



Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association

2730 Elk Street, Nanaimo, BC V9S 3T9

Building Block of our Community **Member Newsletter, Fall 2003**

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Web Page: www.dbna.nanaimo-online.net

Our mission:

To identify issues affecting the Departure Bay Neighbourhood and to produce and promote neighbourhood devised solutions, to develop a sense of community awareness, and to provide a forum for neighbours to get to know one another

Executive Positions - Term May 2003 to April 2004

President:

Jennifer Davidson 756-0395

Vice-President:

vacant

Treasurer:

Fred Pattje 758-7575

Secretary:

Joan Wallace 758-8973

Past President:

Dave Shillabeer 758-4355 (non-elected position)

Non-elected committee positions

Social:

Joan Shillabeer

Newsletter & Publicity:

Reale Emond

Members at large contributors:

Rob Ward, Allan Davidson, Karen Hovestad & Glenda Easthom

Welcome to the Fall edition of your **Departure Bay** **Neighbourhood Association** newsletter

In this issue:

- **At play: Old Fashion Picnic, a report from your Social Committee**
- **Get to know your Team of Executive Volunteers: A candid interview with your treasurer and secretary**
- **DBNA at work:**
 - The Neighbourhood Associations Network**
 - Secondary Suite Task Force**
 - Rezoning on Hammond Bay Road**
 - Good bye Gunter**
- **Upcoming Event: A must attend!**
- **Recipe Corner: Olde Tyme recipe: Agnes' Scones**





Sunday, September 21st, 2003 was a perfect day for the folks to make the Sandcastle Competition a resounding success with an abundance of very creative and talented Departure Bay youngsters. Congratulations to all participants...we look forward to see more of your artwork at the 2004 DBNA "Sandcastle Competition"

Winners of the Departure Bay Old Fashion Picnic "Sandcastle Competition". Way to go gang!

September 21st 2003: Second Yearly DBNA Old Fashion Picnic

The picnic was held Sunday, September 21, 2003 at the Kin Hut, Departure Bay Beach area. It was a beautiful sunny day, perfect weather for a sandcastle competition, a barbecue, games and many other enjoyable festivities.

We had a larger crowd than last year; one reason seems to be that Sunday is a better day for the picnic, as we don't have to compete with other functions.

The title Old Fashioned Picnic is fitting for the amount of food you can buy for \$2.00. We served Jumbo Hot Dogs and hamburgers with potato salad. Coffee, juice, and baked goods were free.

Games abounded including sack races, ball and spoon race and a very popular ski race. Ribbons were given out to the winners. Many very excited and happy children attended the sandcastle competition. The winners received prizes.

We were entertained by a wonderful singer who also played her guitar for the many appreciative people who were eating their lunch; Joan Wallace performed many children's songs enjoyed by everyone.

New this year was Island Farm's Farmer Vicky and Daisy the Cow. The children enjoyed having their photo taken with the cow and being given the photo to take home. Farmer Vicky also helped with the games and gave out stickers to the children.



The Island Farm's tent was a great focal point for the attraction to the picnic. It looked lovely decorated, and highlighted the displays of signs, raffle prizes and membership sign-up table.

Also new this year was Steve Marshall Ford who supplied mustard, bottled water, and a helper for the face painting.

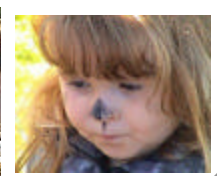
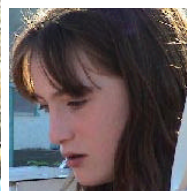
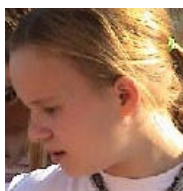
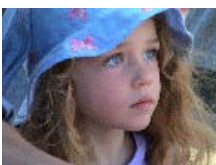
The children's corner was very busy, with the hat making and the face painting. The children had a lot of fun making their fancy hats; they were very creative with all the colourful material that was supplied.



To all the wonderful volunteers who did a fabulous job in preparation and throughout the picnic, I would like to say thank you for a job well done! To all of you who attended, thank you for your support and enthusiasm; together, we made a day full of good memories and happy times for many families and neighbours.

Joan Shillabeer, DBNA Volunteer, Social Events.

Looking forward to a bright future!



Interviews:

Fred Pattje, Treasurer and World Traveler

Q: Fred, would you share a bit of your background with us please?

A: I was born in the Netherlands from where I immigrated to Canada, on my own at age 18...much against my father's wishes who had plans for me on the shipyard which was in our family for 217 years.....

After a wide variety of odd jobs in Toronto and a short stint at McMaster University in Hamilton, I decided to come West and was hired by then Canadian Pacific Airlines in Vancouver in 1964; I started in the Accounting Office but they decided that I was not much of a bookkeeper (your Treasurer has since learned.....) and transferred me to a passenger-contact position since I spoke a number of languages; in 2000 I retired from Canadian Airlines after 36 very rewarding years which included some of the best travel anybody could wish for!

