

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

In Support of Anacla and Bamfield Youth

1 March 2012

www.bamfielder.ca

No. 10



Some BVFD Firefighters (L to R): P. Demontigny, E. Wenstob, S. Butler, J. Demoskoff, L. Butler, R. Macleod, M. Salamon, M. Kelly, P. Lavoie (missing: G. Hawkins, D. Amos, D. Morgan, R. McVie, T. Pearson, J. Gilkison, E. Geall. photo R. Hopkins



Chris Donnelly, jazz pianist extraordinaire, photo R. Hopkins



Bamfield Community School kids Vanessa and Victoria celebrate Mardi Gras. Photo C. Thompson

LOW SPERM COUNT SUSPECT IN BAMFIELD POPULATION COLLAPSE !!!

Purgetory & A Firehose. Recent demands on our fire chief, **Mark Kelly**, have quadrupled. Paperwork: documentation, protocol development, and inventory, added to maintaining a firefighting crew, 4 fire trucks, 2 fire-halls, a boat and float compete for his time. The fire-hall will be paid off in 2 ½ years but all inventory now has a mandatory life-span of 10—15 years: trucks, turnout gear, must be replaced and no hand-me-downs. Mark is dedicated to meeting this challenge with the hope of not raising taxes. BVFD will approach our village with a plan and a plea for input and involvement from the community. His present crew of 15 firefighters, includes 4 new members—**Sky Butler, Tanya Pearson, Phil Lavoie, Eric Geall**—plus **Emile Wenstob**, a recruit.

These volunteers meet weekly (7:30 p.m. Wednesdays) for firefighting exercises and must undergo an intensive 9 hour training for basic certification (presently, BVFD volunteers are not permitted to enter a burning building). Oh, and did I mention they entertain the community with their fund-raising Fire-Daze, dances, and dinners. Support BVFD! L. Druehl

Bamfield's first Music-by-the-Sea resident musician, **Chris Donnelly** (pic opposite), gave a free jazz piano concert to a crowd of 52 music lovers at BMSC's Rix Centre, February 4. During his month stay, Chris worked on new compositions and interacted with school kids in Bamfield and Port Alberni. In particular, he was probably instrumental in turning **Sabrina Williams**, a *The New Bamfielder*/BCSA mentorship holder, on to the ivories. L. Druehl

Aurora borealis eclipsed by Community Affairs meeting. District administrators **Russell Dyson** (Chief Administrator), and **Andy Daniels** (Manager Environmental Services), led by **Teri Wong** (Finance Manager), responded to tax-related questions, led by **Max Salamon** in his typical cuddly-gruff manner. All 18 villagers present seemed pleased with the District response. Our regional director, **Eric Geall**, outlined his District activities and, as his personal initiative, suggested a series of town hall meetings, bringing the village together in considering Bamfield's future. These would be conducted by a professional facilitator. Other business: **Renia Charytonowicz** was critical of the Community Park and Garden...sounds like volunteer material to me. On a positive note, **Catherine Thompson** added that there is a solid core of students taking advantage of the Community School Association's high school advancement/diploma completion program, right-on! L. Druehl

The Incredible Shrinking Village. Between 2006 and 2011 Bamfield's population fell from 251 to 155, -38%. In 2011 there were 169 residences of which 85 were usually occupied. BC grew 7%, Vancouver Island 4%, and Port Alberni 1%. Statistics Canada, 2011.

Our Member of Parliament. **James Lunney**, Conservative Party of Canada, tabled Bill C-388: An Act to establish a National Vitamin D Day. Status: First Reading on 2012-02-02.

Aurora borealis revealed by a BCSA community lunch. **Bev and Rick Macloed** prepared a Mardi Gras lunch (chicken Creole, jambalaya, dirty rice and red beans, Mardi Gras punch and beaver tails or whale tails) for 26 villagers. Said Bev, "I hope everyone enjoyed it. Was nice to see so many 'out to lunch.'" Wait till you find out what we have planned for the 14th of March!" Special lunches open to the public, \$5, reserve with Catherine, BCSA, 728-1220. L. Druehl.



Stacy Hrushowy, BMSC instructor, biologist, with Horned Puffin study skin. Photo Jane Morrison

Coming Events in March at the Bamfield school:

- March 6, 13, 20, 27 - Computer Classes 3:30-4:30pm.
- 6 - An Evening at the Archives, notes on Bamfield history 7:30pm.
- 14 - Community Lunch. Noon. \$5.
- 19 - Community Affairs. 7:30pm.
- 22 - Documentary Night to celebrate World Water Day. Movie starts at 7pm.
- 26 - Last day to submit entries for the Short Story & Poetry Competition.
- 26 - OCP draft presented to the community.
- 29 - Parents As Literacy Supporters Workshop, TBA. Catherine Thompson, BCSA Program Coordinator

