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# THE CORDOVAN

Volume 4 Number 3

April 1980

The Cordova Bay Association's

## A N N U A L G E N E R A L M E E T I N G

Claremont High School Lunchroom

7:30 p. m. - Tuesday April 29th

Are we all going to "be governed by hardware?" - a recurring phrase these days, possibly first used by Mayor Couvelier at the last All Candidates' Meeting at Claremont.

Cordova Bay's moment of truth is arriving. Are we going to become another Gordon Head with wall-to-wall housing because of inevitable planning by sewer? Some in our area who called for sewers earlier are now expressing their misgivings about the consequences as the surveyors markings and other signs appear.

I t i s n o t t o o l a t e ! The Cordova Bay Association now has an impressive membership of 721 for 1980. Thank you for this support. In this crucial year, however, if we really wish to preserve this neighbourhood so that it retains a unique identity for the future, we must all be prepared to act and participate fully.

Judging from some hand-outs in the mail - the semi-rural environment of Cordova Bay is almost becoming a cliché. There is a danger of this strongly shared concept becoming convenient lip-service.

The A N N U A L G E N E R A L M E E T I N G is on April 29th. This will provide an opportunity for us all to steer our course for this next year when many decisions will be made at Saanich Council - - - an opportunity to express present concerns, to give the Board some clear direction as to which way Cordova Bay really wants to go.

"You can win over and over again, but you only have to lose once and the ball game is over. Extinction is forever." Dr. Ian McTaggart-Cowan on the problems of being a conservationist from Forestalk.

We have been told the Draft Local Area Plan should be available for the Annual General Meeting. This will provide a good occasion to share the information, and discuss the issues.

\* \* \* \* \*

If you have nominations for the Board of Directors for 1980-81, please phone Mitch Fumalle at 658-8605.

\* \* \*

Now you see it, now you don't! is the name of the game these days, with small tracts of farmland in Cordova Bay under pressure to be removed from the Agricultural Land Reserve almost every week. The latest threatened area (as the Cordovan goes to press) is the holly farm on Claremont.

Contrary to the recommendations of residents from the store-front and Local Area Plan meetings last summer at Claremont for a future population of Cordova Bay not to exceed 6,500, we understand now the figures will be significantly higher. This means our population will more than double. This is not based on the consensus of residents' (continued over)

(Continued from front page)

views. What is it based on? Remember that phrase "governed by hardware?"

Now is the time to follow the Local Area Plan closely, to be prepared to attend Council Meetings to show your concern and to phone the aldermen and keep them informed of your point of view. Your participation and vote can count! Also, write to the papers - including, of course, "The Cordovan." Oak Bay got it together in some way. James Bay has managed to put a stop to something and create something new. We can do it too!

Remember - the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Tuesday April 29, 7:30 p.m. Claremont Lunchroom.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Cordova Bay NEW HORIZONS! who seem to be going from strength to strength - with a rising membership of 90! On April 10th they were very excited to receive the cheque for the grant. Arrangements to furnish the St. David's Church Hall in a both comfortable and useful setting are under way so that the many social and other activities can take place.

President Bob Scott says people are welcome to drop by on Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. even if they are not members. Have a cup of tea and enjoy the company and activities. One week the Sidney Bellringers performed, including Cordova Bay's own Norm Sinclair! Another week - a visit to James Bay New Horizons was planned. There will be Wednesday afternoon meetings until the fall when a full program will be organized.

President Bob says if there are transport difficulties for some of you, please call these members of the Board: Al Coomber, 658-8295 - Art Williams, 658-5546 - Fred Clothier, 658-5479.

Perhaps you have a father or mother, or grandparent or a neighbour who rarely goes out, but who would enjoy a cup of tea with other neighbours in the village. Please feel welcome to invite them and if you cannot bring them yourselves, call the above board members for transportation.

