

# The LogJam

Spring 2015

Girl Guides of Canada Pacific Shores Area

## A Note from Deanie Patton, Area Commissioner

t's February. Hard to believe when I go outside. It's warm even when it's raining. Snowdrops and daffodils are blooming everywhere. I've even seen some early oriental cherry blossoms. People are walking around in t-shirts and wearing sunglasses for heavens sake! Isn't this the month of chilling winds, snow and the winter doldrums? Our weather sometimes has a way of teasing us into thinking winter is over but then has the last laugh by returning for an encore performance. Well, I won't be storing away my woolies yet, just in case!

As we bask in the Springlike warmth I can't help thinking of our counterparts on the East Coast who are being pummeled with all the fury winter can throw at it. What do you do when it snows 60 centimetres in 24 hrs? Everyone is advised to stay home unless it's an absolute necessity. Guiding meetings are out of the question, but if in the house there is wool, crochet needles, paper, glue, googly eyes, thread, beads, fabric, wood scraps and popsicle sticks a girl guide will be entertained. Good time to sew badges on sashes, crests on camp blankets and maybe get a few projects completed for program.

Since I'm on the topic of winter's chill I should mention that a very enthusiastic bunch of Sparks and Brownies from around the Area had a fabulous time experiencing what it was like to be "Frozen". Certainly not in the literal sense, but they sure got into the theme of the weekend where they learned all about the arctic experience and enjoyed the delightful movie "Frozen". This was in late November at the Parksville Community Centre. Coinci-

dentally, it was also during one of the few nights of snow flurries this winter.

At my work and with my involvement in Guiding I get to talk to people from communities all over Vancouver Island. There's one thing that most agree on and that is although Vancouver Island is made up of a string of towns and cities, it feels and functions more like one large community. Pacific Shores Area operates as one large community with more ease than ever. Area Council is an amazing bunch of women who live in all parts of the Island and yet work so beautifully as a Council. I am so very fortunate to be a part of it. Social media and e-mail has given Area Guiders the ability to quickly and easily connect with each other to share news and information and to network talents. Our girls are so at ease with this technology and so quick to understand new advances. It's good to see evidence of girls from neighbouring districts connecting this way. (My ancient brain struggles to grasp it all, but I try).

Units have been active and engaged all this past Fall and Winter but there are many more plans afoot. I've been hearing a few tidbits here and there and what I am hearing is sounding pretty good. So Districts.... the rest of Pacific Shores Area community would really like to know what you've been up to in the form of photos and write-ups submitted to LogJam. That would be a job for your PR person or perhaps a Ranger who enjoys photography or is interested in journalism.

Enjoy your LogJam  
Cheers,

# Junior Ambassador Program - January 30th to February 2nd, 2015

Morgan Derbyshire PSA PR Advisor

I attended this training workshop in hopes of gaining some knowledge for my new role as Area PR Advisor. Also attending from our area were two Pathfinders, Ryanna from Nanaimo and Emma from Port Alberni. The girls and I traveled to Vancouver on the Friday and with the group we stayed at the Jericho Beach Hostel. I had never stayed in a hostel before and was pleasantly surprised at how comfortable the beds were! When we arrived at the hostel, we checked in the Katrina, who is the Pipeline Editor and Laurie who is the Provincial PR Advisor. We had a short time to get unpacked before the training started. The girls participated in the hostel challenge and we had a sing-along with Ming, who I believe is the Provincial Music Advisor. Ming was great and enthusiastic, she said that if anyone ever needed the words or tune to a song to contact her and she would be happy to sing it to you over the phone and we could record it on our phone. Ming's email is [mingberka@gmail.com](mailto:mingberka@gmail.com)

Saturday morning after breakfast, we started by breaking into groups and doing a challenge which required us to work on the Photo Challenge and take the bus around Vancouver. It was a lot of fun. After we got to Guide House, we immediately set out for a radio station tour of Sonic Nation and News 1130. After the radio station was lunch time and time for us to do some "work". For our "work", we got to give out free Girl Guide cookies and also did a quick survey to find out which cookie was the favorite and to my surprise it was the Chocolate Mint Cookie! After we got back we learned about the usefulness of press releases. The

thought is that the press may not be able to come out to our events but that with a press release and some pictures we still may make our presence known. We had a great supper at Guide House put on by a Trefoil Guild and then it was back to the hostel to sleep. Most of us crashed right away as it had been a very busy day!

Sunday morning was just packing up and a review of Saturday.

I learned this weekend it is important for us to be out in the public in our uniforms doing things and being out there so people know we are not just cookies and camping. Doing the Photo Challenge with the girls is a great way to do that as well as get some great pictures for our Log Jam.

It was a great training session and hopefully there will be another one next year and I hope that more Pathfinders, Rangers and District PR Advisors will take advantage of the chance to attend.





