

The Party Line

Volume 1, issue 3

Summer 2021

Editor,
Melody Watson

Publisher, the
Friends of
Bouchie-
Milburn Society



**Keeping
Bouchie
Lake clean
one piece of
trash at a
time.**

Hi everyone, my name is Heather Burke and I am the creator of “Quesnel & Area Trash Trackers” on Facebook & Instagram.

I was born and raised in Quesnel, and with my husband Jeff and our daughter Ashley, I’ve been living in Bouchie Lake for the past fifteen years. We spend a lot of time in the outdoors; camping, hunting, fishing, exploring and kayaking.

I’ve had a passion for the environment for as long as I can remember. My first real experience with the beauty and fragility of the environment happened for me at age 15 when I was invited to go to Maui with Canadian Underwater Film maker and Naturalist John Stoneman of a Canadian TV show called The Last Frontier. I spent eleven days working alongside John Stoneman and two Humpback Whale researchers, Debbie and Mark Ferrari. I was in the water daily, snorkeling alongside Humpback Whales. That episode of The Last Frontier is called “Enchanted Islands”. I was given an opportunity afterwards to speak at some Elementary Schools in Quesnel, about Whales, scuba diving and protecting the environment. That experience shaped how I look at the world and environment today.

At 48, that same passion for wildlife and the environment, along with a strong desire to speak to others about how we all can make changes in our daily lives that’ll have lasting positive impacts on our local community, wildlife and the environment is what motivates me.

Continued on back page.



BIG THANKS to Emcon, Quesnel Division
for the donation of two boxes of garbage bags, safety vests & gloves
and for same day pick up of all the trash along the highway
after each and every litter cleanup we've done!!

Hello From The Party Line's Editor

Welcome to the third issue of The Party Line.

Keep our readership satisfied and contribute. We are seeking recipes, local stories and history pieces as well as pictures of bi-gone years. Jokes are welcome too. If you have an event coming up drop me a line. I am looking forward to receiving these interesting reading items.

Thank you to those of you who have sent in a piece to include in these pages.

The Party Line is available through email, send me your email address and I will add you to the list.

Thanks, Melody Watson

The Party Line

Advertising:

Largest Ads are 1/4 page ads, \$10/issue.

Card size \$7/issue. Cheques payable to the Friends of Bouchie-Milburn Society given to Melody

Deadlines:

Winter by Nov 15

Spring Feb 15

Summer May 15

Fall Aug 15.

Contact: Melody Watson at Email: partyline6mile@gmail.com

Submissions: 200 words maximum.

All submissions in Word or PDF format. Advertising available.

Emailed quarterly free of charge.

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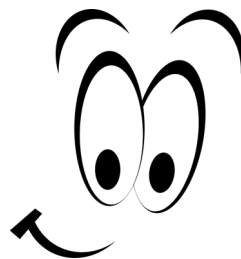
Limited printed copies available

Come on everyone, join our mailing list. Keep informed and up to date on our community and local events.

Enjoy the Party Line

A small thought
Summer is nearly here. Spring has granted us with rain and few storms,. Planting has been a bit mudding but none the less successful. All the young farm animals on the ground, ready for the warmth of the sun and warm summer breezes. It's a wonderful time of year. As I look at this spring I am grateful for our season and the goodness it has brought. We have been fortunate in our well-ness and successes. May our summer bring us peace and health.

Cheers Milburn and Bouchie lake



Place your ad here
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Bouchie Lake W.I.

May 10, 1957, 7:45 pm

6 Mile Hall

This poster is from the 1957 production of "ShowBoat Tonight" hosted by the Bouchie Lake Women's Institute and held at the "old" Bouchie Lake Hall (photo below). The poster was created by Bill and Sue Speare, the parents of April Moi who now lives in the Fraser Valley. Sue would do the lettering with Bill doing the artwork. Bill also painted some of the backdrops for the shows.

The WI hosted many productions with each having a theme - Showboat, Gilbert and Sullivan's HMS Pinafore. The ladies used to get together to practice in the Speare's home (*Melody Lodge*) on Bouchie Lake. The school and the Brownies and Guides generally had a role to play as well; either a choir or skits.

Bill and Sue met in an army show. Bill had lost his right arm in battle. Sue was an entertainer so it was a natural fit for her as she was recovering from surgery. Sue's stage name was *Sunshine Sue* before joining the army and sang on the radio station in Vancouver for Dad's Cookies.

Bill was Administrator for GR Baker Hospital for many years and MLA for the Cariboo (1957-1969). In the mid-1960's Bill and Sue divorced. Bill married Jean Grady and returned to Bouchie Lake to build their home on the property adjoining *Melody Lodge*. The home has served as an amazing gathering place for family and friends and is still in the family. The poster was returned to Bouchie Lake by April Moi. It has been framed and is now on display at the Bouchie Lake Country Store.



