



# The Galiano Club Annual Report 2011

## Introduction

The Galiano Club was incorporated as a non-profit society on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1924 to:

- a) encourage social, recreational and educational activity in Galiano
- b) foster agricultural interests in Galiano
- c) form a public library
- d) build a public hall which shall be used for the above three purposes

Since the founding of the Club, the objects have been amended to include holding and administering in trust for the community Bluffs Park and Mt. Galiano. Both properties are zoned “nature protection”. Also added was administration of the heritage forest lands, zoned “heritage forest”, in accordance with covenants on these lands. In all, the Club is responsible for 830 acres of land on Galiano Island.

In the 1927, the Galiano Club built the South Galiano Community Hall. This Hall still stands today and is in constant use. It was expanded slightly over the years.

Current Galiano Club Constitution:

This Club shall be called THE GALIANO CLUB

2. The objects of the Society shall be:

- (a) to encourage social, recreational and educational activity on Galiano Island.
- (b) to maintain a public hall which may be available for use by any person or persons who wish to use it in accordance with the above purposes.
- (c) to hold and administer lands as described in the Bluffs Park and the Mount Galiano Trust Agreements, as directed therein.
- (d) to hold and administer heritage forest lands (zone FH) in accordance with heritage forest covenants on such lands.
- (e) to foster agricultural interests on Galiano Island.

# 2011

## Activities of the Society

### The Galiano Club Lands Update

- **The Bluffs, Mt Galiano** - The primary work of the Galiano Club in relation to the lands this past year has been the maintaining of trails and clearing fallen trees. Club Directors and volunteers regularly walk the trails to identify what work there is to be done. The clearing of trails is done by volunteers. The gravel road through the Bluffs is a dedicated Highways road and is maintained by the contracted highways maintenance service, Mainroad Contracting Ltd. In 2011, Mainroad donated worker time and materials to repair the road to the Bluffs lookout and to level the lookout parking lot. This has made a big difference to travel to and parking at the lookout. For firefighting purposes there also are stores of water in the Bluffs and on Mt Galiano.
- **Japanese Pit Kiln (Bluffs Park)** – In the late 1800’s several charcoal pit kilns were built on Galiano Island to make charcoal for the Steveston canneries. These kilns were built by Japanese Canadians whose families primarily came from the Wakayama Prefecture in Japan. Several years ago the pit kiln in Bluffs Park was restored by Steve Nemtin. On three occasions representatives of the Japanese Canadian community (Wakayama Kenjin Kai) have travelled to Galiano to visit the pit kiln and the Japanese graves in the cemetery and to have a lunch at the Hall with Club and Galiano Museum representatives. A sign in English and Japanese was erected at the top of Highland Rd. marking the trail to the pit kiln, just inside the west border of the Bluffs.
- **The Heritage (Community) Forest** - Many kilometres of trails have now been opened but it is still difficult to keep the broom at bay. Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission erected a kiosk at the Georgia View entrance to the Heritage Forest with a map of the trails. In 2012, more work is planned to follow up the work done in 2010 to establish and name trails. The Galiano Club received a donation to be applied toward work in the Heritage Forest from the Galiano Island Forest Association that wound up its society in 2011.