# Remembering Rally – June 2014

## *Sparks Can Do It!*

As a new Guider, you learn as you go and when you are blessed with working with a seasoned Guider, you find you have wings. It all started with a question “Ameythst, do you want to take the Sparks to Rally in the Valley?” and when the answer was yes, we were off and planning. 1st Ladysmith Sparks were going to Rally in the Valley – 2014!

When we first sent in our registration notice to join the District and go to Rally in the Valley, they said it couldn't be done, Sparks were too young. Luckily we already had back our SG2s for 6 of our Sparks, so we were going! But because of this warning, we started to practice!

Since our Sparks had been to camp twice and sleepovers at least three times we knew what to expect. The first step, was parent training. We had to get the Sparks bedrolls to resemble bedrolls and not just the mattress and all the bedding and stuffed animals from their beds at home!

Then we practiced carrying, rolling their new bedrolls – success. Then the back packs, what should be in them, how heavy should they be, then we practiced wearing the backpacks and carrying the bedrolls! Again success!

Our third and final task was traders! We made traders at meetings and sent home parents with hints and tricks to make traders at home. We used the trader bags and we had our hats – we were ready to trade!

These little girls – 6 and 7, carried their bedrolls, wore their backpacks and made the journey (Ferry, Bus Ride, Aquarium, Bus Ride, Pizza Party, Movie, Sleepover, McDonalds for Breakfast, 1.4km Walk, Rally, Bus Ride, and Ferry home). Although always last, they were happy and loved every minute, even when the bus broke down! As a Guider, I was very happy to see our parents at the end of the trip!

When you have the exact right combination parent trust, good cookie sales, great girls and an awesome Guider Team, you can do anything – even Sparks!



Almost there.



Setting off.



The Official Photo!



Natasha with her hat and traders.



Blowing bubbles, having fun, but thank goodnes for duct tape!

# Exploring and Experimenting!

The 1st Chase River Sparks earned their Exploring and Experimenting Keeper by doing some pretty amazing experiments during regular meetings in January.

We themed a meeting “More than Just Lemonade” and used lemons and lemon juice in some pretty inventive ways:

- We looked at two different kinds of lemons, Meyer and Eureka. We smelled them and then tasted them – yes Meyer lemons are much sweeter.

- We created an electrical current, by joining lemons together to light up a small LED light.

- Next the girls made lemon soda from lemon juice, sugar water and baking soda.

- The finale was a bottle rocket. The girls decorated corks, then we shot them off into the night.

- The craft was to create a lemon tree and learn that lemon’s grow on trees.

- Our song of the night was “Lemon Tree”

- The second second balloon they blew up with vinegar (smells like pickles), baking soda, and a recycled waterbottle

- Our Guide Helper then showed them an experiment she created, which was to see which fell to the ground faster,

- Our next activity was to make bubble solution from scratch,

- With our bubble solution, the Sparks experimented with a variety of different household items and their hands to blow bubbles,

- Once done, we used the water bottles again and filled them up with the bubble solution to take home.

- Our Song was “I’m a Little Bubble”

- The craft was decorating the balloons and waterbottles.



Our next meeting was “Double Trouble Bubble Fun”. The “double” theme being bubbles and balloons. We learned the history of balloons, the double was bubbles.

- Sharing circle topic was the history of balloons,

- The girls blew up a regular balloon, then played a game with the balloon,

The results were pretty consistent “wish and stars”. “Stars” were awarded to bottle rockets and blowing bubbles with their hands.

Wishes were to do this at camp for longer!



## The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Judith Guichon, visited Tofino

The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Judith Guichon, came to visit Tofino February 1st and the Tofino Girl Guides & Leaders joined her for lunch at the legion hosted by the local legion. In this photo are one 1st Tofino Brownie named Indica, one 1st Tofino Pathfinder named Paris, 2 Tofino leaders Samantha & Jeanette.



## Pizza Anyone?

The 2nd Mt. Cokely Brownies were Super Pizza Sellers at a local pizza place in Port Alberni BC for the CWFF Pizza Challenge on Friday February 6th. Seems one customer reported she had to drive round the block several times before she found a parking space ... the event was so well attended!!





# Cedar Guides Visited the Vancouver Aquarium



“Cedar Guides visited the Vancouver Aquarium on January 19, 2015. This was quite the adventure for some of the girls who had never been on public transportation, and a few who had never been to the aquarium. The highlights were watching the animals being fed in the morning, the penguins, Jack the porpoise, and the jellyfish. We



Touching sea urchins and anemones, posing with the jelly fish, watching the penguins, and finally, tired but happy on the ferry ride home ... all part of a trip to the Vancouver Aquarium.

were accompanied by the Chase River Pathfinders who then went on to continue their adventure in Gastown. It was a trip that the girls will never forget.”



