

OPSRRA'S OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY & JORDAN RIVER NEWSLETTER **October 2013**

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF PUBLICATION!

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, Jordan River and Otter Point Official Community Plans boundaries 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.

Our society's purpose is to:

- 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.
- 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 email address? OPSRRA now emails this newsletter to over **300** of our members as well as local elected representatives, media and archival organizations. Contact Arnie Campbell at: opsrra@gmail.com if you want to receive this membership service.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

Fiona McDannold President
Phone: 250-646-2730

Bob Philips Vice-President
Phone: 250-642-3297

Brenda Mark Treasurer
Phone: 250-646-2598

Sandy Barta Director

Arnie Campbell Director
Phone: 250-642-3113

Brooke Fader Director

Chris Knoglinger Director
Phone: 250-646-2911

Marika Nagasaka Director
Phone: 250-642-2133

Contact any OPSRRA director at: opsrra@gmail.com

IN THIS ISSUE

Contents

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS.....	3
2. OPSRRA SURVEY: THE NEWSLETTER.....	8
3. BC TRANSIT STATISTICS: OTTER POINT LOOP.....	13
4. OPSRRA DIRECTORS MEET WITH JOHN HORGAN, MLA.....	14
5. FIRE SEASON IN OUR AREA.....	15
6. NO HUNTING OR SHOOTING BOUNDARY IN SHIRLEY, JORDAN RIVER AND OTTER POINT.....	16
7. ART SPACE AND GALLERY AT MALAHAT FARM.....	16
8. REZONING RECOMMENDED FOR SCOUTS CANADA, CAMP BARNARD.....	17
9. CHANGE COMING FOR THE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION OF SERVING AGENCIES (CASA).....	17
10. JDFEA ADMIN SERVICES BUILDING GOES SOLAR.....	18
11. TIMBERWEST PROPOSES A WIND FARM IN OUR AREA.....	19
12. JDFEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR RESIGNS FROM WESTSHORE PARKS & RECREATION SOCIETY.....	19
13. SHIRLEY HILL BOOGIES #2: FALL VIOLIN CONCERT.....	20
14. DID YOU KNOW THAT	21
15. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS.....	22
16. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER.....	23

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

Wednesday
October 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
October 5 **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**
Explore trails from Camp Thunderbird
9:00 a.m.

Meet at the park and ride on Kaltasin Road (opposite Saseenos School) at 9:00 a.m. to car pool.

A six hour hike from Camp Thunderbird following old forest roads and forest paths.

Bring a lunch, water and snacks. Dress for the weather.

Contact Rosemary Jorna, sid2767@shaw.ca for details.
Web site:
www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Saturday
October 5 **BC Transit**
Sooke Open House
10:00 a.m. to noon

BC Transit invites the community to tell them what bus service improvements they would like to see.

Visit the BC Transit Future Bus parked at the Sooke Farmers Market (Otter Point Road at Eustace Road).

Saturday
October 12

**Juan de Fuca Parks and Recreation Commission &
Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Hike Sooke Potholes Park to Peden Lake**

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the William Simmons Memorial Park (Poirier Lake) parking lot to car pool to the trail head. (Turn into the Sooke Business Park at 3220 Otter Point Road; the parking lot is behind the berm immediately to the left.)

A moderate hike (difficulty level 3) to Peden Lake. A good introduction to the beautiful Sooke Hills featuring good trails through typical forest with a 400m elevation gain.

Contact Sid at jdf.cts@gmail.com for more information

Tuesday
October 15

**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.

Staff reports available:

http://www.crd.bc.ca/reports/juandefucalandusecom_/2013/index.htm

Wednesday
October 16

**Shirley Fire Commission
Monthly meeting**

7:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Tuesday
October 22

**Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation Commission
Monthly Meeting**

3:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday
October 29

**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 opsrra@gmail.com

Thursday
October 31

**Otter Point Volunteer Fire Fighters
Association
Annual Hallowe'en
Bon fire & Fire works**

6:00 p.m. hot chocolate, hot dogs, &
candy bags for the kids

Fireworks 7:30 p.m.

Scouts Canada Camp Barnard
(Young's Lake Road)
Otter Point



Saturday
November 2

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Explore Otter Point**

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the William Simmons Memorial Park (Poirier Lake) parking lot to car pool to the trail head. (Turn into the Sooke Business Park at 3220 Otter Point Road; the parking lot is behind the berm immediately to the left.)

Note: Parking is limited at the trail head.

A 2 to 3 hour walk with good footing.

Bring water, snacks, and dress for the weather.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767
or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Sunday
November 2

Time Change

Remember to turn your clocks **back** one hour at 2:00 am for the change from Pacific Daylight Savings Time to Pacific Standard Time.

Tuesday
November 5

**Juan de Fuca Emergency Services
Monthly Meeting**

7:00 p.m.

JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Wednesday
November 9

**Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission (SEAPARC)**

Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road, Sooke BC

Saturday
November 9

**Juan de Fuca Parks and Recreation Commission &
Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
William Simmons Memorial Park (Poirier Lake), and the
Wieland and Butler Trails**

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the William Simmons Memorial Park parking lot.
(Turn into the Sooke Business Park at 3220 Otter Point
Road; the parking lot is behind the berm immediately to the
left.)

