

# BARA Bugle



Broadmead Area Residents' Association

Winter/Spring Issue, 2009

## In this Issue:

- ☞ **PAGE ONE**  
President's Message
- ☞ **PAGE TWO**  
BARA AGM  
Membership
- ☞ **PAGE THREE**  
The Arts  
Artists of Broadmead
- ☞ **PAGE FOUR**  
Special People Live  
Here  
Felicia Oliver  
Remembered
- ☞ **PAGE FIVE**  
Covenant Issues  
Bylaws
- ☞ **PAGE SIX**  
Remember When  
Rithet's Bog Update
- ☞ **PAGE SEVEN**  
Traffic and Safety  
Graffiti Threat
- ☞ **PAGE EIGHT**  
Broadmead Talk  
Meet our Board  
Members

## President's Message



*Dear Broadmead Resident,*

Welcome to the new image for The Bugle. As you can see the layout is colourful, more streamlined and shorter. Even though we have gone from 12 pages to 8 there are more articles, information and current events. We have introduced a few features which will occur in each subsequent issue: **Artists of Broadmead**, focusing on a different artist from our community; **Remember When** will draw

attention to our past; **Broadmead Talk** will be a chance for you to list the things you think are important. You will also find out more about your elected board members, as well as learn more about some of the amazing people who live here including their accomplishments.

With your help we would like to focus more on the people and events of Broadmead, so give us your feedback. If there is sufficient interest maybe letters to the editor will become a regular article. If you are aware of something which you would like to see published please contact us by phone, letter or email. It could be a significant birth date, cultural event, an experience you or one of your friends have had or simply an announcement. I hope you enjoy the new format for our newsletter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Wishes,  
*Jim Griffith, President*

*home / life / community*

**BARA**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Executive:**

**Jim Griffith**, *President*  
**Gary Potter**, *Vice President*  
**Anne Cameron**, *Treasurer*  
**Phil Miles**, *Secretary*

**Directors at Large:**

**John Bremner**  
**Gordon Christie**  
**Lionel Merson**  
**Kevin Cochrane**  
**Greg Gilks**

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Bugle Production & Distribution:**

**Editor:** Jim Griffith

**Layout:** Denise Sketches

**Illustration:** Bruce Stewart

**Contributors:** as indicated in articles

**Distribution:** Barb Lawton, Katie Smith, Dave Murray and 50+ carriers

**Membership List:**

John Fahey

**Webmaster:** John Bremner

**Archives :** Gary Potter

**Refreshments:**

Maxine Campbell

---

BARA would like to acknowledge the generosity of **The Lodge at Broadmead** for allowing us to use their boardroom for our monthly board meetings. Special thanks to Merv Dutchak.

## **BARA Annual General Meeting**

*(Business meeting followed by guest speaker)*

### **Energy Efficiency Grants & Rebates for Homeowners**

*Gateway Baptist Church, Royal Oak Avenue*

*Wednesday, APRIL 22, 7:30 pm*

As the real estate market slows, more people are taking a second look at renovating their existing home for increased comfort, energy savings and protection against rising fuel prices. Fortunately, federal and provincial grants of more than \$5000 in grants are available now for energy efficiency upgrades. This talk will provide homeowners with an introduction to the best practices for home energy efficiency in the market today. Hear how to access a home energy assessment, customized retrofit plan and grants for your project. Explore the programs and incentives designed to create a 'conservation culture' in the District of Saanich – and BC!

*Paula Steele, Director of Communications for City Green Solutions will review the programs and incentives available today.*

# *Membership*

## **BARA – YOUR Community Association**

The first and most important reason for joining BARA is to have a voice in the affairs of your community. BARA provides a forum for dialogue on community matters through its annual meetings and by other means. Without membership, your voice on community issues cannot be heard.

Your membership in BARA supports the ongoing community-oriented activities which make Broadmead an attractive and preferred place to live, and helps strengthen your association's credibility in its many dealings with municipal and other authorities.

Membership in your community association supports initiatives which will maintain the lasting appeal of Broadmead, and protect your interest in your home, your streetscape, and your community.

