

Annual Report Fall Fair Committee March 2012

The 2011 Fall Fair was a great success and the parade brilliant, the only complaint being that it was over too soon so we're thinking of running it around the field twice! Ron Sitter's shoes were big ones to fill, but since our new parade meister, David Wiseman always has his clown pair handy. It was a smash. Some of the board members of the Comox Valley Harvest Fair Association came to check us out and gave the event plenty of praise as a real country fair, along with a few suggestions.

Lori Nawrot retired from the committee this autumn after many years of dynamic involvement. Kurt Wetzel also stepped down but has kindly agreed to coordinate the Harvest Baskets that are auctioned each year.

We have a new person willing to serve, Glen Hadden whose roots go deep in the island and the ocean around us. His years of experience as a commercial fisherman will reflect in the riches the ocean brings.

We were waffling about what the theme should be this year, oysters and garlic being debated. This is the year of the water dragon – it could be the Serpent of the Salish Sea. Everyone on the committee liked this idea so this year we will be celebrating the harvest of the ocean – everything from the food we gather from it, to the seaweed for our gardens and the cedar posts to fence out the deer.

The Serpent makes me think of growing up in Victoria where Cadborosaurus occasionally would surface to swallow a seagull or two, according to small boat fishermen.

Quite coincidentally, the theme for the community quilt this year is water. In addition to the six volunteers for the committee we have three auxiliary members: Allan Beattie, who does such a fine job of organizing the parking, Kurt Wetzel, coordinator of the harvest baskets and Rowan Helliwell, who grew up here and has returned with her family. She is a graphic designer and has offered to take on the brochure.

So, with thanks to all, we are all set to bring off another Fall Fair. The date is September 16, 2012.