

TRI-VILLAGE BUZZ

October 2025 ISSUE 285

Visit: www.wasalake.com



FREE MONTHLY PUBLICATION

Dear Wasa Lake Community Members and Valued Visitors,

As residents and seasonal visitors, we share a deep appreciation for this beautiful place and the many memories it creates for families year after year.

One of the most utilized and enjoyed spots within our park, is the playground at Camper's Beach. Unfortunately, the current playground equipment has aged considerably and no longer meets the safety, accessibility, or recreational needs of our growing and diverse community.

We are reaching out to request your support for an important initiative: updating and revitalizing the play-ground at Camper's Beach. A new, modernized play structure would not only enhance safety but also ensure that children of all ages and abilities can enjoy active outdoor play in a safe and inclusive environment.

We have been encouraged by BC Parks to ask those of you who would like to see improvements made at the playground, to communicate your wishes via email. To help make this improvement a reality, we invite you to sign and submit the attached form letter showing your support for this request. Your voice matters, and a collective show of community and visitor support can make a strong impression on BC Parks and relevant decision-makers.

Please copy and paste the below letter with your name, feel free to amend however you'd like, and send it to both BC Parks and East Kootenay Parks at:

parkinfo@gov.bc.ca

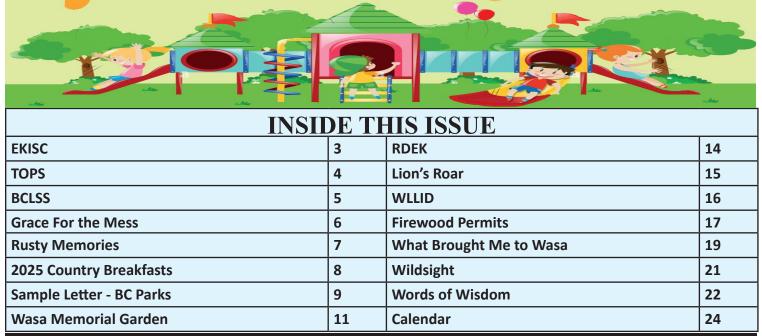
Info@ekparks.com

Let's work together to ensure that future generations can enjoy a safe, fun, and inviting playground at Camper's Beach. Your support is greatly appreciated and will help us preserve and enhance the spirit of community and outdoor recreation at Wasa Lake.

With sincere thanks,

Katie Scott & Kathy Jansen

continued page 8



Serving Skookumchuk, Ta Ta Creek and Wasa Lake

Editor's Corner

UPDATE

Well we had the fundraising pancake breakfast for the Tri-Village Buzz - and I had a blast! I tell you, someone should be video taping Sherry Shields; the way she dances around the tables helping anywhere needed - such a joy to witness! And don't forget to pan to Helen Kelly - the dance queen at the ticket booth. Judy Grant sang so many old favourites I grew up with - I even knew a lot of the words :)

Thank you for the support shown, both from the organizers of the breakfast and everyone who bought a plate. Please feel free to submit articles to help keep the Buzz interesting and community centered!

Wasa Lions Grounds Rentals Contact Person: Danielle @ 778.877.2201

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It's About Fundraising

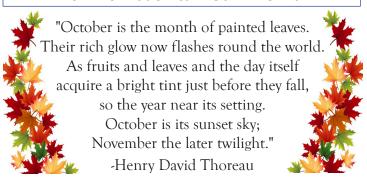
- Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance/Raffle
- Yard Sale/ Pancake Breakfasts
- Bottle Recycling
- Gran Fondo/ Triathlon
- · Lions Grounds Rental

It's About Giving

- Wasa Lions Path/Skating Rink
- Tennis & Basketball Courts
- Pickleball Courts
- Ball Diamond
- Scholarships
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- Medical Loan Cupboard
- Eyeglass & Hearing Aid Recycling

It's About Fun & Socializing

A Great Reason to become a Lion! For Information call 250 422-3210





AIM TO PROTECT YOUR GAME FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

Practicing Hunt Clean Go during this hunting season holds paramount importance, particularly in the month of September when invasive plant species are in their critical phase of setting seed.

As invasives reach the end of their life cycle, they invest their last energies into producing seeds that can easily hitch a ride on hunters venturing into the backcountry. Failing to adopt this practice poses a grave risk, as these invasive seeds could be inadvertently transported to previously untouched areas. The consequences of such inadvertent introductions could be dire, resulting in invasive infestations that jeopardize the delicate ecological balance of the rural landscapes hunters hold dear.

The repercussions of invasive species infiltrating hunting territories are far-reaching. The native plant forage that sustains ungulates and other wildlife crucial to the hunting experience could be greatly compromised.

The proliferation of invasives could lead to the depletion of native vegetation, thereby disrupting the food chain and the habitats that support game populations. This domino effect ultimately affects the success of hunting endeavors, diminishing the very opportunities that hunters cherish. In essence, Hunt Clean Go is not only an act of ecological responsibility but also a way to safeguard the very essence of the hunting experience.

Arriving clean and leaving clean is not merely a catchphrase but a fundamental practice to uphold while engaging in hunting activities. By diligently brushing boots and keeping off-road vehicles free of invasive plant matter, hunters can significantly reduce the risk of inadvertently aiding the spread of these troublesome species. Furthermore, reporting infestations when encountered is an essential step in halting the advance of invasives. By working together, hunters protect the lands they love, preserving both the wilderness and the hunting experiences that can be passed down for generations.









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Looking to advance your skills or learn a new one? Join the Wasa Country Quilters Group and learn with a talented group of quilters!

We meet every Tuesday from 10-4 in our own space in the basement of the hall. Drop in any Tuesday! We'd be more than happy to show you the endless possibilities in this creative atmosphere! No previous experience required.

