



CHUCKANUT NEWS

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Chuckanut Community & Firefighters Association Quarterly Newsletter April 2009 Volume 19, No. 2

General Meeting Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

Regional Fire Chief, Dave Ralston, will give a brief summary of the status of our new South Whatcom Fire Authority, at the beginning of the meeting.

Spring is finally here and it is time to spend sunny Chuckanut afternoons on your deck and patio. Come to the neighborhood meeting on April 1 and get inspired to turn your backyard into a forest sanctuary with Chuckanut native planting expert and author Mark Turner. Mark's work has been published on covers and inside magazines like *Garden Design*, *Sunset*, *American Gardener*, *Horticulture*, *Organic Gardening*, and *Birds and Blooms* as well as in numerous garden books. He has two solo books. *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*, an American Horticultural Society Book Award winner, was co-authored with Phyllis Gustafson and is in its fourth printing. *Bellingham Impressions* is a soft-cover coffee-table book enjoyed by Bellingham lovers around the world.

Mark will describe tips and suggestions for gardening with low-cost native Chuckanut plants and show a variety of images to get your creative landscaping juices flowing just in time for the start of the planting season. Once native plants become established, they nearly take care of themselves, so the lucky gardener has more time to observe visiting native birds and butterflies. Those practicing and those aspiring to practice native landscaping are likely to increase their success and satisfaction in this pursuit by attending Mark's presentation on April 1 and will ultimately reap a broad spectrum of environmental, economic and aesthetic benefits. Mark will answer your questions about native plants, planting techniques, composting, local agriculture, restoration opportunities and more. Mark will have several of his books available for purchase so you can impress your friends and neighbors by identifying native plants while walking along the Interurban, heading down to Beach 3, or taking a day hike up to Fragrance Lake. If you are lucky, Mark might even give you a signed copy of his book to put on your coffee table next to your Buy Local sticker. This can't miss presentation is just in time for you to get some native plants in the ground to help beautify the neighborhood and make it a better place for the next generation of Chuckanut residents.

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President's Message

I agreed to stand for election as President of the Chuckanut Community and Firefighters Association because I and the other elected Fire Commissioners of the former Chuckanut Fire Protection District (now the South Whatcom Regional Fire Authority) see the need and importance of an effective ongoing community association that understands and actively supports community fire suppression and medical aid services provided on a predominantly volunteer basis. The CCFA can be proud of their history in that regard in the past. The current board is still active and energized. However, the majority of the residents within our Chuckanut community appear disinterested. In January of this year 310 questionnaires were mailed to the residents of the Chuckanut neighborhood. We received 15 replies, not even a 5% response rate. There are 585 registered voters in our neighborhood housed in some 370 households. Last year 165 of these households, 45%, paid CCFA membership dues of either \$24.00 per family or \$12.00 per single member household. Every resident historically has been mailed the quarterly newsletter and the neighborhood telephone directory whether they are paying members or not. I would like to ask that as residents of our community that you support the CCFA through dues payment. Your board would like to continue to work on community building with your support. New Chuckanut neighborhood signs will soon be installed at the northern and southern ends of Chuckanut Drive, designed and paid for by your association. Our quarterly general membership meetings will continue to have programs and speakers of interest to the community as a whole. New resident welcome activities will continue. Improved community communications during emergencies are being explored and the ongoing support of our new regional fire authority will continue to be a principle focus of the association.

Please consider getting involved with your neighborhood association and support it with your membership dues. Thank you.

Dave Franklin

From Your Editor

A big thanks to Molly Ruf who donated a copy of Adobe Acrobat 9 Pro to enable us to send E-Newsletters. Molly works for Adobe Graphics in Fremont, Washington. She is the daughter of our Trustee, Mary Anne Ruf.

There are some openings for CCFA Committee Chairs:

Publications/Sales. This person keeps our publications: Chuckanut Chronicles and Chuckanut Memories, and note cards, to have them available for sale.

Archives. This person would go through our accumulated records and organize them. These records are stored in the Fire Hall and are easily accessible.

Emergency Response. The board is working to redefine this position.

Historian. This person would locate / write stories for the Newsletter on Chuckanut history.

If you would like to help on any of these committees please volunteer on the enclosed CCFA Volunteer Opportunities sheet and return it with your dues in the pre addressed envelope.

Georgia Heald

CCFA

Proposed Budget 2009	
INCOME	
Dues	3650
Donations	1000
Shafer Fund	1552
Interest	
Fund Raising	
Chuckanut	100
Chronicles	
Chuckanut	100
Memories	
Notecards	50
Rummage Sale	1000
Ice Cream Social	75
Reflective Posts	200
Fund Raising	1525
Sub-total	
Carryover from 2008	4098
TOTAL INCOME	11825
EXPENSES	
GENERAL	
Administration	545
Newsletter	1985
Hospitality	195
Grounds	150
Directory	700
Reflective Signs	435
Community Signs	6300
General Sub-total	10310
FIREFIGHTERS	
Annual Banquet	500
Stair Climb	260
Firefighters Sub-total	760
TOTAL EXPENSES	11070

Obituary for David Lindsay

David Lindsay of Hiline Road died suddenly on January 4, 2009...and at that moment the residents of Hiline lost a good friend and an altogether remarkable person.

