

## **Fall Fair Committee Report Presented at HIRRA AGM March 2007**

**Presented by Jan Bevan, Committee Chair**

HIRRA has asked each committee for a report of its activities for 2006. Our committee's report is simple: we put on the 2006 Hornby Island Fall Fair, and it was a success!

Of course, there is more to it than that. Previous to coming under the umbrella of HIRRA in late 2005, the Fall Fair Committee had been an independent group. The up sides of being a HIRRA committee are that we can take advantage of HIRRA's administrator and bookkeeper, and be open and accountable to the community. The down sides are that we pay for those services, and that we are obliged to comply with the HIRRA guidelines for committees, which don't always apply well to a task-oriented group, with a single focus and a time-line.

The Fair itself runs on VOLUNTEER POWER, and the committee would like to again thank the many, many people from Hornby and elsewhere who help to make our Fair such a special event. They lend us the site, loan us things, organize events, donate money and goods, scoop manure, set up and take down tents, deal with electronic equipment, handle the parking, sit at tables, run errands, do demonstrations, announce, perform, judge competitions, pick up garbage, and much more.

Financially, the 2006 Fair did well. In summary, it received corporate and at-the-gate donations of about \$1570, and another \$430 in vendor and competition fees, for a total income of just over \$2000. Expenses were for toilet rental, insurance, supplies, printing and mailing, prize ribbons and vouchers, totalling \$1155, leaving us with a revenue surplus of \$845. The auctions raised a further \$530 for the benefit of ISLA, the local community land trust, and the non-profits did well on their food stalls.

Our committee this past year has been Pam Gordon, Jack Hansed, Judith Lawrence I, Mariana Trucco, and myself, Jan Bevan. We also had much help from HIRRA President Ron Sitter. Most of us have been involved in the Fair in several roles--volunteer, organizer, competition entrant, parade entrant, demonstration presenter--since the first Fall Fair in 2001.

In 2006, Pam and Judith, for personal reasons, were not able to contribute as much as they would have liked. We also seriously missed Sheila McDonnell, who for the first five Fairs had done most of the actual organizing. Mariana, Jack and I did our best to fill her shoes, but some of you will know that there were a few glitches in the details of running the 2006 Fair.

For this up-coming year, Mariana and I are stepping down, so there are two vacancies on our committee of five, for the planning of the 2007 Fair. The Hornby Island Fall Fair has become a well-loved local institution, and undoubtedly the new Committee will be able to find ways to make it run smoother, and be even more fun.