

# OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE JULY 2008

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 **380**. Any resident or property owner in Shirley and Otter Point is eligible for membership.

**Lifetime memberships cost \$5.00 per person** and are available from OPSRRA directors—see our web site ([www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca)) for further information and on-line registration.

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 is now e-mailing this newsletter to over **200** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca) if you want to receive this membership service.

## OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

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## IN THIS ISSUE

1.UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS.....	2
2.STANLEY PARK TREE TRAVELS TO BEIJING.....	4
3.THE “ADMIRAL” RECEIVED AN HONORARY DEGREE FROM ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY.....	5
4.3L DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC HEARING.....	5
5.OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC VISION DEADLINE FOR COMMUNITY COMMENT ON FIRST DRAFT OF FINAL REPORT.....	5
6.DID YOU KNOW THAT ... ..	6
7.FREE SMALL BUSINESS LISTING ON OPSRRA’S WEB SITE.....	7
8.BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER.....	8

### 1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Arnie Campbell at: [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca) or **642-3113** to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar.

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Wednesday  
July 2

**Developing a Strategic Vision Steering Committee  
Monthly Meeting**  
**Public welcome!**  
**9:00 a.m. to noon**  
Board Room  
SEAPARC Leisure Complex  
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

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Thursday  
July 3

**Juan de Fuca Parks Committee**  
5:00 p.m.  
JDF Electoral Area Services Office  
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

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Saturday  
July 7

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**  
**Hike up the Matterhorn**  
9:30 a.m.  
Meet at Tieulie Place (just off Highway 14 at French Beach: Eagle  
Light General Store)  
5 plus hour day  
The hike to the summit is through some beautiful forest and  
interesting plants to a spectacular view of the straits. Bring your  
camera. Bring water and your lunch. Dress for the weather.  
Phone 250-642-2767 for details.  
**Please note our new web address:**  
[www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca](http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca)

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Tuesday  
July 8

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

7:00 p.m.  
District of Sooke Council Chambers  
2225 Otter Point Road

You can obtain the agenda the Friday before the meeting at the CRD Planning Services office, 2-6868 West Coast Road or on the CRD website at: [www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm](http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm)  
Click on "Agenda" at the top of the page.

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Wednesday  
July 9

**Shirley Community Association  
General Meeting**

7:30 pm  
Shirley Community Hall

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Saturday  
July 12

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society  
Trail clipping party on Broom Hill**

9:00 a.m. to noon  
Meet at Manatu Road  
Bring your work gloves, clippers, loppers and hand saws, water and snack.

[www.freewebs.com/communitytrails](http://www.freewebs.com/communitytrails)

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Thursday  
July 17

**Sooke Electoral Area Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)  
Meeting**

7:00 p.m.  
Multi-Purpose Room "A"  
SEAPARC Leisure Complex  
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

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Thursday  
July 24

**JDF Economic Development Commission  
Monthly Meeting**

6:00 pm  
Village Foods Meeting Room  
6661 Sooke Road, Sooke BC

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Saturday  
August 2

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society  
Hike to Grassy Lake**

9:00 a.m.  
Full day hike.  
Meet at the gravel pit just across the Charters Creek bridge, 2900 block of Sooke River Road.  
We will spend some time at the lake to swim or explore, and return to the cars late in the afternoon.

Phone 250-642-2767 or email [sid2767@shaw.ca](mailto:sid2767@shaw.ca) for details.

Please note our new web address:

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

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Second & Shirley Quilters and Crafters  
Fourth 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Thursday Shirley Community Hall  
of every month

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**NOTE:** Incorrect information was provided in the item about the Kemp Lake Waterworks District elections in last month's newsletter. Kevan Brehart, not Joanne Hemphill was acclaimed as a trustee for another term.

## 2. STANLEY PARK TREE TRAVELS TO BEIJING

So what did you do with the trees that came down on your property during that horrific windstorm of December 2006? Some folks used innovative ways to deal with their yard debris; including the City of Vancouver that sent one of their fallen trees to Beijing, China.

