

Savary Island
PRESERVATION

4th
ANNIVERSARY
SILT



Committed to the preservation of natural areas and biological diversity on Savary Island, for present and future generations.

www.silt.ca silt@armourtech.com

Box 141, Lund, BC V0N 2G0



Sunday July 15, 1pm **Geoduck Aquaculture Information Forum**
Hosted by the Savary Island Committee

Savary Island Fire Hall

Saturday July 21 **SavaryStock II Music Festival & Auction**

The Red House, 1265 Vancouver Blvd.

Sunday July 22 **Savary Fun Triathlon**

Wednesday July 25 **Broom bashers planning session**
11 am - 1pm

Bluff Manor, S. side of Vancouver Blvd,
5 lots E.of Henderson)

Monday August 6, 11am **SILT Annual General Meeting**

Firehall –Transportation from the Wharf
and Indian Point will leave at 10:30am

Leave Land - A LASTING LEGACY

When SILT began in 1997 less than 2% of Savary had any form of protection. Today more than 30% of the island has some form of protection.

However, over the same period development on the island has increased by 62%! At this pace our forests and greenspaces are disappearing quickly; the importance of preserving land is growing.

Since its inception, SILT has received eight parcels of land on Savary. In keeping with the SILT constitution, lands acquired by donation or purchased specifically upon request by a

donor who gives cash for that purpose may not be sold.

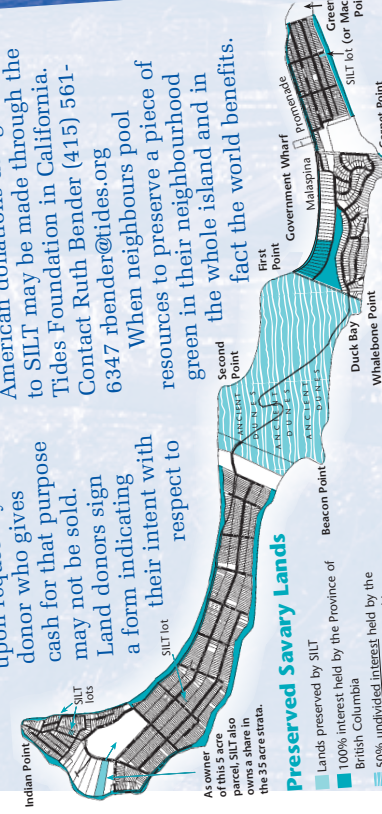
Land donors sign a form indicating their intent with respect to

the land. SILT works with donors to determine the future use of all properties donated.

Canadian donors to SILT receive a tax receipt for their contributions. On May 2, 2006 the Federal government improved the benefits for donors. Gifts of ecologically sensitive land made under the Ecological Gifts Program and donations of publicly listed securities are now exempt from capital gains! For more information go to: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/ecogifts

American citizens living in the US may make gifts to SILT and receive a US tax credit for the gift. American donations designated to SILT may be made through the Tides Foundation in California. Contact Ruth Bender (415) 561-6347 rbender@tides.org

When neighbours pool resources to preserve a piece of green in their neighbourhood the whole island and in fact the world benefits.



Preserved Savary Lands

- As owner of this 5 acre parcel, SILT also owns 29 acres in the 35 acre strata.
- Lands preserved by SILT
- 100% interest held by the Province of British Columbia
- 50% undivided interest held by the Nature Trust of British Columbia
- Crown land perimeter. Forms a buffer between the high tide mark and most of the smaller lots.

A Peak at the Auction

- Landscape on Handmade Paper-Dianne Cacchioni • Painting- Judith Kennedy • Painting - Barbara Webster • Artwork - Harry and Linda Stanbridge • Framed Photo-Larry Pinfield • Walking Stick by Wayne George • Kingston Trio CD Autographed by Bob Shane • The Folk Reunion Concert 2001 DVD -Autographed by Bob Shane • Handmade Sweater Pollen & Co. • Lunch for 2 El Nopal • Dinner for 2 Laughing Oyster • Dinner for 2 Ouisi Bistro • Dinner for 4 Rick Thaddeus • Dive for 4 Rockfish Divers, Victoria • 3 Hour Zodiac Tour of Desolation Sound TerraCentric • 2 Astrological Chart Readings and more....

