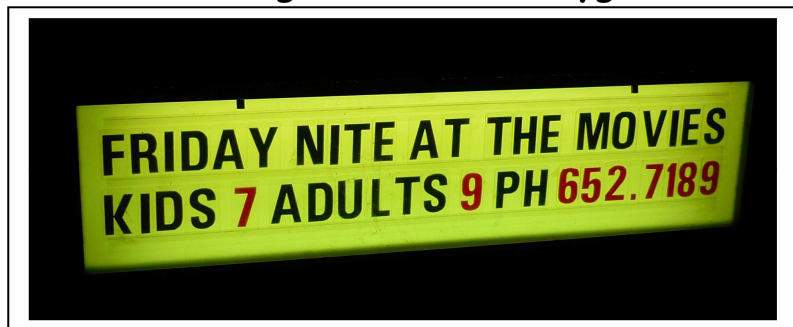
Many thanks to all friends and family who graciously donated their time in helping with set up, clean up and welcoming people at the door.

Alicia Pine



If you didn't make to movie night you missed a great relaxing evening or evenings. At which other movie theatre would it seem normal to take your blankie and favourite chair? Next time there is a movie night, don't miss out on this great social event!!

Movie Nights and the Playground:

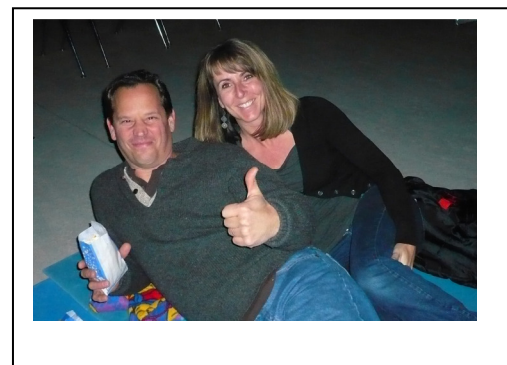


Movie Nights

were supposed to be in support of the **playground**, but enough funding from the **Fire and Rec. Commission** along with funding from the **Kornelsons** helped us reach our goal. We used the money from movie nights to help pay for the lovely Christmas tree. Funding for the playground came from:

- \$5000 – WPCA,
- \$3000 – CRD,
- \$3000 – Fire and Rec.
- \$5000 - the Kornelsons

Thank you for the support for the playground.



Update on the playground. We will be asking for volunteers in the spring to help with the installation etc. It is going to be exciting and I am glad to be a part of getting this going. This is such a great place to live and we want all our kids and grandkids to enjoy this wonderful community. **-Sheryl**



Dear Willis Point Neighbors,

Those people I live with have been making it difficult for me to escape, which is why I haven't visited many of you lately. I keep catching them with fencing in their hands. Be patient, I'll find a way to break through. I was mortified; the last time I got out. Debbie, from Canada Post was the one who cornered me and took me home.

Update on the chickens. Mildred 12 – 18 are finally producing. If you need eggs, there appears to usually be a surplus. There are still barriers between the chicks and me. I'm working on overcoming them. Barking from the garage just isn't the same as chasing them around the yard.

That was quite a birthday celebration you threw for Jordan, the other chocolate in the house. She turned 13 on Halloween. She didn't get to go to the party, but I did! I liked all the people close to the ground but didn't like the loud shiny that shot into the air. For once, I was happy to go back to the car and go home.

My birthday was on November 6. My feelings are hurt that no one threw a party for me.

