



Representing the Residents and Ratepayers of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River
www.opsrra.ca

**OPSRRA'S OTTER POINT, SHIRLEY & JORDAN RIVER
NEWSLETTER: JULY 2016
CELEBRATING 13 YEARS OF PUBLICATION!**



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OPSRRA is a registered non-profit society with an elected Board of Directors and strives to present the points-of-view of its members to local government. OPSRRA was founded in 1992 and has a membership of over 400. Residents or property owners within the Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point Official Community Plan boundaries who are age 18 or over are eligible for membership.

Lifetime memberships cost \$10.00 per person and are available from OPSRRA directors - see our web site (www.opsrra.ca) for further information. Associate (non-

voting) memberships are available for persons who do not reside or own property in Shirley, Jordan River or Otter Point but wish to support the association.

The purpose of our society is to:

1. Ensure that the development of the communities of Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point takes place in an orderly way and in the best interests of its residents.
2. Co-operate with local government and other public bodies in the furtherance of the objectives of the society and benefits to the community.
3. Concern itself with the performance of government agencies.
4. Encourage citizens to stand for public office.
5. Promote community spirit and sense of identity by organizing or supporting appropriate activities.

Are you an OPSRRA member? Do you want to receive the OPSRRA's monthly newsletter and notice of meetings directly to your e-mail address? We began publishing this newsletter in June 2003. It is e-mailed to over **300** of our members as well as local elected representatives, media and archival organizations. Contact Marika Nagasaka at: opsrra@gmail.com if you want to receive this membership service.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

Marika Nagasaka	President	Debb Read	Vice-President
Phone: 646-2133		Phone: 646- 9998	
Brenda Mark	Treasurer	Fiona McDannold	Director
Phone: 646-2598		Phone: 646-2730	
Sandy Barta	Director	Bill Dushenko	Director
Julie Johns	Director		

Note: All OPSRRA directors can now be reached at a common e-mail address: opsrra@gmail.com

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Marika Nagasaka at: opsrranewsletter@gmail.com to have your community event listed in our monthly **Community Events** calendar.

Visit the OPSRRA web site: www.opsrra.ca to view a Calendar of Events.

<p>Saturday July 2nd</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</p> <p>Peden Lake via Middle Earth. Meet at 9 am in Parking Lot 2 at the Sooke Potholes Regional Park; please bring \$2.50 for parking. This is an all day hike on a rugged route with spectacular views and possibility for a swim in Peden Lake (bring a bathing suit!). Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome.</p> <p>For more information contact Rosemary Jorna at 250.642.2767 or email jdf.cts@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Web site: www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</p>
<p>Tuesday July 5th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Juan de Fuca Emergency Services</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JdF Search & Rescue Campus Training Bldg. 2028C Idlemore Road, Sooke</p>
<p>Saturday July 9th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</p> <p>The Matterhorn. This is a JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission sponsored hike. Meet at William Simmons Park west parking lot (Sooke Business Park) at 9:00 am to car pool, or alternatively meet at Tuille Place in Shirley. There is a possibility that dry weather or forest operations may result in a forest closure and a route change, so if you plan to attend this hike please check with Sid prior to the day of the hike. Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome.</p> <p>For more information contact Sid Jorna at 250.642.2767 or email jdf.cts@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Web site: www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</p>

<p>Saturday July 9th</p>	<p align="center">Fused Glass Workshop: Ages 16 and up 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the Shards Glass Studio in Otter Point Hosted by Westshore Recreational Centre</p> <p align="center">https://onlineca.activecommunities.com/JuanDeFuca/Activities/ActivitiesDetails.asp?aid=3991</p>
<p>Tuesday July 12th</p>	<p align="center">Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)</p> <p align="center">Monthly meeting 1:00 pm Boardroom, SEAPARC Leisure Complex, 2168 Phillips Road, Sooke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings of the Commission usually take place at SEAPARC on the 2nd Tuesday of the month and are open to the public. • Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair. • Agendas and Minutes are posted for each meeting at: http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm
<p>Tuesday July 12th</p>	<p align="center">Fused Glass Workshop: Ages 6-12 with a Parent 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the Shards Glass Studio in Otter Point Hosted by Westshore Recreational Centre</p> <p align="center">https://onlineca.activecommunities.com/JuanDeFuca/Activities/ActivitiesDetails.asp?aid=3992</p>
<p>Wednesday July 13th</p>	<p align="center">Shirley Women's Institute Meeting Monthly meeting second Wednesday of the month 10:30 am at the Shirley Hall</p>
<p>Wednesday July 13th</p>	<p align="center">Shirley Community Association Meeting 7:30 pm at the Shirley Hall</p>
<p>Saturday July 16th</p>	<p align="center">Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Bike Details To Be Announced!</p> <p align="center">Web site: www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</p>

