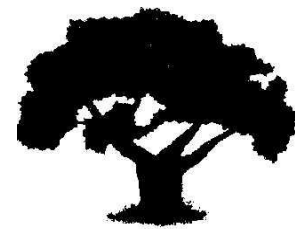


# QUADRA CEDAR HILL Community Association NEWS

“Neighbours Building Community”



Web Address <http://qchca.ca>  
Email info@qchca.ca

Volume #53 Nov – Dec 2008

**GENERAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday November 25, 2008 7:30 PM**  
**Cedar Hill Recreation Centre**  
**3220 Cedar Hill Road**  
**Everyone Welcome!**

**Speaker: Inspector Bob Downie**  
**Saanich Police Department**

**Topic: Block Watch**  
**Keeping Your Neighbourhood Safe**

**Mark Your Calendar for the Next QCHCA Meeting**  
**on January 27, 2009**

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**Broom /Ivy Pull**  
**Playfair's Natural Park**  
**Saturday November 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**9:30 – 11:30**  
**Meet at Entrance off Judge PI**  
**Bring Gloves & Pruners**  
**Call Pam Sinclair at 382-0032**

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## **The New 'Green' Must-Have**

Lana Burns

Everyone is talking about purchasing local produce and going 'green'. Clotheslines once considered trashy are now the IN thing. Vegetable and herb gardens are fashionable. What next will become 'de rigueur'? How about egg laying hens? What could be nicer than collecting fresh eggs laid by hens you have nurtured? I'd love to have 2 egg laying hens. No roosters, just 2 regular hens. Saanich won't let me have 2 regular hens. By-Laws 38.1 and 39.1 permit me to keep 5 bantam hens but no regular sized hens. Bantams lay very small eggs (3 bantam eggs = 1 regular egg) and are usually seasonal layers. What makes 2 regular hens a bad thing and 5 banties a good thing?

Anyone willing to join me in asking Saanich council to review the poultry bylaws?

## **What does a possible break-in look like?**

Late one evening I was preparing food for a dinner party the next day and I needed some herbs so I went out into the front garden. I was standing in the middle of the herb bed scissors in one hand, flashlight in the other when I noticed three neat and tidy young people standing in front of my neighbours' house. One of the fellows started up the walk. When he was parallel to me I asked him if they needed help and I surprised him. He said they were looking for their friend 'Allen'. I replied that there was no 'Allen' living there. He thanked me, returned to his friends and left.

Something about the episode didn't feel right. As those neighbours were away I called the neighbours across the street. We talked for a bit and decided that I should tell the police about the visitors.

Within 5 minutes of my 911 call there were several police officers searching our block. Apparently the suspicious actions of the 'three neat and tidy young people' had been reported earlier in the evening by several Block Watches. The police were very keen to catch up with these three. Unfortunately the police never found them.

What's the point of my story? I have two points actually. The first is that I handled pretty much everything about the situation poorly including not calling the police immediately. The second point is that Block Watch is a valuable tool that enables the police to have eyes in many places. Block Watch eyes know what is normal and what is out of the ordinary or suspicious for the neighbourhood.

Additionally the police officer who came to my door was incredibly polite and informative.

If you have concerns or questions regarding your neighbourhood's safety, come to the next General Meeting. Find out how Block Watch is organized. Come and speak to Inspector Downie.

**QCHCA web address <http://qchca.ca>**  
**QCHCA email address [info@qchca.ca](mailto:info@qchca.ca)**

*The newsletter is printed by Staples Business Depot,  
780 Tolmie Avenue 250-383-8178*

## **Come Play in the Mud!**

Carole Ireland, Manager, Cedar Hill Rec Centre

The pottery studio at Cedar Hill is something of a phenomenon in Saanich. It is the only municipal pottery studio in the south island. Cedar Hill Pottery studio began its life in a small classroom at the back of the recreation centre. A space so small that on my first visit 20 years ago, I stood in the doorway, uncertain where I might place myself in such a tiny, busy studio. Today it has expanded in both size and variety of new programming enjoying positive responses from all sectors of the community. People who came to classes as children are returning years later with their own children, coming back to something that seems familiar and basic as a craft form yet compelling in its artistic capacity.

Clay, the abundant and simple material found at the heart of the pottery studio, is part of our history on earth. It is one of the few materials used by early man that has survived to tell tales of our beginnings. Perhaps it was used initially to line woven baskets to make them waterproof. An accidental fire might have hardened the clay to a resilient material, leaving the basket a nest of ash and the clay liner now a ceramic bowl. It has evolved, since then into almost every industry from space travel to the material used for the sharpest knives available.

There is also the personal, visceral and tactile experience that many people have enjoyed with clay at some point in their early lives. Extracted from a river bank or an excavation in the neighbourhood, clay has been available to be interpreted into all sorts of products of make believe or practicality. It is a material few can resist. Responsive in its ability to morph into anything the maker wishes, it is the friendliest and most nurturing of materials I know of.