### **BARA Membership Benefits:**

*(annual fee \$15.00 per household)*

- Associate with homeowners who share common interests.
- Active voice in how the remaining lots in Broadmead develop.
- Access to a website devoted to providing information on local issues.
- Protection of your neighbourhood through a schedule of covenants.
- Access to special programs and events.
- Receive copy of the newsletter, The Bugle, in hardcopy and electronically
- Liaison with Municipal government.
- Input into maintenance and improvement of trails in Broadmead.

## Featured Artist

# Bruce Stewart



A couple locks in an embrace on a mundane Vancouver street corner. A mother mallard sails by with her brood of nine following in her wake. A house glistens in the sun. A majestic Cadillac driven by Santa Claus speeds toward its destination. A shopping mall gleams like a stand-in for a royal palace. Bruce Stewart's camera captures with remarkable fluency all of the details of our lives, sometimes leaving them in their faded, seamy decline or glorifying them to accord with our dreams. Broadmead, already a jewel of architecture and nature, becomes a wonderland described and narrated with utter clarity by Bruce's astute sense of telling detail, a talent that flows directly from his lifetime spent as a medical illustrator before his retirement.

It is the same in his painting: A train hurtles across Blenkinsop Lake Trestle. A smashed Cadillac lies on its side, a victim of a Mafia hit on Vancouver's Commercial Drive. A blonde, dressed in a copy of a Jean Harlow satin body-hugger, strikes a sexy pose. Sixties teenagers air their hormones in front of a Dairy Queen, the last word of glamour in their little lives. Like most of Stewart's paintings, these are imagined scenes created out of disparate elements and drawn into syntheses that can be elegant and disturbing at the same time. His human subjects inhabit an obsessively realistic and detailed world but it is bathed in supersaturated colour that heightens the emotional effect so that even the simplest of scenes, a couple parked in a convertible above Los Angeles, becomes fraught with promises of hope or the possibilities of private disaster. Moreover, Stewart elevates these images, many of them from our past and some now not extant, to iconic status. Opulence and waste symbolized in a '59 Caddie; itinerant musicians aboard a Twenties flivver reviving memories told and retold by our grandparents and parents.

Bruce Stewart lives quietly with his wife in Broadmead and can be seen most days on the Rolston Trail, at Rithet's Bog or on any of our area's streets, his old camera bag slung over his shoulder, looking for yet another Broadmead "moment" to photograph and preserve. Bruce is a genuine Broadmead treasure.

*John Lucas*

## Art Happenings In Saanich

### COMMUNITY ARTS AWARENESS WEEK 2009

**APRIL 19 – 25**

*Celebrate arts and culture in Saanich!*

**The 13th Annual Community Arts Awareness Week**, which coincides with BC's Arts and Culture Week.

**APRIL 6 – 26**

**Cedar Gallery Cafe Art Exhibit** at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre featuring a variety of art works from Saanich Studio Tour Artists.

**Thu, APRIL 23, 4:30 – 6:30 pm**

### **Celebration of the Arts Champagne Reception**

at Fireside Grill. An evening event to celebrate and recognize local artists in Saanich. Silent Auction, Musical Entertainment. Tickets available \$20 per person.

**\*\* Please Note:** *This is a new champagne reception to showcase art from Saanich Studio Tours*

**Sat, APRIL 25, 11 am – 2 pm**

### **Carnival of the Arts**

At Cedar Hill Recreation Centre. Local performers, magicians, stilt walkers, hands-on arts and crafts activities, face painting and the youth banner exhibition make this a family friendly event. Free admission. Bring your entire family and join us for fun activities and entertainment.

### **Saanich in May - Artist Studio Tours**

Artists open their studio doors and share their personal creative space with the public. Find out what inspires artists, how they go about their work and why they do what they do! **Five Studio Tours** including: May 2 & 3: Gordon Head & Broadmead/Cordova; MAY 16 & 17: Saanich West; MAY 23 & 24: Scattered Artists and Cadboro Bay. For more information:

[www.saanich.ca](http://www.saanich.ca) or  
[www.bcartsweeks.ca](http://www.bcartsweeks.ca)

## Special People Live Here

### Helping on the Other Side of the World

John & Donna Fahey



Watoto Child Care Ministries was started by a Canadian missionary couple, Gary and Marilyn Skinner, who pastor a large church in Kampala, Uganda. The goal of the Skinners was to care for AIDS orphans and to provide for them by educating, providing medical and dental care and giving each child a village to live in.