# PACIFIC SHORES AREA AWARDS

by Lee-Ann Knight

British Columbia Guiding holds all awards in very high esteem, and recommends that Guiding members receive meaningful recognition (formal and informal) in a timely fashion. Recognition of a job well done illustrates to our members how valued they are to our organization. Formal awards should be granted throughout the year and are an excellent opportunity to publicly recognize the member's contribution to Guiding. Informal recognition in the way of a simple thank you or kind word of appreciation should be ongoing. The ongoing presentation of awards to Guiders at all levels is a vital way to formally and informally recognizing their contributions to our girl members.

Look around your Districts and what do you see? Qualities worth Awarding!

**Dedicated:** Makes a consistent time commitment, values the organization, is focused consistently goes above & beyond, stands out amongst her peers.

**Excellence:** Skilled, exceptional, thinks outside the box, creative, gives it her all, self motivated, has strive and drive.

**Exceptional:** Responsibilities are done well, extraordinary, always goes

beyond what is expected or even anticipated.

**Extraordinary:** Far beyond what is usual or ordinary, exceptional, remarkable.

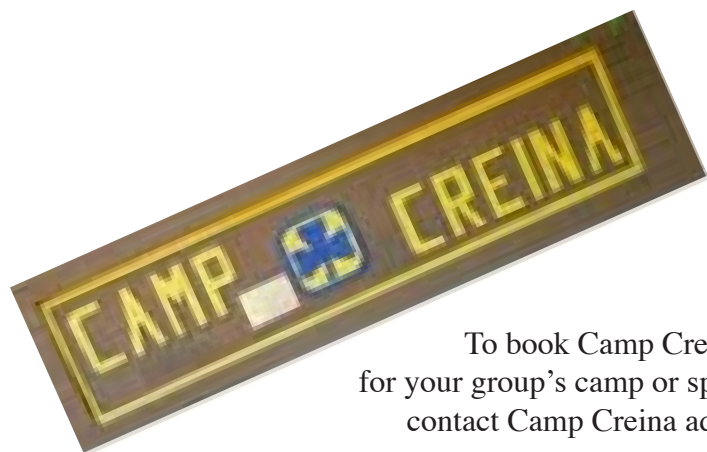
**Good:** Fun, reliable, safe, enthusiastic, organized, communicates well.

**Outstanding:** Committed, goes over & above what her peers are doing, it shows to any and every one, she gives from the heart, adds additional tasks to her Guiding job.

We encourage you to reach out to your District Awards Contact or the Area Awards Adviser if there is someone deserving of an Award.

For information about Awards please contact me. [lee-ann.knight@shaw.ca](mailto:lee-ann.knight@shaw.ca)

Pacific Shores Area Bursary deadline is approaching March 15, 2015 the application was circulated via email in January and you can also find it on the Pacific Shores Area Website. \$500 could be yours! Good luck everyone.



To book Camp Creina  
for your group's camp or special event  
contact Camp Creina admin at:  
[2014ggccadm@gmail.com](mailto:2014ggccadm@gmail.com)

**Deadline for the next  
issue of LogJam  
April 30th, 2015**

**To have your Unit's activities included, send them to [Lreeve@telus.net](mailto:Lreeve@telus.net) and we will do our best to find room for them.**

**Remember, LogJam is as interesting as YOU make it!!**

**Lynn Reeve, Editor**



## Hugginz by Angel



The South Port Guides in Port Alberni visit with Angel Magnussen, third from right, a former member of our unit who now runs her own non-profit business, Hugginz By Angel.

## Lights for Thinking Day on Gabriola



Wellington Pathfinders and Gabriola Guides got together for a Thinking Day Ceremony. The Guides made Thankyou cards for the Pathfinders.

Angel was born with Down Syndrome but that has not stopped her from raising more than \$100,000 for the Variety Club. Two years ago Angel's mother Cheryl helped her set up Hugginz; Angel makes blankets for sick children all over the world, "wrapping them up in a hug", as she puts it. She and her support workers and countless members of the community help sew these blankets, which Angel personally fills with love before they are mailed away. Angel's Variety Club fundraising and her blankets are two separate endeavours.

The South Port Guides cut out 99 two-piece angels that will be sewn onto the front of each blanket Angel and her Hugginz team makes. She averages 10 blankets per week. Angel visited our unit to thank us for cutting out angels, and asked the girls to fill two of her blankets with love—so they all got a cuddle with the blankets, that went to help two children in British Columbia. Angel then handed the girls little pillows that she sewed for each of them.

Angel was also invited to a Mt. Cokely Brownie meeting, where she talked about her blankets and also shared special pillows with the Brownies.





