



# Cortes Island Museum & Archives Society Newsletter

February, 2017

957 Beasley Road Box 422 Mansons Landing BC V0P 1K0 cimas@twincomm.ca 250-935-6340 www.cortesmuseum.com

## AGM

**Sunday, March 26  
Manson's Hall**

1 pm memberships and renewals  
1:30 pm short business meeting  
followed by guest speakers and refreshments.

Special guest speakers:

**Bruce Ellingsen and Stephanie Asbeck  
60 days in Eastern Asia**



**30 days in Russia, 20 days in Mongolia, 10 days in China  
September 8 to November 10, 2016**

### Russia! Mongolia! China! Trans-Siberian Railway! Adventure!

**Stephanie Asbeck** and **Bruce Ellingsen** dared to travel this storied railway for 2-months in fall 2016 from Moscow to the Orient. Built between 1891 and 1916, this historic Trans-Siberian is the longest railway line in the world at 9,289 km (5,772 miles). Even before it was completed it attracted travelers who wrote of their adventures.

Bruce and Stephanie will regale you with reflections of their experiences—both good and not-so-good.

**Stephanie** is a 15 year, energetic Cortes resident, island gardener, and Head Gardener for Channel Rock and Gorge Harbour Marina Resort. She is also on the Board of the Cortes Island Firefighters Association.

**Bruce** is a long-time, not quite so energetic Cortes resident, former builder, oyster grower, saw miller and farmer. He continues his long involvement with the Cortes Community Forest and the Cortes Museum.

Stephanie and Bruce, friends for 15 years, discovered they shared a long-standing curiosity and interest in these 3 countries, so decided to embark together on this rewarding adventure.

Questions will be welcomed.



**Strong membership numbers encourage funders. Please take a moment to renew your membership.**

## 2017 MEMBERSHIP - BY DONATION OF TIME OR MONEY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

PO BOX \_\_\_\_\_

I/we have enclosed a cheque/donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I/we wish to donate \_\_\_\_\_ hours of time working in the area of \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form (and if applicable, a cheque payable to Cortes Island Museum) to:

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to receive an income tax receipt for my charitable donation of \$25 or more.

Yes, I would like to receive periodic electronic newsletters

Cortes Island Museum  
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## Creative Spaces Wanted



**Gardens-Studios-Workshops  
Saturday, June 24  
9:30 am to 4:30 pm**

This annual fundraising event is seeking gardens, studios and workshops to have on the tour for visitors to explore. If you wish to volunteer your Creative Space, call Lynne Jordan at 250-935-6472.



**Spring Bird Count  
Saturday, May 6  
Start 9:00 am @ Museum**

Pack a lunch and binoculars to join this fun day of birding. No experience necessary and children are welcome.

For information and registration, phone Cortes Museum at 250-935-6340 or email cimas@twincomm.ca.

### Vintage Vignettes on Cortes Radio

This popular podcast series airs “snapshots” of local life in simpler times thru brief episodes featuring colourful characters, oldtime local music & memorable events—a joint project of Cortes Community Radio and Cortes Island Museum & Archives. Listen for the steam whistle introduction at 11:30 am, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm on the radio or web broadcast every day except Sundays.



# 2017 Summer Cruises with Misty Isles



sponsored by the Cortes Island Museum!



**History and nature await you! Sail or kayak back into an earlier era in Desolation Sound** on interpretive voyages aboard the schooner *Misty Isles* with skipper/naturalist Mike Moore who will share a wealth of information and stories. Famous for its spectacular mountains and fjords, much of Desolation Sound is designated as marine park and is abundant with wildlife. As well as natural beauty, it is also the focal point of some of the area's most fascinating maritime history as an anchorage for British and Spanish explorers who first charted this area in the late 1700s. Salish First Nations have left their marks and middens going back thousands of years harvesting and moving about this area seasonally.

**Note trips with accommodation on Twin Islands:** Twin Islands have long had a sense of mystique about them and are locally known as a place fit for royalty. During the 1930s an American industrialist with contracts in Japan, bought the islands to live out World War II in seclusion. He went to work building a 9-bedroom lodge, stables, orchards and gardens, creating his personal retreat on these 680 acres of private islands.

In the late 1950s Margrav Maximilian Von Baden of Baden Baden, Germany, purchased Twin Islands as a summer retreat for his family. His famous relation, Queen Elizabeth, has stayed on Twin Islands twice. And now the current owners have invited Misty Isles Adventures and the Cortes Museum to bring guests to spend the night and explore the forests, gardens, orchards and the extensive off-grid systems that, up until now, have been out of sight to the public. Guests will sleep in the cozy bedrooms of the historic lodge built of logs harvested on the islands. Meals will feature fresh produce grown in the self sufficient gardens of Twin Islands.

**TWO NEW TRIPS THIS YEAR - Fine Dining in Blind Channel Resort and Lund, Refuge Cove & Twin Islands with Jeanette Taylor**

## **May 13/14 (Saturday/Sunday), Mitlenatch & Twin Islands for Mothers' Day <ACCOMMODATION IN TWIN ISLAND LODGE>**

Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am & heads for a full day to Mitlenatch Island, coming back to **Twin Islands Lodge** for dinner & overnight. Then an island walk the next morning & leave Twin Islands after lunch for Cortes to tour the Museum, then shuttle to the last ferry.

