

Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust Society



June 2014 Newsletter

Welcome to the Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust Society's June newsletter, sent to members and others who support our goals.

Federal Anti-Spam Legislation

The Federal Government is implementing legislation to protect people from unwanted emails, a.k.a. "spam". To comply with this legislation at the simplest level, we need to remind members that they can email us and ask us not to send them any more emails. Otherwise, since you are members, we can assume consent for us to send you emails.

For people whom we assume are interested in receiving our emails and who are not members, we need their explicit consent, not the implied consent of no response, for us to continue sending them emails. If you're a non-member of the society and wish to continue receiving our newsletter and other emails we must receive your consent by June 30. Contact us at jdflandtrust@gmail.com. The first phase of the legislation comes into effect on July 1, 2014.

Now that piece of Federal Government business is done, here is the rest of the newsletter.

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Challenge Donation

In support of the Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust, the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society offered to match up to a total of \$3,000 in donations towards the purchase of the Admiral's Forest. As a matching donation, this can be a \$6,000 boost to the fundraising. The Community Trails donation will be conditional on our being able to buy the land, so will be deposited in the Land Trust's own savings account. If you want to make your donation of \$50 or more conditional on the purchase, send it to us with that instruction.



Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Hiking Monument Peak

People can also donate to the Victoria Foundation's Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust Admiral's Forest Fund and the Victoria Foundation will issue a tax receipt. This fund is directed to the purchase of the Admiral's Forest and will only be disbursed to a registered charity to complete the purchase.

The matching donations have reached \$1,536.80, with one donation of \$1,000 giving a big boost.

Most of you know about the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society. There is a lot of overlap in memberships for local organizations and we like it that way. The JDF Community Trails Society has been active since its first AGM in February, 2005. As well as education about best practice for trail use and the enjoyment of the outdoors, the society advocates for trails and government actions to support trails and the environment. Over the years, their annual membership fees have added up. The Society isn't saving for a rainy day. They will someday have to layout funds for trail building and improvements.

The Community Trails Society membership recognize the benefits to community and environmental health that will result from public ownership of the Admiral's Forest and for that reason, they challenge us to match their \$3,000 donation. A big thank you to the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society for their help and encouragement.

New Display Material

Check out the new banners. Thanks to Director Jay Evans, the Community Land Trust had these great banners in time for the Honeybee Awareness Day at Tugwell Creek Honey Farm and Meadery on May 25. We are also working on new, smaller and targeted display posters. The 4' x4' display was good for the great outdoors but a bit too big for most venues. Several smaller boards with information about Admiral Charles, the forest and the Community Land Trust are going to be an improvement. Director James Gaston is heading up this project.



Honeybee Awareness Day at Tugwell Creek Honey Farm and Meadery

On the topic of display materials, we are into the second printing of our Admiral's Forest brochure. Thanks to Director Sid Jorna for taking the brochures around to Bed and Breakfast

establishments in the area. If any members need brochures to hand out, get in touch with us at: jdflandtrust@gmail.com. and we'll get them to you.

CRD Grant in Aid

At the CRD Board meeting on May 14, we were voted a Grant in Aid of \$1,500 to cover start-up costs and costs toward the Forest for All Seasons event. Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Director Mike Hikes supported our application for aid: he has been in favour of the Admiral's Forest project right from the start. The financial boost was timely as it covered some major expenses: membership in the Land Trust Alliance of BC, event insurance through the Land Trust Alliance, brochures and print media advertising. As reported earlier, the Forest for All Seasons event was a huge success and well worth the effort. Thank you, Mike.

Honeybee Awareness Day

Dana Comte and Bob Liptrot invited us to set up a table at their Tugwell Creek Honey Farm on Honeybee Awareness Day. We are grateful for the opportunity to chat with the numerous visitors and spread the word about our project. Pat and Murray Tomkins took shifts at the farm with Directors Arnie Campbell, Jay Evans, James Gaston, and Sid Jorna. A bonus for our volunteers was a chance to enjoy the honeybee displays and mead tasting. With support from community members like Dana and Bob, we can get 'er done.



Bob's demonstration at Tugwell Creek Honey Farm and Meadery

Admiral's Forest Blend Coffee

David Evans at The Stick in the Mud Coffee House is supporting our fundraising in a Big Way. David created a special Admiral's Blend, roasted at The Stick, for us to sell as a fundraiser. More grown up than chocolate: people who enjoy coffee can enjoy the Admiral's Blend and contribute to purchasing the Admiral's Forest. This rich and tasty blend makes a great gift as well. Win, win, win. It is a great deal all around. Thank you, David and The Stick and Coffee

Drinkers everywhere who can toast the Admiral with their toast in the morning. Or with cookies in the afternoon. Or anytime they want to drink a good cup of coffee.

The Admiral's Blend is available:

- On Saturday's at the ALM Organic Farm table at the Sooke Farmers' Market;
- By contacting one of the JDF Community Land Trust Society Directors;
- Emailing us at jdflandtrust@gmail.com

Community Liaison

Directors Margot Swinburnson, Arnie Campbell and Sid Jorna have been attending meetings and contacting people in the community to collect ideas and advice and spread the word about the Admiral's Forest project. Thanks to these contacts, we have a better idea of the probable asking price for the property. We are a long way from having even a down payment, but the price is less than our original estimate.

Talking to other fundraisers and business people has also given us some ideas for fundraising. The good will and interest of the community is important but it isn't going to pay the way. That will come through the effort of our membership.

