

The Centre News

April 2022

cssca@shaw.ca

President's Message

Hello, members!

Spring is off to a very chilly start. My daffodils aren't sure what to make of the morning snow!

The Pancake Breakfast was very well-attended. Our thanks to chefs Roger Boutilier, Sue Tribe, and Gerie Turner. It was delicious. Also, thanks to Gerie for organizing this event and to all of the volunteers who worked diligently to make this a success. We appreciated the generous donation from Dr. Nik Tchaouchev, a local dentist, to subsidize the cost for our members.

Our AGM was held on March 24. Thanks to all who participated; we appreciated your input. Dani Alldrick and Margaret Sharples were elected for a two-year term to the Board of Directors. The remaining board members have one year left in their term. Shirley Monych and Renee Nicholls have retired from the Board and we express our gratitude for their many dedicated years as directors. Thanks to Sue Tribe for bringing all of the homemade goodies for us to enjoy after the meeting.

A Spring Celebration will be held at the Centre on May 5, 2022, at 1:15 p.m. Stelly's Secondary School Musical Department is coming back for a return engagement followed by sweets and coffee or tea. Come and support our local musical high school students. Look for further information in this newsletter.

As you know, the province lifted the vaccine mandate as of April 8, 2022. However, the Board has decided to maintain our vaccine mandate. All attendees to the Centre must continue to provide proof of full vaccination. We also ask that you do not come to the centre if you are sick or subject to self-isolation.

Dale Broad
President



(Bill Turner, Roger Boutilier and Gerie Turner at the Pancake Breakfast.)

Spring Celebration!

Mark Thursday, May 5th at 1:15 p.m. on your calendars! We are pleased to invite you to *The Sounds of Music*, an afternoon of musical selections, both vocal and instrumental, performed by the students of the Stelly School Musical Department. This variety program will begin promptly at 1:30 p.m. Following the program, beverages and home-baked treats will be available for all.

We will be selling a limit of 60 tickets for this event. Members are invited to bring **one** guest. Tickets will be **\$5 each for both members and guests**. Tickets can be purchased at the front office reception desk Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to noon. All attending must provide proof of full vaccination.

We are seeking volunteers to bring sweets, e.g. squares, cookies, and to help out in the kitchen. A sign-up sheet has been posted in the kitchen.

Please arrive by 1:15 p.m. to be seated at your chosen table.



Activities Update

By Dale Broad

Chair Yoga: Chair Yoga started on April 12, 2022, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Janet Budden is the new instructor. Space is still available and a sign-up sheet is in the front office. The monthly fee will be pro-rated for the first month, so you don't need to wait until May to join.

Whist: Some members have asked that we canvass the membership to determine whether there is sufficient interest to start a Whist group on Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. If you are interested, there will be a sign-up sheet in the front office

Centre Activity Schedule: A schedule of activities has been posted on the "News" bulletin board in the upstairs games room. More information on these activities is available from the front desk receptionist.

Happy May Birthdays!

Grace Ferg	May 1
Rosemary McClusky	May 3
Myrna Rouse	May 4
Barb Jefferies	May 5
Margaret Pollard	May 11
Nona Frew	May 11
Elizabeth Skaggs	May 13
Linda Parry	May 14
Phyllis Krenz	May 18
Elaine Hansen	May 21
May Mah-Paulson	May 22
Patricia (Pat) Bird	May 25
Shirley Roberts	May 27
Ilene Tiszauer	May 27
Bill Turner	May 28



Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA)

By Joan Boutilier

Are you experiencing difficulty reading fine print? Do you wish the local library had a

wider selection of large print and audio-books? Are you tired of waiting weeks or even months for your “holds” to become available? Is it difficult to get through a book before it needs to be returned? Maybe you qualify for an account with the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA). Registering with them may greatly enhance your reading experience.

The CELA Library is a federally-funded public service which works with our local GVPL branches to provide access to hundreds of thousands of titles in multiple formats – from Braille to e-book to audio-book. CDs can be sent to your home free of charge to read on a variety of devices, or you can download them to your computer or tablet using the free Dolphin Easy Reader app. You can find the book you want by searching the catalogue and download it to your device within a few minutes. You can telephone CELA and request that specific books be mailed to your home. You must return the book after reading, but there is no time limit.

If this sounds too good to be true, it almost is. I have encountered a few computer glitches over the years, but the technical staff at CELA are helpful and offer both tutorials and individual assistance. If you are not computer-savvy, there are a wide variety of simple readers available which use the Daisy CD format. Some of the readers are costly, but you can get good advice on what is available and the CNIB offers some equipment on loan.

If you are interested in finding out whether you qualify for a CELA account, please go to the following website and Register – no cost, no obligation.

<https://celalibrary.ca/>

Get to Know Your H2O Tours!

By Joyce Vezina

After the tour of the Hartland Landfill, it was suggested that we might participate in a tour of the Sooke Watershed in the spring.

This is a free five-hour long tour (9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). We will all meet in the parking lot at the Centre at 8:30 a.m. and travel to the pick-up point to join the bus. Please indicate whether you are willing to drive and take others with you or whether you need a ride.

I have been in touch with the CRD person who organizes these tours, and she has very kindly reserved Friday, June 17th for the CSSCA, which she will hold until mid-May.

Please add your name to the list in the office if you are interested and you are sure at this time that you will be able to go on June 17th.

More detailed information for this trip to follow in mid-May.



(Above: A group tours the watershed. Photo from the CRD website)

Click on the link below to go to the CRD website which has a lot more information about this tour.

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/service/public-tours/watershed-tours>

A Second Chance

By Joan Boutilier

“The homeless dogs and cats in animal shelters are the lucky ones,” began the introduction to Shelly Dennis-Orr’s talk. “They’re given good food, fresh water, medical treatment and the loving care of the shelter’s staff and volunteers while they await adoption.

