



Whonnock News

Spring 2005

President's Note

Happy New Year to all residents of our community. The years seem to be moving at the speed of light, so much to do, so little time! I would like to just sit and read and not feel guilty... I'll have lots of time they say when the kids grow up. So to all my fellow residents take a few hours and just enjoy, relax, throw the ball for the dogs, whatever, take advantage of our beautiful outdoors and remember why we live out here.

The Whonnock Community Association had a very good year in 2004, we were able to help and support the Ruskin Hall Society with a generous donation towards their bathroom upgrades as well as helping the Whonnock United Church with funding to paint the exterior of their heritage church building in time for their big anniversary celebration. We continue to support community groups such as Scouts, Whonnock Weavers and Spinners, local playgroups, Whonnock Elementary, girlguides, parks and recreation program users, with the free use of Whonnock Lake Centre.

Every year people look forward to our annual Easter Egg Hunt, Whonnock Lake Day, the Christmas Craft Sale as well as community meetings and other public-spirited events.

Some of the things planned for 2005 are an automatic watering system for the Rhodo gardens (a joint project with the Fraser Valley Rhododendron Society) the possible addition of community bill boards (still waiting for approval from different levels of bureaucracy) and some new developments with regards to parking and access at Whonnock Lake.

Whonnock is an active, vibrant community, in thanks to many people involved in many local groups and we hope to see you out there enjoying and supporting our lifestyle whether it is by keeping your street clean, being a scoutmaster or helping the Whonnock Community Association.

We meet on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at Whonnock Lake Centre. I encourage you to come out to our meeting, bring some new ideas and energy. For more information or to have an item of interest brought forward on the agenda please call me at 604-462-8557.

Noreen Woods, President

Whonnock Lake Centre

Hope this edition finds everyone well and happy with the season behind them. The New Year's Eve party was successful in that all had a great time. Not much of a fund-raiser, but a big thank you to the organizers at the Mission Carriage club for helping to keep the dance alive and well in Whonnock.

The renovations of the bathrooms are well under way as well as a small workshop area. Both areas are looking wonderful. All should be done in the near future, a special thank you to Popadiuk Contractors for keeping every one on track and the user groups for their understanding.

Phil, our operations president starts back to work at the end of the month. He thanks everyone for their kindness over the past year, so watch out! HE'S BACK!

Wedding season is soon commencing. We are still taking bookings for 2005 with a very limited selection and the pace is quite furious for booking in 2006. We wish everyone the best for the years ahead.

The programs are going well. Please check out the leisure guide or check out our website at whonnock.ca to find out what is going on in Whonnock.

Special Thanks to Dowco for continuing to allow us the use the Gym. Volunteer soccer groups, RCKC, Homeschoolers, Church groups and Parks and Rec. program are the current users.

Added note, usually vandalism goes down in the winter months, but for some reason they have been busy in the park. Rhodo's run over, walkway trail ruined, picnic tables dragged into the frozen lake and left to sink, a hazard to canoes and kayaks, stolen golf carts driven throughout the park, allowing them to crash into various objects. This group of 6 to 8 local kids between the ages of 13 - 17 years old have caused much frustration and expense to say the least, so local parents do you know where your children are from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.?

Jo-Ann, Whonnock Lake Centre Manager

PHONE/ FAX 604-462-8212

E-MAIL: WCA.WHONNOCK.CA

WEB SITE: WHONNOCK.CA

Submissions Welcome!

The Whonnock Community Association produces this newsletter twice a year around the end of January and in September. All submissions, editing, layout, and production is completely done by volunteers. The cost of printing and mailing is paid by the Whonnock Community Association. If you would like to see something in the newsletter or want to send in a submission please feel free to contact Noreen Woods at 604 462 8557 or leave a message at Whonnock Lake Centre, 604 462 8212. We try to be informative, and interesting with a non-biased approach to community events, programs, and groups. We are not a political statement or opinion piece. With that in mind we would like to welcome inquiries and questions about any submissions. Thank you for your support.

