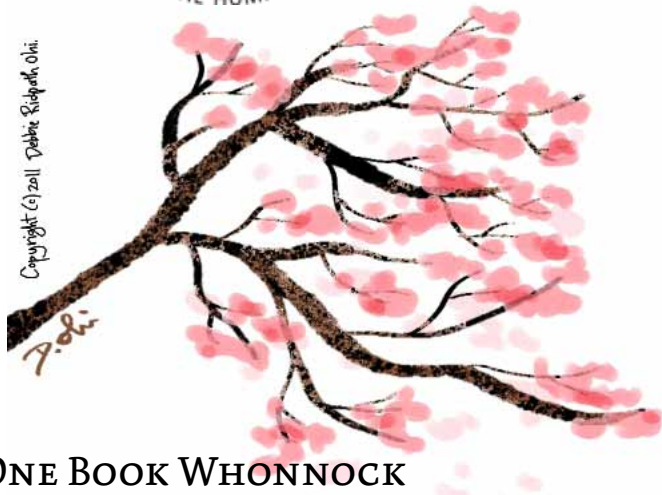




Published by the Whonnock Community Association

WHONNOCK NEWS

SPRING 2012



ONE BOOK WHONNOCK

In the spring of 2011, Jean Davidson and Sue Adair launched the "One Book Whonnock" project. Now the time has come for all readers of *Obasan* to get together and talk about the book with each other. That neighbourhood event will happen on Thursday, March 29 at Whonnock Lake Centre. Tea at 7:15. The discussion starts at 7:30. We hope you will come along to talk about the book.

Please call Sue Adair 604-462-7520 or Jean Davidson 604-462-7341 to confirm that you will attend or any questions you may have about the event, the book, or the project.

CONGRATULATIONS!

At a ceremony on Thursday, February 22, Mayor Ernie Daykin presented Trudi Desrochers and Steve Bentley with an award on behalf of the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission. The Heritage Building Award recognizes Trudi and Steve's continuing efforts in keeping the heritage property at 26903 River Road in the same way it was when Brian and Isabel Byrnes lived there.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

Since 2005 the Whonnock Community Association invites volunteers from Whonnock, Ruskin and Thornhill for a yearly dinner at Whonnock Lake Centre. This year the event starts at 5:00 on Sunday, April 1. At the dinner the Association also recognizes outstanding volunteers as "Volunteer of the Year." That distinction in previous years went to:

Trevor Taylor 2005
Margaret Norman 2006
Sue Schultze 2007
Yukiko Tanaka 2008
Rick Hammer 2008
Jean Ruttan 2009
Melanie Snell 2010
Marie Slessor 2011
Scot Henney 2011



AS ALWAYS...

our Easter Egg Hunt will start at 1:00 PM sharp on Easter Sunday, April 8th!

Rain or shine!

The Easter Bunny is looking for volunteers to do some very rewarding assignments for the event.

If you are willing and interested to help please call Cheryl at 604-462-8212.

This issue of WHONNOCK NEWS was prepared and edited by Noreen Woods and produced by Fred Braches

The Whonnock Community Association meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM, at Whonnock Lake Centre



ABOUT US

The Whonnock Community Association is alive and well. Although small in number and volunteers we enjoy those events, programs and meetings we are able to offer to the local public.

We operate WHONNOCK LAKE CENTRE from the day we built it back in 1988; almost quarter of a century ago!

We publish this NEWSLETTER twice a year and it goes to more than a thousand addresses, offering all organizations in Whonnock and Ruskin a free means to tell our residents who they are and what they are doing. We welcome their input.

We are maintaining a WEB SITE and two blogs to tell the world who we are and what we do.

We protect the historical records of our communities in the WHONNOCK ARCHIVES.

Each year we grant a WHONNOCK BURSARY of \$1,000 to a worthy grade 12 student committed to furthering her or his education at a college, trade school, or university.