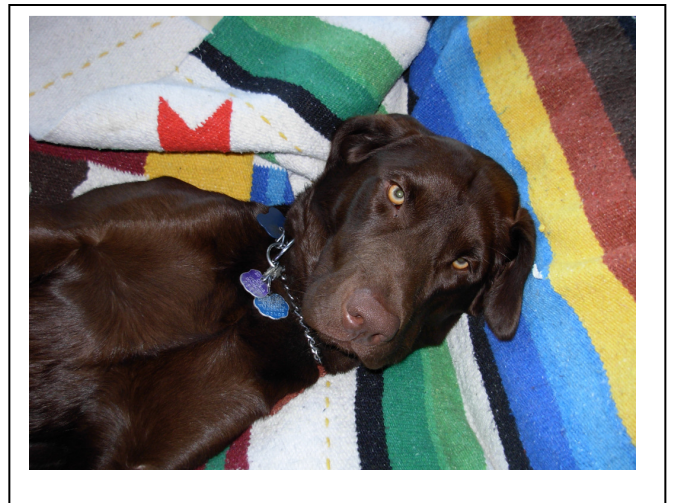
On to one of the other critters in my house. The cat. She has the weirdest name. It is Hungarian, and it means kitten. Right. That's original. Anyway, it is spelled CICA. So how do you say that in Canadian? 'SITS – A' (or 'sitz – ah'). My head weighs more than she does. She is a tiny black cat. Who wears shoes! No kidding, they put shoes on her front paws. She still takes aim at my face, but I never get scratched.

Can't quite figure out how she gets away with sleeping on the couch all the time. I get on her couch and they yell at me. Okay, so I have one of my own, but I think I should be allowed on anyone I want. I'm bigger and I'm a guy.

She's an indoor creature but I think she is more like a dog than anyone else I've met. She gets to go on the bed (I don't). Even if I get to sleep in their room and she doesn't... she does get to sit on a chair at the dinner table (I don't). And she begs more from the table than Jordan and I put together. Not fair. I think I'll go wake her up. She's asleep. Of course.

Sometimes, when Cica isn't looking, I sneak some food out of her dish. She has a neat sand box, too. I like to stick my nose in there. The people yell at me when I do that, though, and I can't figure it out. It smells like good stuff to roll in.

Gotta go. I need to chase the cat.



Nick

*As dictated by Nick to
Judy Estrin and Peter Gary of 842 Sea Aira Heights.*



Halloween 2009



Thanks to Alisa and Darren for the pumpkin carving to give an artistic outlet for the goblins.



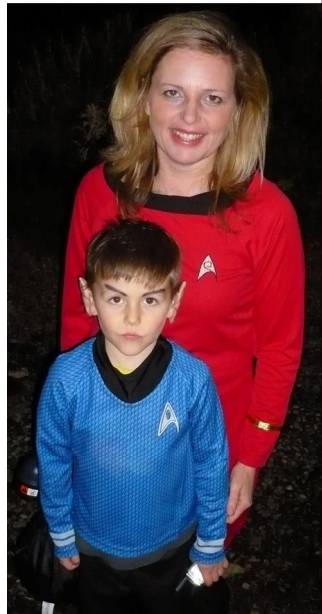
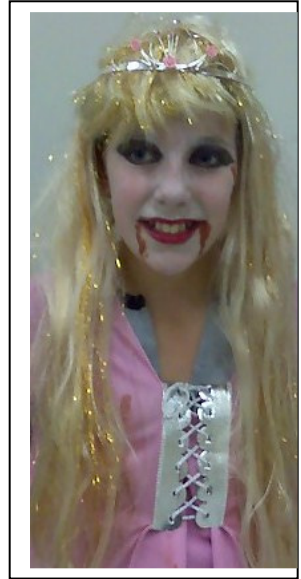
Meanwhile:



Outside the pile kept growing...



Even though the summer was lingering with warm gentle breezes, the Goblins knew it was time to come out...



And of course the bonfire...



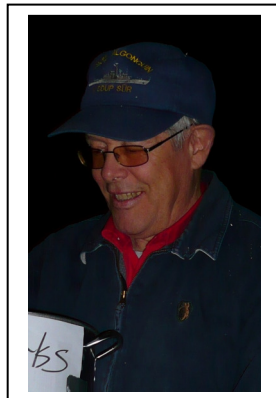
Magically the Pumpkins found their way for their own party...



