

## 2012 End of Year Report

San Juan Island Park and Recreation District (locally known as Island Rec) was established in 1984 as a junior taxing district for San Juan Island. It is governed by an elected board of five commissioners. Serving during 2012 were elected Commissioners Bill Cumming, Jacquelyn Reiff, Scott Zehner, Tracy Roberson and Jeremy Talbott. Tracy Roberson chaired the board this year.

It is the purpose of San Juan Island Park and Recreation District to enhance the quality of life on San Juan Island by:

- Offering the widest variety of leisure and recreational activities to all island residents;
- Acquiring, developing, maintaining, preserving and protecting recreational resources;
- Ensuring that recreational activities and facilities are accessible and affordable to all residents.

### **Administration**

2012 was the third year of the 17 cent levy passed in November of 2009 and the third year of the inter-local agreement with the school district to support school sports with seven cents of this levy. The 2012 operating budget totaled \$811,895 of which 29% was earmarked for school sports. Island Rec's specific budget totaled \$575,500 of which 60% was generated by property tax and 22% by program fees. Sponsorships, donations and grants contributed to the balance of the annual budget.

San Juan Islanders and Island Rec benefited from the generosity of several key sponsors in 2012. Kings Market, Islanders Bank, Island Petroleum Services and Islanders Insurance each contributed \$1,000 to Island Rec programs. Their sponsorship supported major island events and scholarships for San Juan Island children. Additionally dozens of other businesses and individuals contributed money and goods to Island Rec.

FANS, Families and Neighbors Support Island Rec, is a 501c3 was created in 2012 for the purpose of keeping Island Rec thriving. This all volunteer board is committed to raise funds from multiple sources to enable Island Rec to expand the level of service and honor the positive impact Island Rec has on this community. Now people who appreciate the benefits Island Rec provides have an easy way in which to contribute their charitable dollars.

Island Rec's Director Sally Thomsen, completed her 13th year. Recreation Specialist, Rebecca Clarke resigned after four year in this position. The Recreation Specialist position was expanded to two  $\frac{3}{4}$  time full time employees. By the end of 2012 Jason Davis and Morgan Johnston occupied these positions. In August Heidi White completed her first year as the Administrative Assistant. Dale Downs continued in his 4<sup>th</sup> year as Park Maintenance/Custodian. There were 25 seasonal and part-time employees working Camp Eagle Rock, Sailing Classes, STAR, Open Gym and Fair Building Programs and other specialty programs. 95 different volunteers contributed more than 1,900 hours providing park and recreation programs and services for San Juan Islanders.

**Parks, Trails and Open Space** 11% of tax funds collected finances the operation and maintenance of Island Rec's three parks and Trails Committee. The Family Park and Skate Park at San Juan.

County Fairgrounds and Eddie & Friends Dog Park on Mullis Street all with specific uses have regular local users and visitors.

Lafarge a former gravel pit that was donated to Island Rec is 55 acres of undeveloped open space. It is an area used daily by walkers, dog walkers and runners. In December 2012 the Department of Natural Resources determined Island Rec had met the surface mining reclamation requirements necessary for the intended use of this property, and terminated its annual permit fee and reporting requirements.

Highlighting the work of the volunteer Trails Committee was the building of two bridges in partnership with National Park Service in the Mitchell Hill and the development of a Trails Passport for island children.

## **Programs**

The cornerstone of Island Rec is its year round broad recreation programming. It operates in three distinct seasons, offerings special events and on-going activities for people of all age. The majority of Island Rec resources are dedicated to recreation programs.

Highlights of the 2012 recreation program were:

- There was a 27% increase in program hours and a 22% increase in the number of participants in 2012 over 2011.
- Expansion of STAR, Study Time and Afternoon Recreation. This daily after school program for elementary school age children completed its first full school year of operation in June of 2012. Participation in autumn of 2012 was more than double than in its initial season in 2011.
- Initiated School's Out Camps as an extension of STAR with Spring Break Camp followed by Winter Break Camp. STAR and School's Out Camps are vital community services used primarily by working parents. Both programs provide a safe, fun and enriching program for elementary school age children.
- Community Open Gym held on Sunday nights has morphed into a popular young teen program. Attendance has soared to an average of 30 people per night, most of whom are 12-16 year olds.
- Programs for preschoolers have expanded with the growth of the popular Scooter and Trike night. This program runs every Saturday night from November through April. Participation has tripled since 2011. In the summer Playtime in the Park was created to facilitate play with preschoolers and their families. This program is a free drop in program meeting once a week during July.
- Adults and Seniors benefited from the new Snowshoeing Trips offered in the winter of 2012. Active Senior Fitness and Moving Parts and Healthy Hearts are two fitness programs that continue to be popular with many older adults and seniors.

Detailed information about the hours and participation of all of Island Rec's programs can be found on the attached spreadsheets.

Partnerships are vital to Island Rec's success and to serving the San Juan Island community effectively. Island Rec continued its ongoing partnerships with San Juan Island School District, San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce, San Juan Island Sailing Foundation, San Juan Island Fitness Club, the Farmer's Market, San Juan Island Prevention Coalition and San Juan Island Family Resource Center. The newest partnership is with FANS, Families and Neighbors support Island Rec.

Island Rec offers fee discounts to income eligible people for most all of its programs. In 2012 these discounts increased \$12,700 over 2011. Island Rec provided over \$18,900 in discounts to nearly 50 San Juan Island children.

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Since 2008 Island Rec's Board has been recognizing individuals, business and organizations with its Shining Star Awards and Volunteer Appreciation. Those recognized in 2012 were:

### **Community Spirit Award**

Selfless giving of goods, services and or financial support

#### **Friday Harbor Drug**

Since 2007 provided \$500 annual sponsorship of Friday Harbor 8.8k Loop Run and Scholarships.

#### **Soroptimist International of Friday Harbor**

Provided Scholarships to Father Daughter Dance; and long-term activity provider at Children's Festival.

### **Outstanding Volunteer Service**

#### **Linn Motko**

Five year volunteer service at most every special event. Volunteers annually for Farmer's Market Arts and Crafts; Touch -a-Truck; Teen Halloween Party; New Year's Eve Party; Father Daughter Dance and Children's Festival.

### **Recognition of 5 years of Volunteer Service**

Taylor Clark

Keri Talbott