Call Gayle Andrews 250-422-3095 for more info

par cycle of the



or Northern Lights:

250.877.1181 or Kim Balcom:





Wasa & District Lions Club Recycling program 250 417-7654

TOPS SPOT

submitted by - Sonia Blackwell

I had been struggling with my weight for quite a few years and it was slowly going up. I started going to the Wasa gym in January 2010 three times a week. I was getting stronger, but wasn't loosing weight. So I started following the Weight Watchers diet

and I lost 30 pounds, but after a few years I started falling back into my old bad habits of unhealthy snacking and not making healthy food choices and I gained some of it back. That's when I decided to join the Wasa TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) group. They welcomed me warmly and it was comforting to know I wasn't the only one struggling to maintain a healthy weight. They shared stories, recipes, and encouraged me every week. Arla Monteith was the KOPS (Keep Off Pounds Sensibly) member and she was successfully staying at her goal weight for many years. Arla was my inspiration. It didn't happen over night, but slowly and steadily the weight started to come off. Sure I had some setbacks, by giving in to some unhealthy choices, but with the groups encouragement I'd get back on track.

On October 7, 2015 I finally had lost 41 pounds and reached my weight loss goal and became an honoured KOPS. It was a great accomplishment for me, but I know I couldn't have done it without my TOPS group, helping me through my journey and they still do.

Weighing in every week, keeps me accountable and helps me continue to make healthy choices. I still go to the gym 3 times a week and walk my dogs twice a day.

On October 7, 2025 it will be my 10 th anniversary of reaching my goal weight and being a KOPS member. I feel so good that I have reached this milestone with my weight loss.

I encourage anyone struggling with weight gain to start with baby steps. Start walking or do light exercise. Cut out the unhealthy snacks and replace it with fruits or veggies. Add more vegetables to your meals, cook healthier with less fat and oils. Once you start doing it, it becomes a new habit. I found it took 3 days for the sugar and salt craving to go away when I cut them out of my diet, but now I don't miss them.

Start your weight loss journey today, your heart, joints and overall health will thank you. Remember Wasa TOPS is here if you'd like to join our great supportive and fun group.

> Beginning immediately Tops will changing our meeting day to Wednesdays. Weigh in at 9:00-9:30 and meeting from 9:30-10:30.

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 & 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



For Gym Schedule please contact: Sonia Blackwell at 250.421.3019 or Rod at 250.422.3253 M HOURS

P

Let's get the most out of our gym. If a group of at least 3 people are interested in using the gym other than Mon-Wed-Fri 8-9 am, when a group already goes, or evenings, & willing to commit for at least 3 months, contact Sonia with the time & she will arrange a key & let others know the time for more to be able to go too.



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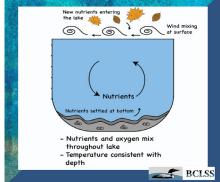


RCI (steps://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water science data program to help people recognize and identify algal blooms in B.C. lakes. Read more about what affects algae growth below from an excerpt from our

2022 LakeKeepers Manual (https://www.bclss.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/LakeKeepers-Manual-FINAL-July-4-2022-reduced.pdf)!

In late summer, shallow lakes can sometimes warm up to the point of mixing to the bottom as shown in the figure to the right, allowing nutrients to mix into the water column causing algal blooms. Warm temperatures can also cause late summer blooms in larger, deeper lakes.

Algal density and chlorophyll a concentrations are both dependent on the availability of sunlight and nutrients, and to a lesser degree on temperature and wind. Wind can also affect chlorophyll. During periods of overturn, wind drives water circulation and with it the delivery of phosphorus into surface waters where light is sufficient to encourage algal growth. In the case of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), wind can also drive these floating bacteria (with their chlorophyll) across the water surface, causing unsightly blooms on windward bays and beaches.



There is potential for blue-green algal blooms to be toxic and these can be responsible for the fatal poisoning of livestock, pets, and wildlife.

Where Pollution Hides: Non-Point Sources in Our Watersheds: Many lakes and their watersheds struggle with the impacts of pollution. While point source pollution comes from a single, identifiable place (like a pipe), non-point source (NPS) pollution is released across a wide area within the watershed, often from diffuse sources

NPS pollution occurs when rainfall or snowmelt moves over the ground, picking up natural and human-made pollutants from many sources and carrying them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater. One harmful impact is excess phosphorus, which can fuel algal growth and reduce water quality.

We have put together a series of graphics exploring potential sources of non-point source pollution in our watersheds— because understanding them is the first step to reducing them! This information was taken from our 2022 LakeKeepers Manual. If you would like to learn more about lakes you can access the manual (https://www.bclss.org/ wp-content/uploads/2022/08/LakeKeepers-Manual-FINAL-July-4-2022-reduced.pdf).

- 1. Stormwater Runoff: Lawn and garden fertilizer, sediment eroded from modified shorelines or infill projects, oil and fuel leaks from vehicles, snowmobiles and boats, road salt, and litter can all be washed by rain and snowmelt from properties and streets into watercourses. Phosphorus and sediment are of greatest concern, providing nutrients and/ or a rooting medium for aquatic plants and algae. Paved surfaces prevent water infiltration to soils, and are potential sources of hydrocarbon and metal contamination, which can runoff into lakes during storm events.
- 2. Agriculture: Agricultural production of crops and livestock, along with mixed farming activities, can alter water flow and increase sediment and chemical/bacterial/parasitic input into water bodies. Potential sources of nutrients (nitrogen & phosphorus) include chemical fertilizers, manure, and improperly situated winter-feeding areas. In addition significant amounts of phosphorus can be transported by sediment inputs when riparian areas are not well maintained near agricultural activities and become degraded.
- 3. Boating: Oil and fuel leaks are primary water quality concerns of boat operation on lakes. However, boating activities can also cause shoreline erosion from large wakes and churn up sediment and nutrients in shallow water from propeller wash. Other problems include the spread of aquatic invasive plants/animals and the dumping of litter.