And then by Pumpkin Mobile to Pumpkinville.



Thank you, Bill and Joan for all your hard work on the sign.



Thank you, Don for taking on the sign job.



Lois Lovo would like to let us know that she is moving to town after 23 years as a full time resident at Willis Point. As so many of us, she and Don bought a holiday home here two years before deciding that Willis Point was a great place to live full time. She is sad to leave all her nice neighbours and lovely view. She will be back to celebrate events with us like Halloween and Dart Nights. She gave much of her time to the community by being the Recording Secretary on the WPCA for almost 20 years. We will miss her but look forward to seeing her at events like Dart Nights or the Halloween Parties.

Winter scenes from the Point and beyond...



The Christmas party went off without a hitch considering the lack of power. A great thank you from all of those who lent a hand including Darren Pine, Al Campbell, Tina Kennedy, the Elvedahls as well as Dawn, Amy and Jenny Campbell. A big thanks goes out to Alicia Pine for helping organize the singers, who without power for microphones managed to pull it off. Thanks to Becky (Klaussen) for her efforts in providing these kids from her music studio (Heart and Soul Music Studio) and asking the parents to bring them all the way from Langford. A great time was had by all, including the Big Guy himself. Great job on the fire truck decorating also, Darren and Matt.

Sheryl Campbell



If you missed it, mark your 2010 calendar for our Willis Point **Carolling** event next year. Thanks to Bob Scott, The Halsey's and The Markuts for making it such a wonderful event. Thanks too to Diane, Sharon, Kristin and Karen for coming from a greater distance.

Christmas Memory

by Carmen Moore

I was five years old that Christmas of 1931, the youngest of six. In spite of the shortage of money in our prairie family, Christmas was a magical time for us children. Our cotton stockings bulged with mysterious tissue-wrapped parcels, most of the gifts made by our parents and sisters, but always a “bought” item or two from Eaton’s catalogue. The gift exchange was an important part of our celebration. Determined to be a part of it, the previous year I had carefully cut small blotters of various shapes and sizes, from the clean, outside edges of a discarded blotter from my father’s desk. I wrapped and labelled them, one for each member of the family.

Daddy must have witnessed this salvage, for that memorable year, he presented me with a crisp “shin-plaster”, paper currency, roughly 1 ½ ” by 4” worth 25 ¢! How to spend it wisely so as to buy



a gift for everyone?

After long hours of poring over the catalogue, I made my selections. 10 ¢ for an artificial gardenia for my mother- a terrifying extravagance which left me with only 15 ¢ for the rest of my list, but the illustration was so elegant that I couldn’t resist. With the help of an older sister with greater mathematical skills than mine, I chose a gift for everyone. For Jean a 5 ¢ crochet hook, three erasers for 5 ¢ for Nita, Merle, and Pat and with the remaining nickel, two pencils for Daddy and Kelly. A separate order sheet made out in my very own name was included in my mother’s order, with a request that my purchases be put in a separate envelope and labelled with my name. What mail order clerk in this computer age would trouble to comply with such a request?

The money order was purchased and the order was on its way. The seven day waiting period was almost more than a small girl could bear but the big parcel finally arrived. I was not allowed to watch while it was being opened for fear I would glimpse some of the surprises. But after an agonizing wait outside our parents’ door, my own order was brought to me intact in its own envelope, labelled with my name.

