

The Balfour Buzz

Fall 2011

Volume 1 Issue 2

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Go to our Website for newest and greatest news in our area:

www.balfourcanada.com



Beatles Extravaganza in Balfour

Balfour has a new open air concert venue and what an evening was had by all at its debut. About 450 people attended and about 450 people were singing and dancing by the end of the evening. Reg Clarkson, who organized the evening, has promised Revolver will be back next year as part of a 5 concert series. Many thanks to the volunteers from the BDBHA that were such a huge help.



"It was a stellar event. The whole outdoor atmosphere was fabulous and the bands exceeded our expectations." Says Ann Sargent of Longbeach.



The Blues Brothers and local Sunshine Drive Band



Fishing Report

- Randy Zelonka

Since the last Fishing Report in June I'm happy to report that the great fishing on the main lake lasted until the end of July. The weekly Kokanee fishery ended up being the best in July with larger fish, up to 2 lbs, being caught in Sunshine Bay. This summer the fly fishing was off a little as it seemed that the hatches were late this year but, at present there is a large mayfly hatch and the fly fishing is great early in the morning. Adams Irresistible, Adams and Pale Morning Duns seem to be the go-to patterns. Stay tuned for fishing reports as the year goes on. There is going to be a lot of action!!



Year Round Fishing !!

Reel Adventures Fishing Charters
250-505-4963

www.reeladventuresfishing.com

Watch for up-coming fishing derbies. See page 2 for details.

GARYWOOD
Wooden Bowls Platters
and Vases

7606 Hwy 3A, Box 115
Balfour, B.C. V0G 1C0

Gary & Christine
McCandlish

250-229-5434
cjmgrm@shaw.ca

Accolades and Thank-You's!

A BIG thank you to Lianne from **Osprey's Neighbor Greenhouse** www.ospreysneighbour.com 250-229-2349 and Tania from **Mat's Growers** www.matsgrowers.com 250-229-21312 for their generosity in donating flowers for the garden at the Evangelical Covenant Church on Upper Balfour road. The garden has filled in and looks fabulous! It is, and has been, appreciated by so many. Please feel free to drive by and take a look or view on line at: www.balfourcanada.com.

Submitted by Trina Saunders



Kootenay Business Magazine, Best Places to Eat & Drink Awards:

Dock 'n' Duck Pub & Grill 250-229-4244 won in the following categories:

Platinum	Overall Favourite Restaurant
Platinum	Best Business Lunch Place
Silver	Best Hamburger Place
Silver	Best Brunch Place
Bronze	Best Bar/Pub
Bronze	Best Pizza Place

Many thanks to **Wally and Marilyn Erikson** who repaired and painted the cart Sheds on the west end of the Balfour Golf Course.

Surprise good-bye party for Golf Pro, Brad Woods, at the Balfour Golf Course www.golfbalfour.com. Sad to see you go Brad but best wishes to you in the future - from all of us!



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Community Profile

Bill & Sherry Balfour Superette

How did a young lad from Waterloo, Ontario and a gal from Mission end up in Balfour? Their paths met in Banff in the late '60s. Bill and Sherry who were young and freshly out of school stretched their wings and headed to the Rockies. Sherry, a middle child, grew up on a turkey farm in the Fraser Valley. She had 3 older brothers, one younger and 2 younger sisters. "In those days you did what you did on a farm. Then, if the boys went hunting and you wanted something to do you went hunting with them." Says Sherry. This is what caught Bill's attention.

It happened while lake fishing one afternoon. Bill was casting his only lure and inevitably it snagged. Much to his surprise, Sherry waded in and retrieved it for him. She points out she had the shorts on, no big deal but Bill was hooked. Any gal who will do that has to be a doer, he figured. And so the tone was set. These two have been thick into it now for over 40 years.

