

Tri-Village Buzz

August 2017 Issue 201

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Histories Historian: The Story of Naomi Miller by Nowell Berg



You see her bicycling or walking around Wasa Lake on the Lions path, cross-country skiing around the neighbourhood during winter and recording the communities history in a column called History Bytes.

Naomi Miller's richly lived life includes being a wife, mother of six (5 girls, 1 boy), a head nurse, a Girl Guide leader, Vice-president and President of the BC Historical Federation, author and historian, a true British Columbian.

Her father, Alan Pole Allsebrook, was born 1880 in Nottingham, England. At age six (6), he went completely deaf from scarlet fever. Despite this limitation, Alan would go on to obtain a teaching certificate from the Nottingham School of Art. He then went to Paris where he learned full figure painting along with wood and stone carving. After his Paris studies, he returned to England where he worked on the construction of the Liverpool Cathedral.

In 1911, after hearing a CPR advertisement encouraging people to buy land, grow fruit and grow rich, Alan bought seven (7) acres of water front land and a tiny cabin at Shutty Bench north of Kaslo, BC. What wasn't said in the CPR promotion was that it would take thirty years for an apple orchard to mature and bear fruit.

Alan and his youngest brother Eric were drafted into World War 1 (WW1) and returned to England in 1916. Both worked for the war effort despite physical frailties. At the end of the war (November 1918), Alan returned to Shutty Bench. Seven years later (1925) he returned to England visiting family. It was during this visit that he met Lucy Smith.

Lucy Naomi Smith, was born 1892 in Kegworth, Leicestershire. She was the local doctor's daughter. Lucy's good friend, Dorothy, happened to be Alan Allsebrook's sister. Post-WW1, many English women faced a life of being single due to the death, some would say slaughter, of a whole generation of young men.

Alan and Lucy fell in love and were married in February 1925. Lucy's brother, Bill, was adamant there must be a telephone at Shutty Bench, which there was thanks to Andy Shutty stringing a line to Kaslo.

Born in 1927 at Kaslo, BC, Naomi grew up at Shutty Bench, on the west side of Kootenay Lake. Each day she'd make the one mile walk from the water front home and apple orchard to the one room elementary school in Shutty Bench. She was a natural student, after grade one she skipped to grade 3. "I loved school and loved my teachers," she recalls.



Watch your speed!

The typical speed limit in rural residential areas in B.C. is 50 km/h. Please don't speed, our roads are very busy this time of year and a life can be changed forever in one split second.

Car Alarms

Be courteous to your neighbours and mind your car alarm. Nobody likes to be awoke in the middle of the night to the sound of a car alarm.

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- Test every door, be sure there's no fire on the other side
- . Know two ways out

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FOLLOWING THE TRAILS OF

By Judy McPhee

THE BUILDER by Henry W. Longfellow
"For the structure that we raise
Time is with materials filled;
Our todays and yesterdays
Are the blocks with which we build"
Verse 3

VOLUNTEERS BUILD AND MAKE A COMMUNITY

And what a community we have built and have. This month I am featuring the community of Wasa and the facilities that have been built, developed and maintained bγ innumerable volunteers from Wasa, Ta Ta Creek, Skookumchuck, St. Mary's Road, in between and beyond. Volunteers, past and present, have generously donated unlimited hours, both seen and unseen, of selfless volunteer work for the benefit of our community. The dedication and effort by all have given communal us many facilities to be proud of.

I will begin with the building of the old dance hall which was situated behind Martin's house on Poplar Road. Many dances were held there, with young and old in attendance, and gave happiness to those attending.

The old Wasa Hall, built by volunteers and presently the Wasa Church was built in 1945. The hall was used for dances, weddings, funerals and gatherings, "The Farmer's Institute", different community events and the neighbourhood school. Community members rallied together to have a new school built instead of the four schools in our area to hold the bulging student population. The school opened in 1978 and closed in 2000.

Clubs and organizations all manned by volunteers over the years have added to the social enjoyment of everyone participating and given a much needed feeling of belonging. Please check out the KOOTENAY

RIPPLES HISTORY BOOK, starting on page 641 for details of the different clubs and organizations that existed over the years. The history book may be purchased from the Rauch's at 250-422-3335 or at "The Pancake Breakfasts" in the outdoor kitchen. The breakfast's are

put on by volunteers from various group and from people just wanting to help out. The finances raised help support the community. The breakfasts are held every Saturday, rain or shine at 8: 30 to 11:00 a.m. from the last week in June to the long weekend in September. Visitors and locals are welcome to help and attend.

FACILITY'S

All of the facilities located in Wasa were built largely by volunteers. The Lion's Centre, includes two baseball diamonds, the outdoor eating area, kitchen, stage, bocci, tennis and Pickle Ball Courts, bathrooms, a games centre and full sized hockey rink for skating and hockey. There is an informal camping area next to the Lion's Centre with six spots which can be used by people renting any of the facilities.



Work Bee Building the Hall in 1988

A magnificent hall built in "bees" by myriads of volunteers who had and have resiliency, vision and determination was built and has been developed over the years into the best hall in the valley. The upstairs includes a large hall for community use and rental, a commercial kitchen, complete with bar and bathrooms also available for rent. Downstairs in the hall, there are meeting rooms including a quilters room, library, gym and storage rooms.

In the past 10 years, volunteers have built and developed a special "Memorial Garden and Columbarium."

To cap off our wonderful facilities, we have a "Lions Trail " around Wasa Lake used for walking and biking.

Abeautiful lake, B.C. campground, sandy beaches, parks and trails compliments



Building The Lions Way path

our area as well as a community which helps each other.

It would be remiss not to mention the valuable contribution of "The Lion's Club" of Wasa and all their members and spouses for their efforts and contribution in developing our facilities and community over the past 41 years. To all members, past and present, a hearty thank you.