“Many unwanted, abused or neglected animals aren’t as fortunate because they never reach sanctuary. Or, if they do, they’re considered unsuitable for adoption and rejected. These animals are often euthanized when all they need is a second chance.

“Shelly Dennis-Orr became aware of this situation when she was barely a teenager. She resolved to adopt only the pets that no one else wanted. She couldn’t help them all but she could help one or two at a time.”

The depth of Shelly’s commitment and her compassion towards ill and abandoned animals was beautifully conveyed in a compelling presentation to the Centre’s *Raconteur* program in early April. She shared photos of animals she had adopted and readily acknowledged that she has lost count of the number of rescues in which she has participated. She shared the book she has written, *The Dog Who Looked at Heaven* and a more recent novel, *Nobody’s Perfect Pets*, a “freebook” to be used to raise money for animal rescue services. Her presentation was very well received and her new book is making the rounds of the audience. Thank you, Shelly, for sharing your passion with us.

The timing of our next *Raconteur* is tragically appropriate in light of the current atrocities perpetrated in Ukraine. Gil Lightbody will be sharing her experiences in *A Child’s Memories of World War II in England*. We all grieve to hear of children

suffering and being placed at risk. Please join us on Friday, May 6 at 2 p.m. at the Centre to hear Gil’s story.

Now That’s Funny: May Edition

By Roger Boutilier

With Victor Borge’s April appearance in the *Now That’s Funny!* taillights, we move on to Friday, May 13. I have been encouraged by others, as the audience has shrunk, that I ought to let the genie out of the bottle in advance. In the past I have been reluctant to do so because I don’t want folks poring over YouTube videos early and then coming to the presentation at the Centre and falling asleep and snoring loudly, thus spoiling the ambience for those who have arrived and are surprised by the mystery comedian. Advice given ... advice taken ... reluctantly. On Friday, May 13 at 2:22 p.m. at the Centre, Mr. Peter Sellers (aka Inspector Clouseau) will be making a posthumous appearance as we watch snippets of some of his greatest characters. OK, promise me you won’t go snooping on the Tube for P.S. (Peter Sellers) before then. Come hear about the man and his legacy and THEN go home and binge-watch all the YouTube excerpts you want!

Just a Reminder...

Please remember to pull the little strings off of your masks when you discard them. Wildlife such as birds have been observed entangled in them. It just takes a second!

Library Donation Guidelines

By Krystina Manning

Our little library is up and running and appears to be enjoyed by quite a few members.

While we appreciate donations, please bear in mind the following guidelines:

- books must be in good condition
no hardcover books, please -- we just don't have room
- no nonfiction -- these books do not seem to circulate and we cannot give our limited shelf space to books that are not moving
- please, no small print - a lot of books have print that is difficult to read even with glasses, making them unpopular

Due to space restrictions, we need to carefully consider what we accept. Books that do not meet these guidelines or are found over time not to be popular will be donated to a thrift store.

Thank you for your understanding.

SO !!!!!!!!!!!

by Mary Grant

Today the world is spinning SO fast, SO busy, SO complicated, SO disturbing. It is unnerving to feel SO vulnerable to the speed and scope of change and to the loss of privacy.

On the one hand is the understanding that change is inevitable and you must learn to cope and to adapt to new ways. On the other hand is regret for the valued things being lost, the simple pleasures of the past.

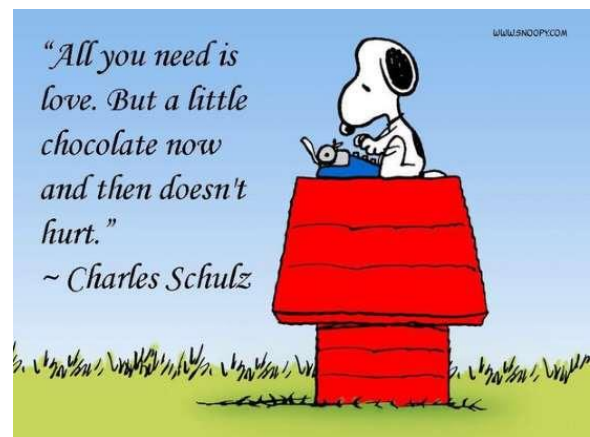
Amidst all the uncertainty and political, economic and social upheaval, it is more important than ever for people to help people. Humanitarian deeds on a large scale and individual acts of kindness on a personal level will be our saving grace.

The human spirit is strong. There is always HOPE.



Claire Cochran enjoys the Pancake Breakfast.

Peanuts!



(contributed by Shirley Roberts)

Speaker's Series

Friday, April 29th

THE BUTCHART GARDENS

A PRESENTATION BY DAWN KAYSOE

Dawn worked for over 25 years in the radio business which brought her from Alberta to our beautiful village of Brentwood Bay in 2000. After 10 years, the radio station went through some big layoffs so it was on to a new adventure for her in tourism. Not wanting to leave the island, Dawn was fortunate to have some transferrable skills which landed her in the Public Relations Department at The Butchart Gardens where Dawn has been for 11 years now. Dawn muses that she is still considered a newbie there by 'Garden standards' as they have many employees who have worked there for 25, 30, and 40 years.





BINGO IS BACK AT THE CENTRE MAY 4 AT 1 P.M.

Bingo is a major fundraiser for the Centre and will be restarted on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1 to 4 p.m. The first game will be on May 4, 2022, and the second on May 18. The doors will open at noon.

The downstairs kitchen will be closed so sweets will not be offered. Coffee and tea will be available to purchase at \$1 a cup during intermission. Please bring your own water bottle. You are welcome to bring your own snack.

Proof of full vaccination is required. We look forward to seeing you on May 4.