



DEEP COVE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Winter 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



DCHS #4603 — Dec 2004 — The Carol Ship parade circling around Deep Cove delighting spectators on shore and on the cruise boats.

Carol Ship Night in Deep Cove

by Eileen Smith

This is one person's memory of the Carol Ships coming to Deep Cove over the years. My understanding is that back in the very early 1970s one boat was decorated with lights before Christmas and travelled by the docked P&O cruise liners in Vancouver Harbour as a welcome to the visitors to our city. School children singing carols were on these decorated boats that became known as the Carol Ships.

It was in the early 1970s when I first saw a Carol Ship in Deep Cove, I remember it as the old passenger ferry, the Scenic. Just one boat, but it did have the school choir singing carols on board. It was wonderful, exciting and heartwarming.

In the years following, there were more and more ships and Carol Ship Night really became the big annual event in Deep Cove. It was always held on the Saturday before Christmas unless that Saturday was just a few days before the 25th. By the late 70s the residents who could view the ships made a point of having their home decorations and

lights up before the big night. The partygoers celebrating on the Carol Ships saw the twinkling, colourful lights lining the shores and hills on their trip from the Harbour, along Indian Arm and back. Beginning with just one ship in the early 70s, became 40 to 50 ships, snaking around the Cove and up past Woodlands and Sunshine before heading back to the city.

Carol Ship Night became a cherished tradition throughout the 70s, 80s and 90s. Nearly every home with a view had a party so they could share the wonderment of the ships with friends. Guests would wander along the street going from house to house to visit friends along the way. Traffic became an annual issue, and police would shut off Panorama Drive to nonresidents unless parking was assured. The residents at the far end of Panorama arranged to have a shuttle bus for their guests. There was a huge bonfire in Panorama Park where crowds of people would sing Christmas Carols.

An event like this over the years is bound to

Cont'd page 2...

We wish to acknowledge that the land of Seymour communities is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nation.

Calendar

- First Thursday of every month is our meeting, generally via Zoom. Even if you live far from the Cove now you are welcome to join us!

Office Hours

HOURS — Open Thursdays 9am to 3pm

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

Deep Cove Heritage Society is looking for volunteers to help keep our office open more hours. If you are interested in helping, please leave message at 604-929-5744.

Contents

- Page 1–4 Carol Ships memories in Deep Cove
- Page 2 Message from President
- Page 4 Deep Cove's corner store
- Page 5 How Echoes Across Seymour book came to be
- Page 6 School photos
- Page 7 Our plans for 2025 and photo of skaters on Seymour River, 1947
- Page 8 Join our group and volunteer opportunities. Photo Mount Seymour Lions 'angel' band.

Website News

We have stories, audio files, links, and neighbourhood pages. Under Archives, find the link to our [Catalogit](#) online photo storage with thousands of local pictures. There is more to come as we continue to search out pictures, maps, history, and information. We want to hear from you! Please email us at deepcoveheritage@gmail.com. <https://www.deepcoveheritage.com/>

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 and Instagram

President's Message

Liz Jenkins Bollmann



As I write this, we have reached the end of another busy year for the Society. Looking back over 2024, I must first thank our Board members, our volunteers and Jim, our office manager, for all

their hard work throughout the year. We had a major achievement with the launch of our revised and updated website and new logo. Our newsletters continue to provide a wealth of information, notices and items of interest to our communities. We were able to run two successful boat trips with wonderful lunch stops at Coldwell Beach, hosted by Marcia and Bob Garries. Bob also gave a history talk as the boat proceeded up and down the Arm. Another popular Bus Tour of the Seymour Area was hosted by Parkgate Community Centre and Deep Cove Heritage Society, with our speaker, Janet Pavlik.

Our annual 'Keep the Roof over our Heads' fund raiser and Annual General Meeting were very well-attended and a huge thank you goes to First Impressions Theatre and our community members who came out to support the Society.

We were able to continue with our Workshop series on Digital Photos, our Parkgate Library talks, and Lunch and Learn series. Our speaker for the Lunch was Robert George, from Tsleil-Waututh Nation, who gave a very informative and moving presentation.

In December, the Society hosted a working luncheon for the Board and Volunteers as we took some time to reflect and look ahead into 2025. With a review and recommitment to our mission, we are looking to providing more quality community programs in 2025. To our Society members, thank you for your support of our Heritage Society and we ask that you renew your memberships for 2025. Your support gives all of us who work with Deep Cove Heritage Society a huge boost to help us continue. If you are not a Society member, please consider a \$20 annual membership, to receive our newsletters by email, advance notice of events and member discounts.

Remember, we are here for all the communities East of the Seymour and we would like to hear from everyone with stories of the area, ideas, and questions. As this year ends and we move forward, I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy new year.