<p>Monday July 18th</p>	<p>Shards Glass Studio: Free Wine and Cheese Social/Glass Demonstration 7:00 – 8:30 pm</p> <p>Please email if interested susan@shardsglass.com</p> <p>Details will be posted on the Otter Point BC Facebook page</p>
<p>Tuesday July 19th</p>	<p>Juan de Fuca Land Use Committee 7:00 pm at the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building</p> <p>3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point</p> <p>https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/documents/committeedocuments/juandefucalandusecommittee</p>
<p>Sunday July 24th</p>	<p>Shards Glass Studio: Bowl, Plate and More 3 Hour Fused Glass Workshop 1:00 – 4:00 pm at Shards Glass Studio in Otter Point</p> <p>http://www.shardsglass.com/workshops.html</p>
<p>Monday July 25th</p>	<p>Shirley Fire Commission Meeting Monthly meeting fourth Monday of the month 7:00 pm at the Shirley Fire Hall</p>
<p>Tuesday Aug 2nd</p>	<p>Juan de Fuca Emergency Services Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm</p> <p>JdF Search & Rescue Campus Training Bldg. 2028C Idlemore Road, Sooke</p>
<p>Saturday Aug 6th</p>	<p>Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike We need a Hike leader to run the Aug 6th hike. Please contact Rosemary if you are interested.</p> <p>For more information contact Rosemary Jorna at 250.642.2767 or email idf.cts@gmail.com</p>

	<p>Web site: www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</p>
<p>Tuesday Aug 9th</p>	<p>Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)</p> <p>Monthly meeting 6:30 pm Boardroom, SEAPARC Leisure Complex, 2168 Phillips Road, Sooke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings of the Commission take place at SEAPARC on the 2nd Tuesday of the month and are open to the public. • Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair. • Agendas and Minutes are posted for each meeting at: http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm
<p>Saturday Aug 13th</p>	<p>Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</p> <p>Thetis Lake to Francis King. This is a JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission sponsored hike of difficulty level 3, which is 10 km long through beautiful forest. Meet at William Simmons Park west parking lot (Sooke Business Park) at 9:00 am to car pool, or alternatively meet at the Thetis Lake Parking Lot at 9:40 am. Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome.</p> <p>For more information contact Sid Jorna at 250.642.2767 or email jdf.cts@gmail.com</p> <p>Web site: www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</p>
<p>Mondays</p>	<p>Easy Yoga for Women</p> <p>10:00 am – 11:00 am at the Shirley Hall</p> <p>Yoga with Elizabeth Tse Contact: bloomingyoga4kids@gmail.com</p>
<p>Mondays</p>	<p>Karate at the Shirley Hall</p> <p>6:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the Shirley Hall</p> <p>Mixed ages welcome, class will be structured on skill levels Instructors: Sen Sei Armin Sielopp and Sen Sei Tessa Peers Contact: asielopp@telus.net</p>

Tuesdays	<p style="text-align: center;">KIDS Club!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:00 pm – 5:30 pm at the Shirley Hall After-school drop in for ages 5+ kellywilliams1978@yahoo.ca for more info</p>
Saturdays	<p style="text-align: center;">Pilates at the Shirley Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30 am Level 1 class, suitable for beginners Contact: Sandra Smith Email: info@sandrasmithyoga.com</p>
Saturdays	<p style="text-align: center;">Ecstatic Dance Yoga</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:30 am – 8:30 pm at the Shirley Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yoga with Elizabeth Tse Contact: bloomingyoga4kids@gmail.com</p>
Sundays	<p style="text-align: center;">Shirley Country Market</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00 am – 4:00 pm in Pioneer Park beside the Shirley Hall (See Newsletter Item # 3 for more info)</p>
Sundays	<p style="text-align: center;">Kemp Lake Store Music Café Music Jam</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:00 pm – 5:00 pm @ 7875 West Coast Rd For more info phone 250.642.7875</p>
Tuesdays & Fridays	<p style="text-align: center;">Yoga at the Shirley Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesdays at 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm Fridays at 10:00 am – 11:15 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class for all levels megan.einarson@hotmail.com</p>

**Thursdays
& Sundays**

Nia Dance/Movement Class at the Shirley Hall

Thursdays from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Sundays 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Contact: Melody Kimmell, 250-646-2995 email

movingmelody@gmail.com

2. WILD WISE: BE COUGAR SMART

There have been recent cougar sightings in the Shirley Area.

Wild Wise community program would like to share this information on how to reduce conflicts with cougars.

Cougars are active throughout the year. They are elusive animals that prefer to avoid contact with humans. Conflict encounters are uncommon.