The Whonnock Community Association Bursary

The WCA offers a \$1,000 bursary to grade 12 students going on to post secondary education and who currently reside or have resided in the Whonnock area. One of the requirements looked at before rewarding the bursary is a student's commitment to the community, school, or other worthy causes through volunteerism. More information is available through the high school counsellors.

Bingo and the Whonnock Community Association

The Whonnock Community association raises funds for our many projects through a once a month Bingo slot at the Haney Bingo Plex. User groups who access Whonnock Lake Centre provide volunteers to attend this Bingo sessions. Currently we are looking for a new Bingo Coordinator. This would involve scheduling the volunteers and attending meetings once a month. If anyone is interested please call Noreen Woods at 604 462 8557.

Membership

The general consensus of the Whonnock Community Association is that anyone living in Whonnock, belongs to the association. However we do need your name & address & 'loonie', to validate the organization and to advise you of ongoing events. Ideally we really would like to see more input from our community so please call Jean at 604 462 7794, stop in and see Jo-Ann & Eit at the hall, or attend a monthly meeting for more information or to sign up.

Speed Watch

Speed Watch is looking for more volunteers. If you are concerned about speeding and traffic safety in this area think about helping out for 3 or 4 hours a month. Training is provided and we truly believe that a 'Speed Watch' zone helps deter people from speeding and in many cases is a good reminder for people to check their speed. A big thank you to Ray Town for all his work doing Speed Traps, but he could use some help, so if you are interested please phone the local RCMP for more information.

Community Policing

A Community Policing Newsletter is available at Whonnock Lake Centre or on line visit the website, www.mapleridge.org/emergency/rcmp/community_policing.html

For more information or to volunteer for any of the Community Policing Programs contact Program Coordinator, Annette Clack at 604-467-7644. The East MRCPC meets the 4th Thursday of the Month at 7:00 p.m. in Albion Hall. Members of the public and new members are welcome.



Ridge Canoe & Kayak Club - Spring 2005

Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club has hired a new coach. Krzysztof Lepianka (Kris) replaced Paul Lovatt in September. He has coached in Poland, Saskatchewan, Canada, the Australian Junior National team and established a thriving club in Georgia, USA before bringing his expertise here to us in B.C..

The club has already hosted three pre-Canada games training camps and many more will happen as we get closer to the spring. Ridge is also continuing to use Dowco Gym and has added some weight equipment to facilitate better training.

Currently this years planning of the Community Youth Racing Program (CYRP) is already well underway. Pool sessions have started up again for this year and will continue throughout the rest of the winter at the Maple Ridge Leisure Pool.

Most of the Senior athletes are going to California this year for their warm weather spring training camp. The Juniors are going to be attending the annual Ridge hosted training camp. Paddling has started up again now that the ice is gone and will be increasing as the days lengthen.

A masters program is also doing well, with several more mature paddlers preparing for the Masters Worlds in Edmonton this year.

The level of the lake is still fluctuating but the paddlers are adapting with a smaller practice course around the deeper part

of the lake. Discussions have taken place regarding the water level in the lake, and it is hoped that there will be a meeting with all affected agencies to rectify the situation.

What happened to Paul Lovatt you ask? He stepped aside to make it possible for Kris to come to B.C. He then opted to go to a different clime for the winter. No, not a sunny warm place, but to the frigid oil fields, that make our winters look like summer. He will be back to help with the spring training camp in California and will be around again in the summer.

If you are interested in any of our programs, go to <rckc.ca> or link to our page through the <whonnock.ca> web page.

Rick Hammer, RCKC



News from Whonnock Elementary School P.A.C.

A big thank you to the community and everyone involved in making our Halloween Carnival the best one yet! We raised over \$3500.00. The proceeds will support bus transportation for field trips, books for the home reading program, emergency kit supplies, physical education equipment and various educational programs.

The Scholastic Book Fair held during parent/teacher conferences in November raised \$920.00 in new books for our library. Thank you to all purchasers and volunteers in this successful event.