Our annual VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION dinner is coming up April 1, followed the next weekend by the very popular Easter Egg Hunt.

We support the ONE BOOK WHONNOCK group and are looking forward to a discussion forum on the novel Obasan scheduled for March 29th at the Whonnock Lake Centre.

We are also working on a new, family-oriented indoors children's event at Whonnock Lake Centre on November 18th. This event will replace our Whonnock Lake Day for this year.

The 2012 NEW YEAR'S EVE dinner and dance is already in the planning stages. Thank you to Merle Chambers for taking that on.

Our MEETINGS are held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of the month except for a break in the summer and December. We are a very casual group and agenda items can be added on the night if you would like to speak on or bring up an issue or event of interest. Please feel free to drop in just to listen as well, we promise not to volunteer you for anything!

Some items of general interest that have come up at recent meetings include the "Lake Whonnock Resort" across the lake currently in 2nd reading at the District. Worrying is a proposed gravel pit on Blue Mountain and the associated increased truck traffic along Dewdney and up and down 272nd street.

We wish all residents of the communities of Whonnock, Ruskin and Thornhill a great spring and summer —enjoying the outdoors or settling indoors with a good book (or newsletter) in your favourite chair.



RUSKIN HALL

The Ruskin Hall is situated at the corner of 284th Street and 96th Avenue in picturesque Ruskin. Community meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30. Visitors are always welcome.

The hall is available for rental at nightly or hourly rates. For rental information contact our booking agent Shannon at 604-462-7642.

HATHA FLOW YOGA classes are again being offered by Kim Rondquist, Wednesday nights at 7:30. Hatha Flow Yoga uses breathing to bring fluidity and flow to stretches and poses. Everyone welcome, drop-in rates available. For information contact Kim at 604-462-4284.

FAMILY NIGHT may be moved to the third Saturday of each month. Join the gang for games and adventure. For more information contact Tony Brown via our phone (604-462-9739) or e-mail (ruskinhall@yahoo.ca).

Our BREAKFAST WITH SANTA on December 10 was a great success. Watch for our advertisements next year and come join the fun and hospitality.

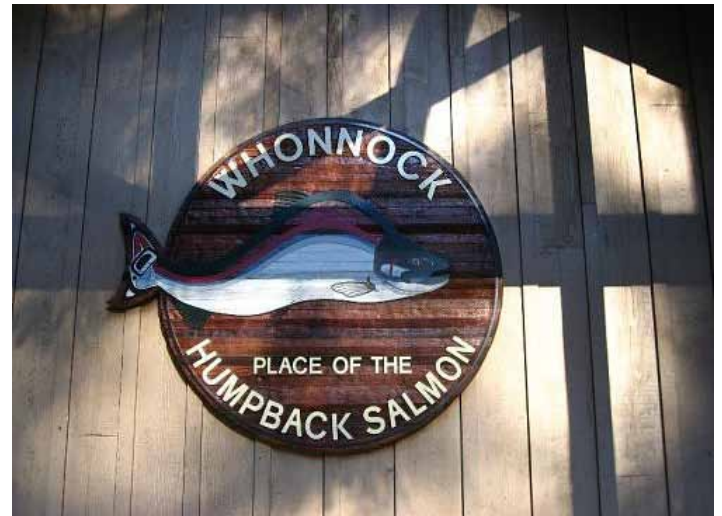
The members of the Ruskin Hall wish you all well during the upcoming season.

WHONNOCK BURSARY GRADUATION IS FAST APPROACHING!

We encourage all grade 12 students who reside in or have been a resident of Whonnock to apply to the Whonnock Community Association for this \$1,000 bursary.

To qualify for this bursary, we look at an applicant's marks which must show a commitment to furthering their education at college, trade school or university. We also look at a student's history of volunteering either in the community, the school or other worthy cause. Finally we assess financial need.

Please check with your school counsellor for more information and/or an application form. Good luck to all applicants.



