



West Shore Arts Council

Serving Colwood, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, View Royal

West Shore Arts Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

September 1, 2010

This newsletter is published by the West Shore Arts Council to provide West Shore Arts Council members and the community at large with news and information about arts and culture events on the West Shore.

- **Editor:** Gail Nash
- **Photos:** various people
- **Layout & design:** Gail Nash

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Submissions for arts-related articles for future newsletters are welcome; please send copy to the email address above.

WSAC office hours:

Monday, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
email:
info@westshorearts.org
telephone: 250-478-2286
fax: 250-478-5591

Mailing address: PO Box 28090, RPO Canwest, Victoria, BC V9B 6K8

Website:
www.westshorearts.org

ABOUT THE WSAC

The West Shore Arts Council [WSAC] is an umbrella organization, serving not only its individual members but also the membership of groups, guilds, arts collectives, arts centres, and associations such as "Fibres and Beyond", Metchosin Arts and Cultural Association, Juan de Fuca Arts and Crafts Guild, Sooke Philharmonic Society. On behalf of these associations the arts council applies for grants from the Provincial Government through the British Columbia Arts Council, and from the municipalities of Langford, View Royal, Metchosin and the Highlands. Funds received are used to sponsor artistic, cultural and community events. A non-profit society, the West Shore Arts Council relies on support from local government and the work of volunteers. It liaises with educational institutions and community associations to carry out its mandate to promote arts and culture on the West Shore.

SPONSORSHIP

The West Shore Arts Council sponsors the highly successful Stinking Fish Studio Tour and the West Shore Studio Tour. It sponsors art exhibitions, concerts of classical music and jazz, performances by local bands at the Highland Fling and the Luxton Fall Fair. For the past four years WSAC has sponsored the major student art show in the West Shore, held first at

Belmont Secondary School, and then at Royal Roads University during the "Mothers' Day Paint In". WSAC has sponsored the West Shore Quilters' Guild's Biennial exhibition, the Blacksmiths' International Exhibition, and awarded many prizes to emerging artists, both young and old. WSAC promotes First Nations art and dance at many events in different municipalities. Multiculturalism is also promoted through its support of a Japanese art, music and poetry festival and a Russian film festival, both held in Metchosin. WSAC holds many literary events which introduce the work of local authors to audiences on the West Shore. Local poets and novelists such as Susan Musgrave, Patricia Young, Terence Young, Marilyn Bowering, Lorna Crozier, Patrick Lane and S.M.Steele have read from their most recent works. Internationally renowned artists such as Pat Martin Bates and Robin Hopper have given illustrated talks. Famous English composer Gavin Bryars, a summer resident of Metchosin, has spoken on the art of composing.

COMMUNITY GREEN MAPS

A major initiative of WSAC has been the launching of community green mapping in four municipalities on the West Shore. The Highlands Community Green Map, a

continued on page 2 ...

*Community Green Maps,
continued from page 1*

successful community project, united artists, historians and scientists in portraying the beauty of the Highlands landscape and the geological, climatic and water factors that have determined its rural heritage. A Metchosin map is nearing

completion, a Langford map is in progress, and a View Royal map will begin in the Fall. An offshoot of the mapping experience is the brochure on “Emily Carr on the West Shore”, which will be printed this Fall.

That'll Do, the Metchosin Store Mural Project.

By Kay Lovett

Is there anything more daunting or enticing to an artist than a blank canvas?

Graffiti artists are the bane of towns and cities everywhere, and graffiti can be defined in many ways, from a simple stencilled symbol to the sprawling tags with unreadable words & comic book images. The corner store in Metchosin seemed to be tagged every time the owners could get around to re-painting. With the evolution of the Metchosin Arts & Cultural Association (MACCA) the idea to design and paint a mural on that fabulous 54'x8' wall was born.