David grew up here in his lifelong family home with his dahlia garden and carefully tended lawn. A progressive congenital illness in childhood resulted in loss of vision, first partial then complete. Peripheral nerve involvement interrupted his learning Braille. And so David depended on natural sounds and neighbors' speech for his understanding of the world. That understanding often exceeded all our understanding.

After the death of his mother, David lived alone. He could walk alone across the Drive and find his way down to Beach II. He could walk up Cleator Road and along the Interurban. His driver at Specialized Transport mentioned to me that he never realized David was blind. If I lost tools in garden or woods David often came over to try to help as it grew dark. He'd identify the errant hatchet or hoe by the faint sound it might emit as I raked near it. But these occasions became almost as irritating as they were humorous and unbelievable. One evening after signing in on our emergency radio net, he and I walked up my driveway together. At the time I was courting my future wife, Joan. He accused me of being so preoccupied with "that lady" that I hadn't noticed I had a leak in the water-line to my house. I objected, but there was the evidence: my left foot sounded "squishier than my right." and this during a drought! His criticisms usually proved correct! When a group of us were drafting a set of bylaws for CCFA, David objected to a provision in which we allowed "voting by proxy." He had never heard the word 'proxy' but he reasoned it would weaken the value of discussion of a matter. We thought about it, and omitted it. And so David and his family taught us some simple principles. His brother, Don, and sister-in-law, Ginger and their two sons were always close enough to help but not to interfere. He accepted disappointments with good humor in place of anger, ...and listened so carefully for an eagle that he could see it

John Arnold

Community



Thanks to our CCFA Board and support from community residents, two Welcome signs will be installed along Chuckanut Drive this Spring! In February, Board members agreed to support funding for the signs, with a portion of the proceeds coming from our rummage sales. At last year's rummage sale, we took in approximately \$1100, and we hope to make an equal amount or more this year at our April sale. Please be generous with your donations! As noted in the last newsletter, the Sign Post on Bakerview was selected to manufacture and install the signs. The north end sign will be placed around mile marker 18 just over the county line; the south end sign is designated to be installed near Dolphin Place with PSE permission. We hope that these signs will help create among all of our residents a sense of community caring for the beautiful area in which we are fortunate to live.

Rummage Sale

Let the Spring Cleaning begin! On Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 – 3:00 PM

CCFA will have its annual Rummage Sale at the Chuckanut Fire Hall. It's a great opportunity to recycle some of your useful-but-seldom-used possessions and raise money for the community. This year, the proceeds will go toward the installation of the community welcome signs (see article). Some of the best selling "treasures" you can donate are: gently-used furniture, kitchen and glassware, home décor, tools, plans, sporting goods, toys, and jewelry. Because of the difficulty and cost of disposal, we cannot accept clothing or larger items like mattresses and home appliances, old computers and monitors, skis, safety equipment, paint products, and auto products.

Joanne Cady (756-0511) and Liz Wright (671-5518) are the co-chairs of the Rummage Sale and will be calling you soon about volunteering for this event. Volunteers are needed to help set up sale tables, accept and price donations, help customers, make sales, and clean up/haul away unsold items on sale day. The times when volunteers will be needed are:

Donation drop-off times: Thursday, April 23, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Friday, April 24, 10:00 – 4:00 PM

Sale Day: Friday, April 25, 9:00 – 3:00 PM

If you have questions about donations, or wish to volunteer for a shift, please contact Joanne or Liz.

Whether you're volunteering or shopping, your participation gives you a good chance to visit with neighbors and to have fun helping with a good cause. See you then!

Community



CCFA Adopt a Highway a

Last year CCFA began participating in the Adopt a Highway program. We adopted that part of Chuckanut Drive from the fire hall (mile post 16) south to near Clayton Beach (mile post 14). Twice a year the CCFA members and friends will come together to clean this section of our beautiful drive.

Thanks once again to all of our neighbors who turned out last fall to gather what others had deposited upon our beautiful byway. We met together as a community, felt good about what we were doing, and got to know some of our fellow Chuckanutters a little better.

The DOT has installed Adopt a Highway (AAH) signs at the north and south boundaries. These signs denote that the community and members of CCFA have adopted the next 2 miles and therefore promise to regularly, as a group, remove litter.

Our next AAH event will be this spring. During the month of May we will meet at the fire hall, review safety procedures, and don our colorful garb. The date will be Saturday May 16th. If you are interested in participating, please call Will Cady at 756-0511 or email at wac101@comcast.net.

Spring Weed and Feed and Coffee Klatch

Come and join us!

Date: Saturday, April 25th

What: Spring garden clean up at the Fire Hall

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Break for coffee, cookies and conversation at 11:00

This is a great time to visit with your neighbors and perhaps meet some new folks in our Chuckanut Community. Come when you can, leave when you must. Please bring your own hand tools.