Are we revisiting our past lives as indigenous artists or experiencing the soothing, almost therapeutic experience of creativity with an ancient material. Either way it's great fun playing in the mud.

If you're interested in learning more about pottery, Cedar Hill Recreation Centre has its regular pottery programs as well as the new, expanded pottery program which includes gas kiln firings through the facilities at Camosun College.

## **Cedar Hill New Horizons**

The Cedar Hill New Horizons Club is celebrating 30 years at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre this year. The club meets regularly on Tuesdays for Bingo and on Fridays for Canasta and Carpet Bowling followed by afternoon tea. Membership is only \$10 per year plus a \$1.00 weekly activity fee. For more information on club activities contact Miriam Jones at 250-598-1947 or Peggy Emberlin at 250-595-5412.

## **Camping in the Parks is Not Acceptable**

Lana Burns

A recent Court ruling states that camping in the local parks is permitted if there are not enough shelter beds available. You'll likely be seeing campers in Rutledge and Playfair Parks as well as in the Cedar Hill Golf Course and Cedar Hill Recreation grounds before the year ends. Sad state of affairs on so many levels. We need a permanent shelter.

Where can a permanent shelter facility be built in our area with the least negative impact on its residential neighbours? The site needs to be close to transit, emergency health care, police and social services. Basically it needs to be in an urban setting as well as have the privacy a rural location provides.

The location meeting all these criteria is Saanich Municipal Hall grounds. Currently several large portions of the grounds are used as parking lots. One of these parking lots could be used for a modest hotel style building dedicated to providing shelter. The police would be able to easily identify individuals who need medical and/or social assistance and the criminal element could be sent through the justice system. The Fire Hall staff would be on hand to provide emergency health care.

The homeless individuals would have safe shelter as well as the all important access to showers and a phone number. Bus service is good in the area. For those who are able to hold jobs all the basic requirements needed for job hunting exist.

How much would this facility cost? I don't know but I'm sure a deal could be done with the Provincial Ministry of Housing and Social Development ... especially if the community supports the proposal.

**Send your comments to [info@gchca.ca](mailto:info@gchca.ca)**

**Write to members of Council at 770 Vernon Avenue, Victoria, BC V8X 2W7.**

## **New QCHCA Web Master**

We have a new Web Master. Jonny Miller of Iterate Media has volunteered to do the job. I looked up [iteratemediacom.com](http://iteratemediacom.com) on the internet and found the following comment on the site:

One of our favorite words is "open". "Open source" software is free; but not free as in free beer. Free Software means that the words that are used to write a given program are free to be reused and modified by anyone, any time, provided that they make their changes publicly available in return. Simply put, this is the software model that the internet is built upon. We use and contribute to open, free software in almost everything we do.

A philosophy I can wholeheartedly support.

## What's Happening in Our Neighbourhoods?

### **BRAEFOOT:**

**Bob Trotter 477-4365 [rbtrotter@hotmail.com](mailto:rbtrotter@hotmail.com)**

- 3830 Merriman Dr. - conditional approval granted to create 1 additional lot for single family use under current RS-10 zoning
- 3895 Cedar Hill X Rd. - proposal pending to create 1 additional lot for single family dwelling under current RS-10 zoning
- 1514 & 1520 Cedar Hill Cross Rd. / 3811&3801 Cedar Hill Rd - pending proposal to rezone from RS-6 to RT-4 to construct 7 townhouses and a 14 unit condo building.
- 1449 Harrop Rd. - proposal pending to create 1 additional lot for single family dwelling under current RS-10 zoning. Width variance requested
- 1512 Althone Dr.- conditional approval granted to create 1 additional lot for single family dwelling under current RS-10 zoning

### **CRAIGMILLAR:**

**Volunteer Area Director needed**

- 1140 & 1180 Rock St. - proposal pending to subdivide 2 existing lots to create 1 additional lot under current RS-6 zoning
- 3833 Cumberland Rd. - conditional approval granted for 1 additional lot for single family use under current RS-6 zoning.

### **REYNOLDS/QUADRA:**

**Chris Bartlett 479-4809 [bartlettca@shaw.ca](mailto:bartlettca@shaw.ca)**

- The Salvation Army (newly relocated from 3948 Quadra to 3934 Quadra) is now open for business
- Lakehill Lawn Bowling - an open house held in June presented plans for new clubhouse. Plan to rebuild on existing site within existing footprint, requesting variance on south lot line. Schematic design and plans are available.
- 3927 Lasalle St. - conditional approval granted to rezone from RS-6 to RD-1 to construct a 2 family dwelling.
- 1277 Union Rd. - proposal pending to create 1 additional lot under RS-6 zoning
- 1155 Schram Dr - no proposal currently on Saanich web site
- 1250 & 1254 Union Rd. - pending proposal for boundary adjustment and subdivision to create 2 additional lots for single family dwelling use under current RS-6 zoning
- 1051 San Marino Cres. – conditional approval granted for 1 additional lot under current RS-6 zoning