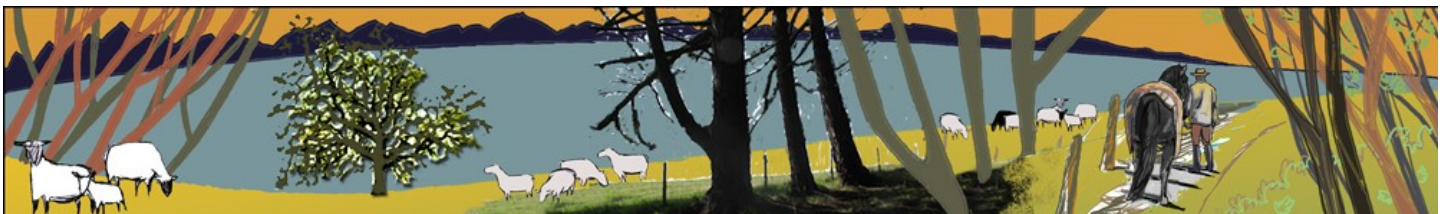
I moved into my new studio space with Kathy and Selby Saluke about a year ago ...sometime in the fall we started to think, “wouldn't it be great to paint something over that wall ... add colour, add interest ... (add another thing to the “to do” list)”.

Over the winter, we thought up some ideas for a design, and by early spring I had the image ready in my mind... I brought in elements from photographs of Devonian Park, the bridle trail and the iconic Garry Oak in the field. The sheep are a nod to my good friend Jimmy Wright, for who, I worked when he lived and painted in

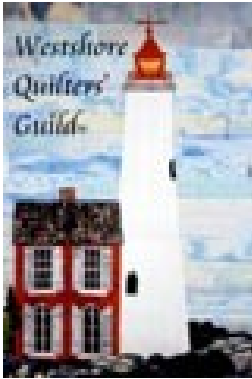
Metchosin. He was working on a series of landscapes and called me up one day, “hey, little buddy ... can you draw me a sheep (or 15?)”. The horse and rider walking into the scene draw you into the landscape. The Border Collie was added by special request of Mary Gidney, who fearlessly champions for all the artists of MACCA.

A few actual design layers later, using pencil on paper, photos and Photoshop, I had the proposal ready to present to Council, and it was approved at the beginning of May. We've had a good dozen friends and relatives help us get the wall prepped and the mural painted – (a complete list of those who participated will be available at MACCA.)

The paint was generously donated by ICI Paints and the community has contributed to cover the cost of the “Vandalgard” clear coat ... not that we think it would be tagged again; there is a code of respect amongst artists not to paint over good work done. The clear coat will also protect the mural from moss build-up and of course, the occasional bird art critic.



**Westshore
Quilters' Guild**



At their monthly meetings, the Westshore Quilters' Guild offers members and guests an opportunity to meet others who have the same interests. They have open, informal meetings and all levels of quilters are welcome. Their "Show and Share" is very popular: everyone is welcome to bring a quilt of any size to show the other attendees. Usually there is a story attached to the piece of work which they all enjoy hearing about. The meetings also include speakers or demonstrations, with an informal get-together with tea and coffee at the end.

Membership currently stands at over 120 and is growing. Membership fees are \$25 per year. Guests pay \$3, which is deducted from the membership fee if the guest decides to join the guild at that meeting.

Other benefits of membership: monthly sewing bees, both evenings and during the day; satellite groups, whose activities include making quilts to donate to charities as well as making new friends.; borrowing books from the guild's ever-expanding library.

Westshore Charity Quilt Society

Very special quilt projects are made by the guild and donated to Transition House and other local charities.

Meeting location:

Pilgrim United Church
3319 Painter Road, Victoria, B.C. V9C 2H7

Dates and times:

the 4th Thursday of each month, with meeting times alternating between evenings at 7 p.m. and mornings at 9:30 a.m. To find out about their next meeting date and time, visit their website : www.westshorequiltersguild.com

**Juan de Fuca Arts and
Crafts Guild**



Holiday Gifts Galore

35th Annual Christmas Sale

Free Admission & Free Prize Draws

Saturday November 13, 2010

9:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday November 14, 2010

11:30am to 4:00pm

Location:

St. Joseph's School Gym
757 Burnside Road West
Saanich, BC



Announcement:

"Hidden Heart of a Woman"

Sheryl Guzauskas was married to Darin Parsons May 22, 2010 and would like to announce that her name has been changed to Sheryl Parsons. Visit her updated website at www.sherylspaintings.com



Sustainability "U"

Karen Brown

With so much focus on global sustainability, how much time and energy are we actually devoting to the more personal aspects of balance and wholeness...the human prospect?