## The Galiano Community Hall

- **Hall Usage** – In 2011, the Hall was booked 249 times for health and exercise (104), Galiano Club (53, of which 30 were the Food Program), meetings and other groups (37), elections/private/sales/festivals (31), concerts/shows (20), weddings and dances (4).
- **Hall Roof** – This past August, the Hall roof was replaced. Bob Boyechko and his crew did a fantastic job of removing the old roofs, repairing the sheathing and installing the new roof. The roof replacement was made possible by fundraising that included the “Shingle” campaign, grants from the Capital Regional District as well as a large donation from Galiano Club Life Member, Kathy Benger.
- **Front Steps** – Past Club President Don Anderson donated his time to replace the Hall front steps with a much safer designed staircase.
- **Hall Floors** – The Hall and stage floors were re-coated last August by Louis Gonthier who donated all of his time. The floors cannot be sanded any more as they are too worn.
- **Electrical System** – Over the past few months, with the support of AgriSpirit – Farm Credit Canada, the Hall electrical system has been updated and augmented. Hall users will find well labelled panels and outlets when this work is completed.
- **Freezer** – The Club received a grant from New Horizons for Seniors for a large commercial type freezer to support, among other activities, the Soup for Seniors program.
- **In-Kind Donations** – The Club continues to benefit from the generosity of islanders who this year donated many pieces of kitchen equipment and carpeting for the Hall. Also donated in part were freight services, labour and materials for the renovation work in the Hall and outdoor gardening, tree removal and chipping.

## The Galiano Club Community Food Program

The Galiano Club Community Food Program continues to be the busiest program area of the Club. Through fundraising and cost-recovery we continue to be able to employ 2 part-time coordinators. 2011 saw a change of Coordinators. Martine Paulin passed the baton on to Alison Colwell.

- **Community Potlucks** - The Food Program hosted NettleFest in March with picking and cooking parties, with other island organisations, organised the Harvest Community Picnic in September featuring Zucchini Races and a Best-Pie competition and hosted the Winter Solstice Feast in December featuring live and local entertainment. Over 400 meals were served at these gatherings in the last year and attendance is between 100-150 people at these events.
- **The Garlic Co-op** - This group gathers for regular work parties (about 2 hours per month) over 10 months, learning about preparing beds, planting and growing garlic and preparing compost. In 2011, approximately 2,000 garlic cloves were planted. The harvest will be divided among the co-op members and the Food Program. The co-op has 23 members.
- **Galiano Farm Experience** - The Food Program works with local farmers (Cable bay Farm and Galiano Sunshine Farm) to offer participants a number of ways to join in the Farm Project, from work parties on beds that will yield food for the Food Program and Food Bank, to trading labour for irrigated and fenced beds on the farm. Last year there were over 20 work parties at the farms.
- **Gleaning** - In this project, property owners invite volunteer labour to collect their fruit. A share of the bounty goes to the land-owner. The rest goes to the people who pick the fruit, to the Food Bank and the Food Program for community kitchens and other redistribution efforts. There were 6 gleanings at a variety of orchards last year.
- **Community Kitchens** - Once a month community members gather to cook as a group. It's a great way to meet new people, learn new kitchen skills, enjoy a nice dinner and get some food ready-made to take home. In total, there were 5 community kitchens including the Giant Pumpkin Kitchen Party and one "Soup

for Kids” kitchen, which enabled parents to put away soup for a year of hot lunches at the school.

- **Soup for Seniors** - This ongoing project brings together a committed group of volunteers who make the soup to be frozen, and distributed to seniors, people in need and the Food Bank on a regular basis. We have had 9 soup making kitchens and made over 650 containers of soup.
- **School Programs** - The Food Program works with the Galiano Community School to maintain the school garden. Food program coordinators and community volunteers work with the school children teaching them about gardening, composting, ecology and how to grow and harvest food.

This year’s projects have included:

- Bread-making Workshops
  - WormFest – creating a red wiggler farm
  - Orchard Day
  - Orchard Tea – Interviews with landowners
  - AppleFest
  - Tasty Wednesdays or Thursdays at the School Garden – 8 sessions
  - Regular work parties with parents and community members
  - Weekly in-class and in-field sessions with staff and students in spring
  - Providing Lunch and support at the multi-island Sports Day
- **Greenhouse Project** - The Community Greenhouse and Seniors Garden is located at the School and represents an ongoing growing opportunity. It also hosts the Spring Starts Project for gardeners wishing to get an early start on the growing year. The group meets once a week during the spring seasons, less during the summer and has 11 members.
  - **Workshops** - The Food Program hosts workshops on food-related topics of interest to the island’s community. Topics are wide ranging and in the last year have included:
    - Garden Troubleshooting
    - Winter Gardening
    - Jam Making

