



What's happening in...

DEEP COVE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Spring 2019



DCHS #5281 Fred and Marilyn Myers with Fred's carving of Ben Allway

Fred Myers ~ Carving our history

by Eileen Smith

It was in the 1970s that Fred Meyers noted a familiar sight, an elderly man out clearing street gutters, using his tree limb walking stick as a tool, while sheltered from the rain under his umbrella. When he remarked to his wife, Marilyn, she told him he should take a picture of the man. Fred said he was going to do something, but not take a picture, instead he would do a carving.

Fred and Marilyn have lived in Deep Cove for the past fifty years; they raised their son, Steve, and daughter, Sandy here. They have

documented their love of the Cove and all its changes in hundreds of photos over the years. Many of those pictures are now copied into the Deep Cove Heritage Archives. Marilyn has been a Board Member of Deep Cove Heritage Society for many years and is, as well, a regular volunteer both for it and the Seymour Art Gallery. They are both tremendous community supporters.

Fred started his life in Brooks, Alberta, eventually moving with his family to live in Vancouver and Burnaby areas. He said his family moved a lot during his elementary

Calendar

- Indian Arm Boat Cruise, Tues, Aug 13
- Deep Cove Daze, Sun, Aug 25
- Jewellery Sale, Sun., Aug 25
- Culture Days Sept 27-29 (Finger Weaving Demo on Sun, Sept 29 in meeting room)

Office Hours

Open Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am to 4pm; Wednesdays 1pm to 4pm; Fridays & Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm when volunteers are available. Closed Mondays. **Deep Cove Heritage Society is looking for volunteers to help keep our office open for visitors to the area. If you are interested in helping, please call 604-929-5744.**

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Website News

Check out our website for more information regarding upcoming events.

We will be adding documents we have acquired, check under News online

The archived newsletters are under the Resources tab at the top of the page.

Email your photos and stories to us to: info@deepcoveheritage.com

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

Contact us

- 4360 Gallant Avenue, North Vancouver, BC V7G 1L2
- Telephone 604-929-5744
- Or send us an e-mail to: DeepCoveHeritage@gmail.com
- Website: www.DeepCoveHeritage.com
- Follow us on Facebook

President's Message



Moving back to the Cove in 2016, I wondered if there was a way to be involved in the Cove community again. Deep Cove Heritage Society had been part of my parents' life.

Maybe I could volunteer to help a little??
Hmm...

My life in the Cove began two years after my parents' marriage and move into the home my father had built in 1947 for his parents. My siblings and I had a beach as our front yard, trees to climb, hills to roll down and Dad's "whoop" to call us home.

Life revolved around church and school, not far away and the community centre just down the street for ballet classes and the library.

I have always been intrigued by the movement of people into the Cove. What drew the first settlers here? Who was here before them? I only have to look out my window, watching the sunshine dancing on water, to understand my father's reasons. Even I could not go far, moving only as life happened, but never leaving the North Shore. Home was always the Cove.

Keeping the memories preserves the heritage and history of an area. Stories from those families who came and stayed and

photographs of the homes, businesses, and community events, remember life as it was lived then. Memories give us the bricks that built a community and show us how we have evolved. Today as I sit in our Memorial Garden, writing notes and listening to the swirl of humanity up and down the street, I see the roots and branches of our community. It may seem lost under the recent swell of popularity but it's still there.

Come by our office. Watch for us at community events. Share your stories and memories. We want to hear from you, our community members. Join with us to remember and preserve our heritage here in Deep Cove.

Being a member is easier than ever

Deep Cove Heritage Society began with a dedicated group of volunteers. We rely on our volunteers and on your membership to continue today with the work we began in 1985. Progress with our projects; archiving photos, digitizing aural and written interviews and outreach within our community, require funding. Here's where we call out to you, our members. Our annual membership fee is only \$20.00. With your membership, you also get advance information about our events, like our annual boat cruise of Indian Arm.

It's even easier to renew now! We have added a Paypal option directly on our secure website home page. There is no need to have a Paypal account; you can use your own credit card. Tax receipts available for donations on request. Not sure if you are a member? Would like to become a member?

Our email: deepcoveheritage@gmail.com.
Call us at 604-929-5744. Drop in!
(Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am until 4pm.)
We would be happy to see you!



DCHS #5284 - Liz was on hand on Sunday, June 2, to welcome visitors to the popular annual community event, Blueridge Good Neighbour Day.

Jewellery

We are looking for donations of jewellery you are no longer wearing, for our upcoming fund-raiser sale. Drop off at our office by August 10 or call for more information 604-929-5744.

We invite one and all to our Jewellery Extravaganza Sale on August 25, from 10am in the Deep Cove Cultural Centre meeting room.

Invitation

Annual Boat Cruise is sold out

We were overwhelmed by the number of people who signed up early for our Annual Indian Arm Boat Cruise.

Always a sell out, this year members were extra anxious to grab their seats. The tour features stories and history of Indian Arm and goes all the way to the end where we see the infamous Wigwam Inn. Our tour guide Mitch Bloomfield, of Indian Arm Recreational Services, has travelled the waters of Indian Arm for decades and again will be joined by Belcarra historian and author Ralph Drew.

Make sure your membership dues are up to date, members will always get first chance to book our community outreach events.

Executive 2019

President	Liz Jenkins Bollman
Vice President	Vickie Boughen
Treasurer/Secretary	Louise Hart
Directors	Marilyn Myers, Tom Kirk, Alex Douglas, Eileen Smith

Projects Team

Co-ordinator	Jim Slight
Office Volunteers	Cathy Robinson Eileen Curtis, Fran Costigan
Photo Wrangler	Eileen Smith
Archival Project	Vickie Boughen
Archival Project	Hope Morris
Displays	Wendy Bullen Stephenson

Trying to get it right!

