



# Tri-Village Buzz



December 2015 Issue 185

VISIT: [WWW.WASALAKE.COM / BUZZ](http://WWW.WASALAKE.COM/BUZZ)

## 1979 Team BC Canada Winter Games Hockey Gold Medal Champions inducted into The BC Hockey Hall Of Fame

by Nowell Berg



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When your father is a hockey coach and your mother teaches figure skating, its pretty much a forgone conclusion you'd end up skating and playing hockey. That's how Wasa resident Ron Brooks came to eventually play defense for Team BC and compete in the 1979 Canada Winter Games.

This past July, in Penticton, the '79 team was inducted into the BC Hockey Hall of Fame.

Brooks pointed out that two other East Kootenay residents were also on the '79 team, Ken Manson and Colin Patterson.

Team BC was made up of 19 Junior B hockey players from around the Province. A 19 year-old Brooks was playing on the Camosun College (Victoria) team when he attend a zone try out in the summer of 1978. From that try-out he

was selected to move onto the main hockey camp where all players were brought together in preparation for the Winter Games tourney in Brandon, Manitoba.

For most of the West Coast players, February '79 would be the first time visiting the prairies during the winter. It was quite the shock for the West Coasters. Temperatures were a bone chilling -20° C which required Brooks to wear several layers of long underwear. "That cold weather was a real experience", said Brooks. The other great thing about the Games was "going around to see all the other events taking place", particularly boxing.

Hockey Team BC won all four games in the main tournament and all prior exhibition games.

*Continued on Page 3*



1979- Left Ron Brooks, Right Wayne Proceviat



2015 - Left Ron Brooks, Right Wayne Proceviat

**Christmas Eve Service**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Wasa Community Church**



**Wasa Lions**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual**  
**Wasa Winter Festival**

**December 31<sup>st</sup>**

Noon to 4 p.m.  
details page 13

Merry Christmas!  
and  
Best Wishes for  
the New Year!  
and here's to...:  
"Another year of the  
Tri-Village Buzz!!"

Thank you to all of our  
wonderful volunteers  
that make this newsletter  
possible!

**SERVING SKOOKUMCHUCK, TA TA CREEK AND WASA**



# FOLLOWING THE TRAILS OF

# Yesterday

By Judy McPhee

## The Stagecoach Route and Stop Over Hotel Wolf Creek Road, Wasa, B.C.

Clip-clop, clip-clop, up and down Wolf Creek Road people on horseback, mules, horses, stagecoaches, sleighs, people walking and in later years, motor vehicles, snowshoes, skis, bicycles and snow machines—all used for transportation within the Tri-Village area and up and down Wolf Creek Road. Cattle, horses and wild animals also used the trail in the early days while First Nation people camped, hunted and fished in the area.

Within the diary of J. E. Humphries, 1886-1893 and sporadically until 1897, (available at our library for loan) and tour guides, Bill Rankins and his sister, Arden Holmes, grandchildren of Dan and Cordelia Hamilton, we embarked on a tour of the old stagecoach route to J. E. Humphries stopover stagecoach hotel/home and ranch. The Hamilton's owned the ranch from 1932-1965. We went further on to Hannant's ranch and Wild Horse Prairie.

Points of interest along Wolf Creek Road were shown to me by Bill and Arden but that is another story. Since my first glimpse of the old hotel/home in 1955, I've wanted to know the stagecoach route and history of the stagecoach hotel/home.

We began our tour at the south end of Wasa Lake. The stagecoach came from Fort Steele to Golden with an overnight stay at "The Grange" as the stagecoach hotel/home and ranch was referred to. It followed the top of the hill, east of Cameron Pond, came down the hill crossing Lewis Creek just east of the Davis's property and north across the open field. It continued on past the old Hitching Post, past the campground and up Wolf Creek Road. In those days it was a trail. At the current Monteith property, the stagecoach swung up the hill where the road forks (those poor horses) and continued along the top of the hill. There was a railroad along the Wolf Creek trail then situated by Monteith's which was used to haul logs. The logs were brought down to the loading spot by horses, wagons and sleighs.

The stagecoach came down again through the current property of Kirk's and continued up Wolf Creek Road to the south side of Wolf Creek. It continued on the south side of the creek, going east to J. E. Humphrie's hotel/home, ranch.

The diary has particularly interesting and fascinating data on the every day life at the ranch. Hiring staff, wages paid, finishing the hotel/ home, cooking, baking bread, gardening, raising and rounding cattle at Premier Ridge, Bummer's Flats and at the ranch. Fresh meat was sold to Nils Hanson's hotel in Wasa and local ranchers and farmers. Stage coach arrivals and prominent guests were also recorded.

The history of some of the families owning the ranch were: William Fernie, his brother Peter, J. E. Humphries, The Doyle's, D. and C. Hamilton (1932-1965) and Willie and Audrey Hannah. Grandson, Jim Large lives there now. Willie tore the old stagecoach hotel/home down when he bought the ranch in 1965, he told me that the foundation was in bad shape.

The log structure of the hotel/home, barn, blacksmith shop and other buildings were made from logs hauled in by horses from the surrounding area. The barn was completed in November 1873 by Curt and Charlie Ball. By the late 1920's, all of the large timber from the area had been harvested and the 1929 fire completed the job.

