

THE HUB'BUB

News from Cowichan Station: Hub of the Universe

Fall 2013

Profiles of Cowichan Stationites – Past & Present

Bruce Freeman - When you arrive at Bruce and Irene's home you notice: the house perched on a rise overlooking the farmland rolling toward the bay; the garden bursting with color; and the talk, which is laced with a fine appreciation of the humour and the joy in life. Bruce's eyes twinkle as he recounts stories of life in the Cowichan Valley in the 30s, 40s and 50s.

He was born in King's Daughter's Hospital in Duncan, the earliest version of today's Cowichan and District Hospital. He also recalls the Queen Alexandra Solarium for Crippled Children was located where Brentwood School is now.

He grew up during the Depression on a farm in Cobble Hill. When he was five or six years old he remembers men coming up to the house, cap in hand, and being given a meal in exchange for work like chopping wood. They would be offered a bed for the night in an outbuilding and would move on again in the morning.



He attended Cobble Hill School, now Evergreen School. Thirty-five students in grades one to eight sat together in one room; grades 9 and 10 were in a second room and grades 11 and 12 a third. The students came to school from all over. "One student rode his bike from Bamberton up the lower road to Cobble Hill. Several students came by boat from the west arm of Shawnigan Lake to the dock; then they cycled to school. Nobody thought about it very much; in those days everyone went everywhere by bicycle."

"I left school at age 16 to work in the bush, and I loved every bit of it. When I first started logging, they were using two man saws." Later Bruce took a job working for the Highways Department. He drove truck and did road maintenance with his crew. Keeping the Malahat clear of snow and ice was a big part of the winter work.

Written by Lorna Medd. Photo by Gord Iversen



BUY A BRICK BY OCTOBER 31ST!

Etched into concrete in 1947, "RM" is forever a part of the HUB at Cowichan Station. You too can become a permanent fixture at the HUB when we install paving stones with your names engraved on them in the new ramp to the HUB entrance. (See Page 3!)



Progress at the HUB

We have had an exciting summer at the HUB with great progress towards our goal of a functional and fun community centre. With the last of the Heritage Canada grant the kitchen has had a complete make-over and is now a fabulous place, complete with seating for 12 to rent as part of a gym function, to have a coffee gathering or as a beautiful meeting space. The CSAA has secured new funding to improve the handicap access and to renovate the bottom floor of the old school for a pottery studio and art room. Drop by and take a look!



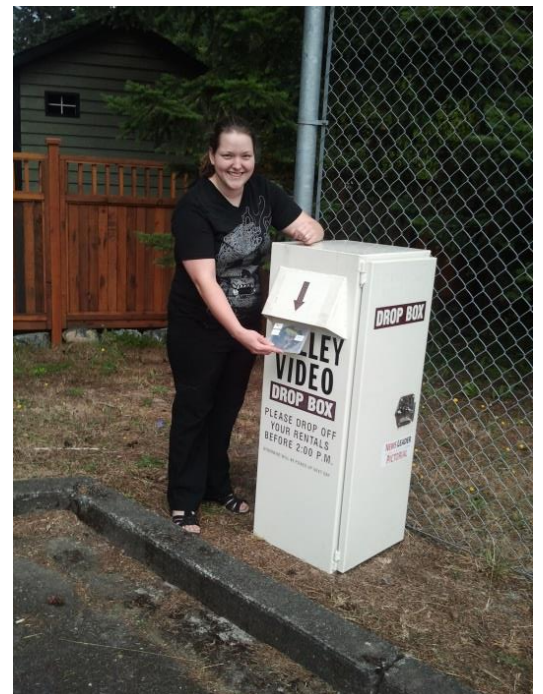
John Rides On!

Local residents may miss seeing Cowichan Station's John Budde cycling our roads. Well into his 80s, John's primary form of transportation for many years has been his trusty old bicycle. His amazing resourcefulness and energy conservation has been an inspiration to many. We will miss his stewardship over our roads and ditches as he often picked up litter and cans "to keep busy".

John still bikes out here from his new home in Duncan, so keep your eyes peeled and please drive carefully to keep everyone safe!



*Seniors Help
Bake & Garden*



Look What's New at the HUB!

Valley Video has installed a drop box – save a trip by dropping off your Valley Video at the HUB.

ANNEX AID – FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE

The HUB's 1970's Annex building is demanding attention. We discovered this spring that neither the roof nor heating system can make it through another winter. Funds are needed in aid of:

- 1) **Replacing the Annex Roof.** – cost of new roof with insulation \$55,000; and,
- 2) **Replacing the Annex Heating System.** The old electric furnace has packed it in. Cost of energy-saving replacement is \$45,000,

Thanks to the support of our volunteers and businesses, we have \$25,000 remaining from last year's CVRD green-heat reno grant. AND the CVRD recently provided an additional \$25,000 of Federal gas tax funding so roofing has begun. WE NEED TO RAISE \$50,000 MORE AND with the help of the community we are almost halfway there!!!

HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN HELP!!!!

BUY A BRICK BY OCTOBER 31ST! (SEE PAGE 1)

9" x 9" paver with room for 3 lines with 18 characters each -\$500 donation

4.5" x 9" paver with room for 1 line with 18 characters \$100 donation

Alumni donors will be acknowledged with a special logo on the paver.

Order forms are available at the HUB or contact info@cowichanstation.org . Tax receipts available.

