



The Galiano Club

Annual Report

2012



Introduction

The Galiano Club was incorporated as a non-profit society on December 5th, 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 that lands. In all, the Club is responsible for 830 acres of land on Galiano Island or 5.78% of the island’s land mass.

In the 1927, the Galiano Club built the South Galiano Community Hall. It was officially opened by Lieutenant Governor, Randolph Bruce, in 1929. 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 broad-based agricultural interests and promote food security on Galiano Island.



2012

Activities of the Society

This past year was a busy one for the Galiano Club. Included here is a brief summary of our 2012 activities.

The Galiano Club Lands Update

- **The Bluffs, Mt Galiano** - The primary work of the Galiano Club in relation to the lands this past year continues to be 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. In 2012, the Bluffs' park signs were restored and a new sign posted at the west entrance. The mystery of the old tanks at the back edge of the Bluffs was solved. These came from the tug the "Active" and were probably placed in the Bluffs in the 1950's. 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. The interpretive sign at the pit kiln was unveiled by Lieutenant Governor, Iona Campagnolo in 2002. A sign in English and Japanese at the top of Highland Rd. marks 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, we received a grant from Vancity to develop a plan for thinning and restoration. Herb Hammond has been engaged to assist the Club starting in 2013 with this project. The Galiano Club also holds a donation for work in the Heritage Forest from the Galiano Island Forest Association that wound up its society in 2011.



The Galiano Community Hall

- **Hall Usage** – The Hall was booked 292 times in 2012. These bookings include 133 times for health and exercise, 34 for regular meetings and annual general meetings, 11 for elections, sales, festivals or private events, 17 for concerts and shows, 9 for weddings and dances and 88 by the Club for plays, Community Collaboration and the Food Program.
- **Grand Piano** – In 2012, local resident, Will Guthrie, donated his grand piano to the Galiano Club Community Hall. This piano arrived on the island in June after travelling from Fiji where Will had been living part-time. After acclimatising to Galiano, the piano was repaired, tuned and introduced to the community at “Tea and Tunes” in November. This is a great addition to the Hall. The piano is jointly “managed” with the Concert Society and increases the possibilities of more piano recitals in the Concert Society music series. Mary Greenwood is the Club’s liaison with the Concert Society.
- **Hall Blinds** – In 2012, we began installation of black out blinds that will allow for darkening the Hall during daylight for films, concerts or presentations using the audio-visual equipment. There will be blinds for all of the windows in the main hall.
- **Hall Floors** – The Hall and stage floors were re-coated again last October by Louis Gonthier who donated all of his time. The floors cannot be sanded any more as they are too worn.
- **Electrical System** – With the generous support of AgriSpirit – Farm Credit Canada, the Hall electrical system has been updated and augmented. This has allowed us to install new theatre lights and speakers in the main hall. Hall users will find well labelled panels and outlets when this work is completed.
- **In-Kind Donations** – The Club continues to benefit from the generosity of islanders who this year donated many pieces of kitchen equipment and services to the Club. Also donated in part were freight services, labour and materials for the renovation work in the Hall and outdoor gardening.

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 have been able to employ 4 very part-time coordinators. The Coordinators are Janice Oakley, Alison Colwell, Emma Davis

and Barry New. Emma and Barry joined at the end of 2012 as a result of hours freed up by Janice Oakley's focus primarily on the school programs.

The Food Program was established in 2008 to address food security on the island, with a particular focus on seniors, through strengthening growing, preserving and cooking skills, holding community pot lucks and establishing a soup and meals program.

Everyone is welcome to participate at whatever level they can.

The overall funding for the Food Program in 2012 came from the United Way of Greater Victoria which has been very generous and supportive of the work of the Program.

- **Community Potlucks** - The Food Program hosted the 5th Annual NettleFest in March and with other island organisations, organised the 3rd Annual Community Picnic in September featuring Zucchini Races and a Best-Pie competition. The Food Program hosted the Winter Solstice Feast in December featuring live and local entertainment. Over 450 participated at these gatherings last year.
- **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 2012, 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 29 members including 6 children.
- **Greenhouse Growing** - There were 19 participants in the Community Greenhouse growing group who were learning from an experienced greenhouse grower and a master gardener. The greenhouse was funded in part by a VanCity grant received in 2010. It is located adjacent to the Community School beside the new library.
- **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. There were over 400 kilos of food harvested in 2012. The Vancouver Island Health Authority was a supporter in 2012 of our farm and growing projects.
- **Gleaning** - In this project, property owners invite volunteer labour to pick their fruit and vegetables. 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 27 people involved in gleanings at a variety of properties last year. There was much less fruit available due to the caterpillar infestation and the cold spring.



