

CHELSEA GARDENS Newsletter



2024

FAREWELL TO AN INCREDIBLE COUPLE

Lloyd and Diane Anderson have made so many contributions to life at Chelsea that it's hard to know where to begin.

On August 9, a large group of friends and neighbours gathered to express admiration and appreciation for all that Lloyd and Diane have done over the years to enhance life at Chelsea Gardens.

Several speakers recounted fond memories and anecdotes. In spring of 2013, at a time when women weren't using the pool table, Lloyd spent countless hours coaching and teaching. His support was pivotal in encouraging women to play in tournaments. Lloyd loved to paint--trellises, 352 concrete balls on the perimeter, fences (40 of which had to be refurbished), electrical enclosures, creatures in the reflection pond, and beautiful artwork. Lloyd set up coffee urns, tents and canopies, cleaned ceiling tiles, and helped anyone anytime. He was the driving force behind erecting the Hallowe'en Haunted House at the gate and the outdoor Xmas lights. In his spare time, he volunteered at the Seniors' Centre, and started the blue bag collection program which saw more than \$10,000 go to the food bank.



Diane served on the Social Committee, managed and staffed the bar, obtained the liquor licences, purchased the inventory and kept the ice machine and bar spotlessly clean. Diane's decorations for dinners and festivities were legendary—placemats, table and wall decorations, made every event special. She also sewed for Pillow Pals. Costumes for choir, skits and special events were made by Diane. Lloyd's costumes were always comical. Although they insisted, they didn't want any special recognition, they were

sent off with many good wishes for happiness in their new home in Tsawwassen.

A farewell cake was donated by Ty Hair Design

SUMMER POOL DECK PARTY

As the Social Committee took a well-deserved summer holiday, Cindy Herbstreit, stepped up to organise a poolside party on Saturday Aug. 10. Although she insisted that it was only coincidental that the date was also her birthday, a cake magically appeared and the birthday song was on the play list. It was wonderful to see new faces joining in the fun. The array of food was astonishing. Brad and Kay Buckley donated twelve bottles of wine for door prizes. Popular deejay Geoffrey Johnson kept everyone dancing.



POOL EXERCISES

Weekday mornings saw athletes in the pool, leaping and splashing about to recorded instructions. A few crows liked to noisily express their opinion about the aquasize. The highlight of the season was Wednesdays, when the water babies were rewarded with delivery of coffee and treats on the pool deck. Almost as good as having a swim-up bar. Summertime at Chelsea can't be beat!



THE BC HORSESHOE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Took place in Cloverdale in August. Our very own Marilyn Thomas placed second in her category. In September she was the first place winner in the Cloverdale championships. Way to go, Marilyn!



SUMMER OLYMPICS CHELSEA STYLE

Monday evenings drew crowds hoping to see professional volleyball players at their finest. Unfortunately some of the players were not tall enough to get the ball over the net, while others managed to send it out of the pool completely. No one seemed able to keep score, but luckily the rulings by Mary Gawle, our official referee, prevented unruly behaviour.

END OF SUMMER TRADITION

What better way to catch up with our friends and neighbours than to gather at the clubhouse for a seasonal corn feast? The Social Committee switched it up this year with corn from Bose Farms and baked potatoes from Mary's Garden. The various toppings (chili, salsa, broccoli with cheese sauce, onions, sour cream, and bacon bits) were a great hit. A full team of volunteers prepared dinner and served 90 ticket holders. Unfortunately, no photos were taken of the workers or the exceptionally good food. Take my word for it. There were no complaints!



POND



The pond is a favourite stopping place for residents and their visitors. May Hamaura has faithfully fed the fish and turtles twice a day during the season. Dorie White, with Freddie, her African Gray parrot, on her shoulder, was often seen up to her knees in the pond which is now sparkling clean, with new

plants and whimsical touches including new lighting. With the cooler weather, we are hoping she will don waders. Thanks to all who worked to solve the mystery of the filtration system.