Our community is recruiting a new wave of volunteers to take over from the older people who are less able to contribute their time due to health and age.

Volunteering is a wonderful way to feel a sense of belonging to the community.

The continued enjoyment of these facilities and programs are dependant upon the willingness of people to volunteer. New ideas are always welcomed. Please think about how YOU personally can contribute.

Refer to our monthly publication The Tri-Village Buzz which is published 10 times a year with news, articles and happenings in our community. Our volunteer editor, Wendy Davis and contributors to the newspaper including present volunteers hope future volunteers are on the horizon to ensure we can keep up the facilities and the different clubs and organizations. Thank you to everyone who has helped develop our community over the past number of decades.

Please think about volunteering. Volunteers do make and build a community.



Donate your pop cans and liquor bottles (no dairy please) to the Wasa and District Lions Club to help with their scholarship fund.

Please call Val at 250-422-3499 to make arrangements for drop-off at the Lions Grounds.



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WASA LAKE LAND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (WLLID)

Lake Testing

By Annelise McRae

Lake testing is in full swing and results indicate a healthy lake with all tests falling within normal rage. Ecoli testing has also been done and all results fall within normal range. Nitrogen and phosphorus testing will begin shortly, which is an important addition to providing us with valuable information about the health of the lake.

Thank-you to Laurie Kay for continuing to provide the very important service of lake testing to the users of Wasa Lake! For many years Laurie has done the lake testing for us and we are very appreciative of his efforts. All good things must come to an end however, and Laurie will be retiring by the end of the summer. We are looking for someone else to take over the lake testing. If you are interested please email the WLLID at admin@wasalake.ca.

Native Aquatic Milfoil

A motion was passed to contract VAST Resources to undertake an aerial (drone) survey of the lake, and in particular of the milfoil patches, so that we can make informed decisions about what steps we could take to manage the growing milfoil. This drone work is being scheduled for September. We will provide a specific date and time in the next Buzz write up, but we are looking tentatively at the second week of September. We do know after some exploration last year that the management of growing milfoil is a significant undertaking and will require community input and involvement going forward. More detail on this issue can be found in past Tri Village Buzz WLLID write ups.

Electronic Data Logger

After careful consideration and research the WLLID made the decision to contract VAST Resources to install an electronic data logger. The data logger will provide an accurate and consistent method of monitoring lake levels throughout the year. The data logger will be surveyed to an elevation level and will give us actual water level readings, as opposed to what we've had up until now, which is simply recording changes in water level on a non-surveyed stick. We are currently awaiting word from VAST as to when the logger will be installed, but we hope soon and we'll keep you informed of the process.

Cameron Pond-Wasa Sloughs Flap Gate Maintenance

In order to keep culvert clear and free flowing, at times cleaning is needed and this is often an onerous and somewhat unsafe task. In an effort to make this easier and safer a handle will be welded onto the flap gate so that it can be opened with a machine to make for easier cleaning of the culvert. Troy Flanders and Mike Reimer have generously offered to donate their time for this project, which is planned for September.

Boating on Wasa Lake

Since the occurrence of the boating meeting held on May 20th at the Lions outdoor kitchen, organized by Jane Walter, our RDEK Area E representative, a committee called Wasa Area Safety Advocates (WASA) has formed. This committee is moving forward quickly to take action on promoting safe boating practices on Wasa Lake. Signage around recommended safe boating practices and the purchase of buoys indicating a slower speed zone are in the works. WASA approached both the RDEK and the WLLID to formally request funding to assist with their initiatives. At the regular monthly of the WLLID on June 17th a motion was passed to donate \$1000.00 to the committee to support the initial costs for buoys and signage to promote lake safety. The WLLID has representation on the committee and fully supports safe boating practices on Wasa Lake, and we wish to see all users of the lake to continue to enjoy safe fun on the lake whether it be swimming or on a watercraft of any kind. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 14th at 7 p.m.

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The Story of Naomi Miller Continued from Cover

In the Fall of 1937, her Uncle Bill Smith, Lucy's brother, knew that war was coming to Europe and England, so he urged Naomi's family to make the trip back to the homeland.

On November 1, 1937, Naomi, her mother and brother Eric (born 1931) made the sea voyage across the Atlantic from Sherbrooke, Quebec, to Southampton, England.

Over the next five (5) months, they would move twenty-two (22) times while visiting all of the relatives on both sides of the family.

By Easter of 1938, Naomi was back at Shutty Bench attending school and resuming a country life by the lake.

After finishing grade 8, Naomi was supposed to go to Kaslo for High School. However, that was not to be. The school authorities told her parents they already had their quota of students from Shutty Bench. The school offered two options, pay an extra fee for her to attend, "money we were saving for university," or take correspondence.

Naomi took Grade 9 and 10 through correspondence courses. She remembers fondly, "Mom was very very good, she sat me down to do papers." Only once did Naomi need to consult with teachers in Kaslo. It was for a math problem that once explained she grasped the concept and successfully completed the course.

In Grade 11, a 15 year old Naomi finally went to Kaslo High School. In this time before school buses, she would either row a boat landing it at the current location of the SS Movie or ride a bicycle. In the winter, travel to Kaslo High was done "nearly all by row boat."

In 1942, the Japanese evacuation from the West coast resulted in "about one hundred (100) 'A' students arriving at Kaslo High School." Eighteen

(18) Japanese students attended Grade Eleven with Naomi and five (5) other locals. Naomi fondly recalls, "They were marvelous and I made many good friends among the Japanese students."



Naomi UBC BSN Grad 1951 - Photo Courtesy of Campbell Studios, AMS

After graduating high school, Naomi wanted to start the nursing program at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH). But this was put on hold because, "They wouldn't take anyone until they were 18."

