



Denman Conservancy Association

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 60, Denman Island, B.C. V0R 1T0

October 2006

LARK FOR THE PARK CONSERVANCY GALA

Friday 20th October at the Denman Community Hall

Join us for this celebration of our struggles and successes over the past 15 years
and a fundraiser for Central Park.



Music by

Randy Duncan, Kevin Mitchell, Jennifer West

&

Todd Butler

Central Park Bought by DCA

The transfer of title took place at the end of September. Central Park is the 147 acres strategically located for public access across from the Old School on Denman Road. It is also a linchpin in a Protected Area Network for the Island, part of a chain of natural areas along its spine. Immediately to the northwest are major Crown Land blocks, Inner Island Nature Reserve and the 160 acres of former 4064 lands that is part of the legal settlement. Central Park also has the potential to link across the Island towards Beadnell Creek and Fillongly Park. Its major ecological assets are the long wetland areas, one of which is visible from Denman Road, at the Graveyard Marsh.

Walk in the Park with J Thornton on Saturday
October 14 Details on Page 3

Settlement of the Legal Case against 4064 Investments Ltd.

As we go to press we are very close to completion of the settlement. If it were possible to compare a ten-year legal saga to a board game, in Snakes and Ladders we would be past the head of the last snake and only have to throw the exact number on the dice to reach Home.

The realignment of boundaries by the Komas Bluff, technically a subdivision, but without a change in density, has been completed. This leaves only the final step of completion of the sale of 4064 properties, transfer of the settlement land, filing covenants and ending the legal case, all this to be completed simultaneously!

The Legal Committee: Patti Willis, John Millen, Roxanna Mandryk, Juan Barker.

Lark for the Park

They're sayin come and join in A Lark for the Park
The Community Hall on a dark Friday night
Do they have the right stuff to do it up right
For a Lark in the Park?

They say come and join us - a Lark for the Park
But we've seen all they do is to work in Committees
In the Boardrooms and backrooms
with ideas from cities.
So how could Conservancy set it up right
And crank a good party on that Friday night
As a Lark for the Park?

See, they're starting off early with music and food,
Kev Mitchell's playing is setting a mood
Y'know what I'm sayin with that music playin
We'll be dropping in, popping in, stopping and stayin.
More music from Randy Duncan and Jennifer West
And Merve Wilkinson there as a much honoured guest.
There's incentives to come extraordinary dressed
And magic trix; have you guessed?
By Ariel and Rochelle, and for the best of the rest
Todd Butler the singing, satirical dude
will play us his songs and so see you through.

Y'know what I mean, DCA aint just the machine
There's Rockin Lee Andra, the Carmen Mirandas
There's movers and groovers and makers and shakers.
They're not only Nay sayers
They're music and game players.

So you're askin me, like, should we join them that
night?
An I'm sayin keep it real, it's a really good deal.
Check that date with a mark, and when it gets dark
get down to the Hall, dressed like for a Ball
to the Lark for the Park.

Funds for Central Park Purchase

The fundraising Committee's efforts and the
Community's excellent response has produced
so far, \$40,000 of which \$5000 was from a
Foundation. We also have, in hand, pledges for
additional amounts, some towards payment of
our first Mortgage payment of \$40,000 due
April 2007. Your support at the Gala and Silent
Auction will help us reach our goals.

GALA

Friday 20th October
Community Hall

Music – Food – Bar
Silent Auction
Entertainment

Fundraiser for
Central Park

Silent A Viewing 5 pm \$10

The Lark for the Park Gala starts at the
Community Hall when the doors open at 5 pm
on Friday 20th October. The first hour is for
viewing the Silent Auction items and you can
get registered if you want to bid. We will be
getting the food ready and the bar stocked.
Everything gets underway at 6pm.

Todd Butler, our closing entertainer will be
wrapping up around 10 pm and the auction
goods will be available to take away then, too.
Visitors will be able to catch the 10.40 pm
ferries off the Island without missing the fun.
(Except of course for the cleanup crew who
will have even more fun.)

