

WEST CRESTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

April 2009

www.westcreston.info

2009 Grad Bursary:

The deadline is fast approaching! If you are a graduating student residing in Area C, and are planning on attending post-secondary education within one year of graduation – then you are eligible to apply for the West Creston Hall Society bursary of \$250.00. Simply submit an essay of 100 words or less on why community involvement is important and outline any activities with which you have been involved.

The only other requirement is that you or your family are members of the West Creston Hall Society. Please drop your application off at Mugwumps Country Store, c/o Maura Schadeli by **May 16th**. If you have any questions, please call Maura at 428-3555.

Grad Potluck Supper:

Let's celebrate our 2009 Grads! Join them at the Hall at 6:00 p.m. **Wednesday, June 4rd** for a Community Pot Luck Supper. **This is a community event and everyone is encouraged to attend.** Just bring your favourite potluck dish to share along with your best wishes. Please contact Maura at 428-3555 or Jackie at 428-7078 to confirm your grad is on the list or if you have any questions. If you have a home schooled grad please let Maura know.

West Creston Fire Protection Society:

S-100 Wild Fire Course:

The S-100 wild fire course, held in March was excellent – 27 people attended. The more West Creston residents who know how to deal with a wild fire the better.

Remember, never leave a fire unattended, and have a water supply ready “just in case”. A gentleman in Wynndel burned his home to the ground because he did not ensure his grass fire was completely out, before he went to town. Hose your fire down until it is cool to the touch.

If you would like to learn how to fight wild fires, the fire society has fire practice on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month (April to October) 6:30 pm at the Hall. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jim McLeod at 428-8841.

For the local fire regulations see www.westcrestonfires.info.

West Creston's Emergency Fire Call-out phone number is **250-402-9779**

A Well Thought Out FireSmart Protection Plan: (Source - BC Forestry "FireSmart")

A. Prune tree branches to a height of 2 metres or more.

B. Store fire wood 10 metres or more from the house (avoid downslope location).

C. Remove all trees, long grass, shrubs, logs, branches, twigs and needles within 10 metres of house.

D. Thin trees (with 3 - 6 metres between crowns) for at least 30 metres from the house.

E. Contact your utility company if trees or branches are not clear of power lines.

F. Grass within 10 metres of buildings should be mowed and watered.

G. Address, fire or lot number clearly signed for quick identification by fire service.

H. Driveway is wide enough to accommodate emergency vehicles.

I. Try to provide an alternate emergency access route to your property.

J. Pond or tank with emergency water supply.

K. A FireSmart burning barrel.

L. Driveway clear of trees to a distance of at least 3 or 4 metres.

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M. Chimney installed to code complete with spark arrestor screens.

N. All eaves enclosed and screen all vents including soffits.

O. Undersides of balconies, decks and crawlspaces sheathed in with flame resistant materials.

P. Propane tanks located at least 10m from building - clear all vegetation within 3 metres.

Q. Use only fire retardant roofing rated Class A, B or C and fire resistant exterior siding.

R. Solid shutters or metal fire screens will provide increased fire protection for windows and doors.

2009 Hall Society A.G.M.:

The AGM held April 21st highlighted some of the Hall projects and events that took place this past year. Events included the 2008 Grad Pot Luck Supper, the ever popular Corn Crickers' Picnic and Pie Auction; the annual Christmas Tea and Bake Sale and a successful Christmas Spaghetti Dinner.

The membership fees are \$1.00 per person or \$2.00 per family. Membership is required in order to vote on Hall motions and of course, to apply for the Grad Bursary!

The West Creston website has received numerous "hits" from a variety of places. Webmaster Don Turner continues to do an excellent job. A visit to www.westcreston.info is a great way to find out what is happening in the community.

2009/2010 Board of Directors

Elections for the 2009 Board of Directors were held.

Returning directors for 2009/2010 are:

President - Allen McLaren

Vice-President - Peter Schloss

Treasurer - Karen Evans

Secretary - Linda Teague

Newsletter - Marge Kennedy

Sign Board - Judy Edge

Hall Rentals - Maura Schadeli & Jackie Ryckman

Maintenance - Bill Ryckman

Corn Crickers' Picnic - Ted

Yarema

Webmaster - Don Turner

This community is extremely fortunate to have such dedicated and hard working volunteers, who spend countless hours maintaining and administering one of the best community halls found anywhere.

If anyone has an idea for a special event or activity, please bring your ideas forward. The Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Hall.

How fortunate we are to have this wonderful resource in our small community. Your participation and support for activities and events helps to ensure continuing success.