Disturbance of sediments from boats in shallow water, in particular wake boats, can dislodge sediment bound pollutants and increase phosphorus and suspended sediment.

- 4. Forestry: Timber harvesting can include clear cutting, road building, and land disturbances, which alter water flow and the ability for nutrients to remain stored (sequestered) in soil, potentially increasing sediment and phosphorus inputs to water bodies.
- 5. Wildfires: Wildfires can impact water sources such as streams, rivers, and lakes. Potential impacts include changes in the amount and timing of snowmelt and runoff from storms, changes in water quality from build-up of ash, soil erosion, and fire debris. An increase in nutrient loading is typical after wildfires because of increased sedimentation in receiving surface water bodies contributing to eutrophication. There may also be increases in water temperatures due to canopy removal from contributing streams. If fire retardant is present, there may be a possible rise in soil and water chemical levels such as phosphorus.

Grace for the Mess

For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and His gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one Man, Jesus Christ. — Romans 5:17 NLT

The meaning of life. The wasted years of life. The poor choices of life. God answers the mess of life with one word: *grace*.

We talk as though we understand the term. The bank gives us a *grace* period. The seedy politician falls from *grace*. Musicians speak of a *grace* note. At church *grace* graces the songs we sing and the Bible verses we read. *Grace* shares the church parsonage with its cousins: *forgiveness, faith, and fellowship*. Preachers explain it. Hymns proclaim it. Seminaries teach it. But do we really understand it?

Here's my hunch: we've settled for wimpy grace. It politely occupies a phrase in a hymn, fits nicely on a church sign. Never causes trouble or demands a response. When asked, "Do you believe in grace?" who could say no?

Have you been changed by grace? Shaped by grace? Strengthened by grace? Softened by grace? God's grace has a drenching about it. A wildness about it. A white-water, riptide, turn-you-upside-downness about it. Grace comes after you. It rewires you. From insecure to God secure. From regret-riddled to better-because-of-it. From afraid-to-die to ready-to-fly.

Grace is the voice that calls us to change and then gives us the power to pull it off.

The Final Word

"The Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins." — Mark 2:10

If you are in Christ, your sin is gone. It was last seen on the back of your Sin Bearer as He headed out to Death Valley. When Jesus cried on the cross,

My God, my God, why have you forsaken Me? — Matthew 27:46 NIV

He entered the wilderness on your behalf. He carried your sin away.

He has the final word on your life. And His word is grace. Jesus did His part. Now do yours. *Give God your guilt.* Tell Jesus what you did. Hold nothing back.

Be abundant in your confession, and... Be concrete in your confession. Go into as much detail as you can.

Healing happens when the wound is exposed to the atmosphere of grace.

Exactly what is it that you need forgiveness for? For being a bad person? That is too general. For losing your patience and calling your coworker a creep? There, you can confess that. Confession, you see, is not a punishment for sin; it is an isolation of sin so it can be exposed and extracted.

Be firm in this prayer. Satan traffics in guilt. So tell his guilt where to get off. Speak to it in the name of Jesus. "I left you at the foot of the Cross, you evil spirit. Stay there!"

And, for Heaven's sake, stop tormenting yourself. Jesus is strong enough to carry your sin. Did He not say He would do so? Believe Him! He has the final word.

~Before Amen

My late friend Tim Hansel said something similar in his book You Gotta Keep Dancin' (Elgin, IL: David C. Cook Publishing Co., 1985),

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Your Turn

What does grace mean to you? Do you know that it's yours and that you're covered by grace? Today, let's operate in the grace of Jesus, confess every sin we can think of in His presence, and believe that we are forgiven and free!

https://faithgateway.com/blogs/christian-books/grace-for-mess



"RUSTY" Memories by Rusty Brewer



Anyone care for some Wasa history?

I was raised there. Its not the same anymore. We moved to Wasa in 1959. Lived in a little house that Ken and Barb Roberts owned. My Dad opened a saddle shop out near the hiway. It was a marvelous place for a young kid to grow up in!

Camerons mill was going full tilt. Almost everyone in town worked there..either in the mill or out on a bush crew. He had a big camp up near the top of Ram Creek. Some people lived in company houses that he provided.

We had Glovers store, the Ta Ta Creek gas station and restaurant. Springbrook also had the same thing.

The whole community was rocked when Colin Cameron suddenly passed away. That was the end of the beautiful big sawmill. His well educated son had no interest in running it. Suddenly everyone was out of work.

There were a few tie mills operating so some worked on those. There was still some activity at the Estella Mine. A few people worked there. Things were really tough then..

People made what they could during Christmas tree season ... but most had a hard time for awhile ... until the pulp mill idea came to life. Us kids at the time (maybe 15 of us?) went to school in a lean-to that was built on the back of the old Wasa Hall (now the church) Grades 1 to 8 ... one teacher - Doris Andrews.

The pulp mill changed everything. Lots of strangers moved in. Halfsteins built the Wasa Husky gas station and restaurant. There was a lot going on then. Lots of cowboys in the area. Bill Rankin built a rodeo arena and put on rodeos. He also had a string of horses and offered trail rides for tourists. Merle Simon had rodeos up at the S Half Diamond ranch.

Andy Knight built a mini-bike track and later ... a paved go-kart track. Was a lot of fun. Wasa was a marvelous place for kids back then. We played in the old mine concentrator buildings ... and in Colins huge old planer building. We spent endless hours on the huge shaving piles that his mill left behind. Local people built many a structure from the piles of lumber left behind.

The Wasa Drag strip became almost famous in its day. Fans came from all over to watch the races. There were even some fun demolition derbies held there. The wrecked cars sat off to the side for years.

We had two dumps at one time. One a small one up Wolf Creek road ... the other just south of the bridge that crossed Camerons slough. They were marvelous to explore. There was never any rotten food ... they never stunk. People didn't throw much away back then.

