

OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE **November 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 over **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

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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.

Saturday
November 3

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Hike Windy Bluff and beyond

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the Kaltasin Road Park and Ride opposite Saseenos Elementary School to drive to Camp Thunderbird.

A half day hike on a single track trail.

Bring a snack and dress for the weather.

Phone Sid Jorna, 250-642-2767

or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Sunday
November 4

Town Hall Meeting

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Otter Point Fire Hall

3727 Otter Point Road, Otter Point BC

Question and answer session with elected local representatives. Sponsored by OPSRRA

See newsletter item below.

Tuesday
November 6

Juan de Fuca Emergency Services

Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.

JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building

2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Wednesday
November 7

Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission (SEAPARC)

Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Board Room

SEAPARC Leisure Complex

2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Sunday
November 11

Remembrance Day Ceremony

10:45 a.m.

Pioneer Park/Shirley Community Hall

Coffee to follow

Wednesday
November 14 **Shirley Community Association**
Membership Meeting
7:30 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Sunday
November 18 **Shirley Christmas Craft Fair**
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Monday
November 19 **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
November 20 **JDF Electoral Area Land Use Committee (LUC)**
Meeting
7:00 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Planning Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

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.

Sunday
November 25 **Shirley Fire Commission**
Annual General Meeting
2:30 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Tuesday
November 27 **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation**
Commission
Monthly Meeting
3:00 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Saturday
December 1

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Explore the trail extension and access to the Sooke Potholes Regional Park
9:00 a.m.

Meet at the last parking lot #2 Barnes Station..

A 2 to 3 hour walk on easy trails. We have the opportunity to be out for a longer or shorter time.

Bring a snack. Dress for the weather.

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

Sunday
December 3

Moss Cottage Christmas
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Sooke Region Museum

Snowman building, roasted nuts, hot drinks

Tuesday
December 4

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Economic Development Commission
Meeting
2:30 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Building Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

See newsletter item below

Tuesday
December 4

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

Wednesday
December 5

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

Mondays

Karate for all ages
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

Mondays **Yogilates**
10:00 to 11:15 a.m.
Shirley Community Hall
Contact Sandra Smith:
website: www.svakayoga.com
email: svakayoga@gmail.com

Thursdays **Shirley Quilters and Crafters**
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Everyone welcome

Contact Christien Shipton: 250-646-2687

Saturdays **Pilates**
9:30 am
Shirley Community Hall

Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)

Cost: \$5.00

Contact: Sandra Smith
website: www.svakayoga.com
email: svakayoga@gmail.com

**Thursdays &
Sundays** **Nia Dance / Movement Class**
Thursdays: 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.
Sundays: 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Contact Melody Kimmell:
250-646-2995
movingmelody@gmail.com

2. OPSRRA'S NOVEMBER TOWN HALL PUBLIC MEETING

On years when there isn't an election happening, OPSRRA organizes a Town Hall meeting with local area elected representatives. This is a public event and all residents west of Sooke are invited to attend.

Date: Sunday, November 4, 2012

Time: 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Place: Otter Point Fire Hall

John Horgan, MLA, and Regional Director Mike Hicks have confirmed their attendance. Our MP, Randall Garrison, was invited, but Parliament in Ottawa is in session at that time so he sent his regrets. However, Mayor Wendal Milne of Sooke has agreed to come. Inviting the Mayor of Sooke is a departure from our previous Town Hall meetings as the unincorporated communities west of Sooke don't participate in Sooke elections. But, we do share many services with the District of Sooke such as the library, SEAPARC and the RCMP as well as Highway 14, the Kemp Lake watershed and mutual aid agreements between our fire department. Decisions made by Sooke's Mayor and Council can often affect the JDFEA. Also, the Mayor of Sooke sits on numerous Capital Regional District (CRD) committees that make decisions concerning our area. One of those committees is CRD Land Use Committee A which votes on land use recommendations from the JDFEA Land Use Committee to the CRD Board of Directors.

The Town Hall meeting will start with brief opening comments from each of our guests followed by a moderated Question & Answer session. Light refreshments provided.

Note: There is a time change on Sunday; this event will start at 2:00 pm Pacific Standard Time.

3. OPSSRA'S MONTHLY SURVEY

October Survey: Water

The **October** survey is now closed; there were 63 responses.

The survey results:

Question	Community Response		
	Otter Point	Shirley	Jordan River
Which Community do you live in?	48	14	

Question	Community Response		
	Otter Point	Shirley	Jordan River
How do you get your drinking water?			
Water Source*:			
Deep (Drilled) Well	20	2	0
Shallow (Dug) Well	12	1	0
Rain Water Collection	0	3	0
Community Water	12	6	1
Stream License	4	2	0
Totals	48	14	1

Note: Some respondents indicated that they rely on multiple sources – especially those on shallow wells. Only their first answer was recorded in the above table.