There are now approximately 1800 children in two separate villages living in houses with 8 other children and a house mother. They have schools, medical clinics and are starting a trades' school. There are 5 international offices for Watoto and the Canadian office is right here in Victoria.

John and Donna Fahey first heard about Watoto when one of the Watoto children's choirs sang in Victoria at their church. An opportunity came up in 2007 and John was able to go to Uganda in October along with 9 other men and 5 of their sons under the age of 12 years old. They built a teacher's house in the village of Bbira, which is approximately 8 miles east of Kampala.

Ugandan Nationals worked alongside the team and a brick house was constructed. The costs for the house and all expenses are donated. Individual children are sponsored by people from around the world. What a wonderful opportunity to experience first hand how your time and resources can help others less fortunate.

### 🕊️ Felicia Oliver Remembered 🕊️

In late November, after a very brief illness Felicia Oliver passed away. Felicia was born and raised in Germany and attended language schools in both London and Paris. She immigrated to Canada, settling in Vancouver, married, and had two children. During her childrearing years she worked in dental offices as chair side assistant or receptionist. After completing the Canadian Securities Course she worked as a financial advisor. When the children left home, Felicia relocated to Victoria, attended the University of Victoria and graduated with a BA in Philosophy in 97. She returned to university in 2002 to spend a year in the writing department.

In retirement Felicia spent much of her time serving as a volunteer. She has served in various positions with non-profit organizations. A four year term as treasurer of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria was very rewarding. A considerable challenge for the treasurer was the construction of a church. Felicia served as President of the Vancouver Island Strata Owners Association; treasurer of the Rithet's Bog Conservation Society and was a Director of The Broadmead Area Residents' Association as well as a director of the Broadmead Covenant Society before it amalgamated with BARA.

Felicia Oliver was a very private person who gave her time generously to others. She will be missed.

# Bylaws and Covenants



## Broadmead Covenants – Architecture

One of the reasons that there are restrictive covenants in Broadmead is to ensure that architectural styles remain consistent with the natural setting of the community and in harmony with surrounding homes and landscapes.

The covenants require that property owners obtain approval from BARA with respect to all renovations or additions to buildings, exterior colour changes, the construction of fences or screens and the building of any accessory structures such as gazebos and sheds. Most renovations will require a building permit from the District of Saanich as well as approval from BARA.

The first step for homeowners who wish to undertake a renovation or alteration is to contact BARA – this can be done initially by telephone or email and will usually be followed up with a meeting with a representative of BARA. Depending on the nature and scale of the renovation, plans may have to be provided.

BARA reviews each application to ensure that the proposed changes blend with the surrounding architecture and the natural landscape, are in keeping with the character of Broadmead and complement the existing style of houses in the immediate neighbourhood. The review rarely takes long, and contacting BARA early in the planning process is an important step in ensuring that the renovation project doesn't face delays or difficulties.

The covenants are one of the main reasons for the enduring attractiveness of Broadmead, and they enjoy strong support among our residents. More information about the covenants and their management may be found at [www.broadmead.ca/covenants.htm](http://www.broadmead.ca/covenants.htm).

## Required Change to Bylaws at AGM

The BC Society Act provides:

### Change in bylaws

- 23** (1) A society may change its bylaws by special resolution and the resolution is effective on the later of
- (a) the date on which it is filed with the registrar, and
  - (b) the date specified in the resolution.
- (2) After a special resolution is filed with the registrar under subsection (1), the registrar must retain one copy of it and return the other copy to the society, certified as having been accepted by the registrar.

**The following Special Resolution will be considered at the BCES Annual General Meeting in April:**

**Resolved, That the Broadmead Area Residents' Association Bylaws be changed as follows:**

**At Part 2 – Membership, Paragraph 7, under “A person ceases to be a member of the society”, add the following new sub-paragraph:**

**(e) on ceasing to reside in Broadmead.**

*Following this change, the new paragraph will be:*

7. A person ceases to be a member of the society
- (a) by delivering his or her resignation in writing to the secretary of the society or by mailing or delivering it to the address of the society,
  - (b) on his or her death,
  - (c) on being expelled,
  - (d) on having been a member not in good standing for 12 consecutive months, **or**
  - (e) on ceasing to reside in **Broadmead.**

## Remember When . . .

**John Lucas**

Asked to write about the recent human history of Rithet's Bog a few years ago I interviewed a number of people who lived or had lived near our beloved wetlands. One of these was Elsie, an enchantress of nearly eighty. Since I was honouring the reminiscences of several people I used very little of my interview with her, a description of ice skating on the bog and their laughter, now like the tinkling of bells from far away.



