



Published by the Whonnock Community Association

WHONNOCK News

SPRING 2015



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope there is still time to wish you all the very best in 2015, and that you enjoy the "Whonnock Experience" - living in this wonderful area.

The November 11th service had many more people come out - approximately 100 children & adults. It was windy, tho' cold, the sun was shining as we gathered to remember those people who have served and are still serving the military of Canada. Thanks again to Phil Johnson and Tom Brent who did such a good job again! It was a special time, gathering together with neighbours. Tom had a different display this year and was joined by James George with the PCMR (Pacific Coast Mountain Rangers) display. The young boys were fascinated with his display. Thank you Jamie.

The New Years Eve party was a great success with eighty people attending. The report was - good music, good food and lots of fun. Thanks to RCKC volunteers who did such a great job. Be sure to remember this event for 2015.

ONE BOOK WHONNOCK is reading *Best Laid Plans* by Terry Fallis. Jean Davidson and Moh Thauberger are organizing a special evening on March 26th. This book is very appropriate during this election year. There's still time to get a copy at the library and join in the discussion on the 26th at Whonnock Lake Centre. More info on their website.

Our VOLUNTEER DINNER will be held April 12th. The WCA sponsors this event to thank all the people in our area who give so much of their time to make activities happen in Whonnock. Invitations will be sent out in March. To those of you on our guest list, please RSVP before April 1st.

And the EASTER BUNNY will be making an appearance at Whonnock on April 5th. Our Coordinator is Shelley Popaduik. She always does a wonderful job in making this a great family time. We look forward to seeing all of you on Easter Sunday.

Join us at our MONTHLY MEETINGS the third Thursday of the month. We would enjoy meeting you!

New ideas are always welcome.

Sandra Rossington

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

As usual our Easter Egg Hunt will start at 1:00 PM sharp on Easter Sunday, April 5th.
Rain or shine!

The Easter Bunny is looking for volunteers to do some very rewarding assignments for the event. If you are willing to hop along please call Shelley at 604-462-1881.

ONE BOOK WHONNOCK GATHERING

The Best Laid Plans by Terry Fallis is this year's ONE BOOK WHONNOCK. Join your neighbours in reading this book and discussing it at the ONE BOOK WHONNOCK gathering on Thursday March 26 at Whonnock Lake Centre. Details will be provided to those who register.

To date, we have 50 people who have signed up to read the book. Join us to read the book then come to the gathering to discuss it! Get more details at www.whonnock.ca and click on ONE BOOK WHONNOCK.

Gloria Stanley, Moh Thauberger, Julie Young and Jean Davidson are working hard to prepare for the event.

To register for this year's gathering, please contact Jean Davidson 604-462-7341 or e-mail jeandavidson@shaw.ca.

NOMINATE YOUR OWN ONE BOOK WHONNOCK

You are invited to nominate a book that might be suitable for consideration as ONE BOOK WHONNOCK. Submit the author, title and a brief description (no more than one paragraph), and number of pages.

We'd like the book to :

- provoke thought and discussion
- be available to all at reasonable or no cost
- be at a level to engage most reading abilities while also providing challenge
- be appropriate content
- have local relevance/connection
- suggest related activities or outings to augment the understanding of the book & provide context.

To nominate a book please contact Jean Davidson
604-462-7341 jeandavidson@shaw.ca.

BYRNES BURSARY

The Whonnock Foundation's Byrnes Bursary program grants amounts of up to \$2,000 per four-month period to students from east Maple Ridge enrolled in a college, university, trade school or other post-secondary establishment with a proven record of good performance in post-secondary education.

For more about the Whonnock Foundation and the terms of reference of the Byrnes Bursary visit: <http://whonnock.ca/whonnock/Foundation.htm>

Current Byrnes Bursary recipients are: Nich Johansen, Shannon Wright, Heather Middlemass, Andrew Franklyn, and Ian Wright.

WHONNOCK YOUTH DROP-IN

A FREE drop-in recreation session for those wanting to hang out with friends and be active.