Question	Response				
On a scale of 1(lowest) to 5 (highest), are your household water needs being met?	1	2	3	4	5
Otter Point	2	3	5	16	22
Shirley	1	0	1	8	4
Jordan River	0	0	0	0	1

Question	Community Response		
Have you considered other ways to meet your water needs?	Otter Point	Shirley	Jordan River
Yes	26	8	1
No	22	6	0

Question
If you answered yes, describe the other ways you have considered.

The majority indicated that they are looking at some form of rain water collection to supplement their water supply. Others are looking at installing extra storage for either well or rain water. Water delivery, connecting to a community water system and using bottled water were also considered.

Question	Community Response		
Are you concerned about the safety of your water supply?	Otter Point	Shirley	Jordan River
Yes	32	9	0
No	16	5	1

Question	Community Response		
Are you concerned about the quality of your water supply?	Otter Point	Shirley	Jordan River
Yes	36	5	0
No	12	9	1

Question	Community Response		
Are you concerned about the future quality and quantity of your drinking water?	Otter Point	Shirley	Jordan River
Yes	42	9	0
No	6	5	1

We also asked participants if they wanted to add any comments. And they did! There were 31 comments which can be summarized into the following points:

- Also need water for fire protection.
- Access to water shouldn't be used to control development – that is what zoning is supposed to do.
- Access to water should be a right.
- Getting enough water isn't the problem. Water storage is the problem.
- Well owners should have their water tested. Sometimes filters and ultraviolet light are needed.
- Watersheds should be protected.
- Wells are costly to drill and service and even then there is no assurance of adequate water.
- Encourage the use of rainwater for farming and gardening.
- Concern about the impact of new development on existing wells.
- Should be working toward getting connected to CRD water.
- Water from older wells is diminishing as new wells are drilled.
- There is no mapping of where water is or is not located in the area.
- The increasing cost of community water is a concern.
- The encroachment of septic fields on water sources is a concern.
- Developments should not be permitted if they can't prove water.

All of the comments will be posted on the OPSRRA web site. The results of the survey and the comments will be sent to the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Manager of Planning Services and the Regional Director.

Next Survey: Community Services

Note: We won't have a November survey. Our next topic will be community services; we are still working on the questions.

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVALS

Two unexpected things happened at the October 25 meeting of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Economic Development Commission (EDC). First, financial information showed that so far this year it had cost more to administer the commission than was issued in grants. Secondly, the CRD's General Manager of Corporate Services has informed the commission that it may be operating outside of its mandate and consequently the EDC's grant application form was removed from the CRD web site.

The role and meeting schedule of the EDC was changed this past spring by JDFEA Regional Director Mike Hicks. Rather than the previous system of 6 meetings per year, one meeting is now being held in the spring and another in the fall. Additional meetings, if necessary, may be called by the chairperson. According to Director Hicks, the reduction in meeting times would hopefully reduce the administration costs while meeting the demand for grant applications funds to support community initiatives that improve the economy and create jobs. As a result of the change the EDC no longer pursues its original objectives:

- Developing and promoting an economic strategy for the Electoral Area.

- Working with First Nations.
- Preserving and strengthening existing businesses.
- Attracting new businesses.
- Coordinating local economic development opportunities.

Problem number one: the Commission has a budget of \$40,000, part of which is used to cover the commission's administrative costs. In 2010 it approved 9 grants for a total cost of \$22,796 and had \$6,652 in administrative costs. In 2011 it approved 6 grants for a total cost of \$21,500 and had administrative costs of \$6,229. At the midway point of 2012 it had approved 4 grants for a total of \$4,119 while its administration costs for that period were \$4,501. The EDC approved two further grants at their October 25 meeting: \$1,500 to the Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society towards the cost of printing a brochure, and \$6,000 to the Sooke Region Tourism Association towards the cost of a tourism promotion video. The EDC's administration charges for the remainder of the 2012/13 fiscal year are presently unknown.

Problem number two: the CRD's General Manager of Corporate Services has informed the Regional Director that: the EDC's ad for grant applications was too broad; Local governments are not allowed to give benefit to businesses or individuals; and the EDC's letters patent are for planning and strategy and not for giving grants. The EDC lost its quorum at the October 25 meeting before it could deal with this matter. A special meeting of the EDC has now been scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, at 2:30 pm at the JDFEA Planning Services Meeting Room, 6868 West Coast Road, Sooke.