Progress towards Registration as a Charity

If we knew then what we know now.... We are making slow progress towards registration as a charity. Some professional help offered pro bono is helping us on our way. Seeking advice before we registered our constitution would have meant success earlier. We may have to revise it to meet the federal government's Charities Directorate requirements. The amendment could be voted at a General Meeting: it wouldn't wait till the next Annual General Meeting. However, the amended constitution would have to be recognized by the BC Registrar of Societies before going to the Charities Directorate.

Annual General Meeting

Another thank you. This one to the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building administration for letting the Community Land Trust use the meeting room with no charge. Twice. Two Wednesdays in a row.

We got the business done at the "adjourned" Annual General Meeting on June 11. Here's some of what happened.

President's Report

As it happens, the previous items in the newsletter pretty much cover President Margot Swinburnson's report. In her words, "We are getting more sophisticated" and gathering material and experience.

Membership

We have 60 paid up members as of June 4. While the fiscal year is from April 1 to March 31, membership years are from AGM to AGM. The \$20 fee covers membership for two years so everyone who was a member on the day of the first AGM is a member until the day before the AGM in 2016. People can renew their memberships on the day of the AGM if their membership has expired. If someone takes out a new membership after nominations close for the AGM elections, that person will not be able to vote at the AGM but will be a member from that AGM and will be able to vote at subsequent general meetings.

Membership begins when the fee is paid and a Director has received the member's completed application form. People can't be registered unless their forms are completed. This is a new policy. Directors will no longer vote members in at Directors meetings. If a Director accepts the fee and completed form, the new member will be registered.

Financial Report

SUMMARY OF TREASURER'S REPORT PERIOD JUNE, 2013 – MAY, 2014

Savings (Escrow) Account:

Opening Balance - \$500. Deposits - \$1,917. Closing Balance - \$2,417.

Chequing (Operating) Account:

Opening Balance - \$500. Deposits - \$3,413. Expenses - \$2,589.

Closing Balance - \$1,324.

Victoria Foundation Funds Held in Trust:

Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust (Endowment) Fund - \$11,186.15

Juan de Fuca Admiral's Forest (Purchase) Fund - \$1,060.25

Fundraising

Wendy Morton reminded Directors of the potential for raising funds through crowdsourcing. Directors will continue looking for a crowdsourcing site that will suit our project.

Pat Tomkins cited the success of a recent fundraiser where works of art donated by local artists raised a sizable sum when auctioned.

Mary Brown, a Society Member from Shirley and long-time harpsichord-player, has offered admission proceeds from a concert she's organizing on Friday, October 3rd, in the evening at Holy Trinity Church, Sooke.

It's the latest in a series of concerts Mary has put on in Sooke since 2004. Various local singer/player associates of Mary take part with her on a volunteer basis and to date Sue Innes-Martin (violin) Warren Moore (recorder) and acclaimed Sooke professional singer Nancy Washeim, (soprano) have agreed to take part. The music goes back to the pre-1750 heyday of the harpsichord but is melodious and varied, of appeal to a mainstream musical audience, and previous concerts have been well-attended and apparently much enjoyed.

To date admission been by donation, which has always brought in a tidy sum, and Mary recommends this approach is continued unless the Society prefers an admission price, although a minimum donation can always be suggested. Holy Trinity holds 100 people so if there's a full house, the income could be well worth having.

There will be no cost to the Society other than what the Society chooses to spend itself. All Mary asks is that she receives the first \$100 from the proceeds to cover certain costs relating to the church rental and refreshments. Mary is a member of Holy Trinity and usually gets practical support from that direction.

Mary doesn't intend to spend on outside publicity (e.g. a 'Sooke News Mirror' ad.) any more, as the costs nowadays outweigh the return. The concerts now have a following and an audience is just as likely to be drawn by the performers' personal communications networks, e.g Sooke Philharmonic Society, which has always been kind enough to e-mail its Membership. However, Mary always draws up a poster, may circulate a few, and is happy to co-operate with the Society over any publicity it may choose to circulate itself.

Mary has already drafted a likely musical programme, which will include a theme to do with trees, woods and forests, especially when it comes to the vocal music, because the subject has inspired so much poetry and music composition over the centuries.

Directors accepted Mary's offer with enthusiasm.

Election of Officers

Members thought it is more important to get the membership working than to add to the number of directors. Seven directors are sufficient. All of the following were nominated from the floor, in accordance with the resolution circulated to members and passed by those present at the meeting. All were acclaimed as there was only one nomination for each position.

Vice President, Anne Bell and Treasurer, Arnie Campbell, for one year terms.

President, Margot Swinburnson and Secretary, Heather Phillips, for two year terms.

Directors: Jay Evans, James Gaston and Sid Jorna

Note: terms have to be split between one and two years; not yet decided who serves which.

How you can help

You can help save the Admiral's Forest in several ways:

- Friend us on Facebook and link to our website, www.jdflandtrust.ca
- Become a member at \$20 for two years. Join via PayPal at our website, www.jdflandtrust.ca/join
- Make a tax receipted donation to the Victoria Foundation, attention the Admiral's Forest Trust Fund!
- Donate at www.victoriafoundation.ca. On that site, donate to "Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust Admiral's Forest Fund". This fund will be directed to land purchase
- Make a donation to the Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust society via PayPal. Go to www.jdflandtrust.ca/donate for more information
- Purchase our custom roasted Admiral's Blend coffee.

Don't want to get these Newsletters? Email us at jdflandtrust@gmail.ca and just write "stop newsletters".