Please join us **October 7th, 2010 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** in the **Mews Conference Centre** at Royal Roads University for a *free-to-the-public* evening showcasing leading edge and innovative personal sustainability practices in short half-hour preview sessions as a glimpse into the full courses offered throughout the year in Continuing Studies.

Explore fearless painting, story-telling, theatre arts, journaling, and the ancient art

of tea leaf reading as a way to tap into your creativity and intuition. Or, if you are curious about the healing arts, discover basic Shiatsu, Qi Gong, or meditation practice. Sample healthy living through whole and wild foods, the 100 mile diet, permaculture by design, eco-system based living and the study of traditional plant knowledge called ethnobotany. Learn about how our own wild nature is best contextualized in the natural world through the lens of integral ecology and ecopsychology ...and more!

Please RSVP - September 30th by calling 250-391-2600 ext. 4801.

Sponsored by the WestShore Arts Council

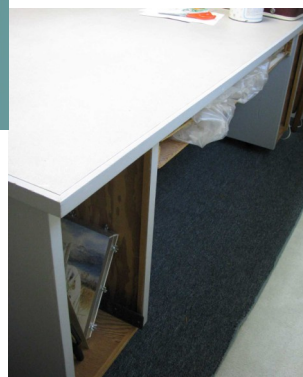
Juan de Fuca Community Orchestra

The Juan de Fuca Community Orchestra, an all-string ensemble, invites new players for its 2010/2011 season which runs from September to May. Rehearsing Wednesday evenings at the Juan de Fuca Seniors' Centre, the group prepares for concerts in November/December and April/May. Performances are given at senior residences and the Juan de Fuca Seniors' Centre. The music varies from classical composers, such as Bach, Mozart, Debussy, and Holst, to selections from musicals, movie themes, and old favourites.

If you have experience playing first or second violin, viola, cello, or bass, contact: 250 474-2149 for further information.



front view



back view

FOR SALE: Purpose-built art table, particularly useful for watercolour painter. Dimensions: top 74 1/2" x 50"; height 27 1/4" including 2 1/2" castors. Both of the front end sections have cupboards and shallow drawers for storage. Centre back has a flat storage section 34" x 44", ideal for full sheets of watercolour paper and matting; there is open storage on the sides. Top work surface of very thin formica, matte finish in pale grey; wooden portions also painted pale grey. Has a knee hole for sitting on both long sides. Constructed with screws so the table may be dismantled for ease of transporting. \$500 o.b.o. 250-478-7280; domday41@shaw.ca

EMILY CARR: ARTIST AND WRITER

[1871-1945]

Elaine Limbrick

Emily Carr made many visits and camping trips to Metchosin during her lifetime. She loved to sketch and paint its lovely coastline, dramatic sea and sky scapes, and dense forests. Until Metchosin's incorporation in 1984, Metchosin formed a vast electoral district next to that of Esquimalt to the east, Langford to the north, and Sooke to the west. Consequently, Emily's use of Metchosin as a place name does not always correspond to present municipal boundaries, and included the gravel pits at Royal Bay and Braden Mountain, now in the Sooke Wilderness Regional Park.

As a child, Emily summered at the 180 acre Helgesen farm off Rocky Point Road, whose driveway became the present Lombard Road. As a mature artist, during the greatest period of her work (1931-1945), Emily frequently visited Metchosin. In September 1931 Emily camped at Maude McVicker's farm in Metchosin. Sketches of the woods done then inspired her painting "The Little Pine", which was exhibited in The Group of Seven exhibition at the Art Gallery of Toronto in December 1931.

In May 1932, accompanied by her friend, Edythe Hembroff, Emily set off for an abandoned hunting cabin on Braden Mountain. Edythe Hembroff states that it was there that Emily made the sketch for "Grey", her metaphysical homage to Lawren Harris, member of The Group of Seven, who encouraged Emily to change the focus of her painting away from the "Indian material" to the British Columbia landscape. Emily's first camping trip in "The Elephant" to Metchosin, in May 1934, was quite disastrous. She stayed down on the beach at Esquimalt Lagoon and was rained out, so that the caravan had to be hauled to the top of the hill on Metchosin Road. She camped in a dry sunny field

owned by a Scottish farmer, Mr. Stratheed. "Above the Gravel Pit" (1936) was painted from sketches done there.