Mondays from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at Whonnock Elementary Gym. No sessions December 22 and 29.

For more information, contact Brian Patel at 604-467-7448 or Megan MacMillan at 604-467-7497.

WHONNOCK WALKERS

Join us Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9:15 for a friendly, one-hour walk. Call Brita at 604 462-9863 for more information.

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre Parking lot.



WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BURSARY

We would like to congratulate Cassidy Baker on receiving our Annual Whonnock Community Association bursary of \$1,000. Cassidy was our recipient from 2013 who is attending Douglas College in the youth justice program.

For those students interested in our Bursary and who qualify by having lived in the Whonnock area for at least 2 years, please see below for our criteria.

- First we look at the student's marks which must show a commitment to furthering their education at college, trade school or university.
- Secondly we assess financial need.
- Thirdly we look for a student's history of volunteering either in the community, the school or other worthy cause.

Please check with your school counsellor during the fall semester for more information.

If you have an interest in serving on this committee please call Noreen Woods at 604-462-8557. The time commitment is minimal and the satisfaction is great, knowing you are helping a student on their road to future success.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AT WHONNOCK LAKE PARK.

Several open houses have been held in the last year showing proposed plans for improvements and upgrades to Whonnock Lake Park and Whonnock Lake Centre.

There are three phases to this plan with the first phase starting in early spring and hopefully finishing before peak season.

"The improvements will reflect the existing uses at the park in addition to desired components that would enhance the site such as drainage, while at the same time preserving and enhancing the ecology of the park and lake."

For more information on this plan go to <http://mrpmpark-sandleisure.ca/399/Whonnock-Lake-Capital-Improvements-Proj>

To receive notification of any updates on Whonnock Project sign up at <http://mrpmparksandleisure.ca/list.aspx>

LARGE MEDICAL MARIJUANA GREENHOUSES IN WHONNOCK ?

Are you in favour of large-scale medical marijuana greenhouses?

There is one proposed for the Whonnock area. Would you be interested in attending a meeting to learn more?

Please contact Sherry Green at jonelson@shaw.ca





THORNHILL COMMUNITY HALL

The Thornhill Hall had good bookings throughout the winter months.

Since we are one of the only community halls of this size near Albion, we have had many family and community events held here.

We held the Giant Pumpkin Growing Contest in October, in which many family members of all ages participated. It was our fifth year and we continue to draw much enthusiasm and anticipation at the event. This year's winning pumpkin was 420 lbs!

Volunteer members of the hall are planning a work session to renovate the washrooms and we are in the process of raising funds for a much needed new stove.

We are fortunate to have this facility in our neighborhood, cared for by the long-standing volunteers.

We have two new members this past year and we welcome them to our association.

For bookings contact Fran Norman @ 604-462-7869 or Shirley Kinney @ 604-476-7794.



Klaus & Betty von Hardenberg
Phone/Fax: 604.462.9244
Email: info@vonhardenbergcandles.com
9730 Spilsbury Street
Maple Ridge, BC Canada V2W 1K7



RUSKIN COMMUNITY HALL

28395 96th Avenue, Maple Ridge, B.C., V2W 1L3

Phone: 604-462-9739 / ruskinhall@yahoo.ca

www.whonnock.ca/ruskin/

The Ruskin Hall is located on the corner of 96th Avenue and 284th Street, the same place it has been for the last 93 years. Our community meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30, everyone is welcome.

Kim Rondquist continues to teach yoga Wednesday nights at 7:30; this is her 15th consecutive year! The classes are geared towards all levels of strength and flexibility.

The Ruskin Hall continues to endorse *One Book Whonnock*. The current book to be discussed is Terry Fallis's *The Best Laid Plans*. This will be Thursday, March 26 at the Whonnock Lake Centre; registration 7:15, discussion 7:30 to 9:00. Thank you to Jean Davidson for her hard work in keeping this project alive.

We will be hosting a Potluck / Silent Auction on Sunday, May 3 from 5:00 to 7:30. The food is always good, and so is the company. Everyone is welcome.