The Gaming (Casino) Funds allotted to our school will go towards learning resources, DVD player, microphones, audio listening stations and P.E. equipment.

P.A.C. meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month, alternating days and evenings. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the library. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Rhonda Knowles, Secretary, Parent Advisory Council

Little Green Apple Preschool

Little Green Apple Preschool is accepting ongoing registrations for morning classes. Our Preschool offers many years teaching experience and a warm and nurturing environment within which we can promote numerous learning experiences for 3 and 4 year olds. Please call Jean or Winnie at 604-462-7663 for more information.

Lakeside Preschool

Located on beautiful Whonnock Lake in the Whonnock Lake Centre, this bright, well equipped pre-school offers a variety of experiences for 3 - 5 year olds. We provide a wide range of opportunities for social interaction, exploration, and problem-solving through unstructured play. Our aim is to provide each child with exciting and stimulating experiences in a warm and relaxed atmosphere. For ongoing registration or September registration phone Mrs. Kilsby to reserve your child's space in one of our programs at 604-462-0026.

Dates to Be @ Whonnock Lake Centre

Every 3rd Thursday	WCA meeting, 7:30
Thursday, March 3rd	Official Community Plan - Public Open house.
Sunday, March 27th	Whonnock Easter Egg Hunt (10 & under) 1:00 p.m. sharp - no early birds!
Sunday, April 3rd	WCA Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. Please call with any suggestions.
Sunday, April 24th	Rhodo Show and Sale.
Tuesday, May 17th	Provincial Election day - Polling station.
Sunday, Sept. 27th	Whonnock Lake Day (coordinator needed).
Saturday, Nov. 19th	Craft Fair.
Sunday, Nov. 27th	Whonnock Weavers Art Show & Sale.



Guides and Pathfinders

Sparks - Ruskin Hall , Monday's 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Brownies - 3rd Pineridge Brownies, Thornhill Hall, Wednesday 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

2nd Pineridge Guides - Whonnock Lake Centre, Wednesday 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

1st Pineridge Pathfinders - Whonnock Lake Centre, Tuesdays, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m..

For information on any of above call Susan Meyers 604-462-8645.

Westcoast Shotokan Karate

Whonnock Japanese Karate

Classes: Monday 5:00 - 5:30, - Beginners
Monday 5:30 - 6:45, - Family all levels.
Monday 6:45 - 7:15, - Brown & Black
Wednesday 4:30 - 5:15, - Open class, all welcome.

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

Come try a Free class with Sensei Andre Johnson, Chief instructor of W.S.K.!

Call Bill Railian at 604 841 2597 for more information.



Fraser Valley Rhododendron Society

About 150 new rhododendrons have been planted in the rhododendron garden at Whonnock Lake. How can we nurture them in the years ahead?

The essential needs for rhododendrons are free-draining acidic soils with plenty of coarse organic matter in the upper layers and regular watering.

By good fortune the soils at Whonnock Lake are acidic and although variable, they generally have about 50% of sand in their make-up, which allows excess water to drain away readily.

As we planted the new rhododendrons, generous amounts of composted manure and composted green waster were

added. In the spring a layer of bark mulch will be placed over the whole newly planted area and as this decomposes, more organic material will become available to the plants.

Providing for regular watering is an area still needing consideration. Very dry periods can harm even long established plants resulting in poor new growth and gradual deterioration. For newly planted rhododendrons, adequate water is essential if they are to thrive.

Experience in the long hot and dry summer of 2004, showed that plants in the old garden were desperately in need of water, to the extent that a volunteer spent many hours extending hoses and placing sprinklers, in efforts to preserve the plants. We cannot rely on that kind of commitment in the future, and now the area is much larger and we have many new plants.

A long-term solution would be to provide automatic irrigation by means of drip emitters providing water for one or two hours per day. In this system water is delivered to each plant at its roots where the water is needed, unlike a sprinkler system where water is spread over a wide area and is subject to evaporation. The system is most economical in terms of water usage and operates unattended except for a few hours of maintenance each year.