Things progressed ... we got a new school ... Ed Schmidt bought the Husky and added a Cabaret. Tex McDonald built the Hitchin Post. Later I worked for Chuck Millican. I was driving dump truck for him before I was old enough to get a drivers license. For almost 3 years we hauled sand onto the beaches where you swim now. Before that the beaches were mostly rocks and sticky mud. We got the sand from the current dump site. There was a big sand hill there. Most of it is on the beaches now. We also dug miles of water lines for the expansion of the campgrounds.

There were a couple cedar shake mills and tie mills that operated and provided jobs for the community. A couple garages operated at times over the years.

Hunting was huge back then. Almost everyone lived off wild meat. Bill and Betty Bush had a very successful cattle hauling company for many years. The Leasks made a living off their farm just below the mine concentrator buildings. Judge Fords place was always a mystery. Nobody really knew anything much about his huge 1200 acre property.

We saw many bad floods in Wasa. My first horse, a lil Shetland drown in one of them.

So many memories. I drive around Wasa often. I hardly recognize it now.

2025 Country Breakfasts

It was another successful year of Wasa Country Breakfasts. This year, we served 2,949 breakfasts at the Wasa Lions Kitchen. Thanks to the participation of volunteers and community groups, we were able to raise funds to support each non-profit group. Community groups benefiting from funds raised: Wasa & District Lions, Wasa Recreation Society (operates the Wasa Community Hall), Wasa Memorial Garden and Historical Society, Wasa Gym, Wasa TOPs, Wasa Volunteer Fires Prevention & Suppression, Tri Village Buzz, and Wasa Community Church.

28-Jun	372	2-Aug	367
5-Jul	227	9-Aug	273
12-Jul	277	16-Aug	248
19-Jul	291	23-Aug	249
26-Jul	326	30-Aug	319

A big thank you to our musicians who came out and entertained the breakfast crowd!! Judy Grant (our most dedicated entertainer), Jon Bisset and Dwayne Vogel (regulars), Jack Flap and Jose Anejo & the Absentees (both new to the scene this year).

We also extend our gratitude to all visitors, community members, and out-of-town regulars for supporting our community breakfasts. And of course, our dedicated volunteers, most notably Jim Hill, Jane Walter, and Marilyn Bowen, who were at just about every breakfast.

We would like to express our appreciation to the vendors who participate in our breakfast events by offering crafts and products for sale. Their involvement enhances the overall experience for attendees.

See you again next year.

Wasa Country Breakfast Committee

Karen Markus, Marilyn Bowen, Pat Walkey, Jane Gendron



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The **Wasa Recreation Society** manages the Wasa Community Hall. The main objective is to have a Community Hall that is viable for events & recreation of the community. Thru fund-raising, volunteering & rentals, we're able to have an economical community hall for our community. The Recreation Society meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the basement. The meetings are open for anyone wanting to attend with new ideas or becoming part of the Society committee.

• Hall Rentals & Information:

Karen Markus 250,422,3514

• Gym:

Sonia Blackwell 50.421.3019 or Rod 250.422.3253

• TOPS:

Nicky Popowich (250) 422-9248 or Sonia Blackwell (250) 421-3019

Quilter's Club:

Gayle Andrews 250-422-3095

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear BC Parks,

I am writing on behalf of the residents of and visitors to, the Wasa Lake area, to express our concern about the aging playground structure at Campers Beach. As regular users and long-time community members, we respectfully request that BC Parks consider updating or replacing the current equipment to better serve the growing number of local families and seasonal visitors.

The existing playground is no longer suitable for today's safety expectations or the broad age range of children who use it. Its high drop-offs, slippery surfaces, and lack of age-appropriate features pose real safety concerns. A more modern structure would greatly enhance the experience for both local children and the many families who visit the park each year.

We would like to see improvements such as:

- -A safe, modern play structure suitable for a range of ages
- -Equipment geared toward younger children, such as toddler-friendly features
- -Swings, including options for smaller children
- -Weather-safe surfaces to reduce injury risk
- -Elements that encourage creative and nature-based play

We believe these updates would be a valuable investment in the park's infrastructure and its role as a recreational hub for the community and visitors alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Why did the apple pie go to the dentist? Because it needed a filling.

Hints by Vi

I had the privilege of meeting Vi only a few times before she passed away in December 2016. Vi contributed monthly to the Tri Village Buzz and her column was always one of my favourites. I hope I can do this sweet and lively little lady justice.



- If you don't use up all of your seed packets, store them in an airtight container with silica packets to keep them fresh for next year. The silica packets prevent the seeds from germinating or getting moldy.
- Ever wish you could remove highlighter marks from a book? Lemon juice fades highlighter enough to make it virtually undetectable. Cut a lemon in half and get some juice on a cotton swab. Run the swab over the highlighted text and watch the color fade.
- Water settling at the bottom of pots can lead to root rot. To combat this problem, cut up old sponges and put them in the bottom of the pot. The sponges retain moisture and create necessary air space. They also help prevent water from flushing out the bottom. The sponge acts as a water reserve and keep soil moist longer.
- Want to make any rug feel extra plush and luxurious? Add a layer of carpet padding underneath your rug—it's thicker and cheaper than a typical rug pad. The next time you wash that pile of dishes in the sink, your feet will thank you.
- Windshield wipers are notorious for drying out and cracking in a short time. To help prolong
 their life and clean them, soak a clean white rag with your favorite glass cleaner. Wipe the
 rag up and down the length of your wiper blades. You'll see the results on the rag, and you'll
 see out your windshield much better in the rain.

Have a great month everyone!

Join us for the Wasa Lake Shoreline cleanup on

October 18, 2025 at 2:00 pm

Meet at the Main Beach Parking Lot Prizes to be won!!

What you need to participate:

Gloves Good shoes Sense of adventure

We will provide:
Garbage bags
Pickers
Prizes!