Q: Why Departure Bay?

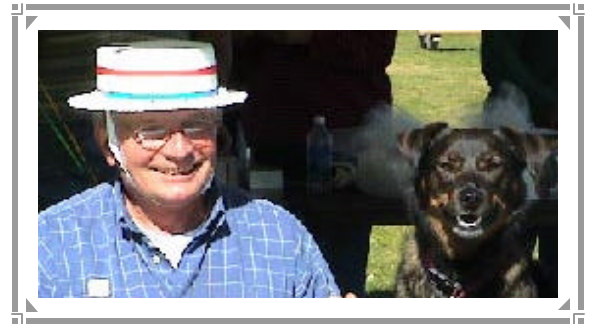
A: My partner's parents built the house on Fandell street some 40 years ago and it was inherited when they both passed away at far too young an age; during 25 years of my airline-career I commuted to this house on weekends and it will be 4 years in January that I have lived permanently in Departure Bay, so all in all I've been around this neighbourhood for the last 29 years.

Last year we did a major renovation and, when I look out of our new and large windows, over Departure Bay with ferries coming and going, and the lights of Richmond flickering across the Straight of Georgia on a clear night, I just know that this is the best place on earth to be! Besides, the neighbours aren't bad either !

Q: What is your outlook for the neighbourhood?

A: One of the reasons I am a member of the DBNA is that I would like to preserve this neighbourhood as much as possible and ,where change is inevitable, to have a voice in how it is being done!

I have always considered Departure Bay the "second front-door" to the City of Nanaimo" and we all know that there will be development at some point in the future; I just want to make sure that development is done in harmony with the wishes of the residents of this area being considered, while at all times remembering that places such as the waterfront belong to all the people of Nanaimo !



Fred and Shanda, taking great care of the DBNA memberships applications at the Old Fashion Picnic.

Joan Wallace, Secretary and Troubadour

Joan's family moved to Nanaimo from Winnipeg in 1988. She was a professional singer there for 10 years before she had her two girls.

Q: Joan, how did you come about choosing Departure Bay as your home?

A: When we came to B.C., we looked all over the Island for a place to live. We stopped at Departure Bay Beach to have a swim, and decided right then and there this is where we wanted to live. It seemed like a self contained community with its little shops, and people were very friendly. It was a good decision, and we have been very happy here.

Q: What do you foresee for our neighbourhood?

A: I see a very positive future for Departure Bay. The people who live here care about the neighbourhood. Most people see that growth is inevitable, but want it to be planned, and hope that any future development that takes place will be appropriate. I hope the character of Departure Bay is retained, so that it can continue to be one of the most desirable neighbourhoods in Nanaimo.



Most people want growth in Departure Bay to be planned.

Your Neighbourhood Association at work

The Network: Neighbourhoods in Cooperation Reach out and Outreach

As few months ago Jennifer Davidson, Dave Shillabeer and Allan Davison met with city staff to discuss our Neighbourhood survey; during this meeting, the idea of resurrecting the neighbourhood network of a few years past was brought forward. Jennifer Davidson and Karen Hovestad pursued this idea with city council and a meeting inviting all existing neighbourhood associations to attend was scheduled on October 8th, 2003. Jennifer Davidson, Karen Hovestad, Joan Wallace and Reale Emond representing the DBNA attended the forum conducted by Chris Sholberg, Community Planner, City of Nanaimo.

Karen Hovestad graciously volunteered to be our ear and voice at future meetings of the newly implemented Neighbourhood Network committee.

Following are a few thoughts from Karen:

"As important as it is to form strong and stable connections within our own neighbourhood, we are in fact a contributing portion of the larger community that is Nanaimo. Many issues, whether trying or triumphant, often have much in common from one area of town to another. These issues, along with a strong social aspect and shared neighbourhood boundaries, support a comprehensive network to encompass all Nanaimo Neighbourhoods."

"On October 8th, four members of DBNA attended a Neighborhood forum conducted by Chris Sholberg. There they met with representatives from other neighborhood associations. Each group identified

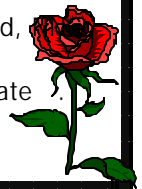
the key issues they hoped to address within their sector of the community.

Representatives from the City stressed that one of the mandates of a Neighbourhood Network Committee is to provide a structured conduit of information from the associations to the City and vice versa, with a goal of proactive involvement. An important first step is the change happening on the city's website to support neighbourhood networks with interactive links, calendars of events and access to pertinent information.

Further discussion alleviated concerns about the purpose of such a group and a general agreement was made to meet again to pursue effective organization of a formal Neighborhood Network.

I have agreed to be the representative from DBNA and look forward to keeping you apprised."

