

OPSRRA'S OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY & JORDAN RIVER NEWSLETTER March 2014

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF PUBLICATION!

The Otter Point & Shirley Residents & Ratepayers Association (OPSRRA) is a registered non-profit society with an elected Board of Directors and strives to present the points-of-view of its members to local government. OPSRRA was founded in 1992 and has a membership of over **400**. Any resident or property owner in Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point Official Community Plans boundaries who are age 18 or over are eligible for membership.

Lifetime memberships cost \$5.00 per person and are available from OPSRRA directors—see our web site (www.opsrra.ca) for further information and on-line registration. Associate (non-voting) memberships are available for persons who do not reside or own property in Shirley or Otter Point, but who wish to support the Association.

Our society's purpose is to:

- Ensure that the development of the communities of Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point takes place in an orderly way and in the best interests of its residents.
- Co-operate with local government and other public bodies in the furtherance of the objectives of the society and benefits to the community.
- Concern itself with the performance of government agencies.
- Encourage citizens to stand for public office.
- Promote community spirit and sense of identity by organizing or supporting appropriate activities.

Are you an OPSRRA member? Do you want to receive the OPSRRA newsletter and notice of meetings directly to your email address? OPSRRA now emails this newsletter to over **300** of our members as well as local elected representatives, media and archival organizations. Email opsrra@gmail.com if you want to receive this membership service.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

Fiona McDannold President
Phone: 250-646-2730

Vacant Vice-President

Brenda Mark Treasurer
Phone: 250-646-2598

Sandy Barta Director

Arnie Campbell Director
Phone: 250-642-3113

Brooke Fader Director

Chris Knoglinger Director
Phone: 250-646-2911

Marika Nagasaka Director
Phone: 250-642-2133

Contact any OPSRRA director at: opsrra@gmail.com

IN THIS ISSUE

Contents

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS.....	3
2. NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: OPSRRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	11
3. NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR THE OPSRRA 2014 AGM.....	11
4. THOSE “DUCKS” ARE UP FOR AUCTION.....	12
5. OPSRRA NOW ON FACEBOOK.....	12
6. SURVEY: MEDICAL MARIJUANA PRODUCTION FACILITIES IN THE JDFA.....	12
7. JDFA LOCAL AREA SERVICES BUILDING OFFICIAL OPENING.....	13
8. CHANGES COMING TO THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER.....	14
9. DUMPING IN OUR COMMUNITY.....	14
10. WHERE IN THE JUAN DE FUCA?.....	15
11. A FOREST FOR ALL SEASONS: JDF COMMUNITY LAND TRUST FUNDRAISING EVENT	16
12. SPRING IN THE GARDEN.....	17
13. SERIES: GOVERNANCE IN THE JDFA.....	18
14. UPDATE: SHIRLEY & JORDAN RIVER OCP REVIEW.....	19
15. OTTER POINT HISTORY AVAILABLE ONLINE.....	20
16. DID YOU KNOW THAT	20
17. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS.....	22
18. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER.....	23

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Marika Nagasaka at: opsrra@gmail.com to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar here and on our website.

Saturday
March 1

Official Opening
Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Services Building

12 noon until 2:00 p.m.
JDF Local Area Services Building
3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC

Please join us: all Juan de Fuca residents are invited to the official ribbon-cutting for the new Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Services Building.

Festivities include food and music.

Saturday
March 1

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Leechtown celebrates 150 years

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the second parking lot (Barnes Station) in Sooke Potholes Regional Park to drive in convoy to The Land Conservancy campground parking (this removes a significant distance from the hike).

We ask for a donation to TLC for parking as thanks for permission to park.

A level, 10 km walk on the Galloping Goose Trail; an opportunity to see the Sooke River in winter.

Bring a lunch, and dress for the weather.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767
or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Tuesday
March 4

Juan de Fuca Emergency Services
Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Tuesday
March 4

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Annual General Meeting**

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Otter Point Fire Hall

Everyone welcome

Guest Speaker, Barb Broster, is a former resident of Sooke where she was active in community affairs, and owner of a bicycle and surf shop. She retains a keen interest in Sooke Wild by Nature and the recreational possibilities of our parks and trails. As a veteran member of over 10 years and a senior team leader of Juan de Fuca Ground Search and Rescue, Barb is well aware of the hazards and is here to explore how we can avoid them and what to do if we make that wrong turn.

