



News from the Lodge



Spring 2018

All the News that's fit to Point...

...by Richard Hill

So, How Many of the...

WINTER MAINTENANCE SHUT DOWN PROJECTS

Did we get done?

You may recall from the last issue, since it was published just prior to our annual maintenance project fest, that I couldn't really report on anything, except what we *planned* to do, and believe me, plans can change.

Well, it all went pretty well, the team pulled together and the usual chaos wrapped up by the end of the week with most things, except for one, accomplished, and we just fixed *that* problem (*see article, pg 2*).

So, hopefully you enjoy the new look of the dining room floor. Our friend, Guy Dubois, sanded it right down and applied a new, wax based finish that we can repair without it looking like a 'patch job'. The lounge will be given the same treatment next Winter.

You may also enjoy the sturdy and attractive tiles in the public washrooms by the office. This was the first time I've asked my friend from the '70's and former bandmate, Tom, to do some of his tile work and we've got more jobs lined up (*and completed - pg. 2*) all ready for him to tackle; nice work!

All the other projects, like the White Beach carpet replacement, Sauna heat shield, upgraded Pent-house trim, in addition to our usual raft of routine jobs, went off basically without a hitch.

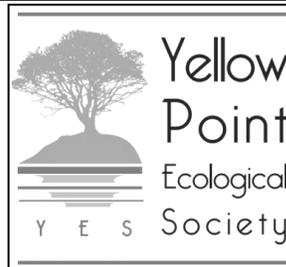
The one mentioned that didn't work was a scheduling/communication problem with getting the enclosures on the Housekeeping carts upgraded, so we ended up replacing the carts, (*pg. 2 - I know*).

All in all, a good productive time was had by all and we're already working on the list for next season.

Changes are coming to our...

Lost and Found Policy:

The simple reason is: too much stuff, not enough space. We now hold your lost items for a full year (*until you return*). So we are reducing our holding period to 90 days from your check-out date. We figure that if it's not important enough for you to call us within *three months*, it probably not that important. *Sorry!*



Y.E.S. is the name of the group with the petition in the lobby. They are trying to protect a 60 acre property that borders Long Lake and Yellow Point Park, and is in danger of being clearcut and subdivided in a way that they feel threatens the

ability of the land to serve as an important part of the groundwater recharge in our community watershed, which depends on wells and streams for it's supply.

There is a lot of thought and planning going into how it is best, or even possible to protect this parcel with lots of innovative ideas like partial, sensitive development used to finance the protection of the watershed area, if the property can be obtained, being one of them.

They have grown and developed over the time that the petition has been in place and this isn't their only cause or event.

They will be hosting a small group of interested neighbours on a nature walk around the property on June 3rd. However, way more fun than that is the fact that a couple of weeks later, they'll be organizing a big '*Scotch Broom Cull & Kill*'.

When this nasty, invasive plant is in bloom, it can be killed by just cutting it, instead of pulling it out at the roots, which can damage and kill the surrounding plants and wild flowers. Cutting it is also way easier.

There will be notices posted about this event. I'll be joining them for awhile and I'm going to ask someone from maintenance to lend a hand, too. Anyone else who wants to help is *way* more than welcome. We are very happy that they are taking on this problem issue.

A lot of our guests take an interest in the greater area and seem to understand that the well being of the lodge is also somewhat contingent on the well being of the surrounding neighbourhood. Several of the people involved (*myself included*) had their hands in the establishment of 'Yellow Point Park' and it's adjacent ecological reserve many years ago, and are still involved.

You can get more information on this group of active and interested neighbours along with many other useful and interesting web links at:

yellowpointecologicalsociety.ca



How about an update on....

What's Gong On?

...with the property next door?

For a little background for those of you that didn't see the article a few issues ago, the 142 acre 'Rice Family' farm next door was purchased by a group of neighbours for a sub-division development.

The regulators broke it down into three phases of development and sale. 'Phase 1' was all those roughly five and six acre lots you have seen for sale along Yellow Point Rd. in the last few years.

'Phase II' is on the market now, it is another group on eight or so lots, that don't face Yellow Point Rd. and some of them are quite large (one is 14 acres, I believe). So, based on the amount of time it took Phase I to complete, Phase II *may* take some time to fully sell.

Only then can 'Phase III' go up for sale. This is what concerns us, as two of the three 'Phase III' lots border the lodge property directly. We are in touch with the developer/owners, the real estate agent and our lenders about our interest in these properties, once they are available. I will keep you posted on any developments.



What, and
Who the
Heck is
That?

Well, he is Andrew Williamson, acoustic engineer, and that is an omnidirectional speaker. The next question should be *'why are they both in the dining room and what's he going to do with it? Is he a D.J?'*

Well, a lot of our guests, some 'more mature' with hearing issues, mention to me that when the dining room is full of people having chatty fun with their friends, the noise level can rise up to an intense din that is almost impossible to communicate over. They then ask if there's anything we can do about it.