Please stay safe and keep cougars wild by following these simple guidelines:

- Do not attract or feed wildlife. Deer, raccoons, mice and rabbits are natural prey and may attract cougars.
- Pet food, birdseed and garbage should be stored inside a secure building to prevent attracting rodents or raccoons.
- Keep pets in at night.
- Install motion sensor lights. Keep a radio playing
- Be alert and aware when hiking and don't hike alone. Make noise. Keep dogs leashed.
- Look for signs of fresh cougar activity i.e. claw marks on trees, cougars will cover unconsumed portions of their kill with twigs, leaf litter or soil. If you come across a cache, leave the area immediately.
- Riding or running quickly and quietly puts you at risk for surprise encounters. Slow down going around blind corners and make noise.
- If you do encounter cougar kittens, do not approach or attempt to pick them up. Leave the area immediately.
- Carry bear spray and know how to use it beforehand.
- Talk to your children and teach them what to do if they encounter a cougar
- Children playing outdoors should play in groups, children shouldn't be left unsupervised.
- Make sure children are home before dusk and stay indoors until after dawn – this is the time cougars are most active.
- Never approach a cougar - ALWAYS give the cougar an avenue of escape.
- Stay calm. Talk to the cougar in a confident voice.
- Pick all children up off the ground immediately.
- Do not run or turn your back on the cougar. Face the cougar and remain upright. Try to back away from the cougar slowly

If a cougar shows interest or follows you, respond aggressively, maintain eye contact with the cougar, show your teeth, and make loud noise. Arm yourself with rocks or sticks as weapons.

If a cougar attacks, fight back, convince the cougar you are a threat and not prey, use anything you can as a weapon. Focus your attack on the cougar's face and eyes. Use rocks, sticks, bear spray or personal belongings as weapons. You are trying to convince the cougar that you are a threat and that you are not prey.

Please Contact Conservation Services [1-877-952-7277](tel:1-877-952-7277) (RAPP) if a cougar poses an immediate threat or danger to public safety.

For more information about preventing conflicts with cougars

Please visit the Province of BC website:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/wildlife/human-wildlife-conflict/staying-safe-around-wildlife/cougars>

Debbie Read

Urban Wildlife Conflict Specialist

Wild Wise Sooke

www.wildwisesooke.com

see our facebook page- wildwisesooke

3. UPDATE ON ROYAL ROADS WATER RESOURCES PROJECT

On June 10, 2016, the Royal Roads students presented progress reports to their supervisors, fellow project students and guests. Marika Nagasaka and Sandy Barta attended as OPSRRA's representatives.

Our project, Assessment of Water Resources Sustainability in Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River, is progressing very well and is on schedule. The final presentation will be Friday, August 26, 2016.

The students were taken on a tour of several facilities and private homes so they could learn the types of water sources that residents in our communities use.

They visited:

- JDF Local Area Services Building
- Sheringham Waterworks
- Residential rooftop rainwater collection system
- Individual license on creek
- Community license on spring
- Point-no-Point Resort water supply
- Kemp Lake Waterworks

Their "take home" points from the site visits include:

- Water resources are a priority for residents of Otter Point, Shirley, and Jordan River.

- Upkeep and maintenance of water supply are everyday factors for residents
- Water security and conservation
- Water quality and testing
- Community driven efforts
- Community pride and sense of place

They are in the final stages of determining how to present the data they have compiled, setting up a GIS for us (they will explain how to use the software) and are completing the Water Sustainability Act layman's language summary.

4. WHAT'S YOUR DEFINITION OF RURAL?

Definitions are tricky things: sometimes used to define a point in law or perhaps to further a personal or political point-of-view. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) is presently caught-up in a definition disagreement with federal, provincial and regional government. Is the JDFEA rural or not?

Recent updates to the Official Community Plans (OCPs) for Otter Point, Shirley & Jordan River and East Sooke stop short of defining rural but certainly looked at what the term means to their respective communities. For example: Otter Point's OCP includes a full page under Goals & Objectives explaining their community's rural character and concludes with, "Citizens have expressed a desire for limited development with an emphasis on protecting the environment, providing parks and trails, and preserving green space, and the rural character of Otter Point. This Official Community Plan is designed to protect these values."

What about the extension of water into parts of the JDFEA? One goal of the Capital Regional District's (CRD) present Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) is to keep the JDFEA rural by limiting development. Extension of water to the JDFEA from the Greater Victoria Water District for residential, agricultural and industrial purposes is not allowed under the RGS. Denying access to CRD water is seen as a way to stop, limit or control development. Therefore, part of the CRD's present definition of rural is that rural means limited or no access to their water system. The RGS is under review. Extension of water to parts of the JDFEA is being requested by JDFEA Regional Director Hicks and others. Will the CRD politicians and planners agree on another way to keep the JDFEA rural? Will statements about rural, density and protection of the environment, in recently updated JDFEA OCPs, replace the present RGS policy? Would updating the JDFEA zoning bylaw (Bylaw 2040) so it complements the updated OCPs ensure that "rural" would be protected even if CRD water was extended to parts of the EA?

