

OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE **April 2012**

The Otter Point & Shirley Residents & Ratepayers Association (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 about **400**. Any resident or property owner in Shirley and Otter Point who are age 18 or over are eligible for membership.

Lifetime memberships cost \$5.00 per person and are available from OPSRRA directors—see our web site (www.opsrra.ca) for further information and on-line registration. Associate (non-voting) memberships are available for persons who do not reside or own property in Shirley or Otter Point, but who wish to support the Association.

The purpose of our society is to:

- Ensure that the development of the two communities of Shirley and Otter Point takes place in an orderly way and in the best interests of its residents.
- Co-operate with local government and other public bodies in the furtherance of the objectives of the society and benefits to the community.
- Concern itself with the performance of government agencies.
- Encourage citizens to stand for public office.
- 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 newsletter and notice of meetings directly to your e-mail address? OPSRRA now emails this newsletter to over **300** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: opsrra@gmail.com you want to receive this membership service.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

Arnie Campbell	President	Fiona McDannold	Vice-President
Phone:	250-642-3113	Phone:	250-646-2730
		Bob Philips	Treasurer
		Phone:	250-642-3297
Sandy Barta	Director	Erik James	Director
		Phone:	250-642-6368
Caroline Larsen	Director	Brenda Mark	Director
Phone:	250-642-1772	Phone:	250-646-2598
Marika Nagasaka	Director		
Phone:	250-642-2133		

Note: Contact any OPSRRA director at the following email address:
opsrra@gmail.com

IN THIS ISSUE

Contents

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS.....	3
2. OPSRRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION.....	7
3. UPDATE: CANADIAN HORIZON'S OTTER POINT PROPERTY.....	8
4. MEETING WITH TIMBERWEST AND COUVERDON.....	9
5. MEETING WITH SOOKE REGION RCMP.....	10
6. SHIRLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AGM AND ELECTIONS.....	11
7. FORUM: THE FUTURE OF FORESTS IN THE RURAL RESOURCE LANDS.....	11
8. APRIL IN THE GARDEN.....	13
9. SAVE OUR SALMON FESTIVAL IN SUPPORT OF MUIR CREEK.....	13
10. CRD NATURAL AREAS ATLAS WORKSHOP.....	14
11. FIRE SEASON IN SHIRLEY AND OTTER POINT.....	15
12. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION: CALL FOR PROPOSALS.....	15
13. DID YOU KNOW THAT	15
14. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS.....	16
15. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER.....	18

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Arnie Campbell at: opsrra@gmail.com or **250-642-3113** to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar.

Tuesday April 3	Juan de Fuca Emergency Services Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m. JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building 2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC
Wednesday April 4	Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission (SEAPARC) Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m. Board Room SEAPARC Leisure Complex 2168 Philips Road Sooke BC
Thursday April 5	Otter Point Official Community Plan Meeting 7:00 p.m. JDF Electoral Area Planning Services Meeting Room 2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC Review of draft Otter Point OCP before referral to the Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission
Saturday April 7	Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike the Matterhorn in Shirley 9:00 a.m. Meet at Tieulie Place. A 3 to 4 hour hike. Bring a lunch and dress for the weather. Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767 or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details. Web site: www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca
Sunday April 8	Shirley Fire Protection Society General Meeting 2:00 p.m. Shirley Community Hall
Monday April 9	Deadline to apply for funding assistance from the JDFEA Economic Development Commission See newsletter item below

Monday
April 16

**OPSRRA Board of Directors
Monthly Meeting**
Members welcome!

7:30 p.m.

Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Agenda available on request.

Contact Arnie Campbell at opsrra@gmail.com

Tuesday
April 17

**JDF Electoral Area Land Use Committee (LUC)
Meeting**

7:00 p.m.

JDF Electoral Area Planning Services Office
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Note:
**No LUC
meeting this
month**

Obtain the agenda the Friday before the meeting on the
CRD website at:

http://www.crd.bc.ca/agendas/juandefucalandusecom/_index.htm

Select the year and month of the agenda you wish to read.

Wednesday
April 18

Shirley Women's Institute

Tentative Meeting booked

2:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

To activate the Shirley Branch of the Women's Institute.

Contact for more information:

Stephanie Croft, stephaniecroft@hotmail.com

Friday &
Saturday
April 20 & 21

Save Our Salmon Festival

Tentative Meeting booked

6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Friday

2:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Saturday

Shirley Community Hall

See newsletter item below

Tuesday
April 24

**Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission**

Monthly Meeting

5:00 p.m.