Her presentation will be followed by a business meeting.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767
or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Wednesday
March 5

**Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission (SEAPARC)**

Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Board Room

SEAPARC Leisure Complex

2168 Philips Road, Sooke BC

- Regular meetings of the Commission take place at SEAPARC on the first Wednesday of the month and are open to the public.
- Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair.

Agendas and Minutes posted for each meeting at:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm>

Saturday
March 8

**Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks &
Recreation Advisory Commission / Juan de Fuca
Community Trails Society
Roche Cove to Cougar Ridge**

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the William Simmons Memorial Park (Poirier Lake) parking lot to car pool to the trail head. (Turn into the Sooke Business Park at 3220 Otter Point Road; the parking lot is behind the berm immediately to the left.)

Or, meet at the Iron Mine Bay (East Sooke) parking lot at 9:35 a.m.

This is a moderate hike through beautiful near-old grove forest in East Sooke Park. Time, weather and hikers' wishes determine the return route (along the Galloping Goose Trail, or continuing around Matheson Lake).

Bring a lunch, and dress for the weather. Good footwear a must.

Contact Sid Jorna:

Phone: 250-642-2767 or

email: jdf.cts@gmail.com for more information

Monday
March 10

**Public Information Session
Medical Marijuana**

7:00 p.m.

JDF Local Area Services Building
3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Medical Purposes
Regulations (Proposed Bylaw Nos. 3922, 3926, 3927, 3928 and 3929)

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/Documents/committeedocuments/juandefucalandusecommittee/20140121>

Wednesday
March 12

**Shirley Community Association
Annual General Meeting**

7:30 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

The SCA is looking for directors.

Contact Fiona McDannold, 250-646-2730

Wednesday
March 12

JDFEA Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission Meeting

5:00 p.m.

JDF Local Area Services Building
3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC

1. Agricultural Land Commission Application to Subdivide Land within the Agricultural Land Reserve:

- ALR-01-13—That Part of Section 34, Otter District Shown Outlined in Red on Plan Deposited Under DD 17655, Except That Part on Plan 459-R and 39411 (Richardson & Hanslip, 4164 and 4188 Otter Point Road)

2. Proposed Bylaw Amendments:

- Marihuana [sic] for Medical Purposes Regulations (Proposed Bylaw Nos. 3922, 3926, 3927, 3928 and 3929).

More information about these applications:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/Documents/committeedocuments/juandefucalandusecommittee/20140121>

Wednesday
March 12

Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission

7:00 p.m.

JDF Local Area Services Building
3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC

Rezoning applications:

- Z-02-13—Strata Lot 14, Section 16, Otter District, Plan VIS7096 (Specialty Marijuana Products Ltd., 6-7450 Butler Road)
- Z-03-13—Lot 3, Section 16, Otter District, Plan 1959 (Purdy & Vowles, 3384 Otter Point Road)

More information about these applications:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/Documents/committeedocuments/juandefucalandusecommittee/20140121>

Wednesday
March 12

Annual Farm and Film Gala

7:00 to 9:30 pm

Edward Milne Community School

Presented by Sooke Awareness Film Night and Sooke Food CHI

Saturday March 15	Planting Calendar Workshop 10:00 am to 12:00pm ALM Farm Registration: contact Mary Alice 250 642 3671 info@almfarms.org (\$35). More information: www.almfarms.org/blog
Tuesday March 18	Shirley Women's Institute Meeting 10:30 am Shirley Community Hall
Wednesday March 19	Shirley Fire Rescue & Emergency Response Commission Monthly meeting 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Shirley Community Hall
Thursday March 20	Tsunami Community Education Forum 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. JDF Local Area Services Building 3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC Presenters: Teron Moore, Emergency Management BC Alison Bird, Environment Canada
Sunday March 23	OPSRRA Annual General Meeting 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. JDF Local Area Services Building 3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC Regional Director Hicks and John Horgan, MLA, will be there. See newsletter items below.
Tuesday March 25	Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation Commission Monthly Meeting 3:00 p.m. JDF Local Area Services Building 3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC
Wednesday March 26	Shirley & Jordan River Official Community Plan Review Meeting 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Shirley Community Hall See newsletter item below. Link to documents: https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/about-the-region/juan-de-fuca

Thursday
March 27

**Sooke Country Market
AGM**

7:00 p.m.
ALM Farmhouse
3680 Otter Point Road

Saturday
March 29

Grow Amazing Tomatoes

1:00 to 4:00 pm
ALM Farm

Registration: contact Mary Alice
250 642 3671
info@almfarms.org (\$45).