What about the federal and province government's definition of rural?

Here is a motion submitted to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) by JDFEA Director Hicks. It will be considered at the UBCM convention this fall.

WHEREAS the Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Areas have been excluded from participation in various Provincial and Federal programs and grant opportunities because they are not considered to be rural communities due to their affiliation with the Capital Regional District;

AND WHEREAS the Capital Regional District Regional Growth Strategy and Island Trust policy specifically dictate terms requiring those Electoral Areas to remain "rural" in nature, and the current Provincial Grant Program "B.C. Rural Dividend" Grant Program specifically excludes the Capital Regional District Electoral Areas and includes 156 Provincial Electoral Areas:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request that the Governments of Canada and British Columbia recognize the rural nature of the Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf Islands and include them in all future government programs and grants offered to British Columbia Electoral Areas.

How we behave on our own property and in our community contributes to our definition of rural. If you see a bear in your yard do you say, "Oh, isn't that great to live so close to nature." or do you phone animal control because you're annoyed with or afraid of the animal? Some will live in a rural area because the cost of housing is more affordable, others will be there for other reasons: cleaner air, trees, wildlife, quiet and more. All this can be hard to explain to some. Not to us who live here, though. We know what rural means to us; we may just have difficulty defining it!

5. LIBRARY DARES TEENS TO TAKE ON SUMMER CHALLENGE

The following was submitted to the OPSRRA newsletter by VIRL.

Teens everywhere are being invited to check out virl.bc.ca/teens/challenge...as of June 13th, the Teen Summer Challenge is now available on the web with 55 challenges that – if achieved – can score one lucky teen an iPad mini!

Teens ages 12-18 can also stop by any Vancouver Island Regional Library branch to pick up a sweet new "booklet" with all 55 challenges listed like a "checklist". The challenges range from making public art with removable googly eyes to building cool crafts out of findable materials outside.

The challenge is designed to give teens something fun to do during the summer, as well as connect teens with their local library and all of the awesome resources available (such as movies, DVDs, magazines, mp3s, comics and audiobooks).

The program runs from June 13th until August 31st, when the **grand prize winner** will be announced.

How do I sign up?

Stop into your local library or visit www.virl.bc.ca/teens/challenge to get started! Contest rules and booklet are now available as of June 13th

More information can be found on our website ([teens page](#)) OR see our press release attached or [online!](#)

Thanks for listening and thanks for supporting your local library!

6. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS

Do you operate a small business? Are you an OPSRRA member? OPSRRA offers a free business listing service for members, on its web site: www.opsrra.ca. We will list non-members for a suitable donation!

The purpose of this service is to provide an opportunity for businesses in Jordan River, Shirley and Otter Point to advertise their goods and services to their local community. We invite listings for accommodation, farm produce, art, furniture-making, fishing charters, eco-tours, firewood, knitting, soaps, landscaping, bookkeeping, sewing, spas and more. More information, businesses already listed and a registration form are available on OPSRRA's web site (www.opsrra.ca) under **Business Listings**.

Note: OPSRRA does not accept responsibility for the services provided. Always check references and ask for confirmation of Work Safe B.C. registration if applicable.

Support local businesses. The OPSRRA web site www.opsrra.ca has more information about the following local business listings:

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair	Migration Design
Accent in Grooming	Ocean Wilderness Inn
ALM Organic Farm	Otter Point Beach House
Beaches West B & B	Otter Point Electric
Bear Home Remodelling	Perfect Grade Plumbing
Birds Edge Press	Reflexology by Marlene Barry
Coastal Crunch Granola	Road's End Construction
Eco Craft Lights	Saltwest Naturals
Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suites	Sooke Region Chamber of Commerce
Farmer Notary—Shawna Farmer, Notary Public.	Sooke Water Inc.
Full Circle Seeds	Shards Glass Studio and Workshops
Glen's Gardening Company	Stick in the Mud Coffee House
Heron's Rest B & B	Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast
"In A Fix" Bookkeeping & Accounting Services	Three Sisters Farm

Jambo Pet Sitting Service

Kemp Lake Store Café

Knotty Beds by Nature and Cedar Surfboards

Le Sooke Spa

Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage

Tugwell Creek Honey Farm

Tugwell Creek Meadery

Welcome Wagon

Wildewood Custom Homes

Wood Visions

7. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER

Back issues of the OPSRRA newsletter are available on the OPSRRA web site:

www.opsrra.ca

This monthly newsletter is prepared by the directors of OPSRRA. It is available to members by e-mail and to others on our web site. To have an item you would like to have considered for placement in the newsletter, or make a comment about the newsletter, contact an OPSRRA director or email opsrra@gmail.com

OPSRRA tries to verify the correctness of the information in this newsletter; if we have got it wrong we will acknowledge that and make a correction as quickly as possible.