JDF Electoral Area Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Wednesday
April 25

**Kemp Lake Waterworks District
Annual General Meeting**

7:30 p.m.

Otter Point Fire Hall

Saturday
April 28 **ALM Organic Farm Plant Sale**
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
3680 Otter Point Road
(at Kemp Lake Road)

Tuesday
May 1 **Juan de Fuca Emergency Services**
Monthly Meeting
7:00 p.m.
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Tuesday
May 1 **Our Forests, Our Future**
Forum
Planning for the future of our regional forest lands
7:00 p.m.
Edward Milne Community School Auditorium
Sooke BC

See newsletter item below

Wednesday
May 2 **Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation**
Commission (SEAPARC)
Monthly Meeting
7:00 p.m.
Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Saturday
May 5 **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**
TBA
9:00 a.m.

A 4 to 5 hour hike in the hills surrounding Sooke.

More information to follow.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767
or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.
Web site:
www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Mondays **Karate for all ages**
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

Tuesdays **Yoga**
6:30 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

With Alanda Carver

Thursdays

Shirley Quilters and Crafters

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Everyone welcome

Contact Christien Shipton: 250-646-2687

Thursdays

Nia Dance / Movement Class

6:45 to 8:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Contact Melody Kimmell:

250-646-2995

movingmelody@gmail.com

2. OPSRRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

OPSRRA held its twentieth Annual General Meeting on March 18, 2012.

The following were elected to the Board of Directors for a one year term:

President: Arnie Campbell

Vice President: Fiona McDannold,

Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Phillips

Directors: Brenda Mark, Sandra Barta, Erik James, Marika Nagasaka and Caroline Larsen.

OPSRRA Treasurer's Report March 27, 2011 to March 18, 2012

Vision Account (no activity this year):		
Balance		\$1,201.75
OPSRRA Main Account:	Debits	Credits
	\$433.77	\$363.00
Balance		\$515.25
Petty Cash Float:		
Balance		\$41.36
OPSRRA Assets (March 12, 2012):		
Total		\$1,758.36
Otter Point and Shirley Signage Project:		
	Cash Donations	Expenditures
	\$3,675.00	\$3,435.36
Balance		\$236.64

This project received cash donations from Butler Brothers, the EDC, Sooke Business Park and 3L Development as well as **significant** in kind donations from Sooke Home Hardware and MainRoad Construction.

The membership meeting on December 4, 2011 voted to move the balance of \$239.64 into the Main OPSRRA Account spreadsheet.

OPSRRA Community Account Proposal

OPSRRA has changed over the past ten years and will probably continue to raise funds to provide and administer community projects like the Vision Project and the more recent Signage Project. OPSRRA will have to care for our new community signs and our 24 notice boards. At the time of municipal elections we host and advertise for All Candidates Meetings. There will surely be "community" requirements and opportunities in the coming years. The Vision Account is really a separate spreadsheet, has had no expenditures over the past year and should be re-examined as to current relevance. The Board of Directors has considered possible approaches. We believe it makes sense to decommission the Vision Spreadsheet and to establish a new spreadsheet/account which we would call the OPSRRA Community Account with an initial internal transfer of \$1,000.00.

Motion: OPSRRA close out the Vision Account spreadsheet. OPSRRA would then establish an OPSRRA Community Account spreadsheet with an opening transfer of \$1,000.00.

Motion carried.

