

BARA Bugle

Broadmead Area Residents' Association

Spring Issue, 2010

BARA
Annual General
Meeting
April 29, 2010
Gateway Baptist
Church
7:30pm

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President's Message

Dear Fellow Broadmead Residents,
It has been a year since I indicated that BARA would increase its focus on community and become more visible to residents. Here are some of the ways we have attempted to meet those goals:

- The BARA Bugle is more inclusive of what happens in our community and the format has changed.
- Two electronic Bugles have been sent to approximately 400 people.
- The website has been improved.
- In September, BARA set up a display at Broadmead Village and conducted a brief survey. We received tremendous support from the merchants who donated \$500.00 in prizes for survey participants.
- A new planning committee is working on a Community Day to take place in June and we are anticipating that more than 500 residents will attend. A number of new volunteers have come forward to work on this event.
- BARA has become an active supporter of the art community in our area.
- Members of your Board have welcomed more than 2 dozen new residents to Broadmead by delivering welcome packages to their homes.
- We have had several meetings with Saanich municipal officials, both appointed and elected.
- Thanks to the generosity of Grosvenor Canada Ltd., we have a permanent display board at Broadmead Village Shopping Centre.
- Our monthly Board meetings are now held in the comfortable and pleasant setting of the board room in The Lodge at Broadmead.
- As part of the greater community, BARA is represented at the monthly board meetings of SCAN (Saanich Community Associations Network).

The past year has been a very busy one with dozens of inquiries being received and responded to by various Board members. We welcome your feedback and suggestions as to how BARA can be more effective in serving the community of Broadmead.

Best regards, *Jim Griffith*, President





Municipal Affairs

Saanich Councillor,
Susan Brice

The Broadmead Area of Saanich exemplifies many of the sustainable development practices that Saanich Council wants to incorporate into other areas of Saanich. In particular, when Broadmead was planned and developed, tree preservation was one of its outstanding and forward looking features.

While this may originally have been done for aesthetic reasons we now understand that loss of trees contributes to global warming and that tree retention may mitigate against climate change. Therefore, Saanich Council is developing an Urban Forest Strategy that will retain existing tree cover where possible, promote additional tree planting and acknowledge the importance of contiguous canopy cover. The ability of trees to sequester carbon-dioxide and to replenish the oxygen supply makes them an integral part of Saanich's Climate Action Strategy. Also, trees filter out and remove harmful particulates such as sulphur-dioxide. A tree's ability to intercept rainfall before it hits the ground is extremely beneficial and negates the need for a large drainage system. Look at those trees in your yard and throughout the Broadmead Community and while they may appear to be just "hanging out" they are actually working hard to protect our environment and us.

Saanich staff members are currently reviewing the public input they received on the Urban Forest Strategy and they are preparing a draft plan for public and council review. I urge Broadmead residents to provide your comments to members of council on this important issue. After all, Broadmead has been a leader in tree preservation and hopefully as we go forward, the rest of Saanich attains a similar level of preservation.

BROADMEAD AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION'S VERY FIRST COMMUNITY DAY

SAVE THE DATE!

**Father's Day, Sunday June 20, 2010
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**



The focus of this inaugural event will be to Bike and Hike the beautiful trails within our community. Get your Broadmead-issued family passport stamped at the four designated locations along our trails, and then deposit your completed passport in the draw prize barrel at the food and entertainment site provided by the Victoria Christian Fellowship Church and is located on the corner of Chatterton Way and Emily Carr Drive.



There will also be:

- Children's activities...clowns, balloons, a cookie "walk" (11:30-1:00)
- Exhibits by local community organizations (ongoing)
- Music by local bands to entertain us (12:00-2:00)
- Food and beverages will be provided (11:30-1:30)
- Bike and Hike "passport" stamping (11:00-12:30)
- **Please bring along your own chairs and bicycle locks for your comfort and safety.**
- **Maps and Broadmead Passports will be delivered to your home the beginning of June.**

We are also looking for volunteers within our community who might be able to provide additional support for this special day. We will need people to stamp passports at the four locations on the trails. Musical groups who are interested in performing are also encouraged to contact us. For more information please email: info@broadmead.ca

Judy Love



Broadmead Artist: Dr. Kris Tangri



Dr. Kris Tangri obtained a BSc (Chemistry and Physics) from Punjab University, India in 1944 and a BSc (Mining and Metallurgy) from Benares Hindu University, India, in 1948. He earned an MSc (1952) and PhD (1954) both from the School of Mines, Rolla, Missouri. With this background you would expect a life devoted to science. Yes, but there is so much more.