An orienteering walk sponsored by the Juan de Fuca Parks
and Recreation Commission.

An easy 6 km hike with no elevation gains; an excellent
introduction to hiking. Gain confidence using our wilderness
with the orienteering focus on map, compass and GPS use.

Wear sturdy boots, bring a snack and lots of water.

Contact Sid for more information: 250-642-2767.

JdF.CTS@gmail.com

Mondays

Karate for all ages

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

Mondays

Pilates

10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)

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)

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

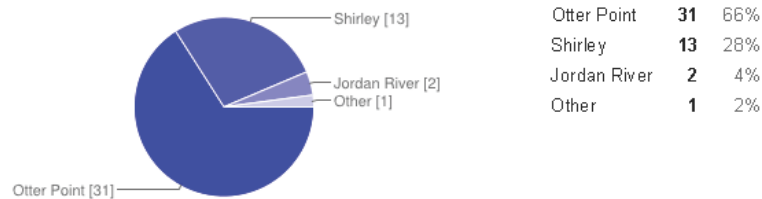
2. OPSRRA SURVEY: THE NEWSLETTER

Last month's OPSRRA survey asked questions concerning OPSRRA's newsletter's content, format and how it is distributed. There were 47 responses. There was also extensive comment from survey participants.

Support for the continuation of the OPSRRA newsletter and suggestions for new topics and features were the most common comments. All of the comments will soon be posted to the OPSRRA web site. Here are the survey results:

OPSRRA Newsletter Survey Summary

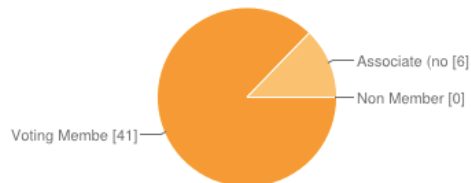
Which community do you live in?



If you answered OTHER to the above question, please specify which community.

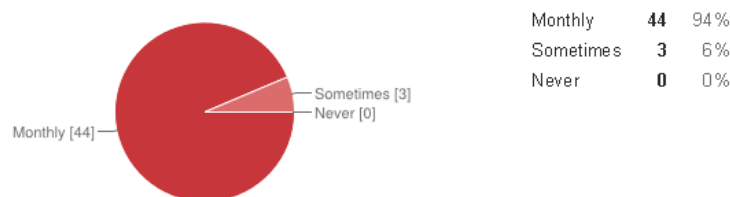
Surrey

Which of the following describes your relationship with OPSRRA?

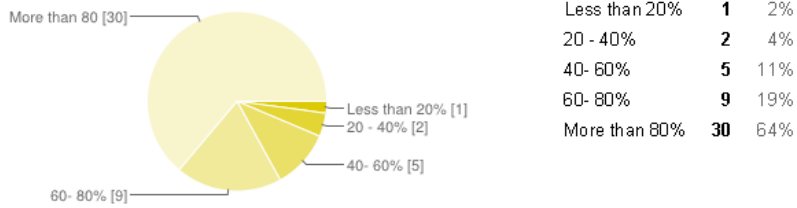


Voting Member	41	87%
Associate (non-voting) Member	6	13%
Non Member	0	0%

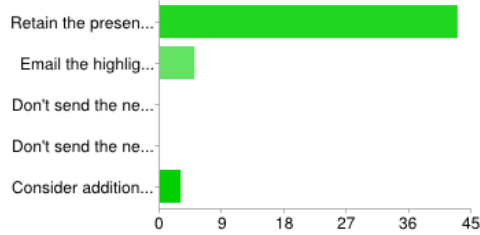
How often do you read the newsletter?



If you read the newsletter, what percentage of the newsletter do you read?

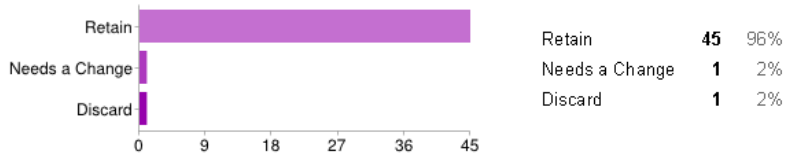


OPSRRA sends the newsletter on the first of the month to members on email and later posts it to the OPSRRA web site. Which way would you prefer to receive the newsletter?

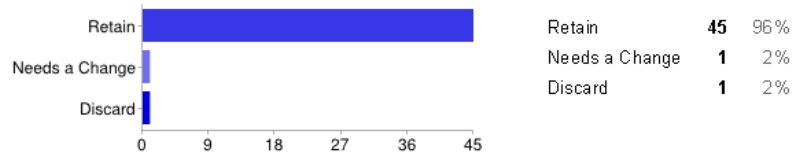


Retain the present monthly email distribution	43	84%
Email the highlights once a month and post the newsletter to the OPSRRA web site.	5	10%
Don't send the newsletter, only post to the web site	0	0%
Don't send the newsletter as often.	0	0%
Consider additional ways to circulate the newsletter information (such as Facebook).	3	6%

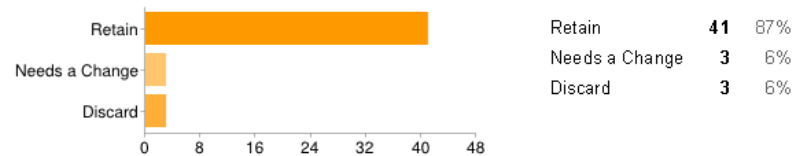
Coming Events [The newsletter has some regular features. Indicate the ones you read and whether that feature should be retained, changed or discarded.]