Bring your dancing shoes, your picnic blankets, and your cash and chequebooks - proceeds help preserve Savary Island!

All proceeds go to the Savary Island Land Trust Society (SILT) for more information on SILT, visit www.silt.ca

A SILT event sponsored by:



For more event information contact 604-483-4743 or silt@armourtech.com

Savary ISLAND

LAND TRUST NEWS

SUMMER 2007

People pulled together to reach for a dream

By Liz Webster

For me it began with a song, in fact just one line from a song. After completing my presentation to the Directors of the Powell River Regional, it just burst out of me like a northwesterly. "Don't it always seem to go, you don't know what you've got til its gone". These words began a seven-year struggle to preserve the best example of a dune ecosystem in Canada. I didn't need to sing the next line, it echoed in the minds of the large group gathered for the Public Hearing, under the canopy of Douglas Fir trees at Duck Bay on August 22, 1995.

The Hearing was called to gather public input to a subdivision By-Law being proposed for Savary Island by the Powell River Regional District. The by-law's purpose was to subdivide the last intact

district lot (DL 1375) on Savary Island into 90 parcels. DL 1375 is the heart of the Island, covering approximately 350 acres and running from the north shore to south shore. Bellingham businessmen Roger Sahlin and David Syre of Trillium, an international logging and development corporation owned the land. Few speakers supported the by-law. Many requested more research on the Islands' water resources and the development of an Official Community Plan for Savary. In a very tense PRRD meeting in Powell River a few weeks later, the Directors voted to rescind the by-law.

Early discussions about establishing an organization to promote the preservation of Savary and DL 1375 began in the summer of 1996. Conversations all over the island expressed a love of Savary and a fear of losing the last intact lot and the last chance to protect something of this special place. Preserving DL 1375 was the catalyst for starting SILT. Many said it couldn't be done, some said it shouldn't be done and others said you'd have to be crazy to try. Talks on the beach, at the wharf, along the trails and on peoples' decks led to a meeting of interested individuals from all parts of the Island at the summer home of Sherwood Inglis. The enthusiasm of the group evolved into more planning and on August 2, 1997 the Savary Island Land Trust (SILT) was founded to preserve natural areas and biological diversity on Savary Island for present and future generations. The leadership represented on the SILT board guided the strategic effort, with each trustee contributing their time and talents.

SILT began inquiries into accessing funds for the purchase of DL1375 through the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy and several other sources. On June 2, 1998 SILT received its charitable status from Revenue Canada and in the fall of 1998 received its first donation of land; a lot at Indian Point donated



The first SILT board celebrates the signing of the constitution on August 2, 1997. Standing, Chairman Sherwood Inglis. Clockwise to his right: Daryl Duke, Anna Linsley, Rod Kirkham, Brendan Allen, Hartland MacDougall, Norma Flawith, Liz Webster, Wynn Woodward. (Carol Wong, Charles Pitts and Paula Butler are not in the photo). Photo: Keith MacDougall

by the Christopher Harvey family. November the same year Fundraising Chair, Wynn Woodward and SILT member Nicky Morgan organized the First Art Show in support of the Trust held at the home of Nicky Morgan and David Tupper in West Vancouver.

In October of 1998, the owners of DL 1375 applied to the Ministry

The Savary Salish Sea Mapping Project, Summer 2000. Artist and geographer, Dr. Briony Penn leads a mapping workshop at the home of Norma Flawith. Participants later mapped the Eagle Ridge Trail. Later that summer, volunteers from all parts of the island documented the natural and cultural treasures on the island to produce the Savary Salish Sea Map, designed by Kathy Kebarle and Tony Wypkema. The map was reproduced as placemats and posters and later published in the Islands in the Salish Sea: A Community Atlas.

of Transportation and Highways to subdivide the land into 33 ten-acre parcels.

