



Denman Island Growers and Producers Alliance

Bulletin

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Apple Fest 2016

Many hardy souls braved the weather on Thanksgiving weekend to come out to our third consecutive Apple Fest. Despite the weather - or maybe because of it- the Apple Café had a warm and cozy atmosphere all day in the Back Hall, where we sold slices of pie, crisp and cups of coffee. Our apple detective, "Agatha Crisp", helped a long lineup of islanders identify their apples, and outside, a team of hardy volunteers helped to press 3000lbs of Denman Apples ! The Apple Fest has been three years of fun, hard work and celebrating apple culture on Denman Island. Many thanks to our volunteers and to DenmanWORKS!

AGM: Nov 25, 2016

If you have ever wondered what the DI Growers & Producers does and what it's plans are for the future, please come to the AGM at 7pm, on Friday, November 25th in the DAC (Seniors Lounge).

After the AGM reports and elections there will be a short break where you can enjoy a complimentary slice of apple pie (Denman apples of course!) and ice-cream, plus tea or coffee. Of the eight current board members four are young growers and after the break they will tell their stories, discuss how we can sustain our agriculture and reach our goal of Denman Feeding Denman.

DI Farmers Market

Spicy humus, technicolour flower bouquets, mouth-watering crepes and sticky buns, glowing organic vegetables – these were just a few of the delights you could have purchased at the Saturday morning Denman Farmers Market this summer.

The opening day in May had in excess of 40 vendors!! As a result of the market's burgeoning popularity and a few consequent logistical details, the Old School Committee asked the Growers and Producers Alliance to take charge of market co-ordination, which they did with huge success. The GPA hired Lorraine Martinuik as the market coordinator, Lorraine handled her role magnificently with grace and diplomacy, working above and beyond her job description and well into the wet soggy Saturdays of fall. Start getting ready for 2017!!

GPA Scholarship

The GPA offers an educational scholarship to Denman Islanders wanting to learn more about their agriculturally related craft. We offer to pay 50%, up to \$300, towards your course. In return you offer a workshop here on Denman sharing something related to your new-found knowledge! Recently, we sponsored Philippa Joly for the Medicinal Herb Growing and Marketing Conference on the Olympic Peninsula. Philippa has been pursuing a career as a herbalist for many years. She has worked professionally in clinics and makes the locally available and very popular Bright Moon Botanicals herbal medicines. We were excited to be able to financially support one of our very own island herbalists in her ongoing quest for knowledge. She offered a herbal salve workshop at the Community School in September.



To learn more about the DIGPA please visit our website at www.islandagriculture.wordpress.com.