"A Japanese doctor who befriended our family told my parents to send me to UBC to

get a nursing degree." She would end up doing two (2) years at UBC before training at VGH. After that Naomi would spend one final year at UBC to obtain a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Upon first arriving at UBC School of Nursing, she was not accustom to the crowded beach at Spanish Banks. Eventually she got "acclimatized" to the big city. "I was a country kid with my own personal beach for miles," said Naomi. But, it didn't take long for her to fit in and succeed at nursing studies.

In the Spring of 1950. Naomi received her Register Nurse (RN) designation graduating from Vancouver General. That summer she worked at the Trail Hospital before returning to UBC in the Fall, "To get the last piece of the [nursing] degree." Naomi graduated from UBC in 1951. Her class was the first to receive Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.

After graduation, Naomi "got an immediate job as Head Nurse at TB Willow Chest Centre." It had 64 patients, 3 doctors, a number of nurses and nurse aids. "I settled in very comfortably." She was on the TB unit for one (1) year then transferred to a new unit for another year.

It was during her time at UBC that she first met Peter Miller.

After graduating High School Peter, like so many his age, joined the Army. "He went overseas to England doing research for the Signal Corps." The army then sent him back to Canada where he was sent to UBC and trained as an engineer. Naomi Allsebrook married Peter Miller in May, 1953.

After marriage, "We started moving, moving and moving," Naomi recalls. First it was Saskatchewan for a short time, then Edmonton, AB, for 2 years and next Sarnia, ON, for 2 years.

When news came that Peter's parents were ailing, the young family moved West to Saskatoon where he worked at a refinery. While there his co-workers "kept asking him questions" which Peter answered in detail.

One co-worker suggested that he "explained things well and should be a teacher."

Added to that, "In the early 1960's the average engineer faced a minimum of thirteen contracts, each involving two or three moves, during his working life. Teaching looked way more stable and made return to B.C. logical," said Naomi.

Peter made inquiries back at UBC who said he would be able to complete a teaching degree in one (1) year, however, they also said "don't bring the family."

Living alone with four (4) girls in Saskatoon didn't sit well with her, "I went to Kaslo, worked a bit of nursing during that year."

Peter completed a teaching degree and interviewed for jobs right away where he said he wanted to work in the West Kootenay. He was given a teaching position in Salmo (1962). They stayed four (4) years and had two (2) more children, a boy and girl.

It was in Salmo that Naomi got involved with Girl Guides (GG). She was an active leader with GG for twenty-six (26) years. For ten (10) of those years she was a "trainer of other leaders." While in Golden, Naomi was attached to the Monashee Area (Okanagan) and the Provincial HQ in Vancouver.

Over the years with GG, Naomi met hundreds of guides and leaders that "resulted in many lasting friendships." She still belongs to GG as a "Trefoil Guild member." She was given an honorary life membership in the Guides in 1987.

The next move for the family was to Riondel where they were expanding the school to include grade 12.

After Riondel, the next stop was Terrace where they stayed for one (1) yr, but they could not afford to buy a home there so they made one final move to Golden. Naomi, Peter and family stayed in Golden for the next fifteen (15) years until Peter retired in 1983.

During their time in Golden, a brand new Historical Society started up. Peter was asked to be on the Board, which he did.

Naomi got involved when the Elks Club offered five (5) lots for a Historical Society building. All the Society had to do was "pay back taxes to get the land." Bit by bit, with the help of Naomi and Peter, the Society got a museum going.

"Local history so much fun because of the personal stories," exclaimed Naomi. "People would bring a homemade rake that Uncle John made because he couldn't afford one. That's were I got interested in local history."

After Peter retired, he and Naomi move to Wasa. In January, 1983, they found a home on Maple Road and made arrangements to move. The house had not been lived in and was not finished. It became "Peter's retirement project."

By this time, Naomi had become the Vice-



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Continued The Story of Naomi Miller

president of the BC Historical Federation. She was President from 1986 until 1987. Then in 1988, she took over as the Editor of the Federation's British Columbia Historical News.

When Naomi began editing the News, it was twenty-four (24) pages. After consulting with Canada Post, she realized that doubling the number of pages would cost the same postage fee, so she "upped it to 48 pages." Naomi recalls, "In order to fill up these extra pages, I'd ask people all over the province to write stories. I made a very determined effort to cover all of BC."

She received "marvelous cooperation" from historical writers and local Societies all over BC.

When it came time to produce the News, it was printed by Kootenay Kwik Print. "We had to label and put 1200 copies into mailing bags." The packaging was all done in the front room of her Wasa home.

Naomi edited the News for 10 years as well as attend the Federation's annual meetings. "It was terrific," she said of that time.

During the 1990s, her activity as a member of the BC Heritage Minister's Advisory Committee and as a Director of the BC Heritage Trust garnered her recognition and she was named an Honorary Life Member of the Kootenay Lake Historical Society in 1999.

When the Friends of Fort Steele Society was being established, Naomi was asked to be on the Board, which she did as a founding Director. She had begun research into Ft. Steele in 1983 after arriving at Wasa. Then in 2000 she began writing a book on the towns history that was published in 2002, Fort Steele: Gold Rush to Boom Town. Naomi spent many years as a volunteer at Fort Steele telling stories of the past to tourists.

Naomi's beloved husband Peter died November 2009.

For her work writing biographies of nurses from around BC, in May 2010, she was named an Honorary Life Member of the BC History of Nursing Society.

From 2011 to 2013, Naomi was a Trustee on the Wasa Lake Land Improvement District (WLLID). At the age of 84, she walked over to the Kootenay River by Hanson Channel "to read water level markers."

Over the past 14 years, Naomi has written the History Bytes column for the Tri-village Buzz, a local publication covering stories from Wasa, Ta Ta Creek and Skookumchuck. Her love of local family stories continues to shine ten (10) times per year, that's 140 historical stories and counting.

In June, 2017, Naomi was recognized as the RDEK, Area E, Volunteer of the Year for her service and commitment to the community.