The hall is available for rental at a nightly or hourly rate. For information or booking call Shannon at 462-7642 or the hall at 462- 9739.



JUNICHI TANAKA, born in Japan, established a ceramics studio at Whonnock in 1998.

His work has been widely accepted all over Canada.

Ceramics is not his only passion. He has climbed major mountains and he is a poet.

His Web site address is www.ceramicsjunichi.com



RIDGE CANOE AND KAYAK NEWS

Spring brings us a new Paddling Season that officially starts on April 1st, 2015. Our program coordinators have been busy preparing schedules for all our programs for the new season. Our club offers programs for beginners right up to international competitors of all ages. With canoe, kayak and dragon boat, there is something for everyone. The best part, it is right here in our backyard at Whonnock Lake!

Through our club's partnership with the Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Parks and Leisure Services, our programs are listed in the Parks and Leisure Arts and Recreation Guides. Registration can be done online 24/7 at <www.recreg4u.ca>.

During the months of May and June we will see many elementary and high school students at Whonnock Lake as part of The School Canoe & Kayak Safety Program. This is a fun-oriented course designed to teach elementary and high school students, as well as community groups, basic boating skills and recreational water safety. This program is designed to provide new activities within the B.C. school physical education curriculum as well as being a popular end-of-the-year field trip activity for grades 3 and up.

For more information on all our programs, Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club will host an information table and Krispy Kreme Donut Sale, Saturday March 28th at the Valley Fair Mall. Please come by!



SAVE THESE DATES!

Here are some events that will be held at Whonnock Lake in 2015. Come out and watch both competitive and fun Canoe and Kayak races.

Slawko Fedechko Season Opener Regatta May 2 - 3

RCKC Open House/ Paddle-A-Thon June 14

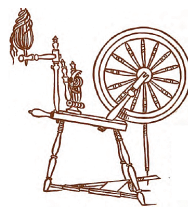
Canoe Kids Regatta June 21

Pacific Cup Regatta/BC Bantam Champs September 12 - 13,

You won't want to miss our popular Open House this year on June 14th, 2015.

Information about our club and programs is available on our website www.rckc.ca.

WHONNOCK WEAVERS AND SPINNERS



The Whonnock Weavers and Spinners had a very busy fall and winter and were very happy to see many of you at our 34th Annual Open House last November. We will be back again on the last Sunday of November in 2015, so mark November 29th on your calendar.

This spring we are looking forward to a knitting workshop with Janet Armstrong of Vernon, BC. In the fall we have plans to hold a surface design workshop with Anita Luvera Mayer of Anacortes, WA.

We have been hosting spin-in Tuesday nights at The ACT on January 13 and February 10. There will be one more evening for the last spin-in on Tuesday, March 10, 2014 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm in the lobby at The ACT. Please do stop by to join us to see what hand spinning is all about.

This year our meetings are being held in the pre-school room of the Whonnock Lake Centre on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. There is usually a short business meeting followed by a program. We frequently also meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, but these meetings may be at a member's home.

We always welcome new members so if you are interested in the fibre arts and wish to join us, simply come to a meeting.

If you would like more information, please phone Marie at 604-462-9059. Our website can be found at www.whonnock-weaversandspinnners.org.

WHONNOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



For information about Whonnock Elementary and upcoming events please visit the school's Web site at <whonnock-school.sd42.ca>.

LAKESIDE PRESCHOOL

Located on beautiful Whonnock Lake in the Whonnock Lake Centre, this bright well-equipped preschool offers a variety of experiences for 3-to-5-year-olds.

Our aim is to provide each child with exciting and stimulating experiences in a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

For ongoing registration phone Mrs. Kilsby at 604-462-0026 to reserve your child's space in one of our programs.

MONTESSORI CORNER

The Montessori Corner is a private educational organization. We offer preschool and kindergarten programs in two different locations, Websters Corners and Thornhill.

For more information visit <<http://montessoricorner.ca>>, e-mail <info@montessoricorner.ca>, or call Ms. Debora Vieira at 604-462-1400.