Over those years SILT came to learn more about just how rare and unique the island really is. Dr. Kathy Dunster Dune Specialist and R. Prof Biologist documented the dune ecosystem on DL 1375 at Savary in March 2000. What she found was that it "...represented the best example of a dune ecosystem in Canada." Subsequently the Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory, Conservation Data Centre, Environment Canada and BC Parks did field work and wrote their



own reports in the spring of 2000. A plant community never before classified was documented on DL 1375 and in other parts of the Island, as were other uncommon species and plant communities. The DL 1375 site was given the Highest Biodiversity Significance rating and the highest Protection Urgency rating.

In January 2001, SILT had the opportunity to meet with Environment Minister, David Anderson and the Federal Liberal Caucus who were

Many people helped us achieve what some said couldn't be done

visiting Powell River. Armed with all of the scientific data available I made a very low-tech presentation, using colour overheads I "walked" the politicians through the land, pointing out the significant plants and features then finished by again pressing for the extension of the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy to include Savary Island. Thankfully and finally, after 5 years of letter writing and intensive lobbying by SILT, on April 1,



2001 the federal and provincial governments agreed to this extension and dedicated funds to the acquisition of DL 1375.

In June of 2001, the Ministry of Transportation and Highways tentatively approved subdivision of the land into 10-acre parcels, the approval was subject to twenty stringent conditions designed to address the environmental, archaeological, health and public access issues.

In the spring of 2001, the Nature Trust of British Columbia agreed

SILT Vice Chair Liz Webster gives MLA Gordon Wilson, his wife Judy Tyabji-Wilson and Savary Island Committee members a tour through the ecological treasures of DL 1375. L-R: Gerry Massing (former Chair Savary Island Committee), David Tupper Geologist, Liz Webster, Gordon Wilson (MLA), Judy Tyabji-Wilson, Rosaline Thorp (SILT member), and Don Enz (Savary Island Committee member)

to take the project on and entered into negotiations with the owners. On April 3, 2002, the Nature Trust of B.C., the Province of B.C., and Environment Canada announced the acquisition of a 50% undivided interest in DL 1375 (adjoining lots 35 and 36) and a generous anonymous donation of 12 acres of waterfront property. As well, a 16-acre parcel was acquired making a total of 363 acres covering

SILT 10th ANNIVERSARY

one third of the Island. With this our vision was realized. When DL1375 and adjoining parcels is fully protected in perpetuity our dreams will really come true.

Donations from artists and the families of artists have contributed greatly to the efforts of SILT. The work of Helen Griffin, Michael Kluckner, Frances Shaw and many others have contributed to successful SILT fundraising auctions held over the years at the Savary Tennis Courts, at the summer home of Wynn Woodward and the home of Paul Leighton.

In order to try to address the over subdivision of Savary SILT began to encourage lot amalgamation in the early years. This effort was given a big boost in 2004, when Martin and Sarah Gouin donated \$50,000 to establish the Gouin Family Lot Consolidation Fund. The Fund creates opportunities for property owners to have a huge impact on undoing the legacy of over-subdivision. The capacity for more lot amalgamation to reduce density is significant on the Island and SILT hopes that more people will take advantage of the property tax savings and the support available through the Gouin Lot Consolidation Fund.

Beyond the DL1375 and related acquisitions donors have gifted eight separate parcels of land on Savary to SILT. The Christopher Harvey family donated a waterfront parcel and 3 lots to SILT in 1999. This beautiful forest has Old growth Douglas Fir, and Western Red Cedar, with an understory of Salal, Bracken Fern, Oregon Grape, Twinflower, Rattlesnake plantain, Evergreen Huckleberry, and Dwarf Rose. Additional lots donated by the Christopher Harvey family and their neighbours have enlarged this parcel to 4 lots, making for a protected entrance to Indian Point 200 feet by 150 feet.