Bob Phillips, Treasurer

Membership Report

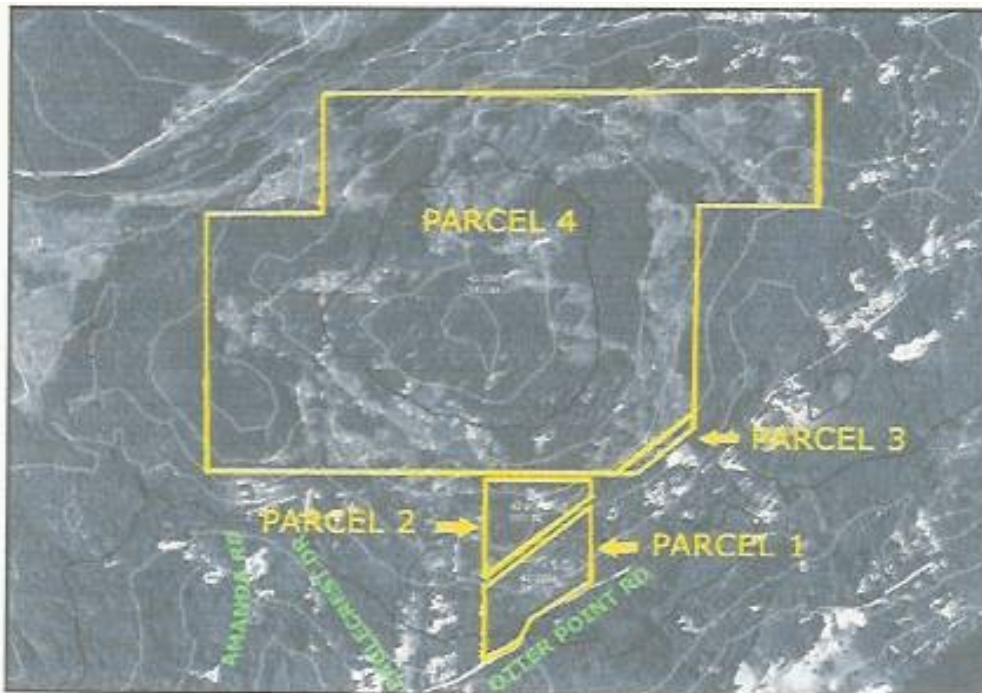
Membership at the time of the 2011 AGM was 376 members, with 58 from Shirley and 318 from Otter Point.

OPSRRA continues to keep its membership up-to-date. During the past year we have removed 8 members (moved, lost contact, deceased, moved to Associate member list by request). During the past year we have added 15 new members.

Membership now stands at 383 with 62 being from Shirley and 321 from Otter Point. We also have 22 Associate members who do not reside in the Otter Point & Shirley area, do not have any voting privileges but support the association and wish to receive the monthly newsletter.

Prepared by Erik James.

3. UPDATE: CANADIAN HORIZON'S OTTER POINT PROPERTY



Canadian Horizons Development Corporation is a division of CareVest Capital Inc. and owns 557 acres (228 hectares) of former TimberWest private managed forest land in Otter Point which they purchased in 2006. The properties were listed for sale in 2005 at \$4.4 million dollars. Parcel 1 is 19.75 acres, Parcel 2 is 20.3 acres, Parcel 3 (directly behind the Otter Point Fire Hall) is 2.91 acres and Parcel 4 is 513.72 acres.

The properties represent about 6% of the 9009 acres of land included in Otter Point's Official Community Plan, and 7.5% of the 7377 acres identified as the Settlement Area. None of the properties are within the Settlement Containment Area which allows for smaller lot subdivision. However, Parcels 3 and 4 are zoned Rural A which permits one owner to build multiple dwelling on a parcel. This

enables the familiar "4 on 10" strata development. Parcels 1 and 2 are zoned Rural Residential 3 which allows for one dwelling on 5 acres.

Over the past six years, the company has considered various ways to subdivide the property for residential development. In 2010 it proposed to subdivide about 250 acres into a 300 unit planned community with a mixture of one quarter to two acre properties, leaving about 300 acres as undeveloped green space. This proposal did not proceed. Canadian Horizons recently began surveying Parcels 1 and 2 (see the above map), which are located adjacent to Otter Point Road and Farmer Road. OPSRRA contacted Canadian Horizons in mid-March to inquire what might be happening. Here is the company's response to our request for information.

"We are investigating the feasibility of creating a small phase of 5 acre lots in conformance with the underlying zoning. The first step in the process is to identify suitable sites for the septic fields and then determine if wells of sufficient quantity and quality can be found. JE Anderson has successfully demonstrated the septic field capability so the next step will be to undertake some water drilling which will occur in 2 to 3 weeks' time. In regard to the Rural A lands we are looking at a 3 lot subdivision, again in accordance with the underlying zoning. These 3 10 acre lots would be adjacent to the RR3 parcel in the southwest quadrant of the land. Beyond these 2 subdivisions we have no plans for the land and will probably sit on it for the longer term."

