

# The Log Jam

Spring 2016

## Girl Guides of Canada Pacific Shores Area Letter

### A letter from the Area Commissioner

This will be my last letter in Log Jam and as I write I am feeling many mixed emotions. My term as Commissioner for Pacific Shores Area ends May 1st. April will be my final month and it seems to be marching by very fast.

I first served on Area Council in 2008 as Deputy alongside Area Commissioner Dawnette Humphrey for Mid Island Area. In 2009 Mid Island Area and Discovery Triangle Areas amalgamated and became Pacific Shores Area. Dawnette was voted in as Commissioner and I came along with her to serve again as her Deputy. When her term ended in May 2013 I was given the honour of being nominated for the Commissioner role and after much deliberation on my part I decided to “just do it”. It was a life changing decision.

Let me retract that statement. It was the second life changing decision. The first was when I signed up my daughters and then said “yea, sure, I’ll be a leader. I can spare an hour (haha) a week. Could be fun”. From that moment on I began to realize that I had become part of something very special. Many wonderful, positive things began happening for me. I suddenly had an outlet for my love of camping, singing, and teaching. I was able to share with girls my love of nature and the outdoors. I found a place where my belief in the empowerment of girls and women could find a voice. I began to feel more empowered in my own life because of what I learned about myself. I realized that I had more skills and talents than I gave myself credit for.

Besides personal growth there are the wonderful memories that are created with the girls and friendships made that are lifelong and true. We are a like a community unto ourselves no matter where we come from or where we live. For me, I would not be working in a career that I love if I hadn’t signed up with my daughters and met a fellow leader who offered me an opportunity. The trainings I did through Guiding helped prepare me for some of the aspects of my new job.

When people ask us what it is that girl guides do we often talk about all the fun activities, camping, learning and travel opportunities for the girls and its value to girls but do we say enough about the learning, growth and opportunities that we, as adult members, get from being members of Girl Guides of Canada? Girls need leaders. They will always need leaders. Let’s share with those who ask just how much WE love being a Guider and maybe, just maybe, they will want to be a part of it too.

And so as I reflect on my time as Commissioner the thought that comes to mind is that no matter what position one holds in Guiding there is opportunity to learn, to grow and to share ones talents. A chance to make new friends while cherishing the old. Guiding is a place where girls and women are free to be the best that they can be. I believed in Guiding when I first said “yes, I’ll join”. I still do.

Girl (and woman) Greatness Starts Here,

*Deanie Patten, Commissioner, Pacific Shores Area*

# Appreciate your Guiders

Laurie Douglas Area Awards Advisor  
<lauriedouglas67@shaw.ca>

Well its that time of the year when Awards are being thought of. You know someone so deserving, yet what do you do for them? It may seem daunting to think of the work involved for a formal award, but its really not that hard. And, that is why I am here! 1. Most awards need at least 2 letters of recommendation -- so you need another Guider and you to work on it together. You each write something about this special Guider. 2. You send me an email lauriedouglas67@shaw.ca and ask me to pull this nominated Guiders record, so we can see what they have received and what award they do not have yet. 3. Once we figure out the appropriate award, you fill in the R4 found on the Pacific Shores website, and send it to me. Your part is done. THEN --I send it to my peeps - awards committee -- who peruse the letters and help me decide if its a win or if there is something more deserving or appropriate. Once approved, the awarding council ( so your District) would order the award and decide when and where to present. THAT'S all. And how do you write a letter? Sometimes this task is the one to throw Guiders for a loop -- but I say - be creative! Use their name letters to inspire you to write a sentence for each letter that pertains to their letters! Or, are you a poet? These tributes are so meaningful to the Guiders whom you wish to thank. And above all -- remember -- everyone loves and needs to be recognized -- be it a formal award or something totally FUN!

# Salt Spring Island Rangers in Vancouver



1st Salt Spring Island Rangers went to Vancouver for Thinking Day at Guide House. Here they are silhouetted against the Vancouver skyline, across Burrard Inlet from the Lonsdale Quay where we had dinner. In this photo are Mad-die Wesley-Plambeck, Hope Caldwell, Sophia Fava and Chi-Chi Small Wolf.

We also rode multiple types of public transport: ferries, buses, sky train and sea bus - to get to: The MacMillan Bloedel Conservatory at Queen Elizabeth Park, the Dr. Sun Yet San Gardens and a walk through China town, the sights and shops at the Lonsdale Quay, Granville Island and the Public Market and home again on Saturday. Our night was spent at the Holiday Inn on Broadway with breakfast at the hotel before heading to GuideHouse to drop off our back packs, down to Granville Island and back to Guide House for 1:00 and tea with the older ladies, Provincial and Area Commissioners and a great talk by a Ranger from Victoria who went to India last year (name has left me for now).