WHONNOCK SCOUTS/CUBS/BEAVERS



Group Commissioners:
Rhonda Leigh and Clark Rutledge,
rhondas_roost@yahoo.ca. | 604-462-4142
Group Registrar:
Marcia Mahoney,
marciamahoney@msn.com, 604-476-
0953, 778-554-3425

WHO: 1st Whonnock Scouts.

Beavers age 5-7 | Cubs age 8-10 | Scouts age 11-14

Ventures age 14-20

WHERE: Whonnock Lodge.

WHEN: Tuesday nights

Beavers 6:30-7:30 | Cubs 6:30-8:00 | Scouts 6:30-8:00
Ventures meet on their own time

Our next two bottle drives are February 28th and April 11th.
9:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

People can drop off bottles at Doug Blanchard's Barn at
26839 Ferguson Ave.

Or call Allyson and Sandy Hawrysh at 604-773-9757 or email
at dawifeankids@shaw.ca or metalbydesign@shaw.ca

We can't get to everyone so you could help us out by drop-
ping off your bottles or phoning us. That would be much
appreciated.

If anyone is interested in joining Scouts or volunteering
please give us a call. We are raising money for camps and
other fun adventures.

IRON MOUNTAIN MOVEMENT

PILATES BY THE LAKE – INTERMEDIATE

Designed for those with a strong Pilates base to further
improve posture, increase lung capacity, and sculpt strong,
lean muscles. Work on your body and mind, soaking in the
serenity of Whonnock Lake Centre. Mon. 7:30 – 8:30 pm.
Own mat required.

PILATES – PILATES STRETCH USING THE FOAM ROLLER

Strengthen and stretch while you gently rock and roll your
way to muscle relaxation and stress relief. Improve body
alignment, flexibility and balance with this relaxing pilates
practice using a foam roller. It is gentle on the joints, so
there is little worry of overstressing the body. Join us for
this relaxing hour and reconnect with yourself.

Whonnock Lake Centre. Mon 6:20 – 7:20. Own mat and
foam roller required.

For dates, times and to register visit www.recreg4u.ca or
call 604-465-2470

Keri Cawthorne, Iron Mountain Movement Ltd.

<www.ironmountainmovement.com>

If you don't climb the mountain, you can't see the view.

PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES

Programs at Whonnock Lake Centre

For more info, dates or to register by phone: 604 465-2470
For online registration go to www.recreg4u.ca.

ADULT VOLLEYBALL AT WHONNOCK ELEMENTARY,
Wednesdays from 8 until 9 in the gymnasium. All skill
levels welcome. Now a WCA sponsored, parks and leisure
program.

WHONNOCK YOUTH DROP-IN A FREE drop in recreation
session for those wanting to hang with their friends and be
active. Location: Whonnock Elementary Fee: FREE! Monday
7:00pm-9:00pm.

YOGA – HATHA YOGA: 16Y+ This intermediate yoga class
will provide active stretching, balancing and sequences
with a gentle flow, this class will reward you with a gen-
tle yoga flow with you leaving feeling balanced, gently
stretched and at peace. Beginners are recommended to take
Yoga Basics prior to registering in this course. Location:
Whonnock Lake Centre, Wed. 7 – 8 pm.



WESTCOAST SHOTOKAN KARATE

Kids and Family karate classes at Whonnock Lake Centre

Mondays and Wednesdays: 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Class is split into Family or Regular class and 'Tiny Tigers'
for ages 6 – 8 years old.

The instruction for this group is specifically designed to
help children with the necessary skills needed to protect
themselves and gain discipline and confidence through
their growing-up years and entire lives.

Karate is also a great affordable way to gain flexibility, get in
shape, increase everyone's confidence and protect yourself.
Come try a free drop-in class any time.

Sensei Gary Johnson brings over 45 years of martial art
experience to the Whonnock community.

Phone: 778-232-1704 or email info@westcoastshotokan.com

Beaver Mountain Works specializes in shooting,
hunting and fishing gear, living history, and giftware,
wood, steel, canvas and textile products. Under
the name **Leather Mark Saddlery** we create quality
custom saddles and tack.



