



What's happening in...

DEEP COVE HERITAGE SOCIETY

January 2013

Echoes Across Seymour book finally a reality



DCHS 4621 Echoes Across Seymour authors (left to right) Eileen Smith, Janet Pavlik and Desmond Smith

Reprinted with permission from the December 2012 issue of the Deep Cove Crier:

The first meeting to discuss a book which would carry on from where the first Deep Cove Heritage book, Echoes Across the Inlet, left off was in May 2007 — five and a half years ago. The new book would cover the 18 communities east of the Seymour River, including Mount Seymour and Indian Arm.

Janet Pavlik took on the role of Project Manager; this was fitting because it was Janet who spearheaded the beginning of the Deep Cove Heritage Society back in the 1980s. As Project Manager she would supervise having all the archived recorded interviews of residents

transcribed, interview current and past residents and oversee the collection of photos, maps, newspaper clippings, etc. that made up the Deep Cove Heritage Society archives. As well, Janet did most of the writing found in the book. In looking for information to connect stories, fact-check and add to materials she had, she was fortunate to meet Desmond Smith.

Desmond is a retired North Vancouver District Planner who was involved for many years with the developments in the Seymour area.

As well as having the facts at hand, he also knew where to find any that were needed. He wrote the openings to most

Calendar

- Jan 8 Janet giving Echoes Across Seymour book presentation at Blueridge Community Association meeting
- Jan 10 DC Heritage meeting in the meeting room of the Deep Cove Cultural Centre at 10:00 a.m.
- Feb 7 DC Heritage AGM and meeting at 10am in the Cultural Centre

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Website News

We are pleased to report that our website will now be updated regularly.

Please check for office hours before dropping by. We depend on the generosity of our volunteers who can not always offer structured hours.

The archived newsletters are back online. They can be found under the Resources tab at the top of the page. Double clicking on the blue title of the newsletter will open that document with all its photos.

A new Books tab has been added. This page is where comments from readers will be added. Fill in the form to email or write to us with your stories. You can also read recent reviews here.

Contact us

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President's Message

New Year's message

Dear Members —

Welcome to each of you in this New Year of 2013. In looking back through 2012, we have completed a number of activities and projects. Do drop in to see some of them in our office at the Cultural Centre or come to our meetings, generally held on the first Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. (the January meeting was postponed to

January 10, due to the holidays.)

Our biggest accomplishment of 2012 was the publishing of our new book *Echoes Across Seymour*. This beautiful book was written by Janet Pavlik, Desmond Smith and Eileen Smith. These three people are all dedicated members of the Deep Cove Heritage Society. They have made the many stories from the communities come to life. Thank you for all the stories and

pictures from the community; those that didn't appear in the book will become part of our permanent archives.

In this New Year of 2013, I wish for each of you a year of good will, kindness, courage when needed, patience and joy in each new day.

Sincerely,

Pat Morrice, President

**PLEASE SEND US YOUR STORIES AND MEMORIES TO
info@DEEPCOVEHERITAGE.com**

Keeping our history alive

You can purchase a copy of our new book *Echoes Across Seymour* from the Heritage office for \$39.95. This includes a one-year membership to the group. As well, our previous book, *Echoes Across the*

Inlet, now in its third printing is available for \$15 from the office. These books make great gifts; readers are encouraged to send their stories of the Seymour area to us either by mail to our office or through our website. Online go to www.deepcoveheritage.com, click

on the Books tab at the top. Here you can send your comments or read the book reviews.

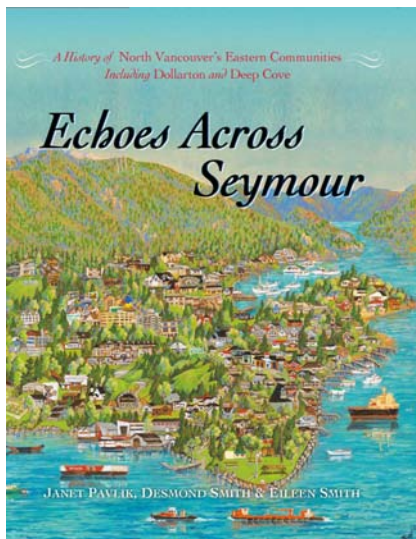
You can still purchase commemorative bricks for our heritage garden ~ make sure your names goes down in history! Call the office for details.