THORNHILL HALL & COMMUNITY

We have had a very good year of hall rentals in 2011 and hope to continue in 2012. Our new drilled well is serving our community hall with plenty of quality water. We can now rent the hall steadily throughout the summer months without any concern of having water shortages.

The Frisbie Golf Game that is set up in the Park continues to be well used by locals as well as groups who travel from Vancouver because they love the treed park setting.

With support from the Maple Ridge Foundation and money raised by the hall rentals, we purchased new folding chairs for our hall.

We are planning a fund-raising dance on March 31st with a live Old Time Rockn' Roll band, Circle of Friends. The money will go toward refinishing the wood floors and replacing the front deck of the hall.

The volunteer members work hard to maintain the hall in good shape and are pleased to keep this hall for our community.



Klaus & Betty von Hardenberg
Phone/Fax: 604.462.9244
Email: info@vonhardenbergcandles.com
9730 Spilsbury Street
Maple Ridge, BC Canada V2W 1K7

WHONNOCK LAKE CENTRE

Our beautiful hall is still very busy with various clubs, programs, preschools and weddings even through the rainy winter months.

Bookings for the this year have left only a few days open for 2012 as the hall is a very sought after venue for events. Saturdays for 2013 are already booked up for six months of that year and only winter Saturdays are left. Most Fridays all year are still available for bookings.

There will be a Community Family Day at the Hall on November 18th in the afternoon. This event will be a Children's Day of fantastic entertainment and enjoyment geared toward the younger crowd but fun for all.

The hall is in need of someone who wishes temporary, very part-time employment on the weekends. Must be very well experienced with cleaning procedures, washing hall floors and able to help lift tables. Please call Cheryl 604-462-8212 till March 30, 2012 only for details. Start date in April. Thank you.

Wishing everyone a good start of summer.



LAKESIDE PRESCHOOL

Located on beautiful Whonnock Lake in the Whonnock Lake Centre, this bright well-equipped preschool offers a variety of experiences for 3-to-5-year-olds.

Our aim is to provide each child with exciting and stimulating experiences in a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

For ongoing registration phone Mrs. Kilsby at 604-462-0026 to reserve your child's space in one of our programs.

CornerStone NEIGHBOURHOOD CHURCH

CornerStone Church, meeting in the North Fraser Event Centre (9975 - 272 Street) has been in Whonnock since 2010. The church began as Albion Fellowship Baptist Church, but when we moved to Whonnock, the Albion name didn't "fit" anymore. We chose our new name because we believe Jesus is the "cornerstone" on which our church is built!

CornerStone is a family-friendly, multi-generational church with the motto, "Come as you are." The atmosphere is casual and warm. Services are Sunday at 10 AM, with Sunday School during the service. During the week, we have programs for Jr. Hi youth on Monday, Brigade boy's club on Tuesday, Women's Bible study fellowship Wednesday morning, and Sr. Hi youth Wednesday evening.

Events and activities planned for this year include celebrating our 10th birthday in March; CornerStone Days in June on the anniversary of coming to Whonnock; Movies Under the Stars in the warm days of summer, and in the fall Christianity Explored, a multimedia look into the basics of the Christian faith.