Aside from family, his other major love is painting. Kris tells me it has always been a part of him. Art is as natural as science. He is introspective when he discusses painting. "Everything I paint originates from memories about inspirational patterns" he says, for example, the beauty of Spruce Lake or the unforgettable ferocity of a live bull fight. When I ask about the origins of his artwork, he recounts one particular memory. He remembers taking a drawing class in grade 8. His teacher encouraged him to enter his painting in a provincial contest. He did and he won. From that point forward, painting has served as a healthy distraction or escape when needed.

Over the years, he has taken the odd painting workshop; however, he would best be described as self-taught. He always found himself sketching and, very naturally, this progressed into painting. When I ask him to describe his preferred medium of painting, he says that it can best be described as diverse in order to maintain his interest. A tour around his home studio reveals artwork that is both impressive and, indeed, varied. His works range from realistic to abstract and he has used oil, acrylic, water-colour and experimented with many other materials. I was shown abstract collages full of vibrant colours, intriguing Japanese sketches, and realistic portrayals of structures and

memories from Germany, France, Italy and Spain. There was also a sedately optimistic painting that he said represents an ideal "marriage". This work included two home-like structures, side by side and partly obscured by trees. There are probably many layers of symbolism but I like his explanation that a couple should be close but have their own space as well. Most recently, he has been painting abstract pieces.

His work has been shown locally at the University of Victoria and Victoria Art Gallery. For many years, he has been donating the proceeds from his paintings to support local organizations such as the CNIB and the Garth Homer Society.

Bill Wong



Call for Volunteers

Broadmead Community Day needs you to help out, and have fun on Sunday, June 20, 2010. We need passports delivered, security, parking help, bikes secured, refuse picked up, sandwich board placement, food service, activities workers, donations from businesses and who knows what else? Other volunteers will greet residents, stamp passports and distribute water at several strategic locations. There will be a band concert, barbeque, clowns, kid's events, displays, fire truck, police car and safety program, and a Parks & Recreation display. To be part of it all please contact BARA right away at 250.744.1416 or info@broadmead.ca



Membership Issue:

There has been discussion about the boundaries of the Blenkinsop Valley Community Association (BVCA). The BVCA was created in 2006 and, since that time, has used the Blenkinsop Local Area Plan to determine its area of representation. This area includes several residences on the western side of the valley adjacent to Broadmead. Originally, these properties were not part of the Broadmead development and, consequently, not subject to Broadmead's covenants. Residents in this bordering area have joined either the BVCA or BARA and, in fact, two BVCA directors reside there.

Since 1990, BARA has responded to requests from this area and provided representation as needed. As stated in the BARA Bylaws, "Membership in the society shall be open to any household in that part of the District of Saanich, British Columbia, commonly known as the residential community of Broadmead, and its immediate environs as designated by the directors."

More recently, the Municipality of Saanich has asked the two associations to sort out the issue. To that end, representatives of BARA and BVCA have met and both associations have cordially agreed to encourage residents in this area to join either or both of the community associations. Furthermore, a memorandum of understanding signed between the two associations clarified that an individual cannot be a director of both associations at the same time. For more information, please go to info@broadmead.ca or info@bvca.ca.

Rithet's Bog

Volunteers from the Rithet's Bog Conservation Society (RBCS) have had a busy winter conducting the following activities:

- Restoration of a small population of Purple Sanicle, a nationally rare plant discovered below the Foxborough Hills complex, has been the focus of volunteer activities during the winter.
- Blackberry and broom were removed over the winter and invasive bunchgrasses were raked out of the Purple Sanicle restoration site in February. This will be an annual activity to maintain the Sanicle site.
- More than 6,000 native grass seeds were collected by researchers last fall as part of the restoration project, and are being sown by RBCS. About 4,500 of these seeds are growing in flats at Pacific Forestry Centre. The remaining 1,500 seeds will be planted in late spring.
- The resulting grass plugs will be planted in the Purple Sanicle area this summer and fall, after non-native bunch grasses are removed.
- Seeds of native wildflowers, Camas and Indian Consumption Plant, also collected last summer, were scattered at the Purple Sanicle site in the open soil where blackberry roots were removed this winter.
- Spring will bring a new attack on Poison Hemlock plants on and near the perimeter trail below Foxborough Hills.
- Saanich Parks intends to take control measures against the plants tangled in rose thickets below Foxborough Hills, while RBCS volunteers will continue to remove trailside plants and blackberry and gorse regrowth.
- RBCS hopes the invasive cattails growing beside the Chatterton trail will be cut in August or September to improve wildlife viewing.
- As nesting season nears, volunteers will clean and monitor swallow boxes around the perimeter trail. We hope to mount more new poles this year.
- Some frustrated birders are referring to RBCS as "Rithet's Bog Cat Sanctuary," because increasing numbers of feral cats are preying on native birds. A nine-year study has documented a sharp increase in feral cats in the bog and a corresponding decrease in Song Sparrow numbers.