- Harvest Pickling
- Smoking Salmon
- Plant Propagation
- Hands on Learning - Fruit Tree Planting

Upcoming workshops include:

- Cheese Making
  - Food Safe
- **Inter-Island Projects** - Connecting to the islands around us seem like a natural extension of how we can provide for ourselves as well as support interesting and productive projects that other individuals and groups are undertaking. This year the Food Program hosted a group from the Gabriola Commons and shared our program information with each other in a dynamic fun-filled afternoon. Other Galiano groups were represented during an open community discussion. Later in the summer, a flotilla of boats from the Gabriola Futures project met with us at Montague beach where we discussed interisland transportation and event combining over a potluck that included many of the Galiano Community. The Agricultural visit to Mayne Island revealed how much our close neighbour has going for it on farms and at markets. We attended the annual gathering of the Island Natural Growers Association.

## Galiano Players

In 2011, the Galiano Players and the Galiano Club decided to join forces with the Players becoming part of the Galiano Club. It was felt that by having a permanent home that there could be a revival of theatre on the island and a place for the many community talents. The stage lighting system is being updated, the stage floor has been repainted, the green room (Players' Room) has been revamped and new back drop curtains will be installed this year. Sylvie Beauregard will take on the role of producer with Marek Czuma as director. The plan is to produce one or two plays per year. Last year the performance of Rose's dilemma was very successful and Marek is already working on a new play for the later part of the summer.

## Collaboration

In August, the Galiano Community Collaboration held its first meeting to look at ways that the community could build in more collaboration among island organisations. This initiative was promoted by the Victoria Foundation as a result of their support of the Galiano Club Community Food Program. It produced some very interesting results through the fall and winter of 2011, into 2012 and is ongoing. In September, many island organisations came together to organise the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual All Island Community Picnic. An on-line volunteer board was created on the “community website”, [www.activegaliano.org](http://www.activegaliano.org), as well as on-line membership renewal and donation functions for various organisations. This is an exciting, positive process.

## Administration

- **Policies** – The Board continues to spend time developing policies on a range of administrative areas including Hall rentals, contracting and the lands.
- **Job Descriptions** – Job descriptions for the table officers have been developed.
- **Constitution and By-Laws** – Resolutions were passed at the 2011 Annual General Meeting addressing the resolution passed at the 2009 AGM concerning gender specific language in the Constitution and By-Laws. The amendments that were passed were “house-keeping” in nature including raising the financial authority to match another section approved at the 2009 AGM. New last year was a proposal for a “Youth Membership” category to recognise the many youth who are involved in volunteering for the Club.
- **Life Members** – There currently are three life members, Kathy Bengert, Sue Evans and Margaret Howell who have been recognised for their tremendous contributions to the Galiano Club.
- **Fiesta** – The Club had a booth at the Lion’s Fiesta events last summer. The visitors to the booths had a chance to talk about all of the Club’s projects
- **Membership** – There were more than 300 Galiano Club members in 2011.



## **Club Fundraising**

The Galiano Club Board has a fundraising committee to look at ways to increase revenues. The Blackberry Festival and Christmas Market are the primary fundraising events for the Galiano Club. They are very successful and help the Club keep the Hall rental rates as low as possible. The committee is looking into holding two flea markets a year in addition to an Open House each spring and a Strawberry Tea in June. The committee would like to spread the events over the course of the year. The Club Financial Report is attached as a separate document. Currently, Hall rentals pay for approximately 50% of the running of the Hall and insurance on the lands.

