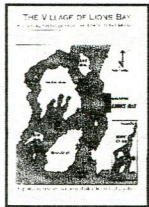


**Lions Bay
Historical Society**
November 2001



Anne Page and Vera Deans are steadily reaching their goal of creating a subject index to articles in all past issues of *The Seagull*. This month they completed cataloguing issues from several years.

Are you wondering what to mail the folks back home for Christmas? Need something: under \$10? unbreakable? and not heavy? Why not send the glossy booklet: "The Village of Lions Bay (Historical Passages from the 1790s to the Present). Published by the Lions Bay Historical Society, July, 2001." (\$8.00) available at the Village Office and the General Store.

Everyone is welcome to attend our next meeting Monday, November 26, at 7:30 PM in the library.

Suzanne Spohn

Looking Back

There is history in our forest:

Shortly after the "Lions Bay Passages" was published I showed a copy to our long time friend and resident Bernice Leboutillier. She looked at me and said: "I hope you have my uncle in there!" While sitting at the beach, I listened to her story.

Bernice was the youngest of four children in the Wilson family. Growing up with three older brothers was quite an experience. Gordon, the eldest was born in 1911. Earl was next in 1912 and Jack in 1914. On November 3rd, 1921 the Wilson family was blessed with a little girl and named her Bernice. Peter Malcolm was Bernice's uncle. "We called him Uncle Mac!" she said. Uncle Mac had a young family. Peter and his wife Pearl had one daughter by the name of Marjorie.

In the early 1920's Uncle Mac was the owner of a shinglebolt operation. The area that was logged lies behind Oceanview Rd. and upper Kelvin Grove. Great majestic cedar trees were cut into sections of logs called shinglebolts. Wooden flumes were built and used to transport shinglebolts down the mountainside. The shinglebolts plunged into the waters where the Lions Bay Marina is today. Bernice's three bothers talked of "their work adventures with uncle Mac" in the woods above Lions Bay, of St. Mark's camp and the fun times at Lions Beach.

On February 13, 1927 Peter Malcolm's wife Pearl died. Their daughter Marjorie was only nine years old. Marjorie would accompany her father to the shores of Howe Sound. On one of these visits to Lions Bay, Marjorie played on the wooden flume and was accidentally hit by a shinglebolt. She survived the frightening accident. Marjorie had suffered from meningitis as a child and the family believed that the accident was an added stress to her fragile health. She died in 1949 at the young age of thirty-one.

Bernice and her friend Winnie Eldridge drove to Lions Bay in 1958. The two young workingwomen decided to purchase a lot in Lions Bay. Their husbands Stanley and Bert must have been surprised at the news and their bold decisions. Both families built their homes here. Bernice's pioneering spirit still sparkles in her eyes. She loves the beach, and encourages us young ones to try the refreshing waters of Howe Sound. She loves the mountains and the forest with its family history. She loves our scenery and she appreciates Lions Bay from its early dawns to its crimson sunsets.

Bernice Leboutillier is celebrating her 80th Birthday on November 3rd, 2001. We all wish her continued health and happiness. May you enjoy many more seasons in the sun and be blessed with many more years on the shores of Howe Sound! Bernice visits her brother Earl every week. He lives in Maple Ridge at Hollyrood Manor.

Trudi Luethy