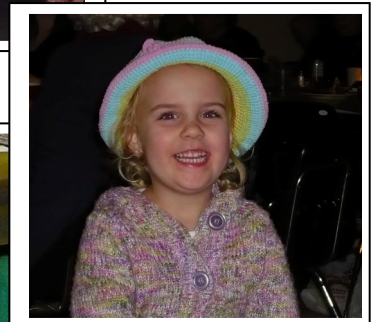
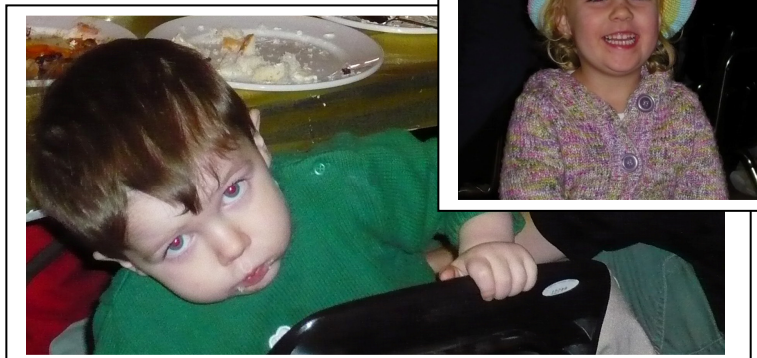
No Christmas since has ever been quite so special!

Christmas at the Hall 2009

Dinner Theatre:

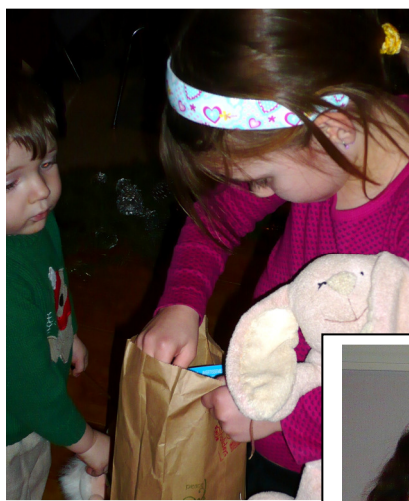


Waiting for Santa:

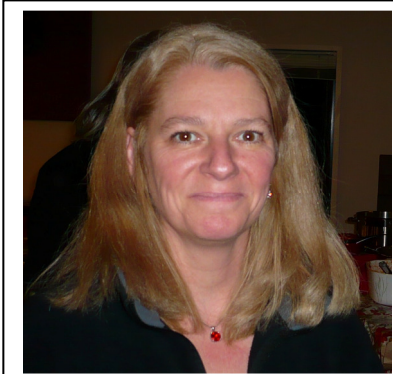


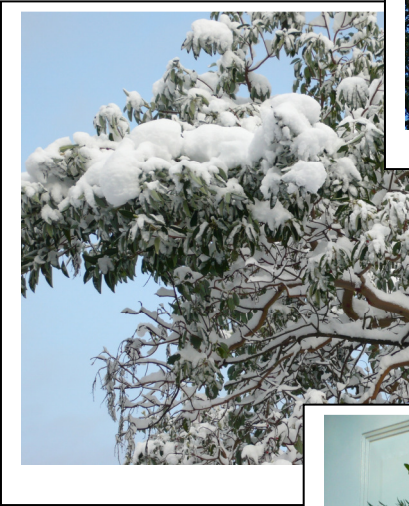


Santa makes his entrance:

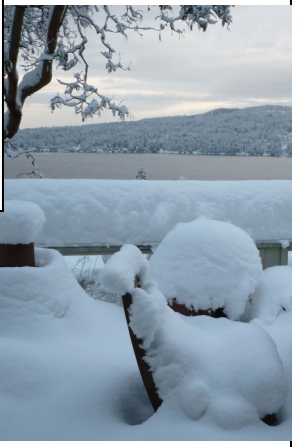


Thank you
Sheryl





*The great contrast
December 22
one year ago
and today.
Have a great holiday season!*



*Just wondering...
Anybody seen the Moose?
Is it too warm?*



Wishing you all a Green Christmas and a Good Night....