Well, there is. Andrew used his big, outer space looking speaker to blast the room with over 100 db of 'white noise' a couple of weeks ago and measured the decay profile of the audio spectrum in order to get an idea of the best way to dampen the reverberation in the room.

We will probably be installing some decorative, yet functional sound absorbing panels before the onset of the big Summer crowds. There is quite a bit of ceiling space to treat, without covering the lights, heat panels or lovely yellow cedar, so we should 'see' some results.

Yikes, You Put the Rates Up, Then it's...

New Stuff Everywhere!



Well, we like to try and make sure that you feel you're getting good value for your vacationing dollar, so part of the occasional rate increase is making sure that you're still receiving a

high quality experience, (for here at least).

Above we have cart models Carrie, Hilary, Athena, Cheryl and Shelly modeling our new (well,...2014) House-keeping carts. They have lots of nice features, like the ability to keep the supplies dry, and have heavier suspensions for our semi-'off road' terrain.

This is our new, (okay, 2016) Ford Transit Van for picking guests up and dropping them off at the various ferry, air and bus terminals. It has cool features like a working gas gauge and heating system, almost everyone can stand up straight inside, everybody gets a shoulder belt and it looks really cool!



This is my friend, Tom, putting the finishing touches on the brand new tile floor in the communal washroom



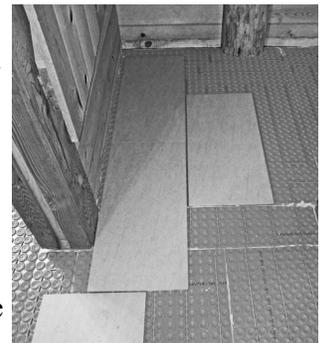
floors for the Rustic (ie: no plumbing) Cabins. We had water getting in under the doors and rotting the sub-floor, so the flooring had to be replaced.

If you look closely at the next photo you might be able to make out the little cables running around underneath the tiles as they went down. Yes, it's true, they are

heating cables. Your feet will be nice and toasty as you head in for your morning shower after a chilly October night in the Barracks.

If the system proves to be effective and popular, we will also be installing it in the Hot Tub washroom, when we tile that floor in time for the May long weekend.

This is all in addition to the fun stuff we did during the Winter Shutdown, so I don't really know what will be happening next. However, it's safe to say that we will always strive to make sure that you feel you are getting a good deal when you choose to stay here, which we very much appreciate.





Lodge Grows up
Somewhat, meet:

THE SKY RAISINS

As many of you know, my musical friends, John, Charlene, Gary and Rob, that make up most of our Saturday dance band (*unless Russ is drumming*) have an awesome Beatles tribute band called 'The Deaf Aids', so sometimes they're out playing a gig and not available to entertain at the lodge.

I was wondering what I could possibly do to fill these occasional gaps when I walked into the lodge one Sunday afternoon and heard this young woman playing some very cool jazz and blues on the piano, and getting some of our guests to join in, in a very inclusive fashion.

I sat in with them for a few tunes and we all had an enjoyable time. I asked her where she was from afterwards, expecting 'Vancouver', 'Seattle', 'Boston' or something, but in fact, Jo Deslippe is from Duncan and has a friend, Devan Bailey who is a very talented saxophone player.

So on the nights when the dance band can't get together, Rob or Russ usually joins us on the drums and we play a variety of traditional jazz, bebop, latin (*bossa nova*, etc.) and whatever else you could categorize as jazz, doing business as 'The Sky Raisins'.

It's a little different and quite a bit mellower than our usual brouhaha, but Devan and Jo are very talented players, super nice people and I hope you get the chance to enjoy this new feature soon.



Recycling: Revisited

When we first started recycling here, it was brand new, something that pretty much only hippies did, we had to pay for the privilege and it only included returnable bottles and cans, with the little ♻️ symbol on them.

Nowadays, lots and lots of stuff can go into the 'mixed material' recycling stream, but our system is still the 'old school' style. So, Kim has started asking around to see if we can enter the modern age, without driving Pat into a full time career of doing nothing but sorting peoples tin foil, cup lids and plastic packaging.

We're hoping to have a situation where everything recyclable goes into the 'bin', Pat pulls out the empties, and everything else gets dumped into the 'hopper'. We'll keep you posted, but at the moment we can only accept empties for return.

Man, that was text-heavy, how about...

Some Old Photographs?



Party in the Lounge: These will be from the late '40's & early '50's. Note the lack of couches in front of the fireplace and the, count 'em, *two* arbutus trees growing through the roof of the lounge. It looks different, but not *too* different.



