

Lions Bay Historical Society

Well, finally the lunches are made, coats are on and the little ones are out the door to school. Ah, a short time to relax. We were chatting over coffee when she said...

"So, how did all the streets in Lions Bay get their names anyway?"

"Well," I mused, "most of them were named by the original developers," I said slowly hoping she wouldn't ask for more details.

"What developers?"

"Well, I guess when Bob Nelson first bought property here in 1956 he probably named some of the streets. He developed the first subdivision which of course were the lots and streets closest to the water. The first streets were Lions Bay Avenue, Seaview, Cloudview, Isleview and Southview. Lots were ready for sale in January of 1958."

"Oh, I see". I was on a roll now. I continued with increasing speed. "Then in around 1969 Dawson Developments took over the development of lots in Lions Bay after the Harvey Creek flood and I guess they named some streets, too, like Panorama, Oceanview, Creekview, Bayview and so on."

"Uh huh". She was starting to lose interest, I could tell, but I kept on.

"As each developer came along to develop and sell lots they each named the streets in their development with names that had something to do with views, bays, ocean, you know, that sort of thing. For instance, Daon Developments developed some of the lots in the upper part like on Sunset Drive or Mountain Drive, and Kelvin Grove Estates Ltd. named the streets in Kelvin

Grove, Periwinkle, Tidewater and Sweetwater."

"Oh." She was looking at her watch nervously. I carried on.

"Did you know that Merle and Rene Graf up on Timber-top were actually responsible for naming that street?"

"Really." Her interest peaked a bit.

"Yes, apparently the name of the street was something else but the Grafs thought up a better name, took the idea to Council and they went for it. That was when Jim Fairfield was the Village Clerk in the late '60s."

"Mmm. Well, what about Stewart Road, then?" She thought she had me on this one.

"Stewart? Well, Stewart Road was actually named after the first Mayor of Lions Bay, Curly Stewart. Some time after the incorporation of Lions Bay as a village in 1971 the Council proposed to honor their first mayor by naming a road after him."

"Oh, my gosh, it's 11:30. Got to go." she said hurriedly.

"Okay, but I've got some great stories about the women in the Volunteer Fire Department in the old days."

"Can't." she said, nearly running out the door.

"Okay, well, another time, then."