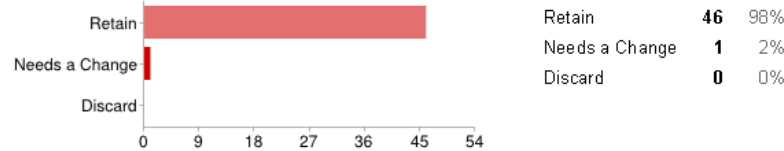
Updates on OPSRRA Activities [The newsletter has some regular features. Indicate the ones you read and whether that feature should be retained, changed or discarded.]



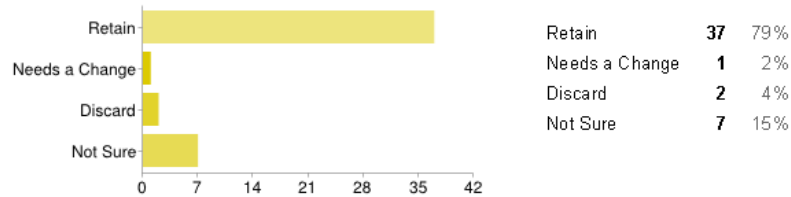
Local Business Listings [The newsletter has some regular features. Indicate the ones you read and whether that feature should be retained, changed or discarded.]



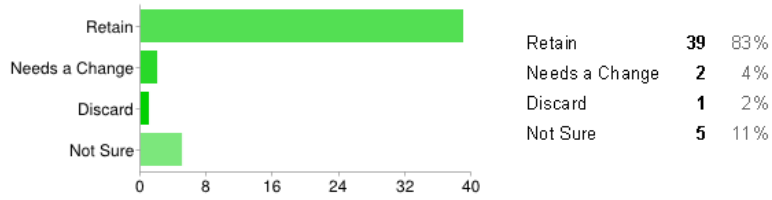
Did You Know That? (local history) [The newsletter has some regular features. Indicate the ones you read and whether that feature should be retained, changed or discarded.]



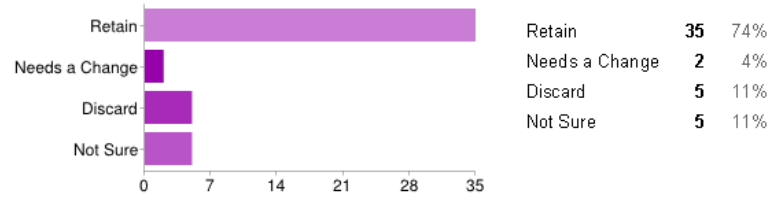
How Does Your Garden Grow? [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



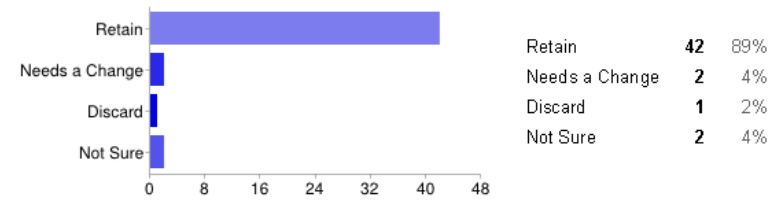
Fire Department and Fire Commission Updates [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



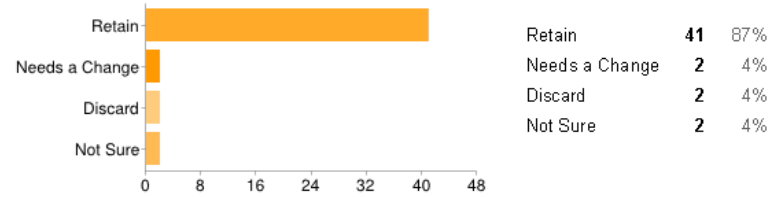
Kemp Lake Waterworks Updates [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



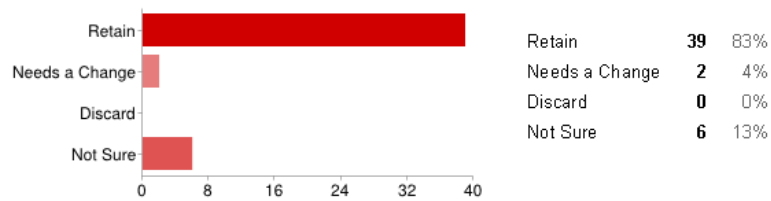
JDFEA Land Use Committee Updates [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



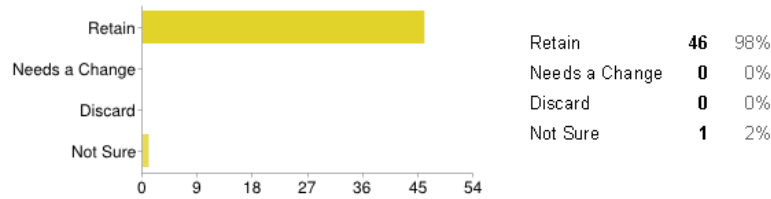
JDFEA Parks & Recreation Commission Updates [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