The "middle" Crab Shop bites the dust



Long time residents may remember the first Crab Shop (above left) that was on the south side of Dollarton Highway in Maplewood. It came down many years ago when the Crab Shop relocated to a building it shared with Accurate Iron Works at 2468 Dollarton (middle photo). This building is referenced in the Deeks Gravel Pit photo on page 55 of *Echoes Across Seymour*; the back of the building is in view in that photo. The Crab Shop moved into new digs at Kingswood Landing at 121 — 2455 Dollarton Highway in 2007. Accurate Iron Works have not currently found a place to relocate, but will hopefully be up and back in business under the same name in the spring (604-929-1513).

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chapters. Many members of the Society spent countless hours, researching, transcribing and interviewing for the book, including Pat Morrice, Vickie Boughen, Gail Hanlon, Shelley Harrison Rae and Carmen Harrington and countless others. Early on students Adam Wilson and Whitney Spears were involved in layout design ideas and research.

For my part in the project, I started scanning the over 800 photos in the archives so they would be in a digital format. This was something that needed to be done whether there was a book or not, to preserve the images.

Notices were put in the Deep Cove Crier asking for residents, current and past, to tell their stories of the whole Seymour area from over the past fifty or more years and to loan photos for the book and/or archives. The response was overwhelming, albums of wonderful photos and stories were shared. New photos of people, their

activities and pictures of landmarks from the ground, water and air were taken. In five years the original 800 photos grew to just shy of 5,000.

The information submitted for the book exploded in size and unfortunately, not everything made it into the final volume. The archives contain photos illustrating nearly every mention of text and pictures of nearly every individual mentioned. The format of the book changed a few times as they worked with the materials that had accumulated. At one point it was realized that this book was going to be an introduction, an invitation to explore the archives. Because there is not a photo of something or someone in the book does not mean there is not one on file.

As the book was taking shape, the group looked into the many options available to have it printed. These included having it published, self-published or publishing-on-demand. Then early last December, just before winding down a bit for the holiday, Harbour Publishing contacted them. Harbour Publishing, located in Madeira Park near Sechelt, is an award winning independent book publisher known for its books of local interest. Interested in a book of the Seymour area, it first gave the group a January 1st deadline to have all the material in its hands. Happily it extended that deadline. Deep Cove Heritage Society worked with Harbour most of this year and the book officially went on sale November 2nd.

Deep Cove Heritage Society now has two books. The first, *Echoes Across the*

Inlet by Dawn Sparks and Martha Border, edited by Damian Inwood was published by Deep Cove Heritage Society in 1989 (and reprinted twice since then.) It covers the early years of the Seymour area up to around the 1950s. The new *Echoes Across Seymour* starts where the first left off to present. Both books are available from the Heritage office in the Deep Cove Cultural Centre.

Deep Cove Heritage Society is hoping this new book will open a dialogue with residents and past residents. The information in the book was checked as much as possible, but some of it is, after all, people's memories. In her acknowledgements Janet states "If in reading this book you find that we got something wrong, we would appreciate you sending your recollections or facts to our website." Perhaps a story in the book reminds you of an interesting tidbit — they would like to hear about that too.

So what is next? The Deep Cove Heritage Society is working on getting all of its archives online so that everyone will be able to browse through these ever-changing communities. The group needs new members and volunteers; check the webpage regularly; meetings will now feature special guests and or unseen before photos or stories, the next meeting will be on January 10th at 10am in the meeting room of the Deep Cove Cultural Centre. They can be contacted at 604-929-5744 or www.deepcoveheritage.com. Here's a tip for holiday giving ... there is this great new book available ...