# *Frozen*

## Because It's Cool

### The Science of Ice and Snow

#### November 2014

Sparks and Brownies from Pacific Shores Area

Total attending: 250

Program and crafts: Susie Quinn, Gina Burggraf (so creative and fun)

Facilities: Jamie Franzmann (very thoughtful and aware)

Registration: Lynn Hooper (OMG so organized!)

1<sup>st</sup> Aid: Kris Kjellbotn and Sue Street (had it all under control)

Photographer: Jamie Lawlor (say cheese)

QM: Jayne Wille, Sarah and Michelle (amazing job ladies!)

Project Manager: Colleen Cooper (exhausted!)



Saturday we had six stations during the day as well as a North Pole Puzzle table, Snowflake Engineers table and Quiz Corner where there were activities for the girls to do as time fillers.

Stations were designed for the girls to complete the Polar Challenge from Alberta Girl Guide Council. We had Edith Kraus, a leader from Gabriola Island who is also a biologist run a station about penguins and her trip to Antarctica that was a hit with everyone. Another station took the girls outside in sub-zero temperatures to play polar games; others had them helping leaders make ice cream, paint crystals with Epsom salts, painting winter scenes with acrylic paint; making waterless snowglobes with clay snowmen modeled after Olaf, the snowman in the movie Frozen; building igloos with cotton balls and because every camp needs a treat, a hot chocolate gift station; and a beading station where the girls made icicles that had a fireweed flower “encased” in the centre.



Girls collected colouring sheets at each station so they had a colouring book by the end of the day to use during free time.

We played the movie Frozen on the big screen in the main hall at bedtime. A highlight: when most of the room burst into song at “Let It Go”!

On Sunday morning there was no room to play games in the gym as units were waiting to sign out so we put a documentary about whales in the DVD player and put it up on the big screen again. The activity tables stayed up until everyone was gone and spare colouring sheets were available to girls.



# Pacific Shores Area Council

**Commissioner:** Deanie Patten  
**Deputy Commissioner:** Ann Henkelman  
**Secretary:** Elenor Hurst  
**Treasurer:** Patti Salewski  
**Properties/Subsidies:** Patti Salewski  
**International Trip Funds Reviewer:** Joan Morgan

## ADVISERS

**Membership:** Vacant  
**Awards:** Lee-Ann Knight  
**Trefoil:** Ann Henkelman  
**Camping:** Wendy Jackson  
**International:** Joanne Maxwell  
**Training:** Margaret Slater  
**Program:** Susie Quinn  
**Ranger:** Vacant  
**Link:** Susan Zutz  
**Treks:** Sue Street  
**Special Events:** Jamie Franzmann, Colleen Cooper  
**Special Needs:** Vacant  
**Public Relations:** Morgan Darbyshire  
**Cookies:** Lori Hitchen  
**LogJam Editor:** Lynn Reeve  
**Area Website Mgr:** Tim Schewe  
**iMIS Specialists:** Terry Newell (contact), Margaret Slater, Heather Rendell  
**Area Fundraising Approvers:** Pat Mahon, Marion Davis, Jeanette Brooks

## DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

**Broughton Strait:** Cathy Griffith, Heather Jones  
**Campbell River:** Karin McCune  
**Comox Valley:** Joanne Maxwell, Margaret Slater  
**Malaspina Strait:** Christine Boyd  
**Coastal Rainforest:** Lynn Hooper, Kris Kjellbotn, Samantha Hackett  
**Hurford:** Johanna Scott  
**Nanaimo Piper:** Kevin Breakey  
**Nanaimo Arbutus:** Noreen Keen  
**Waters Edge:** Nancy Quist, Catherine Fritsch, Pat Mahon

## Spring Cleanup

at Camp Creina

Sunday March 22nd,  
10am to 3pm

MORE INFORMATION  
TO FOLLOW

Don't miss our  
**Annual Guider Event**

Saturday, April 18th

11:30am

at Cottonwood Golf Club  
1975 Haslam Road, Cassidy

Tickets from your District Commissioner  
before March 31st



We all know what Guiders do: they *Lend a Hand*  
... this group at Frozen



## Guides on Gabriola Island

So far in 2015 we learned first aid (with Varena from the St. Johns Ambulance), learned to sew using a sewing machine and made medical dolls with them for the hospital (with Robyn McMahon from Forgive and Forget), learned some songs and skits with the pathfinders, learned about felting and made felted mice (with Taylor from the Alpaca farm and others), and had a spa night where we learned how to make our own skin care products. There's also a photo from the Tasty Treats Badge when we made bread, cookies, and raw energy balls (yes, all in an hour and 45 minutes), and one from the Hawaiian sleepover in 2014.

While we have a lot of fun with our activities, it's the unplanned moments and skills that the girls learn that really make the program what it is -- An opportunity to learn team building, understanding of differences, and developing leadership skills.



*Tasty Treats!*



*Spa Night*



*The girls made Medical Dolls for the hospital.*