



Published by the Whonnock Community Association

# Whonnock News

Fall 2009

## Whonnock Community Association Fall Report

Welcome back to all Whonnockians and those from surrounding communities. I hope everyone had a super summer and were able to enjoy our great local outdoors.

The Whonnock Community Association has had an eventful year with many of our annual events going on. That is, except Whonnock Lake Day. We felt that this annual event was in need of new blood and new ideas and we're hopeful that a break will inspire the community to come up with a new and better Whonnock Lake Day. This might mean a new focus or a new time of year. Change can be good and we look forward to more Whonnock Lake Days in the future.

This summer we lost Norm Billesberger, a dedicated volunteer and community member. We all miss him very much. His wife Melanie has stepped back from her many volunteer jobs for a while.

The Community Association will be saying good bye to the Hall Managers of three years, Jordy and Shirley Blatter. They will be leaving us in November and we want to thank them for a hard and sometimes thankless job, done very well. We wish them the very best of luck.

New managers Cheryl West and Cliff Latter (no, not Blatter) will be joining us in November and I know everyone will give them a warm welcome to our community. Much more on our new Managers in the next Newsletter.

Lastly, on behalf of the Whonnock Community Association I would just like to wish all residents a safe and happy year.

Noreen Woods, Whonnock Community Association

## Just a reminder of some Special Dates

- November 21 Craft Fair - (Looking for a coordinator)
- November 29 Whonnock Weavers and Spinners Show & Sale
- December 31 New Years' Eve Dance (Ask Sue for tickets)

## Norm Billesberger

In May of this year we lost a quiet, unassuming man, with a glint in the eyes after a short but courageous battle with cancer. Norm was born in Saskatchewan but he called Whonnock home for many years.

He volunteered his time and energy to the Whonnock community. When Norm became passionate about something he dedicated his time. Sometimes it was physical labour, compiling data, or emotional support. Whatever it was, he followed through always with great attention to detail. We will miss his friendship kindness, dry wit, his smile, wisdom and unique insight.

He loved his wife Melanie Snell, his family, his friends and Whonnock. We all should take a step in his shoes and follow his example and volunteer for what we care about—school, your community, or whatever it may be. It doesn't have to be money, that's easy, but what is precious: our time.

Jo-Ann Bakker, Friend and WCA Vice President

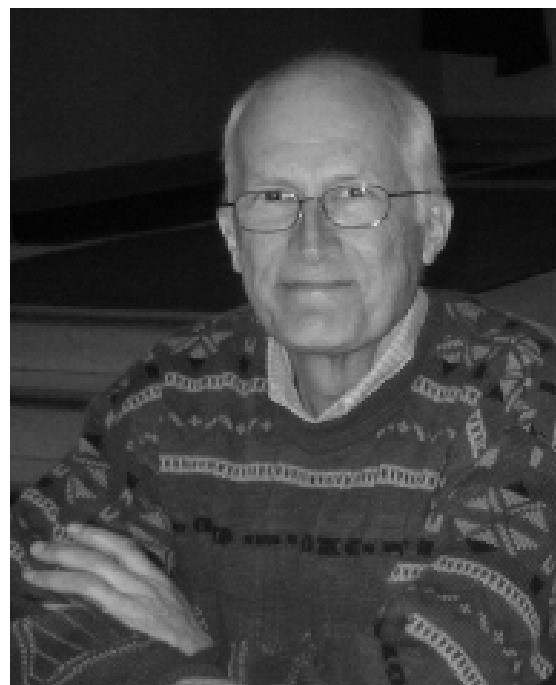


Photo taken by Shirley Blatter at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in March of this year.

This issue of WHONNOCK NEWS was prepared and edited by Noreen Woods and produced by Fred Braches

THE WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETS ON THE 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:30 PM, AT WHONNOCK LAKE CENTRE



## Whonnock Lake Centre Report

The Centre was host to as many as 77 “joyful events” in 2009 with lots of compliments on the facility and the gardens. The Parks and Facilities Department partners with the Whonnock Community Association to offer not only summer programs but many year-round classes at Whonnock Lake Centre. Those include Pilates, Karate, Yoga, play groups and also some one-day programs to be announced.