## **Governance**

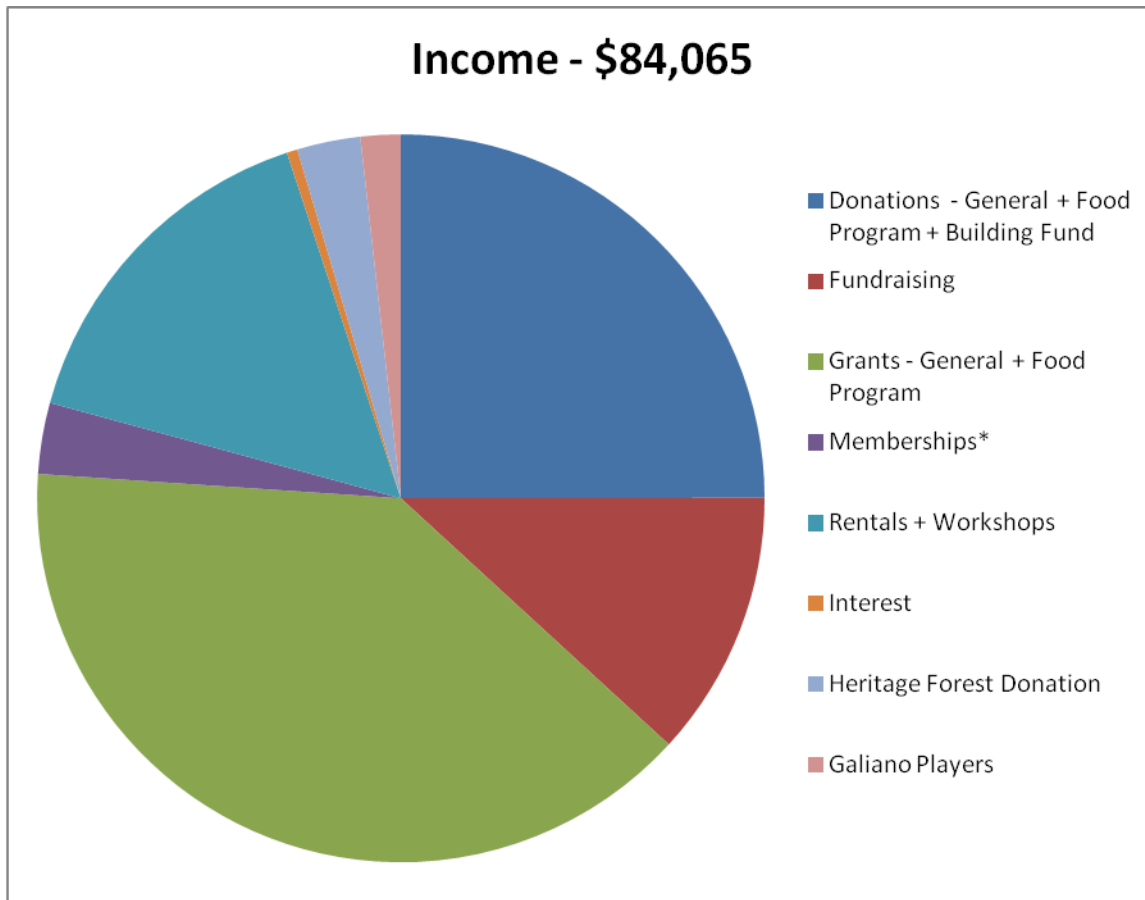
The Galiano Club is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors (up to 12) half of whom are elected at the Annual General Meeting held each spring in May. The Board meets monthly to discuss the business of the Club and oversee its operations.

