

The Old School House

January 1998 Edition

Your guide to art activities at THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE in Qualicum Beach

You are invited to our grand opening, St. Valentine's Day Party. Mark your calendar now!! see page 2 for details.

Editorial Comment

As we begin the new year at TOSH with such vigour and optimism, one can't help reflect on the very different circumstances in which we found ourselves this time last year and how the turnaround has been achieved.

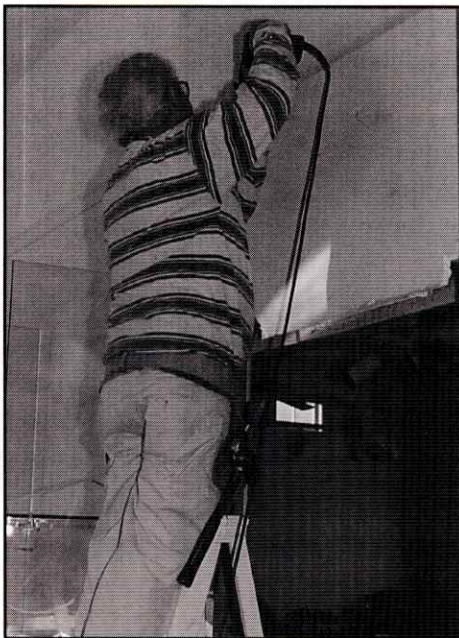
Although not for profit, TOSH is like any other business or organization, bills have to be paid and revenues must be generated in order to pay them. Last year's dire straits were precipitated by a simple case of expenses outstripping revenue. The recovery of 1997 was achieved by lowering expenses; doing all accounting, administration, event management and maintenance with the sometimes superhuman efforts of numerous volunteers. No one exemplifies this effort more so than current president Bob Mewburn who has put in countless 14 hour days to keep things going.

TOSH is like an old friend. In a recent survey, TOSH was voted the most popular local attraction by residents and more than 30,000 visitors passed through its doors in 1997. Clearly, TOSH is an important and unique aspect of our community. It enriches our lives and adds a very positive element to the character of district

69. And yet, like an old friend, we sometimes take TOSH for granted.

TOSH has a full calendar of exhibits, classes, workshops, special events and summer school sessions for 1998. It is up to the community to show its approval of these efforts by coming out and supporting the artistic talent and cultural opportunities that TOSH brings to our community.

We look forward to a very successful year and invite you to be part of it.



A new look for The Old School House

During January and early February, a group of volunteer painters will be busy giving the entrance foyer and stairway some fresh sparkle. New desks for both the reception area and the shop will be installed and make practical improvements while adding design accents through braced, cantilevered countertops. These accents will be complemented by suspended halogen lighting which will allow artwork in these areas to be highlighted.

These improvements will make TOSH a more welcoming place and allow for a more attractive display of art and merchandise in both the foyer and the gift shop.



Volunteers are adding new sparkle to TOSH

Fall 1997 fund raising appeal

Costs for materials and specialty work for the current renovations will be largely covered by the generosity of the many members that responded to our November mail appeal. A warm thank you goes out to all those that were able to donate. Over \$4,000 was raised, part of which has gone towards replacing one of the long ailing oil furnaces with a much more efficient gas unit.

St. Valentine's Day Opening and Good times Party

To celebrate the 1998 opening and completion of renovations, we are having a grand opening party on Saturday February 14th, and you're invited. The Brown Gallery and classroom will be decorated with a romantic St. Valentines theme and Larry Stubbins & Rosalee Duncan will provide music for entertainment and dancing in the classroom.

Lots of food, music, wine and non alcoholic beverages will make this an evening to remember. There will also be a silent auction of works by resident artists and others. Bring friends, bring your family; come and celebrate with TOSH. Tickets are just \$5.00 each. To reserve your tickets, please call 752-6133 today.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1997 CHRISTMAS SEASON AT TOSH

Victorian Tea

A perennial favorite of Qualicum Beach, the Victorian Tea was a sell out. Abundant seasonal greenery, a dash of old lace and fine china transformed the classroom into a genteel "Tea Room" of a bygone era. Ladies from the Qualicum Beach Historical Society completed the picture, wearing period costume while serving the tea. Many thanks

to all the volunteers who decorated the room and organized the event.