Artist in Residence: Famous B.C. landmark watercolourist, Edward Goodall is seen sitting on the dock, in front of the Cutter painting the colour version of the old postcard shown on the right. There were black & white, 'sketch' versions, too.



Two Eras of the Cutter: On the left, she is a slightly overloaded picnic party boat in full swing. On the right she is spending her 15 years out of water after breaking anchor and foundering in 1972. The building is now the Boathouse cabin, which is why it's called the 'Boathouse'. It used to *house* the boat.



Welcome Back!: Here's my father, and our founder with some guests and his 1939 Buick that used to be our 'shuttle van' to and from the ferries, ever since we opened in that same year.

New Guest Information:

...on reserving and re-booking.

Re-Booking Your Room: In order to support as many of our guests who wish to be regular guests as possible, our reservation system only works for a period of **one year** in advance of today's date. So if you want to come at the same time, year to year (*for whatever reason, and we hope you do*) you can, because nobody can book 14 months ahead, and take your spot.

Getting Your Own Reservation: We have tried, and it is nearly impossible to maintain a regular 'Waiting List' because there are too many different dates and accommodation types.

If you're in someone else's spot (ie: *holding a friend's reservation for them*) we will be re-booking the spot for them, but you can ask them to put a '*would like another reservation*' request on their reservation, so if we get a cancellation we call them and can get you in.

If you call the office and we don't have the room you'd like, it's suggested that you book whatever we have and ask that a '*would like upgrade*' be noted. If a better room comes available, you'll have a chance at it, depending on who requested an upgrade first.

Try calling us two weeks ahead of your preferred date, that is when lots of people cancel because they can still get their deposits refunded if they give us that much notice.

Don't forget to check the website for our 'post it note' vacancy page, at yellowpointlodge.com and keep your eye on our Facebook page, as well.

...and on more general policies.

Cellphones and Laptops: are fine anywhere *except*, at the request of a lot of guests, in **the main lounge and dining room**. The lobby is fine, and the downstairs lounge is encouraged. However 'E-readers' and 'tablets' are okay in the big, main room (*they're more discrete*). We don't have wi-fi, and probably never will.

Drinking in the Hot Tub: is a big health and safety risk, and, I'm afraid has to be on our 'strictly prohibited' list. This is for everyone's well being. Please enjoy beverages before or after, but not *during* your visit to the hot tub.

Really general policies: are probably defined as 'the Golden Rule'. We don't have a ton of specific rules around here, (*exception: above*) and since we seem to attract a fairly well behaved, top quality group of guests, rules and regulations are seldom an issue. We like people to have all the fun they want (*hence the sprung dance floor*) but not at the expense of the other guests ability to relax and enjoy themselves.

F.A.Q.

...frequently avoided questions

How come I can't bring my own wine into the lounge or dining room?

Basically, it's because we have a liquor licence. We are permitted to sell alcoholic beverages to our guests for their enjoyment in our public areas, but if you wish to furnish your own drinks, they'll have to be enjoyed in the comfort, or Spartan surroundings, of your room or cabin. We are not participating in the 'corkage' program, due to the difficulty of monitoring and the fact that our liquor pricing 'mark-up' policy is very modest.

Why are you so particular about what my special diet is?

Firstly, if you have a serious allergy or medical condition, we want to make absolutely certain that we get it right. Secondly, one way that we maintain our fairly reasonable rates is by serving our meals 'banquet' or 'boy scout camp' style. If you have a serious dietary condition or are a committed vegetarian, for example, our staff will do everything possible to accommodate you. On the other hand, if your diet is optional, or a preference it makes it a lot harder on the kitchen. The bottom line is: if you've told us you don't eat pork, then order bacon, we will gently ask you to reconsider your dietary request.

What's the deal with live music here?

The owner of the lodge, Richard Hill (*me*) played a lot of music earlier in life and has some talented neighbourhood friends. On most Friday nights there is an informal 'acoustic jam' in the lobby and, on Saturdays at 9:00 a swinging, vintage styled, rock 'n' roll dance party (*complete with trophy*) in the main lounge (*always done by 11:00*). However, sometimes my friends have an 'off site' gig with their Beatles tribute band, the Deafaid, so I can't guarantee music every weekend.

On any day of the week, any guest who entertains the other guests with any form of musical talent, will receive at least one complimentary beverage. I always said "*If I ever get to be the boss, I'm going to give the band free drinks!*"

Do you mind if I feed the dogs?

Since three out of the four dogs are so tiny, and the fourth one is a junior, we kindly request that, no matter how 'persuasive' (*ie: mooch-happy little bums*) they are, please don't ever feed the dogs even the tiniest little bite. They really add up (*one little bite X 95 guests = puppy cardiac*) and most of the snacks that they would mooch off of you are not healthy for them, at all. They get fed plenty at home, no matter what they tell you.