In November, we, the present Managers of Whonnock Lake Centre, Jordy and Shirley Blatter, will be leaving our position here and moving to Mission to be with our grandchildren. It has been a pleasure working with the Whonnock Community Association and the people of Whonnock. Our dog, Abby will surely, miss the walks and swims down by the Lake.

We would like to welcome the new managers, Cliff and Cheryl Latter. I know the Community and the Association will make them feel at home, as they did for us. —Shirley Blatter

## Whonnock Well Monitoring Group

Members of the Whonnock Well Monitoring Group have been testing their well water twice a year for the last three years. Tests and analysis are performed by Bodycote Labs in Surrey after picking up the samples from the Whonnock Lake Centre. The bacterial test is done on the samples taken in May and October. The chemical analysis is done on samples taken in May. Each participant receives their own test results and the coordinators also receive a copy of the test results of all the participants.

As a well monitoring group, we receive 30 % discount from the Bodycote Labs compared to the regular price. The Ministry of Environment encourages well owners to test their wells at least once a year. The test results (anonymous) are entered into a spreadsheet and the data are shared with the Ministry of Environment. Core members also check their well depth once a month and the data are recorded on a spreadsheet.

We will have the next well test in October. If you are interested in participating, please contact Tilde Castiello 462-7617 or Yukiko Tanaka 462-8675.

## Ruskin Hall

The Ruskin Hall is located at the corner of 284th Street and 96th Avenue. The hall can hold 84 people and is available for rental for anniversaries, family reunions, small weddings, etc. For rental information contact Shannon at 462-7642.

Kim and Alvina will be starting their classes again in early October. Kim’s yoga classes will be Wednesday nights at 7:30 and Alvina’s low impact exercise classes will be on Monday nights at 7:00.

Our upcoming events include a pub night at the Shake and Shingle, hopefully in October, and our annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 to 11:30.

## Whonnock Lake Park

On August 8th Whonnock Lake was honoured to host the triathlon portion of the World Police and Fire Games. More than 300 athletes and their families enjoyed the picturesque scenery of the Park.

Other events held at Whonnock Lake Park this year include the annual Iron Mountain Triathlon, several RCKC regattas, and displays by the Whonnock Volunteer Fire Department which gave much needed cooling off to many children on a hot summer day.

—Shirley Blatter

## 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.

## Another Byrnes Bursary granted

The Whonnock Foundation is pleased to announce that a Byrnes Bursary has been granted to Carolyn Jennings.

The Foundation continues with its Byrnes Bursary program granting 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.

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

## Whonnock United Church

Although the buildings are for sale, the Whonnock United Church at 27091 River Road continues to meet on Sundays at 11:00 AM for a joyful hour of music and worship followed by coffee and fellowship in our church hall. We are a small but warm and outreaching congregation, strong in our faith and genuine in our worship. We welcome all to come, visit and enjoy our service.

## Wildwood Fellowship Church

Sunday Service 10:30 AM.  
10810 - 272nd Street.

People matter to God and they matter to us! If you're looking to find a place to belong and a place where you can fit in, serve and be served, then we invite you to experience the community of Wildwood Fellowship Church.



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR? People often come to church hoping to find answers to life, to find support, 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."

WHO ARE WE? We are a family-oriented, nondenominational community church. We believe you will find us to be a small church with a big heart. Our ministry is geared towards communicating Jesus Christ as the answer to meeting our deepest longings.

What do we offer? Opportunities to get to know your Creator and Designer:

- ✘ Kid's Zone – "Journey with Jesus" (ages 3-12) during Sunday services
- ✘ Youth Group events (ages 13-18)
- ✘ Guys and dads hockey nights – alternate Saturdays
- ✘ Men's breakfast – every third Saturday 8:00 AM
- ✘ Refreshing mix of contemporary and traditional worship to suit young and old alike

MORE INFO?