Naomi Miller, ninety (90) years of vital life lived and more to come.



Dale Gray

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- o Send photos with you and "Your Buzz", include a brief description of where the photo was taken
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- o The draw will take place in December 2017
- o Send photos to: trivillagebuzz@gmail.com

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News From the Pews

By Pastor Paul Brandon

Tam happy to say that the crown land above us is once again pristine. No more nails, no more butts, no more paper waste, no more empty cans, just clean land. I hope we all learned a lesson from this experience. "All it takes for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing" We took a stand and we prevailed.

In church we recognized Father's Day and all of our fathers and the legacy left to us by them and the vacuum left in the thousands of father absent homes. What a tragedy! The fathers that work hard to provide food and shelter and emotional stability to families is wonderful to say the least.

Most of the children in custody today come from father absent homes. Many years ago when I worked in Oakalla Prison, we, on the night shift, had to read the tear stained letters from sorrowful mothers asking their sons "where did I go wrong in raising you?" In many of those homes there was no father to guide their sons in the right direction. When Moms have to be mother and father and than go out to work, find it extremely difficult to raise well behaved children.

There has been some but they are rare indeed and God bless them for trying very hard to raise their children to be God fearing, well behaved children.

God bless all you fathers who are out there trying to be good dads and directing your children to be upstanding citizens. Some of you have to be dads by extension and teaching your kids when they visit on the weekends, I feel especially sorry for you, God bless you for trying.

Farewell To the folks in the Wasa area as my last Sunday here in Wasa is the 30th of July I would like to thank everyone for your kindness to my wife and I. It has been such a pleasure to be around such positive people. You have treated us with love and respect, and we appreciate it.

After the end of July we will be heading home to Greenwood for a week and then off for a trip across Canada for three months and then back to Greenwood. We are hoping to sell our home in Greenwood and relocate somewhere near Cranbrook where our daughter and grand kids live.

Our time here in Wasa has been very enjoyable and it has been great to meet so many of you. Hopefully we'll be able to visit out here in the future and see some of you folks at the gas station or the diner.

Best wishes in the future.

Paul and Ev. Brandon, Pastor, Wasa Community Church

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Invasive Plant Bylaw Enforcement Policy and Procedure

The RDEK Weed Control Officer will be able to respond to invasive plant complaints on private property. The officer will assess and "field truthing" the invasive plant species. Ranking will be between 1 to 4 with 1 being the highest priority based on the size of the infestation.

The sites ranked as a 1 will be acted upon first, followed by priority sites 2, 3 and 4. The officer will assist the land owner through education, awareness and in some cases financial support. This is always the first step in the Neighborhood Invasive Plant Program (NIPP).

If voluntary compliance is not achieved and the landowner is not willing to control the species, Invasive Plant control through enforcement may be initiated. Enforcement will be in the form of the RDEK hiring a contractor to control the infestations mowing / trimming, hand pulling or herbicide treatment etc. and the landowner will have to cover the cost. If a landowner doesn't pay the cost of the contractor the RDEK may recover the cost through the owners tax account.

For more information please contact Jamie Davies at (250) 489-3498 or email at: jdavies@rdek.bc.ca

Grant - In - Aid

The Wasa and District Lion's Club will receive \$1,247.68 for the purchase of 2 industrial coffee pots (one for the Wasa Hall and the other for the Wasa Lion's outdoor kitchen) and also for the replacing of two power bars which are used during the pancake breakfasts.

RCMP Meeting

The RDEK Electoral Directors are hoping to meet with the RCMP during the UBCM Convention to discuss concerns around parties and raves on Crown and private lands. Also included for discussion are staffing levels, aging police vehicles and speeding in rural communities.

Please support the pancake breakfasts held Saturday mornings at the Wasa Lion's Outdoor Kitchen. The funds raised are used to help groups provide various amenities throughout Wasa, such as the Wasa Hall, the Library and the Wasa Lion's Grounds.

Wasa & Area Planning Projects 2017-2018

The Regional District is proposing to include two new Development Permit Areas in the Wasa and Area Official Community Plan and to permit detached secondary suites within the Electoral Area E Zoning Bylaw.

An Open House was held on July 26th at the Wasa Community Hall. Those in attendance had the opportunity to review the proposed bylaw amendments, ask questions and provide feedback on the proposed changes.

Environmentally Sensitive Area Development Permits -The purpose of an ESA Development Permit is for the protection of the natural environment. The initial ESA Development Permit bylaw was presented at a public meeting in June 2015. Following the public meeting, Regional District staff met with residents to discuss their concerns, hired a professional consultant to review and update the ESA mapping and made revisions to the proposed bylaw.

Form and Character Development Permits - The primary objective of these Development Permits is to ensure that commercial and industrial development is attractive and compatible with the surrounding area. A second objective is to establish guidelines that promote reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and the consumption of energy and water.

Detached Secondary Suites - The Regional District is proposing to amend the Electoral Area E Zoning Bylaw to permit detached secondary suites in zones that currently allow secondary suites within a single family dwelling.

Further information and a comment form is available on the RDEK website: http://www.rdek.bc.ca/departments/planning/ plans/wasa_and_area_official_community_plan/

The comment period deadline is September 29th, 2017. Following the comment period, there may be revisions made to the bylaws or the bylaws may proceed to the formal referral process followed by a Public Hearing.

To discuss the bylaws or provide feedback, please contact: Michele Bates, Planner at 250-489-2791 or mbates@rdek.bc.ca

Mosquito Update

The high low-elevation snowpack this winter and spring run off in those low-lying areas have resulted in a very challenging year for mosquitoes right across the East Kootenay. I have received calls and emails about the mosquitoes in the Wasa/ Ta Ta Creek/Skookumchuck area. While we have no doubt had mosquitoes, we have also had aggressive treatment in the control area that has treated over 1000 hectares by air and over 47 hectares by ground. These treatments have eradicated thousands of larvae and have made a difference on the ground. Contractor Kendra Lewis continues to monitor and treat hot spots. River levels are dropping and, combined with the treatments, we are hopeful we will soon see further reductions in mosquito populations.

