

QUADRA CEDAR HILL Community Association NEWS



“Neighbours Building Community”

Volume #45 March – April 2007

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Tuesday March 27, 2007 7:30 PM

Cedar Hill Recreation Centre
3220 Cedar Hill Road
Everyone Welcome!

ELECTION OF 2007 – 2008 EXECUTIVE

Speaker: **Vicki Sanders,**
Saanich Council Member

Topic: **How to Have Your Voice
Heard by Council**

Next General Meeting is May 22, 2007

Proposed Closure of Cloverdale School

The QCHCA is concerned about the proposed closure of Cloverdale School and has sent a letter to the Members of the Greater Victoria School Board (School District No. 61) urging them to reconsider this decision. We understand that the numbers of students district wide has been declining, placing pressure on the school board. However we do feel that small children should be educated in their own neighbourhood. We also question why there cannot be a move to mixed use of school faculties in order to cover basic costs. In the case of Cloverdale we think the projections are simply wrong. Here are some excerpts from our letter.

The community is concerned that the closure of this school will have a major impact on not only the children and parents in this area but also on the entire community. Cloverdale School is an important part of our community, providing not only a conveniently located elementary school but also supporting working families with childcare and providing playground facilities that

are far more appropriate for children than those at the Quadra School.

The Cloverdale Parent Advisory Council has taken action to re-focus the school to reverse this trend, to retain students from within the catchment area and hopefully attract more students from outside. With the Board's blessing and major effort from staff and parents they have successfully established the district's first traditional school. We are very concerned that the growth in the school population that this educational development would bring about has been totally ignored in your planning models.

Having moved older children out of the school in order to support a middle school concept and to allow for a more appropriate, and one would assume, a more nurturing environment, for younger children, it is inappropriate to now expect the young children to travel for longer times and longer distances merely to be collected together into larger groups. Many families will be forced to travel whether they have the means to or not. The minimal savings projected by your planned closure translates into significant costs for the children in terms of time and tiredness and further costs for parents.

The move to middle schools has resulted in more parents driving their children to school. In these sensitive times of global warming and childhood obesity it seems counterintuitive to have School Board Trustees encouraging more people to drive their children into other neighbourhoods.

The Quadra Cedar Hill Area is anticipating considerable development over the next few years. The Town and Country / Mayfair area is identified as a growth centre. This and other developments, are expected to have a mix of housing types providing affordable housing for young families. In turn this will result in a larger school population base than that projected in your studies.

President's Message

Ken Whitcroft 383-7567
enviro.man@telus.net

Thank you everyone for a great year. Thanks to all the members of the QCHCA, the Saanich municipal staff and the neighbourhood volunteers. Hope everyone who contacted me over the past year got the answers and help they needed.

I strongly believe that everyone should get involved in the community. It's in everyone's best interest to stay informed. Let your elected officials know what you think and what you are prepared to support.

Coming April 2007!

A gardening club for seniors who love to enjoy the outdoors and garden. Members will have an active role in maintaining an organic fruit and vegetable garden. Tend to the garden on your own schedule, meet new friends, enjoy educational workshops, good exercise and healthy food. Due to start April 2007. No registration fee, just call 475-5408 to register.

The Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary presents the 12th Annual Gardening for Wildlife: A Native Plant Gardening Sale and Demonstration

Sat & Sun, April 21 and 22, 2007
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

3873 Swan Lake Road,
Ph. (250) 479-0211

Admission: \$3/day, \$5/weekend pass
Free to Friends of the Sanctuary

Sale: Over 100 species of Native Plants, as well as Seeds, Books, Bird Feeders, Nesting Boxes. Workshops, presentations, demonstrations and displays on gardening with native plants and developing wildlife habitat in urban settings.

1. Bill Merilees - Enhancing Your Enjoyment of Backyard Wildlife
2. Pat Johnston - Replace Your Lawn with Native Plants
3. Jessica Dawe - Earth-Friendly Pest Management
4. Pat Boyle - Dealing with Wind and Salt Spray in your Native Plant Garden
5. Willie MacGillivray - Native Plant Garden Tour

Plant list and presentation schedule available at this website: www.swanlake.bc.ca

Spring Break 2007 at Swan Lake

Night Eyes for Night Skies

Fri, March 16, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. OR
Wed, March 21, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Come to Swan Lake for an evening stroll, learn how our nocturnal animals adapted for night life (ages 6 and up). Refreshments afterwards, please bring a mug. Pre-registration required, limited space. Cost: \$3 per child, accompanying adults free.

Funny Bones

Mon, March 19, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tickle your funny bone, match bones, and put skeletons together. Local animal skeletons on display or bring your own bones in for identification by our bone experts. Drop-in family program ages 5 and up. Donations appreciated.

Bingo Around the Lake

Tues, March 20, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. OR
1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Play bingo as you walk around the lake trail... prizes and surprises at every turn. Dress for the weather and bring a snack (ages 5 and up). Arrive by 10:30 or 1:30 for the 2.5 km. walk around the lake. Donations appreciated.