Bill and Sherry married in 1969 and moved to Calgary where their son David was born but B.C. was calling them home. Bill was making good money as a distributor for a pizza manufacturer but declined a promotion that would have moved them to Saskatchewan. He opted for a position at the coast with Safeway and fell into meat cutting, often going to Vernon as a relief butcher there. In 1971 Safeway offered him a position in Nelson, Trail or Princeton. They picked Nelson, and decided to give it a go.

They loved Nelson and



thought it was a good place to raise their family. They bought a house in Fairview, behind Hume school in 1972. A short time later their second child Leanne was born. They lived in Nelson for five years when they saw that the Balfour Superette was up for sale. Bill, always one to try different things promised Sherry it would be no longer than

five years, ten at the max. They moved to Balfour when Leanne was starting kindergarten in July 1977. The plan was to build up the business, like everyone does, and then move on. Take the profit and start something else. Well five years later, interest rates were 18%, the kids were happy living in Balfour and Sherry, who had always intended to reenter the workforce once the kids were in school, was beginning to see opportunities for a career forming within the Post Office. More on that later.

In 1984 they built the 2nd floor over the store and used it as their primary residence until 2001 when they built



their current home in Upper Balfour. Living above the store with the kids was the best thing. "We were always here when they came home from school so there wasn't a need for babysitters and they learned a good work ethic." Says Sherry. As adults, their son David joined the Navy and their daughter Leanne who lives in Kaslo works as a Paramedic and is a mother of two beautiful girls. Was it hard on family life? Bill thinks it was a great lifestyle for his family. "Sure we were tied down to the store on a daily basis but we didn't need to be on site all day long. Often we would leave the store in the hands of our capable staff and take the kids out on the boat and enjoy summer afternoons

David & Leanne Blanchard - 1979



Trivia -see last page for answers

- In 2010 the difference in high and low water on Kootenay Lake was:
7.5 feet. 10 feet 12 feet 13.5 feet
- The theoretical retention rate (flushing) of Kootenay Lake is:
1.5 years 5 years 14 years 24 years
- The theoretical retention rate (flushing) of Okanagan Lake is:
2 years 7 years 35 years 52 years
- Kokanee is a native word meaning:
burial grounds red fish deep water sasquatch
- What famous movie actress was convalescing in Balfour in the late 80's?
Cher Bette Midler Diane Keaton Debra Winger

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MCQ'S
NORTH COUNTRY GRILL
Last open day of the 2011 season is
Sunday, October 9th.

Kootenay Lakeview Lodge
is open year round.
250-229-4141

Balfour Recreation Commission

- Barry Bernard, BRC President

Hot Off the Press!

The BRC and Osprey Ridge golf Ltd are pleased to announce we have reached a multi-year agreement for the operation of the Balfour Golf Course as 18 holes. This agreement not only secures the future of this beautiful golf course for the Balfour area for years to come but also compliments a developing vision for a retirement community surrounding the golf course.



This year saw the completion of a brand new playground at the Old School House on Upper Balfour Road. If you haven't seen it, check out the link of this most amazing community enterprise: <http://lbtkbalfour.blogspot.com/2011/07/playground-build-day-movie.html>. Our next project on the Old School House site is slated to be a Gazebo build which will facilitate the park to be a picnic site for organizations and families alike.

As well, the BRC is endeavoring, with the RDCK, to develop the beachfront property in Queens Bay. It is our hope that we will be able to make it more accessible to the residents of Balfour.

If you would like to participate or attend any of our meetings we meet regularly over the winter months. For more information call, Barry Bernard, 250-229-4493. Evenings only please.

lake together." These days, their son David who has recently retired from the Navy, covers for Bill and Sherry so they can do some traveling and enjoy get-a-ways with the grandkids; last summer spending time in Schroeder Creek where they rented a cabin.

Sherry remembers the early years and the hard work it took to learn the ropes. "It was like we didn't even go to bed



Young Leanne, after school violin practice

at night for the first little while. You'd roll into bed at night and roll out the other side. Like, did I even hit the bed?" It took them 15 years to change their thinking from working by the hour to looking back over the year.