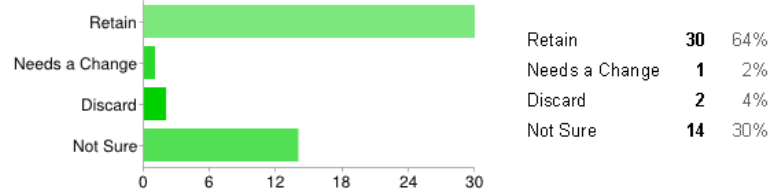
JDFEA Economic Development Commission Updates [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



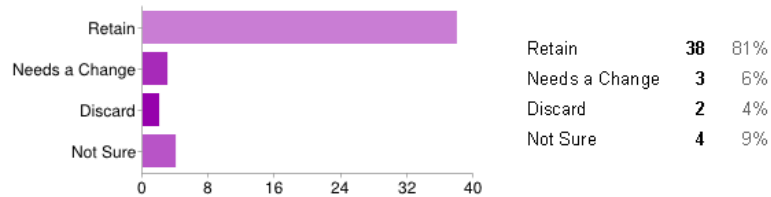
Road Maintenance Information [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



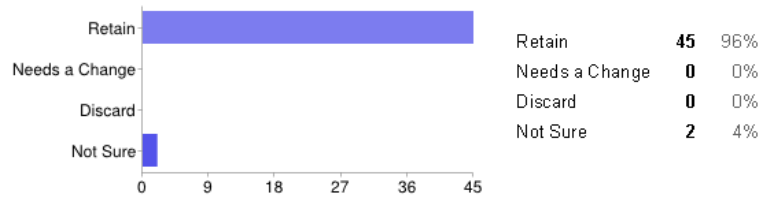
Progress on the JDFEA Admin Services Building [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



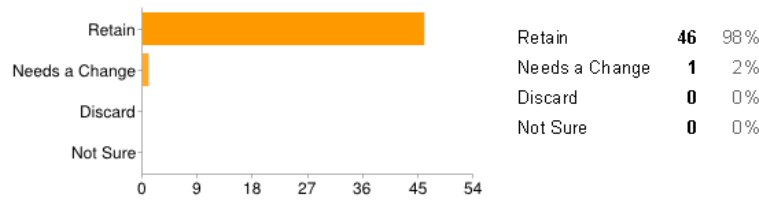
Promotion of Local Businesses [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



Surveys [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



Pictures & Maps [From time-to-time the newsletter provides other information and features. Indicate which ones should be retained or discarded.]



3. BC TRANSIT STATISTICS: OTTER POINT LOOP

September marked the eight anniversary of the B.C. Transit community bus service through parts of Otter Point (Route 63). The OPSRRA newsletter contacts B.C. Transit each year to find out how well the service is being used.

The average passenger load per trip on the Otter Point loop:

Year	Average load per trip
2009	6
2010	8
2011	5
2012	6.75

Key timing points along the route. Other stops at marked locations.

Route 63—OTTER POINT LOOP

Monday through Friday

Location	Sooke Road at Townsend Road	Kemp Lake Road at Otter Point Road	West Coast Road at Grant Road	Dufour Road at Whiffin Spit Road	Sooke Road at Townsend Road
Time	08:20	08:35	08:44	08:49	08:55
Time	10:42	10:57	11:06	11:11	11:17
Time	02:18	02:33	02:42	02:47	02:53
Time	04:33	04:48	04:57	No stop	05:00

Community Bus: Bike rack use limited to daylight hours only.

The route begins in Sooke and travels west along Otter Point Road to Kemp Lake Road, then down Kemp Lake Road to West Coast Road and back to Sooke. The community bus does two morning and two afternoon loops (Monday to Friday) through part of Otter Point. There is a second route (Route 66) traveled by the same bus from Sooke to East Sooke. Sun River was added to the East Sooke loop in 2010; no changes are planned for the Otter Point loop.

BC Transit is hosting an Open House in our area on Saturday, October 5, 2013. They're inviting local residents to visit with them and comment on schedules, routes, equipment and more. A special transit bus will be parked at the Sooke Farmers Market site from 10:00 am until Noon.

They are also conducting an on-line customer survey during October. Complete it at: <http://fluidsurveys.com/s/vrtprioritiesfall2013/>

Property owners in Greater Victoria who have access to bus service in their community pay an annual tax to BC Transit on their property taxes. In Otter Point we are assessed 23.67 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. For example, a property assessed at \$500,000 in 2013 paid \$123.35 to BC Transit. Shirley and Jordan River don't have bus service in their communities and therefore don't pay this tax.

In the past, our association has lobbied for improvements to local bus service. OPSRRA will be making a submission to BC Transit with the following suggestions we have heard from the membership:

- Operate early enough in the morning or late enough in the afternoon to accommodate regular transit users who commute to Victoria.
- Add a route to Gordon's Beach and eventually to Shirley.
- Add service in two directions in Otter Point.
- Add bus pull-off areas at bus stops.
- Extend Handidart service to Shirley.

4. **OPSRRA DIRECTORS MEET WITH JOHN HORGAN, MLA**

A delegation of OPSRRA directors met with John Horgan, our MLA, on Friday, September 27, 2013. This meeting has become an annual event and provides both the association and our elected representative and opportunity to exchange points-of-view and identify priorities.