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. Jane Walter, Area E Director

email: S.janewalter@gmail.com / phone: 250-427-2577



August 2017 Issue 201

Tri-Village Buzz

Helpful Hints

In Memory of Vi Cockell By Sherry Shields



1. Tips for August gardening:

Trees and shrubs may look good now but, if too stressed by drought, they will be more susceptible to pests and diseases in the future. Remember that light watering will do more harm than good by encouraging root growth at the surface where those roots are killed quickly on hot days. When you do water, soak deeply.

2. Handyman Repair:

Enlarged screw holes can be quickly repaired, by filling the hole with a wooden golf tee. Use a hacksaw to saw the tee flush with the wood's surface, then sand and finish.

3. Summer has been HOT and DRY with an abundance of Mosquitoes. Remedy for mosquito repellent is rubbing apple cider vinegar on your skin to repel insects. If you take in enough apple cider vinegar by putting it on foods you eat, you'll develop a body odor that will repel insects, including black flies. One great and refreshing summer drink for this purpose is switchel, made from apple cider vinegar.

Switchel Recipe

- 1 cup ginger, chopped
- ¾ cup maple syrup (or raw honey)
- ½ cup apple cider vinegar
- ²/₃ cup lemon juice
- 5½-6 cups water
- 1. Fill a 2-quart saucepan 2/3 with water and add ginger.
- 2. Bring water to a boil and allow ginger to boil for about 2 minutes.
- 3. Remove from heat and let ginger steep for 20 minutes.
- 4. In a 2-quart pitcher, add maple syrup, apple cider vinegar and lemon juice.
- 5. Strain ginger as you are pouring into pitcher.
- 6. Stir and mix all ingredients well.
- 7. Can be served warm or on ice.
- 8. Add more water to dilute if needed.



Wasa Memorial Garden



The Memorial Garden has taken on its summer presentation after a cleanup and an Inurement (new word for burial in a columbarium niche).

Sandy Kay has planted flowers in the novel shaped planters. Her plan for magic are enhanced by the growth of donated spruce trees which look healthy, add partial shade, and muffle the sounds of highway traffic or ball games. Any of the benches offer welcome to someone pausing to enjoy this quiet, scenic retreat from everyday humdrum.

Locals consider whether you wish to honor a family member on the Memorial Wall or have his/her cremains in a columbarium niche. Contact Bev Rauch or Pat Walkey. See numbers on the advertisement below. Thank you to Sandy Kay for her artistic touches and her weekly volunteers who keep this garden at prime.

Wasa Memorial Garden

Wasa Memorial Garden has something for every soul who should be remembered or needs a final resting place.

There is a Columbarium with Niches large enough to hold two sets of cremains or the option to purchase a memorial plaque in honor of your loved ones.

Check out the space at the end of Schoolhouse Road in Wasa.

Call Bev Rauch at 250.422.3335 or Pat Walkey at 250.422.3530 for information

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HISTORY BYTES

BY NAOMI MILLER



Women's Institute of Canada :Kaslo Branch

A group within the Farmer's Institute In Stoney Creek, Ontario decided that women would be better served by their own organization. Hence Women's Institutes commenced in 1897 under Adelaide Hoodless and the Ontario Department of Agriculture. Their motto was "FOR HOME AND COUNTRY". Local chapters were soon formed, each with general advice programs for women and specific initiatives for local needs.

By 1909 British Columbia was experiencing a surge of immigration from eastern Canada, USA and Europe. The BC Ministry of Agriculture asked the Ontario ministry to send Miss Laura Rose to travel through the province to recruit leaders to form new branches of W.I. in BC. Over 200 communities welcomed the program. While implying that farmer's wives were the bulk of membership, history reveals that wives of leading citizens in each community joined and became officers in most branches. The first branch in BC was set up in Gordon Head near Victoria where the daughter- in-law of Dr Hugh Watt of Fort Steele became President.

Kaslo joined this energetic league on November 10, 1909. They quickly gained attention by offering workshops on growing and canning fruit, keeping poultry, using wood stoves, plus supporting schools, skating rinks, playgrounds, offering scholarships, creating a local library, caring for a cemetery or planting trees on boulevards. In 1911 they organized a Flower Show which continued annually thereafter. A sample agenda for 1913 was: January: Discussion on Programme for the year. February: Hair Switches. Recipe Exchange March: Gardening, House Cleaning, April: Play Ground clean up and Tree Planting May: Fireless Cooker; Buttonhole Competition June: Salad Demonstration July: Talk on Chickens: The Ideal Wife and Mother August: Food Values, Balanced Ration September: What could be Done to make Kaslo a Better Place October: Christmas Cakes and Icings November: Paper Flowers December: Hair dressing . Soon the women proposed lowering the price of groceries by having merchants order Boxcar loads of flour, oatmeal and staples. This was matched by carload lots of chicken feed for the Farmer's Institute. During WW I Kaslo ladies started knitting socks for soldiers, making jam and quilts for the Red Cross for distribution in England. A specialty was that a small Xmas cake was mailed to each Kaslo recruit overseas. The Institute organized a Boys Band through a High School night program and

financed the operation of an Outdoor Skating Rink.

In 1922 an appeal for specialized care for a girl with a tubercular spine saw Women's Institutes across the province raise funds for the first Vancouver Hospital for Crippled Children. (Now the successor is BC Children's Hospital). Dr Cyril Wace saw that success and requested that a similar hospital be built on Vancouver Island. The Queen Alexandra Solarium was soon established in Victoria. The fund raising continued in later years to create money to assist families having to travel long distances to either of the children's hospitals.