A detailed proposal for an irrigation system is now on the agenda of the Garden Committee, and if approved will be forwarded to the Society.

Scott Henley, Chair of Garden Committee, Fraser Valley Rhododendron Society.

Whonnock T.O.P.S. Local # 4522.

Take off Pounds Sensibly is a non-profit weight-loss support group that meets every Tuesday at the Wildwood Fellowship Church in Whonnock on 272nd. We offer guidance, support and plenty of laughs. Come see what we are all about.

Time: 6:45 - 7:00 p.m. weigh-in , 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. meeting .

Call Lori at 604-463-7355 or Jo-Ann at 604 462 1511.

Whonnock Walkers

Join us Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9:15 for a friendly, one-hour walk. Call Maureen at 604 462 7940 for more information. Location: Whonnock Lake Centre parking lot.



Old Age Pensioners Branch 103 – Whonnock

Meetings are the last Monday of the month at 11:00 a.m. at the Whonnock United Church. Call Margaret Norman, 604 462 7591 for more information

Quilting Classes

Call Inge Grootendorst for updates on classes at 604 462 8050

Ruskin Hall Information

Regular meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The Ruskin hall is available for rental, for anniversaries, family reunions, weddings, etc., for a basic weekend rate of \$290.00. Call our booking agent, Shannon at 604-462-9739 and leave a message.

Events planned for the Spring are an Antique Appraisal in March and a Talent Show in April. Watch for more information on the Ruskin Nursery sign or in Mr. Tyler's column.

Kim will be restarting Yoga tentatively, at the beginning of March on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. Our congratulations go out to Kim and her family on the birth of her baby boy, Vinnie.

For more information on any of these programs or events please call Louise at 604-462-9091.



Wildwood Fellowship Church

is a family oriented, non-denominational church that believes that all people matter to God. We welcome you to join us for our Sunday Worship services at 10:30 a.m. (Super Church during service for younger children). Our desire is that those who attend leave with practical help from God's Word to meet the challenges we all face in our daily lives, and then be encouraged as you fellowship and get acquainted over a cup of coffee following the service.

Our After-school Kids Club meets twice a month on Mondays for crafts, games, activities and occasional outings for any children Kindergarten up to Grade 4.

Our Community Jr. Youth Group is open to anyone in Grades 5 - 8. We've been meeting twice a month, usually Sunday evenings. Games and activity are a big part of the fun we've been having together as well as some "God-talk" times to help kids discover some amazing and wonderful things about God and His plan for their lives, etc. So come when you are able - our version of "The Amazing Race" and Reunion Party featuring our own movie are scheduled for Jan. 23rd and Jan 30th. In February we will be going Skating and having a Wacky Games Night at the Dowco Gym.

Please call Pastor Arnold or Eleanor Tracey at 604-462-0610 for more information on the church or any of our programs.

Old Age Pensioners Branch 103 - Whonnock

Meetings are the last Monday of the month at 11:00 a.m. at the Whonnock United Church. Call Margaret Norman, 604-462-7591 for more information.

Music Lessons

Piano & keyboard lessons for children and beginner adults.

- a variety of piano and keyboarding programs.
- Creative teaching and motivational techniques.
- only a couple of lesson times available before school
- contact Eleanor Tracey at 604 462 0610 for lesson fees and schedule info, or to go on the wait list.

Whonnock United Church

The Whonnock United Church at 27091 River Road meets Sundays at 11:00 a.m. for a joyful hour of music & worship, followed by coffee and fellowship in our church hall. On the third Wednesday of each month we hold a potluck dinner and philosophy/study group from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Our long time organist, Lil Collins accompanies our services with songs of praise old and new, and occasionally our services are enriched by some accompanying musicians. (We were fortunate to have a new member, Matt accompany Lil on his violin for 3 weeks in December). We are a small but warm outreaching congregation, strong in our faith and genuine in our worship. We feel that there is a real need to keep small churches such as ours, functioning in today's society, providing a place for 'grounding' and 'returning to' a belief in God. We welcome your visit and any suggestions that you might like to make that would enrich our worship time together. "In faith and prayer", Jean Ruttan. Please call me at 604-462-7794 for more information.