In August of 2001 a donor who wishes to remain anonymous contributed a ten-acre gift (one 5 acre lot on Sunset Trail with a share in the 35 acre Common). This strata holding is the largest parcel owned by SILT. The lot fronts onto the Sunset Trail and protects old growth forest. A lot on Vancouver Blvd near Julian was donated by Martin and Sarah Gouin in 2001. More of Savary's old forest was protected with this acquisition. Also in 2001 Heidi Hannay donated a lot near Green's Point in memory of Helen R. Macdonald and J. Douglas Hannay.

In all areas of the island where these protected places are located they preserve greenspace among the sea of subdivision that is Savary. Much more is needed if we are to protect the wildness and rarity of the island. Improved tax benefits for donors announced in May 2006 will hopefully result in more donated greenspace on the island for present and future generations.

Now, ten years later, the island has changed in many ways, much has been achieved, much has been lost, and the song still reminds us of what is left to do.

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT on Savary

By Carmen Cadrin

Registered Professional Biologist

What are Invasive Alien Plants?

Invasive alien plant species are plants that are transported to a location from another area by boat, vehicle, on domesticated animals, shoes, clothing, or any material product. Many of the invasive plants found in North America today were originally brought here in ship's ballast and on domesticated animals. Other species have arrived through the introduction of horticultural plants to our gardens and parks. Some species have been deliberately introduced to address ecological concerns at a time when the risks of invasive species were unknown. The planting of broom on Savary's sand cliffs is an example of this. It is estimated that there are over 600 alien plant species in BC and many of these are known to be invasive.

Some alien plant species do not become invasive as they are poorly adapted to survival in the new environment; others survive only in very specific conditions. Invasive alien species however, are those that adapt quickly to their new environment, are strong competitors for nutrients and water, are toxic to other plants, and have seed or reproductive strategies that allow them to spread rapidly in a short period of time. These species are usually quick to invade disturbed areas and exposed soil, preventing native species from re-establishing.

Unfortunately, the same characteristics make these plant species popular in horticulture and gardening as they are species that are the easiest to maintain in our city parks, boulevards and home gardens. They become acclimatized quickly, or may even become more productive than in their native geographical range.

Why the concern?

Alien invasive plants have many negative economic impacts in the areas of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism and on property values. Invasive alien plants can create wildfire hazards as some, like Broom and Gorse are quick to ignite in dry conditions or have resin rich tissues that burn intensively and spread to adjacent areas. They can also create health hazards in the form of allergic reactions, skin burns and rashes. Invasive species out compete and replace native plant species by shading them out, altering the nutrient and moisture availability or putting out toxins that actually kill native species. By replacing the native species, invasive species alter natural ecosystems, eliminating habitats for many native species such as birds, butterflies and small mammals.

Invasive alien species on Savary:

Many European and Asian plant species have been introduced and acclimatized to the dry, mild Mediterranean climate of the Strait of Georgia in south-western British Columbia. Some particularly damaging and invasive alien species occurring on Savary Island include the following:

European Gorse (health hazard, out competes & shades out native species, fire hazard)

Scotch Broom (fire hazard, out competes and shades out native species, destroys native species habitat)

English ivy (shades out native species, kills native species, destroys native species habitat)

Butterfly bush (out competes native species,

Judith Kennedy at the Broom Bash. Photo: Janine Reimer.



Inaugural BROOM BASH a success!

By: Judith Kennedy

The Inaugural Savary Broom Bash held on April 4th was felt to be an unqualified success by all who attended. Approximately 17 Savaryites turned out at 1 PM on a gloomy Saturday to receive an orientation from Lynn Woodgate, our "expert" from Duncan. Lynn had brought with her 3 "Weed Wrenches" on loan from the Ministry of the Environment for us to try out.

Prior to the "Bash" convening, some of us surveyed the site and marked off private property boundaries with tape so that we were sure that we only worked in the area authorized by our permit.

In her orientation Lynn covered the challenges in removing broom without disturbing the soil around the plant, how to pull and cut broom properly and how to use the Weed Wrench.

We then got to work, spreading out along the designated area, with a crew devoted to picking up the broom and moving it to the burn site on the crown lot in Savary Shores. Many participants got to try out the Weed Wrench.