Business Directory

Chi-Kung Massage Studio Fiona Percy 544-4057	Housework Maid Easy Gerri Gorling 652-6149
Avalon Cottage Brew on Premises Vern McConnell 386-4030 avaloncottage@hotmail.com	Knotty Pine Cedar Products Darren Pine 544-0202
Piano and Flute Instruction Monica Maxwell 544-1822	Leighton Photography Rob Leighton 652-1865
Canine Rehabilitation Gillian Jackson 652-0472	Island Soy Scents Juanita Bradley A Natural Candle Alternative soyjoy@telus.net 652-6900 fax 652-6909
Chandler Construction Ken Ilott 477-7431, fax 477-7528 chandlerconstruction@shaw.ca	Hyland's Fish & Chips 10153 Resthaven Drive Sidney, B.C. 656-4435
Editorial Services Patricia Sloan 652-0226	Mark Roozendaal, RE/MAX Camosun Mark@PreferredHomes.ca 588-6860 www.PreferredHomes.ca
Escape in Thyme Aroma Therapy & Reflexology Paulette Blunt 818-0149	Shelley's Touch Catering, Baking, Decorating 652-4895 klass@telus.net
Cedarwood Video Editing and Production Karen Davies, 544-1313 www.cedarwoodvideo.com	Reflexology By Linda Parker 652-6466
Photos by Suzanne 544-0166 www.cameraworkbysuzanne.com 544-0166 Suzanne Fitzpatrick	Dave Phillips Willis Point Specialist, Holmes Realty 656-0911
The Cleaning Queens House Cleaning Sheryl Campbell 250-652-7189	WP Handy Man Brad Taylor-Gorling Cell 250-217-8785 Decks, Painting, Yard work, Hauling
Debora L. Branson Traditional Chinese Medicine 250-704-1178	<i>Email to be added to the business directory: idavs4@yahoo.ca</i>

The Willis Point Real Estate Report

Since our last update in September, the market has continued to strengthen! Growing consumer confidence and continued low interest rates are fuelling an already brisk market. Last year at this time, the climate was very different. All news was bad news. Prices were falling and demand had dropped off significantly. Our latest statistics as of the end of November show that prices are up 11% from last year, wiping out all of the losses experienced last winter. The number of homes changing hands is up as well. In fact, the volume of sales in the last quarter was up 78% from the year before, with November volume doubled! I can tell you that it has made for unimaginably long hours in my profession!

Increased volume is leading to a very limited supply of homes for sale with the available inventory down 33%. Short supply means that we're regularly running into competitive bid situations for attractive properties. In the last two weeks, of four properties I was involved in, three had multiple offers and each sold for well over the asking price. Low inventory combined with high demand is pushing prices upwards. Most believe that this trend will continue through the spring as we head into what is traditionally the busiest time of the year. If interest rates start climbing, we do expect to see demand soften. But for now, the word from the experts is that interest rates will stay low for several quarters due to the depth of the recession in the USA. Another "wild card" on the horizon is the looming 12% HST that will apply primarily to new home sales. It is quite likely that this will have a temporary, negative effect on the market.

Property at the Point has not been left out of the rush. I found a buyer for my listing of the Veasey's house at 6671 Mark Lane, and this very nice family will be arriving in late January. I also brought a buyer for the Lovo's waterfront home at 7290 Mark Lane who is very excited to be moving back to our area. As well, the Thompson's waterfront home at 7578 Mark Lane is now sold. There was at least one more private, non-MLS sale for a waterfront home. For a small area like ours that's a lot of sales to report!

Three properties at Willis Point remain on the market. "Lot 1" which was the original Pumpkinville is for sale at 1.25M, 6760 Mark Lane a waterfront home is offered \$869,000, and 7100 Mark Lane can be yours for \$1.488M.

If you are interested in keeping up to date with property sales in any local area, I have an exciting new Internet based tool to offer you called the "Market Snapshot." To learn more just visit www.VictoriaMarketNews.info. You'll find a sample report and a quick & easy form to get you started. I encourage everyone to check it out. It's free, no-obligation, and will give you some pretty amazing information!

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