



Issue Six

The Bloomin' News



January 2012

The Holidays at Pacific Gardens

Welcome New Residents

Lots of movement in our community! The Elgomati family(206) and Haley(207) and Tyler(304) have left us. Welcome to the Love family in 206. Mykl and Laura Love and their sons, Soma (aged 7) and Osha (aged 3), will be moving in on January 1st, 2012. The Loves already know several residents of Pacific Gardens, have started to participate in community events, and are glad to have found a family-friendly environment.

Tony has moved from 207 to 201 and Gerry and Kendrick have moved from 201 into 207. Krissy has moved from 207 up to live with Tara and Nistar in 308.

Please check the contact information list to ensure that your information is correct.

Here's to lots of respectful communicating, fun and enriching connections with each other in 2012!

Picture Perfect

Thanks Mark Ashby for the pictures that grace this issue of the Bloomin' News.



PG Lights

Holiday activities were observed by many Pacific Gardeners this year. Great memories were created at the family friendly holiday brunch complete with gingerbread decorating, the Solstice Celebration, the delicious Christmas Dinner and the New Year's Eve potluck. Our community was alive with the season and we enjoyed opportunities to meet some of our resident's visiting extended families.

Thanks to all the people who contributed to the organization of the holiday events, those who made the building look warm and festive, and everyone for participating!

Canadian Seniors Cohousing Group Visits PGCC

We had a wonderful visit with the Canadian Seniors Cohousing group from Sooke on December 9th. Eileen and Kathryn showed them around the building (and our own units), and afterwards we enjoyed tea and goodies in the dining-room.

Pacific Gardens looked fantastic, thanks to the efforts of Homey Crew members Tara Thurber, Willow Vardal, and Mia Jongkind. Norah Forrest and Gloria Jorg provided tea and baked goods.

They were very impressed, videotaped everything, and left us a lovely thank you card (it's on the table outside the strata office) with \$80 tucked inside as an expression of their appreciation!

The feedback from the Canadian Seniors Cohousing group is "we'd all like you for neighbours"! Thanks to everyone who helped. submitted by Kathryn

Outside Facilitated Meeting

Ever since we hosted the last of the Facilitation Intensives almost a year ago the idea of a meeting facilitated by a participant in the Facilitation Intensive series from outside Pacific Gardens has been tossed around.

We have now settled on a facilitator, Patrick Jackson of O.U.R. Ecovillage, and the meeting has been set for the afternoon of **January 14th**, tentatively **from 1:00 to 4:00 pm** in the Dining Room. There is another meeting also scheduled for that day at Pacific Gardens, so we may delay the start of our meeting by an hour or so to enable people to attend both meetings. Patrick has agreed to facilitate for us in exchange for his expenses.

Establishing a team of trained facilitators that all of the communities involved in the Facilitation Intensives could draw on was one of the stated outcomes of the series.

Some discussion has already taken place on what our topic should be and what we want to get out of the meeting, and more will occur over the next couple of weeks. The thinking has been that most issues would surface from a discussion of our vision and mission and how we are living up to them, and that the meeting would suggest concrete measures to address our shortcomings as a community.

The Vision and Mission of Pacific Gardens Cohousing Community are as follows:

Our Vision

Pacific Gardens is an inclusive community celebrating a connection to nature and social action in a sharing, caring and cooperative environment.

Our Mission

To establish a sustainable cohousing community in Nanaimo, which successfully embodies the principles of community, cooperation, consensus and respect.
submitted by Bill



Mohammed, Omar
Soma and friend



"Occupy Christmas" discovered on
Christmas Eve adjacent to the
tracks at Milton and Hecate Streets

Cleaner Upper

Recycling Room & Free Cycle
Shelves

Monday January 2

9 AM to 10 AM



Remove contents then clean
all nine recycle bins

Remove contents then clean
all four recycle buckets

Clean table on wheels

Wipe down doors

Sweep & mop floor

Take away garbage

Clean garbage cans.

Take away "Free Cycle"
contents to thrift store

Take away glass &
electronics,

Install drawer tracks (in
cupboard located under the
glass, refundable containers)

Tea and Goodies to follow
clean-up

Recycling Trivia

With every ton of recycled
paper pulp we save ,,,?...
trees.

a) 43 b) 9 c) 17

The Milk Jug Story

Your recycled milk jugs are
turned into buckets,
flowerpots, toilet tissue,
cardboard and toys etc.
Twelve million milk jugs
were recycled last year - a
grand total of 595, 000 kg or
the impressive weight of 8000
people.

answer to above question is c