Please call Pastor Arnold or Eleanor Tracey at 604-462-0610 or check out our Web site at [www.wildwoodfellowship.com](http://www.wildwoodfellowship.com)

## Philip Wilson - Bursary Recipient

The Whonnock Community Association was very pleased to award Philip Wilson, a Garibaldi Graduate, our annual bursary for 2009. He will be continuing his education at the University of the Fraser Valley, pursuing a business degree.

We encourage all grade 12 students who reside or have been a past resident of Whonnock to apply to the Community Association for this \$1,000.00 bursary.

The criteria we look at are threefold. First we look at the students 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 for more information and or an application form. Good Luck to all applicants.

## The Church of the Holy Spirit Whonnock The Anglican Church of Canada



- WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY, 10 AM
- SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL KICK-OFF: "GODLY PLAY"  
Starts Sunday, September 20, 10 am – Bring your children to a fun time learning about Christian life from trained leaders in a flexible program.
- ADULT FAITH STUDY : "FIRST LIGHT"  
Starts the week of September 21 - Monday morning or Wednesday evening - about Jesus and the life of the folks who followed Jesus in the early church - 12 weeks.
- PET BLESSING SERVICE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 10 AM  
Bring your beloved animal companion (leash or cage please!) for prayers and blessing .
- BAZAAR: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7  
Baking, crafts & more!
- PUB DINNER FUND-RAISER – "RAISING THE ROOF!"  
Saturday, November 21– Proceeds to our hall expansion project & to reconstruction of the Anglican "igloo" cathedral in Iqaluit, lost to fire.
- ADVENT – A TIME OF ANTICIPATION FOR CHRISTMAS!  
Sundays November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 10 am. Collecting food & toys for the needy, packing gift hampers, children's pageant, carol singing, candle lighting and decorating the church.
- CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!  
Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve 10:30 pm Christmas Carol Sing | 11:00 pm Midnight Mass | 12:15 am Christmas Desert Party in the church hall.

## Whonnock TOPS 4522

Is time for a "New You"? Tops is non-profit, weight loss support group that meets every Monday from 6:30 – 7:45 pm at Wildwood Fellowship Church. We offer support, guidance and many laughs. Every night is an Open house, so come on over ! Take that first step! For more info call Grace at 604-462-8896 or Jo-Ann at 604-463-1622.

## Yoga Flow at Whonnock

All levels welcome!

Join us for Yoga Flow every Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at Whonnock Lake Centre. The class is catered towards all levels of fitness—from beginners to the very active. Enjoy a gentle, flowing workout and break away from the day's stress...all in good company!

Call to register: 604 377 2660

or e-mail [jaimee@jaimeestokes.ca](mailto:jaimee@jaimeestokes.ca)



## Drop-In Open Gym

Come check out our open gym and play sports such as basketball, volleyball, and floor hockey. Open Friday and Saturday evenings.

Location: Whonnock Elementary School

Mondays 7:00-9:00 PM. Ages: 10 to 14. COST: FREE!!!

## Whonnock Walkers



Join us Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9:15 for a friendly, one-hour walk. Call Maureen at 604-467-5772 for more information. Location: Whonnock Lake Centre Parking lot.

## Whonnock Weavers & Spinners



The Whonnock Weavers and 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 PM.

We have just completed a very busy summer. In early July we held a weaving workshop, learning about lace weaves with Jane Stafford, a well known instructor from Salt Spring Island.

Then at the end of July, we organized and participated in "Fabulous Fibres" at Country Fest. This event was part of the United Nations International Year of Natural Fibres and we filled Planet Ice with weaving, spinning, felting, rug hooking, and knitting with the help of several other groups from various parts of the Lower Mainland. We even had activities for kids, including dyeing with KoolAid.

Many of our members also entered items in the Country Fest competitions, and came away with prize ribbons.

