

38.1 Organize Doukhobor Heritage Retreat Society #1999 - 645 Whatshan Lake Forestry Road – Baunya Construction

The idea of constructing a Baunya (Doukhobor Sauna) had been debated by the Directors of the DHRS #1999 for many years. Finally, a committee (JJ Verigin Jr. and Nona Kucher) was set up to investigate the feasibility of this construction. A few more years went by and apart from suggesting that this was a good idea, no real action took place.

The dissolution of the Doukhobor Cultural Association (DCA) took place in the years 2013 through 2014. It was recommended by Director Peter Dergousoff (deceased) that the DCA allocate a grant of \$10,000 toward the construction of a Baunya at Whatshan Lake Retreat. This recommendation was approved by the DCA, and the cash funds appropriated accordingly.

In the fall of 2015, a formal Committee from members of the DHRS #1999 was set up as follows:

A) Initiating Committee (January 06, 2016):

- a. Nona Kucher – Chair
- b. J.J. Verigin Jr. – Co-Chair
- c. Sean Chahley
- d. Rick Woodhouse
- e. Elmer Verigin

B) Final Construction Committee:

Added to the above were the following:

- a. Jim Laktin
- b. David Popoff
- c. Tyler Hlookoff
- d. Nathan Heddle
- e. Peter Rezansoff
- f. Tamara Verigin-Burk
- g. Lawrence Popoff
- h. Kim Verigin
- i. Bob Kalmakoff
- j. Kyle Burk
- k. Craig Sapriken
- l. Don Kester
- m. Ed Dergousoff
- n. Fred Padowinikoff
- o. Joe Podovinikoff
- p. Jerry Niemi

- q. Larry Jmaiff
- r. Phil St. Jean (Caretaker at Whatshan)
- C) Additional Volunteers
 - a. Lori Woodhouse
 - b. Abby Verigin
 - c. Macy Verigin
 - d. Garrett Kucher
 - e. Lisa Poznikoff
 - f. Kathy Popoff
 - g. Marc Gervais
 - h. Kurtis Hopp
 - i. Marilyn Verigin
 - j. Michael Laktin
 - k. Jack Startup
 - l. Peter Laktin
 - m. Nellie Keraiff
 - n. Molly Konkin
 - o. Ben Konkin
 - p. Tamara Laktin
 - q. Lorne Markin
 - r. Rick Hlookoff
 - s. Scott (Hlookoff Faller)
 - t. Roxy Chahley
 - u. Kara Chahley
 - v. Carl Hanson
 - w. Charolette Niemi
 - x. Sharon Hoodicoff
 - y. Lorrie St. Jean (Caretaker)

Initially, we needed to establish a budget and explore the type and extent of donations. I suggested that I would do a survey of the potential. The immediate issue was that the DCA \$10,000 budget would not carry the project.

We also needed a drawing from which a budget could be derived and would be necessary for the Building Permit.

This is a brief summary of donations accrued:

- A) DCA - \$10,000
- B) DHRS #1999 – 10,000 and all over budget funds
- C) Estate of Florence Markin - \$20,000
- D) Kalesnikoff Lumber - \$5,254 (Framing materials)
- E) Porcupine Lumber - \$3,000 (Cedar materials)

- F) Korpack Cement - \$560 (Masonry Chimney materials)
- G) Larry Jmaeff - \$500 (Cut off Saw)
- H) Ron and Debbie Konkin - \$400 (Plate Compactor)
- I) Lawrence Popoff - \$350 (Toilet)
- J) Marc Gervais \$350 (Toilet)
- K) Jerry Neimi - \$150 (Bar Fridge)
- L) Joe Podovikoff - \$750 (Stove materials)
- M) Fred Padownikoff - \$1,150 (Stove materials)
- N) Brian Verigin \$500 (Stove materials)
- O) Wesco Electric - \$1,000 (Electrical Supplies)
- P) Rick Woodhouse - \$1,500 (Transport with trailer)
- Q) Integra Tire - \$2,000 (Trailer Rental)
- R) Ed Dergousoff - \$500 (Salvage Cedar)
- S) WSA Engineering \$3,000 (Septic Tank Engineering)
- T) Peter's Windows & Doors - \$2,000 (Prehung Doors)
- U) Rick Woodhouse - \$200 (Tools)
- V) Kim Verigin - \$200 (Tools)
- W) Lawrence Popoff - \$150 (Tools)
- X) Orville - \$100 (Tools)
- Y) AM Ford - \$200 (Truck)

The list of all the above labor and materials donations are noted here because without all that the Baunya would not get constructed.

The reason, that this project is being mentioned here is because basically members of my family have made the greatest contributions for seventeen (17) Work parties. They were consistent in determination to get this job done. For me it was the opportunity to work with them as a team. We had fun working together and we even had more fun celebrating the evenings after work.

For me it was the harmony and the capability to work, also, with all those who were not family, and, in the end, friendships were generated that will last for years.

Thank you, family.

Edited by EWV November 09, 2021



Elmer Verigin



Ed Dergousoff



Kim Verigin



Rick Woodhouse



This is the septic field for the wastewater and floor drains. These infiltrators and field add up to 3 lines at 40 feet each.

The Sanitary system is the same to the right of this photo. See the Baunya construction as it was in October 2016.

Talk of "over kill" = \$14.000



Lori Woodhouse



Ceiling Joists Under Construction



Nathan Heddle



Taking a break with Marilyn and Elmer Verigin

The Cedar is being applied on the walls and inside finishing.

Happy times!