



*Hornby Denman Grower's and Producer's Alliance*

# Bulletin

Volume 3, Issue 9 Fall/Winter 2014

Written and edited by Veronica Timmons and Kate Janeway

## Denman Island 2014 Apple Fest

The Growers and Producers Alliance is excited to announce Denman Island's first annual Apple Fest! Join us this Thanksgiving Weekend on Saturday, October 11 to celebrate all things apple.

### Apple Display & ID

Visit the Community Hall between 10:00am -3:00pm where we will showcase up to 60 varieties of heritage and modern apples that are currently grown on Denman. Some varieties will be available for tasting!

Refreshments, baked apple goodies, coffee & tea will also be available at the Hall throughout the day.

Kids events are planned at the Hall from 12-2pm. Don't miss the mini-pie eating contest, apple croquet or pin-the-apple-on-tree.

Also at the Hall between 12-2pm: expert apple growers and orchardists will be on hand to answer your questions on apple ID, and apple growing. Please remember to bring in a sample of the fruit you want to ID.

### Pressing Matter

If you have apples to harvest and want juice from your own trees this year's Apple Fest offers a great opportunity! Pressing Matter, the Comox Valley's mobile juice press ring will be on Denman for one day, Oct 11 to wash, press and pasteurise your harvest.

Bring your apples down to the Community Hall *first* thing on Saturday morning. They'll label your batch and then you come back at the end of the day to pick up your juice! Juice can be pasteurised and packed OR unpasteurised, and put into your own containers.

The price will depend on how many apples you bring down, so please see their website at [www.pressingmatter.ca](http://www.pressingmatter.ca) for prices and more pressing details.



Purple Spartan: British Columbia, 1926

### Farmer's Market

Start your morning off on Saturday with a visit to the Denman Island Farmers Market at 9:30am. There will be a booth selling heritage varieties of apples, apple juice, apple pies, and other apple goodies.

Stock up for the Thanksgiving Weekend! This is a fundraiser for the GPA. The Market is open from 9:30-12:30pm.

### Gleaning Program

If you don't have the time to pick your apple trees this year, let our gleaning team do it for you!

Fruit gleaned by our team is split 50-50 with the tree owner. Our volunteers will come to your orchard the week before the Fest and pick the apples for you! The apples we pick will be used in the Apple Fest for juices and pies. Contact Shonna at [islandagriculture@gmail.com](mailto:islandagriculture@gmail.com)

### Orchard Tours

Be sure to head over to East Cider Orchard between 10-3pm to view a unique collection of heritage cider trees.

The orchard, owned by Anne deCosson and Larry Berg, features many rare varieties of old English and French cider apples. Wander the rows of apple trees and then check out their farm shop, where some of their specially blended Denman apple juice will be available.

To volunteer, or for more details about the Apple Fest please contact the Coordinator, Shonna Janeway at [islandagriculture@gmail.com](mailto:islandagriculture@gmail.com). Admission to the Community Hall and orchard tours are free, and this event has been made possible by a grant from DenmanWORKS!



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## 2014 AGM

Join the GPA board today! Help us to advocate for all Denman agricultural sectors and their offshoots. We aim to provide a forum for cooperation, communication and support among island growers and producers.

We are looking for new members for the board who would stand for election at the AGM, to be held in November. Exact date of the meeting TBA. We have a strong team and many members will be staying on.

We meet each month, except July. If you would like more information about our goals, plans, funding, equipment rentals, members etc. please contact Veronica at 335 -1828, or e-mail at [vtimmons@telus.com](mailto:vtimmons@telus.com).

## Recent Events

### The Denman Island Blackberry Fair:

The GPA banded together this year to put on a big float for this year's parade. The float, driven by Doug Wright, emphasized farming and harvesting on our island and combined the old, the Wright's antique hay mower, and the new, the GPA stainless steel juice press!

It was a fun way to continue to keep our 'Buy Local Eat Local' campaign at the forefront.

The GPA booth at the fair was also well attended again this year. We signed up new members, and showcased one of our community equipment rentals, the food dehydrator.

## Recent Events

### A Taste of Denman :

We had a very successful time BBQing and selling oyster burgers at lunchtime at the Taste of Denman in August.

We grilled up local oysters, served on buns generously donated by the Denman Bakery and the Denman General Store. The burgers were accompanied by local donated greens.

We raised \$342 after expenses, and looking forward to next year's dinner event!

Thanks to the Board members and volunteers Heather Berrigan and Joanne Wright for all your work on this fundraiser.



Scarecrows an antique mowers and the juice press decorated the GPA parade float at this year's Blackberry fair.

## Equipment Rentals

Available from Doug Wright on Denman at 335-2282.

- Juice Press, \$0.40 per litre
- Chicken Plucker, \$1.00 per bird
- Rototiller, Seeder, Small Thresher: call Doug for details.

Available from Max Rogers on Denman at 335-1088.

- Sheep Shears, \$10 per sheep

Available from Jeremy Hallett on Denman at 335-3000.

- Pipe bender for hoop houses: call Jeremy for details.

Available from Veronica Timmons on Denman at 335-1828.

- Food Dehydrator, \$10 per 24 hours

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