Now we are turning our attention to our annual Open House show and sale at the Whonnock Lake Centre on Sunday November 29, from 11 AM to 4 PM. We hope to see lots of you there. 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.

## Music PUPS



MUSIC PUPS is an innovative Music & Movement class for Parents & Tots (birth – age 5) helping little ones develop their pitch and rhythm skills in their formative years. The 10 week Fall Session featuring music from the Dinosaur collection will be starting on Sept 23rd. It will run Wednesday mornings from 10-10:45am at Whonnock Lake Centre. Check out the program at [www.themusicclass.com](http://www.themusicclass.com) (go to class locator – Maple Ridge/Mission) and call Eleanor Tracey at 604.462.0610 for more info or to register.



## Whonnock Wee Ones Play Group

For newborns to preschoolers. Open play-time, crafts, songs, circle time and lots of fun. Drop in, 8:30 to 11:30 AM, Tuesdays at Whonnock Lake Centre. \$2.00 per session.

## Westcoast Shotokan Karate School

Come and get in shape and have fun doing it. Great family activity and sport for all ages, four to adult.

Bring your family and friends and join us for a free class.

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre: Mondays & Wednesdays 5 pm – 6 pm

Call: Andrew Johnson – 604.612.3995 or

Bill Railian 778.689.2455 email : [billrailian@wwdb.org](mailto:billrailian@wwdb.org)



## Half Marathon Training Program

Age: 16 yrs and up | Train for the Historic Half Marathon in Fort Langley. This program will use a combination of road, trail and dike runs, and is designed for runners comfortable with a road run of 60 minutes who have been injury-free for six months.

Instructor: Iron Mountain Movement | Location: Whonnock Lake Centre | Sa Oct 24-Feb 13 8:30-11:00 am | \$126/15 l #134295 | To reserve call 604-465-2470 or register on-line at [www.recreg4u.ca](http://www.recreg4u.ca)



## Whonnock Rhododendron Garden Two Plants and a Lady



Diane Kehoe

On April 29th, 2001, a casual visitor to the Annual Plant Sale of the Vancouver Rhododendron Society at the UBC Botanical Garden, bought a few plants for his suburban garden.

He obtained several species plants from Harold Fearing and a fine Cosmopolitan from Les Clay, paying between \$8 and \$10 per plant. Having almost reached his spending limit he looked at a table with tiny plants in 4-inch pots. At \$3 each it was worth taking a chance. The plants were very nicely labelled with a metal tag denoting the source. His choice was a related pair described as *Fortunea* PW39 Peter Wharton '94 Chinese Expedition, and *fortunei* ARS '96 #149 Seed from Peter Cox, Perth Scotland. With pedigrees like that, one couldn't go wrong.

Back at home he transferred the plants from the 4-inch pots to a sheltered border on the north side of a 6-foot fence and there they sat and grew for 3 years. The original tags were removed at an early stage and after a while he couldn't remember which was which. One had darker green leaves than the other and the underside of the leaves of both were pale, almost white. A clear difference was to be seen in the colour of the leaf stems. One was pale green and one was crimson.

In 2004 with most of the planting of the new part of the display garden at Whonnock completed, two choice spots were available for plants which would eventually grow to a large size. There our *Fortunea* and *fortunei* were planted, on a south facing bank with some exposure to the sun and with room to grow tall under a tree canopy.

Amongst those attending the Species Workshops at UBC Botanical Garden in the spring of 2008 were the novice gardener mentioned above and Diane Kehoe. A realization dawned that it was Diane who had sold those tiny plants in 2001. Diane remembered the names and some of the details and said she was still offering species rhododendrons for sale. She was invited to be a vendor at our annual Plant Sale in April 2008.

Sparing a few minutes from a very busy time at the sale, Diane posed for a photograph behind one of the two plants. We hope that she will be back again to help us decide which is *Fortunea* and which is *fortunei*.

Diane can be reached at [riverbank@telus.net](mailto:riverbank@telus.net).

Scot Henney, Member Fraser Valley Rhododendron Society

## Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club

The Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club is in the midst of another busy season!