The inside of the hotel/home (for a city girl) was amazing. Axe marks on the ceiling of the kitchen (and in the barn) gave it a pioneer look. The dining room was next to the kitchen and next was the huge living room with a monstrous fireplace and wide wood floors. The bricks for the fireplace were hauled from Bonner's Ferry by mule train. I visualize the hotel guests and family guests visiting around the fireplace. A door leading from the west end of the living room led to a hall where the hotel bedrooms were located on both sides.

For a complete history of "The Grange", refer to pages 263-270 of "The Kootenay Ripples".

In 1967 The Blacksmith Shop, under the direction of Norm Blackburn, Parks employee and Wasa resident, was moved to Fort Steele and is still in use today, 142 years after it was built!

History is interesting. In the early 1940's the First Nations people were still setting up their teepees and fishing the Wolf Creek and river where Bill played with the children. In 1946/47, the old railway bed ties were cleared away from Wolf Creek Road and in 1947/48 the road was

graded by Forestry and local ranchers using a grater pulled by a horse drawn team. In 1947, Colin Cameron extended Wolf Creek Road from the meadows up towards the current property of Wink Bradford, to haul logs for his Wasa mill. Electricity came to Wasa in the mid 1960's.

For an exceptional history of the Tri Village area, check out "The Kootenay Ripples", pages 1 - 664. The field work has been done! The books make excellent Christmas gifts and are available through Bev Rauch.

Merry Christmas from Judy!



## Wasa Country Pub & Grill

- Hunters Welcome!
- Nice hot meals & cold beer
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- Looking for something to do?.... or need an evening out?

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*Drop in, you'll be happy you did!*

**Minors welcome until 8 p.m.  
must be accompanied by  
parent or guardian**

**Take Out Available**  
**Call 250-422-3381**

*The Wasa Country Pub & Grill  
wish everyone a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!*

*Jim & Melinda Howard*

**HOLIDAY HOURS**  
**CLOSED Dec. 24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
**REOPEN Dec. 26<sup>TH</sup> 11 am to 8 pm**





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### Continued from Cover

## 1979 Team BC... Inducted BC Hockey Hall Of Fame

While Brooks scored a couple of goals, he remembers Pierre Trudeau dropping the puck during the ceremonial face-off when Team BC played Team Quebec, who were favoured to win the whole tournament. Team BC won the game and moved into the semi-finals against PEI. After winning that game, they played Nova Scotia in the gold medal game. Team BC won it and captured the first Canada Winter Games hockey gold medal for the Province. "It was the only team I played for that never lost a game," said Brooks. The gold medal is a cherished memento.

After College, Brooks moved onto a career in business. He said that playing on a hockey team helped him in the business world. "As I went through business I realized the concept of team-work really was important," said Brooks. It takes a team to win gold and it takes a team to run a successful business.

The other thing he learned from hockey that helped in his business career was hard work. The experience of working hard learning to skate and play hockey definitely helped in his future activities.

The induction into the Hall this past

summer was a great experience, said Brooks. All players on the '79 team made it to the ceremony, albeit 36 years older, with fond memories of the gold medal win.



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**Get the Girls**

Sarah Shields

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250-581-0780

getthegirls.wasa@gmail.com

## Hints From Vi

By Vi Cockell

*Hello everybody sure hope you're enjoying the nice fall weather*



1. To help keep things organized when wrapping gifts, I use an umbrella turned upside down to place all the paper in. I also hang the scissors from the handle and tape ribbon onto the tips. Place the umbrella near the table and you can see everything at a glance.
2. To help fresh Evergreen wreaths hold their needles, spray with Extra Hold hair spray. This helps preserve the wreath even when its exposed to the wind or sun.
3. Fruit Fly Troubles? Simply fill a small glass with Apple Cider vinegar, add 2 drops of liquid dish soap and mix well. Place the glass on a counter and watch the fruit flies swarm to the glass.
4. The next time you burn yourself place a small portion of flour (cold is better) on the burn for about 10 minutes. You won't have a red mark or blister and absolutely NO PAIN. Prepare by putting a small amount of flour in the fridge right away!!! Flour has heat absorbent properties and can also be used to put out fires.

*Have a great and safe holiday season and the best in the New Year!*



By Laurie Kay

## WASA LAKE LAND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (WLLID) RECEIVES APPROVAL TO REMOVE WASA LAKE AQUATIC MILFOIL

Following a public meeting held at Wasa in August on invasive aquatic species and in particular the concern of the increase in growth of aquatic native milfoil in Wasa Lake, the WLLID filed a Section 9 Water Act Application requesting permission to remove the milfoil.

The WLLID is pleased to report that our application has been favourably reviewed by Water Management Section and The Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management Section of The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO). The described works were considered a "Notification" and therefore no Section 9 Water Act Approval is required. It was still necessary however, to complete a Section 9.

Any work however, has to be done in accordance with certain B.C. Water Regulations and the Habitat Officer's Terms and Conditions and in compliance with applicable federal, provincial or local government regulations. Work must also be carried out during a specific Timing Window that allows the least risk to

fish habitat.