Ponderosa: a mini-history. This month Suzanne introduces another trailer park character. **Bucktail**, from Davis, California, used to drive his truck up and sleep in the back of his truck and cook on a propane burner. I think the first boat was a car-top kind and Dad (**Len Jennings**) persuaded him to buy something in Canada that would be safer.--a 12 or 14 ft speed boat. He came for years and joined the crew in the Ponderosa. His snow white head of hair reminded people of a bucktail lure and so he got the nickname [common occurrence in Bamfield...**Salal Joe, Seabird Mac, Shaky Bill**] and he might have made bucktails for fishing. His 'real' name was **John Tiernan**, beloved around **Ostrom's Machine Shop** for all his stories. Caught his limit in fish and froze them so he had a winter supply. Led an amazing life---only know a bit--during the depression he was a wheat/cereal salesman and travelled all over the states. He was also an insurance salesman. When he retired he took a course at the local college about China and then travelled there. Took ikebana classes and was willing to teach that. He researched the pioneer's ordeal along the Oregon Trail and with a group spent several months camping along the same path. He was an avid ham radio operator and talked to people all over the world. He had many birthdays in Bamfield...his 80th and more. Lived 'til he was in his early 90's. We think he died in 1999 maybe March when Dad was in the hospital. Suzanne Jennings

Rare Wayfarer. At the end of January, after some winter storms, 6 alcids (heavy bodied diving seabirds) washed up on beaches near Bamfield. One specimen found on Pachena Beach was a Horned Puffin—the first ever seen in the Bamfield area. **Anne Stewart** (Public Ed Coordinator, BMSC) said two Tufted Puffins and three Rhinoceros Auklets were also found at that time. **Stacey Hrushowy** (photo opposite) performed a necropsy and examined stomach contents and determined that 'Humphrey', an older juvenile male Horned Puffin, likely died from starvation due to lacking feeding skills or being blown off course from his winter feeding grounds. His stomach contents consisted of black gunk—first thought to be oil, but his feathers were in perfect condition. Testing is being done to confirm that it is squid ink, as many squid beaks and tiny fish bones were found in the gut. Humphrey the Horned Puffin will live on in as a study skin in the teaching collection at BMSC for many future students and visitors to study and admire. Jane Morrison

A Dreary Winter. We are bushed, afflicted with cabin fever. Many friends suffered illnesses; the weather seemed particularly awful; the days too short, the villagers snarkier, the merchants more quarrelsome and the celery limp. All of which would never have happened if we had celebrated **Robbie Burns Day, Valentine Day, or at least Ground Hog Day.** L. Druehl

The New Bamfielder Report Card. In addition to 86 distributed hardcopies of the January 2012 issue of *TNB* there were 555 hits on www.bamfielder.ca. There seems to be a hunger out there for Bamfield news. Three *TNB* mentorships for our students have been initiated: **Poppy Butler** (Photoshop, photography with **Mark Doherty**), **Dillinger Williams** (visual arts with **Roseline Leyvraz-Fallecker**), and **Sabrina Williams** (piano, we need help with this one!). Expenses for these are paid by your donations. *Thank you, readers.* L. Druehl

To Die For! Rod's Fish Dish- feeds 6-8. Use halibut, lingcod, rockfish, crab, ect. Ingredients: Halibut (3-4 lb filet*), Sour cream (2 medium tubs), Miracle whip (2 cups), Onion (1 large), Dill (1/4 cup), Pepper (to taste), Garlic (2 cloves crushed).
 1. Brown sliced onion and garlic in butter.
 2. Bake halibut at 350 for 20 min, drain juice and break meat apart.
 3. Mix onions and garlic with fish.
 4. Mix sour cream, miracle whip and dill together in a bowl and add fish and pepper.
 5. Bake dish at 350 for 1/2 hr then broil a few minutes till surface brown.
 6. Serve on rice. Jim Bowker
 *Only in Bamfield would one glibly say, "3-4 lb halibut filet." \$16-\$26 per pd in Vancouver!

Oysters, Authors & Ale will take place on April 14th, 2012. This celebration will feature an oyster bar, readings, ale tasting, a Vancouver Island jazz duo, local artwork and a silent auction. This year's exciting line-up of authors includes **Bob McVie, Clay Evans, James Spencer, Louis Druehl, Eleanor Wilson Hancock and Sylvia Olsen**, who has received over 20 acclamations, awards and nominations for her writings. Half of all ticket sales and all funds from the silent auction go towards literacy initiatives in Bamfield and Anacla. The winner of the Short Story & Poetry Competition will also have the opportunity to read at this year's event; the theme is "A Different View" and the submission deadline is March 26th. Catherine Thompson

Letters and comments are welcome. Submissions will be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. Classifieds should not exceed 15 words (no commercial ads). All submissions must have the author's name and telephone number. Submit to ldruehl@island.net. *The New Bamfielder* is a free paper but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. Louis Druehl