Several new programs to teach people about the joy of paddling have been introduced: Canoe Kids Program, Beginner Sprint Racing Program, Parent & Child Paddling, Dragon Boat Paddling, Kiddie Canoe/Kayak and Adult Learn to Kayak courses are being offered, as well as our usual summer day camps and the coaching of our strong core of competitive paddlers.



Three regattas have been held so far at Whonnock Lake: The SLAWKO FEDECHKO SEASON OPENER, the CANADA GAMES TEAM TRIALS regatta and the RIDGE INVITATIONAL were all held in the months of June and July. We're looking forward to holding the PACIFIC CUP regatta on September 26 & 27, 2009

RCKC participated in the Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows 2009 DISABILITY GAMES, holding some Paddle-All races with the athletes and our young volunteer instructors assisted disabled athletes to "Give it a Go" - a chance to have disabled athletes try out paddling as a sport.

The competitive paddlers of RCKC have been travelling the province and scoring top points in most regattas. Thirteen of the twenty athletes composing Team BC in canoe and kayak are from the Ridge Club, and are participating in all the CANADA GAMES excitement in Prince Edward Island from August 23 - 29, 2009. Here's hoping the Team brings home many medals! From there, many of the athletes will be attending the CANADIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, to be held in Sherbrooke, Quebec on September 1-5.

The Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club welcomes everyone to come out and give paddling a try! Information about the club and its programs and events can be found on the Web site at [www.rckc.ca](http://www.rckc.ca)



HTTP://WHONNOCKIAN.BLOGSPOT.COM



Thanks to **David Boag**, Director of Parks and Facilities, and his staff for replacing the old and confusing sign “No Dogs Allowed in Park Area” at Whonnock Lake with the a new one spelling out clearly that, although dogs (on leash) are welcome in Whonnock Lake Park, they are not permitted on beach or lawn areas. Now, if only dogs could read!



**Tom Woodward** kindly allowed us to dedicate one of the benches he built in the Rhododendron Garden to the memory of **Allan Springman**.



“I know that it would please Allan greatly - though I suspect he would have some flip comment regarding the Whonnockian bums that might grace his bench.” (Neva Springman)



Summer students at the Maple Ridge Museum and Archives arranged a Cemetery Conservation workshop in August. This is summer student **Brian Grootendorst** cleaning up one of the grave markers at Whonnock Cemetery.

A warm “thank you” to **Pastor Arnold Tracey** for updating the sign on the “well house” for some years. The task of climbing the ladder and changing the letters now falls on **Phil Johnson**, through whom Neon Products of Vancouver donated the lighted sign back in 1983. This picture is from that time.



## Iron Mountain Pilates and Movement Ltd. | Whonnock Programs

PILATES BY THE LAKE — BEGINNERS AND INTERMEDIATE

Information: Arts and Recreation spring program or visit Parks and Leisure on the municipal Web site <mapleridge.ca>  
To register for any of the above programs, please call 604-465-2470 or register on-line at www.recreg4u.ca

WWW.WHONNOCK.CA

# Whonnock Community Association

27871 – 113<sup>th</sup> Avenue

PO Box 134

Whonnock BC V2W 1V9

## Application for Membership

The objectives of the Whonnock Community Association are to promote community spirit, to operate the community hall, and to promote and assist charitable, athletic, recreational, and community endeavours of the District.

To become a member of the WCA, please fill out this form.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Type:

Individual \$1 \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$2 \_\_\_\_\_

Non-profit \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ Corporate \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.

Members and residents of Whonnock are invited and encouraged to attend our monthly meetings, held every second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Whonnock Lake Centre.

For further information please contact Helmi Braches at 604.462.8942, or [braches@shaw.ca](mailto:braches@shaw.ca)

Please drop off your completed application at Whonnock Lake Centre, or mail it to the above address, or bring it to one of our meetings.

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Whonnock Community Association  
PO Box 134  
Whonnock BC V2W 1V9

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