This year's meeting covered the following:

Highway 14 and Local Roads

OPSRRA thanked Mr. Horgan for his support and assistance facilitating the recent upgrades to West Coast Road (Highway 14), Otter Point Road and Kemp Lake Road. The issue of lack of shoulders was also discussed as well as the need for kilometre signage along Highway 14 to help first responders, such as our volunteer fire departments, locate motor vehicle emergencies. Compensation to our volunteer fire departments for attending accidents on Highway 14 remains an on-going discussion with the province.

BC Water Act

There is a need to map local streams and water courses to protect ground water and individuals with licenses on streams.

Governance

Governance for our area is still a topic of interest. OPSRRA shared the information from the Governance Survey we did in our May, 2013 newsletter.

BC Hydro Outages

OPSRRA expressed the concerns we heard regarding the large number of outages in our area this past year, as well as the responses we have had from BC Hydro on this issue.

5. FIRE SEASON IN OUR AREA

We've come through a very dry summer with many fires in our community. In addition to the fires there were also numerous highway accidents requiring call-outs by the Shirley and Otter Point Fire Departments.

Note: Jordan River does not have a fire department.

Cooler, wet weather has returned and it will soon be okay to resume open burning, with a permit, as of October 1.

The following information is from the Otter Point Fire Department web site: www.otterpointfire.bc.ca. Similar regulations apply to the Shirley Fire Protection District. Contact your local fire department for more details.

Fire Season is April 1 to October 31

The season may be extended at the discretion of the Fire Chief. Class 'A' and Class 'B' fires require a permit from the fire department. See below for definitions of Class 'A' and 'B' fires. For Otter Point call 250-642-6211 and for Shirley call 250-646-2107. As these are volunteer departments, please leave a message and the person issuing permits will call you back.

Prohibited Materials: The following shall NOT be burnt: tires, plastic, drywall, paint and paint products, treated lumber, asphalt, asphalt products, rubber, fuel, solvents, metals and lubricant containers, tar paper, railway ties, demolition waste, garbage, biomedical waste or manure as well as other material that may be listed under the BC Ministry of Environment Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation.

Class A Fires

Between October 1 and June 30: burn ok—permits required

Between July 1 and September 30, **NO burning at all**

Burning of any piles larger than 2 metres in diameter and 1 metre in height requires a permit from the fire department. No person shall burn land clearing waste:

- within 50 metres of buildings on the same property
- within 50 metres of the works or facilities of any utility
- within 100 metres of a neighbouring residence or business
- between a building and a highway
- for more than 3 consecutive days
- No person shall add additional materials to a fire within 2 hours of sunset of each day of the fire

Class B Fires

Between April 1 and June 30: burn ok—permits required

Between July 1 and September 30, **NO burning at all**

Between October 1 and October 31: burn ok—permits required

Between November 1 and April 1: burn ok—no permits required

Class B limits on hand pile burning shall be maximum diameter of 2 metres or 6 feet and a maximum height of 1 metre or 3 feet. No green debris or leaves shall be burnt except by specific exemptions which may be at the discretion of the Fire Chief. No person shall add additional materials to a fire within 2 hours of sunset of each day of the fire.

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

6. NO HUNTING OR SHOOTING BOUNDARY IN SHIRLEY, JORDAN RIVER AND OTTER POINT

September was the beginning of that season of the year when we hear gunfire in the neighbourhood. Some of it is from legally licensed hunting; some is not. The province, through the Fish & Wildlife Branch of the Ministry of the Environment, issues hunting licenses, determines hunting areas and regulates hunters. If you go to **Map A5** on **page 30** of the following link, you will see our local area **No Shooting and No Hunting boundary:**

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/hunting/regulations/1214/docs/region_1.pdf

The boundary is generally described as north of the B.C. Hydro power line (which runs from Jordan River through Shirley and Otter Point) except between Muir Creek and DeMamiel Creek in Otter Point where the boundary is an additional 800 metres north of the power line. The extended area in Otter Point came about in 2007 following a request from OPSRRA made in response to complaints from some residents living north of the power line who were in an area where guns were being legally discharged. OPSRRA arranged for the local Conservation Officer to attend our 2007 Annual General Meeting, and based upon comments received, he recommended that the boundary be moved further north of the power line in the Tugwell, Robinson and East Glen neighbourhoods.

The RCMP shares responsibility for monitoring the discharge of firearms inside of the No Shooting and No Hunting boundary. According to S/Sgt. Wright of the Sooke RCMP detachment, any incidents concerning the discharge of firearms, regardless of time of day or night, or where they occur, are investigated by the RCMP. Allegations of illegal hunting are investigated by the provincial Conservation Service.

To contact a Conservation Officer call 1-877-952-7277.

The provincial Fish & Wildlife Branch also maintains a 24 hour hotline for reporting poachers and polluters. Go to www.rapp.bc.ca for more information.

7. ART SPACE AND GALLERY AT MALAHAT FARM

Malahat Farm submitted the following to the OPSRRA newsletter

The Art Space at Malahat Farm is open Tuesday afternoons 1:00 to 3:00 (or on other times by arrangement)

This is art time, social time, play time, learning time, whatever you want to make it. It's open to anyone, whether you have done art all your life or not at all but would like to. You can work on your own projects with your own materials, or try out the art supplies that we have collected in the space.