Otter Point resident, Kenny Jones was asked to create the BC Spirit Tree for the British Columbia Canada Pavilion located in Beijing. The Pavilion's main exhibit is based on the five Chinese elements of metal, wood, water, fire, and earth. The tree would be the main feature in the wood section.

The Hollow Tree in Stanley Park inspired the artistic concept. Together with the Vancouver Parks staff, Kenny chose a western red cedar from Stanley Park's fallen trees. The 500 year old tree was eight feet wide and weighed 10,000 pounds. It was taken to Maple Ridge where Kenny cut it lengthwise into four sections then spent two months hollowing the pieces out by hand before sending the pieces to be kiln-dried. One section was six feet wide and weighed 1600 pounds after drying.

The City of Vancouver donated a workshop area within the former Gas Town tourist attraction, Storyeum. The sections were transported to the workshop where Kenny spent the next two months building the 15-foot diameter hollow tree sculpture. Once complete, the sculpture was then dismantled and put on custom-made dollies and began its two-month journey to Beijing.

In March Kenny traveled to Beijing to supervise the installation of the BC Spirit Tree as well as assisting the Pavilion's project manager, Ben Einer from East Sooke.

Opened in early June by the Premier of B.C., the Pavilion is described as being a "spectacular two-story, 21,000 square-foot exhibition and meeting centre sharing B.C.'s unique story with thousands of residents and visitors descending on Beijing during the 2008 Summer Games." The tree proved to be a large hit with visitors to the Pavilion with lots of photographs and stroking of the tree.

So what happens to the tree once the Pavilion is closed in September? We know that it will be coming back to Vancouver but it is unknown where it will find a permanent home. There are several public institutions interested in having the tree.

The Vancouver media provided extensive coverage of the event and the story of how the Spirit Tree was crafted. But now we know who gave them their special tree. Thanks Kenny.

### **3. THE “ADMIRAL” RECEIVED AN HONORARY DEGREE FROM ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY**

John Charles, forty-year Otter Point resident and former Commandant of Royal Roads Military College was awarded an honorary Doctor of Law degree by Royal Roads University at their June 20th convocation.

Many know John as the “Admiral” because of his 37 year career with both the British and Canadian navies. He is also a community volunteer, private forest owner and long-time supporter of Royal Roads—both during its time as a military college and now as a university. John’s military career began with the Royal Canadian Navy in 1937 and he served aboard sea-going warships during both World War II and the Korean Conflict. Highlights of his distinguished military career included being the Commanding Officer of HMCS Haida, Commander Canadian Destroyers Far East, Director of Naval Operations, Commander 2nd Escort Squadron, Commandant of Royal Roads Military College and Deputy Chief of Defense Staff.

John retired from the military as a Rear Admiral in 1974 but continued his involvement with Royal Roads. He founded the Friends of Hatley Park Society, a group of volunteers who have worked to maintain and care for the gardens and grounds at Royal Roads University. It was during his time as president of the society that a successful effort was made to have Hartley Park declared a federal historic site.

Nowadays John continues working in his woodlot, volunteering his time with a couple of local organizations and managing to attend more meetings than most: including one memorable one this past February at the Otter Point Fire Hall. On his way to that one, he and others came upon a fallen tree that had blocked Kemp Lake Rd. John, with his trusty chainsaw, freed the way and successfully guided his “convoy” of cars to the meeting on time.

**Bravo Zulu John.**

### **4. 3L DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC HEARING**

As outlined, in the June newsletter, OPSRRA’s Directors agreed to speak in favour of the proposed rezoning of the 3L Development property. Support for 3L’s application was also given by the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society, the Sooke Salmon Enhancement Society and four of the owners of adjoining properties.

The request for rezoning will now be reviewed by CRD Planning Services and a recommendation will be made as to whether or not the rezoning applications should proceed to the CRD Board for final approval.