Cost: \$400 each for couples, \$430 for single occupancy.

## **June 10 (Saturday), Mitlenatch Island**

Full-day outing to explore Mitlenatch Island! At this time of year, the wildflowers will be at their peak, the sea lions growling and territorial displays in full swing at the seabird colonies, mating gulls and nesting cormorants. Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am, returning about 5 pm for ferry shuttle.

Cost: \$130

## **June 18 (Sunday), Laughing Oyster Fathers' Day Cruise to Okeover Inlet**

Leaves Cortes Bay at 3 pm & returns about 10:30 pm. Misty Isles will head through Desolation Sound and into Okeover Inlet on the mainland coast for dinner at the Laughing Oyster Restaurant. Well known for its imaginative and tasty menu, the restaurant features seafood and local fare served up on a covered heated deck with a great view of the water and mountains. After dinner, we will make our way back to Cortes into sun setting on one of the longest days of the year.

Cost: \$95 for transportation. Guests pay for their own meals at the Laughing Oyster Restaurant.

## **July 13/14/15 (Thursday/Friday/Saturday), Twin Islands Kayaking <ACCOMMODATION IN TWIN ISLAND LODGE>**

Spend 3 days kayaking & exploring around Twin Islands & nearby islands. Kayaks will be launched at 10:30 am at the Cortes Bay Boat Ramp and you paddle to Twin Islands. You will have lunch at Hollyhock on one day. On the final day, weather permitting, you will paddle from Twin Islands around Sutil Point to Smelt Bay to join the fun at Cortes Day. Accommodation at Twin Islands Lodge.

Cost: \$720 – all meals, accommodations & kayak gear included.

## **July 20/21 (Thursday/Friday), Lund, Refuge Cove & Twin Islands with Jeanette Taylor <NEW THIS YEAR>**

**A new trip this year!** Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am & heads directly to Nancy's Bakery at Lund for lunch while Jeanette tells historical tales. After lunch you will head through Thulin Pass into Desolation Sound for a swing by Galley Bay for more settler stories and perhaps a swim. Then on to Refuge Cove for a poke around the shops & even more stories. The day finishes at Twin Islands Lodge for dinner & overnight, then island walks the next morning. Leave Twin Islands after lunch for Cortes to tour the Museum's Refuge Cove exhibit, then shuttle for the last ferry.

Cost: \$400 each for couples, \$430 for single occupancy. Meals & accommodations included, except lunch at Nancy's Bakery.

## **July 26 (Wednesday), 'Round Maurelle Island**

The tides are right this day for Misty Isles to navigate through the famous tidal rapids of Surge Narrows and Hole-In-The-Wall as we circumnavigate Maurelle Island. With its narrow channels and backdrop of mountains, this is a beautiful area to explore.

Leave Whaletown 10 am, return about 5 pm for shuttle to last ferry.

Cost: \$130

## **August 5 (Saturday), Desolation Sound**

Our classic and most popular trip. Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am, returning about 5 pm for shuttle to last ferry.

Cost: \$130

## **August 22 (Tuesday), Desolation Sound**

Another classic and most popular trip. Departs Cortes Bay at 10 am, returning about 5 pm for shuttle to last ferry.

Cost: \$130

## **August 28/29 (Monday/Tuesday), Blind Channel Dining <NEW THIS YEAR>**

**Another new trip!** Departs Whaletown at 10 am & heads north to catch the ebb tide through Beazley Passage & the Okisollo Rapids into Johnstone Strait. Passing Chatham Point, you'll head into Mayne Passage between the Thurlow Islands to your overnight destination at Blind Channel Resort. Their Cedar Post Restaurant is well known for its superb dining ([www.blindchannel.com/fine-dining](http://www.blindchannel.com/fine-dining)). There are 3 cabins at the resort, each having 2 bedrooms with double beds. There are also trails leading to some nice old growth trees there. The next day you'll depart by 9 am to catch the morning flood through the Dent & Arran Rapids to return to Whaletown about 5 pm. The tidal rapid areas are frequented by dolphins, porpoises & orcas—you will want to keep your eyes open.

Cost: \$365 each for couples, \$395 for single occupancy. Guests will pay for their own restaurant dinner. Breakfast & 2 lunches provided.

**To register for Misty Isles Cruises or for more information email [cimas@twincomm.ca](mailto:cimas@twincomm.ca), phone 250-935-6340, or check our website [www.cortesmuseum.com](http://www.cortesmuseum.com)**

For **day trips**, participants can choose to bring a picnic lunch or pre-order a vegetarian lunch for \$12 each when registering.

We recommend a second pair of shoes, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses and dress for the weather.

And don't forget to pack your camera, binoculars and curiosity!

From **off island** you will need to catch a ferry in Campbell River (**8:20 am on Saturday or 8:30 am week days**) that connects with the first ferry to Cortes Island. Leave your car at Heriot Bay on Quadra and walk onto the Cortes ferry. A shuttle is available by donation from the Cortes ferry to *Misty Isles* departure point and then return to the ferry in late afternoon.

## **New Major Exhibition—Summer 2017**

**Curator Judith Williams will use paintings** she created at Refuge Cove in the 1970s as platforms to investigate the history of Refuge Cove. Ms. Williams will be supported with exhibit design and installation by students taking CIMAS' curatorial training course.

Watch for notification of official opening celebrations around June, 2017.