The native milfoil must not be completely eradicated which we understand is impossible to do anyway. If commercial harvesting practices are considered, which is doubtful, then a more intense management plan may be required. The WLLID feels confident that all requirements can be met.

The next step is to form a broad based steering committee to coordinate efforts. That will take place in the new year and your participation is essential and most welcome as there will much to consider. Just for starters: appropriate removal and disposal methods for our situation, possible costs, equipment, time lines, community input, help and communication, safety issues and seeking advice from groups already dealing with milfoil.

To be successful it will have to be a joint effort and by working together we will succeed. Thank you

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Where do you take...

## YOUR BUZZ?



June 2015 - Ursula and Donna pictured with the Buzz on Main Street in Appenzell in Switzerland, a great place for shopping and familiar sites for tourists. The Appenzellers are known to be very witty people and they know how to do business. Also known for very strong cheese, good beer and embroidery. Donna and Ursula recommend Appenzell to visit.



Pictured with the Buzz, Karen Markus and her cousin, Wayne Peterson (HomeTown) were at the Paul Rogers Concert in Spokane, Washington. Paul Rogers was the frontman for the band Bad Company and Free. They rocked all night long.

## "THE BUZZ 2015 CONTEST ENTRIES"

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| February | - Helen Kelly in London, U.K.   |
| March    | - Sandy & Bill Wilson in Cuba<br>- Jim & Melinda Howard in Cuba           |
| April    | - Rod & Arla Monteith in Cuba   |
| May      | - Hugh & Orlena Campbell in Arizona                                       |
| June     | - Jack & Dar Davis in Vancouver   |
| July     | - Sandy & Laurie Kay in Turkey  |
| October  | - Pat Walkey & Carol Canning in Arctic Circle                             |
| November | - Darlene & Joyce Davis in New Brunswick                                  |
| December | - Ursula & Donna in Switzerland<br>- Karen and cousin Hometown in Spokane |

Each of the above entries will be entered into a draw to win a \$50. gift certificate for any one of the 2015 Tri-Village Buzz advertisers. The winner will be announced in the February issue of the Buzz. Thank you to everyone for remembering to bring "The Buzz" on your holiday adventures!



**Wasa Country Pub & Grill**

## Annual Fundraising Fishing Derby

**Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**


**NEW DATE**

- Fish any lake within a 50 km radius of the Wasa Country Pub
- Final weigh in is 6:00 p.m. at the Pub
- Entry fee must be paid by Friday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> at the Pub
- "Trout Only Please" No spawners
- Minors under the age of 19 are welcome until 10:00 p.m. (must be accompanied by parent or guardian)
- ½ of all entry fees will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Foundation

**Trophies & Prizes**

- Age Over 19 - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- Age Under 19 - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- Hidden Weight

**Entry Fee:**  
**\$15.00 - under 19**  
**\$25.00 - 19 and over**  
 Includes spaghetti dinner, bun, coffee or tea or hot chocolate




## the Armchair Traveller

The ARMCHAIR TRAVELLER returns for another wonderful season! Presentations begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Wasa Hall. Admission is by donation with proceeds going towards our Community Library.

Mark your calendars for these dates:

- Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>  
France and Italy by Lori Joe
- Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>  
Iceland by Susan Campbell
- Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>  
Galapagos Islands by Sharon Prinz
- Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>  
Mongolia and Yangtze River by Jim Abbott
- Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Italy by Cliff Youngs

We are looking forward to seeing you!



**Christian & Garry Verigin**



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**Slim Pickens**  
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We would like to thank Afton and Frida for their great work throughout the year. Mom and Ron, we wouldn't have made it through the summer without your help and support.



To our wonderful clients, thank you for choosing Get The Girls for your: cleaning, raking, mowing, painting, shoveling and property checking needs.

**Get the Girls - Sarah & Sharon**

## WASA RECREATION SOCIETY

The Wasa Recreation Society has completed the Basement Upgrade and Improvement Project, funded by the Columbia Basin Trust. Thanks to the local support of Terry Marvel, Jim Hill and Dwane Markus we met our financial target. The Recreation Society is very grateful for the support we get from the Columbia Basin Trust grant.

We welcome and thank Bonnie Meena for taking over coordinating the concession for the monthly Wasa Bingo. Along with her regular helpers of Lorraine Colton, Wilma Harding, and Orlena Campbell they provide bingo players with a fine concession. Thanks also, to Susan Manahan who was the our previous coordinator.

Mark your calendars and come out to our Christmas Bingo!

Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 Early Bird and 6:45 Regular Bingo.

## WASA RECREATION SOCIETY

## SLOW COOKER CRAB & GREEN ONION DIP

## Fanny's Favorites

3 pkg (8 oz each)	2 cans (6 oz each)
cream cheese cubed	lump crabmeat, drained
4 green onions chopped	¼ cup 2% milk
2 tsp prep horseradish	2 tsp Worcestershire
Sauce	
¼ tsp salt	Melba rounds

In a greased 3-qt slow cooker combine cream cheese, crabmeat, green onions, milk, horseradish, Worcestershire sauce and salt. Cook covered on low 3-4 hours or until heated through, stirring occasionally. Serve with Melba Rounds. Merry Christmas from Fanny's Kitchen!