4. MEETING WITH TIMBERWEST AND COUVERDON

OPSRRA requested a meeting with TimberWest and Couverdon (the company's real estate arm) to review the company's activities in the Otter Point and Shirley areas. With the acquisition of 7678 hectares of Western Forest Products forest lands in 2011, TimberWest became the area's principal forest company and landowner about 327,000 hectares of private managed forests and real estate on Vancouver Island. TimberWest was purchased from its shareholders last June and is now wholly owned by the B.C. Management Corporation which manages pensions on behalf of provincial pension funds and the Pension Service Management Board, a federal Crown corporation which manages federal pensions. Maintaining a relationship with the company is important to our community. OPSRRA's discussions focused on four areas:

1. **Watersheds:** TimberWest owns land in the Muir Creek, Tugwell, King Creek and DeMamiel Creek watersheds. The company's Manager of Environment & Resource Integration attended the meeting and reviewed the procedures they use when logging in watersheds and near riparian area. Logging in areas which provide community drinking, protocol for informing residents of logging activities that might affect their water and correct information to identify water licenses were discussed. TimberWest said they have access to the records of all water licenses in areas that they are logging and they notify license holders if it is deemed necessary (e.g. The distance of logging from a water license is a factor, as is terrain.)
2. **Logging Plans:** There are no immediate plans to resume logging in the areas near Shirley and Otter Point. However, logging is happening on some of their properties farther north into the Rural Resource Lands and logging trucks come down Butler Main to Young's Lake Road. Safety issues related to the continued use of Young's lake Road to access Otter Point Road were discussed.

3. **Reforestation:** Planting of trees is done as quickly as possible (usually within a year) and needs to comply with the Private Forest Management Act. TimberWest was unsure why part of the area known as Blueberry Flats, west of Muir Creek, was not replanted. The location of a gravel pit in the area may have been a factor. They are also working on a project with Scouts Canada whereby tree planting in one area of Shirley will be undertaken by the Scouts as part of a forest stewardship program.
4. **Land Sales:** Couverdon has no immediate plans to sell TimberWest lands in the local area; they are concentrating on selling "surplus" forest lands elsewhere on the Island. They're not actively looking at a master plan for the Muir Creek area, but possibly at "rejigging" of parcel lines and are holding off on any development to see if any group can purchase some of the land for a park.

5. MEETING WITH SOOKE REGION RCMP

Staff Sergeant Wright of the Sooke RCMP Detachment recently requested a meeting with representatives from OPSRRA to review the Detachment's 2011 priorities and offer our suggestions for their 2012 priorities. This was also an opportunity for the Staff Sergeant to explain the Detachment's operations.

The Sooke Detachment has 15 officers to provide 24 hour coverage seven days a week. However the Detachment is seldom at full complement because of injuries, maternal/paternal leave and holidays. Policing in the District of Sooke often takes priority over the Electoral Area. Also, because of the remoteness of many parts of the Electoral Area, when two officers are sent somewhere the remainder of the area is often left uncovered.

Eleven of the fifteen positions are paid for by the taxpayers of Sooke and four are paid for by the taxpayers of East Sooke, Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River, Port Renfrew and the Rural Resource Lands. The province pays a portion (depending on population size) of the policing costs for some but not all communities in the province. Residents of unincorporated areas have their policing costs more heavily subsidized by the province in comparison to incorporated areas. For example the 2011 provincial Police Tax for our area was \$10.67 per \$100,000 of assessed property value whereas the province's Municipal Police Statistics for 2010 shows the District of Sooke's cost for policing to be \$134.00 per capita (person of population). Although the cost is calculated differently between the Electoral Area and the District of Sooke, the District of Sooke still ends-up paying far more for their share of the Detachment's costs than the Electoral Area.

The Sooke Detachment's priorities for 2011 were to:

- Reduce the high vehicle accident rate.
- Reduce property crimes.
- Improve relationships with First Nations.
- Reduce illegal drug use.
- Reduce incidences of Driving Under the Influence (DUI).

OPSRRA suggested that the Detachment's priorities in our area should be:

- More coverage on Highway 14 to reduce speeding and accidents.
- More community patrols to show a presence.
- Discourage off-roading vehicles (no license/no helmet) using public roads.

- Promote non-vehicular safety in areas where roadways also serve as sidewalks.