- **Community Kitchens and Workshops** - 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 6 community kitchens and 11 workshops involving a total of 183 participants. The workshop topics included winter gardening and composting, canning and pickling, pastry making, cheese-making and the 3rd island FoodSafe Level 1 course.
- **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 7 soup and meal making kitchens and produced 425 containers of soup and 67 frozen meals. This project evolved in late 2012 into a monthly soup and bread luncheon. In 2012, 196 people came for lunch.
- **School Programs** - The Food Program coordinators and volunteers work closely with the Galiano Community School to maintain the school garden and to teach the school children about gardening, composting, ecology and how to grow and harvest food. The garden is so popular with the students that they often are seen there "grazing" at recess and lunch. The Capital Regional District has funded in part the school project.

This year's projects have included:

Tasty Thursdays – There were 14 Tasty Thursdays in total with approximately 6 students each week working in the garden, preparing food from the garden for all at recess and then distributing any leftovers to the classrooms for lunch.

AppleFest – The whole school and 7 volunteers participated in the fall AppleFest afternoon of tastings, games, art and making cider the old fashioned way.

Worm Day – This involved the whole school in learning all about worms and their role in soil building.

Fruit Tree and Mapping Project – This project (supported by a grant from United Way of Greater Victoria) involved the whole school along with 12 elders, community members and orchard owners in learning about fruit bearing trees on the island, mapping their locations and interviewing the elders about the early days on Galiano.

Cooking Workshops – Cooking workshops with the students were held again in 2012. The small numbers in the school have allowed for a lot of individualised learning.

- **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. The Food Program continues to reach out to the other islands, Gabriola and Mayne in particular.



- **Penelakut** – The Food Program, A.M.E.S. (Access to Media Education Society) and the H'ulh-etun Health Society (of Penelakut, formerly called Kuper, Island) have been collaborating on a project funded by the HRDC New Horizons for Seniors. This project involves recording and filming discussions between Penelakut and Galiano Elders on wild food and foraging, connecting people from both islands, sharing meals and creating a film. This will be completed in 2013.
- **UBC Land and Food Systems** – For the past 3 years the Food Program and UBC LFS students have collaborated on small projects. The students have through their research and community hours on island contributed to our local knowledge and provided voluntary labour.
- **Enterprising Non-Profit** – Alison Colwell is leading an initiative funded in the fall of 2012 by the Vancouver Foundation to look at ways in which the Food Program could become self-sustaining. She has been aided in this exploration by an advisory committee and will be reporting out in the fall of 2013.

Galiano Players

In 2011, the Galiano Players and the Galiano Club joined forces, with the Players becoming part of the Galiano Club. With this move it feels as if there has been a revival of theatre on the island and a place for the many talented islanders to perform. The hall and stage lighting and sound systems have been updated; the stage floor has been repainted; the green room (The Bengier Room) has been revamped and new back drop curtains are about to be installed. Sylvie Beauregard has taken on the role of producer with Marek Czuma as director. In 2012, “Baby with the Bathwater”, a dark comedy by Christopher Durang, was performed on four nights to large crowds. The plan is to present one to two plays per year.

Collaboration

In August 2011, 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 3rd Annual All Island Community Picnic. An on-line volunteer board was created on the “community website”, www.activegaliano.org (now www.activeislands.com), as well as on-line membership

renewal and donation functions for various organisations. The Galiano Community Development Office developed from discussions begun in the Collaboration 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 2012 Annual General Meeting regarding the membership year and expanding the objects of the Society.
- **Life Members** – There currently are two life members, Sue Evans and Margaret Howell who have been recognised for their tremendous contributions to the Galiano Club.
- **Youth Members** – The Club’s Junior Members participate in many Club activities from pie making and serving at the Blackberry Festival and helping with parking safety. The Club’s Directors will be working with the Junior Members to help them organise and hold their own events. The Junior Membership category was approved at the 2011 Annual General Meeting. Junior Memberships are free from children under 12 (with parental consent) and for youth (ages 13 to 18).
- **Jamboree/Fiesta** – The Club had booths at the North End Jamboree and 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 223 Galiano Club members in 2012.

Life Member Kathy Bengler

On June 1st, 2012 Galiano lost a long-time community member, one who contributed so much to the Galiano Club and to the community. For years, Kathy and her late husband Basil Bengler supplied the majority of blackberries used for the pies at the annual Thanksgiving weekend Blackberry Festival. Kathy was active in all kinds of Club and community activities including the Food Program, dances and theatrical productions at the Hall. Kathy also made a large donation to the Club in 2011 that enabled the Club to go ahead with replacing the roof of the Hall. Along with Basil, Kathy was one of 4 Life Members of the Galiano Club, an honour given for outstanding service. The Galiano Club Board unanimously voted to rename the “Players” or “Green” Room, “The Bengler Room” in honour of the contributions of both Kathy and Basil to theatre and music on Galiano Island.