Donation List for the Gala Auction

Up to Press time - Oct 9

Shawl, Framed print, Massage, Jewel, more Jewels,
2 hour garden consult, Gift certificate, 6 apple trees,
Leaf lamp, Cushion, Ceramic pot, Yoga classes,
more Yoga classes, \$100 off stonemasonry, 4 hour
sculpture instruction, Dinner for four, Pottery, Gift
basket, Gift certificate, Organic cotton T-shirt,
Framed print, Framed photo, Miso + maybe tamari,
B + B night, Painting or print, B + B night, Aroma
therapy basket, Chocolate, 25 Havana cigars, Chair,
Shawl, B + B & healing session, 2 hour group
gardening, Large plush reindeer, Horse ride (2),
Computer desk, 2 hour internal (interior?) design,
Chimney cleaning, Computer desk, Framed photo,
4 hour gardening/landscaping, 4 hour Tai Chi.



MORRISON MARSH NATURE RESERVE

Since 125 acres at the south end of Morrison Marsh were donated anonymously to the Islands Trust Fund (ITF) in late 2005, the DCA has been working closely with the ITF to see that the land's conservation values are preserved in perpetuity. In March, Jenny Balke completed an updated environmental Baseline Report about the property. In early August, the Agricultural Land Commission approved the placement of a conservation covenant over the land (some of it being in the ALR). The ITF and DCA, who will be the Covenant Holder, have finalized the covenant in preparation for its registration on title in October. DCA has responded to a tender call from the ITF to develop the Management Plan for the Reserve and is awaiting a final decision as to whether it will receive the contract for this work. Regardless of who develops the plan, there will be a public process to solicit the input of Islanders as to the future management of the Morrison Marsh Nature Reserve.

This project began in 2000 under the coordination of Patti Willis and Juan Barker. They would like to thank the many people who contributed to ensure its success: Jenny Balke, Louise Bell, Don Chamberlain, Daryl Collier, Leslie Dunsmore, Judy Jamison, Marilyn Jensen, Bentley LeBaron, Guy Marion, Peter Marshall, Peter Mason, Jim Matthew, Kevin Mitchell, Mike Morrell, Doug Olstead, Chris Pielou, Ardice Todosichuk, Ted Trueman, the Board of Directors of the Denman Conservancy Association, and especially the generous owner; and, to EcoACTION 2000 of Environment Canada for its financial contribution in support of this project.

Summer Gallery Nature Photos and Silent Auction

Denman Conservancy would like to thank the supporters, submitters, gallery sitters and bidders of the silent auction of Denman photography, and especially **Andrew Fyson** for conceiving and almost single-handedly seeing the show to its very successful conclusion on Tuesday September 19.

Andrew matted and framed 40 photographs from a collection of several hundred submissions and also provided an extraordinary photographic display of Denman flora and fauna.

The framed photos were all sold, raising a total of just over \$1500 to go toward the purchase of the Central Park property.

DCA's fundraising campaign is staged, firstly to raise \$56,000 to add to the DCA acquisition fund for the down payment of \$296,000 and secondly to fund the balance of the purchase (\$200,000), to be paid interest-free over 5 years starting in April, 2007.

With the "Lark for the Park" gala evening to be held October 20, the second phase of the campaign will commence. DCA is actively soliciting donations and pledges to cover the long-term effort to complete the purchase. Charitable tax receipts can be issued for monies received.

DCA took possession of Central Park on September 29, 2006.