The Sooke RCMP Detachment would like to reactivate and expand the **Speed Watch** program which uses trained volunteers to monitor vehicle speed along major roadways in the community. If you are interested in volunteering for this program or need further information, contact Staff Sergeant Wright at: 250-642-5241 or email: stephen.w.wright@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

6. SHIRLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AGM AND ELECTIONS

The Shirley Community Association held its Annual General Meeting on March 14, 2012. The following were elected as directors for the coming year:

President: Fiona McDannold

Vice-President: Christopher Lucas

Secretary: Nick Wilde

Treasurer: James Powell

Directors: Melody Kimmel, Chuck Minten, Ava Gilbertson

The Shirley Community Association provides the following services to their community:

- Owns and maintains a hall for public use and private events.
- Organizes events throughout the year to celebrate community spirit.
- Maintains Pioneer Park for public enjoyment.
- Provides a home base for the Shirley Volunteer Fire Department.
- Provides a facility for JDF Emergency Response, Shirley Chapter.
- Provides emergency shelter in case of disaster.
- Serves as a conduit for communication between various government agencies and local residents.
- Provides a forum for local residents to raise their concerns/comments.

SCA memberships are \$10 per person per year.

Web address: www.shirleycommunity.org

email sca@shirleycommunity.org

7. FORUM: THE FUTURE OF FORESTS IN THE RURAL RESOURCE LANDS

The Rural Resource Lands (RRL) are located mostly to the north of Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River and Port Renfrew and extend to the border of the Cowichan Valley Regional District. They also include the lands between China Beach and Botanical Beach where the Juan de Fuca Marine Trail is located. These lands are completely within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and comprise an estimated 132,000 hectares with a population of about 160. Most of the RRL is owned by private forest companies (58,825 hectares) with the balance being provincial Crown land (49,540 hectares), Greater Victoria watershed (16,265 hectares), parks and protected areas (4,660 hectares) and other lands (2,710 hectares). More information about the RRL can found on the JDFA web site at: http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/landuse/rural_ocp.htm

The organizers of an upcoming forum on the future of our regional forest lands submitted the following article.

Our Forests, Our Future: planning for the regional forest lands

Celebrate May Day by attending a community forum on the future of forests in the Capital Regional District resource lands. Panelists are Rosie Betsworth, businesswoman, Port Renfrew; Bill Bourgeois, registered professional forester, Vancouver; and Vicky Husband, conservationist, Highlands resident and an Otter Point property owner.

Rosie Betsworth, President of the Port Renfrew Chamber of Commerce, will highlight the benefits of sustainable forest management and eco-tourism and the diversification of the economy for the future.

Bill Bourgeois has 35 years' experience in the forest industry and land use planning with CORE. He is the founder of the Healthy Forests Healthy Communities initiative which brings consultation into local communities.

Vicky Husband is a long time conservationist, involved in land use planning, protection and better management of forests and lands. Her effective action to educate the public and convince politicians of the wisdom of conservation in all its forms has been recognized with the Order of Canada and the Order of B.C.

The first forum will be at Edward Milne Community School on Tuesday, May 1, starting at 7:00 pm. A second forum, with a different mix of speakers, will be at the Ambrosia Centre, 638 Fisgard Street, on May 3, again at 7:00 pm.

Several things came together to inspire these forums. This year, the CRD staff and Board want to achieve a Regional Sustainability Strategy that captures the values and goals of an informed public. The general public demonstrated a great interest in the future of the regional resource lands when they attended Public Hearings for the Marine Trail Holdings application. People were deeply concerned about the protection of the Juan de Fuca Marine Trail and that the proposed development was not suited to the resource lands. And finally, the Auditor General's February 2012 report on forestry in B.C. says that recent forestry practices are not sustainable, which is a grave concern.

The forums are intended to provide a realistic assessment of how we can get the best out of the CRD regional resource lands. Sustainable harvest, preservation of valued ecosystems and jobs that depend on harvesting forest products as well as jobs that involve adventure and eco-tourism will all be in the mix. They are organized by an alliance of environmental and conservation groups active on the south island such as Sierra Club BC, Western Canada Wilderness Committee, Sea to Sea Greenbelt Society, Jordan River Steering Committee, and by individual citizens with ties to their communities.

Why attend? Because you are one of the decision makers. People tend to leave planning to someone else who knows more than they do. It can be a disappointment, when the ink is dried, to find out you could have done better if you'd known then what you know now. Attend one of the forums. Find out what people know. Ask questions. Be ready with your own answers when the CRD asks for your ideas on the future of the regional forest lands.

8. APRIL IN THE GARDEN

Marika Nagasaka, principal gardener at the ALM Organic Farm in Otter Point submitted the following item:

There are lots of greens to eat right now. Soon, as the kales and other brassicas start to go to seed, we will be able to enjoy the florets, which are similar to broccoli in use and somewhat in flavor.