## WASA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Hours: Tues. 11 am - 1 pm & Wed. 6:30 pm - 8 pm

SUBMITTED BY JUDY MCPHEE

*All for One, One for All (can be inverted)*

*Swedish Motto since 1868 and in use since 1902*

*Motto, "The Three Musketeers" by A. Rumas*



All for one, one for all, the philosophy of Nick Berg, chief character in:

**"HUNGRY AS THE SEA" by Wilbur Smith**

Nick sets out to retain his integrity and reputation from the unscrupulous man, Duncan who took his wife and chairmanship from a shipping company by buying salvage ships and making an honest living salvaging ships in distress. Two exciting dramas, salvaging a ship in the Antarctica and preventing a catastrophic four ton crude spill from a redesigned weakened tanker ship that Nick designed with 42 million dollars of construction cutbacks.

Wilbur Smith, Rhodes Scholar, businessman and exceptional novelist of Historical Fiction Books (about 33) has written a series of books on Egypt, Africa, Pharaohs and stand-alone books. He has meticulously researched each book. Reading them, you will gain History degree via Wilbur Smith. Each book is full of adventure, tension and intrigue. Each book, exceptionally educational on the theme of the book. Wilbur Smith is a master storyteller.

We have nine of his books in our library and 13 more donated by the Farwig family to be catalogued. Ken Miles and Frank Robinson, you will enjoy Wilbur's books!

*"They can conquer who think they can"*

**Library closes for Christmas Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and reopens on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.**

## Wasa Lions Trail

The Wasa Lions Trail is an 8 km trail around Wasa Lake and was built in 1997 in cooperation with the Wasa Lions and the Provincial Government. Locals, visitors from Cranbrook, Kimberley and tourists throughout the world use this trail. The trail is beginning to show it's age and needs some TLC. Funding is not as easy to obtain as it once was which is why we are looking for public and corporate donations. Help us keep our trail beautiful.

Please contact Hugh Campbell, Wasa Lions Member at 250-422-3773 for information on how you can help.

## WASA MEMORIAL GARDEN

Submitted By Sandy Kay



Last chat we shared was in the September issue and already it's the final "Buzz" of 2015, holy!!!

Let's back up a couple of months to September. As you all know the growing season slows as the long days start to fade, however there are still jobs to be done. We had the good fortune to be able to welcome Kim Koswan on board at that time. Kim actually lived in Ta Ta Creek for several years but now resides in Ontario with her hubby Cleave. During their home sitting stint out West she cheerfully offered to share her gardening expertise with us. What perfect timing for me as she was able to filled in during my holiday to France. Like all things she takes on this was no different the garden looked well loved when I returned. Thanks very much, we hope you'll join our team again soon.

Don Kenschuh, the waterwheel expert had his hip replaced in October. I'm pleased to report the recuperation and healing is right on schedule. The Wasa Historical Association/Memorial Garden members send out their best for a speedy yet complete recovery, Don.

The garden is ready for jack frost to visit because of the voluntary work of two great guys, J. C. McPhee and Laurie Kay. We sure do appreciate you both and say a huge thanks.

Now it's time to thank 'YOU' area residents for supporting all the projects over the years and wish you a blessed Christmas season, safe, happy holiday with family and friends. May 2016 be kind to you all!

## PET'S PLACE



YOGI is a 3 month old German Shepherd puppy. He is looking forward to his first Christmas with his brother Shadow!

## Wasa Community Church

Contact Pastor Paul  
about upcoming  
Bible Study  
778-524-5023



Sunday  
Worship Service  
10:30 am





## Your Drop in the Ocean of Life Counts

With all these scary situations happening around the world and the programming of fear willingly spread by the media, it takes more and more courage and lucidity to maintain hope for the future. You may wonder what this humanity is giving birth to. What will be the next step for our individualistic society? Are we falling like the Roman Empire or are we giving birth to another kind of Human Being through these drastic circumstances? Remember that whenever there is destruction, there is always the rise of something new, something more adapted to what is necessary.

“Do not despair, the best is yet to come!” our Spiritual Teacher, His Holiness the Lord Hamsah Manarah, often told us. Through the apparent chaos, which is organized and spread by residual “karmic demons” who are religious fanatics or members of occult financial and political groups trying to control the human emotional reactions, will emerge another kind of man: a Conscious Man. It has already begun and this process will not stop but will continue to accelerate.

The more you realize the extent to which the more or less perverted democratic system has been treating you like pawns in a chess game, the more you will aspire to become totally responsible for your life and our human society as an awakened Citizen in your daily life. In other words: you can do a lot for the world from your present situation in life.

What does the world need the most at this present time? It needs equilibrium, security and trust. Equilibrium means doing what must be done for the benefit of as many people as possible. Security means respecting each other and the order of nature. Trust means taking care of one another by considering your life as a part of the life of every sentient being around you.