"Never get too big. We've kept the business to a manageable size that the two of us can look after it ourselves if we have to." says Bill. The Blanchards take their business one day at a time. "Take it slow, adopt to changes." Back in the '70s the tourism/fishing industry in Balfour was booming. "In the old days you'd see 300 boats out there – easy!" exclaims Bill. Sherry tells of the rich and famous who have crossed the front step of the Superette. Willie Nelson, Raymond Burr, lots of hockey players; Johnny Bucyk, and the like. In the late '80s Cher rented a cabin nearby. "Everyone knew who she was, but left her alone because she was on a quiet retreat and we respected that." Sherry adds, "She is very tiny."

Other businesses began moving into the area and Bill and Sherry gradually switched from selling hardware and fishing tackle to what they do today - operate a convenience store. When asked how they managed to stay afloat during the lean times, because as we all know there always are those times? Bill adamantly replies. "Make sure you pay everyone first. Pay your staff and suppliers. What's left over is yours!" Sherry nods in agreement. In good times and bad it all seems to have worked out for them. When it comes to the business of an entrepreneurial lifestyle good and bad decisions sometimes come into play. Both Sherry and Bill say there were no 'bad' decisions. "Maybe bad choices in stock, so you just get rid of it." comments Sherry. "You adopt to changes, find your niche, and always have a back-up plan." Says Bill with experienced confidence.

Sherry's position as Post Master led her to a career that many don't know about. She found herself serving on the

Board Rural Post Offices. Retired now, she was VP of the BC and Yukon Division. This position saw her traveling across Canada to many national conventions and she met a plethora of people from Newfoundland to Pender Island. She realizes she would never have had the opportunity to travel Canada had she not been involved with the Post Office. A couple highlights of her time with Canada Post were at a convention in Quebec City she stayed in the same hotel as an Arabian Prince and his whole entourage. Another time, while in Ottawa she found herself in an elevator with Lorne Green in the Chateau Laurier Hotel when CBC operated out of the top floor.

Of course success never 'just happens' on its own and Bill & Sherry know this. They give much credit to all the great staff they've had over the years. Beginning with Mary Dosenburger, their first bookkeeper who, "Saved our lives!" and longtime employees, Irene Noakes, Bobby Gutwin, and Dawn Medelet who is still working the cash and has been since she was 14 years old.

And the customers! Over the years they've seen people coming and going with their young toddlers on tow and now those little ones have grown up and they're bringing in their own kids.

When asked what their best business decision has been? Sherry replies: "To expand and stay here." Bill says, "No regrets."

Sherry sums it up. "It has been quite a ride. This is home."



David Blanchard, 2011 helping out with the store.

Advertising Space Available here

**Contact: Randi 250-505-2355
dendrite@shaw.ca**

FERRY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

As part of a business development strategy, the BDBHA is currently developing a Ferry Ambassador program for the Kootenay Lake Ferry. The goal is to have Volunteer Ambassadors who will ride the Ferry during peak travel hours and help travellers by answering questions and providing information about beautiful Balfour and area.

A few trial runs were made at the end of the summer, and the results were totally positive. The volunteers had fun talking to passengers, the ferry staff were delighted to be able to refer questions to the ambassadors, and travellers were well informed about all the fantastic opportunities awaiting them as they disembarked from the boat.

Do you love and appreciate the unique features that make our home area special? Do you have stories to tell about the ferry, the lake, and the good old days? Do you love meeting and talking to new people? Then this is your invitation to become a Ferry Ambassador.

Training sessions will be held for anyone interested in becoming involved in this fun adventure. We would like to have Ambassadors, in teams of two, to ride the ferry during the peak travel times during Spring, Summer, and Fall. Training will be provided along with hats, shirts, and vests that identify the volunteers as Ambassadors.