### **5. OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC VISION DEADLINE FOR COMMUNITY COMMENT ON FIRST DRAFT OF FINAL REPORT**

**What would you like your community to look like 15 years from now?**

The deadline for comments on the first draft of the Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River strategic vision was June 30, but **because of the July 1 holiday, responses will be accepted until July 6.** Beginning July 17 you will have an opportunity to comment on the second draft of a **Strategic Vision for Otter Point, Shirley and**

**Jordan River.** This draft will be posted to the web sites noted below and printed copies will be available upon request.

The first draft of the Strategic Vision was circulated for community comment during the month of June. This initial compilation was put together by the project's steering committee from the ideas and suggestions made by local residents at two recent half-day community workshops. The participants discussed community values and identified broad goals, strategies and activities for the future.

The second draft will incorporate suggested changes to the first draft as well as additional information from other local area planning studies and the community forums which were held as part of the Vision project.

**The second step** (of a two-step community feedback process) is for you to take the time to read the second draft, think about what it says, and provide input by completing and returning the available questionnaire by **no later than July 31, 2008**. Your comments will then be used to help us write the final report.

Ultimately, our goal is to produce a final document by the end of this summer that reflects, to the broadest extent possible, a widely shared vision for the future of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River. When finalized, the **Strategic Vision for Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River** will be presented to a broad range of government and other planning agencies to provide a stronger community voice and perspective when they make land use, economic development, governance, zoning, community services, transportation, environmental and other decisions about our community.

**We value and need your input for your community's vision.**

View the first draft and questionnaire on-line at either the Project's web site ([www.jdffuture.org](http://www.jdffuture.org)) or the Otter Point & Shirley Resident's & Ratepayers web site ([www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca)). Complete the questionnaire on-line, or print and mail to one of the addresses below.

Printed copies of the first draft and the questionnaire are also available. Contact either:

Wayne Fritz

Address: 2223 Carpenter Road, Otter Point BC V9Z 0R1  
Phone: 250-642-0440

Arnie Campbell

Address: 2950 Michelson Road, Otter Point BC V9Z 0J7  
Phone: 250-642-3113

## **6. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...**

**The Shirley Women's Institute was established on October 25, 1924 and that the first two Officers were Mrs. E.H. Cross and Mrs. E. Clark?** In its early years the Shirley Women's Institute was actively involved in raising money for the Shirley school, including, "... school prizes for school work, poultry, and garden contests, library, first aid kit, an organ, a well and shingle stain for the building....". In the 1920's the Institute introduced a motion asking that Armistice Day be made a public holiday. This came about in response to a suggestion that Thanksgiving and Armistice Day should be combined into one public holiday. The Shirley WI disagreed and circulated a petition requesting that November the 11th should be kept as a separate public holiday in honour and memory of those who had made the Armistice possible. The Shirley WI was also an early supporter of the Queen

Alexandra Solarium was instrumental in getting a school nurse for the local area and helped to build the Shirley Hall.

Information for this month's **Did You Know That?** is from *Modern Pioneers 1909-1959 British Columbia's Women's Institute* and *100 Years of B.C. Women's Institutes 1909-2009*.

Do you have local historical information that you would like to share or questions that you would like answered? If so, let us know and we'll try to help.

## 7. FREE SMALL BUSINESS LISTING ON OPSRRA'S WEB SITE

**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](http://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](http://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.

**The OPSRRA web site has more information about the following business listings**

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair	Accent in Grooming
ALM Organic Farm	A Point of View B&B
Beaches West B&B	Bear Home Remodeling
Birds Edge Press	Blue Waters B&B
DanCyn Kioti Excavation	Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suite
Fancy That Esthetics & Body Care	Full Circle Seeds
Heron's Rest B&B	Jambo Pet Sitting Service
Kemp Lake Store	Knotty Beds by Nature
Le Sooke Spa	Otter Point Beach House
Rhythm's Edge Percussion Shop	Road's End Construction
Sandy's Drywall Ltd	Stick in the Mud Coffee House
Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast	Tugwell Creek Honey Farm
Tugwell Creek Meadery	Wood Visions

## **8. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER**

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

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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](http://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. 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.

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