This assertion may look somewhat idealistic, but if it is a necessity, then we better start working on it rather than expecting miracles to happen without any concrete personal effort. By controlling your emotions and reactions, by doing what must be done with peace of mind and a sense of participating in the world’s improvement, you will produce a small drop of perfect water in the ocean of life. The situation of the entire world depends only upon the way you are on the inside. Even if you are alone at home, with nobody around you, you still are a part of this world and you have an impact on the whole world through the slightest thought that arises in your head. The “Butterfly Effect” is real; it means that, no matter what you think, say or do, you are changing the course of events of the entire world. The change you bring to the world by being present in it is signed and marked by the very nature of your intention, of your motivation.

If your intentions in life are egoistic, fearful, anxious and worried, then these negative vibrations will color everything they encounter on their way. You hear about explosions in Paris or those that happen every day in Iraq, and you may think that it has nothing to do with you because you live far from there. But these distant acts of terror are the result

of a tremendous amount of an accumulated energy of dissatisfaction and hatred. Have you been expressing anger, violence or aggressiveness in your words and actions recently? Then you have contributed to the rise of rage and hatred among all sentient beings of this planet. The lack of balance generates the first dark forces of vibratory pollution in this world.

If your intentions in life are benevolent, selfless, kind and peaceful, then these positive vibrations will color everything they enter in contact with. You will have generated a drop of the perfect energy of harmony and purity and, because you will have become responsible by controlling your own emotions, everyone around you will enjoy your presence. One by one we will bring out the best in everyone around us. We can become the Spreaders of Harmony and Clarity of mind. You want to be happy, we all want to be happy; so it is up to us to create the right conditions for a Happy Life. Let’s begin now, right where we are!

Your drop in the ocean of life counts so much! A little bit every day, do something good for others, willingly, consciously, for no personal reasons. As Yogis (Beings of Unification) in this modern age, we must always pay attention to the importance of bringing balance, security and trust to everyone every day. One plus one, we will change the world. Yes, it may take some time, maybe a few centuries, but the Human Society will give birth to the New Man and the Conscious Man, who is ready to serve Truth and Universal Love. Do your best and maintain hope... the best is yet to come!

With all my encouragement on the Path of Life, I wish you a happy end of this year and a wonderful, Happy New Year.

Warmly yours in the Divine.

OM OM OM

Venerable Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha

Adi Vajra Shambhasalem Ashram, Wasa, BC Canada

Venerable Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha greets all seekers and aspirants on the Path of Light every Friday at 7 p.m. as he offers an enlightening and practical Teaching for everyone to use in their daily lives. All are welcome. Please arrive early as the Teaching begins promptly at 7 pm For info call 250-422-9327.

Venerable Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha published a book entitled, In the Presence of Truth. Discovering the Being Within, which is a roadmap to Self-Realization. To learn more about this wonderful book and its author, visit: [www.inthepresenceoftruth.com](http://www.inthepresenceoftruth.com).



Donate your pop cans and liquor bottles to the Wasa and District Lions Club to help with their scholarship fund. Bottles and cans can be dropped off at the bottle collection area on the lions grounds in Wasa. For details contact Val at 250-422-3499

# HISTORY BYTES

BY NAOMI MILLER



## VIRGINIA: A VERY SPECIAL NURSE

Virginia Surina was the youngest of ten children born to a Czechoslovakian couple living on Shutty Bench, a rural community named for her grandfather. She was a happy little girl lovingly called "Virginka". Her father died when she was only eight years old. She became the one who supported her mother with songs, prayers and laughter. Her elementary education was in a one roomed school, then she attended Kaslo High School where she graduated in 1955. She came from a devout Catholic family and fitted in well (once she had surmounted her small town feelings) when she entered St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing in Vancouver. Her mother rejoiced when she became a Registered Nurse in 1959 and shortly thereafter a novitiate in the Sisters of St. Ann. Her newly chosen name was Sister Leanne Marie. She combined nursing studies with religious enrichment. In 1961 she thrilled Father Boyle who had been the Priest in Kaslo intermittently for many years. This once shy young girl asked for an "Open House" ceremony at Kaslo Drill Hall so that non-Catholic friends might participate when she took her vows as a nun. The following year she earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University in Seattle.

Her first posting was to St. Joseph's Hospital in Victoria where she did a year as Head Nurse on Pediatrics followed by two years as Director of Obstetrics. Following that she was assigned to be Director of Nursing at Sacred Heart Hospital in Smithers, BC during the transition from a church sponsored to a public hospital. The Sisters of St. Ann withdrew after thirty-five years of dedicated service in the Bulkley Valley Hospital. The community was reluctant to let those nurses go.

In 1969 she commenced as Director of Nursing at Mount St. Francis (Geriatric) Hospital in Nelson, BC. Sister Leanne Marie determined to maintain a comforting environment for staff, resident patients and their families. This she did by personally making rounds, remembering names, holding the hands of the very infirm, smiling or telling gentle jokes. She sketched a personal birthday card for each of the 100 staff members. She was in charge of hiring and firing. Former staff at the Mount remember when they had

their first interview and how her glowing friendliness overcame their apprehension. One had been widowed suddenly, and had not worked prior to marriage. Sister proposed a one day trial. "What day can you work next week?" The nervous young woman went in for a shift, went home and 24 hours later phoned back. "When can I start?" This person told this story when she retired after thirty five years!