More information: www.almfarms.org/blog

Sunday
March 30

A Forest For All Seasons

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust event in support of
the Admiral's Forest

See newsletter item below

Tuesday
April 1

**Juan de Fuca Emergency Services
Monthly Meeting**

7:00 p.m.
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Wednesday
March 2

**Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission (SEAPARC)**

Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m.
Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road, Sooke BC

- Regular meetings of the Commission take place at SEAPARC on the first Wednesday of the month and are open to the public.
- Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair.

Agendas and Minutes posted for each meeting at:
<http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm>

Saturday
April 5

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society

Hike along the bluffs of Mt. Bluff

9:00 a.m.

Meet at Scouts Camp Barnard at the end of Young's Lake Road.

An eight km hike. A steep, 260 metre climb on a clear trail to the top of Bluff. Relax after your hard work; the rest is a spectacular view and a gentler way down. Bring a camera —you'll want to linger if the weather is good.

Bring a lunch and dress for the weather.
Everyone welcome

Contact Rosemary Jorna, sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Mondays

Karate for all ages

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

Mondays

Pilates

10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)

Contact Sandra Smith:

website: www.svakayoga.com

email: svakayoga@gmail.com

Tuesdays

Malahat Art Space

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Malahat Farm, 2675 Anderson Road

Held in the big garage to the left as you come up the drive.

Time to do art and crafts together, learn from each other and have fun.

Everyone welcome

For more information:

email kwoods@pacificcoast.net, or vero@malahatfarm.com

or call 250-642-0393 or 250-642-6868

Thursdays

Shirley Quilters and Crafters

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Everyone welcome

Contact Christien Shipton: 250-646-2687

Saturdays

Pilates

9:30 am

Shirley Community Hall

Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)

Contact: Sandra Smith

website: www.svakayoga.com

email: svakayoga@gmail.com

Thursdays &
Sundays

Nia Dance / Movement Class

Thursdays: 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Sundays: 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Contact Melody Kimmell:

250-646-2995

movingmelody@gmail.com

2. NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: OPSRRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Sunday, March 23, 2014

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

JDF Local Area Services Building

3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC

(In the *Sooke Business Park* in Otter Point)

Regional Director Mike Hicks will conduct the elections and John Horgan, MLA, will be the guest speaker.

OPSRRA will send a notice of meeting, agenda and the report of the Nominations committee to members by email two weeks before the meeting.

Nominations

Elections for three executive and five director positions are held annually at the AGM. A slate of nominees will be put forward before the AGM by the Nominations Committee. So far, five candidates have been identified; we need three more to complete the slate. We are in particular need of nominees from Otter Point as several of our current directors from Otter Point are not seeking nomination this year.

Members interested in becoming a director should contact the Nominations Committee c/o Fiona McDannold, President, OPSRRA at opsrra@gmail.com or phone 250-646-2730. Indicate either your interest as a nominee, or nominate someone else with their permission. A nominee must be eighteen years of age, a resident or property owner in Shirley, Jordan River or Otter Point and a voting member of the association at the time of the election. The Chair also accepts nominations from the floor at the AGM.

3. NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR THE OPSRRA 2014 AGM

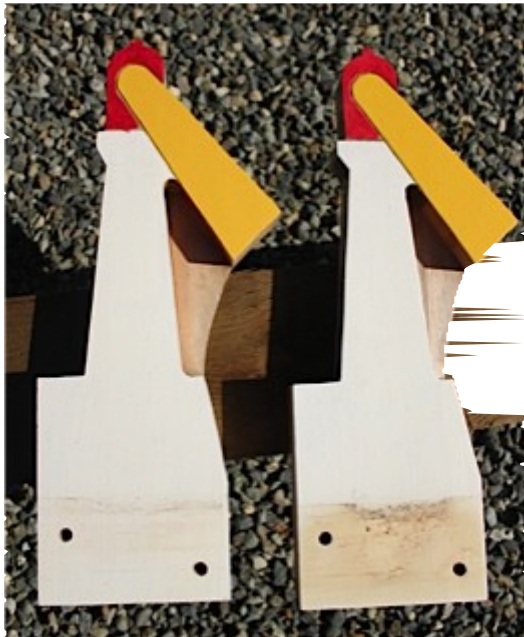
There will be four resolutions put forward at the AGM for discussion and a vote by the membership in attendance:

1. **The name of the Society is OPSRRA.** The name of the society is presently the Otter Point & Shirley Residents & Ratepayers Association. Last year the association agreed to include Jordan River. Trying to add JR to OPSRRA is a problem. The directors suggest changing the name of the association to OPSRRA as it's an established name unto itself, then adding the following to the constitution.
2. **The Society represents residents and ratepayers who reside in the communities of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River and are members of OPSRRA.**
3. **The association's lifetime membership is increased to \$10.00.** Increasing the membership fee to \$10.00 for new members will allow OPSRRA to open a PayPal account and accept membership payment online.

4. The association agrees to adopt the following logo:



4. **THOSE “DUCKS” ARE UP FOR AUCTION**



Remember the original lighthouses that were attached to the Welcome to Shirley signs that OPSRRA installed on West Coast Road (Highway 14) in 2011? The ones with a beacon shining from the tower that confused some who wondered why Shirley had a “duck” on its sign. Well, OPSRRA arranged to have the lighthouses replaced and the original ones are now up for sale. John Horgan, MLA, will auction them at our 2014 Annual General Meeting on Sunday, March 23, 2014. Proceeds from the sale will help OPSRRA maintain the five *Welcome to Otter Point* and *Welcome to Shirley* signs around Shirley and Otter Point. The “Ducks” were custom-crafted and cost us about \$25.00 each. Do I hear \$25.00? Do I hear 30.00?

5. **OPSRRA NOW ON FACEBOOK**

OPSRRA now has a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/OPSRRA. “Like” us for information about OPSRRA activities, pictures from community events we sponsor, and comments on our association’s activities. Follow OPSRRA’s activities between newsletters by visiting either Facebook or our web site: www.opsrra.ca

6. **SURVEY: MEDICAL MARIJUANA PRODUCTION FACILITIES IN THE JDFEA**

This month’s OPSRRA survey asks your opinion about establishing medical marijuana facilities in our community as well as questions about location, setbacks from property lines and spot zoning. Your participation in the survey is anonymous. The results will be published in the April issue of this newsletter and sent to the JDFEA Regional Director and the JDFEA Land Use Committee. Follow this link to

the survey: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Ael-y_YoGkO1sMqnEJGX8uYNLyPqkyV5fI0XYtJrrjs/viewform

Background

Last month's newsletter explained the impending change to how medical marijuana facilities will be licensed in Canada as of April 1, 2014. A recent change to federal regulations governing the growing, processing, storage and distribution of medical marijuana will require these businesses to register their operation with local government, fire and police. The new regulations also allow local government to limit where medical marijuana businesses can operate.

The provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) considers the growing, processing, storage and sale of medical marijuana to be consistent with farm use and therefore will be permitted on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land. Facilities on any property outside the ALR have to be specifically allowed by local government; which in the case of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) would be by a decision of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board of Directors based upon a recommendation from the JDFEA Land Use Committee (LUC) and the JDFEA Regional Director.

At its January meeting the LUC directed CRD Planning Services to consult with the JDFEA Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission and the community about the regulation of medical marijuana production facilities on agricultural land in the JDFEA. If supported, a bylaw specifying where a facility could operate, setbacks from property lines, parcel size, etc. would be needed. One suggestion at the LUC meeting is to require a licensed medical marijuana facility on ALR land to abide by minimum setback requirements from their property line.

Note: The Public information meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Monday, March 10, 2014 in the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building, 3–7450 Butler Road, Otter Point. The Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building.