Wasa and District Historical Assoc. & Memorial Garden Group

submitted by - Kate Kelly







The whispers of autumn linger in the late summer breeze. In the stillness, whispers of autumn stir the leaves. Summer fades and autumn begins to whisper her name. Soft whispers of autumn rustle through golden fields. The sun still shines but, in the shadows, autumn whispers.

As these summer days come to an end at the Memorial Garden, we thank the many dedicated volunteers for their hard work. The garden was beautifully maintained; the beauty did not go unnoticed!

Next on the Memorial Garden volunteer "to do" list is our fall clean-up. Please watch Facebook for an announcement of a date. In addition, please join us at the Wasa District Historical

Association & Memorial Garden Group for our AGM on Thursday, 11 September at 7:00p.m. in the Wasa Community Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

We welcome any interested folks looking to lend a hand with next year's volunteering. If you

would like to be added to next summer's volunteer rotation or the fall clean-up, please contact Sherry Shields via email at: slshields27@gmail.com

We continue to look for new members in our Wasa and District Historical Association & Memorial Garden Group. Did you know that it is only \$5/per person for a lifetime membership? Having a large 'membership' helps us apply for government grant monies which keep our garden looking great. We kindly ask that Wasa residents (both recreational & permanent) to consider a \$5/per person lifetime membership. Please contact Judy Reimer at mjlreimer@shaw.ca or by phone 250-422-3343 to join. Thank you for your consideration!







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Pop, Water, Milk &
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the Wasa & District
Lions Club Support
Local Scholarships & Lions
Grounds Maintenance

HELP STARTS HERE ...

VICTIM SERVICES 250-427-5621 Call Anytime 24/7

2024 Columbarium Niche & Plague Costs

UNIT 1 Columbarium Upper levels - \$1,000 + engraving Bottom Row - \$900 + engraving

UNIT 2 Columbarium (new) Niche cost - \$1,100 + engraving

Niche Engraving - \$290 Memorial Plaque - \$350 (Engraving costs are subject to change)

Contact info:

Pat Walkey @ 250.422.3530 or pwalkey@shaw.ca





RDEK NEWS



By Area E Director Jane Walter

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT PLANNING PROJECT UPDATE

A new planning process is getting underway for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) across all six of the RDEK's Electoral Areas, including Area E. The goal of the project is to explore potential changes to land use and zoning bylaws related to ADUs and community consultation is a core piece of the process.

There will be community engagement opportunities throughout the process, which is expected to take approximately 8 months to complete. Feedback gathered will help ensure that any updates to zoning and land use bylaws reflect local needs and preferences, while also aligning with the Housing Statutes (Residential Development) Amendment Act, 2023.

This planning process is an opportunity to define what ADUs are within the RDEK zoning bylaws. To start the conversation, ADUs can be understood to be any independent, self-contained living space that is in addition to the principal dwelling unit or structure on a single property, and includes interior, attached, and detached dwelling units.

To kick off the process, there will be an introductory survey running through October and November and a series of online and in-person open houses so that residents and property owners can work together with RDEK staff to identify potential land use and zoning bylaw amendments related to ADUs. Please plan on attending an open house as community engagement and participation is key to the success of this project.

A new project page has been set up here: https://engage.rdek.bc.ca/housing. The page will be updated on an ongoing basis and you will be able to find both the survey link and details on the upcoming open houses on the project page.

There will be online open houses for all electoral areas from 7pm-9pm on October 23 and December 1. The in-person open houses for Area E will be held Saturday, November 8 from 10am to Noon and Thursday, November 27 from 4pm-6pm at the Wasa Community Hall. Please check the engage page for details and the zoom link.

In addition to these early opportunities to participate, there will be other ways to get involved including things like focus groups or direct conversation with the project lead, Sarah Baines. To learn more, visit the engage page and watch for the new information coming soon! If you have questions about the project, you can contact Sarah at sbaines@rdek.bc.ca or through the Cranbrook RDEK office at 1-888-478-7335 or 250-489-2791.

Jane Walter

My friend bought his wife a fur coat made out of 3,600 hamster skins and took her to the County Fair... He couldn't get her off the Ferris Wheel for two days!

VOLUNTEER WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Are you new to the Community? Recently retired and have time on your hands? Want to meet neighbours? Just love to get involved and give back? We might be able to help with that!

Because our Communities are small, we rely very heavily upon Volunteers. And there are so many areas that would benefit from any skills you have to share. Take a look at the list below and call existing members to see where you can help out.

Wasa & District Lions Club, Wasa Recreational Society, Tri-Village Buzz Newsletter, Wasa Gym, Wasa Lake Land Improvement, Wasa Pancake Breakfast, Wasa & District Historical Association/Garden Group are a few of the areas that would welcome new members. Step up, step out, expand your horizons. We would love to see you!

Volunteering is a work of heart,"



The Lions Den Lions Roar

Wasa & District Lions Club - Serving Wasa & Area since 1976

submitted by Terry Marvel

Well, according to the weather forecasters, we're in for an El Nina fall. A little cooler and wetter than usual fall. It makes one think of firewood gathering, pine needle raking and draining the hoses and outside water lines. But don't take my word for it. I've been wrong before. The heat of the early fall has been nice though.

The Wasa Lions have had a good summer with getting our buildings re-sided with fire-proofed siding and new security shutters and windows on the outdoor kitchen. The buildings look a lot more presentable now. We are applying for another grant to get the wash-room building done as well.

The recycling program is going very well with the help of the community donating their empty cans and bottles at our recycle location which is by the green door next to the fire suppression building. We thank everyone that donates their empties and the tireless efforts of the sorting crew for bagging the empties and the guys that haul them to the recycle facility in town. The proceeds go toward our Scholarship Fund and maintenance of the buildings and grounds. We hope our venue continues to be used for weddings, reunions and sporting events. For bookings and information, call Linda at 250-421-6302.

