



Home Biz Buzz

April 2005

Volume 3, Issue 8

The next meeting will be on May 5th 2005 at Crown Isle. Doors open at 6:30pm for networking and the meeting starts at 7 PM sharp.

May 5th is Awards Night. The Spotlight speaker will be Carol Elliott of Pet Treat Bakery. Why bake specialized goodies for dogs and cats? Come find out!

Annual Awards Night - May 5th Meeting

by Rebecca Flentjar

The purpose of the awards committee is to recognize excellence in business. This goes beyond simply fiscal success to encompass aspects of business that promote personal and community well being: Qualities that this association values and that make our valley a better place to live. These awards give us an opportunity to share our successes and good business practices with one another.

Please complete your survey as soon as possible; submission deadline is April 30th, 2005.

Surveys are available at info@bcislandhomes.com, or online at:
www.bcislandhomes.com/awardsurvey.htm

Rebecca
BC Island Homes
'Helping you sell privately!'
www.bcislandhomes.com
P.O. Box 3622, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 6Z8
Tel: (250) 338-2999 Fax: (250) 338-2972
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Marketing Director Report

by Jennifer Bird

The Spring Home & Garden Home Show was very successfully

accomplished this year. An estimated 2300 ballots were handed out from the HBBA booth to be stamped at the five participating HBBA booths (B.C. Island Homes, Island Home Improvement, Phantom Screens, Short & Tall Ultrasonic Blind Cleaning).

Susan Robinson (R&S Office Services) and Linda Graceffo (Sparking Graphics and Design) headed up the efforts with many volunteers. The gazebo was supplied by Jennifer Bird of Healing Arts Network and the booth identification balloons supplied by Laurence Belfrage of Lots of Laughs Productions.

The photos were taken by Wayne Ruston of Glazier-View Investigative Services. Many, many of our members volunteered their time to help with the set-up and take-down of the booth and to staff the booth.

An evening with **Guest Speaker Renate Weiler** from Toronto drew a crowd of over 100 people where we learned how we can network more effectively (as well as less abrasively!). We gained a few new members and we got good media publicity. An unqualified success.

Note: Renate plans to return in November 2005 where she will be holding 6 hour marketing seminars.

Our own HBBA Trade Show during Small Business Week is now being organized.

HBBA members may consider running for Marketing Director or sitting on the Marketing Committee. I have had a lot of fun and grown personally and professionally.

The marketing meetings are held at Jennifer Bird's house the first Tuesday following the HBBA meeting at 4:00 PM. HBBA members are welcome to attend marketing meetings without becoming committee members -so show up and have some input!

Jennifer Bird
339 3334.
Gentle Hands Physiotherapy
gentlehands@shaw.ca

Program Director's Report

By Sarah Brune

By Sarah Brune

A big thank you to all of you who helped with the preparation and organizing of the Renate Weiler evening. I hope everyone managed to pick up some useful pointers from it, I certainly did. Next month is our Annual General Meeting with the election of the officers for the 2005/06 year

Sarah Brune
Inner Harmony Healing
250 890 7558
ihhflowes@yahoo.ca
www3.telus.net/innerharmonyhealing

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Membership Director's Report

By Linda Graceffo

For our April meeting with our special guest speaker Renate Weiler we had 58 members and 51 guests attend, which is terrific! A good time was had by all.
We welcomed two new members to our association:

Linda Magnuson of Optionelle is introducing her second business. Optionelle boasts designer clothes at department store prices. Optionelle is a Canadian company that offers an exclusive line of women's clothing. Beautiful fabrics, hot looks, styled for sizes 2 to 22. Give Linda a call if you'd like to see this fabulous clothing line.

Janet & Geoff Smith of GCS Systems Co. want to be "Your Local Computer Guys". Offering mobile computer support to small and medium size businesses as well as home computer users in the Comox Valley and Campbell River areas. Look for our bi-weekly column in Wednesday's edition of the Comox Valley Record. GCS Systems, Bringing Computer Support Where and When YOU Need It!

I'm sure all the members will join me in wishing these incredible diverse businesses all the best and look forward to networking with them.

Linda Graceffo, Membership Director
Sparkling Graphics & Design
Phone: 703-6568

www.sparklinggraphics.com

linda@sparklinggraphics.com

"Graphic design with your personal or professional life in mind"

Vice President's Report

by Susan Robinson

April was a great month! First we had Renate Weiler come in to give us some pointers on networking and then the Spring Home & Garden Show. The majority of the feedback on Renate Weiler's presentation has been very positive with most people saying that they learned a few things. The next day was the start of the Home Show. We had a wonderful team again this year that put together a booth that received many compliments. Participation was great and there was no time during the show when there weren't enough people to staff the HBBA booth. We all had a good time and several people made some promising contacts - which it is what it's all about!