Three Metchosin studies: "Metchosin", "Stumps and Sky", and "Mrs. Jones Farm", exemplify Emily's new approach to painting. June and September 1935 saw Emily camping at Albert Head. Some of the most inspiring paintings of her whole career resulted from stays at Albert Head Lagoon: "BC Forest", "Scorned as Timber, Beloved of the Sky", "Sea and Sky", "Strait of Juan de Fuca", "Blue Sky", "Loggers' Culls", "Abandoned House in Metchosin", "Lagoon at Albert Head". In June and September 1936 Emily camped at the Spencer's sheep farm overlooking the gravel pits in Metchosin.

In May 1940 Emily was well enough to rent a little shack in the grounds of a private estate near the gravel pits in Metchosin. She produced many sketches full of the joy of spring.

Emily's last visit to Metchosin was in her seventieth year. The spring of 1942 was particularly lovely and Emily longed to escape into real woods. She persuaded her sister and a friend to drop her off in a clearing on Happy Valley Road. There Emily sketched away, "happy in the quiet wood, nobody for company but Spring". Emily's belief in the life force present in nature is celebrated in "The Clearing, Happy Valley Road".



Metchosin's 2nd annual Apple Festival is being planned for Sunday October 17. It will be a free fun family event being held on the grounds of the Metchosin Community House at 4430 Happy Valley Road from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The activities include children's events such as free crafts, apple toss, face-painting, catapult apple hurling and other events such as free adult educational workshops on apple tree care, cider and wine-making demonstrations, dried apple and apple-sauce demos and tasting. Concessions will be served such as apple marinated ham-on-rye sandwiches, apple/onion soup, and apple crisp. Folks also will have the opportunity to buy home-made baking at the Bake Table. The Farmer's Market will also be open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. so mark your calendars for this special event.



Fabulous apple dessert raffle. These apple-theme cakes were made and donated by Dauna Neveaux



Peeling apples for the apple pie-making station

Photos from the 2009 Apple Festival

Metchosin Day Sunday, September 12, 2010,
from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. — a full day of family fun!

With vendors, local produce, artists, entertainment, food, horses, hayrides, run/walk race, firefighters, pet show, demonstrations, cake, pie and photography contests, and a Tea Room at the Metchosin Community House.

Come together and enjoy all that is Metchosin.

Calendar of Events

- August 29 — Famous English composer Gavin Bryars, poet Marilyn Bowering and musician Bill Linwood discuss their new jazz opera "Any one can see that I love you", based on the life of Marilyn Monroe, at the Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road, Metchosin, 7-30 to 9-30 p.m.
- September 1 — Readings of new works by Patricia Young: "The Auto Eroticism of Swings" and by Terence Young: "The End of the Ice Age" at Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road, Metchosin, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- September 11 — *Highland Fling*. Music by Daniel Lapp and Friends at the Caleb Pike House, 12 noon to 4:00 p.m.
- September 12 — *Metchosin Day*. Metchosin Municipal Hall grounds: arts and crafts, community mapping information booth
- September 17 to 19 — *Luxton Fall Fair* at the Luxton Fair Grounds. Visit the First Nations Exhibition and West Shore Quilters' Guild exhibition
- October 7 — *Sustainability "U"* at Royal Roads University, 7 to 9:30 p.m. (see article p. 4)
- October 17 — 2nd annual *Metchosin Apple Festival* (see article above)
- October 24 — Concert by the 4+1 *Wind Quintet* and *Two Flutes & a Violin Trio* at old St. Mary the Virgin Church (near corner of Happy Valley and Metchosin Roads). 2 p.m. Admission by donation.
- November 26 to 28 — *Stinking Fish Studio Tour*, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- December 3 — *Starry, Starry Night* at WSAC Office, 5 to 7 p.m. Admission by donation to local food bank.
- December 5 — Sooke Philharmonic performs Handel's *Messiah* at New St. Mary's Church, Metchosin, 2:30 p.m.
- March 25-27, 2011 — West Shore Quilters' Guild presents their biennial exhibition "*Quilts along the Shore*", at Eagle Ridge Community Centre, Langford