My Mother came to Kaslo in 1925 as a new bride. She was invited to join the W I. As she lived 4 miles out of town my Dad would bring her to meetings in a boat. She also learned to ride their horse especially in winter. This English girl who had always had servants, used gas for occasional cooking, definitely needed help! She appreciated lessons on how to cook on a wood fired stove. Then the canning lessons for those glass jars sealed with a rubber ring and a clamp over top. Mum had raised a few ducks but learned tips on raising chickens. The executive found out Mum's hobbies- metalwork and glove making, so eagerly had her demonstrate as part of their program. (One senior member had a misshaped hand so Mum tailor- made leather gloves for the rest of that lady's life). Also these meetings were a chance to meet young women and old. Some of the senior members made a point of keeping in touch with Mum after I was born. They would phone when a grandchild my age was visiting to invite Mum for tea so I could play with their young visitor. One lady in particular, known as a dragon in certain groups, always greeted me when I was a student then a young adult, updating news of her granddaughter Isabel and reporting on my mother's progress. The Annual Flower Show was well patronized by locals, tourists and competitors. Many times the winning exhibitors would enter the Nelson Flower show and win there, too.

WW II saw a surge in W.I. activities with more serious jam making, parcels overseas, welcoming returnees and their overseas brides, paying for additions of names on monuments, and continuing scholarships and bursaries for local students. However, most of the W.I. members also had other affiliations, were slowing down physically so dropped out of this valuable community organization.

In 1956 each Chapter of the Women's Institute was urged to write their local history.

Just recently that work appeared in Kaslo for the Archives and was photocopied for me. The 50 pages were hand printed with black and white pictures appropriate to the context. Stories begin with the first settlers, the mines, transportation, schools and school teachers, and the fire and flood of 1894. In 1896 the Governor General of Canada, Lord Aberdeen and his wife visited Kaslo, inspected the school and admired the trees planted on boulevards. They were greeted by John Keen, resident surveyor, and his wife. Mrs. Keen talked to Lady Aberdeen about the need for a hospital. Within a year Lady Aberdeen notified Mrs. Keen describing the new Victorian Order of Nurses. A proposal stated that if citizens of Kaslo and District procured a suitable site and raised \$1000 the Victorian Order would donate \$1,500 for building a hospital. Mrs. Keen and her brother canvassed the community, quickly passing the requisite sum. A site up the hill was donated, and a contract let for logging and grading the lots. On October 12, 1903 the Victorian Hospital was formally opened. It served the community well until about 1970. The key lady leading that project became prominent in the Women's Institute. The zealous lady who wrote about Mirror Lake firmly took over roles in the Women's Institute in Kaslo! Creston is the only remaining Chapter in the Kootenays in 2017



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WASA PANCAKE BREAKFAST



and MARKET Every Saturday

Rain or Shine

The Wasa Pancake Breakfast will take place every
Saturday from July 1st to September 2nd, 2017
at the Wasa Lions Picnic Grounds

Pancake Breakfast

from

8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Breakfast includes:

- Pancakes
- Scrambled Eggs
 - Sausages
- Juice or Coffee

Large \$6.00 / Small \$5.00

Just Coffee/Juice \$1.00

Market

from

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Come out and visit the vendors

- Home Baking
 - Crafts
- Gently Use Items
 - Jewelry

Vendor Tables No Charge

2017 Pancake Breakfast Schedule

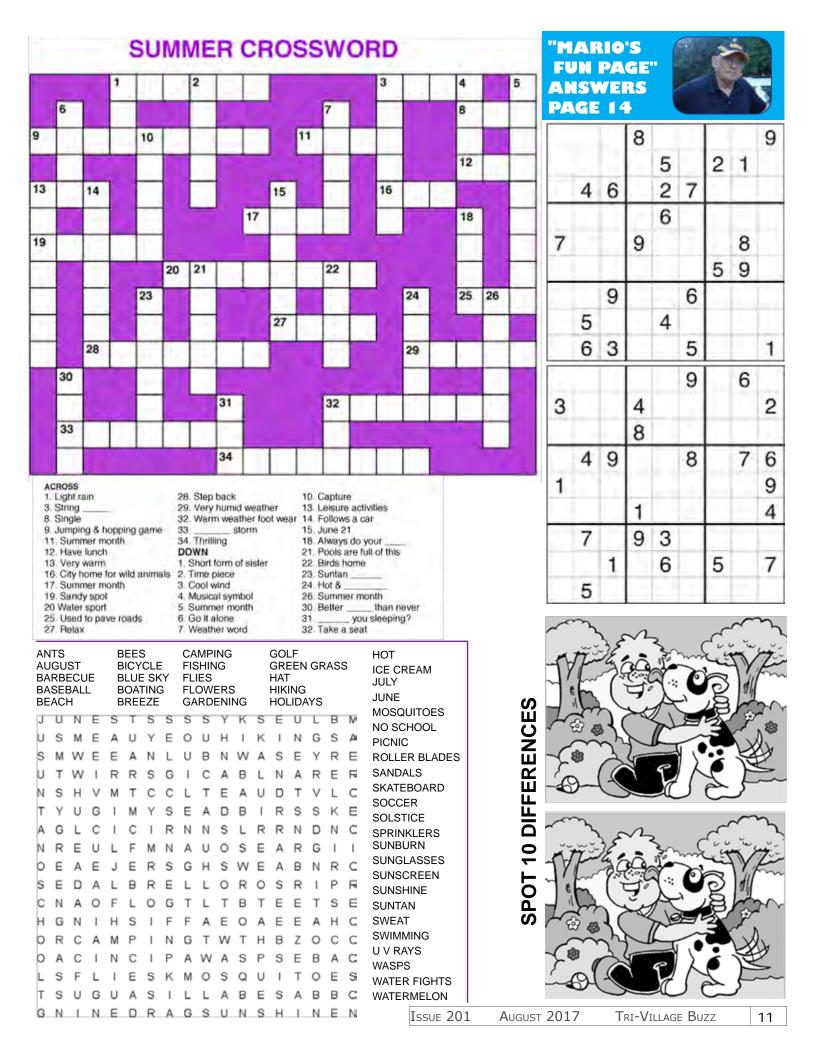
July 1	TOPS	August 5	Wasa Lions Club	
July 8	Historical Society	August 12	Wasa Ball Team	
July 15	Wasa Community Library	August 19	Wasa Lions Club	
July 22	Wasa Community Church	August 26	Wasa Country Quilters	
July 29	Recreation Society	Sept 2	Kimberely Refugee Relocation	