2338 Bonny Rd.,
Bouchie Lake





BOUCHIE LAKE WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY

The directors of the Bouchie Lake Watershed Stewardship Society held their bi-monthly meeting on May 12th, using the new normal facebook online format. Matters under discussion all centered around improving the water quality of Bouchie and Milburn Lakes, a clear community priority identified in the recent CRD and Bouchie-Milburn community planning initiatives. Information was presented on the process to adopt a community sewer system for Bouchie Lake, as well as ways in which individual property owners can reduce phosphorus loading of the lake by secondary treatment systems such as Bionest. The need to develop a clear management plan for the lakes was recognized. For Bouchie Lake the priority is to control the algae growth and for Milburn Lake the priority is to prevent the annual flooding of the public access area. Suggested fundraising activities to support these initiatives include a raffle with a winter ice fishing package as grand prize, a repeat of last year's successful Poker Paddle at Milburn Lake and a possible fishing derby, the last two being dependent on Covid-19 protocols.

We currently count 63 paid up members and new members are always welcome. You can contact us at blwatershedss@gmail.com for more information.

Our Mission Statement:

"Bouchie Lake Watershed Stewardship Society is committed to enhance and maintain the health of the waters of Bouchie Lake, Milburn Lake and their watershed area to the benefit of all lake shore residents and all lake users."



SPRUCE TIP JELLY

A classic northern jelly that's great on crackers with goat cheese. With the onset of spring, the new spruce tips will be flushing soon.

4 cups young spruce tips
 4 cups water
 2 tbsp. (30 ml.) lemon juice
 1 package (57 gram) pectin (powdered)
 1 1/2 cup (375 ml.) white sugar

Add spruce tips to water and simmer for 10 minutes. Set aside to steep until infusion cools down to room temperature. Strain spruce tips keeping the liquid. The infusion should equal 3 cups.

In a large sauce pan, mix spruce tip infusion, lemon juice, and pectin. Stir until pectin is dissolved. On high heat, bring mixture to a full rolling boil for 1 minute.

Add sugar, stirring the mixture to dissolve the sugar, bringing the mixture back to a full rolling boil that cannot be stirred down. Boil hard for 1 minute.

The jelly is ready when it coats the back of a spoon and has a syrup like consistency. This can be checked by placing a teaspoon of the jelly on a plate and letting it cool; the surface should wrinkle when pushed with your finger. If still runny, put the mixture back on the heat and continue boiling and testing, until the jelly sets.

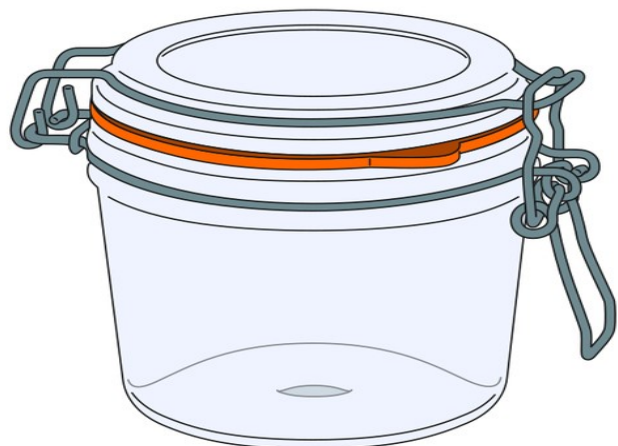
Skim foam that has formed on top of the jelly.

Pour into jars, leaving 1/4" headspace and secure the lid and heat seal. Allow to cool down.

Makes approximately 4 cups of jelly.



Place your ad here
and be seen.



Continued from front page

Each year on Earth Day, I've seen a lot of youth groups and individuals who have been sharing their cleanup efforts on social media in Quesnel. This motivated me to start up "Quesnel & Area Trash Trackers".

My goal is to bring awareness about the litter issues to people in the community, and educate and empower others to take part in neighbourhood and community litter cleanups whenever they can.

Litter and Trash is everywhere. It's a global issue. I strongly believe that anyone can make a positive impact on the health of the environment. We needn't look any further than our own back yards, streets, highways, neighbourhoods and community green spaces.

I have a theory: Litter creates MORE littering. A clean neighbourhood makes it uninviting for a litter-bug to toss their trash. I encourage everyone to post before and after photos of the trash collected so our combined efforts will educate and empower others to do the same.

I challenge everyone to bring a small grocery bag and pick up trash whenever you go for a walk, a jog, a bike ride, or taking "Fido" out for a stroll.

I love where I live! I enjoy the wildlife that hangs out in my backyard. Bouchie Lake is such a beautiful place to live. I love our community spirit. I hope to see others join in to help clean up litter and trash so that our outside spaces will be clean, healthy and safe for everyone, and all wildlife.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Heather Burke @Quesnel & Area Trash Trackers.



James Simpson, and HAD Contracting cleaned up a huge mess at the bottom of Milburn Mtn and Tower Road.



Diana Puhallo; cleaned up Teofil Road



Litter removed from the pullout across from Quesnel Golf Course area.