

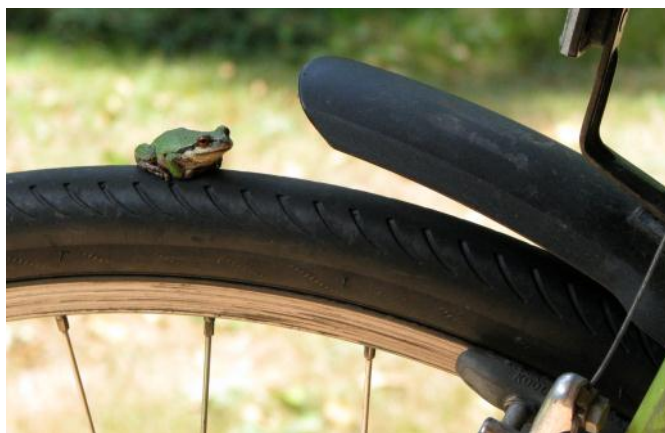


Focus: photo contest winner



Make it your
New Year's
resolution to
follow us on
Facebook!

George the Frog, taken by **Karin Albert** (CVRD) collected the most votes on our facebook page photo contest. The photo contest has been running over the past year and there have been some terrific photo submissions. Karin was presented with a cheque for \$100 by **Kristi Morro** (on left), our new newsletter editor. Karin told us "I called him George. He is a Pacific Tree Frog and he surprised me several times in the mornings when I was getting ready for my ride to work." Karin wouldn't tell us if George gets a cut of the prize. Congratulations to both Karin and George! You can view all the photo submissions at facebook.com/cupe556 ■



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You could still win a Blu-ray player!

As you know, we've launched our facebook page at facebook.com/cupe556. Simply "like" us on facebook and be entered into a draw for a Blue Ray DVD Player. Once we hit 25 "Likes" we'll select someone at random from the list to win. So if you haven't already done so, visit our facebook page, it's a great way to stay up-to-date with what's going on with your local. ■



January elections

Don't
forget to
vote!



The following positions are up for election at the first general meeting in January.

Vice President (2 yr term)

Secretary-Treasurer (2 yr term)

Trustee (3 yr term)

CUPE Unit elections in January include

Comox Valley RD Unit Vice (2 yr term)

Cumberland Unit Vice (2 yr term)

Are you interested in running for one of these positions? Do you know of anyone that you think would be suited to being your representative on the executive? If you have any questions or suggestions, talk to any of the current executive. They would love to hear from you.

Participation is key. Your local executive represents you. They make decisions on behalf of the local and without your input and involvement, how are they going to do that? As with any other election, be informed, get involved and get out and vote. ■

For more information on these positions please visit:

<http://556.cupe.ca/updir/556/Local556BylawsSeptember132011withTOC.pdf>

Humour mill

Quote for
the Day

**“It is not length
of life, but
depth of life.”**

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Do you have a favourite quote?
Send it in for the next newsletter



Featured video

Check out this ultimate dog tease video. This is one of the most viewed videos on YouTube in 2011 — 8.7 million views!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGeKSiCQkPw>

It's official. . .

- 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents daily.
- 5% of Canadians don't know the first 7 words of the Canadian anthem, but know the first 9 of the American anthem.
- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- A hummingbird weighs less than a penny.
- A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time — 1/100th of a second.

➤ Social scene

An appreciation dinner was held in December at Sunnydale Golf Course to recognize the hard work of all the dedicated members that served on committees of our local over the past year. Highlights of the night definitely included the food and a great opportunity to

meet some of the other members of the other units. **Cheryl Sellers** and **Greg Beebe** were presented with the CUPE national communications award for best newsletter for locals with less than 300 members. Congratulations to us! ■



General Meeting highlights



General meeting highlights Nov 22

The November general meeting always draws a crowd and it was standing room only at the 10th Street office again this year.

The sudden interest in union business could be that members want to ensure they get to at least one meeting for the year

and this is their last chance. It might be that they missed dinner at home and came for the free hot pizza. It could also have something to do with the year end draw for \$500. You do need to be present to win.

Amongst the crowd were two new members: **Karen Campbell** and **Vince Van Tongeren**. The membership welcomed them both to the local by voting them in as official members.

President Cindy Major encouraged members to check out the new CUPE556 Facebook page and to enter to win the draw for a blu-ray disc player by 'liking' the page.

Cindy proudly shared that while she was at the national convention in October she accepted a communications award on

behalf of **Greg Beebe** and **Cheryl Sellers**, our newsletter team for 2010/11.

Courtenay unit vice, **Lisa McPherson**, advised there are still issues with the language in the collective agreement holding up signing and distribution of the new contract to Courtenay members.

After 40 minutes of business it was time for the big draw and the lucky \$500 winner was, **Mike Murphy** of the CVRD. Mike was thrilled that he now had the cash to buy Grey Cup tickets.

Good of the Union

The winners of the three \$50 draws that night were:

Brian Chow, CVRD
Karen Campbell,
Courtenay
Lisa McPherson,
Courtenay

CUPE 556

Upcoming meetings

Next General Meeting: Check our website!

Unit Meeting for
All Regional District Members
Wednesday, January 11
6:30-7:00pm
10th Street Office, Courtenay

Your current executive officers

Cindy Major, President
(Comox Recreation)

Claudette Pavin, Vice President
(CVRD)

Lisa McPherson, Unit Vice
President (City of Courtenay)

Bill Smith, Unit Vice President
(Town of Comox)

Mike Murphy, Unit Vice President
(CVRD)

Joanne Pilson, Unit Vice President
(Village of Cumberland)

Brian Allaert, Recording Secretary
(CVRD)

Cheryl Sellers, Secretary-
Treasurer (Comox Valley Regional
District)

Dave Stewart, Sergeant at Arms
(Comox Valley Regional District)

Fred Ennis, Trustee
(City of Courtenay)

Mike Major, Trustee
(City of Courtenay)

Eric Jernslett, Trustee
(City of Courtenay)

Telephone
250-338-2447
(leave message)

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cupe556@members.cupe.ca

Address
496-10th Street
PO Box 3454
Courtenay, BC V9N 5N5

Unit meeting for all Regional District members

Wednesday, January 11 6:30-7:00pm, CUPE556 10th Street Office, Courtenay

Agenda

- Update on compensation for overtime
- Election of 2012 committees

To ensure the interests of all members are represented, each department is encouraged to nominate at least one person to serve on one of the committees. If you wish to be nominated but are unable to attend please provide your shop steward with a written note confirming you wish to stand. A list of the committees and current committee members can be found posted at your workplace.