This program is proudly and enthusiastically sponsored by Balfour & District Business & Historical Association, The Regional District of Central Kootenay, Pennywise, Toad Rock Campground, Balfour Storage, Gill and Gift, and Visitors Choice.

For more information or to volunteers, please call Janice at 250-229-4514 or email at:

Janice.balfourcanada@gmail.com

Christian Science Church Services

9:30 – 10:30 am Sundays
in the Anglican Church on Busk Rd
All are lovingly welcome
250-505-8021

GRAY'S CONTRACTING

**Commercial & Residential Reno's
4" & 5" Continous Gutters
Custom Metal Bending
Soffit • Fascia
Siding • Decks • Painting**



canbushman@gmail.com **250-229-4483**



EAST SHORE SIGN

All cleaned up and ready to go!

The BDBHA has purchased the large sign on the East Shore ferry landing at Kootenay Bay, to provide an affordable, effective advertising venue for member businesses. The sign has been totally refurbished, repaired and painted and will present a very favourable impression to travellers coming to Balfour and area.

According to a recent survey, a large majority of travellers to the International Selkirk Loop (ISL) indicate that their top reason for deciding to travel the ISL is to ride the Kootenay Lake Ferry. Businesses who choose to include the East Shore sign in their advertising strategy will enjoy excellent exposure to thousands of potential customers at a reasonable price.

Advertising spaces are still available, with a deep discount for member businesses. To inquire about spaces and pricing, or to reserve your space, contact the BDBHA Coordinator at Janice.balfourcanada@gmail.com or phone: 250-229-4514.

Sudoku

7	9	8	3					
1					6			9
		6					2	
		4	6			5		
			5		8			
		9			1	3		
	3					8		
8			1					7
					3	4	6	1

Fishing Derbies

Watch for the upcoming fishing derbies:

Thanksgiving Woodbury Rainbow Derby: www.woodburyresort.com

Nelson City police derby Oct 14, 15, 16 at the Balfour Beach Inn: andreaschuk@nelsonpolice.ca

Kaslo Hotel / Barren fly and Tackle derby on the Nov 11 weekend: www.gillandgift.com/fishing.html

Randy & Truus Zelonka
450 Ferry Landing Road, Box 59, Balfour, BC V0G 1C0
(250) 229-2113

GILL & GIFT

Souvenirs
Fireworks
Phone Cards
Snacks

Gasoline
Tackle
Bait
Licenses
Weigh Station

Purstat

www.gillandgift.com

Volunteer Firefighters

This summer the Balfour Harrop Fire Rescue Department hosted a BBQ and Baseball event with the North Shore Department at the Balfour Soccer Field.



*Fringe Benefits!
A portable swimming pool.*

Local Fire Rescue departments play a vital role in the safety of our community. They are trained as first responders in all emergency situations in addition to traditional fire call outs. To volunteer in the Balfour area please call: 250-229-4316. email: bhfd@shaw.ca



Anscomb Project Update - Marven Pedersen

The Anscomb Wheelhouse Project is proceeding into phase 3; working on estimates and applying for grant monies.

Phase 2 consisted of suspending the Wheelhouse with timbers through the windows, replacing the flooring and other structures as required. When this was finished the Wheelhouse was mounted onto a trailer and anchored down as it was on the original Ferry.

Phase 3 will consist of removing the old roof and repairing the structure under same. Then a new asphalt roof will be applied. This will be followed up with scrapping down of outside lead paint and repainting.



Halloween 1980 . . .