The 1970's were years of change. The Sisters no longer had rooms in the hospital near the chapel. They were transferred to a new residence at the corner of the property. And the church allowed members to resume their baptismal name as well as abandon the long black robe or habit. Major renovations saw bathrooms and storage areas for wheelchairs remodeled, sprinkler systems installed, security devices set on doors and elevators. A variety of programs were arranged to entertain patients. One special event was Santa Claus' visit at Christmas. Sister Leanne/Virginia double checked what was to go under the tree. If there was no package from the patient's family she prepared and labelled a gift so that no resident went without.

Dr. Marion McLellan, staff physician recalled being with Sister one morning when the phone rang. An LPN sobbing, declared she could not come in because her car would not start. Virginia calmly answered, "I'll be there in 15 minutes" and proceeded to pull on boots, overcoat and toque. She explained, "That lady cannot afford to miss a day's work. Besides, her patients love her." Dr. McLellan also remembers answering calls from the Mount to sign each Death Certificate. This frequently meant meeting family members weeping, grieving their lost parent or partner, and struggling to close this chapter in their lives. However, if Sister Virginia was on duty there was an atmosphere of peace and calm. By the time the physician arrived tears had been wiped away and paper work could be done without distraction.

Mrs. Surina of Shutty Bench could no longer care for herself in 1979. She was admitted as a patient to the Mount where all staff came to know her, and to assist Sister Virginia so that she could spend extra time at her mother's bedside. Sophia Mary Surina

passed away on September 2, 1980 with several of her children at the bedside. After the undertaker had taken her remains Sister, accompanied by her bachelor brother Peter and sister Sophie, suggested they walk outside while planning the funeral. A few steps away from the door Peter collapsed. Attempts at resuscitation failed. Virginia and Sophie had to calm their shock and arrange a double funeral.

Sister Virginia was in charge of Mt. St. Francis until late 1984. She inspired everyone on site. Whether she was leading the informal monthly Memorial Service or instigating fun at Halloween patients and staff loved her. She allowed grandchildren to visit and when one child's grandma passed away a five year old phoned to ask permission to visit Grandma's roommate. Nurse Virginia said "Yes". This expanded to include several other small friends as the aged residents appreciated the presence of cheery little people. She served not only as Director of Nursing but as counsellor, friend, problem solver and confidante. But a medical examiner discovered that Sister had a severe blood disorder and suggested that she take a sabbatical.

Sister Virginia lessened her obligations while resting and taking early treatment in Ottawa in 1985. Her next appointment was to Mount St. Mary's Hospital in Victoria as Sacristan and Pastoral Visitor 1986-88. She created wonderful programs for the frail and elderly, then took another year in Ottawa to study at St. Paul's University. She became chief of Pastoral care in St. Mary's, Victoria 1989-99. Whenever she took a bit of a holiday she would visit former staff members in Nelson then check on the family home near Kaslo. Her last visit to Kaslo was so that she could care for her sister Sophie until a bed in a nursing home was found. Almost immediately upon her return to Victoria she underwent surgical removal of her spleen, residing in Queenwood, the Residence of the Sisters of St. Ann. There one of her caregivers was Sister Assunte Campese who had entered the order to emulate "Virginka." Sister Virginia passed away on March 6, 2002 just four days after her 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. We fondly remember a Kootenay girl who did so much for so many during her life.





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# RDEK NEWS



By Area E Director Jane Walter

## Recreation Trailers

Wasa resident, Sharon Prinz submitted a petition to the RDEK Board requesting an amendment to the current Zoning and Floodplain Bylaw which allows for up to two (2) recreation trailers to be located on a property.

The proposed amendment request would change the zoning of R-1, R-1A and RR-2 properties located at the 8200 Block of Wasa Lake Park Drive, Alder Crescent, the 6100 and 6200 Block of Wolf Creek Road and the North side of the 4800 Block on Aspen Road. The purpose of the amendment would be to allow no more than one (1) recreational vehicle to be stored or placed or seasonally operated on those properties. Further, the recreational trailer would have to be registered to the owner of the property on which it is located and be an accessory to a dwelling unit.

The Board differed the petition and the amendment request to the 2017 Priority List to enable consultation and research. Correspondence has been sent to Interior Health requesting they monitor recreational trailers located around Wasa Lake to ensure owners are safely and within regulation, disposing of their septic waste. This has been a concern shared by many land owners around the Wasa area.

## Agricultural Land Commission (ALC)

The RDEK is not involved in the decision making of the ALC. I have received many calls from residents regarding a letter they received from the ALC advising that the ALC has completed a review of properties located in Area E and that their property could be excluded from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). This could impact your property taxes. If you have any concerns you should contact Reed Bailey ALC Planner at 1-604-660-7026 or at [Reed.Bailey@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Reed.Bailey@gov.bc.ca)

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope everyone has a safe and happy month and Best Wishes for 2016.