There is a kettle for tea, tables to work on, chairs, power and lots of paints, paper, beads, leather, soapstone and oddments for mosaic or collage. If you have spare art supplies to share, bring them along.

Inspiration, fun, or just company in what is often a solitary occupation, come on down and have fun, share your skills, pick up new ones, or just grab a cup of tea and check the space out.

Malahat Farm, 2675 Anderson Road, is about 12 km west of Sooke, just east of Muir Creek. We'll be in the big garage to the left as you come up the drive.

For more information:

email kwoods@pacificcoast.net, or vero@malahatfarm.com or call 250-642-0393 or 250-642-6868

8. REZONING RECOMMENDED FOR SCOUTS CANADA, CAMP BARNARD

A public hearing was held on September 21, 2013 to hear final public comment on whether Camp Barnard, the Scouts Canada property in Otter Point, should be rezoned. No one spoke at the public hearing, so the recommendation to rezone will now go forward to the CRD Board of Directors for approval.

The Camp Barnard property was assembled over time and presently consists of parcels with different zoning. The new rezoning will consolidate the Camp's multiple zones into one new zone called Community Facility Camp Barnard and will ensure that any future subdivision of the property couldn't happen without community comment.

Scouts Canada and Camp Barnard have a 68 year history in our community beginning with the donation of two parcels of land on Young's Lake in February, 1945, by Senator George Barnard. Further purchases of adjacent land in 1971 and 1974 brought their total property ownership to 251 acres.

Camp Barnard is open year round and provides recreational, life skills, leadership and wilderness experiences to Scouts and other youth-serving organizations in the Greater Victoria Area. In 2012 they hosted 12,000 camper nights plus additional day use activities including the Otter Point Firefighters Association's annual Children's' Halloween party. They are planning to host a Provincial Jamboree in 2015.

9. CHANGE COMING FOR THE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION OF SERVING AGENCIES (CASA)

The following is based upon a news release from the Sooke Family Centre.

The child and family services organization we know as CASA is undergoing a change. The Cooperative Association of Serving Agencies (CASA) has its home in the Sooke Child, Youth and Family Centre building at 2145 Townsend Road in Sooke, which is owned by

the Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island. The Boards of CASA and the Steering Committee of the Sooke Region Community Health Initiative (CHI) are working towards merging their two organizations. So far the rules for a unified cooperative have been updated and submitted to the Registrar of Registered Cooperatives and a new CASA Board has been elected. Members of the two organizations meet monthly to advance the merger, discuss topics related to the health of the community and review new opportunities. Current projects include the Age Friendly grant and the Volunteer Bureau. Later this month, look for the re-designed and updated Sooke Region Resource Inventory with added features and information.

The Child, Youth and Family Centre remains as a place for individuals and families from the Sooke Region to come for services such as:

- The Vancouver Island Health Authority's (VIHA) public health services
- Counselling
- Drop-in groups
- Prenatal services
- Pre-school
- Community outreach
- Clothing exchange
- Therapeutic services

10. JDFEA ADMIN SERVICES BUILDING GOES SOLAR

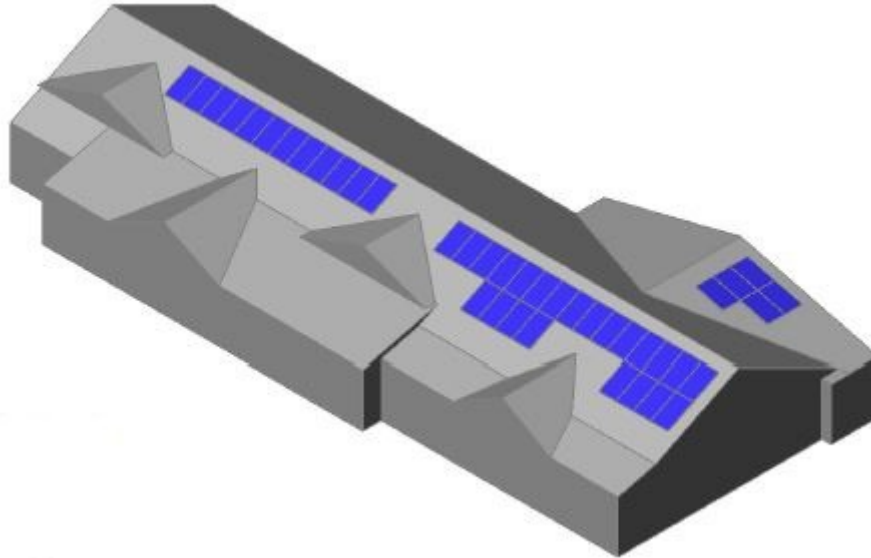
Construction continues on the JDFEA Admin Services Building in the business park at 3220 Otter Point Road. The roof is complete, siding is going on and the interior is being worked on. The completion date is scheduled for December 1, 2013 with occupancy completed by December 31, 2013.

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director Mike Hicks has informed the OPSRRA newsletter that he would like to see the addition of solar panels to reduce the building's use of electricity.