Executive 2024

President	Liz Jenkins Bollmann
Vice President	Eileen Smith
Treasurer/Secretary	Louise Hart
Directors:	Wendy Bullen Stephenson, Janet Pavlik, Marcia Garries

Project Teams

Co-ordinator	Jim Slight
Photo Wrangler	Eileen Smith
Archival Project	Liz Bollmann Keith Dunn Eileen Smith
Website	Courtney Apps Liz Bollmann
Grants	Liz Bollmann Jim Slight
Writers	Wendy Bullen Stephenson Eileen Smith Janet Pavlik
Projects	Marcia Garries
Newsletter Editor	Eileen Smith

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.

Send us your stories!

Do you have memories of the Seymour area that you will share? Please send to deepcoveheritage@gmail.com

Membership fees only \$20 annually

Our membership comes with benefits — newsletters four times per year, early notices of upcoming events, cruises, bus trips, workshops and more.

Carol Ships in Deep Cove

Cont'd from page 1...

have some great stories and I only know a few of them. I am hoping other people will send their memories to us to store in our archives.

Whereas I also picture those ships back then on clear, beautiful evenings, that was not always the case. Pouring rain, snow and fog all visited us; one year it was so foggy we could only hear the boats, they were completely invisible. That, of course, did not deter the party goes on the ships or those at

Cont'd page 3...



*DCHS p/o #4603
at left, North Vancouver
District workers piling wooden
skids in Panorama Park that
will be lit for the Carol Ship
Bonfire. In the early years
much of the wood for the
bonfire was donated by the
local theatre groups to burn up
old show sets.*

Carol Ships in Deep Cove

house parties. Of course, also particularly during the 70s there were fogs of many kinds, some of the houses were pretty foggy inside too as party goers celebrated the season. People wouldn't wait for an invitation to a party, if they were invited the previous year and knew the date of the current year, they just showed up. It was really a wonderful time of parties, laughter and, of course, food and drink.

The best story an eyewitness shared with me was from the very early 70s. As the story goes, the District gave some of the waterfront residents flares to stick along the beach, to create more of a party atmosphere for the people on the Carol Ships. The flares were near their expiry date and some didn't light, others worked as planned. But the one given to Bob Wells who resided in Sleepy Hollow, a house in Panorama Park, was lit on his deck. It shot out across to the wooden bridge that was located beside where the covered picnic bench now resides, and the bridge caught fire. It was put out quickly with little damage. Bob was a very convivial man, known for his booming laugh and community involvement. He was very active in the Deep Cove Kinsmen Club and Deep Cove Yacht Club at that time.

Over the years, as long-time residents moved out, Carol Ship Night became less of an event. The name became the Parade of Ships and now is Santa Ships. Some residents still have guests over, but it is no longer the all-encompassing event it once was. That said, the folks who are still decorating the ships are creating beautiful jewels of beauty for us all to enjoy over the holiday season.

This is just one recollection, let us know if there are corrections and do please send us your Carol Ship stories, we would love to hear them.

Happy New Year from everyone at Deep Cove Heritage Society!

DCHS p/o #4603 — Photos at right, just some of the Carol Ships, that visited Deep Cove in December 2004.



Deep Cove Corner Store



DCHS # — Our corner store now, or as it has been called over the years, Cho's, Mollard's, The Panorama Supermarket, The Big Apple, and more. The store is a heritage building and is undergoing big changes. Asbestos has been removed as well as most of the interior wood. First remembered as a brown log structure, it survived the flood of May, 1957 (DCHS #courtesy Clara Bliss-Whitten), it was painted white c1970s (DCHS #0893 courtesy Adrian Schweitzer), took on a new look with its pale yellow siding with Mr. Cho 1970s (DCHS #1717, courtesy Terry Tobin, and even got dressed up to be in a movie in Nov 2003 (DCHS #1330, courtesy Marilyn Myers).



Looking back a dozen years to the birth of *Echoes Across Seymour*

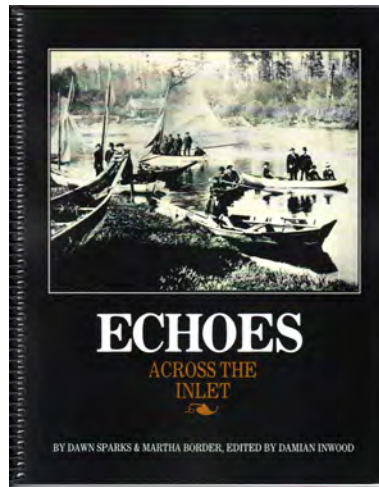
Looking through our archives we were surprised to see our second history book is already twelve years old. The following story by Eileen Smith is **reprinted from the December 2012 issue of the Deep Cove Crier**:

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 along 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 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 photographer Whitney Spears were involved in layout design ideas and research.