Elsie is gone but she lives in my memory as the girl delighting in the sight of trumpeter swans landing in the bog and gliding elegantly in its open water, and ducklings straggling after their mother, the crackle of blackbirds calling after each other, cattails swaying in the breeze, and the gold of autumn sunshine.

She remembered Rithet's Farms and watching the planting, reaping, and "Oh, my, those strapping farm boys named Burdge. They were so good-looking." She and her friends had aching crushes on these "older boys, who were at least seventeen or eighteen. But we were too shy even to say hello and if they ventured near "we collapsed into unbecoming giggles". Cut like a hard groove into her memory is the day in 1965 when the farm's great barn burned down, destroying the newly harvested crops. Her heart went out to the Burdge family and the boys she had admired from afar. We lost that architectural treasure but it lived on in memory, Elsie's, mine, and yours.

## Rithet's Bog Update

### **CATTAILS IN RITHET'S BOG – Too Much of a Good Thing**



**Sharon Hartwell**

Cattails are classic wetland plants. They provide vital habitat for birds and other wildlife, and are an important component of marsh ecology. But given the right conditions, they can spread vigorously; creating dense stands that eliminate open water and reduce habitat diversity.

This has happened on the Chatterton wetlands of Rithet's Bog Conservation Area. The extensive open marsh created in 2002, when 11 acres of willow were cleared as part of the bog restoration project, is now disappearing under tall cattail leaves. There is less feeding habitat available to waterfowl, bird watching is becoming difficult, and the benches installed to provide a view of the wetlands now face a wall of vegetation.

Help is on the way: Ducks Unlimited, one of the lead partners in the Rithet's Bog restoration project, will be undertaking cattail control measures. Two years of scientific trials by DU have determined that the best method of mechanical control is to cut the cattails below water level twice a year. The first round of cutting will take place this summer, after waterfowl breeding season is complete. Specialized mechanical equipment will be brought on site for the purpose.

Cattail removal will be targeted by area (adjacent to the trailside to improve viewscape) and the type of cattail removed. The native *Typha latifolia*, or broad-leaved cattail, will be selectively retained. The taller *Typha angustifolia*, or narrow-leaved cattail, which has been introduced from eastern North America, will be removed.

Clearing of this excess cattail growth will assist in restoring the biological functioning of this important wetland, and ensure that two of the primary goals of the restoration project (creating areas of open water for waterfowl habitat, and providing wildlife viewing opportunities for the public) continue to be met.

## ROADS AND SAFETY UPDATE

### *Gordon Christie*

The road and safety portfolio has been a very busy one over the last few months. Several callers expressed concerns about parking on the street as well as trailers being put up on blocks. For the most part, these problems were resolved after talking to residents; however in some cases, Saanich by-law enforcement was called to assist with the solution.

The most frequent calls were about the improvements taking place at Boulderwood and Royal Oak Drive. Phase one is now complete at a cost of approximately \$150,000. Safety and traffic calming were at the centre of these changes, and bicycle lanes are now continued toward Broadmead Village. The removal of the merge lane has not been popular with several residents but was necessary in order to bring about the desired slowdown in traffic. Parking will continue to be accommodated. The crosswalk near Royal Oak Avenue is now pedestrian controlled. A unique feature of this crosswalk is that it is solar powered, and is clearly marked on the ground in order to aid the visually impaired. This is a pilot project and if it proves to be successful, additional crosswalks of this type will be installed elsewhere.

Phase two of this project is scheduled to begin in approximately four weeks. This second phase will continue towards The Lodge at Broadmead and should improve safety at the merge lane. Bike lanes will also be a part of this project. The expected cost is similar to phase one, \$150,000.