Christmas Showcase

Once again Christmas Showcase was a great success with a number of people commenting that this was the best yet. Proceeds from sales raised almost \$4,000 for TOSH. Special thanks to Jean Grant Horner, all the ladies from the shop committee and the many other volunteers who helped decorate the Brown Gallery and make this a successful event.

Christmas Raffle winners were Don Mervin (first prize), Chris Warren (second), Shirley McGill (third). Special thanks go to Jane Hamilton Khaan, Lyndsay Gibbons, Doug Folkins, Cheryl Rimmer, Dianne Upper, Bill Rhone, Anne Marie Veale, and Mary Leigh Campbell, the talented artists who donated the prizes for the raffle.

Artist's Open House

On December 11, the front doors were thrown open and everyone was invited to enjoy the party. Mulled wine, festive edibles and Christmas carols beautifully sung by the Madrigal Singers brought the Christmas spirit to TOSH. Over 100 members and guests helped to make a very enjoyable evening.



Deborah, a Christmas tree serving tea?

Volunteer reception

On December 6th, TOSH board members dressed in festive costume served tea to many of our wonderful volunteers. Deborah Maddocks, resplendent in her Christmas Tree costume set out to steal the show, but was upstaged by the surprise arrival of Santa Claus.

Special thanks go to The Bayside Inn in Parksville who provided a veritable cornucopia of food for the reception. During the month of February, Lou Roelofsen, General Manager of the Bayside Inn, invites TOSH members to enjoy 2 for 1 appetizers in Heron's Restaurant just by showing your membership card. (Valentine's day excluded)



Santa , spreading good cheer

1998 Gallery Exhibitions.....

Nancy Kruyt to head up the Exhibition Committee

Taking over the reins from the capable hands of Elaine Thompson, Nancy Kruyt will be heading up the exhibition committee. Nancy and her team will be responsible for all exhibitions in the Brown Gallery and Mini Gallery and the 1998 schedule promises to be varied and exciting. The Crow Show, an exhibit curated by Brenda Wenstob from the Fran Willis Gallery in Victoria and Weaving Between The Lines from the Vancouver Crafts Guild are just two of the 1998 highlights.

Nancy would like to hear from members or existing volunteers who are interested in coordinating one or more of this year's exhibitions. If you enjoy organizing, then this is a great opportunity for you.

Brown Gallery Exhibition Schedule (1st half, 98)

February 14 - 28,
Different Strokes
March 3 - 21,
Art From The Heart
March 23 - April 12
The Crow Show
April 13 - May 2,
Saltspring Artists
May 4 - 31,
The Dinner Party
June 2 - 28
Tied With Fibre
June 29 - July 12
Art In Action

VOLUNTEERS:

The heart and soul of TOSH.

When asked what motivates volunteers, most will answer that it is a desire to do something meaningful and have fun while

doing it. Long time volunteer Joyce Barr who manages the books for the gift shop comments, "I value The Old School House and volunteering keeps me sharp. I have a lot of fun with the people here too". At the Old School House, we are committed to defining volunteer roles that make volunteering productive and exciting while enhancing and increasing leadership opportunities.



Joyce Barr manages bookkeeping for the gift shop.

Without our volunteers, TOSH simply could not operate. These people greet visitors, staff the gift shop, coordinate exhibitions, organize special events, help clean the building, manage mail outs, write articles for the newsletter, help with fund raising, membership drives, and a variety of other functions.

In February, we will be holding seminars on volunteering at TOSH. Chamber of Commerce Manager, Georgia Maclean will be the keynote speaker and volunteers and members of the board will give a detailed overview of the varied opportunities that exist. Invitations to these sessions will be sent to all members in the near future and we hope that you will attend. If you've ever wanted to get involved and have some fun, now is the time.