The Lions have taken a bit of a hiatus during the summer months with only one meeting per month, but from September on, our meeting schedule resumes with an executive meeting on the first Tuesday of the month and a general meeting on the third Tuesday at 7:30 in the evening at the Wasa Hall. Anyone interested in joining the largest non-profit organization in the world, contact any Lion's member to be invited to a meeting. We love new members as well as our "old" ones.

The Pancake Breakfasts have been a huge success this summer thanks in no small part to the many volunteers of the various clubs and organizations that profit from these. The monies taken in are divided equally between the groups at the end of the summer to support them. Hats off to the regulars that are there for almost every one of them. You know who you are!

The Wasa Lion's Trail is in the process of being taken over by the RDEK which means we will no longer be responsible for the maintenance of it. The Wasa Lion's Trail was originally a joint venture with BC Parks. Due to budget cutbacks by the Parks, the upkeep has proven to be a daunting task. We hope this keeps the well-used trail in good condition as it is very popular among the public users.

The book exchange which is located in the games' booths, has come to an end for another year. We welcome donations of books to be re-read by the community at large and is by donation.

In closing, I would encourage everyone to enjoy the beautiful blast of colourful fall leaves and needles. The Lions and Rec Society's annual Trunk or Treat will be held again this year at the Lion's Grounds with the treats in the trunks of the cars and hot chocolate and goodies for all the little ghosts and goblins. It will be held on October 26th from 4:00-5:30. Everyone is welcome. And keep your calendars open for our annual Christmas Dinner and Dance to be held the first Saturday in December.



"In the entire circle of the year there are no days so delightful as those of a fine October, when the trees are bare to the mild heavens, and the red leaves bestrew the road, and you can feel the breath of winter, morning and evening—no days so calm, so tenderly solemn, and with such a reverent meekness in the air."—Alexander Smith



Water Season Ends, AGM Next

With the Wasa water season mostly over, the WLLID slows its activity around the lake.

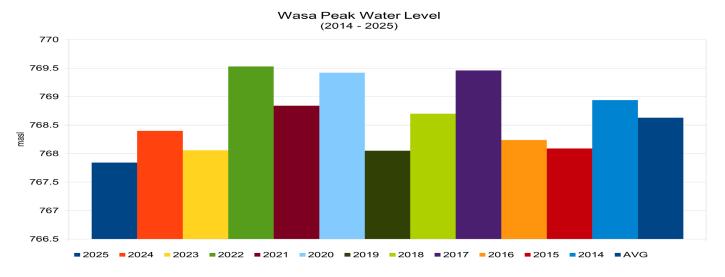
This summer was highlighted by the lowest peak water level, reached on 23 June, at 767.84 masl (meters above sea level), since 2014. this year

was the second lowest in the last 25 years. Only 2001 saw a lower peak level, when the water only reached 767.50 masl.

To give you an idea of how low the water was, on 26 July, 2025, the level was 767.55 masl, 53cm lower than on the same day last year.

Last year, the peak water level was 768.40 masl. That's 56 cm or just over 22 inches more water compared to this year.

The chart below shows peak water levels since 2014.



Water testing has finished for the season. Dissolved oxygen, temperature and Seechi readings, along with E. coli sampling, will resume in early June 2026. We hope to undertake one or two winter (ice-on) tests depending on volunteer availability, ice and weather conditions.

A detailed review of the E. coli events this past summer was published in last months Buzz. It will be readdressed at the up-coming AGM.

WLLID has a new website, same address – wasalake.ca.

The Board thanks Shawn at Eggplant Studios for his work on creating the new look and navigation. This makes it easier for the Board to post current news, water data and testing alerts. It will be the public source for verified WLLID Board information.

Past material such as Board agendas, minutes, financial statements and historical reports are still available. The WLLID AGM is set for 15 October, 2025, 7pm, at the Wasa Community Hall. The Board will present a number of reports outlining the past years activities along with the 2024 financial statements.

Just a few days later, on 18 October, WLLID will lead the return of the shoreline cleanup.

A great day of community activity. Fun for youth and adults alike, roaming the public beaches and bagging garbage.

It all starts at 2pm, meet at the Main Beach parking lot.

Use this link to register https://app.ocean.org/app/cleanup/explore. Search for Wasa Lake under the Join Cleanup tab. Please share this link with other interested parties.

Or, just show up on the day.

A WLLID tote bag will be given to the person with the weirdest item found.

Sur-prizes inside.

Check WLLID website for up-to-date information closer to the date.

Firewood permits

Members of the public who wish to cut firewood on Crown land for personal use must have a "Free Use Permit for Firewood" from each Natural Resource District where they intend to cut, issued by the appropriate District Manager or designate.

Only dead or downed trees may be cut for firewood

There is no charge for this privilege, only a commitment to abide by a number of simple rules that are outlined in the permit. Each permittee must:

- Carry the permit and associated maps at all times
- Read and understand the conditions of the permit prior to signing, conditions differ between districts
- Produce the permit at the request of a Natural Resource Officer, Conservation Officer or Peace Officer

Cutting firewood on Crown land without this permit may result in confiscation of the wood and charges. It is up to the permit holder to determine whether they are cutting on "vacant Crown land" and not private land or First Nations reserves.

Moving firewood can spread invasive species and diseases. B.C.'s forests are threatened by non-native insects

that can damage trees. Moving firewood from one area to another increases the risk of spreading disease, funghi and pests. Plan to burn firewood in the area where you collect it or buy it. Learn more about stopping the spread of invasive species and diseases. Each district is operated differently so please contact the individual districts where you plan on cutting for more information, and remember to carry your permit with you at all times.