ROOFING PROJECT

Over the past few months, Chelsea has been the scene of fascinating activity as the Mack Kirk roofing teams brought in pallets of supplies, equipment, and all sorts of vehicles. I spoke with site supervisor Jason Apps about the process. Initially, we all noticed the loss of visitor parking spaces and road closures. Although we expected these inconveniences to be a way of life for several years, Jason told me that if we don't get heavy snowfalls, and if nothing untoward happens, the final roof could be done as soon as February 2025. It could be spring, of course, but the end is in sight. The roofers, working long hours, have been courteous and friendly. At any given time, there are 35 of them on the job. I've noticed different languages being spoken by various crews. There are francophones from Quebec, Hindus, Sikhs, Filipinos, Vietnamese, and English speakers



ARBORISTS AT WORK

Chelsea was abuzz during August and September with the sound of chain saws and chippers dealing with dead and overhanging branches. They will return next year to finish their work.

PULL TABS

While I've noticed the cans soliciting pull tabs from beer and soft drink cans, I thought it was an urban myth that the tabs would be used to purchase wheelchairs. Resident Cathy Lockwood, who has been collecting tabs for a few years, set me straight. The tabs have been donated to the Paqua Hospital in Saskatchewan. As the titanium is quite valuable, it can be cashed in for the purchase of wheelchairs and other medical equipment. This year, with the support of Fred Halco, his Legion friends, and Chelsea Gardens residents, she has collected over 50 lbs.—a record!

The donation can is usually to be found on the bar in the Clubhouse Pub or in the mailroom.



Our micro clover experiment has been delayed until spring when the roofers will be finished.

NEWCOMERS RECEPTION

47 new residents moved into Chelsea between August 2023 and 2024. These newcomers were welcomed to a reception in the Fireside Room October 6 to chat with members of the Social Committee, Strata Council and Crossroads Management to hear about volunteer opportunities and to ask questions. Welcome to all newcomers. Their photos will be posted on the bulletin board.

KEEP IN THE LOOP

In addition to the strata minutes, this newsletter, and talking to your friends, there are other sources of information.

CHELSEA GARDENS SURREY COMMUNITY GROUP is a private Facebook forum for Chelsea residents. Why not sign up today?

CHELSEATODAY.ORG Once you've signed up you will receive email notices and alerts regarding new photos, events, and issues. Put the link on your home page and you will be set.

Should you need some help getting set up, ask one of your neighbours for assistance. Alternatively, you could post your questions on the Chelsea Gardens Surrey Community Group Facebook forum.

BENCHES

About 7 or 8 years ago, as the benches around the complex began to show their years, a number of residents, including Simone Tait, Cathy Lockwood, Bob Hurley and Lloyd Anderson worked at painting and repairing them. In 1991 I bought a bench to place by the koi pond in memory of my husband, Barry Jones. Because it is just a bit higher than the original benches, this bench has been a favourite resting place for residents whose knees and hips are not what they used to be. Recently one of our tall older residents sat on a low bench and needed help getting up. Brad Buckley rose to the occasion and took on the task of replacing and staining the slats, painting the metal and placing the benches on blocks, to make everyone more comfortable. Brad has also dug out and repaired sprinkler heads and has been lending a helping hand at the pond. Many thanks, Brad!



THANK YOU...

For slowing down to 15 KPH. Please be mindful of the fact that we don't have sidewalks. We use our roadways to walk dogs, wander about visiting, often using mobility devices. EVs are very quiet. Remind your visitors and tradespeople that many residents are hard of hearing, vision impaired and not fleet of foot.



Chelsea's 2024 Christmas concert will take place on Sunday, December 8 at 2:00 in the Fireside Room. To complement the efforts of Yvonne Brennan and the Chelsea Singers, we are looking for residents with various skills—actors, singers, dancers, individual musicians, poets, etc. Do you have a story from your childhood of how your family celebrated the Christmas period in your country back home? For more information or to sign up, contact our Producer, Marilyn Thomas (TH168) at marilyn.thomas112@me.com or 604-817-1310. A meeting of those interested will be held after coffee on Wednesday, November 6 in the library.

COMING SOON!

Get out your silliest clothes for the Halloween costume party on October 25th in the clubhouse which has been decorated for the season. Look for posters with the details.

The Chelsea Gardens Newsletter is sponsored by the Chelsea Gardens' Social Committee

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Submission guidelines, and an on-line coloured version of this newsletter can be found at www.chelseatoday.org