\* \* \*

If you haven't heard, the OLD TIMER'S TEA in March was a huge success. Here are a few responses from some of the guests:

"I wish to thank the Cordova Bay Association, the Churches, Guides and Pathfinders for an enjoyable re-union . . . Thanking you for a very enjoyable afternoon."  
Mrs. May Minter

"I wish to thank you for the invitation . . . and I am happy to say I was there and enjoyed meeting so many old neighbors of the 1930's."  
Mrs. Miriam Varney (Parksville)

"Just to say how much I appreciated your sending the Cordova Bay News sheet (the Cordovan) with such an interesting account of the very happy re-union. It was good to have the opportunity to see so many old friends . . . My daughter Edith enjoyed it as much as I did."  
Mrs. Muriel French (Vancouver)

The tea sparked a lot of interest in the early days of Cordova Bay. One long-time resident (known then as "Klondike Kate") brings back memories of the beginnings of the Community Hall.

The builders of the hall were the local families who felt the need of a meeting place for community events. After an eight-hour stint at work in town, a handful of residents dashed home, ate a quick dinner, and went off armed with hammers and saws to join the building committee.

The first part of the building to be completed included the kitchen (with wood-burning stove) and a small meeting room with a stage. These small rooms held many happy occasions including whist drives and hallowe'en costume parties (with box lunches). At least 100 people attended a concert entirely of local talent, and as usual tea and coffee were served from the wood stove. (Imagine stoking that on a summer's eve!)

The big fund-raisers in the early 50's were "Klondike Nites" held during the summer months when hundreds of campers joined the permanent residents for a real night of fun. In the early stages of the building of the hall, the floor was put down with a railing built around it for safety, and Klondike Nite was held under the stars! This included the now famous Jerry Gosley Show. Door tickets were 25¢, and \$925 was realized for the building fund! (That's a lot of tickets!!!) The door ticket also included a raffle on a car. However, at the eleventh hour, it was discovered that the raffle was illegal here. Panic! But not for long. Three stalwarts of the fund-raising committee boarded the ferry to Port Angeles with the ticket stubs along, and made the draw in the middle of the straits of Juan de Fuca!

An interesting sidelight at Klondike Nite - a table of animated but mute young people obviously enjoyed the Gosley Show as much as the rest of the crowd - but the jokes came to them through the clever and nimble fingers of Ann Sutton.

These must have been very happy days at the Community Hall. If you have any stories from the early days, please let us know. If you like, we will help you put it down on paper. Phone 658-5605 or write to the Cordovan, c/o 759 Helvetia Crescent.

\* \* \*

It is reported that a pair of local mallards enjoyed the delights of a local garden pond including the gold fish! The owner was somewhat appeased when the ducks produced an egg by the pond on Easter Sunday - but all the same felt somewhat squeamish at the thought of eating the unexpected gift!



\* \* \* \* \*

Did you see local resident J. E. Richey's pertinent letter in the Times on April 1st? (No Fooling!)

"As Nature Goes . . .

If nature goes, we go. We cannot exist without nature, though nature can get along very nicely without us, and did for a few million years.

Harried by the beehive-like activities of planners and developers, we sometimes forget that man must exist within the framework of nature, and that it is up to us to get along with that of which we are a part (though a small one) and not the other way around.

Freeman Dyson, physicist and teacher at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton, New Jersey, has said: 'Sanity is, in its essence, nothing more than the ability to live in harmony with nature.'

\* \* \*

#### GREENPEACE IN OUR BACK-YARDS

When you see bulldozers moving in and hear the chain saws going, here is a positive action that you can take to create a small native wilderness in part of your garden.

First appear with bright smile, bucket and spade, and ask the owner of the land or bulldozer, if you may remove some of the small trees, seedlings, ferns, etc. Remember that the native trees are best suited to this environment, that trees reduce noise pollution, purify the air, provide a haven for bird life, that trees hold water in the ground (a boon on the gravelly ridge), and they create shelter and wind-breaks. By creating wilderness corridors or corners in your own yard, a continuing place is ensured for those families of quail that are appearing again, the pheasants, etc. These can also provide an excellent ongoing nature study project for children as well.