Wasa Country Market and Pancake Breakfast Committee:

Karen Markus / Jim Hill

Bonnie Meena

Val Dmytriw



Safety guidelines and things you need to know:

- ☐ Minimum of 2 people in the Gym at all times
- ☐ All users must sign in with date and time
- ☐ All users must sign a Wasa Recreation Programs User Waiver located at the sign- in desk
- ☐ All users are required to wear "gym shoes" no street shoes permitted
- ☐ All users must use the safety key on the Walking Machines
- ☐ Cost is a loonie or twoonie
- □ Have fun and be safe!
- Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday Mornings from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- Monday to Friday Mornings (inclusive) from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



Contact: Sonia Blackwell 250.422.9201

The **Wasa Recreation Society's** main objective is to generate funds to keep the Wasa Hall running. Wasa Recreation Society members meet in the basement of the Wasa Hall in the Quilters Room on the last Tuesday of each month. Everyone is invited to attend. Listed below are some of the user groups and contacts:

- Hall Rentals and Information Karen Markus 250.422.3514
- Gym Sonia Blackwell 250.422.9201
- TOPS Susan 250.422.3510
- Library Judy McPhee 250.422.3766

In addition, BINGO's are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Wasa Hall. Early bird starts at 6:30 pm and regular at 6:45 pm.

Fresh Berry COFFEE CAKE

Fanny's Favorites

Preheat oven to 350°. Spray 10" Bundt Cake pan with non stick cooking spray. (Berry Mixture)Stir together:

2 cups fresh raspberries, blueberries or huckleberries

6 Tbsp brown sugar

(Flour Mixture) In a separate bowl mix together:

2 cups flour 2/3 cup sugar

1 tsp baking powder ½ tsp baking soda 1/4 tsp salt

In a 3rd bowl cream together:

1/4 cup butter melted ¼ cup sour cream

2 tsp vanilla 2 eggs

Stir in flour mixture just until moist.

Sprinkle ½ cup Berry Mixture and 1 cup pecans in prepared bundt pan. Pour in half the batter. Pour on the remaining Berry Mixture and 1 cup pecans. Spread remaining batter over berries. Bake in preheated oven for 35 to 40 min. Frost cool cake (Mix: 2 tsp milk, ½ tsp vanilla, ½ cup confectioners sugar)

1 Leaves missing from tree 2 8 9 3 2 Boys lip missing 5 5 6 8 2 8 3 Boy missing a freckle 6 3 8 5 5 8 4 Heel missing from shoe 2 9 3 8 8 3 5 5 Ball moved 2 8 3 6 4 7 2 3 9 1 4 8 6 5 6 Dog has extra spot 6 9 9 2 3 7 Dog tag missing 2 3 8 Extra flower on bush 3 9 9 6 3 9 Boys sleeve darker color

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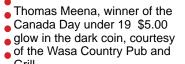


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Wasa Lake by Night - This beautiful photo was taken by Eric Jansen. The bright light is because it was a timed exposure.

Why Volunteer

It's not for the money.

It's not for the fame. It's not for only personal gain.

It's just for love of fellow man.

It's just to lend a helping hand.

It's just to give a tithe of self.

That's something you can't buy with wealth.

It's not for medals won with pride.

It's for that feeling deep inside.

It's that reward down deep in your heart.

It's that feeling that you have of helping others far and near.

That makes you become a volunteer.

Author Unknown

From the Ashram

Words of Wisdom



The mystical power of the horse The yoga of the horse



Venerable Gurudev Hamsah
Nandatha practicing walking
meditation among his horses with
his Great Pyrenees dog "Honto" in
his Ashram in Wasa, BC, Canada.

Just as a rider, or horseman, is the most distinguished of heroes through his association with Knighthood, the horse that carries him is the noblest animal of mythology. are many

spiritual traditions around the world that grant great spiritual powers to horses. This is why, in all advanced societies, horses have been greatly respected for their sacred attributes.

Like many of us in this famous North American West region of the world, where horses are such an important part of our lives, I have always been a horse lover. From this love, I became a horseman, and then a Spiritual Guide for horses. I was even directly encouraged by my own Guru, His Holiness the Lord Hamsah Manarah, to practice the Yoga of the Horse, called "Ashva Kalana Yoga" in my Ashram (Spiritual Sanctuary). This means that I have learned a lot from horses, and, as Yogi, they too have learned a lot from me, because like us, horses are also great Souls. Humans, horses and all other creatures are all on the Path of Evolution and Expansion of the Consciousness.

The Yoga of the Horse is as ancient as it is secret in terms of Spiritual Practice. This Initiatic Path is not made for those who wish to prove themselves through their horse's abilities. The Yoga of the Horse is for those who aspire to realize the true Self through their oneness with their horse. Horses are often used to sustain the egoistic ambition of their owner. I do not "own" horses, I am with Horses. Even if the horse is naturally noble and truthful, it is not necessarily the case of his owner. My master once told me: "The Transcendent

Nobility of the Horse should be earned by his rider through a great deal of purification of Heart and Spirit." It's not because you have a horse that you have pierced all his secrets and supernatural abilities. We meet so many people who are with their horse as they are in life: always wanting something from their horse. They cannot approach the horse without their own expectations; they always have demands and a desire to control and tame the horse in order to be its "master". The horse isn't fooled by this; he knows and feels this egoistic barrier, as he is never engaged in the "gaining process." He is in a state of being, but not aware of it. Projecting your desires onto your horse is not being "with" your horse, nor is constantly wanting something from him. The most enlightened horseman or horsewoman is the one approaching their horse with an empty mind, totally free from all demands or expectations. That is the true Spirit of the Yoga of the Horse ("Ashva Kalana Yoga" in the Sanskrit Indian Scripture).