Jane Walter, RDEK Area E Director  
Phone 250-427-2577  
Email: [s.janewalter@gmail.com](mailto:s.janewalter@gmail.com)



*The best Yuletide decoration  
is being wreathed in smiles!*

## WASA LIONS HOCKEY BOARDS FOR SALE



Be noticed in your community!  
Advertise your Business Name, Family Name or Group Name.  
Support your local Lions Ice Rink.

# The Lions Den

SUBMITTED BY KATHY MILES-BOUE

## Annual Wasa Christmas Party

December is a busy month for the Wasa & District Lions. The Annual Wasa Lions Christmas Party held on December 5<sup>th</sup> was a huge success and lots of fun was had by all who attended. We appreciate all the hard work done by the volunteers planning and preparing for the party and want to thank them for their countless hours of work. A big thank you also goes out to the people and businesses who donated prizes and to all of the people who attended, making this Christmas party a night to remember!

## Annual Christmas Light Up Contest

The Christmas Light Up Contest takes place Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Turn the lights on your display on at 6 p.m. and leave them on until 8:30 p.m. please. The judges will drive around the Tri Village area to determine the winners. The winners will be contacted by phone and their names will be listed in the next edition of the Tri Village Buzz. First prize is \$100, second prize is \$60 and third prize is \$40. We encourage all our friends and neighbors to drive around and see the wonderful displays of the Holiday season. All displays make our large community a cheery, festive place to be during the holiday season and bring smiles to those who travel through the area.

## New Year's Winterfest Event - December 31<sup>st</sup>

Wasa Lions would like to invite you to the Wasa Lions Rink on the afternoon of December 31<sup>st</sup> for our 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Family Winter Festival. This family event will feature skating, and games- a great way to celebrate bringing in the New Year. There will be hot chocolate, hot dogs, bannock and some other hot food provided. Last year this event was such a good old-time community get-together we can't wait to do it again! Posters will be up around the community advising of the times of the Festival. We hope to have you come and celebrate with us.

**The Wasa and District Lions Club wish all our community members a  
Happy Holiday Season! Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!  
See you in 2016!**

**Be safe, be happy, be a volunteer!**

The Wasa & District Lions Club can be contacted at:  
P.O. Box 10, Wasa, B.C. V0B 2K0  
or by e-mail at: [wasalions@gmail.com](mailto:wasalions@gmail.com).



**The Columbia Basin Community Initiatives Fund  
representing Wasa, Ta Ta Creek and Skookumchuck**

**NEED YOUR HELP!**

We have money available to help with:

- **Adult Education Courses** - *Do you want to take a course of some kind?*
- **Scholarships** - *Are you graduating and want to continue your schooling?*
- **Local Groups** - *Does your group need help with a project?*
- **Local Activities** - *Do you want to plan an event for the Tri Village area?*

All reasonable requests will be considered.

Applications for these funds are available at Slim Pickens.

For questions or inquiries please contact:

Marilyn Bowen at 250.422.3210  
or Cell 250.489.9586.



## FOOTCARE

by Debbie

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## Thank You

Bernie and Jane Cote wish to thank the many friends and neighbours that came to the public meeting at the Wasa Hall on the evening of October 28<sup>th</sup>.

We appreciate all of your comments and support and are very humbled and honored by the number of folks that attended. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

A special thanks goes to Helen Hannah and Karen Barraclough, your support and encouragement was greatly appreciated. Thanks again to all of you!

Merry Christmas!

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## Wasa Community Church

Hello folks in the Tri-Village News area...

Our names are Paul and Evelyn Brandon.

I have assumed the role of missionary pastor at the Wasa Community Church. We are filling the gap left by Gary and Patsy Semenyna. My wife is just as involved as I am in ministry and without her my role would be greatly diminished.

We have been in Village Missions for over thirty years. We have served 5 churches mostly in B.C. and one church we served was in Cusick, Washington. We semi-retired four years ago and then served as associate missionaries for the last four years. Since retiring we have served in Wisteria, B.C., Kaslo, B.C. and now here in Wasa.

My wife and I were married in June 1979 and celebrated 45 years together this year. We have one married daughter who lives in Cranbrook with her husband and three children. Her husband works as a lineman for Telus and we are very proud of him. It's so nice to just drop in and say hi. We haven't been able to do that for fifteen years. It's always been a three to ten hour drive to see them. So we are thankful to finally be near them.

We look forward to many months of fellowship here and hope to meet as many of you as possible.

Please join us for our Christmas Eve Celebration at 7:00 p.m. at the Wasa Community Church (advertising on front page). We will also be holding Bible Study classes - dates and times to be determined, please contact me at 778-524-5023 for more information.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,

Pastor Paul



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### Wasa Lions Medical Equipment Loan Cupboard

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Injury? or Have plans for  
Surgery?**

**The Lions may be able to assist  
with a 3-month loan of Medical  
Equipment.**

**For loan information or  
equipment donations  
to the Cupboard Contact:  
Sharon 250-422-3227 or  
Val 250-422-3499**

### 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  
for information

Thank you to the Adi Vajra  
Shambhasalem International Society  
for their generous donation to the  
Tri-Village Buzz Newsletter

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*The Wasa Lions proudly presents...*

# **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wasa Winter Festival**

**December 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Noon to 4:00 p.m.**

**held at the  
Peter Vereshagen Memorial  
Rink in Wasa**



Join us  
for an afternoon of  
good old fashioned  
**Family Fun!**

**Skating! Games! Food!  
Bon Fires & more**



This event is sponsored by the Wasa Lions and could not take place without the support of our many volunteers. Thank you!