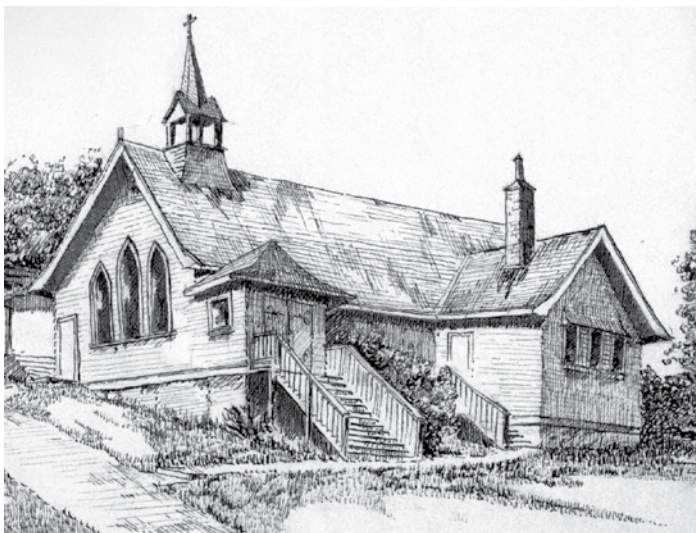
Whether you're a "seasoned pro" or just looking into what life's all about, you'll find a place at CornerStone. For more info see our website, www.cornerstoneneighbourhood.com



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

All are welcome to our services which start at 10:00 am every Sunday: come and find out what a friendly bunch we are, and stay for a cup of tea or coffee afterwards!

You can find us at 27123 River Road (take the turning for 272nd off the Lougheed Highway). For more information you can call our message centre on 604-462-7933 or visit our Web site www.HolySpiritAnglican.ca.



WILDWOOD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Sunday Services are held at 10:30 am (10810 272nd St.)

What is your heart longing for? People often come to church hoping to find answers to life, to find support in times of crisis, acceptance and love, to develop positive friendships. We define "fellowship" as "the oneness of spirit that comes when two friends are on the same side of a struggle."

You are welcome! People matter to God and they matter to us! We believe you will find us to be a small church with a big heart where "people know your name and people are glad you came."

If you're looking to find a place to belong where you can learn about and live out a relevant faith, then we invite you to experience the community of Wildwood Fellowship Church. We are a family-oriented, nondenominational community church.

We want to come alongside you in your faith journey, knowing that ultimately Jesus Christ is the One who can truly satisfy the inner longings of your heart.

More info? Please call Pastor Arnold Tracey at 604-287-6963

RIDGE CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB

The Ridge Canoe & Kayak Club, located at beautiful Whonnock Lake, welcomes everyone to come out and give paddling a try! Information about the club and its programs and events can be found on the Web site at www.rckc.ca.



WHONNOCK YOUTH OUTREACH

A component of Maple Ridge's Youth Outreach Initiative, Whonnock Youth Outreach hosts activities with the area residents, volunteers, parents and the Community Association to develop social and recreational opportunities.

Monday: 7:00 - 9:00 pm. For more information, contact Brian Patel at 604-467-7448 or Megan MacMillan at 604-467-7497.



WHONNOCK T.O.P.S. LOCAL # 4522

TOPS - is a non-profit organization that helps children from age 7 to 18 and adults, to improve their health and well being.

We meet at the Wildwood Fellowship Church Mondays at 6:30 pm. Come and visit with us - we have fun and successful weight loss. Phone Carolyn , 604-462-1213 or Lori Button, 604-463-7355 for more info.

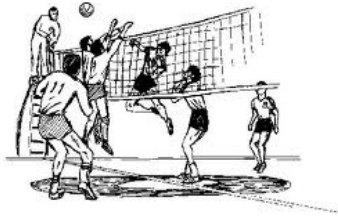
For information on other chapters in Maple Ridge phone Sandra at 604-462-9985..

WHONNOCK VOLLEYBALL

This is a social drop-in volleyball evening for adults and it is sponsored by the Whonnock Community Association.

Donations are gratefully accepted and will go to the association. Depending on time, we play 3 games or more. Players of all skills are welcome.

Location: Whonnock Elementary Gym
Wednesday, 7:30 - 9:00 PM.



WHONNOCK DROP-IN

Age: 10-14 yrs

A FREE teen session for those wanting to hang out with their friends and be active. No session December 26 or January 2.

Location: Whonnock Elementary

Mondays 7:00-9:00 pm

Call 604-467-7354 for more information.

WHONNOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

For information about Whonnock Elementary and upcoming events please visit the school's Web site at whonnock-school.sd42.ca.

MONTESORI CORNER

The Montessori Corner is a private educational organization dedicated to providing quality education with high academic standards in a warm loving environment. We offer preschool and kindergarten programs in two different locations, Websters Corners and Thornhill.

For more information visit <<http://montessoricorner.ca/>>, e-mail <info@montessoricorner.ca>, or call Ms. Debora Vieira at 604-462-1400.

MUSIC IN ME! STUDIO

PRIVATE PIANO LESSONS

- Classical Certification (with Royal Conservatory)
- Recreational music (chording, playing by ear)
- Worship styles (improvise, play in a band)
- Contemporary styles (Pop, Jazz & Blues)

Eleanor Tracey. Phone: 604-287-6963

www.musicinme.musicteachershelper.com



WHONNOCK WEAVERS & SPINNERS

The Whonnock Weavers and Spinners had a very busy fall and winter and were very happy to see many of you at our 31st Annual Open House in November. We will be back again on the last Sunday of November in 2012, so mark November 25th on your calendar.

We are looking forward to a spring spinning workshop this April with Judith Mackenzie.

Our meetings are held in the pre-school room of the Whonnock Lake Centre on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. We usually try to have a short business meeting followed by a program. We frequently also meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month, but these meetings may be at member's homes.

We always welcome new members, so if you are interested in the fibre arts and wish to join us, simply come to a meeting. If you would like more information, please phone Marie at 604-462-9059



WHONNOCK WALKERS

Contact: Maureen 604 467-5772

Meeting Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

Day/Time: Monday, Wednesday Friday at 9:15 am.

BYRNES BURSARY .

The Whonnoch Foundation's Byrnes Bursary program grants amounts of up to \$2,000 per four-month period to students from east Maple Ridge enrolled in a college, university, trade school or other post-secondary establishment, with a proven record of good performance in post-secondary education.

For more about the Whonnock Foundation and the terms of reference of the Byrnes Bursary visit: <<http://whonnock.ca/whonnock/Foundation.htm>>

Present Byrnes Bursary recipients are: Alyssa Peletier, Megan Rogers, Michelle Vandermoor and Rosanna Wijenberg.



IRON MOUNTAIN MOVEMENT AT WHONNOCK LAKE CENTRE

If you don't climb the mountain, you can't see the view.

- "Pilates By The Lake" at Whonnock Lake Centre on Monday evenings.
- Small group sessions at private Studio in Whonnock (morning and evening sessions),
- Outdoor programs.

For more information visit the Web site: www.ironmountainmovement.com. Or call Keri Cawthorne at 604 462 1059.

AT WHONNOCK LAKE CENTRE

Nia is Fitness & Fun Through Movement & Music. Join us weekly on Tuesday nights 7pm at Whonnock Lake Center.

Nia blends dance, martial arts, and healing arts (breathing and yoga), to create a dynamic fitness and lifestyle practice that makes exercise FUN.

Come dance, kick, shake, stretch, and laugh with us!

You CAN dance your way to health!

Visit www.TheDanceofHealth.com or call Sharolyn at 604.623.4888 for more information.

INTERESTED IN YOGA?

Ready to de-stress after the holiday season? Looking to work towards those healthy goals that you've set for yourself in 2012?

Then join us for weekly Yoga practice each and every Wednesday from 7:00-8:00pm

at Whonnock Lake Centre. Enjoy a mild practice that is sure to lengthen your muscles, quiet your mind and inspire you to connect with your body.

Drop-in, \$10 or \$8 with two (2) non-perishable food item donations

Seniors (65+), only \$5

To pre-register or for more information, please e-mail us at jaimie@jaimiestokes.ca



Opposite some pictures from the *Whonnock & Ruskin History 2012* calendar. The large presence of Japanese people in Whonnock and Ruskin before the Second World War is mostly forgotten.