Walks on Saturday mornings in October

This weekend:

Saturday **October 14, Central Park**

Join J Thornton and Andrew Fyson for an exploration of DCA's new acquisition. Meet 10 am at the Old School Centre

Saturday **October 21, Settlement Lands**

With Patrick Fawkes and Andrew Fyson visit the lands on Central Road donated to DCA as part of the legal settlement with 4064 Ltd. Meet 10 am at the Old School Centre

Saturday **October 28, Railway Marsh**

John Millen and Mike Morrel will lead a walk on the Railway Marsh covenant area granted to DCA as part of the legal settlement with 4064 Ltd. Meet 10 am at the Denman Community Hall

Coming in November: Winter Water Birds.

Watch for a notice in the Grapevine.



Protected Area Networks

Do they have a place in official planning?

At the Islands Trust Council Meeting held on Denman Island on September 14 a staff presentation discussed Protected Area Networks as a conservation tool for use in Official Community Plans. The present ecosystem mapping of the Islands Trust Fund is being updated with an order of magnitude more detail. This work, based on new air photography has started in the southern islands and will progress north to cover Denman in 2007. It is expected to enable the determination of Protected Area Networks based on objective criteria.

The presentation further discussed the application of Development Permit Areas as a means of implementing a Protected Area Network in an Official Community Plan. The PAN maps prepared for Denman Island were noted in the presentation. DCA prepared the first such map in the mid 1990's and SILVA Ecosystem Consultants produced another in 1998.

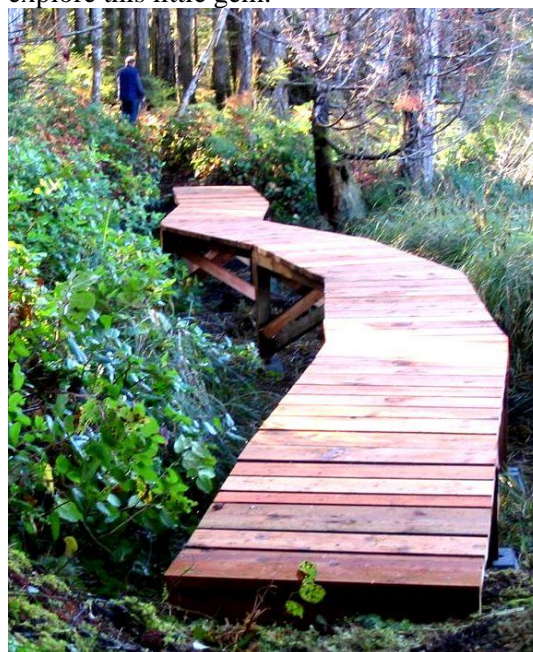
The concept is not new to Islands Trust. In its REGIONAL CONSERVATION PLAN 2005 – 2010 the Islands Trust Fund offered planners and Local Trust Committees its expertise to assist them in establishing a network of protected areas. The information provided by the Islands Trust Ecosystem Mapping (ITEM), created by Islands Trust Fund was identified in their Conservation Plan as essential for designing such networks.



Work party at Winter Wren Wood

Winter Wren Wood

Nearly six years ago, in November of 2000, Winter Wren Wood became the first property held by DCA for conservation purposes. It has since become a community-use parcel providing a great venue for school field trips and a self-guided nature walk. The community has also been very considerate in its use as an access point to Chickadee Lake. Although the property does not actually extend to the lakeshore there has been a path there to the lake for years. This fall we have extended Peter Karsten's nature trail over a small marshy area with a short boardwalk, which creates a path around the perimeter of the park on both sides of Lake Road. The area is meant to be enjoyed so please come and explore this little gem.



A Reminder To Teen VOLUNTEERS

DCA has created the **Doug Olstead Award** of \$200, which was first awarded at this year's AGM and will be given annually for the next four years to a Denman Island Teen volunteer. Please apply in writing to Box 60 Denman Island, outlining your volunteer community service. for further information contact:

Carol Freeman phone 335 2535

This Newsletter was put together with contributions from: J and Ginny Thornton, Denise MacKean, Patti Willis, Patrick Fawkes, Lee Andra Jacobs, Andrew Fyson, John Millen, Carol Freeman, Peter Karsten.