By 3:30 that afternoon, the area was

cleared and all that remained was for the burn pile to die down. If any of us ever doubted the flammability of broom, we were able to see without question how impressively it burst into flame on the burn pile even on a damp day.

Lynn Woodgate was impressed with our efforts and later wrote: "I thought that I would send a follow up report on my thoughts on the broom clearing last Saturday. With such an enthusiastic group it was removed and disposed of with incredible efficiency. What a pleasant group of people! After I left I felt that maybe the expertise that you had requested from me had not had as much impact as it should have. People get so enthusiastic to get the job done and quickly revert to the quickest and easiest method. It is easy to rip broom out of the ground and those broom pullers do work magnificently. Along the road where it is easily accessible and in a small area they are a good idea, but using them in the Nature Trust Land or the old landing strip could be a disaster. Pulling the plant out just enough to cut it under the top lateral root disturbs the sandy soil too much; it would have been better to cut

many of those plants at soil level with as little disturbance as possible. Plants that have been cut take much longer to reestablish themselves than when the soil is disturbed.

Food for thought for next time!

At day's end it was hugely gratifying to look at the road edge down Vancouver Boulevard and see nary a broom plant growing among the ferns, salal and cedars. Juanita Chase and Janine Reimer have kindly volunteered to coordinate efforts to monitor the cleared area for regrowth. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Juanita for more information.

Many thanks to the Ministry of Highways for giving us a permit, The Ministry of the Environment for loaning us the weed wrenches, SILT, the Powell River Regional District, and the Nature Trust of BC for supporting our efforts, the Savary Island Volunteer Fire Department for their support and participation, Lynn Woodgate and most of all, all those Savaryites who turned out to lend a helping hand. A true community effort!

Feel free to join us on Wednesday July 25 to help plan our next "Bash".

destroys native species habitat)

Himalayan blackberry (out competes and shades out native species, destroys habitat – but we love to eat the fruit!)

Less noticeable invasive species include a number of grass species that occur on the sand dunes, meadows, forest openings and rock outcrops (e.g. Mace/Green's Point). These species outcompete native species, destroy habitat, are health hazards, and may cause rapid spread of fire. Some of these are:

Cheatgrass, Barren brome, Rip-gut brome (very nasty in socks, shoes, and for pets), Sweet vernalgrass, Orchard-grass and Velvet grass.

English holly is another less invasive but potentially problematic alien species over time. It is a slow growing species but if left to establish will eventually replace the forest understory. Numerous other species occur commonly on disturbed areas and yards and may become invasive as more areas are

disturbed. Common dandelion, hairy cat's ear, thistles, hawkweed, tansy are examples of these.

Species which have not yet been identified on Savary but if present could cause extreme negative impact to sand dune and forest ecosystems are:

European beachgrass (out competes and shades out native species, destroys habitat)

Daphne laurel (out competes native species, kills native species, destroys habitat)

Carpet burweed (out competes and replaces native species, health hazard)

What can be done?

The most successful and economically prudent means of dealing with invasive species is prevention. Ensuring that no additional species are brought to an area can be done in several ways and island living makes this even more feasible by cleaning vehicles, boats, trailers,

equipment, bicycles, shoes, and clothing before travelling to new areas.

If you wish to bring new horticultural species to the island, a few key questions will help you determine whether the species are invasive or not: Is the plant a fast-spreader or known as a vigorous seeder? Is it known to be invasive in another area? Will it invade areas because it is drought or shade tolerant? Or does it produce many seeds that are easily windblown or attach to clothing and pets to be transported elsewhere? Find out if there are other similar species you could plant that are not likely to be invasive. These may require a little more care on your part but native species will thank you for it!

Carmen Cadrin is a Savary Islander and a Program Ecologist with the British Columbia Conservation Data Centre Ecosystems Br. Environmental Stewardship Div. B.C. Ministry of Environment. Carmen joined the SILT board in August 2006.

SILT Q&A

What is a Land Trust?

Land trusts are non-profit charitable organizations that serve to protect natural and cultural heritage. Land trusts operate to protect areas critical to the health and survival of threatened animals, plants and ecosystems. In the last ten years, 40 land trusts have been established in B.C.