Volunteers meet at Fir Tree Glen every first Sunday of the month. If interested, contact Sharon Hartwell, 250-479-0491 or the RBCS website www.rithetsbog.org

Paul Bennett

Meet Your Neighbours: Margaret Skinner

“Carpe diem”

Margaret Skinner says as she informs me about her philosophy in life. She continues “...children should be encouraged to look for their passion, travel and experience the world instead of just reading about it. Even adults ought to continue learning new skills.”

Originally from Yorkshire, England and fiercely proud of her upbringing, Margaret’s enthusiasm is infectious as she describes some of her life passions.

She recalls an early desire to teach, and true to her life’s philosophy, she continues to build on a 30-year teaching career. Presently, she teaches senior math at *St. Michaels University School* (SMUS).

The impact of her teaching has not gone unnoticed. Several years ago, she won an SMUS award for teaching excellence. And, there is the not so small matter of international fame. A former SMUS student went on to graduate in the top 1% of Cornell University’s 2006 graduating class and attributed her success to Margaret. In recognition, Cornell presented Margaret with the Merrill Presidential Scholar’s Outstanding Educator award.

Music is also important. Margaret has performed with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, is accompanist for the highly accomplished Victoria Children’s Choir, plays regularly for Chapel and concerts at SMUS and has acted as Music Director for many school and local theatrical events. She credits her late husband, Colin Skinner, for



providing inspiration.

Through Colin, she met Brian Jackson (Principal Pops Conductor with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra) and the two have played 2-piano music on many occasions. “It’s not easy to find a partner where you play ‘as one’ but Brian is a fabulous pianist and we play really well together. I’m so lucky!” It must be inspirational for those who happen to be in the audience.

True to her motto, Margaret continues to discover new passions. The latest involves playing the organ and, as she explained to me, this is much more than an oversized piano, for it requires hands, feet, and much coordination. It’s not surprising that she has unearthed another passion. For Margaret, “there are so many possibilities” and we proudly salute her for inspiring so many to find their talents.

Bill Wong



Broadmead Talk

Parks & Recreation: Additional signage will be erected to direct cyclists off the Ralston trail to Carolwood and Emily Carr. At the Shadywood entrance heading towards Rithet's Bog an entrance treatment will be constructed to narrow the opening onto this trail. This will allow for cyclists to slow down and consider their route. Additional signage will be erected at this point to re-direct cyclists to the correct route.

BARA is pleased announce that a **Volunteer Involvement Program (VIP) grant, on behalf of Ralph Ward** has been received from Imperial Oil in the amount of \$500. Imperial Oil created this program to encourage and support the community volunteer efforts of their employees, annuitants and spouses. BARA wishes to thank Imperial Oil for supporting it's work within the Broadmead Community

Remember ...Covenants are legal documents which are attached to the property and must be followed by the homeowner for exterior changes to the property. External renovations require BARA approval.

Thanks to **Grosvenor Canada Ltd.** BARA has been given an enclosed display board in the Broadmead Village Shopping Centre, located at the end of the pedestrian walkway from Heirloom Linens and the Edge Computer Store.

Please make sure that if you wish to have an item placed on the BARA agenda that you notify the Board **at least 14 days in advance**, especially if it requires a motion to be put forth at the meeting.

Membership fees for BARA are for the calendar year and are now due. The fee is \$15.00 per household per year. Renewal forms are available on our website at www.broadmead.ca.

Remember When...

Broadmead Was Owned by Hudson's Bay Company

The pre-residential history of Broadmead is as intriguing and exceptional as the development itself. In 1852, James Douglas, Governor of the Colony of Vancouver Island, signed treaties with the Songhees Indians and purchased the land that makes up North and South Saanich. In 1859 the land was deeded from the

unique is that neither Dallas nor Rithet split it up.

Early stories collected in the files of Saanich Archivist Geoffrey Castle tell of the prized stallion Broadmead, Rithet's beloved racehorse, who lent his name to the farm and later the community. They describe how 300 acres were

cleared around 1890 by oxen and horses, and how the farm subsequently produced so much grain that it had the largest threshing operation on Vancouver Island. The spread also included a racetrack on

courtesy of Saanich Archives: photograph 1980-020-004



Hudson's Bay Company to Alexander Grant Dallas, a lawyer for the Puget Sound Agricultural Company. PSAC was the farming branch of the Hudson's Bay Company and, according to original land grant documents, the deed covered about 899 acres. When the Pat Bay Highway was routed through the property the portion located on the western side was subdivided. What remained, and eventually became Broadmead as we know it today, covered about 719 acres.

Dallas held on to his enormous spread, known as the Dallas Farm until he died in 1891 when R.P. Rithet acquired it from the estate. He too held it in mostly one large parcel. What makes Broadmead

land adjoining what is now Royal Oak Burial Park, where Rithet trained his horses, some of which won big races in California. Beyond racing, the muscle power of draft horses was vital to the farming operation and they were used to drain what was once a cranberry swamp—now known as Rithet's Bog. To prevent their sinking into the mud and peat, the horses were fitted with wooden shoes measuring 18 inches across. In those days George McMorran was foreman of the heavily timbered farm. In the following decades the farm raised crops and cattle and later, up to the mid-1900s, raised dairy herds.