EDC members:

Chair: Yale Shap from East Sooke

Vice Chair: Blair Cusiak also from East Sooke

Other members appointed to the commission by the Regional Director are:

Ken Douch, Otter Point

Mary Alice Johnson, Otter Point

Elizabeth Petersen, Otter Point.

5. BOARD OF VARIANCE APPOINTMENTS

Every three years, the Capital Regional District invites applications from residents of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area to fill a three year term on one of the Boards of Variance.

As of this year, there is one Board of Variance for East Sooke, Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River, Port Renfrew and the Rural Resource Lands. Previously, there was no Board for the Rural Resource Lands and Port Renfrew was unable to find people to serve on its Board.

Under Section 899 of the provincial Local Government Act, a local government that has adopted a zoning bylaw or a rural land use bylaw must establish a Board of Variance. The purpose of the Board is to hear appeals of hardship as described under Section 901 of the Act and to consider granting a variance to the relevant zoning or land use bylaw. One Board can serve for two or more zoning bylaw areas.

The deadline for applications was October 1 and the incumbents serving on the existing Board will be reappointed for three year terms on the new Juan de Fuca Board of Variance:

Greg Whincup, Otter Point

6. AWAITING JORDAN RIVER PARKLAND RECOMMENDATIONS

A decision is still pending regarding the possible disposition of some of the lands acquired from Western Forest Products (WFP) in the Jordan River area. Although the Capital Regional District only wanted to secure Sandcut Beach and the Surfers Beach as parkland, WFP was selling their properties in complete blocks as described in their real estate advertising. This resulted in more land being purchased by the CRD than they originally intended. Public consultation, following the purchase supported all of the properties being retained, however this seems unlikely. The CRD Regional Parks Committee met, in camera, in September and October to review staff recommendations. The committee's recommendations will likely go to the full CRD Board in December.

7. VOTING STRUCTURE FOR JDFEA MODIFICATION?

During last year's discussion of the Marine Trails Resort development that would have required rezoning of properties west of Jordan River, a majority of the members of the Capital Regional District Board of Directors questioned the process used to decide land use matters in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA). At issue was who should be allowed to vote on rezoning and other land use matters in the JDFEA. There was also a realization that there was no recognized process to determine whether bylaws and amendments to bylaws for the JDFEA are consistent with the CRD Regional Growth Strategy (RGS).

The CRD's Planning Services Department was directed to prepare a report with recommendations for consideration by the CRD's Planning, Transportation and Protective Services (PTPS) Committee. This is the committee responsible for the RGS. After a couple of revisions and a meeting with the JDFEA Land Use Committee, a revised staff report was presented to the PTPS Committee at their October 24 meeting.

The PTPS Committee supported the staff recommendations. The matter will now go to the full CRD Board for discussion and a decision. If approved, the following changes will come into effect sometime in 2013:

- The full Capital Regional Board (CRD) Board of Directors will vote on whether drafts of Official Community Plans (OCPs) in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area or amendments to these bylaws are inconsistent with the CRD's Regional Growth Strategy (RGS). If a bylaw is considered inconsistent, it will be denied or revised before first reading.
- The full CRD Board will vote on whether any rezoning applications in the Rural Resource Lands are inconsistent with the RGS. Again, a proposed amendment that is considered inconsistent will be denied or may be revised before first reading.
- The JDFEA Regional Director will be invited to attend and address any PTPS meeting where land use matters pertaining to the JDFEA are being considered. The PTPS Committee will recommend a finding to the full CRD Board but the full Board has the final vote.

View the staff report to the PTPS Committee on the following CRD web site:
http://www.crd.bc.ca/reports/planningtransportati_/2012_/10oct24_/ppsjdftpsrepor tbi36/ppsjdftpsreportbi36.pdf

Proposed amendments to Otter Point Official Community Plan will likely be the first JDFEA land use matter to be reviewed under the revised process.

Director Hicks also asked that the committee consider a request that the Electoral Area have an appeal mechanism if it has a dispute with the CRD regarding the Regional Growth Strategy. In response to that request the PTPS committee passed the following motion:

That the Planning, Transportation and Protective Services Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board that a letter be written under signature of the Chair to the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development requesting the establishment of a Regional Growth land use dispute resolution mechanism for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and the Capital Regional District that is similar to the one presently in use between municipalities and the Capital Regional District.