What is the Savary Island Land Trust (SILT)?

The Savary Island Land Trust (SILT) was established to preserve and protect natural areas and biological diversity on Savary Island for present and future generations. SILT was incorporated as a society in October, 1997 and received registered charity status with Revenue Canada in June, 1998. Today SILT has over 200 members.

What are the goals of SILT?

- To acquire land on Savary Island, in order to preserve it for future generations.
- To promote the establishment of wilderness and other natural habitat preserves.
- To encourage, sponsor, teach and support research concerning the environment of Savary Island.
- To raise money and acquire funds and other assistance to achieve the foregoing purposes.

How much property does SILT hold?

Since the first acquisition in 1999, the Trust has received and preserved eight donations of land on Savary. Five lots are at Indian Point and one lot is in the middle of the Island. In 2001 a ten-acre parcel on Sunset Trail was gifted to SILT. One lot near the highest point of the Island in the Green's Point area was donated to SILT and dedicated as the Helen R. McDonald and J. Douglas Hannay Nature Reserve.

What are the tax benefits to SILT donors?

Canadian donors to SILT receive a tax receipt for their contributions; this can be used to offset income tax the donor owes. On May 2, 2006 the Federal government improved the benefits for donors. Gifts of ecologically sensitive land made under the Ecological Gifts Program and donations of publicly listed securities are exempt from capital gains.

How does SILT help to reduce density?

SILT helps to reduce density by acquiring land for preservation and by providing grants through the Gouin Family Lot Consolidation Fund.

Can American citizens receive US tax benefits from donations to SILT?

Yes. American citizens residing in the US may

make gifts to SILT and receive a US tax credit for the gift. Donations designated to SILT may be made through the Tides Foundation in California. Donors may contact Ruth Bender, Philanthropic Advisor, Tides Foundation, Presidio Building PO Box 29903, San Francisco CA 94129. Tel. (415) 561-6347 rbender@tides.org

How do donations to SILT help to preserve sensitive ecosystems on Savary Island?

SILT receives donations of land and preserves these lands in perpetuity. Donations of cash and funding secured by SILT help to support education programs about sensitive ecosystems and stewardship.

Does SILT ever resell the land it acquires?

In keeping with the SILT constitution, lands acquired by donation or purchased specifically upon request by a donor who gives cash for that purpose may not be sold. Land donors sign a form indicating their intent with respect to the land. If the donor indicates that the land cannot be sold, then it cannot be sold.

Under the requirement of a special resolution, the SILT constitution does permit the resale of land. However, land held will not be sold except under extraordinary circumstances and conditions. So for all intents and purposes, once acquired, land is not resold.

WEB

www.silt.ca

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Executive Director

Liz Webster
Powell (604) 483-4743
Savary River (604) 414-0073

Board of Trustees

Executive
Chairman: Christopher Harvey
Treasurer: Jonathon McKinney
Secretary: Jennifer Greenwood

Trustees

Thea Cacchioni	Norma Flawith
Carmen Cadrin	Paul Leighton
Tom Lightburn	Lenore Rowntree
Bronwyn Schoner	Wynn Woodward

What would happen to SILT properties if SILT ceased to exist?

The SILT constitution states that in such an event, the properties must be transferred to another charitable organization with similar goals. This is a condition of being issued charitable status.

Does SILT carry liability insurance on its properties?

Yes, a liability policy is in force, paid for each year by donations to SILT.

Daryl Duke Passes On

By Liz Webster

On October 21, 2006 a lifetime Savary Islander passed away. Dr. Daryl Duke was 77 when he died after a valiant struggle with pulmonary fibrosis.

Daryl was a Savary Islander all of his life. The love affair with Savary started with Daryl's great uncle, R.S. Sherman who first visited Savary in 1892 and who later published "The Ecology of Savary Island" in Museum Notes in 1931; the first detailed study and descriptive report of the island flora and fauna. R.S. brought Daryl's grandparents and mother to the Island in 1908. Savary was a very special place for Daryl and he was always excited about trips to the island. Despite his very hectic career he would take time on Savary to relax, walk the beach, visit with family and friends but his favourite time of the day was watching the Savary sunsets.