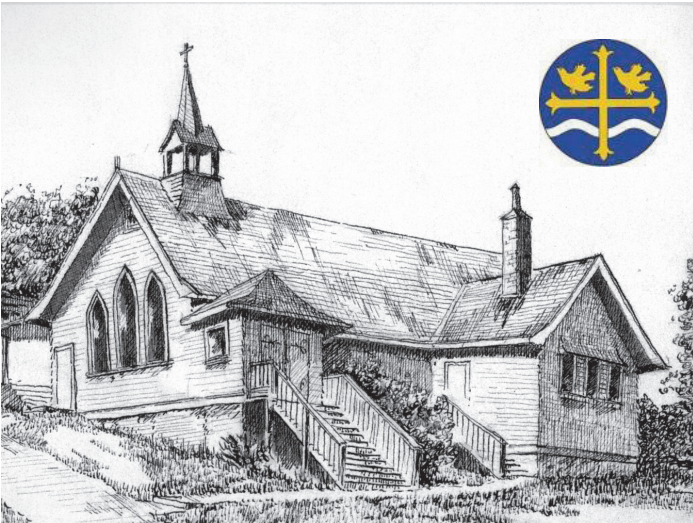
YOU DREAM IT – WE MAKE IT

<http://beavermountainworks.com>

26525, 98th Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC, V2W 1K3

Tel: 778-994-1580

E-mail: info@leathermarksaddlery.com



HOLY SPIRIT ANGLICAN CHURCH

Please feel free to join us for our Sunday Service in our Heritage Church in a lovely rural setting. Service is held from 10:00am to 11:30am every Sunday morning. You are encouraged and welcome to join us for coffee and fellowship afterwards held in our modern Church Hall that has all the facilities you'd expect!

We have a Sunday School and a nursery running each week for those with children. The congregation and our enthusiastic members make sure that all our seasonal events go with a real bang.

Priest in Charge: Rev. Dr. E.J. (Ted) Celiz.....604-568-6449

Bishop's Warden: Bob MacMillan.....604-826-3519

Peoples Warden: Thomas Kerr.....604-462-9797

Hall and Church Rental information 604-462-7933



WHONNOCK T.O.P.S. LOCAL # 4522

TOPS is a nonprofit organization that helps members to improve their health and well being. We meet at the Wildwood Fellowship Church Mondays at 6:30 pm.

Come and visit with us - we have fun and successful weight loss. Phone Carolyn , 604-462-1213, or Lori Button, 604-463-7355, for more info.

For information on other chapters in Maple Ridge phone-Thelma at 604-467-5601



WILDWOOD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Sunday Services are held at 10:30am (10810 272nd St.)

WHAT IS YOUR HEART LONGING FOR? People often come to church hoping to find answers to life, to find support in times of crisis, acceptance and love, to develop positive friendships. We define "fellowship" as "the oneness of spirit that comes when two friends are on the same side of a struggle."

YOU ARE WELCOME! People matter to God and they matter to us! We believe you will find us to be a small church with a big heart where "people know your name and people are glad you came." If you're looking to find a place to belong where you can learn about and live out a relevant faith, then we invite you to experience the community of Wildwood Fellowship Church. We are a family-oriented, nondenominational community church. We want to come alongside you in your faith journey, knowing that ultimately Jesus Christ is the One who can truly satisfy the inner longings of your heart.

For more information on kids events, ministries, or special services visit our website at www.wildwoodfellowship.com, call Pastor Arnold Tracey at 604-287-6963, or just drop in and visit us some Sunday morning.



MUSIC IN ME! STUDIO

teaching a variety of programs and musical styles based on the individual student's preferences and musical goals.

- Classical music
- Contemporary styles (Pop, Jazz & Blues)
- Recreational music (chording, play by ear, improvise)
- Recital & Festival opportunities
- Exams (for interested students, practical & theory exams)

Call Eleanor Tracey at 604-287-6963 or email eleanor.tracey@shaw.ca

Web site: <www.musicinme.musicteachershelper.com>

A BIT OF HISTORY

Whonnock's "main street" is that short stretch of River Road that curves up from Lougheed Highway to 96th Avenue, where it turns north into 272nd Street. It was referred to generally as "the front."