WEST COAST SHOTOKAN KARATE



Whonnock Children's karate is going strong every Monday and Wednesdays from 4:30pm to 6:00 pm. Teaching two classes a night kicking off with Tiny Tigers program for ages 4 to 10 yrs old. Come on by and speak with Sensei Andrew Johnson and try a free class.

604 834 1050 cell, 604 459 8340 office, andrewjohnson306@gmail.com

FREE SPIRIT YOGA AND PILATES

Experience the joy of movement in our peaceful, Zen, boutique style home studios inspired by nature. Our Thornhill studio is nestled in a serene forest setting and has been freshly renovated to include a wood-burning fireplace.



Free Spirit offers Yoga, Pilates and fitness classes for students of all levels and ages.

Classical Hatha Yoga, Vinyasa flow, Infrared Hot Yoga, Yin, Gentle Therapeutic Yoga, Yoga/Pilates fusion, family yoga, trx suspension training and Yoga teacher training.

No need to bring anything—we supply all necessary props and have loaner mats. Dress comfortably in layers.

2 locations to serve you.

Thornhill location: 26098 102 Ave. Maple Ridge.

Rockridge location: 13354 237 A. St, Maple Ridge

Please call Julia prior to dropping in 604-463-0346 or email julia@freespirtityoga.ca

Website: www.freespirtityoga.ca

New students please mention that you read about us in *Whonnock News* and come and try a free class.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 29th – "One Book Whonnock" discussion.

April 1st – Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

April 8th – Easter Egg Hunt.

May 17th – Whonnock Community Association AGM.

HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

Whonnock Lake Centre 604 462 8212

Whonnock Post Office 604 462 7519

Whonnock Elementary 604 462 4612



TOP: Most of the children attending Ruskin elementary school during the school year 1936-1937 were of Japanese origin. Their teacher was Miss Jones. A few years later Christena Jones married John Aicken who she met at a dance at Ruskin Hall.

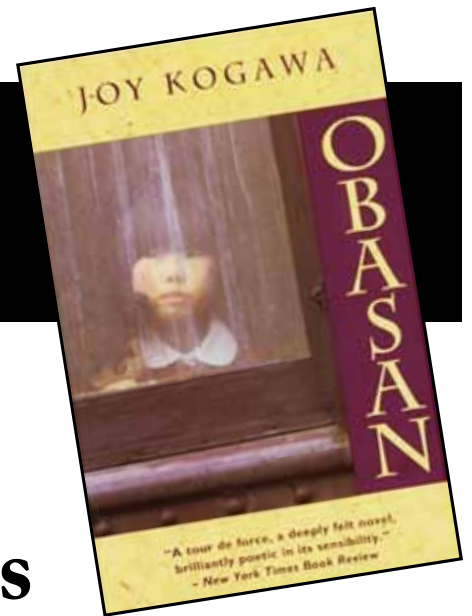
ABOVE: Maehara children. Their parents farmed on lots on both sides of 100th Avenue at 256th Street, including the lot where the Thornhill School was later built

RIGHT: Unidentified woman and child, probably living in Ruskin.

“One Book Whonnock”

Open to those who live, work, go to school or go to church in Whonnock, Thornhill & Ruskin.

OBASAN *by Joy Kogawa*



Come and talk about this book with your neighbours

Whonnock Lake Centre

Thursday March 29, 2012

7:15 for tea • 7:30–8:45 for discussion

Think about: What moment in the book had the most impact on you? What did you like or not like about the book? What did you learn about your neighbourhood and about Canadian society?

Please bring any anecdotes or memorabilia you have of the long-ago presence of Japanese-Canadians in this area.

Please let Sue (604.462.7520) or Jean (604.462.7341) know you will be attending.

One Book Whonnock is endorsed by the **Whonnock, Thornhill & Ruskin** Community Associations. Whonnock Community Association has kindly provided the venue and refreshments for this evening.