7. JDFEA LOCAL AREA SERVICES BUILDING OFFICIAL OPENING

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Local Area Services Building officially opened on Saturday, March 1, 2014. Located on Butler Road in the business park in Otter Point, the building is next to the William Simmons Park at Poirier Lake and houses the Electoral Area's Building Inspection, Planning Services, Emergency Services, Regional Director's office and a large meeting area.

The official opening was well attended and provided an opportunity for local area residents and others to tour the building, enjoy food cooked-up by the Scouts from Camp Barnard and listen to live music by the Clover Point Drifters.

OPSRRA and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society joined together to commemorate the event by presenting a 1935 map of the Otter Point and Shirley area to Director Hicks for display in the building.



Pictured holding the map are Director Hicks, Sid Jorna, President of Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society, Fiona McDannold, President of OPSRRA and Brenda Mark representing both JDFCTS and OPSRRA.

8. **CHANGES COMING TO THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER**

There will be two changes coming to the OPSRRA newsletter beginning with the April issue.

After almost 11 years as editor and principal writer for the OPSRRA newsletter, Arnie Campbell will be retiring. Replacing him is OPSRRA director Marika Nagasaka who writes the **How Does Your Garden Grow** articles. Arnie will continue to work along with Marika as a story contributor.

The newsletter will no longer come from Arnie's email address; however there shouldn't be any noticeable change in how you receive your newsletter. We intend to test the new distribution system in early March by sending the notice of OPSRRA's AGM from the new email address.

9. **DUMPING IN OUR COMMUNITY**

We ran stories in the January and February newsletters asking members if they were finding illegal garbage dumping a problem in our community, and to let us know dumping site locations. We had numerous responses to date and continue to encourage members to come forward to help us identify the scope of the problem and also help guide us towards figuring out solutions to this on-going problem.

We have since been in contact with the CRD to report a dumping site in Otter Point, close to DeMamie Creek. The creek is a salmon bearing stream and a water source for many homes in that area. The CRD is trying to figure out how to limit dumping at this site.

In the coming months we plan to continue to research the reporting processes to better understand:

- Clean-up process once dumping sites are reported (who is responsible for clean-up, who enforces clean-up, etc.);
- How we can deal with places that become popular dumping sites and;
- How to discourage dumping.

We hope to make that information and the process easier for residents to navigate, and encourage communication between our local agencies and stakeholders regarding this problem.

Please feel free to share your dumping observations, photos and site locations with OPSRRA, as well as thoughts about how to deal with our garbage-dumping problem. You can contact us by email at: opsrra@gmail.com

10. WHERE IN THE JUAN DE FUCA?

In January we began a new feature called **Where in the Juan de Fuca?** We present a picture and ask you to identify where the object is located and what significance it might have. There were a couple of close guesses about the location and significance of last month's picture, but no correct reply.



Jean Conway seated on the bench she donated to the Priest Cabin Park.

The bench on the right is located in Priest Cabin Park in Shirley and was donated to the Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation Commission by Jean Conway, in memory of Jean Whiffen. Jean Conway is pictured here in August 2012.



Here is this month's Where in the Juan de Fuca? Tell us where the building pictured above is located and what it is or why it's significant. No prize for the winner(s), but we'll give you credit for your "find" if you're okay with us using your name. The answer will be in next month's newsletter.

11. **A FOREST FOR ALL SEASONS: JDF COMMUNITY LAND TRUST FUNDRAISING EVENT**

Wendy Morton, Otter Point resident and poet submitted the following:

When I heard that 70 acres on the West Coast Road west of Sooke, which had been kept as a park by Rear Admiral John Charles until his death at 92, was going to be put up for sale I thought I ought to find a way to let the world know. This beautiful forest is in danger of disappearing forever.

Last year, in Langley, the municipality wanted to destroy a forest to build a recreation centre. Poet Susan McCaslin wanted to save the forest and asked other poets to send her poems about trees, forests and the earth. The poems were hung on the trees. People came and read them.

Articles were written. It worked. Generous benefactors purchased the land, which is now a protected rainforest.

So I took a page from Susan's book, put out the word that I needed poems to hang on trees and over a hundred flew in from all over: from Europe, from America, from all over Canada.

Sue MacKenzie, a Victoria poet, sent me this haiku which will hang with many other poems on the trees on March 30, 2014.