## **Board of Directors – 2011/2012**

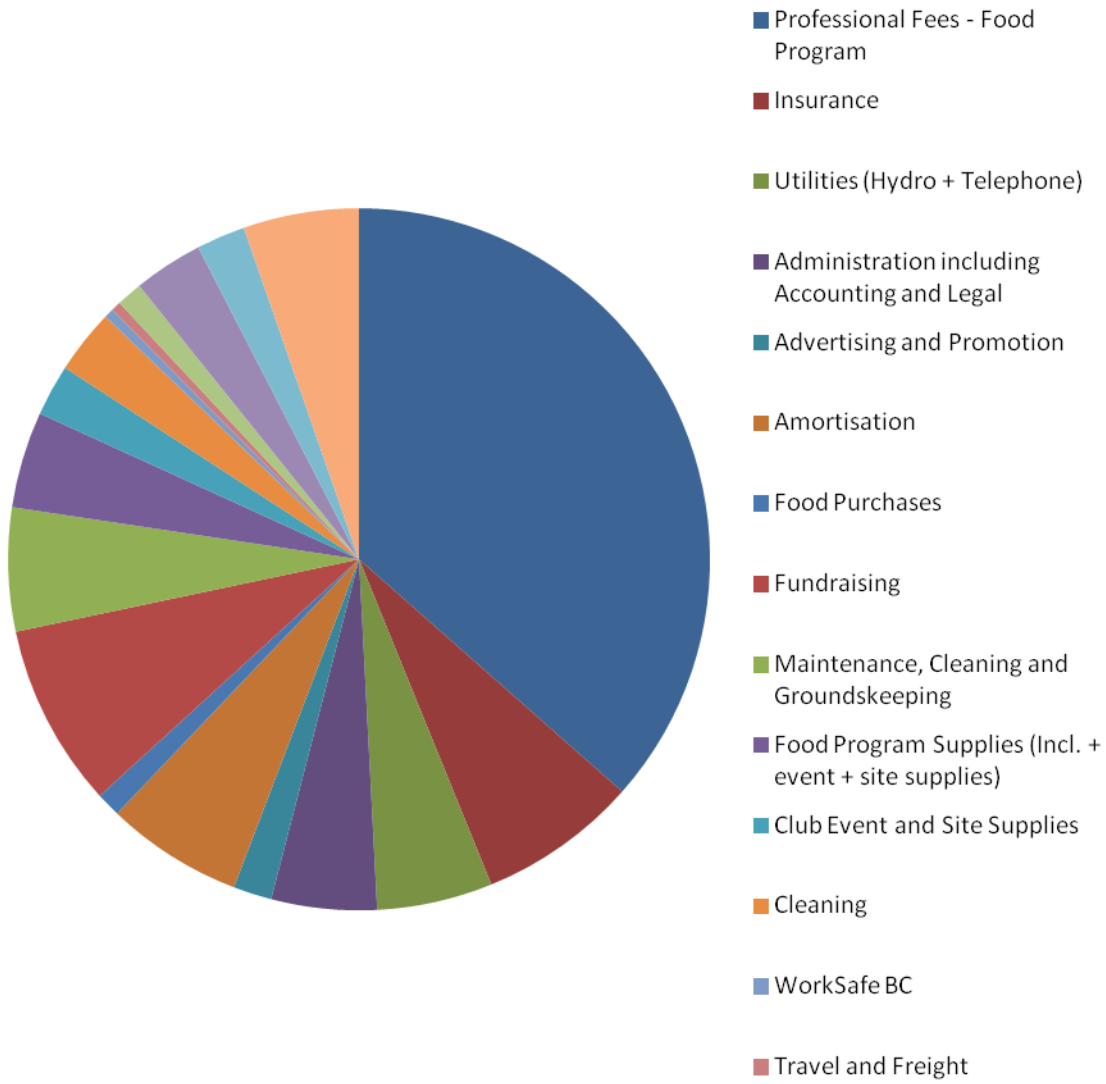
Leo Engelmann  
Akasha Forest - Secretary  
Deblekha Guin – Assistant Treasurer  
Judy Hayes - Treasurer  
Meghan MacKay  
Richard Nathans  
Jamaica Reimer  
Laurene Stefanyk  
Jane Wolverton - President  
Holly Ziwicki

# 2011

## Financial Picture



## Expenses - \$84,448



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## Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission



a place of mind

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