# Deanie Patton introduces New Faces on Area Council

It gives me great pleasure to make the following announcement of three new appointments to Pacific Shores Area Council.

It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve as Commissioner for Pacific Shores Area. My term ends May 1, 2016 and I am very pleased to announce that Barb Wood from Campbell River District will be assuming the role of Area Commissioner at that time.

Barb joined me in the summer of 2015 as my Deputy while I was in the middle of a serious health issue that made it difficult for me to perform all my duties. I owe a great deal of gratitude to her for shouldering most, and at times all, of the responsibilities of Area Commissioner while I concentrated on getting back to health. I

relied on Barb to take on many very important tasks and she was required to make some very important decisions that effect our area members. She did a superb job as Deputy and I know she will be just as wonderful as Commissioner. Barb is conscientious, caring, organized, focused and strives for excellence. Pacific Shores Area will be in very capable and experienced hands.

Johanna Scott will be assuming the role of Deputy Area Commissioner and will start her term along with Barb on May 1, 2016. Johanna is currently the Commissioner for Hurford District.



**Barb Wood**

She is knowledgeable, caring, enthusiastic and dedicated. I have personally known Johanna for some time and know her as an individual who personifies the Guiding spirit. She and Barb will make a great team.

I am also very pleased to announce the appointment of Marina Walker as Treasurer on Pacific Shores Area Council. Marina will begin her term along with Barb and Johanna on May 1, 2016.

Marina is an adult member in Nanaimo Piper District and has just received her 15 year pin. She joined Brownies in Vancouver and when her family moved to Nanaimo in 1993, she joined Patti Salewski's Guide group and moved up with her to Pathfinders. She volunteered at Our Cabana in 2009 as the Event Administrator and served on the Canadian delegation to the WAGGGS Western Hemisphere Regional Conference in 2010. Professionally, Marina works at VIU and has nearly completed her CGA designation.

Please join me in extending warm and hearty Girl Guide congratulations to Barb, Johanna and Marina and to wish them all the best in their new roles.

Deanie Patten  
Commissioner,  
Pacific Shores Area



**Johanna Scott**



**Marina Walker**



## Membership News

### Transitioning Members:

Work is now underway to create a challenge for our Transitioning Members, who are caught between completing the Ranger program and being recognized as an adult in BC. The new "Use 'em or Lose 'em" (not actually the name) challenge will be ready to pilot in September for the 2016-2017 Guiding year. If you have any ideas or insights that you would like to see included in the project, please contact Ann Henkelman, Membership Adviser for Pacific Shores at [annhenkelman@gmail.com](mailto:annhenkelman@gmail.com) or call 250-283-7289.

Yours in Guiding,  
Ann Henkelman  
PSA Membership



**1st Chase River Guides** had a Girls Just Want to Have Fun sleep over in Lantzville. We went for a hike along the shore in Lantzville. Found an eel washed up on shore. And this perfect log to get everyone together for a picture. We had a blast getting to know each other and building team skills, as this was our first sleepover of the guiding year.

Deadline for the next issue of LogJam  
will be **June 15th**

Send your submissions to [Lreeve@telus.net](mailto:Lreeve@telus.net)

Photos must be JPGs

One photo per email would be appreciated

Text can be in Word, Pages, or text documents.

Single spacing with no added formatting works best.

***PDFs will not be accepted.***



1st Chase River Guides indoor rock climbing. Team building over coming fears



# Arrowsmith Rangers Working on Duke of Edinburgh Awards



Ginny Lefeaux, Janean Griffith and Mikeala Hitchen, members of Arrowsmith Rangers setting out on their bronze Duke of Edinburgh Adventurous Journey at the Skutz Falls Park Trail Map in November. (Photo top right) Top left, the girls having fun along the trail. Above centre, Skutz Falls, on the Cowichan River. For the second day of their adventure journey they went to Holland Creek. In the photo, right, they are checking out the directions sign.



## Waters Edge District had a Pool Party

*The theme was Hollywood Walk of Fame.*





# Trefoil Guilds Are Active throughout the Area.



***Comox Valley Trefoil Guild and their donation.***

The Comox Valley Trefoil Guild celebrated Thinking Day with food donations to St Peter's Anglican Church Unity Cupboard. Several members also attended the District Thinking Day Event in Cumberland. Left to right Dorothy Bulcock, Grace Boyle, Terry Newell, Lynn Madill, Ardythe Crawford, Bonnie Harbidge, Debbie Wright, Margaret Standish and Margaret Slater.



***Fun Seekers Trefoil Guild***



***Salt Spring Island Trefoil Guild***



***Upper VanIsle Trefoil Guild***