Star between tree branches
caught for a moment
on this spinning world

The Juan de Fuca Land Trust Society invites everyone to join us on Sunday, March 30, 2014 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at this forest for all seasons, 8514 West Coast Road, to walk the trails and to read the poems on this spinning world. Offsite parking will be available near the location.

Find more information about the Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust and its efforts to raise \$700,000 to make an offer to buy the Admiral's Forest on their web site: www.jdflandtrust.ca

12. **SPRING IN THE GARDEN**

Marika Nagasaka, principal gardener at ALM Organic Farm in Otter Point, wrote the following:

The quiet months of winter are now behind us: the greens have once again come back to life and seem to grow exponentially right now.

This is my favourite season to grow, harvest and enjoy salad. Over-wintered greens are coming into full production right now: our greenhouses are filled with cold hardy lettuce varieties, sweet and spicy brassicas (such as tatsoi, arugula, mizuna, ruby streaks, purple osaka mustard, etc.) and seasonal favourites like claytonia, mache, chervil and minutina that make early spring salads really special. If you like the sound of this and you have cold-frame space to spare through the winter then plan to seed cold hardy varieties of lettuces, brassicas and other greens during the months of August and September. My advice would be to mark that on your calendar now, to help you remember in the busy late summer months. I seed in trays as our cold frame space at this time is usually tied up in heat crops (tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, etc.).

We are still enjoying winter crops of carrots, parsnips, leeks, beets and celeriac that have spent the winter out in the field, but we will plan to use them in the next 4-6 weeks before they start to go to seed and their flavour and quality start to decline. We will be transplanting selected carrots, leeks and beets this month to suitable areas of the farm to let them go to seed for our seed company.

March is a very busy month at the farm. This is a major seeding month for us: our empty heat tables will soon be full with a constant stream of various seedlings; we never seem to have enough table space at this time. All our tomatoes, peppers, eggplant and tomatillo will be seeded this month, as well we will be seeding cucumbers, lettuces and other salad crops, fennel, flowers, alliums (leeks and onions), broccoli and cauliflower, greens (chard, kales, mustards, spinach, bok choy) and herbs such as parsley, all into trays or pots.

March direct seeding will include broad beans, peas and potatoes outside (weather permitting) into beds that were mulched last fall, as it will be awhile before I can get on the soil with the tractor without damaging the soil. Direct seeding into our cold frames will include: radish, Japanese turnips, peas, spinach, salad items such as brassicas, mache and claytonia and herbs such as chervil and cilantro.

We will also continue to build composts, collect seaweed to add to beds, divide and replant rhubarb, plant new strawberry plants and also make sure our planting calendar and rotation plan are up to date to help keep us on track.

13. **SERIES: GOVERNANCE IN THE JDFEA**

The second in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) governance series written to prepare us for the November Regional Director, School Trustee, JDFEA Land Use Committee, and local community Advisory Planning Commission elections.

Regional District

Electoral areas are unincorporated and governed through regional districts. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) is unincorporated and elects one representative to the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board of Directors as our Regional Director. Although we “elect” representatives to the JDFEA Land Use Committee and various Advisory Planning Commissions these individuals still have to be appointed by the CRD Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the JDFEA regional director.

Regional Director

Mike Hicks, our present Regional Director, was first elected in November 2008 and re-elected in 2011. There is no limit as to how often a candidate can run for the position and under provincial legislation, elected representatives don't have to reside in the Electoral Area. Director Hicks, for example, lives in Sooke but owns property and operates a seasonal business in Port Renfrew.

The regional director position is supposed to be part time. This is an impractical assumption in a geographically diverse and complex unincorporated area such as the JDFEA where the regional director's role and responsibilities requires a full time presence. The regional director is permitted to appoint an Acting Regional Director but this individual has limited authority as an unelected representative and the appointee is intended to act instead of, and not in addition to, the regional director. When acting in place of the elected director, the alternate director has the same authority even though the alternate is appointed, not elected.

The JDFEA's regional director represents the residents of Willis Point, the Malahat, East Sooke, Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River, Port Renfrew and the Rural Resource Lands and is their sole representative at the CRD Board of Directors. The regional director also represents both native and non-native residents of the T'Sou-ke, Pacheedaht, Beecher Bay, Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations Bands in certain matters concerning services provided by the CRD to First Nations.