Bed prep is an important task in April. Keep a close watch for dry windows of opportunity to be out working the soil.

We have seeded broad beans, peas and potatoes so far outside, which we will continue through April. The next crops we will direct seed outside will be carrots, radishes, beets and runner beans: we hope to have those seeded by mid-April.

We are also full up with trays and transplants. We are transplanting out our first greens that we started in February, chard, kales, spinach, Asian greens, lettuces, green onions, beets, and many other salad and braising greens. We will be seeding broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower into trays as well.

We are also seeding our first trays of basil to sell and to transplant out into cold frames. We start the basil on the heat tables.

Next week we will also be starting to transplant tomatoes into the cold frames, a task that will continue through to May. We are also caring for peppers & eggplant, which need the most heat; they spend a lot of time occupying our heat tables.

April is the month to start the first set of cucurbits. We will start our first cukes, summer squash and winter squash on heat. We aim to have our first (of 3) successions of summer squash ready to transplant out the first week of May, to have the earliest summer squash. They will need to be protected and kept warm, we will plant into black plastic and they will get covered right away with floating row cover.

9. SAVE OUR SALMON FESTIVAL IN SUPPORT OF MUIR CREEK

Amanda Swinimer, the event organizer, submitted the following information about the 6th Annual Save Our Salmon (S.O.S.) Festival on Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21 at the Shirley Hall:

Contact Amanda at:

www.dakinitidalwilds.com or
phone 250-818-4633

A festival Inspired by and in celebration of Muir Creek

A community & family event

ALL AGES

at the Shirley Hall

Friday, 6:00 pm to 1:00 am

Saturday, 2:00 pm to 1:00am

Tickets available in advance ONLY (due to liquor license)
from Amanda (250) 818-4633 or
the Stick in the Mud Coffee Shop in Sooke.

Muir Creek is a very special place located 12 km west of Sooke. It has been used as a recreational area since the 70s and before that was a coastal T'Sou-ke First Nations village site. There are 3 species of spawning salmon (Coho, Chum & spring), culturally modified trees, the second largest Yew tree in B.C.'s 'Big Tree Registry' and several old growth cedars 6 feet+ in diameter, all at Muir Creek. The area is privately owned land by TimberWest. Our hope is to raise awareness to PROTECT & PRESERVE the wild ecosystem of Muir Creek. We hope to resume talks with the T'Sou-ke First Nations, CRD, local MP and TimberWest about how we can actualize this protection.

The S.O.S. Fest is a festival 'inspired by and in celebration of Muir Creek.' An eclectic fusion of live music, Yoga, dance, workshops and an eco-village of info booths weaves a feeling of celebration and unity among our community. Gratitude and love for Muir Creek bubbles throughout the festivities.

It is a benefit festival, where everyone involved in putting it together, including professional musicians, dancers, sound people, volunteers who make yummy food, coffee, serve drinks, work the door, security; local sustainable businesses who offer information & display, provide workshops, donate door prizes and gifts for the musicians, etc., donate their efforts to the cause...Muir Creek.

Session Funk	high energy space-funk band from Vancouver
Jah Request	roots-dub-dancehall from Saltspring Island
Arise	rootsy dub from Victoria
Kikeyambay	West African electric orchestra from Victoria
Safety Meeting	original reggae & groove from Jordan River/Shirley
Tanya Devine	mysterical didgeridoo grooves
Ramshackle Ruby	local fire-spinning goddess
D.J. Hayden	Irie Aloha vibes and providing the sweet sound
Workshops:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yoga for freeing the heart • Didgeridoo sound healing

Yummy food available both days and drinks including beer & wine

'Muir Creek rumbled and decided of its own accord that the community should get together in the Spirit of peace, love and unity and celebrate, with conscious, local music as a vehicle for positive evolution.'

10. CRD NATURAL AREAS ATLAS WORKSHOP

The Juan de Fuca Planning Services office intends to host a workshop for interested residents of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area who want to know more about how to use the CRD Natural Atlas, including special features and applications. Interested persons can contact June Klassen, Manager, JDFA Planning Services for more information.

Phone: 250-642-1500

Email: jklassen@crd.bc.ca

11. FIRE SEASON IN SHIRLEY AND OTTER POINT

Yes it is still cool and wet, but the fire season in Shirley and Otter Point is from April 1 to October 31. Contact the volunteer fire department for your community for details on fire permits, restricted hours of burning, setbacks from flammable material, etc.