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of: The Province of British Columbia, The District of North Vancouver, The City of North Vancouver, The Arts Office, Canada Summer Jobs Program, New Horizons for Seniors Program, First Impressions Theatre, Deep Cove Crier, Cedar Springs Retirement Residence, North Shore Community Foundation. **We appreciate the ongoing support of our Deep Cove Cultural Centre partner groups:** Deep Cove Stage, First Impressions Theatre and Seymour Art Gallery.

The Christmas Spud Gun

— by Wayne Smith

I had no idea a piece of potato fired into my mouth could hurt so much. Father had taken careful aim with my new Christmas pistol and blasted a piece of potato down the back of my throat. I was on the floor in agony.

As a youngster growing up I had received many little weapons from father at Christmas time. There was a sheath knife, I cut up fish with that, then came the hatchet which I used to cut down the landlord's trees. Next a pellet gun used to hunt things I shouldn't have, including my sister's big toe. Then a bow and arrow which I shot straight up in the air just to see how high the arrows could go, never found where they landed. But the most painfully memorable gift I received from dad at Christmas was the Spud Gun.

Dad seemed concerned that I be able to shoot things as he had done in his Army training days in Northern Ireland; and I am sure these little Christmas gifts of weaponry were meant to better my understanding of self defence. With the Spud Gun the tables were turned on me and I

became the moving target. I will never forget the pain it caused me.

The neat little box was under our Christmas tree the morning of December 25th, 1959; I was eight years old at the time. I left the small box which was about the size of a box of Cracker Jacks till last and opened it with dad smiling on. "Oh its heavy, could it be another weapon," I wondered. I wedged open the box and there lay a large hand gun, painted steely blue like a German revolver. The end of the barrel was sharp and dad explained how to cock the powerful spring in the gun. The action was like breaking a stick with a bending motion. Then he showed me how to press the sharp tip of the barrel into a raw potato which broke off and became ammunition lodged in the gun.

Dad took charge of shooting and soon his blue eyes glinted down the barrel of that loaded potato gun. Several rounds were cracked off in the living room. Mum's Winston jug took a few direct hits without causing any visible damage. Soon the living room was an Army pistol range and I became a birdie target. Yes a big bird with

flapping wings and a large mouth, which foolishly gaped open.

"Shoot me dad, shoot me, I bet you can't hit me in the mouth." I danced around the living room, flapped my arms up and down, and opened my mouth wide as a target. Dad was hopeless with a moving target; he missed me a hundred times. It was that one in a hundred shot that I will always remember. I guess I slowed down my birdie dance and opened my big mouth just wide enough for dad to score a direct hit. The searing pain as the little piece of potato struck my "giggle counter" as dad called that little flap of skin in the back of my mouth was bad, but what really hurt was when that flying piece of spud hit the back of my throat. Wow, agony; I dropped to the floor in a death show which included real choking and much thrashing around. Dad was ecstatic, finally a direct hit, he bellowed with laughter and I moaned on the floor and held my throat. I remember thinking, what a fool thing I had done but what a Christmas present. Lesson learned we stuck to non-living targets after that well almost — there was at least one direct hit on my sister's big toe.

Be involved in your community

We are looking for more volunteers to mingle with visitors to our office. We would appreciate it if you could volunteer occasionally. Also, do you have expertise or interest in one or more of the following:

- Working with the local schools on Heritage Projects
- Talking with local Seniors to obtain stories/photos
- Giving 2-4 hours a month assisting in the office
- Using computer skills to send messages,

work on the Newsletter and correspondence

- Working on Archival projects
- Creating displays
- Assisting in obtaining grants and/or fund-raising projects
- Publicity experience
- Giving presentations to Brownies, Guides, Scouts and Seniors Groups
- Phoning committee

Call and volunteer!

Our number is 604-929-5744.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES



3944 - Merv Ovesen, Penguin Plunge creator at first annual dip in 1983.