Daryl was best known for his work in film and television a career that spanned over 50 years in the US and Canada. In 1982 he directed The Thorn Birds, now known as the greatest of the blockbuster mini-series and continues to be the most widely watched of mini-series around the world. Daryl won numerous awards and achievements in his life. Among these are an Emmy Award for Best Director of a Dramatic Program, Canadian Film Award (now the Genie Awards) for Best Director of a Feature Film, Honourary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Simon Fraser University, ACTRA's John Drainie Award for distinguished contribution to broadcasting, Directors Guild of Canada Lifetime Achievement Award, and has been inducted into the Canadian Association of Broadcasters

Broadcast Hall of Fame.

Daryl was thrilled when his children and grandchildren were able to visit Savary and experienced some of what he knew here as a boy. He saw the island go through many changes in his time. His perspective of Savary's history and life experience made Daryl a vocal and inspiring advocate for the protection of sensitive areas and the urgent need for environmental regulation on Savary. He was one of the Founding Board Members of SILT, and served on the board for 5 years. His enthusiasm for the preservation of the dunes and the protection of DL 1375 came across in word and deed. He used his contacts in government and his association with the David Suzuki Foundation, which proved helpful in the effort of preserving DL1375. While he served on the Membership Committee of the first SILT board he designed the first t-shirt, a "Varsity style" in navy with the words "A Proud Supporter of SILT". The Friends of Canadian Broadcasting wrote this about Daryl "As a social advocate, Dr. Duke has always believed in the power of the individual and their ability to effect positive change."

Daryl's generosity of spirit, humour and intense interest in the work of SILT made it a pleasure to serve with him on the board. He brought a deep sense of Island history and a spirit that was both inspiring and infectious. After a visit over a glass of wine with Daryl and Anne Marie I always left feeling thoughtful, rejuvenated and inspired. He shall be sadly missed and fondly remembered.

In the words of his wife, Anne-Marie Dekker, "Savary was his soul."



EXCERPT OF Island Evening by Daryl Duke

I step to the sea's edge, a solitary witness to a world that is hushed and sacred. The sun is low over the islands of Cortes and Quadra. The sea, the colour of stainless steel, has not a ripple nor a wave to any horizon. Against the clear red sky the high peaks of Vancouver Island are silhouetted in sharp outline like a monumental stage backdrop ready for the opening chords of a primeval ballet.

High above me the last of the day's crows wing in from the mainland. They chuckle and swear for a moment and then fall silent, trailing one another in the twilight sky like bully boys heading home at dusk from a neighbourhood ball game.

Suddenly I hear a dog barking from the mainland shore some two miles away. Then just as quickly all is still once more. I realize for the first time there are no sounds of outboards rushing their owners home with cases of beer or boxes of groceries. There are no deep pulsing heartbeats of a tug pulling a log boom south to Vancouver. No high jets descending on their long arc from Asia. I hear only the earth's silence and breathe deeply of its cool sweet air.

I move back up the beach, my steps crackling the sun dried seaweed. In the failing light the driftwood lies like bleached bones in the tall sea grass. I sit on a huge log, glad that its bulk has confounded the storms and tides of a dozen winters.

Though lamps should be lit and fires started I stay watching the darkness come slowly forward. I think of how few nights of peace there are. True peace. When the flood tide slides north as it should. When the eagle sits in his tree. When the heron puts away the torn cloth of his cries. When night falls and the heart is not heavy.

Uncle, aunt, parents, grandparents – all have gone. The family's summer house on Savary Island is now mine. Late in my life I have come to think of this island as "home." The very word knocks on the door of my thoughts like a strange visitor. I have lived, worked and wandered the world, rushing to airports and assignments, checking in and out of Holidays Inns in the American south, opulent hotels in Hong Kong, bedeviled lodgings in Yugoslavia believing all the while I knew not where a place called "home" could or would be found. Tonight I know this house, on this small island, on the remote and intricate slope of British Columbia's Pacific coast, was here all along.