The JDFEA regional director is expected to:

- participate in all land use decisions including chairing public hearings;
- develop the Electoral Area's budget;
- participate in the hiring and evaluation of staff;
- meet with residents concerning matters of local government;
- speak on behalf of the EA to media;
- administer Grants-in Aid;
- advocate on behalf of the EA to senior government and
- participate in the development of official community plans.

In addition to sitting on the CRD Board of Directors the JDFEA regional director sits on committees of the CRD Board as well as JDFEA committees and commissions.

Here is a partial list of the committees and commissions on which the JDFEA regional director is currently expected to participate:

- CRD Land Use Committee (LUC) A
- CRD Land Use Committee (LUC) B
- CRD Electoral Area Services Committee
- Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission
- CRD Regional Parks Committee
- Regional Water Supply Commission
- Port Renfrew Utility Services Committee
- Vancouver Island Regional Library Board
- JDFEA Economic Development Commission
- Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission (SEAPARC) (Chair)
- JDFEA Land Use Committee (Chair)

The regional director also sits, ex-officio, on all JDFEA fire protection and emergency response commissions. The regional director's salary is about \$40,000 per year.

Note: The regional director used to sit on the boards of the Westshore Parks & Recreation Commission and CREST (Emergency Communications) but stepped aside because of a possible conflict of interest. The CRD Board recently allowed the JDFEA regional director to make appointments to these two boards. The positions will be advertised in March, 2014.

Next month's instalment in this series will continue with the role and responsibilities of the regional director and look at how land use and other decisions are made in the JDFEA.

14. UPDATE: SHIRLEY & JORDAN RIVER OCP REVIEW

The Shirley/Jordan River Citizens Official Community Plan (OCP) Committee met at 7:00 pm, Wednesday, February 26, 2014. Seven of ten committee members were in attendance as well as two staff from Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) Planning Services and four members of the public.

Outside agencies, that had been notified that the OCP Review process was underway, submitted three responses. Submissions were received from the Department of Fisheries (DFO), Ministry of Forests - Lands and Natural Resource Operations and OPSRRA.

The committee continued working on the Vision Statement. They were presented with a draft developed from the January 22, 2014 visioning exercise as well as information from the Community Mapping Open House held January 26, 2014. A final draft will be brought forward at the March 26, 2014 meeting. The committee was then presented with a reorganized OCP document (organized by the themes identified by the committee) which they will now work through, section by section. The committee was then guided through Policy Development for Agriculture and Resource Themes.

The next Citizens Committee meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at the Shirley Hall. Agendas, minutes and submissions are available on the CRD website: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/about-the-region/juan-de-fuca>

15. OTTER POINT HISTORY AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Otter Point history update was undertaken as part of the Otter Point Official Community Plan review. This project took two years and involved many present and former residents of Otter Point who contributed their memories and helped to update, correct and complete some of Otter Point's story.

The history covers about 100 years of European settlement in our area from the 1870s to the 1970s.

Arnie Campbell wrote the history with the help of Elida Peers, Historian with the Sooke Region Historical Society, who drew on the immense archives of the Sooke Region Museum.

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) Planning Services supported the project, and June Klassen, Manager of Planning Services for the JDFEA, gave encouragement.

A limited number of copies of the history were printed for distribution at a "thank-you" reception held at the JDF Local Area Services Building on February 26, 2014, for project participants. The remainder of the printed copies will soon be available from the JDF Local Area Services office for a nominal cost.

The history is available on the JDFEA web site: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/jdf-pdf/otter-point-history-final-feb-2014-with-cover.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

The online history will continue to be updated every year.

Anyone with questions or new information about Otter Point's history is welcome to contact Arnie Campbell c/o the JDFEA Local Area Services office located at 3-7450 Butler Road in Otter Point.

16. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

OPSRRA was registered as a corporation under the Provincial Society's Act on June 3, 1992? The association has been represented by 37 directors over the past 22 years.

OPSRRA is looking for three more directors for the future. Contact OPSRRA President Fiona McDannold if you're interested in helping to carry on the work of the Association.