According to Director Hicks,

"We are intending to mount 40 solar panels on our South West facing roof which will provide clean AC power directly to our 600 amp service provided by B.C. Hydro. Each panel will provide 250 watts of power for a total of 10 KW. The system is estimated to provide 10,000 Kilowatts of power each year. The average Canadian residence uses 11,000 Kw per year. Depending on our heat-pump's consumption (heat), we estimate a minimum 50% reduction of reliance on B.C. Hydro.

The system will not include back-up batteries (for the cost and space). I will be asking the CRD Board on October 9 to access up to \$50,000 from our Gas Tax to pay for this project. It will cost somewhere between \$32,000 and \$50,000. Also, we will be wiring a panel for a back-up generator. When and if we can afford a generator, it will run just about everything except heat. At the end of the day, we should be fairly self-sufficient in case of a prolonged emergency situation."



Graphic showing the preliminary plan for the proposed solar panel layout on the roof of the JDFEA Admin Services Building.

11. **TIMBERWEST PROPOSES A WIND FARM IN OUR AREA**

On September 26, 2013, TimberWest Forest Corporation announced its intention to develop, build and operate large scale wind energy projects on their private forest lands on Vancouver Island including properties in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Rural Resource Lands (RRL) north of Shirley and Otter Point. This undertaking is being done in partnership with EDP Renewables Canada. They have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the T'Sou-ke First Nation that respects that some of the proposed wind farms would be on traditional T'Sou-ke First Nation territory. This MOU may eventually develop into a formal partnership.

Before this announcement, Timber West had already received support from the Juan de Fuca Land Use Committee and approval from the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board of Directors for temporary permits allowing the erection of test wind towers at selected sites on their property in the RRL. This new proposal goes beyond the earlier application for test sights and would likely require rezoning of their proposed wind farm sites.

Note: A recent change in the rezoning process for properties in the RRL requires that, if recommended, the application must go to the full CRD board for discussion and a vote.

Read the full details of their proposal at:

[http://www.timberwest.com/documents/Investors/News%20Release%20\(26-Sep-2013\).pdf](http://www.timberwest.com/documents/Investors/News%20Release%20(26-Sep-2013).pdf)

12. **JDFEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR RESIGNS FROM WESTSHORE PARKS & RECREATION SOCIETY**

Several weeks ago Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director Mike Hicks announced that:

“Regretfully I must resign from the West Shore Parks & Recreation Society (WSPRS) Board of Directors. I have been advised that I am in conflict of interest and until the Provincial Government changes their ruling, I will be unable to sit on the society board and also approve my many budgets in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. I have been hoping for over a year to appoint a constituent, Darren Wright from the Malahat to sit in my place and hope that the owner's group will meet in the future to enable this change. Until then I have the utmost of confidence that you will take care of my Malahat interests.”

On September 23, 2013 Director Hicks also resigned from CREST.

As reported in the April issue of the OPSRRA newsletter, this dilemma came about as the result of a provincial decision following a January 2013 ruling by the BC Court of Appeal. In its decision, the Court determined there is a conflict of interest when a Regional Director is also a director of a non-profit society receiving funding from a regional district.

Director Hicks is required, by virtue of his elected status, to sit on the Board of Directors for the West Shore Parks & Recreation Society, which provides recreation services to residents of the Malahat and C.R.E.S.T., the CRD's emergency communications organization. Both are non-profit organizations funded (in part) by taxpayers of the JDFEA and a portion of their budget is “bundled” with 63 other JDFEA budget categories such as our fire departments, recreation services and land use planning. According to the Court's ruling, this presents a conflict of interest, making Director Hicks ineligible to vote at the CRD Board on anything pertaining to the JDFEA budget.

As well, other legislation apparently prevents the budgets of the two non-profits being voted on separately from the remainder of the JDFEA budget items and also prevents the Alternate Regional Director from voting in place of the Regional Director.

13. SHIRLEY HILL BOOGIES #2: FALL VIOLIN CONCERT

Nick Wilde, who has helped organized the return of the Shirley Boogies, submitted the following.