How can invasive alien plant species be controlled?

Targeting alien species for removal before they become invasive is an early management strategy. Quick removal of newly discovered arrivals of alien species will save time and cost.

For established species a long term control strategy is required. This may include targeting the boundaries of the area where the species occurs to prevent further spread. Staged removal of invasive plants followed by maintenance removal has been found to be effective. Many communities establish "adopt a road" initiatives where community residents monitor and weed sections of roadside or public access. Savary's "Broom Bash" event on Savary this April shows what a small group of volunteers can do. More such stewardship activities are needed to move forward on alien invasive species management.

Various methods of removal have been tested in recent years. Pulling of small plants is best done when soils are moist and less likely to be disturbed and eroded. Cutting large plants (shrubs and small trees) below the crown or soil surface can be done when damaging native plants at their time of growth and reproduction is a concern.

Removed plants must be disposed of properly as moving the dead material to another area may exacerbate the problem. Do this before seeds are set to avoid spreading the seed.

For grasses and annual herbs, cutting before seedset is desirable (e.g. mowing) or simply handpulling early in the season. For annual grasses occurring on areas with sensitive native species, e.g. dunes and meadows, cutting seed heads and bagging seed for safe disposal later may be a better option.

The websites below include a wealth of material on impacts, concerns and control of invasive alien species, including species lists and factsheets for managing particular invasive species.

www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca www.weedsbc.ca

GOUIN FAMILY LOT CONSOLIDATION FUND

The Savary Island Land Trust Society administers the Gouin Family Lot Consolidation Fund. The Fund was established when Martin and Sarah Gouin donated \$50,000 to encourage lot consolidation on Savary. The purpose of the Fund is to provide a financial incentive to Savary Island property owners to consolidate their lots and thereby reduce density on Savary. Fund committee members include Gail Cochrane, representative for the Gouin Family, Norma Flawith, representative for SILT and Fund chairman, Keith MacDougall.

Funding Eligibility Criteria

- The Fund may be applied to the consolidation of two or more undeveloped adjacent lots.
- The Fund may be applied to the consolidation of a developed lot with one or more adjacent undeveloped lots.

Property owners may apply for both incentive and extraordinary expense grants. Grants may be pre-approved, funds will be dispersed when the consolidation is completed. Applicants for Extraordinary Expenses

grants must submit receipts before funds will be dispersed.

Why amalgamate?

The number of lots on Savary and their potential development are excessive and far beyond what the Island's fragile nature can sustain. Many people on Savary own two or more adjacent lots. Property tax reductions may be realized by amalgamating lots.

Grant application Forms and Lot Consolidation Forms are available at www.silt.ca

SAVARY ISLAND Keepsakes

Full colour map

Reproduced as colourful posters & laminated placemats. Colours not as shown.

Poster...\$10 Placemat...\$10



Elegant SILT shirts in a variety of colours, styles and sizes.

Colourful tanks, and T's sport an elegant heron design logo on the left chest and a beautiful calligraphic map on the back. (Colours not as shown)

Savary Maps are available at SG Images & Giftshop, the Savary Lodge and Terracentric Adventures in Lund. Shirts are available by mail or at special events.

Invest IN THE PRESERVATION OF Savary

Help preserve natural areas and biological diversity for present and future generations.

PLEASE FILL OUT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____ Email _____
 Address _____ City _____ Prov. _____
 Postal Code _____ Tel. _____ Fax _____
 Savary Address _____ Tel: _____

DONATIONS

- Yes, I would like to contribute to the preservation of land on Savary Island. I am enclosing a cheque for my tax deductible donation of:
- \$50 \$100 \$500
 Other _____

MEMBERSHIP

- Yes, I would like to become a member of the Savary Island Land Trust Society.
- Annual dues Regular \$25
 Family \$40

SEND YOUR FORM AND PAYMENT TO:

SILT: Savary Island Land Trust Society, Box 141, Lund, B.C. V0N 2G0