Whonnock Weavers & Spinners

The Whonnock Weavers & Spinners continue to meet in the pre-school room of the Whonnock Lake Centre on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. We would like to thank all the members of the community who attended our Open House Show and Sale. We had a very successful day and are always proud to show off the beautiful Whonnock Lake Centre to people from all over the lower mainland. This spring we will have some one day workshops to increase our knowledge of dyeing and fibre arts in general. In August, several of us will attend the Northwest Weavers Conference in Tacoma, and hopefully come back with lots of new ideas.

We always welcome new members. If you are interested in the fibre arts and wish to join us, simply come to a meeting, or phone Marie at 462-9059.



2005 Master Kayaking Program

The Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club offers a beginner to intermediate kayak program held at Whonnock Lake for those who enjoy an active lifestyle. RCKC provides trained coaches to teach proper paddling techniques while strength, endurance, and flexibility are improved.

Are you over the age of 25 and looking for a new sport?
Call Pauline at 604 467 7466

Guys and Gals Volleyball

A social drop-in volleyball evening for adults. Best of all, it's free.!!! Location: Whonnock Elementary School Gymnasium
Wednesdays: 7:45-9:00 PM. Drop in!

Whonnock Wee One Play Group

For newborns to pre-schoolers. Open playtime, crafts, songs, circle time and lots of fun. For more information or to register call Michelle at 604-462-8205.

\$2.00 per session.

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

Time: Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Drop-in Gym

Age: 13yr - 18 yr.

Come and check out our open gym and play sports such as basketball, volleyball and floor hockey. Drop in!

Cost: \$2.00 per drop-in

Location: Whonnock Elementary School Gymnasium

Monday: 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.



Canfield's General Store on Lougheed Highway around 1950.

The Canfields purchased the store in 1946. On this photo are shown from left to right: June, Lois, Elsie and Mrs. Louise Canfield. The "lean-to" was originally a booth for the sale of sweets and pies and milkshakes. In the main building groceries were sold. Family and friends recently celebrated Lois (Canfield) Agasse's life in an overcrowded Whonnock United Church--standing room only for many!



The following programs are offered in partnership with Maple Ridge Parks & Leisure Services. Please call 604 467 7322 or 604 465 2452 to register. Online registration at www.recreg4u.ca. For information on other programs visit www.mapleridge.org

Adults

Pilates by the Lake

Strengthen, lengthen and tone your way to a stronger core and back, increased balance, flexibility and better posture.

10 sessions: \$60. Location: DOWCO gymnasium

Monday Apr 4 - Jun 6. 7:45 - 8:45 PM Program code: # 60916

Saturday Apr 2 - June 4. 8:30 - 9:30 AM Program code: # 60917

10 K Road and Trail Clinic

Age: 19 plus

Looking to add some to your existing running program? This program is designed for participants currently comfortable with a run of 30 minutes and teaches everything you need to know to safely get off the road and onto the trail.

Instructor: Iron Mountain Pilates and Movement Ltd.

Location: DOWCO gymnasium.

12 sessions \$72. Mar 5 - May 21

Saturday, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Program code: # 60666

Children and Youth

Tiny T-Ball level 1

Age: 3 yr - 5 yr.

Introduces children to the basics of T-Ball (softball) and teaches skills through fun games and drills. Please bring a ball glove.

Location: Whonnock Elementary School, gymnasium

6 sessions: \$24, Apr 11 - May 16.

Monday, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Program code: # 60602

Community Youth Racing Program

Age: 7 yr. - 13 yr.

RCKC is pleased to offer an introductory racing program. Learn basics of canoe and kayak and safety practices. Choose 2 weekly practice times each 1½ hours long. Program ends with a fun regatta. For more information call 604 467 7466

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

30 sessions: \$89. May 9 - Jun 17

Monday - Friday 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Program code # 60189