**Property  
Guys.com**

**ID# 166060**

6260 Wolf Creek Road,  
Wasa BC



## PROPERTY DETAILS

**3 Beds**

**2 Baths**

Age: 30

Levels: 2

Space: 2,000 sq. ft. (186 m<sup>2</sup>)

Flooring: Carpet, Hardwood, Linoleum

Foundation: Poured concrete

Heat Method: Baseboard

Heat Energy: Electricity, Wood

Zoning: RS1

Lot Size: 2,090,880 sq.ft./48.00 ac (194,243 m<sup>2</sup>)

Watersource: Natural Resource, Well

**\$1,600,000**

**SELLER NAME**

**Doug Ross**

**SELLER PHONE**

**250-422-9272**



**Property  
Guys.com**

**ID# 166061**

Buck Crescent,  
Wasa BC



## PROPERTY DETAILS

**Beds N/A**

**Baths N/A**

Zoning: R1

Watersource: Well

**\$165,000**

**SELLER NAME**

**Doug Ross**

**SELLER PHONE**

**250-422-9272**

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# December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Lions Christmas Dinner & Dance 
		Wasa Lions 7 pm			Teaching at the Ashram 7 pm RDEK Board Mtg	
<b>6</b> Church @ 10:30 a.m.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
		BINGO 6:30 Early Bird 6:45 Regular			Teaching at the Ashram 7 pm	
<b>13</b> Church @ 10:30 a.m.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
		Wasa Lions 7 pm			No Teaching at the Ashram	
<b>20</b> Church @ 10:30 a.m. Lions Light-Up 6-8:30 pm 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Service 7 pm 	<b>25</b> Merry Christmas  No Teaching at the Ashram	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Church @ 10:30 a.m.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 	New Years Winterfest Event @ Rink in Wasa 	

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  
Lorraine Colton 250.422.3640
- Gym  
Sonia Blackwell 250.422.9201
- TOPS  
Susan 250.422.3510
- Library  
Brenda Rauch  
250.422.3335

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.

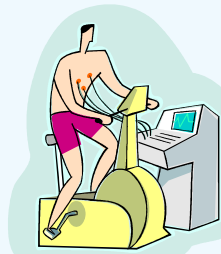
## Safety guidelines and things you need to know:

- ☐ 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!

8:00 am to 9:00 a.m. on  
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays  
Contact: Sonia Blackwell 250.422.9201



*We're open to suggestions, give us a call if you know 2 or more people that would like to attend at a time not indicated.*



**GYM HOURS AND INFO**

# January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1  2	
We the volunteers of the Tri-Village Buzz Newsletter reserve the right to refuse to print submissions due to legality, length, good taste or discriminating beliefs.					No Teaching at the Ashram	
3 Church @ 10:30 a.m.	4	5 Library Reopens 11 am Wasa Lions 7 pm	6	7	8 RDEK Board Mtg	9
10 Church @ 10:30 a.m.	11	12 BINGO 6:30 Early Bird 6:45 Regular	13	14	15 Teaching at the Ashram 7 pm	16 Wasa Pub Fishing Derby 
17 Church @ 10:30 a.m.	18	19 Wasa Lions 7 pm	20 Rec Society Mtg	21	22 Teaching at the Ashram 7 pm	23
24 Church @ 10:30 a.m. 31	25	26	27 Rec Society Mtg 7 pm Armchair Traveller 7 pm	28	29 Teaching at the Ashram 7 pm	30

## LEGEND

- Church Service 3 p.m.
- Gym (M,W,F 8-9 a.m.)
- BINGO 6:30 p.m.
- Rec Society 7:00 p.m.
- Lions 7:00 p.m.
- Library Tues. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- & Wed 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- TOPS Wed 6:30 p.m.
- Quilters Tues. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Special Events and Days Down the Road

- **PLAN TO CLEAN YOUR CHIMNEY**
- **NO NEWSLETTER IN JANUARY**

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

Ashram Meditation & Yoga.....	250.422.9327
Doug Ross Property Sale.....	250.422.9272
Econobuilt.....	250.421.7183
Footcare by Debbie...	250.422.3131/426.9791
Hi Heat Insulating.....	250.422.3457
HD Railings.....	250.422.3457
Kootenay Kwik Print.....	250.489.4213
Kootenay Monument Installations....	422.3414
Slim Pickens Gas & Goods.....	250.422.9271
The Girls.....	250.581.0780
TOPS.....	250.422.3510/422.3686
Wasa Country Pub & Grill.....	250.422.3381
Wasa Community Church.....	250.422.3344
Wasa Hall.....	250.422.3514/422.3640
Wasa Hardware & Building Ctr...	250.422.3123
Wasa Lions Med Equip.....	422.3227/422.3499
Wasa Lions Trail Donations.....	250.422.3773
Wasa Memorial Garden (Bev Rauch).	422.3335
Wasa Post Office.....	250.422.3122