Volunteers are needed now to take a leadership role.

This year, there is a full schedule of events planned for TOSH. Every event requires an individual to take the lead in planning and organizing the steps necessary make the event a success. There are also several key positions open on the Board for those that want the opportunity to help shape the future of TOSH. Board positions that need to be filled include the chair of educational activities, as well as the chair for corporate and government sponsorship. If you are interested in a leadership role, please call Bob or Bryan at 752 6133.

Other news.....

Shop at Quality Foods in Qualicum and support The Old School House. Quality Foods in Qualicum Beach and its manager John Briuolo have long been supporters of TOSH. Now through an arrangement with QF, you can have Q card points donated to TOSH. Points will be accumulated and help TOSH buy computers and other equipment that it needs. When shopping at QF, all you need do is tell the cashier that you want to your points credited to TOSH. You can also transfer any previously accumulated points to TOSH.

New faces at The Old School House

The Old School House is pleased to announce that Jesi and Sid Barron, Browni Joerin, Gerda Hofman and Dan Gray have become the latest additions to our talented group of resident artists. "The Art Cellar", a newly decorated studio gallery in the lower part of TOSH, displays the work of these five artists and one or more of the artists is attendance every day. If you are looking for something to add to your collection, you must pay a visit to the Art Cellar.

SPRING ART CLASSES

ADULT CLASSES

Call us at 752-6133

Unless otherwise stated, each course consists of 8 sessions. Non members, add \$10.00

Pen and Ink Sketching, Bill Rhone	Monday 2/23 - 4/13	1:30 - 4 p.m.	\$89
Fundamentals of Drawing, Joyce Burns	Saturday 2/21 - 4/11	1:30 - 4 p.m.	\$89
Beginners Water Colour, Marguerite Stevens	Thursday 2/26 - 4/16	9:30 - noon	\$89
Intermediate W/Colour, Marguerite Stevens	Thursday 2/26 - 4/16	1:30 - 4pm	\$89
Jewelry Design, Heather Joy Robinson	Friday 2/27 - 4/17	9:30 - noon	\$89*
Introduction to Pastels, June Boggs	Mon. & Thurs. 4/20 - 5/14	1:30 - 4pm	\$89
Outdoor Sketching, Bill Rhone	Tuesday 4/21 - 6/9	1:30 - 4pm	\$89
Still Life Composition, Joyce Burns	Friday 5/1 - 6/19	9:30 - noon	\$89
Willow Chair Workshop, Simon Yan (Make your own willow chair, all materials provided)	One day workshop, Saturday May 23		\$119

Pauline Pike's Painting Classes (starting week of Feb. 15) are almost fully booked.

Please call us about openings or wait listing (Beginners, Intermediate W/C, Oil & Acrylic).

EVENING CLASSES

Expressing Through Painting, Dawn Borden	Monday, 2/16-4/6	7 - 9:30pm	\$89
Beginners W/Colour, Colleen Butcher	Wednesday, 2/18 - 4/8	7 - 9:30pm	\$89
Wild Life W/Colour, Colleen Butcher	Tuesday, 2/24 - 4/14	7 - 9:30pm	\$89
Introduction to Clay, Bob Hunt * Plus Materials	Thursday, 2/19 - 4/9	7 - 9:30pm	\$89*

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Each course consists of 5 sessions. All materials are provided. Non members, add \$5.00

Understanding Art, Dawn Borden	Saturday, 3/7 - 4/4	9:30 - noon	\$49
Creative Watercolour, Denise Mottle	Saturday, 3/28 - 4/25	1:30 - 3pm	\$49
Fun with Clay, Anne Marie Veale	Saturday, 3/7 - 4/4	9:30 - noon	\$79

To register please call us at 752-6133. For complete course descriptions, call us at 752-6133 or we would be pleased to send you a brochure.

We are busy putting together a schedule of summer school classes and workshops for adults and children which will be featured in next month's newsletter.

The Old School House gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of Thwaites Norris Insurance Services and Quality Foods, Qualicum Beach.