Club Fundraising

The plays, 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 Club Financial Report is attached as a separate document. Currently, Hall rentals pay for less than half the cost of the running of the Hall and paying for insurance on the lands.

Thank You!

The Club would like to recognise the strong support of the community through memberships in the Club, over 150 volunteers and the many generous donations made over the course of the year. These include the wonderful support of our local trades and merchants who often donate their labour and/or give discounts on materials. Our volunteers are involved in every aspect of the Club's activities including pulling broom, cooking, minor renovations of the Hall, washing dishes, hauling garbage, baking, making signs, taking photos, picking berries, collecting water samples, clearing trails, hauling materials and other goods from off island, painting, designing a website, refinishing, delivering meals, sewing, gardening, producing and directing plays and events, setting up and taking down tables and chairs at the Hall, doing recycling, giving advice, laundry and cleaning. This steady support helps the Board of Directors plan ongoing maintenance and upgrading projects for the Hall as well as the many activities in which the Club is involved.

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 – 2012/2013

Sylvie Beauregard

Leo Engelmann

Akasha Forest – Secretary

Mary Greenwood – Vice President

Deblekha Guin – Assistant Treasurer

Judy Hayes - Treasurer

Ian Maday

Richard Nathans

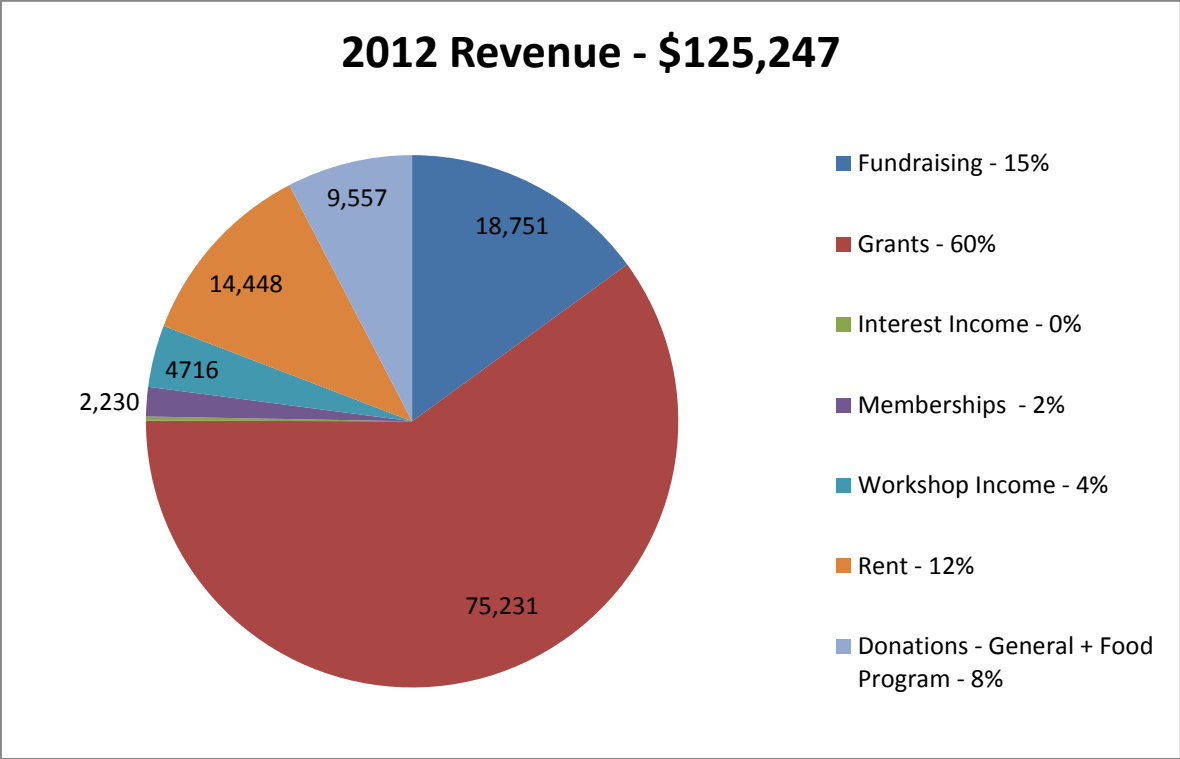
Laurene Stefanyk

Jane Wolverton - President

Holly Ziwicki



2012 Financial Picture



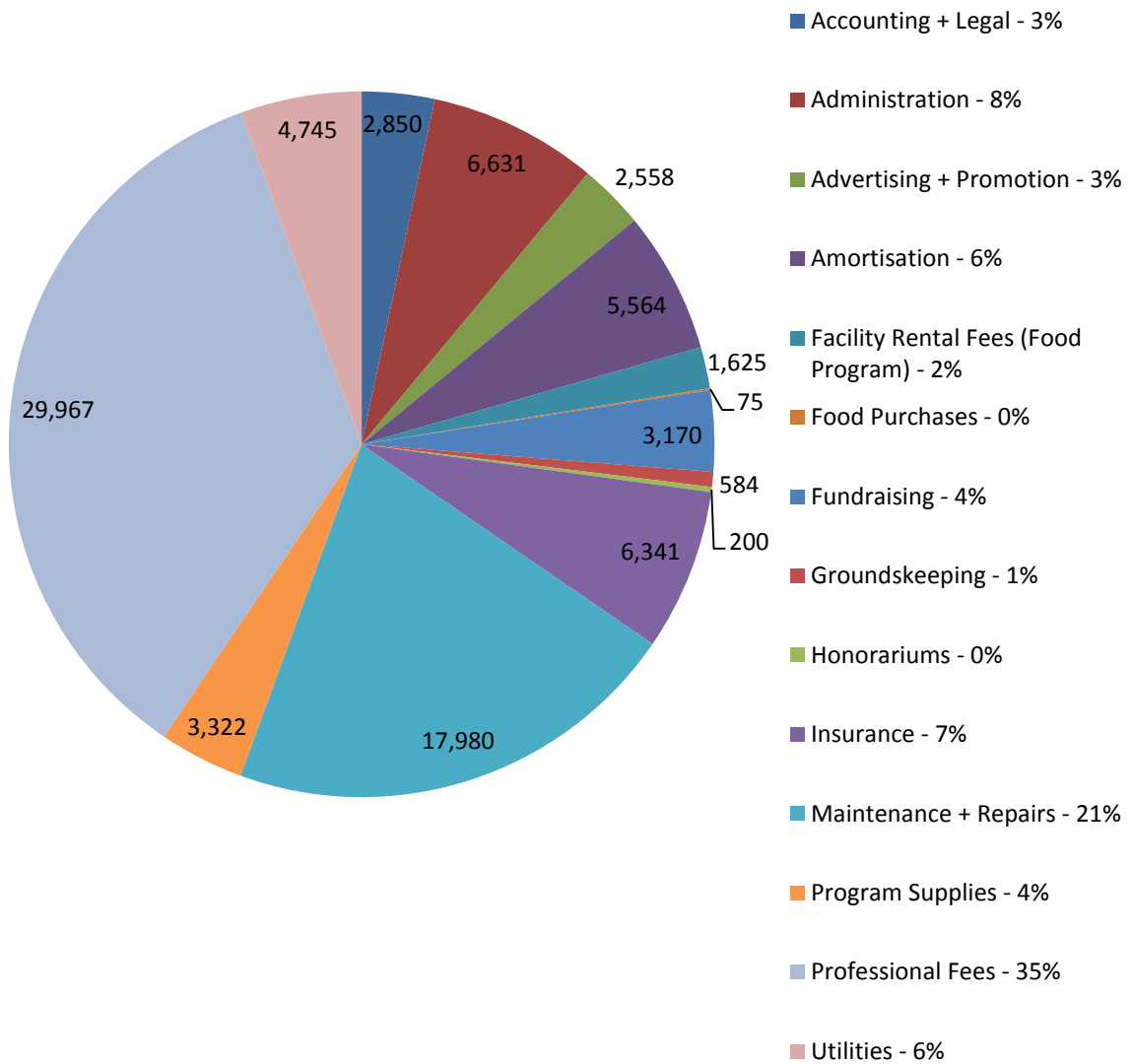
Notes

Of the \$75,231 received in grants, \$65,231 was for the Food Program. This funding covers activities for 2012 and part of 2013. Approximately \$25,000 of the Food Program funding has not been expended as the projects are ongoing.

The costs of maintaining the Community Hall are covered primarily through rentals, fundraising and donations.



2012 Expenses - \$85,612



Notes

The main changes between 2011 and 2012 have been an increase in “Administration” and “Advertising and Promotion”. The change in administration came with setting up the office and taking over all of the office costs, much of which had been covered by our previous tenant, A.M.E.S. The advertising and promotion costs have increased with the Galiano Players coming under the Club. Fundraising revenue also increased as a result.

Thanks to our Sponsors and Funders!



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