GOOD AS GOLD GARAGE SALE – SEPTEMBER 28TH

Saturday from 9 am-3 pm @ the HUB (where else) *Gently used items can be dropped off September 20 and 21.*

Please, no electronics, TVs, clothes, mattresses, broken or worn out items – we can't sell them, and there will be no onsite disposal for them. Household items, tools, furniture, books, antiques and treasures welcome. Unsold items will be donated to the Sassy Lion.

SCRAP METAL DRIVE - SEPTEMBER 13 TO OCTOBER 13

If you have old metal lying around –pipes, gutters, cars; steel, brass, copper etc. – consider donating it.

The CSAA will receive its value in cash from our scrap drive partner – Schnitzer. (Anything within reason accepted but no nuclear reactors please.)

September 28 and 29 –drop off at the HUB OR

September 13 to October 13: you can drop it off at Schnitzer's 3015 Boys Road for the "*The HUB at Cowichan Station*". Need help? Contact info@cowichanstation.org or 250-746-1794 to arrange pick up.

BURGER AND BEER - OCTOBER 6TH

Sunday 5-8pm @ the Cow Bay Pub

Come and sip, socialize, listen to music and enjoy the *Only in Cowichan Station* Silent Auction (see below).

Tickets \$20 (includes a beverage and burger) Available @ the HUB or contact info@cowichanstation.org

Cowichan Station Business Directory - Get Listed!

CSAA is creating a new Business Directory for the area, including brief profiles and contact info for farms, artisans, businesses, services, etc.

But, there's a catch! To be included you must donate a little bit of whatever it is that you do to the ***Only in Cowichan Station Silent Auction***. For example your great auction item might be: a side of beef; 4 hours of tractor work; Banjo lessons; 50 veggie seedlings next spring (garden to go!), family photo shoot, accounting services, etc. – please give a bit of whatever it is that you do here in Cowichan Station!

The Auction will be held at Cow Bay Pub - October 6th 5-8 pm Copies of the directory will be handed out there and made available at www.cowichanstation.org.

To list and donate, please email info@cowichanstation.org .

Please do what you can to Restore the Annex!

Donate anytime, any amount - tax receipts provided!

- a) by credit card using the DONATE button on our website,
- b) by cheque via the mail or locked mailbox at HUB main door
- c) in cash at any CSAA event.

What's Hubbening in the HUB of the Universe

Special Events:

September 10th - 7PM @ the Hub Annex – Managing our Watersheds CVRD Community Presentation

September 14th - 8 pm Play Improv Music Night with Robert Cerins @ the HUB by donation

September 21st - Peace in the Valley Yoga - all day event @ the HUB

September 28th - Good as Gold Garage Sale, 9am-3 pm @ the HUB

October 6 - Burger and Beer Silent Auction, 5-8PM @ Cowichan Bay Pub

November 1st - Community Conversation – A representative from the Anglican Diocese will attend to discuss the future of St Andrew's Church 7 pm @ the HUB

November-March - Yoga Anatomy Workshop Series Select Sundays @ the HUB lindsay.campa@gmail.com

December 14th - 3rd Annual Cowichan Station Hoe Down 7 pm @ the HUB

Regular Events:

Cowichan Men's Circle Thursdays 7-9:30 pm in the annex grant@westcoastmen.org

Cowichan Station Discussion Group (Friends of Bill W.) Thursdays 7:30-8:30 pm in the annex senk@telus.net

Girl Guides (and Brownies etc.) Wednesdays 3-8 pm in the gym janice.frueh@hotmail.com

Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement - Wednesdays 10-11 am in the annex brenadamsmith@yahoo.ca

FreshStart Fitness with Leah Mattin Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10 am and 6:30-7:30 pm in the gym leah@fsfitness.ca

Open Mic with Kent Ball last Friday in the month 7-10 pm hillybillymoose@hotmail.com

Senior's Coffee Tuesdays 10:30 – 12 am in the café calveleyinvictoria@shaw.ca

Registered Massage Therapy with Lindsay Campa, Thursdays by appointment in the annex

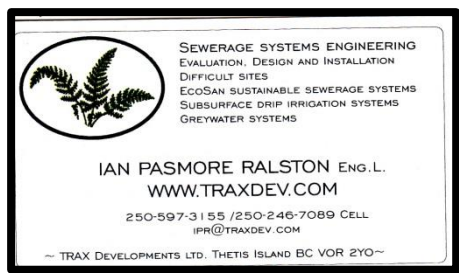
Yoga with Lindsay Campa Thursdays 5-6:15 pm and Mondays 7:15-10:30 pm in the annex lindsay.campa@gmail.com

Coming Up.... Cowichan Station School Reunion, June 6-8, 2014.

Spread the word! Cowichan Station school turns 100 years old in 2014. And we want to CELEBRATE! Planning is underway, and we need your help! If you have alumni contact information, or would like to join the organizing team, please contact Madelaine MacLeod at mamac@telus.net or 250.746-7804

HUB Rentals

We currently have two spaces for community rentals on an hourly or daily basis – the gym/theatre (with a kitchen) and the annex multi-purpose room. This winter we hope to add a third room. The rates and rental agreement can be found under HUB –at <http://cowichanstation.org> or contact info@cowichanstation.org.



Connecting Community

Volunteer!

Come to Events!

Join the E-News list. Email info@cowichanstation.org and ask to be added.

Like us on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/TheHubAtCowichanStation>

Cowichan Station Area Association

2375 Koksilah Road, Cowichan Station, BC V9L 6M5 (250)746-1794

<http://cowichanstation.org>