

Dear fellow islanders,

Fall, the rains, the fog and harvest time are here. This has been a beautiful summer, a bountiful year for gardeners and a fun and productive year for Shaw Inc. My "rain" as your president is nearly over; I thank you for giving me this opportunity to be your delegate in the community. I have had a wonderful board with whom to work, eleven of whom will continue next year.

Lots of business was accomplished this year. We reinstated our property tax exemption and corporate status. We updated the Shaw Island database. We revised the Shaw Island resource and phone directory. We organized the farewell gifts and the all island photo for the departure of the nuns. We spearheaded a strong letter about keeping the ferry contract on Shaw. We updated our policies for use of the building. We had a well-attended town meeting in which all island groups were represented. Our membership and donations increased by nearly a third, partly we believe, because of our outreach efforts and increased visibility. Our cash reserves remain in good shape to handle emergencies.

We continued to organize and maintain our beloved Community Building, which hosted several hundred events this year. We bought a new microphone and completed the silverware. Our kiosk at the ferry landing is alive and well used for sharing notices, advertisements and opinions. We continue to support the free phone at the Ferry Landing and the Shaw Inc website. We have made contributions to 4-H, the Children's Summer Recreation Program, our Medical Team, and the Island Sinfonia. Later in the fall, we will be mailing out an updated resource and phone directory to all islanders.

Most importantly, we have continued the tradition of enriching the social and educational lives of the islanders. Besides the myriad of classes we supported, we had a rich year of entertainment. Shakespeare on the Lawn. Opera on Memorial Day Weekend. An Art Exhibit of Island Talent. A Sail/Paddle/Row Regatta on Blind Bay. A Ballroom and Rock 'n Roll Dance. The Parade. The Annual Baseball Game. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Barbecue. A great Market Day and Raffle. Still to come will be Chilean Folk Music and several Christmas programs.

Now YOU can help!!! **PLEASE respond to this mailing!** We need your membership dues and donations so that we can maintain our Community Center, can afford to print and send out the directories and can continue to be generous with island organizations. We need your vote on the by-law change we are recommending and on the slate of board nominees. We need your information so that the upcoming index will be current and accurate. And we need your email address if you would like to receive periodic newsletters. Please don't delay!

Thank you again for supporting Shaw Islanders, Inc. I am sure that most of you, like myself, feel consummately blessed to a part of such a rich tapestry of history, tradition, beauty and community.

Sincerely,

Carole Davis  
President, Shaw Islanders, Inc.