This doesn't mean you should not ride your horse and train with him. It means you should train yourself to be one with your horse in order to dissolve your own fears. Horses are extremely sensitive to fearful creatures. Have you ever meditated in the middle of your horse's pasture or sat in his paddock or stall? Have you ever approached your horse with the direct intention of simply being with him? If so, have you done it occasionally or have you done it regularly, until you reached the full perception of who this giant Soul is, just beside you, communing with you in the form of your horse? Is he just a horse? Are you only this human being? This inquiry takes time... it takes love... and it takes a selfless presence. But after a certain time in meditation with horses, the fruit of this Yoga is amazing, overwhelming, and enlightening. It's as if every part of your heart wanted to say to your horse: "Oh! My dear Friend, will you forgive all that have done to you through ignorance and blindness of my own ego? Wonder of Creation, I didn't know, I didn't know what it was to be one with you, my Brother or Sister Horse! I didn't know that your physical beauty was a pale reflection of the Majesty of your Soul! I realize that you also

are a Divine Creature. Let me pay homage to the Supreme Self within you ...OM OM OM."

After this experience, how could you ever be the same with your horse? All has changed. From now on it is not you and your horse, but your Horse and you.

There are some people in the world of horsemanship who are already great Ashva Kalana Yogis and Yoginis, even though they don't know it. They have discovered how to enter the Horse's Spirit, to connect heart to heart, and to give to the horse, rather than taking from him.

A few weeks ago, I sent one of my horses, a noble Canadian Horse named "Vajra", for training under the good care of my dear and respected horsewoman friend Tanya Ryan at her Horizon Equine Facility near Cranbrook, BC. During one of my visits to him after a month of training, I witnessed something unique between Tanya and Vajra. It is certain that my own yogic practice helped me perceive what I'm about to tell you. Tanya was on Vajra guiding him to walk and trot with kindness and elegance. I was outside the round pen, but they were together as one in there, a single world between them. Vajra was not distracted by me nor by all the activities in the center; they were one amidst a moment of absolute simplicity and trust, and it was beautiful and soothing to me. It was as if nothing could have broken this Unity, like a magnetic shield of unity and joy between Vajra and Tanya. They were not working, they were simply sharing without words. Tanya wanted to please Vajra so he could be happy with



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Continued / Ashram Words of Wisdom

himself, and Vajra then wanted to please Tanya, even though he is still a childish three-year-old horse. Tanya Ryan is truly a great, accomplished practitioner of the Yoga of the Horse; she is full of love and compassion for horses. Her state of mind at that very moment was exactly the same as the one of a Yogini in her cave at the top of the Himalayas: an empty mind with a very warm heart.

The Horse possesses both physical and supernatural power. Humanity owes an inestimable debt to the Horse, which has completely changed and expanded communications among humans. The Horse has the reputation of increasing balance in human hearts. But the true power of the Horse resides in his inherent Wisdom. The Horse helps those in contact with him to better understand the True Meaning of Existence and to continue their present life journey that began lifetimes ago. In short, the qualities of the Horse are Compassion, Tenderness, Enlightening of Superior Essential Knowledge, natural Love and Sharing of Powers of Inner Awakening. He is also the great Promoter of talents and abilities that open our own Path toward Enlightenment. When you watch any horse, remember that the horse watches you, but also sees through you.

This article is dedicated to all horsemen and horsewomen, and to all those who will discover the Spiritual privilege of being in the presence of a Horse.

Warmly yours with Love. Have a beautiful summer!
Venerable Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha
Adi Vajra Shambhasalem Ashram, Wasa, BC Canada
If you like these articles by the Venerable Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha,
reread them in Words of Wisdom, a collection of the articles
published in this column from 2008 to the end of 2015. The book is
available at the Ashram and at the Wasa General Store.



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We sincerely appreciate the kindness and support we received from our community during the fire in May.

Larry Gould, his crew and his fire truck with the support of our community are shining examples of the kindness and support we wish to acknowledge.

We are thankful there was no loss of life.

Thank you to everyone.

The Rauch Family



August 2017

		<u> </u>	<u>usi 2017</u>	<u></u>		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Newsletter reserve the submissions due to leg	of the Tri-Village Buzz e right to refuse to print pality, length, good taste nating beliefs.	1	2	No Meditation	4	5
6 Happy Birthday Joyce	7 AUGUST CIVIC HOLDAY • Full Moon	BINGO 6:30 Early Bird 6:45 Regular	9	10 No Meditation Ashram	11	12
13	14 WLLID Mtg	15	16	17 No Meditation	18	19
20	7:00 pm	22	23	Ashram 24	25	26
	New Moon			No Meditation Ashram		
27	28	29	30	31		
			Rec Soc Ann Gen Mtg 7pm	No Meditation Ashram		

• Church 10:30 a.m. a.m. Mon to Fri 10 a.m. Meeting 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.)

• Library Tues. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. • Gym (M,W,F 7:30-8:30 TOPS Fri 8:30 a.m. Weigh in &

• Quilters Tues. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

• BINGO 6:30 p.m.

Rec Society 7:00 p.m.

• Lions 7:00 p.m.

Special Events and Days Down the Road.

- Tuesday, September 12th Library reopens
- Friday, September 29th Comment period deadline on proposed OCP changes



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