NON-EMERGENCIES & INFORMATION:

Otter Point: Visit the Otter Point Fire Department web site: www.otterpointfire.bc.ca or phone 642-6211 for **non-emergencies** and leave a message.

Shirley: Contact someone for information through the Shirley Fire Hall: phone 250-646- 2107 for **non-emergencies**.

FIRE EMERGENCY IN SHIRLEY OR OTTER POINT, CALL 911

12. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Economic Development Commission (EDC) supports community initiatives that it considers will improve the economy of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and create local employment. The EDC is currently advertising that it would welcome applications for funding assistance. The EDC uses the following criteria when considering an application:

- Significance of the issue addressed.
- Quality of the proposed project.
- How the community will benefit from the project.

The advertised deadline for applications to be received at the Juan de Fuca Planning Services Office located at 2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke is Monday, April 9 at 4:00 pm

Note: Because Monday, April 9 is a statutory holiday for the CRD offices, OPSRRA contacted the CRD regarding an extension. Applications will now be accepted until Noon on Tuesday, April 10.

OPSRRA has successfully applied to the EDC, in previous years, for assistance with the **Otter Point Shirley & Jordan River Developing a Strategic Vision Project** and the **Shirley and Otter Point Highway Signage Project**.

13. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

The correct location of the Berger Cabin in Otter Point could not be identified? Henry Berger came to Canada from Austria. He was known as an educated man and former dancing instructor who supported himself working on local road construction and with subsistence farming on his one acre property located on Otter Point Road, across from Robinson Road.

His one room cabin was believed to have been built in 1892, and he resided there for about 30 years. The cabin was later used from the 1960s until sometime into the 1990s as a shed when the property was property owned by John Corrie and then his son Maurice. Somewhere along the way, Berger's cabin disappeared and the shack next door became abandoned. The property reverted to the province as Crown land, possibly through a property tax deferral agreement with the last owner.

The province recently cleaned-up the property and the bright blue and yellow shack, which could be seen from the road, was removed as it was a safety hazard. However, all the fruit trees have been left undisturbed, including two which may be

the ones seen in a 1912 picture of the cabin included in *101 Historical Buildings of the Sooke Region*.

Information for this month's **Did You Know That?** came, in part, from *101 Historical Buildings of the Sooke Region* written and published by the Sooke Region Historical Society.

Do you have local historical information about Shirley and Otter Point you would like to share, or questions that you would like answered? If so, let us know and we'll try to help. Contact Arnie Campbell by phone (250-642-3113) or by email opsrra@gmail.com

14. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS

Do you operate a small business? Are you an OPSRRA member? OPSRRA is offering 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 anticipate having 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 an on-line 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.

OPSRRA welcomes the following local business to its Business Listings:

Kemp Lake Store Café **In the heart of Otter Point!**

Delicious food made from local ingredients, take along food for camping, hiking, surfing, or just touring

Convenience store – for what you forgot!

7875 West Coast Road

250-642-7875

Recently reopened under new ownership, the store is open daily from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm and the café is open Wednesday to Sunday for breakfast (9:00 am to noon) and lunch (noon –to 4:00 pm).

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

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair

Accent in Grooming

A Point of View B & B

ALM Organic Farm

Beaches West B & B

Bear Home Remodelling

Birds Edge Press
Coastal Crunch Granola
Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suites
Farmer Notary—Shawna Farmer, Notary Public.
Full Circle Seeds
Glen's Gardening Company
Heron's Rest B & B
"In A Fix" Bookkeeping & Accounting Services
Jambo Pet Sitting Service
Kemp Lake Store Cafe
Kirsten Sykes, Realtor
Knotty Beds by Nature
Le Sooke Spa
Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage
Ocean Wilderness Inn
Otter Point Beach House
Otter Point Electrical Service
Reflexology by Marlene Barry
Rhythm's Edge Percussion Shop
Road's End Construction
Sandy's Drywall Ltd
Stick in the Mud Coffee House
Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast
Three Sisters Farm
Tugwell Creek Honey Farm
Tugwell Creek Meadery
Welcome Wagon
Wood Visions

15. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER

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

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: www.opsrra.ca.

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 got it wrong we will acknowledge that and make a correction as quickly as possible.