Animals Under the Oaks

Thurs, March 22, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Raccoons crunch on acorns. Bees grocery shop at wildflowers. Snakes snack on slugs. Meet the animals, smell the flowers, feel the snakes, play bingo under the oaks. Drop-in family program ages 5 and up. Donations appreciated.

Beaver Tales

Fri, March 23, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
OR 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Our on-stage dress-up will present the special adaptations of Canada's national animal. Observe beavered lumber, match grooves with real beaver teeth and crawl through our pretend beaver lodge. Beaver crafts include an edible beaver dam. Pre-registration required, ages 5 and up, maximum 3 children per adult. Cost \$4.00 per child, accompanying adults free.

Tattersall Improvements

Lana Burns, Co-editor

The redevelopment of the Town and Country Shopping Centre into a major plaza has been quietly developing. The developers are giving Saanich \$500,000 to improve the safety at that end of Tattersall. My concern is that turning the centre into a major shopping plaza will result in an enormous increase in vehicle traffic for our community, and \$500,000 isn't enough.

Unfortunately a significant amount of the extra traffic is going to travel on Tattersall. Yes, poor Tattersall whose problems have been ignored for years. Tattersall is a residential street but is also a heavily traveled connector with only three controlled corners. Heavy traffic already moves much too quickly on this road. The corner at Blenkinsop is a bottleneck in the afternoon and this results in more traffic on Salsbury. Will there ever be a traffic light at this corner?

We also all know that the narrow path, occasionally separated from the road by a raised ridge of asphalt is poor excuse for a sidewalk. Now imagine what the street will be like with a dramatic increase in traffic!

Concerned? Write to your Council.
<http://www.gov.saanich.bc.ca/municipal/clerks/council/council.html>

Thank You!

Charlotte Woeckener- Library Board (former QCHCA Quadra/Swan Lake Area Director).

In July 2003 I was appointed as Saanich representative to the Greater Victoria Library Board. I love libraries and have served on two previous library boards. Interestingly all three boards had major expansions during my tenure. It was exciting to be a part of these projects and to see so many diverse communities working toward a common goal ... "to deliver the best library service in the country every day." Thank you for the opportunity to represent you as a part of a new, innovative and cooperative library.

Good News - the pub and restaurant at the Cedar Hill Golf Course are open again!!

The QCHCA newsletter is published 5 times a year. Volunteers needed to help deliver the newsletters!

What's Happening in Our Neighbourhoods

BRAEFOOT:

Bob Trotter 477-4365 rctrotter@hotmail.com

1. 3973 Cedar Hill X Road – neighbourhood meeting regarding 4 lot subdivision held, proposal to go before Council.
2. 3903 Braefoot – proposed 1 additional lot.
3. 3830 Merriman – proposed 2 additional lots

CLOVERDALE/CORE:

Laura Hliva 385-0880

CEDAR HILL:

Lana Burns 478-4062 Imb1297@telus.net

COOK:

Mark Brown 386-1863 markbrown@shaw.ca

CRAIGMILLAR:

Lorne Carnes 383-1978 lornecarnes@shaw.ca

1. 1140 & 1180 Rock St – neighbourhood meeting held, proposal to go before Council.

QUADRA/ SWAN LAKE:

Dennis Rasmussen and Suzanne DeStaffany 920-7711

dennisra@telus.net destaffany@telus.net

REYNOLDS/QUADRA:

1. 1277 Union – create additional lot for single family dwelling under RS-6 zoning
2. 3955 Quadra – amendment to development permit to construct store and warehouse to replace buildings destroyed by fire

A volunteer Area Director is needed to represent the Reynolds area. Please contact QCHCA president, Ken Whitcroft.

Membership Renewal Reminder

Rikki Bowman, QCHCA Membership 382-6197 rikkij@shaw.ca

Welcome to the 18 new members who recently joined QCHCA! And thanks to the many people who have already paid their 2007 Membership dues. The total number of members establishes the level of support in the community, and is important when dealing with the Municipality. Not a member yet? Now is a good time to join! Only \$5.00 per person per calendar year. Thank you for your support.

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2005 – 2006 Executive

President	Ken Whitcroft 383-7567
Past President	Vicki Sanders 592-0865
Vice-President	Mark Brown 386-1863
Secretary	Trudy Trotter 477-4365
Treasurer	Karen Dearborn 386-7933
Membership	Rikki Bowman 382-6197
Newsletter	Lana Burns 478-4062 Ruth Emery 381-3689


The QCHCA meets the 4th Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November 7:30 pm at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre.

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QCHCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME

ADDRESS

Postal Code _____ **TEL** _____

EMAIL

Membership is \$5 per person per year.

Please fill out this form and send along with payment to:
 #4-1164 Palmer Rd., Victoria, BC V8P 2H6

I can help with newsletters - please circle one
 phone/fold/deliver

Need receipt? Yes _____ No _____