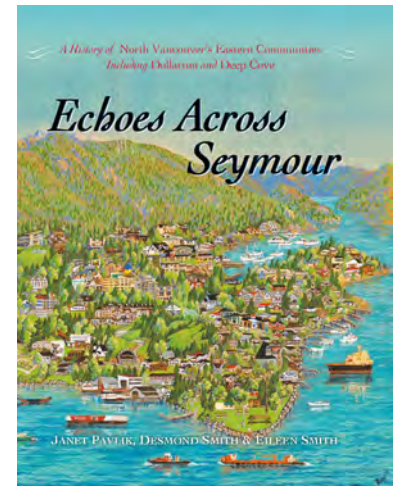
For my part in the project, I started scanning the over 800 photos in the archives so they would be in a digital format. This was something that needed to be done whether there was a book or not, to preserve the images.



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, 2012.

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.

Note: since that story written twelve years ago, sadly we have lost some of our contributors — Dawn Sparks, Desmond Smith and Pat Morrice.

Echoes Across the Inlet has been revitalized with better quality photos and an index. Both books are available from our office, Seymour Art Gallery and The Collective on Gallant.

Teachers and students, we have lots of class photos, can you help us with names?



DCHS #5117 - Burrard View School class Gr 7 Div 1 1964-65, courtesy, Liz Jenkins Bollmann



DCHS #4011 - Burrard View School Gr 2 Div 8, 1962-63, courtesy Margaret B. Roberge



DCHS #3047 - Burrard View School kids in playground 1980-81, courtesy Barb Philips



DCHS #1372 - Burrard View School- Student Council 1981-82, courtesy Marilyn Myers



DCHS #3054 - Burrard View School Teachers 1981-82, courtesy Barb Philips



DCHS #4471 - Sherwood Park School teachers 1980-81, courtesy Janice Kusnir

December planning meeting for 2025

Many great ideas came forward during our planning meeting in December. One was looking at the options to expand our products; different postcards, gift or greeting cards, maps, posters and interest in a new/old cookbook of favourite recipes. Continued work on our website will help to include up to date information for events and more of the stories from our communities. Watch for information on our Annual General Meeting to be held early in the year (hopefully March).

The major topic for discussion was how we can continue to hold events, workshops, and continue with new and continuing projects.

The answer is.... WE NEED YOU! We have put out calls for volunteers in the past but now we are going to post specific jobs or requests with details for volunteer positions and a Volunteer Coordinator will be available to take applications, train and help match volunteers with a project or event. The amount of time commitment depends on YOU! We know how busy life is and are very grateful for all the work of our volunteers.

Watch our newsletters, emails, and posted notices to find out more about volunteering with Deep Cove Heritage Society.



Skating on Seymour River



DCHS #2825 - Happy group of skaters, Seymour River, 1947, courtesy Sharon Hogan

PLEASE SEND YOUR STORIES AND MEMORIES TO DEEPCOVEHERITAGE@gmail.com

Be involved in your community

We are looking for people to volunteer.

We always need help manning the desk for local special events. You would work with other volunteers handing out brochures, selling books or just talking about living in Deep Cove and east of Seymour. This would be for events like Parkgate Community Days or Blueridge Good Neighbour Day.

We are looking for a volunteer to spear head our Social media. We currently have a Facebook and Instagram presence. It would be good to have regular updates and links to other like

sites, as well as replies to various questions placed on our site. Don't worry about having extensive knowledge of the east of Seymour area — we have that — we need your technical skills.

We are also looking for help to catalogue our pictures for our web site. We have many pictures that we want to publish, but need help to choose the key words to go with them.

We would love to hear from you, email us at:

deepcoveheritage@gmail.com

FROM OUR ARCHIVES



DCHS #2340 — Lions 'angel' band one — early 1970s, courtesy Mount Seymour Lions.



Local books

Echoes Across the Inlet and *Echoes Across Seymour*, and Ralph Drew's books *Forest & Fjord*, *Ferries & Fjord*, *Townsite of Ioco* and *Coquitlam Chronicles*, all are loaded with pictures. Great reading and for gift ideas. All available from our office. More info on books on page 7. We also have a roomy canvas tote bags with 1950s Cove photo for only \$15 from the office.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION WWW.DEEPCOVEHERITAGE.COM

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of: The Government of Canada, 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, and PARC Retirement Living.

We appreciate the ongoing support of our Deep Cove Cultural Centre partner groups:

Deep Cove Stage, First Impressions Theatre and Seymour Art Gallery.



Experience *The Good Life*

Come and experience PARC for yourself! Get to know the plush comforts of our modern suites, the delicious flavours of our chef-prepared meals, our beautiful amenity spaces, lively fitness classes, the pleasure of socializing with other like-minded, active seniors — and so much more. We'll be delighted to host you, at no cost or commitment, for up to two weeks.

Call Sean at 604.986.3633 to book your personalized tour.

cedar springs
parc

parcliving.ca/cedarsprings