Thanks to Steve Holroyd at Saanich engineering for providing information. Upon completion, the upgrades in this area should make Royal Oak Drive safer for all.

## GRAFFITI:- a Threat to Your Property - Recent Study

### *Kevin Cochrane*

Like most neighbourhoods, Broadmead has incurred periodic cycles of graffiti. Over the years, there have been sporadic attempts to remove these so-called 'tags,' especially when offensive language or imagery is involved. However, a recent study has given new impetus to a more systematic removal and control program in our community.

For some years, the US National Association of Realtors has stated that the widespread prevalence of graffiti reduces community property values by 15 to 25%. But a study published in the journal Science in November 2008 has reached a more troubling conclusion: even small occurrences of graffiti result in a doubling of petty crime in a neighbourhood. This potentially affects every one of us. To combat this threat, we have established a three-prong approach to reduce and ultimately eradicate graffiti from Broadmead:

- 1) clean up small 'tags' as soon as possible after they occur,
- 2) paint over larger 'tags' where cleaning is impracticable, and,
- 3) where required, install anti-graffiti artistic wraps on boulevard infrastructure, such as Hydro or Telus kiosks, which suffers repeated graffiti attacks.

There are three dedicated volunteers in your community who spend their own time cleaning up graffiti as they encounter it. How can you help? Simply by reporting instances of this vandalism when you see it. Call 250-708-2027 or use the contact link on our website: [info@broadmead.ca](mailto:info@broadmead.ca)



### *New -*

*BARA's website address now added to our "Welcome Signs"*



# Broadmead Talk



**John Fahey**, a Broadmead resident, spent two weeks in Uganda along with a group of men from Victoria building a school for children.



Congratulations to **Susan Brice** and **Wayne Hunter**, both Broadmead residents, who were recently re-elected to Saanich Council.



### Wanted –

Flautist would like to meet pianist and/or cellist for ensemble play. Please call 250-658-3346.



### Bara AGM

Wednesday, April 22,  
7:30 pm, Gateway Baptist Church, Royal Oak Ave.



Residents are becoming increasingly concerned that our parks are getting to be dumping grounds for all kinds of garden waste. People are reminded to take their waste to the **Saanich Public Works** yard at Borden and Mackenzie. Entry is off Borden north of Mackenzie and the hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays and until 8:00 pm in the summer, with half-day opening on Saturdays. *Thank you for not using our Park Lands for this purpose.*

## Meet Your BARA Board Members

### Gary Potter



Gary grew up and went to school in Vancouver and Victoria. He enrolled in the University of British Columbia and received a Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering. After graduation he went to work for British American Oil. Gary also worked for Gulf Oil and Petro Canada. His field of work was Refinery Engineering and his employment took him to several locations; including, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal and Spain.

After retirement he settled in Victoria and joined BARA in 1991, assuming the role of Land Use Committee Chair.

Gary has served the Community of Broadmead for almost

two decades. He was Chair of the Broadmead Covenant Society until its amalgamation with BARA in 2008 and also served as President of BARA from 1995 until 2007. He is presently the Vice President of BARA and chairs the Covenant Management Committee.

Gary’s leisure time activities see him enjoying tennis and golf.



### Greg Gilks



Greg Gilks’ move to Broadmead in 2003 capped a lifelong desire to live on the west coast. Having grown up in New Brunswick, then moving to Newfoundland after obtaining a BSc in Engineering, he sought opportunities to move to British Columbia. In 1980, an opportunity arose in Regina, Saskatchewan which was intended to be a stepping stone to the west coast, but the step lasted 22 years.

After receiving a job offer and deciding to move to Victoria, and before leaving Regina, Broadmead was identified as one of the better neighbourhoods in the Victoria area. Fortunately, the hot housing market of 2003 still provided some opportunities and Greg was able to

move to Broadmead with his wife, Tracy Houser.

Greg is currently employed with the Ministry of Transportation, where he is responsible for programs relating to the movement of vehicles and goods. Greg has settled into the west coast lifestyle as a true bicycle commuter between home and his office downtown. His work currently consumes most of his focus, but in his spare time he enjoys running around Rithet’s Bog and Elk Lake, biking on Lochside trail, or hiking on Broadmead’s excellent trail network. He has served as a member of the BARA board for the past 3 years.