8. UPDATE: ROAD MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

On August 24, two representatives from OPSRRA hosted the Area Operations Manager from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and MLA John Horgan on a tour of roads in Shirley and Otter Point. The purpose was to have them see how poorly maintained and, in some cases, how unsafe our roadway had become. As a follow up to that tour, the Area Manger has informed OPSRRA that some improvements are being planned.

- The roadside mowing has now been completed.
- \$30,000 has been allocated for centre line and other road painting. However it may have come too late for this year as they need at least two days of dry weather before doing anything.
- Improved signage is being assessed.
- Replacing the pavement on a portion of Kemp Lake Road and Otter Point Road will be a priority in the 2013 budget.
- There will be a renewed effort to introduce a three year maintenance cycle for all ditches.
- Winter snow removal and sanding will be reviewed with MainRoad Contracting.

What can't be resolved are some of the issues related to Highway 14, especially the width. This roadway is narrower than provincial standards, resulting in the edges getting badly worn. The solution would require purchasing private land along the route to allow for widening and straightening, however there is no money available.

9. THE SHIRLEY HILL BOOGIES WANT TO 'RISE AGAIN'

This item was submitted to the OPSRRA newsletter.

One of the Shirley Community Association directors, Nick Wilde, is looking into resurrecting the Shirley Hill Boogies. The Shirley Hill Boogies were rock/folk music dances at the Shirley Community Hall in the 70s and 80s but haven't been active in something close to 30 years. He has a [survey \(click here\)](#) up to help gauge interest, and get input on what times would work best for attending for the most people and so forth. Please do fill it out soon as he hopes to be able to report about that and how he would like to proceed at the November 14th

(7:30pm at the Shirley Community Hall) Shirley Community Association meeting, though the survey won't be closed to submissions until at least December 1st if you don't have time now.

The other link to the survey is: <http://goo.gl/yNcMp>

10. SOOKE REGION VOLUNTEER CENTRE OPENS

The recently established Sooke Region Volunteer Centre sent the following information to the OPSRRA newsletter:

The Sooke Region Volunteer Centre is pleased to inform you that we have approximately 75 Volunteer Applications that have been gathered over the past six months and are ready to make referrals to the 160+ Agencies in the Region. If your Community Group or Agency is currently seeking volunteers, please send us your current volunteer opportunities, including a short position description and time commitment required to: volunteersooke@yahoo.ca

Your positions will be posted on the sookeregionresources.com website, as well as being sent out in informational emails to our applicants.

The Volunteer Centre also requires Community Support and input on the ongoing development of the Volunteer Centre, and what it will look like. Current ideas include the development of a Community Centre with various Community Partners, a Social Enterprise, and various grant applications to get the Centre up and running, but we want to hear from you!

11. MORE SUGGESTED ADDITIONS TO THE 'GIFT BASKET'

In August, we began a new newsletter feature in support of small businesses in our area. Christmas is only 55 days away (yes, we're sure that everyone needed that reminder) and we're asking you to help us promote small businesses in Shirley, Otter Point and Jordan River. What we want are suggestions for products and services that could fill examples of gift baskets which could be used as gift ideas for the Holiday Season or other times.

Give us your suggestions for single items or make-up a complete basket. Include an approximate price for the items or items and send your list to us at opsrra@gmail.com. We'll post the contents of baskets in the monthly newsletter. Local businesses are welcome to participate by sending us their product or service information.

August's Gift Basket:

Contents	Approximate Cost
Selection of seeds from ALM Organic Farm/Full Circle Seeds http://www.fullcircleseeds.com/	\$8.00
Bag of Coastal Crunch Granola from Sheila's Coastal Crunch smwallace@shaw.ca	\$8.00
Jar of wildflower honey from the Tugwell Creek Honey Farm http://tugwellcreekfarm.com/	\$9.00

September's Gift Basket:

Contents	Approximate Cost
Bag of Kemp Lake Café coffee beans from the Kemp Lake Store 7875 West Coast Road, Otter Point	\$10.00
Coco – Artisanal Body Butter from the Jordan River Soap Works http://www.jordanriversoapworks.com/	\$12.00
Lavender Earl Grey tea from From the Garden at French Beach http://www.fromthegarden.net/	\$8.00

October's Gift Basket:

Contents	Approximate Cost
Gift certificate from La Sooke Spa towards a facial or pedicure http://www.lesookespa.com/	\$50.00
One year membership in the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca	\$10.00
Custom made corkscrew from the Foggy Mountain Forge http://www.foggymountainforge.com/contact.html	\$15.00

November's Gift Basket:

Contents	Approximate Cost
Selection of jams from Three Sisters Farm in Otter Point http://www.three-sisters-farm.com/	\$8.00/\$9.00 for 50 ml
A jar of Kelp Flakes or Herbal Medicinal Salve from Dakin Tidal Wilds in Shirley http://www.dakinitidalwilds.com/contact.html	\$10.00 & \$16.00
A copy of Ferrets Underfoot by Kate Woods from Otter Point http://www.hedgerowpress.com/books/ferrets-underfoot/	\$20.00

P.S. If a local business wants to donate a product or service as a door prize which we can use in support of this project, let us know by email opsrra@gmail.com or call Arnie Campbell at 250-642-3113.

12. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

There were four pioneer schools located in Otter Point between 1899 and the early 1950s?

The earliest was the Tugwell Creek School located a quarter mile west of Tugwell Creek and about 200 yards north of Skookum Gulch. Local residents living in the area in the 1950s recall seeing the remains of the log structure; it's thought that when the bridge over Skookum Gulch was removed and Highway 14 realigned, that the new road passed over the site of the old school.

The school was built by local residents and opened in September 1899 on the property of the 600 acre Ted Gordon Farm. It was shared by children from Shirley and Otter Point. Among the early students were Lavinia, Margaret and Herbert Anderson, the children of Azuba and William Anderson who had moved to Otter Point in 1896. Children from the Henry Clark, J.J. Clarke and Kirby families also

attended over the years, as did seven children from the Goudie family, of Shirley; the school closed about four years later, in December 1902, when the John Goudie family left the area and not enough children were left to keep it open. However, it did remain in use as a community centre and was used for church and social gatherings for many years afterward.

Miss Bessie Lucas was the first teacher, followed by Miss Dora Butler, Miss Pearl Fleming, Miss Johanne Johnson and Miss Mabel Davey.

The other schools located in Otter Point were the Muir Creek School at Elder Camp (1941–1954), the Old Otter Point/Emerson School (1908–1913) and the Otter Point School (1913–1953).

This month's **Did You Know That?** is based upon information in *101 Historical Buildings* written and published by the Sooke Historical Society and a firsthand account written by Mrs. Marjory Perron (Anderson) who was a pupil at the Tugwell School.

Do you have local historical information about Shirley or Otter Point that you would like to share, or questions that you would like answered? If so, let us know and we'll try to help. Contact OPSRRA by email opsrra@gmail.com

13. 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.

New Business Service Listing

OPSRRA welcomes a new local area business to our Business Listing service. Christine Shipton, from Shirley, is the distributor for **Eco Craft Lights**. These are LED light strips that adhere to the throat of a sewing machine, long-arm quilting machine, large tools, looms, sock knitting machines and under counters. They are described as being lightweight, amazing bright and long lasting with 3 to 15 lights on various lengths.

For more information:

web site: www.ecocraftlightscanada.com

email: ecocraftlights@shaw.ca

Business Service Listing Update

The **Three Sisters Farm** is already listed on the OPSRRA web site. They sent us this listing update:

Preserves

We proudly look to the past for the recipes that inspire us, remembering what it was like to stand in our Grandmother's and Mother's kitchens and the gentle art of "putting by" which kept the family fed.

The following is a sampling of our many products. All of our preserves have been tested for proper pH and are cleared for sale at market. We use as many local and organic ingredients as possible in our creations, including produce from farms such as ALM, Silver Cloud and Red Earth. We hope you enjoy our products. We can deliver to Sooke or come out to meet us at the Sooke Country Market May to September. We also do gift baskets for those special occasions!

Jams: Apple Butter, Blackberry, Quince, Plum Rum Vanilla, Sweet Anne Cherry, Highland Spirit, Peach Melba.

Jellies: Hot Pepper, Pepper, Spiced Wine and Grape, Quince, Blackberry, Black Sheep Apple, Crabapple, Paradise, Mennonite spiced.

Chutneys: Pineapple and Mint, Mango, Kiwi Pepper, Pear, Blackberry, Carrot and Coconut.

Pickles: Dilly of a Pickle, Mediterranean Dills, Bread and Butter, Mustard, the Great Escape Dills.

Relishes: Grandma Potts Onion, Nana Nellie's Beet and Tomato, Corn, Norma Arnott's Zucchini Relish.

Marmalade: Highland Ginger and cranberry, Irish cut Orange, Sisters Sunday,

Specialty Products:

Blackberry Vinegar, Amanda's Lemon Jelly, Tasha's Tangy Ketchup, Ships Ration Orange Jelly, Branston Pickle and more.

Contact Nancy Bennett:

phone: 250 642 0401

email: nvbennett@shaw.ca

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

Eco Craft Lights

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

14. 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.