The fiscal year is nearing its end with only two meetings to go before we break for summer, but that doesn't mean there is nothing happening in July and August. For the past three years we have had an HBBA team participate in the YANA relay. YANA stands for You Are Not Alone and they help Comox Valley families with sick or injured children. If you would like to find out more about YANA check out their web site at <http://yana.ark.com>. If you are interested in participating in the relay please let me know. It's in mid-July from Friday evening to Sunday noon. There is camping space available and a number of us usually camp there the whole weekend. The relay itself is Saturday through Sunday. The cost has been approximately \$20 per team member. Once more information is available about exact dates and cost it will be sent out to all members.

The HBBA BBQ is usually held in August. This is a fun family event so you are encouraged to bring your spouse and children. It is pot luck with everyone bringing a contribution to share. You bring whatever meat you want to BBQ for your family, your beverages and your own lawn chairs. The exact date and location will be determined in the near future.

I look forward to seeing you all at the May meeting.

Susan Robinson
phone: 792 2257
R & S Office Services
rsoffice@telus.net Fax: 898-8152

Because of the importance of this information, a portion of the Vice President March report is being repeated

At the AGM we will be holding elections and making any changes to the bylaws.

At the AGM we will be asking you to vote on a few changes to our bylaws. First, we are proposing a minor membership fee increase from \$35 to \$40. Individuals with more than one business can purchase additional memberships for \$30.

Second, we recommend a by-law stating that the board is authorized to spend no more than 50% of the bank balance on extraordinary expenditures without first taking the proposed expenditure to the membership (currently there is no limit in place).

Third, we recommend that the Social Director duties become a part of the Vice-President's duties rather than a separate board position.

Fourth, we recommend a new Directors position which will be Public Relations Director. The complete description of duties for the Public Relations Director will be available soon. If you have any questions about the proposed changes to the bylaws, contact any member of the executive.

JUST TO MAKE YOU SMILE

How Do You Catch a Unique Rabbit?
[Unique Up On It.](#)

How Do You Catch a Tame Rabbit?
[Tame Way, Unique Up On It.](#)

How Do Crazy People Go Through The Forest?
[They Take The Psycho Path](#)

How Do You Get Holy Water?
[You Boil The Hell Out Of It.](#)

[What Do Fish Say When They Hit a Concrete Wall?](#)

Dam!

What Do Eskimos Get From Sitting On The Ice too Long?
Polaroid's

What Do You Call a Boomerang That Doesn't work?
A Stick

What Do You Call Cheese That Isn't Yours?
Nacho Cheese.

What Do You Call Santa's Helpers?
Subordinate Clauses.

What Do You Call Four Bullfighters In Quicksand?
Quattro Sinko.

What Do You Get >From a Pampered Cow?
Spoiled Milk.

What Do You Get When You Cross a Snowman With a Vampire?
Frostbite.

What Lies At The Bottom Of The Ocean And Twitches?
A Nervous Wreck.

What's The Difference Between Roast Beef And Pea Soup?
Anyone Can Roast Beef.

Where Do You Find a Dog With No Legs?
Right Where You Left Him

Why Do Gorillas Have Big Nostrils?
Because They Have Big Fingers.

Why Don't Blind People Like To Sky Dive?
Because It Scares The Dog.

What Kind Of Coffee Was Served On The Titanic?
Sanka.

What Is The Difference Between a Harley And a Hoover?
The Location Of The Dirt Bag.

Why Did Pilgrims' Pants Always Fall Down?
Because They Wore Their Belt Buckle On Their Hat.

What's The Difference Between a Bad Golfer And a Bad Skydiver?
A Bad Golfer Goes, Whack, Dang!
A Bad Skydiver Goes Dang! Whack.

How Are a Texas Tornado And a Tennessee Divorce The Same?
Somebody's Gonna Lose A Trailer

Now, admit it. At least one of these made you smile

Executive and Committees – 2004/5

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| President | Glenn Countryman | 792 1952 | moneysmart@telus.net |
| Past-President | Chris Little | 339 5161 | vclittle@shaw.ca |
| Vice-President | Susan Robinson | 898 8152 | rsoffice@telus.net |
| Secretary | Dwayne Robertson | 890 0134 | shine-eze@shaw.ca |
| Treasurer | Valerie Taylor | 334 1588 | valree@telus.net |
| Fund Raising | | | |
| Marketing | Jennifer Bird | 339 3334 | gentlehands@shaw.ca |
| Membership | Linda Graceffo | 703 6568 | linda@sparklinggraphics.com |
| Newsletter | Carol Elliott | 337 1728 | decorativeart@telus.net |
| Program Director | Sarah Brune | 890 7558 | ihhflowers@yahoo.ca |
| Website | Susan Young | 897 0358 | webmaster@cvhbba.com |
| Webmaster | Alex Koch | 897 0358 | webmaster@axismedia.ca |