### **CLOVERDALE CORE:**

**Volunteer Area Director needed**

### **CEDAR HILL:**

**Lana Burns 478-4062 [imb1297@telus.net](mailto:imb1297@telus.net)**

- 3824 & 3826 Epsom Dr. - conditional approval granted to create 1 additional lot for single family use under current RS-6 zoning
- 3740 Epsom Dr.- conditional approval granted to create 1 additional lot for single family use under current RS-6 zoning
- 3921 Blenkinsopp Rd.- proposal pending to create 2 additional lots for single family dwellings under current RS-6 zoning

### **COOK:**

**Mark Brown 386-1863 [markbrown@shaw.ca](mailto:markbrown@shaw.ca)**

- 3350 Quadra St. - proposal pending for a mixed residential development of a 44 unit apartment, 12 town houses.
- 3267 Wicklow - proposal no longer on Saanich web site
- 1251 & 1255 Tattersall Dr. - conditional approval granted to adjust the boundary between 2 existing residential lots

### **QUADRA/ SWAN LAKE:**

**Volunteer Area Director needed**

- 842 Canterbury Rd. - conditional approval granted to rezone from RS-6 to RS-2 to create 1 additional lot for single family dwelling use.
- 3981 Nelthorpe St.- pending development permit with siting variances to reconstruct & enlarge decks on units 4,5 & 8 within an existing attached housing development

***Volunteer Area Directors are needed to represent the Cloverdale Core, Craigmillar and Swan Lake areas. Please contact QCHCA president, Mark Brown.***

### **Block Watch**

51 blocks in the QCHCA area are now designated Block Watch Communities. Block Watch also includes Business Block Watch, Park Watch and University Watch. For more information please contact the Block Watch office 250- 475-4365

### **2008 – 2009 Executive**

<b>President</b>	Mark Brown 386-1863
<b>Past President</b>	Ken Whitcroft 383-7567
<b>Vice-President</b>	Dean Murdock 658-4160
<b>Secretary</b>	secretary needed
<b>Treasurer</b>	Karen Dearborn 386-7933
<b>Membership</b>	Rikki Bowman 382-6197
<b>Newsletter</b>	Lana Burns 478-4062

***The QCHCA meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November 7:30 pm***

**Land Title Insurance**

Lana Burns

Recently there has been a lot of talk of real estate fraud. Criminals using identity theft to take homes away from their rightful owners. I personally have received at least five offers for Title Insurance in the mail over the last several months. The last offer of insurance came from a very reputable organization and actually frightened me. So I did some investigating. I went to the BC Land Title and Survey site on the internet and found a very reassuring explanation and description of the system BC uses to register land titles. Here is an excerpt from the site:

- Our land title system is regarded as among the very best in the world! Land purchasers, sellers and owners can rest assured that their rights and interests are protected, and that there is no pattern of increased title fraud.
- Registered title offers assured ownership and allows for simple, quick and inexpensive land transfers.
- We have an Assurance Fund available to compensate property owners in the very unlikely case that they are financially affected by a title registration error or become the innocent victim of title fraud.
- There are more than 1.9 million active titles in BC. In the past 19 years, the land title system processed 15 million transactions - yet only two claims related to land ownership fraud and only 14 fraud claims related to lesser interests in land such as discharges of mortgage were paid from the Assurance Fund.

After reading all the available information on the Provincial site, I have decided not to purchase the Title Insurance.

Refer to <http://www.ltsa.ca/news/167/Homeowner-Information-on-Title-Security>



**Rob Fleming, MLA**  
 Victoria - Hillside  
 1020 Hillside Avenue  
 250 360.2023  
 rob.fleming.mla@leg.bc.ca

*Serving Our Community* 



**David Cubberley**  
 MLA, Saanich South

**Need Help?**  
*Please contact my office regarding any provincial program or matter*

Community Office: 301-3939 Quadra St. Victoria V8X-1J5  
 Phone: 952-4418 Mon - Fri 10 - Noon & 1-3pm  
 Fax: 952-4566 david.cubberley.mla@leg.bc.ca

**Membership Renewal**

Thank you to the 284 neighbours who have shown their support for 2008 (we welcomed 52 new members this year). Annual membership is just \$5.00 per person per calendar year. If you haven't done so yet, please complete the membership renewal/application in this newsletter, and mail it to my attention, or bring it to the November meeting. Thanks for your support!

Have you changed your email since you registered? If so, please email an update.

**Rikki Bowman 382-6197**  
**#4-1164 Palmer, Victoria V8P 2H6**  
**[rikkij@shaw.ca](mailto:rikkij@shaw.ca)**

**QCHCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**NAME**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code** \_\_\_\_\_ **TEL** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Membership is \$5 per person per year.

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

I can help with newsletters - phone/fold/deliver

Need receipt? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_