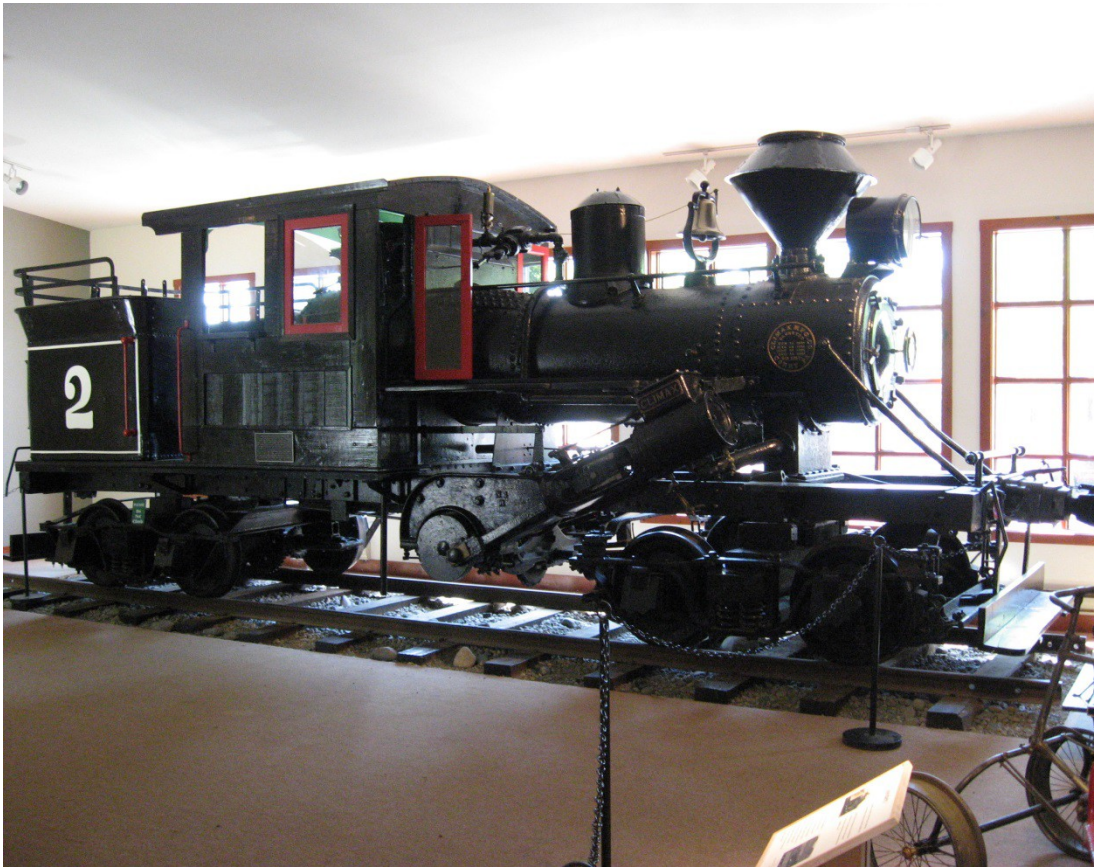
On the last Sunday of September the Shirley Hill Boogies had a second boogie at the Shirley Hall; a solo concert/CD release party with the amazing violinist Tyler Carson. It was quite popular amongst Shirleyites (Shirley Delicious sold out all the tickets that they had) with approximately 7% of Shirley's (full time) population in attendance! A great time was had by all and many have stated that they are looking forward to the next time Tyler Carson graces us with his unique violin playing (which will probably be sometime late this fall or early this winter).

On Facebook like [Shirley Hill Boogies](#) or [Tyler Carson](#) to get updates (or join Tyler's email list at <http://www.tylercarsonmusic.com/> or send Shirley Hill Boogies a message and I'll make sure to individually send you an email/Facebook Message). By the end of the night the hall was resounding to the stomp of feet and the clap of hands to the time of Tyler's musical treat.

Nick Wilde: boogies@briarmoon.ca and www.briarmoon.ca/SHB/

14. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

As early as 1907 railways were used in our area to help move logs from the forest? The most commonly used locomotives were the Baldwin, Shay and Climax. The restored Climax locomotive pictured below operated in the Cowichan Valley between 1911 and 1927 and is currently on display at the Forest Museum in Duncan.



Restored Climax logging locomotive on display at the BC Forest Museum in Duncan. This unit operated in the Lake Cowichan area from 1911 to 1924 and then was abandoned in the bush. It was taken out in 1970 and “reassembled” with odd truck parts. In 1975, it was refurbished and made operational by BC Forest Products who then donated it to the BC provincial museum. Photo by A.C.

Climax locomotives operated in our area from 1907 until the late 1920s. The Jordan River Lumber Company began using one in November, 1907, and by 1909 had 2 locomotives, 7 miles of track and 10 railway trucks to haul their logs to tidewater. Otter Point saw its first Climax engine in early 1907. The Sylvania Logging Company used it to haul their timber out of the DeMamie Stream Valley and by 1917 they had 8 miles of track in that area. In 1925, the Canadian Puget Sound Lumber and Timber Company moved their logging operation from Jordan River to Point No Point in Shirley and took along their Climax. It was towed ashore from a barge by a steam donkey and used to move quarried rock to build a breakwater for their logging operation.

The Climax and other geared locomotives were designed for work in the mining and logging industries where rough terrain, steeper grades, poor quality track and rail beds often limited them to operating at slow speeds. Unlike a conventional steam piston engine which has direct drive to the wheels, a geared engine

transferred energy from the steam boiler(s) through a gear box. This adaption gave them greater starting strength and thus more suitable for pulling heavy loads. One distinctive characteristic of the Climax was the driving piston which, unlike other locomotives, is set at an angle instead of horizontal to the wheels.

Climax locomotives were built between 1888 and 1928 by the Climax Manufacturing Company of Corry Pennsylvania and the company had an agency in Seattle to sell and maintain their engines on the West Coast. There were 1,100 built and only a dozen or are known to still exist.

Material for this month's **Did You Know That?** came from *4,000 Years: A History of the Rainforest*, written and published by the Sooke Region Museum; information obtained at the BC Forest Museum in Duncan and from Wikipedia.

Arnie Campbell writes **Did You Know That?**. He can be contacted regarding this and other local history stories at d.acampbell@shaw.ca

15. 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.

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
Knotty Beds by Nature and Cedar Surfboards
Le Sooke Spa
Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage
Ocean Wilderness Inn
Otter Point Beach House
Otter Point Electrical Service
Perfect Grade Plumbing
Reflexology by Marlene Barry
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
Wildewood Custom Homes
Wood Visions

16. 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.