**The South Whatcom Fire Authority
Commissioners
and the community they live in are as follows:**
Lynn Trzynka: Chuckanut 360-715-8038
Paul Guy: Sudden Valley
Ron Swanson: Geneva
Bob Ekdahl: Yew Street
Winton Wefer: Lake Samish
Fire Authority phone 360-676-8080

**Found: Yellow Eddyline
kayak washed up on
shore March 2.**

**Call to identify
671-5171
Tami & Greg Eiford
310 Chuckanut Pt. Rd.**

Friends of Chuckanut

Friends of Chuckanut is non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the scenic beauty of Chuckanut Drive and protecting the public resources that are an intricate part of the Chuckanut area. In effecting our goals we educate the Public and encourage participation in public processes that influence our community. The Rural Elements Update that Whatcom County is undertaking is such an opportunity.

An update is needed to bring Whatcom County's comprehensive plan and zoning regulations into compliance with Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). The GMA requires counties to protect the character of their rural areas and prevent sprawling suburban type development. A 2005 GMA Hearings Board found Whatcom County to be out of compliance by having rural zoning classifications that were too dense for rural lands, including RR1, RR2, RR3, and R2A. This update process is a response to the need to comply with the Hearings Board decision.

Rural land uses would require a minimum lot size of five acres or larger, while recognizing property values by retaining the existing permitted land uses in residential areas and continuing to allow for legal nonconforming uses. Chuckanut Drive development is naturally limited by the availability of utilities and services.

The County has held a number of Public meetings, and there are plans for more. They want to hear from you. You can contact the Planning and Development Services at 676-6907 or e-mail them at pds@co.whatcom.wa.us If you wish you can be put on an e-mail list to receive future updates on the Rural Elements Update process. Visit their website to learn more; www.whatcomcounty.us/pds

We also are watching the application process to develop Governor's Point into 141 new lots. The permit application is now in the State Environmental Protection Act or SEPA process. The Blumen Consulting Group has been hired by the developers to create the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Once the draft EIS is published the public will have 30 days to comment on this document. At this time there is no prediction as to when the Draft EIS will be available for review, possibly this summer.

You can contact Friends of Chuckanut at friendsofchuckanut@gmail.com. We are accepting donations at P.O. Box 4456. Bellingham, WA 98225.

Directory Information Needed

If your name on the mailing label is not correct, or if you have updated information for the new Directory, please contact our Membership Chair, Gale Gropp at 733-3991 or send an email to chuckanutnews@yahoo.com.

CCFA

Board Members

CCFA OFFICERS	COMMITTEE CHAIRS
President Dave Franklin 671-2957	Membership Gale Gropp 733-3991
Vice President Mike Hogan 527-9605	Publication /Sales OPEN
Firefighter Rep To be appointed	Landscape/Grounds Dick McClure 733-9291
Treasurer Karin Todd 676-5606	Archives OPEN
Secretary Ann Jones Richardson 733-9140	Hospitality Moiree Landgren 734-8084
Trustees Carlotta Vanderbilt 676-6044 Mary Anne Ruf 676-9249 Kathy Howell 738-0416	Emergency Response OPEN Historian OPEN
Fire Commissioner Lynn Trzynka 715-8038	Newsletter Georgia Heald 733-9358 Welcome Lady Kathy Webber-Plank 220-4485

On-Going Fund Raisers:

Books

Chuckanut Chronicles
Chuckanut Memories
 \$12 each

Note Cards

Chuckanut Memories
Chuckanut Island
 six for \$5

Reflective ID Driveway Posts

Available at \$22 each. These will easily identify your house in an emergency.
 Call Dorothy Gonsalves
 739-4461

CCFA Mission

The Association shall be maintained by the members as an administrative, fundraising, and social organization devoted to the safety and welfare of the Chuckanut community.

Bulletin Board

Pet Sitters Available

Two responsible, animal-loving, home-schooled Chuckanut kids would like to help you and your pets. Evan and Hadley Frazier are experienced animal care-takers, and are available days and evenings to feed, walk, play, and give general care to your pets. Adult-supervised. References available. Phone: 733-4470.

If you are looking for someone to provide a service or if you have a service you would like to offer community members like pet sitting, baby sitting, house sitting, lawn or yard care please provide the information to chuckanutnews@yahoo.com with "Bulletin Board" in the subject box.

E-Newsletter

Starting with the July issue those that have requested E-Newsletters will not received a mailed copy. If you would like to add your name to the list to receive the newsletter electronically in the future, please send your name and email address to chuckanutnews@yahoo.com with "E-Newsletter" in the subject box.

Chuckanut News

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CCFA Important Dates:

- **Wednesday April 1: General Meeting 7:30pm, Fire Hall**
- **Wednesday May 6: Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Fire Hall**
- **Wednesday June 3: Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Fire Hall**
- **2nd Wednesday of each month: Fire Commissioners meeting, 3-5 pm, Geneva Fire Hall, public welcome**
- **Monday June 15: Deadline for newsletter articles for the July issue**

Please send all news, announcements, articles, photos, story ideas, artwork, or letters to:
chuckanutnews@yahoo.com or call Georgia Heald, Editor, 733-9358