Karen Hovestad,



Thank you Karen for stepping up to the plate.
We truly appreciate your dedication.



In the Works: "Secondary Suite Task Force"

Fred Pattje, DBNA Treasurer, has volunteered his time and effort to sit on the City of Nanaimo "Secondary Suite Task Force" and would gladly accept any input you might have on this issue".



For the time being, hard questions would have to be directed to Councillors Larry McNabb or Diane Brennan, who are on the same Task Force.

We look forward to publishing a full report on this issue in the spring. Thank you for your involvement Fred.

Your Neighbourhood Association at work (...continued)

Rezoning Application: 3008 Hammond Bay Road

On October 15th, Dave Shillabeer sent a letter to the City of Nanaimo, Development Services Department, outlining concerns from the Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association in regards to a Rezoning Application at 3008 Hammond Bay Road that would see the zoning change from RS1 to RM3 to allow for a 24-unit townhouse/condo development. Below are excerpts from Dave's letter:

"The proposed rezoning creates development that is considered far too dense for the area as we know it. Approval of the rezoning application could be seen as setting a precedent for waterfront redevelopment in the neighbourhood. It is recognized that a parcel of this size suits much more than a single residence, but this can be achieved under the existing zoning provisions. The Association is therefore more in favour of subdivision rather than rezoning.

Road access to the proposed development seems dangerous, both for the new residents and their visitors, and for the many vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian users of Hammond Bay Road. The proposed 48 vehicles to be accommodated on site would create many movements, entering the main road between sharp back-to-back curves, where existing traffic has difficulty staying within the designated lanes. Stopping sight distance is less than desirable in both directions.

The rezoning application appears to have no allowance for access to the ocean waterfront for the general public. This location would seem to suit a prime access to the water, appropriately spaced from the access opposite Prince John Way, and providing a possible link to the existing walkway to Rose Ann Drive. In addition to a minimum 6 m wide access to the water, a linear waterfront walkway right-of-way on the property as close to the ocean as practical is suggested for this and all other new development, subdivision and rezoned parcels. This will ultimately assist the City in creation of the desired coastal seawalk, while immediately creating usable short sections"

Full content of this letter is available from DBNA upon request.
Many thanks to Dave for producing such a well written letter.

Maureen Pilcher, Development Services Department, City of Nanaimo, Advises that the application is likely to proceed to Council for 1st and 2nd reading in December or January; public notification will follow and a date for the public hearing will be set. The DBNA will combine its review and comments on the development through this process. It will also send copies of the October 15th letter to all Council members prior to the initial readings.

Please mail your comments quoting subject: RA000102
to DBNA c/o Davidson, 2730 Elk Street, Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 3T9 or email at ajkdavidson@shaw.ca

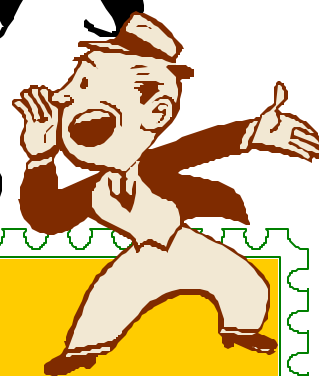
A heartfelt thank you.

Due to health reasons, Gunter Zimmer, DBNA Vice-President, has resigned from his post. The Association would like to thank him for his generous and continuous contribution of the past 3 years. His post will remain vacant until a new Vice-President is elected at our 2004 AGM.

We wish you all the best Gunter.



Departure Bay's Bygone Days



History, Heritage, Tea & Good Company...

Visit with Old Time Residents of Departure Bay!

Hear about the "Dunsmuir & Coal Mines Era"

Get your book signed by author Lynn Bowen!

Speak with Chris Sholberg, City of Nanaimo, Heritage Dept

Join us for the DBNA 2nd Annual "History Night" Soiree!

Wednesday November 19th, 2003

From 7:00 pm

Kinsmen Hut on Departure Bay Beach

Keynote Speaker: Author Lynn Bowen



Tea, punch and "Olde Tyme" baking will be served
Departure Bay artifacts and pictures will be displayed
Membership draw for frame print will be awarded

For more information or to donate display items from the past for the evening,
please call Joan at 758 8973, or Joan at 758 4355.

Olde Tyme recipe: Agnes' Scones

Ingredients:

2 cups flour
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 tsp salt
1 tsp baking soda
4 tsp (heaping) baking powder
1/2 cup lard or margarine
2 twirls corn syrup
1 cup buttermilk or sour milk

Instruction:

Combine all dry ingredients and cut in lard.
Combine syrup and buttermilk.
Mix only until dry ingredients stick together.
Pat down or roll to 1 inch thick and cut in 2" circles

Bake in 425° F oven for 17 minutes.

Serve with lemon curd, compote or jam.