The Corpse (Gert Guerin) was carried to the BBI by Irene Nokes, Sherry Blander, Judy Garner and Marilyn Erikson under the supervision of the Preacher (Warren Garner)

BALFOUR STORAGE

BOAT * RV * Mini Storage

Ph. 250-551-1105
Fax 250-229-2186

7758 Holt Rd - Box 208
Balfour BC V0G 1C0

Ramona Faust
DIRECTOR AREA 'E'

PO Box 1, Procter, BC V0G 1V0
Phone: 250-229-5222 • Fax: 250-229-5337
Email: ramona_r@telus.net

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

Phone: (250) 352-6665
Fax: (250) 352-9300
1-800-268-7325 (BC)
email: rdck@rdck.bc.ca

Box 590
202 Lakeside Drive
Nelson, BC V1L 5R4
web: www.rdck.bc.ca

Winter Hours in Balfour

Balfour Beach Inn 250-229-4235	Monday – Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	Noon – 11p.m. Noon – Midnight 8a.m. – Midnight 8a.m. – 10p.m.
Balfour Golf Course 250-229-5655	7 days a week October 1-31	weather permitting
Balfour Storage 250-551-1105	7 days a week	8a.m. – 8p.m.
Balfour Superette 250-229-4612	Monday – Saturday Sunday	9a.m. – 7p.m. 9a.m. – 5p.m.
Balfour Towing & Salvage 250-229-5252	7 days a week	24 hours – message
Blue Sky Clothing Co. 250-229-4434	Balfour store closes 7 days a week	Oct. 11 th 9a.m. – 5p.m.
Blue Sky Clothing Co. 250-354-0101	Nelson store Monday – Saturday	9:30a.m. – 5:30p.m.
Dock 'n' Duck 250-229-4244	Monday – Thursday Friday – Sunday	11:30a.m. – 10p.m. 11a.m. –
Gill & Gift 250-229-2113	7 days a week	8a.m. – 6p.m.
Kootenay Lake Automotive 250-229-5799	Monday – Friday	8a.m. – 5p.m.
Kootenay Lake Ferry 250-229-4215	http://balfourcanada.com/ferry.php	
Langs Restaurant 250-229-4263	7days a week	8a.m. – 6p.m.
McQ's 250-229-4141	Closing after Thanksgiving Weekend	
Old World Bakery 250-229-4626	7 days a week	5a.m. – 11p.m.

What's Up?

Blue Sky Clothing Co.

Thank you for everyone for supporting Blue Sky another year! We are very excited about our new Vancouver store. 1312 Commercial Dr. Vancouver BC. 604-566-9976.

We will reopen again in Balfour next year on the May long weekend (*maybe sooner, weather depending*). The Nelson store is open year round. Lots of nice warm coats and sweaters for the fall and of course our year-round selection of cruise and sunwear. 250-354-0101

www.blueskyclothingco.com

Comfortable • Elegance • Sized for REAL women!

Lang's Restaurant

Rob Lang is back! Now open - 7 days a week 8a.m. – 6p.m. 250-229-4263

Smokewood BBQ

New Location: (*opening Nov. 1st*)
502A Lake Street (kitty corner to Ellisons)
11a.m. – 7p.m.
(*closed Tuesdays*)
250-509-0664

BDBHA Coordinator

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Janice Cooper as our new Coordinator. Janice will be assisting the Board with advertising, marketing and any other pressing things that come up. She can be reached by email at: janice.balfourcanada@gmail.com or by phone: 250-229-4514.

Sudoku - solution

7	8	3	1	7	6	4	5
1	2	5	4	9	8	7	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
2	1	4	6	3	7	5	8
3	6	7	5	9	8	2	1
5	9	2	4	1	3	7	6
6	3	1	9	7	4	8	5
8	4	2	1	6	5	9	3
9	7	1	8	2	3	4	5

Trivia - answers

- 10 ft.
- 1.5 years
- 52 years
- red fish
- Cher

FOR SALE

1974 Thomas – International Converted School Bus
Certified Mobile Commercial Kitchen

250-509-0664



The Balfour Buzz is a quarterly newsletter sponsored by the Balfour & District Business and Historical Association (BDBHA).

July - October - Christmas Edition - January - April

See back issues at: www.balfourcanada.com

Please contact the Editor if you would like to advertise or submit content for upcoming issues.

Randi Jensen, Editor 250-505-2355 dendrite@shaw.ca