Any firewood cut under this permit is for personal use only and cannot be sold. For information on commercial firewood cutting permits, please contact your local Ministry office and inquire about the Small Scale Salvage program.



https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/natural-resource-use/natural-resource-permits/firewood-permits

In the hidden valleys between dandelion hills and under the glow of firefly lanterns lies Whimblewick, a secret haven where tiny creatures live in harmony. The streets are paved with polished acorns, and every house is carved from hollowed-out mushrooms, lined with mossy quilts and sunflower curtains. By day, the mice tend to their rose-petal bakeries, thimble-sized libraries, and button shops. By night, the chandeliers of the Great Oak Ballroom sparkle with captured moonlight, where mice, rabbits, hedgehogs, and squirrels gather to waltz.

The Autumn Harvest Ball in Whimblewick

This weekend was especially magical, it was the Autumn Harvest Ball, where friends came together in their finest coats and gowns to dance beneath glittering chandeliers, celebrate the turning of the seasons, and remind each other that no one is ever truly alone in Whimblewick.

All through the week, the village had been buzzing with autumn cheer. Hedgehogs rolled home baskets of glossy blackberries, squirrels gathered hazelnuts and chestnuts for roasting, and the mice filled their windowsills with golden loaves and steaming pies, their crusts sugared and bursting with blackberry juice. Rabbits stitched garlands of dried leaves and acorns to hang above doorways, while owls strung lanterns made from hollowed gourds to guide neighbors through the crisp evening air.

When the Ball began, tables overflowed with mulled apple cider, blackberry tarts, honey-drizzled oatcakes, and warm pumpkin loaves. Between waltzes, friends shared stories by the fire, tails curled close, hearts light with laughter. Autumn in Whimblewick isn't just a season, it's a promise of warmth, kinship, and joy tucked into every falling leaf.



What Brought Me to Wasa, and Why I Stayed continued from September issue

by Rhonda Berge

The third time I was in his house, I was telling him the hardships of finding a place to stay at Christmas. He looked at me and said, maybe you can stay here next winter. He looked kind of funny when he said that, like, uh oh! Why did I just say that? I just met this woman.

I, on the other hand, was thinking, OMG! This might be the beginning of another dream come true! To have a warm, stationary place to live when it's freezing out. And look where I landed! Wowsa!

I was good at manifesting, and at the time, I was manifesting either a tiny home community if or Wasa. Because of my pet sits I'd met a few people here, loved the feel and energy of if this wonderful little place in the world, so when he said that, my face must have registered unbelief, or something, because he asked what THAT look was for?

We both let that comment slide. He thinking, what did I get myself into, and me again, see-\!!! ing stars in my eyes, and warmth for the winter. BUT! We had to slow down. This was all going \!!! too fast, way too fast, for the both of us!

He has not had much experience around dogs, and is particular about pets in his house, so when I'd go over, Emma would be tied up outside. He called her our chaperon. I'm a pet lover, and a free spirit, and I had a hard time with that. I don't think it bothered her as much as it did me. She was only out there for an hour or so, it wasn't the end of the world for her. On this particular day, he said I wish our chaperone was gone, meaning for her owners to be back.

They weren't home for another 2 months yet! We took her for a walk to Skookumchuk, were !!! it was a safe place for her to run off-leash. I love the freedom for her as much as for myself. !!! It bothers me to keep them leashed at all times. Birds in cages, fences...you get the drift. !!! One of my theme songs is Don't Fence Me In. Another one is On The Road Again! So we were on the road again to let her go.

Much to my chagrin, she never returned...

To be continued





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Phone: 250.422.3123
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WASA LAKE LAND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday October 15th at 7 PM

WASA COMMUNITY HALL

Purpose of Annual General Meeting

The purpose of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to provide an opportunity for the board to present financial statements and report on the activities of the past year, and for landowners to discuss activities and ask questions.

There will be no election for trustees this year.

The agenda and financial statements will be available at www.wasalake.ca prior to the meeting. For more information, please contact admin@wasalake.ca

Everyone is welcome to attend!





Resort Won't Get an Environmental Assessment In late July, after almost 18 months of deliberating, the

B.C. government decided to bypass an environmental assessment for a proposed new ski resort in the province's spectacular Selkirk Mountains. Instead, the 5,500-hectare Zincton development will be reviewed by the government's Mountain Resorts Branch, an agency set up to facilitate resort development.

While it's not quite a green light for Zincton (the proposal still needs to go through three more review stages with the Mountain Resorts Branch) it will definitely speed things up. And not everyone is pleased about it. **What's at stake?**

Located just east of New Denver, B.C., Zincton would contain 20% lift-serviced terrain and 80% backcountry skiing, be capable of hosting more than 1,200 skiers a day, and feature a resort village with beds for around 1,700 people. It's an interesting concept, but ever since Valhalla Pure founder David Harley first put forward the idea in December 2019, it has been plagued with controversy.

Part of the reason why this landscape has escaped the spread of ski resorts thus far lies in the fact that much of it is protected. The proposed Zincton tenure area is sandwiched between four provincial parks: Goat Range to the north, Kokanee Glacier to the south, Valhalla to the west and the Purcell Wilderness Conservancy to the east. And therein lies the resort's fatal flaw: Zincton would bring thousands of people and permanent infrastructure into a critical wildlife movement area for grizzly bears, wolverines, mountain goats and other sensitive species that live in this land-scape or move between the protected areas.

A 2023 Ktunaxa Nation Council cumulative effects study raised serious concerns about fragmentation impacts in the area, particularly for local grizzly and wolverine populations. It also noted that Huckleberry patches, water quality and western toads could all be impacted too.

The resort is now at the second stage of the Mountain Resorts Branch's five-stage review process. There should be ongoing consultation with First Nations and technical experts about the proposal's environmental, social, cultural and economic impacts.

According to The Narwhal, there's no set timeline for this process; the branch has said it will continue "until the risk of potential negative impacts and critical issues are sufficiently addressed."