(excerpt from The Broadmead Story)

Arts Events

Annual artists studio tour

If you have ever wondered how artists work or if you've ever thought, "I'd like to do that", then set aside a few hours on the May 1-2 weekend to find out.

Artist studio tours have become harbingers of spring along with flowering trees and garage sales as this is a city packed with talent. The time of year draws people out to enjoy our beautiful surroundings and a focus on art is a natural response

to that beauty. Saanich celebrates the arts during the BC Arts and Culture Week, April 18-24 with a variety of events listed at www.saanich.ca.

Each year artists in your neighborhood invite the entire community to visit them in their homes and studios to see art being made and to answer questions about the process. It is a weekend of entertainment and education; and many people take the opportunity to explore

their local streets and meet their local artists.

The map and brochure for the Broadmead and Cordova Bay Artists Studio Tour can be found at Broadmead Pharmasave, local rec centres, the libraries, and online at www.broadmead.ca. If you can't find a brochure before the tour weekend just look for the "artists studio tour" signs and pick up a map at your first stop. We are looking forward to meeting you.

Broadmead Tour Artists:

Chin Yuen
Andy Shutse Lou
Kris Tangri
Klaus Bohn
Chris Broadbent
Karen Casey
Margo Cooper
Marti Mussell
Diana Jenks
Jean Ives

Cordova Bay Tour Artists

Nancyanne Cowell
Agnes Ananichuk
Niramon Prudtatorn
Kent Laforme

BC Arts and Culture Week Events

Community Arts Week information:

Diane Thorpe

Community Arts Specialist

250-475-5557

diane.thorpe@saanich.ca

April 18 - 24, 2010

Celebrate BC Arts and Culture Week with local visual and performing artists.

Seniors' Paint In & Tea

- Goward House
- Sunday, April 18, 2010
- 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Opening Reception Studio Art Tours

- Gallery Café at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre
- Thursday, April 22, 2010
- 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Eight 2 Eighty – Intergeneration Coffee House

- Cedar Hill Recreation Centre
- Friday April 23, 2010
- 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Carnival of the Arts

A family-friendly event, with music, dancing, and hands-on art activities.

- Cedar Hill Recreation Centre
- Saturday, April 24, 2010
- 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Cedar Hill Pottery Club Annual Sale

- Cedar Hill Recreation Centre
- Saturday, April 24, 2010
- 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Saanich Studio Art Tours

- May weekends



BARA
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Donna Johnson
Judy Love
Glen MacDonald
Neil MacLean
Rani Singh
Rev. Stephen Swift
Mary and Ralph Ward

Meet Your BARA Board Members

Sulochana (Sulo) Bawan

Sulo was born and raised in Sri Lanka (then known as Ceylon), and following her training in gemmology she worked in Japan and in Libya as a jewellery designer representing a major Sri Lankan gem exporter. Sulo moved to Victoria in 1985 and settled in Broadmead in 1991 with her husband and two daughters.

She has been an active community volunteer with several organizations and has served as BARA Board member for the past two years. Sulo serves on the Membership Committee and is presently chairing a committee which is responsible for planning a community day for all residents in June of this year. Her aim is to encourage residents to become more active in the Broadmead community and to enjoy the many features our community has to offer.



Neil MacLean

Neil was born in Winnipeg where he attained his CA designation in 1970. He has worked at the municipal and federal level in Winnipeg and Calgary, and in public practice in Penticton. Moving to Victoria in 1988 he joined the Provincial Government in various Departments in a financial capacity. Neil joined UVic's Accounting Services in 1997, responsible for insurance, risk management and the year end audited financial statements, retiring in 2004.

His public service included 6 years as finance chairman of Penticton Regional Hospital Board, 16 years as finance director of Pacific Shores Resort and Spa timeshare, treasurer of the corresponding Strata Council, and 10 years as treasurer of UVic's United Way Campaign. For the last four years Neil has reviewed the BARA accounts and prepared the year end financial statements. He became a Director of BARA in 2009 and is chair of the Membership Committee.

Neil and his wife Gayle have been Broadmead residents since 2000 and enjoy gardening, golfing and walking the trails.



BARA Annual General Meeting
Thursday, April 29, 7:00pm, 2010
Gateway Baptist Church, Royal Oak Drive

Special Topic: Emergency Preparedness Begins With You

Captain Brock Henson, Saanich Emergency Program Officer, will discuss the types of emergencies that can happen in Saanich and provide basic information that will help residents put together a personal and family emergency plan.