Here is a list of the Association's directors; past and present:

Year(s)				
Name	Service	Secretary/ Treasurer	Vice- President	President
Rick Metcalf	1992–1993			1992–1993
Greg Whincup	1992–1999		1992–1993	1993–1999
Anita Wasuta	1992–1996	1992–1996		
Kenny Jones	1992–1996		1993–1996	
Shirley Atkinson	1992–1999	1996–1999		
Wendy Morton	1992–2005	1997		

Ken Pungente	1992–2009	1996–1999	1999–2006
Vic Tweedy	1992–2005		
Lorraine Simrose	1993–2002	1997–1999	
Manfred Maurus	1995–2002		
Marn Williams	1996–1997		
Liana Maloney	1997		
Bill Hanneson	1997		
Andrew Moore	1999–2000	1999–2000	
Ruth Eardly	1999–2000	1999–2000	
George Miller	1999–2000		
Al Jones	2000		
Arnie Campbell	2000–2014	2000–2006	2006–2013
Mitch Moneo	2001–2006		
Wendy Miller	2003–2005	2003–2005	
Frances Stock	2003–2005		
Virginia Boyd	2003–2005		
Wayne Fritz	2003–2012	2007–2011	
Jim Dexter	2005–2006	2006–2007	
David Evans	2005–2006		
Bob Phillips	2006–2014	2009–2013	2013–2014
Emma Taylor	2007–2008	2007–2008	
Maureen Nelson	2007–2008		
Sarah Tidwell	2008–2009		
John Charles	2008–2010		
Erik James	2008–2013		
Brenda Mark	2009–2014	2013–2014	
Fiona McDannold	2009–2014	2011–2013	2013–2014
Marika Nagasaka	2011–2014		
Caroline Larsen	2012–2013		

Chris Knoglinger	2013–2014
------------------	-----------

Brooke Fader	2013–2014
--------------	-----------

Do you have a question or historical information about Shirley, Jordan River or Otter Point that you want to share? Contact Arnie Campbell at 250-642-3113 or at opsrra@gmail.com

17. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS

Do you operate a small business? Are you an OPSRRA member? OPSRRA is offering a free business listing service for members, on its web site: www.opsrra.ca We will list non-members for a suitable donation!

The purpose of this service is to provide an opportunity for businesses in Jordan River, Shirley and Otter Point to advertise their goods and services to their local community. We anticipate having listings for accommodation, farm produce, art, furniture-making, fishing charters, eco-tours, firewood, knitting, soaps, landscaping, bookkeeping, sewing, spas and more. More information, businesses already listed, and an on-line registration form are available on OPSRRA's web site (www.opsrra.ca) under **Business Listings**.

Note: OPSRRA does not accept responsibility for the services provided. Always check references and ask for confirmation of Work Safe B.C. Registration if applicable.

Support local businesses. The OPSRRA web site has more information about the following business listings

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair

Accent in Grooming

A Point of View B & B

ALM Organic Farm

Beaches West B & B

Bear Home Remodelling

Birds Edge Press

Coastal Crunch Granola

Eco Craft Lights

Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suites

Farmer Notary—Shawna Farmer, Notary Public.

Full Circle Seeds

Glen's Gardening Company

Heron's Rest B & B
"In A Fix" Bookkeeping & Accounting Services
Jambo Pet Sitting Service
Kemp Lake Store Cafe
Knotty Beds by Nature and Cedar Surfboards
Le Sooke Spa
Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage
Ocean Wilderness Inn
Otter Point Beach House
Otter Point Electrical Service
Perfect Grade Plumbing
Reflexology by Marlene Barry
Road's End Construction
Sandy's Drywall Ltd
Stick in the Mud Coffee House
Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast
Three Sisters Farm
Tugwell Creek Honey Farm
Tugwell Creek Meadery
Welcome Wagon
Wildewood Custom Homes
Wood Visions

18. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER

Back issues of the OPSRRA newsletter are available on the OPSRRA web site.

This monthly newsletter is prepared by the directors of OPSRRA. It is available to members by e-mail and to others on our web site: www.opsrra.ca. To have an item you would like to have considered for placement in the newsletter, or make a comment about the newsletter, contact an OPSRRA director or email opsrra@gmail.com.

OPSRRA tries to verify the correctness of the information in this newsletter; if we got it wrong we will acknowledge that and make a correction as quickly as possible.