Wildsight's hope is that the Mountain Resorts Branch will carry out in-depth environmental and socio-cultural assessments as part of its review. In the meantime, we're looking into other options to ensure this landscape, and the wildlife that rely on it, are safe and protected.

https://wildsight.ca/2025/08/20/zincton-resort-ea-decision/

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From the Ashram

Words of Wisdom



The Art of Relational Simplicity

I built relationships between the members of the Ashram by showing everyone the example of simplicity in my own relationships with them. From the outset, it seemed essential to me that everyone should feel welcome just as they are, without masks or judgment. It is in this transparency and openness that trust is born and deep bonds can take root. Simplicity is not a weakness or a lack of refinement, but a strength that allows us to meet in the Truth of Being.

There exists a discreet and profound beauty in human relationships when they are based on sincerity. Too often, our bonds are complicated by expectations, artifice, unspoken words, or role-playing that distort the true encounter. Yet establishing an authentic relationship does not require strategies or calculations: above all, it is based in daring to be oneself and recognizing the other in their dignity.

Simplicity in relationships begins in the mind. Even before words or gestures, it requires a clear inner gaze, free of judgment or prejudice. When we approach those around us with respectful and benevolent thoughts, we are already opening up a welcoming space where the other person can feel safe and recognized. This inner climate shapes the quality of the relationship, as our thoughts are silent energies that precede our words and actions.

Then comes speech. Simple les or expesseech is truthful, without de-offering of 22 - ISSUE 285 - October 2025 - TRI-VILLAGE BUZZ

tours or masks. It does not seek to impress or dominate, but to express what is right. In relational simplicity, speaking becomes a Sacred Act, because each word can support, uplift, or soothe. Sincerity is reflected in tone and intention, and it conveys more than long speeches: it communicates a presence.

Finally, simplicity is expressed in gestures. These can include a spontaneous smile, a generously extended hand, or discreet attention paid to another person. These simple gestures, free of expectation of return, radiate an energy that transforms relationships. Far from complicated displays, they create a climate of trust and harmony that extends well beyond the shared moment.

To better understand what this relational simplicity means. let's look at a few concrete examples. When someone shares a difficulty, it is simple to listen to them without immediately seeking to give advice or judge. This attentive silence is often more comforting than a thousand words. Similarly, when a disagreement arises, it can be defused with clear and calm words, rather than feeding pride or resentment. In everyday life, thanking others for small things, acknowledging a service rendered, or expressing sincere gratitude are all simple gestures that strengthen bonds.

Simplicity in relationships also manifests itself in not overburdening others with our own stories or expectations. Sometimes, offering our silent presence is the most beautiful gift we can give. Sharing a meal with respect and joy, accomplishing a task together without comparing ourselves, or accepting criticism without feeling threatened: these are small exercises that profoundly transform relationships.

When we practice this relational simplicity, we discover a new fluidity in our lives. Tensions ease, conflicts lose their intensity, and a space of harmony takes hold. Relationships cease to be battlefields or negotiations and instead become places of growth and communion.

The energy that flows is an energy of Unity. It can change the course of our existence because it aligns our thoughts, words, and actions on the same Axis of Truth. Thus, we no longer waste our energy on pretence, lies, or ego games, but devote it to nurturing clarity, respect, and sincerity.

The Art of relational simplicity is therefore a path to inner and outer peace. It does not require great knowledge, but only the choice to be true and to treat others with the same consideration we hope to receive ourselves. It is an Art which, when practiced every day, transforms not only our relationships but the entire fabric of our lives, infusing them with more confidence, joy, and harmony.

With great simplicity and affection to each and every one.

Warmly yours.

OM OM OM

H H Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha



TRI-VILLAGE BUZZ NEWS TEAM

Editor

Lori Vandette - 250.417.1570 trivillagebuzz@gmail.com

Treasurer/Invoice Coordinator Website Coordinator

Clay Tippett

Article Submitters

Katie Scott Jane Walter Wendy Davis Terry Marvel Sonia Blackwell Kate Kelly Kathy Jansen Rusty Brewer Rhonda Berger Karen Markus Ven. Gurudev Hamsah Nandatha

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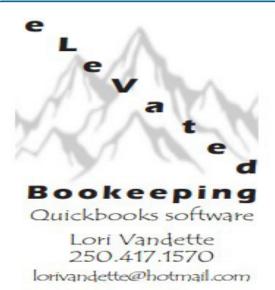
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Lori Vandette 250.417.1570

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GREAT NEWS - WASA LAKE IS BACK ON THE MAP!!

The Community Connector Bus Will Now Pick Up Wasa Residents bound for Cranbrook Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 at Gas Station - Return from Cranbrook Hospital, 3 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays stopping at the Gas station 3:30. This bus continues up to Golden if you need. **Price is \$2.50 each way.** Medical patients have first priority. If there is room, others can ride this bus. phone 250.427.7400 to book your ride.

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	October 2025						
Sunday Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	On this day in history, charles Schultz's "Peanuts" was first published. October 2, 1990	3	4	
Church 10:30 am	6	Wasa Lion's Mtg 7 pm	8	9	10	URBAN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION DAY	
12 Church 10:30 am	13 Thanks giving	14	WLLID AGM 7 pm	November submissions due!	17	18	
19 Church 10:30 am	20	21 Wasa Lion's Mtg 7 pm	HEY!!!OCTOBER 22 IS CAPS LOCK DAY! EXPERTS AGREE THAT SCREAMING YOUR TEXT IS IMPRESSIVE!!!	23	24	25	
26 Church 10:30 am	27	28	29	30	31	Nov 2nd fall back	

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Church Service 10:30 a.m. Lions 7 p.m. Quilters 10 - 4 Tops; wednesday 9 a.m. Lion's meetings 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month





EVENTS and Days Down the Road

- TOPS every Wednesday morning at the Wasa Hall. Weigh in at 9 -9:30 AM - mtg 9:30 to 10:30
- Pickleball every Monday & Wednesday 9 - 12, in the Community Hall
- WLLID AGM October 15@ 7pm Board mtg to follow
- Community Water Trailer stored Oct. 15



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