At the upper end are two church buildings: the United Church, built in 1914 (now inactive) and the Anglican Church from 1921. Here was also for many decades the Whonnock Memorial Hall, built in 1912 and torn down half a century ago.

The lower end of River Road, towards Lougheed Highway, is the business end of Whonnock's "main street."

Shopping in Whonnock started with one general store, the "supermarket" for the entire Stave area. The store was built and opened in anticipation of an influx of new settlers after the completion of the transcontinental railway.

For all but the First Nations Whonnock was a nameless place but that changed when it was given a train station just because it happened to be at 10 miles distance from the previous station: Port Hammond. Mission is 10 miles to the east of Whonnock.

And so it happened that, when the trains started running from back east to Port Moody, Whonnock had not only been given a station and a store but also a name, a post office and a school.

The storeowner was also the postmaster and he knew everything that was going on. The store was not only a place where you did your purchases or picked up your mail but it was also the place to catch up with neighbourly news (gossip included), to do business, and talk politics. A surviving diary of a shopkeeper's father-in-law from 1897 tells us all about that.

Alas, one frosty morning in February of 1916 the store burned down because of an overheated stovepipe. It was

never rebuilt and its ashes lie where it once stood; mainly now under Lougheed Highway.

The burning down of the old general store did not cause hardship to anyone in the settlement. As it happened Andrew Graham had just started a feed store on River Road and he quickly expanded that into a general store.

The settlers did not lose their cherished letters from the home country in the fire because, just a few years earlier, the post office had been moved from the store to a little shack at its present location across from the Graham store.

The River Road where the post office and Graham's store stood was a dirt road well into the 1930s and old-timer Brian Byrnes remembered that it had "tremendous potholes" and that occasional through-traffic chased up swirling clouds of dust.

For a few years Graham's was the only store in town but that ended when Fred Showler opened a shop opposite from Graham's in 1920. Showler's store later became part of the Red and White food store chain. In the 1950s both stores succumbed to the supermarkets as most of these local stores did once everyone had a car.

The Graham building was torn down but Showler's building survives today as a feed store, miraculously saved from destruction by postmaster Sue Schulze.

In the 1920s, a bit further up River Road, Marshall Luno opened a "confectionary, gas and service station" to serve the cruising automobilists and other vehicle owners. The construction of Lougheed Highway around 1930 put an end to River Road as a main artery and Luno's moved his buildings and his business to the new highway where the business struggled on under different owners until its final incarnation as the home of the Hoofbeat Corral.

After 130 years of continuous service to the community the Whonnock post office is still in operation and that is something we all should be very proud of. fb



River Road at Whonnock looking east. On the left post office and Showler's, later Red & White store. Right Graham's store and at some distance Luno's. Note the dirt road! Picture was probably taken in the later 1920s.



When, around 1930, the construction of Lougheed Highway put an end to River Road as a main artery, Marshall Luno moved down his "confectionary, gas and service station" to the new highway.

Photo: Maple Ridge Museum and Archives



On Thursday, 19 February, the City of Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission presented Fred Braches with a "History Hero Special Award" recognizing his "outstanding contributions to Maple Ridge and BC History." Fred (centre) is shown here with Mayor Nicole Read (right) and Brenda Smith, chair of the CHC.

Photo by Cole Wagner, MR-PM Times.

Coming
Soon
To

THEATRE IN THE COUNTRY

DINNER THEATRE
9975 272nd Street 604-259-9737
theatreinthecountry.com

APRIL
9-25

EDUCATING RITA
by Willy Russell
Our Theatre BC Festival Entry

MARCH
20-28

HOT FLASHES
In partnership with Emerald Pig Theatre

JUNE
4-27

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Ask about our LONDON THEATRE TRIP
in October 2015 (info on website)