The following subjects in the Newcombe Auditorium (Provincial Museum) series may interest you -

- \* Wednesday, April 23 - Native Plant Garden Tour is an outdoor demonstration on how to start your own low maintenance garden using native plants. Led by Kathy Cox of the Botany Division. Enrollment is limited to 25. Call 387-3701.
- \* Wednesday, April 16 - Natural History Gallery Plant Life is a talk-tour led by Dr. R. Ogilvie of the Botany Division. Varieties of plants from various regions of B. C. will be examined in the Provincial Museum's newly opened "Living Land - Living Sea" exhibit. Enrollment limited to 25. Call 387-3701 to register.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bring NEW LIFE to your WASHING! Your husband will hug you when the sweet fragrance greets him from his freshly laundered shirts! Try CORDOVAIR! What is this old time secret that can bring bounce, brightness and sweetness to your clothing? ? Yes, you're right - hang it on the line!

\* \* \*

#### NEWS FROM MATTICK'S FARM

We know you have all been wondering just what is going on at the farm. Well at this time we are completing major renovations to the main building and will be opening May 1st. We intend to have the largest open air produce market on Vancouver Island. Also in the main building we will have a fantastic ice cream parlour and will cater to coffee breaks and serve wholesome lunches.

A fine arts and crafts store will be opening in the rear of the main building. The store will specialize in jewellery designed by the proprietress, Bente Rehm, a resident of Cordova Bay for the past 5 years, and also feature items by many other crafts people who produce high quality work in pottery, weaving, woodwork, glass, batik, sculpture, quilting, etc. There will be a well-stocked jewellery and macrame supply department, with beads, findings, cords, etc.

Also our Victoria Garden Centre under energetic new management, is ready to serve your every garden need.

Watch for added attractions as time goes by!

With your support we hope to be good neighbours and continue a year-round operation to serve not only the tourist trade but mainly the Cordovans.

\* \* \* \* \*

It's TIME TO DANCE . . .

The Cordova Bay KIWANIS have arranged a special spring-time dance for April 26th from 9 p.m. to 1. Music will be by "6-Pack." Bar facilities only. Tickets \$10 per couple. At the Community Hall on Sutcliffe Road.

\* \* \*

We hope you enjoyed COUNTRY AND WESTERN NIGHT. It was good to see so many new neighbours joining in the communal dinner.

A very special THANK YOU to the ukulele band and Mr. Kevin Vine of Cordova Bay School for the delightful strummings!

\* \* \*

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Lindsay needs a babysitter - someone who is mature, reliable and would enjoy a full-time job taking care of a 5 month old in Lindsay's home if possible. Position to start June 30, Monday to Friday. Wages negotiable. Phone Mitch or Carolyn, 658-8605.

\* \* \* \* \*

Artist with studio in Cordova Bay seeks cottage to rent nearby - 658-8772.

\* \* \*

Appeal on behalf of Vietnamese Refugees - If anyone has a used baby bathtub and baby clothes, contact Clare 658-5009.

\* \* \*

SENIOR CITIZENS ATTENTION!

It's almost too late - - - the Cordova Bay Scouts are offering a yard clean-up service from April 7 to April 19. Ask for John, 477-5732, after 5 p.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

A unique local specialty - Hasty Notes made in Cordova Bay with real pressed flowers and leaves, or tatted flowers and butterflies - and reasonably priced. 658-5029.

\* \* \*

By the way, an old single copy of "Spindrift" was inadvertently picked up during the clearing up after the Old Timers' Tea at St. David's. If you have it tucked away with your precious old copies, please contact Eric McMorran at 658-5226.

\* \* \* \* \*

Think on this . . .

The money required to provide adequate food, water, education, health and housing for everyone in the world has been estimated at \$17 billion a year. It is a huge sum of money . . . about as much as the world spends on arms every two weeks.

\* \* \*

Would you like to do some reporting for the "Cordovan" or work as a correspondent with the community television program "Neighbourhood Update" (Channel 10)? Please call 658-5605.

Hope you saw the latest T. V. feature on Cordova Bay's annual soccer tournament at Lochside Park - including local style puns!

\* \* \* \* \*

FOUND at McMorran's recently - an old photo album from the early days. Please check with Bruce McMorran at 658-5588.

\* \* \*

See you at the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Claremont High School Lunchroom  
7:30 p. m. - Tuesday April 29th

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