We try to verify all our information, but if you think we have something wrong, please e-mail or call the office at 604-929-5744. Thank you.

Fred Myers' carving *Cont'd from Page 1*



DCHS #5282 - Carving of Ben Alway by Fred Myers, left and right photos. Centre #0908 - Ben Alway and Tiki walking south on Banbury photo by Adrian Schweitzer

school days and at one point he had attended nine schools in nine years. He never got to know the other students that well until Grade Nine at Burnaby North High School. There he took an interest in hot rods and girls and spent a lot of time with the other kids; he has kept their friendships over the years. One of the kids in that gang, Ken Carlson, went on to design the iconic PT Cruiser. Fred recalls that Ken was always drawing cars in his schoolbooks, mainly front wheel drive cars that were not common at the time. Ken's Principal told him he would never amount to anything drawing cars all the time. Fred's transient early life was very different to Marilyn's in that, she grew up in the same family home in Burnaby, was crowned May Queen of Burnaby and later went to Burnaby North High School where she and Fred met.

Fred had done some carvings, mainly of birds and had given them all away before he did the carving of the old man with an umbrella. For it, he chose a piece of maple from their backyard and set to work. The finished piece stands 7-1/4" (18.5 cm) tall and is a beautiful portrait of a man who walked daily in Deep Cove. He later learned that the man was Ben Alway, who happened to be my grandfather, "Grampy." When I saw the carving many decades later, it just took my breath away. After that carving Fred did a small series of people

whose faces were hidden under their umbrellas; he called them Puddle People.

I became involved with Deep Cove Heritage Society in 2001, and early on I was handed some photos to see if I could identify the subjects in them. I was stunned when I saw one of Grampy in the same attire as the carving, but with his dog, Tiki, instead of the umbrella. The photo, taken by Adrian Schweitzer, is just one of a remarkable collection that he donated to the Heritage Society. Many of the great photos of Deep Cove stores in the 1970s in the archive are from Adrian.

Seeing Adrian's photo really brings to life the brilliance of what Fred captured in that piece of maple. Over the years Fred always told me that when he dies, he will leave the carving to me. I have always told him that I am in no hurry to receive it, so I panicked a bit when Marilyn presented it to me recently. My immediate reaction was "How's Fred???" Turns out Fred is fine; they just decided that now was the time for me to have the carving.

A bit about the subject of the carving. Benjamin Neale Winbow Alway, was born in the Cotwolds in Hillesley, England on February 1, 1882. He, along with his wife Florence and young son, "Bill", boarded the Royal George steamship in Bristol, bound for Quebec in May 1911. They travelled across Canada and settled in

Burnaby. After a few years, they built their permanent home there and many years later, in the 1930s, purchased a little summer cottage in Deep Cove (in the area that is now the lower parking lot on Panorama.) They moved into it permanently in 1949 when Ben retired. He had been the first Superintendent of Water Works for the Municipality of Burnaby. In charge of the water distribution system, he rode his bicycle (even when others had switched to cars), checking everything including keeping the street gutters clear of leaves. He clearly continued keeping gutters clear long after his retirement. He walked every day, rain, shine or snow. In the 1970s his walking companion was always his dog, Tiki. Their route was through Deep Cove Park, past what is now Cove Cliff School, around Myrtle Park to Deep Cove Road and along it to home. He was a distinctive and familiar figure to many people along his route. He was still walking with Tiki up to a week before his death at 94 years on July 4, 1976.

Thank you to Fred for creating this wonderful carving and to Adrian for taking the photo; both of you grabbed a candid moment and saved a memory of someone familiar to the community that neither of you knew. For the family of Ben Alway, these are truly treasures.

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



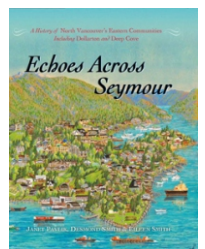
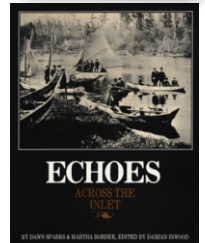
Book bags

Our roomy canvas tote bags with 1950s Cove photo only \$10 from the office.



Local books

Echoes Across the Inlet and Echoes Across Seymour, and Ralph Drew's books *Forest & Fjord*, *Ferries & Fjord*, *Townsite of Ioco and Coquitlam* *Chronicals*, all are loaded with pictures. Great reading and for gifts. All available from our office.



Be involved in your community

We are looking for more volunteers to mingle with visitors to our office or help with our events. If you can help out with any of the following, even occasionally, please get in touch with us.

- Welcome visitors to our office (three-hour shift, morning or afternoon)
 - Accompany other volunteers when they attend community events by handing out brochures or selling our books. This would include events like Blueridge Good Neighbour Day, Deep Cove Daze or Parkgate Community Days, etc. Any one of them or all of them would be very helpful.
 - Help set up and take down chairs for any Special Meeting Events when needed, usually a weekday morning.
 - Accompany other volunteers for occasional history talks for one or two hours.
 - Help out at fund-raisers to either sell tickets or help set up event and silent auction.
 - Grades 10, 11 and 12 students are welcome to volunteer.
- If you can help, call our office administrator, at 604-929-5744 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 4pm or send email to:

deepcoveheritage@gmail.com

FROM OUR ARCHIVES



DCHS #5280 – Ben Alway and Tiki heading home along Deep Cove Road near Cliffmont, early 1970s. Photo courtesy Adrian Schweitzer

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION
WWW.DEEPCOVEHERITAGE.COM**

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of: The Province of British Columbia, The District of North Vancouver, The City of North Vancouver, North Vancouver Recreation & Culture, First Impressions Theatre, The Royal Bank of Canada, PARC 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.