

Shelly Family Profiles

Frederick Shelly 1884-1948

1884- Frederick Shelly was born in St. Catherines, Ontario on February 18th, and was the 2nd born child to William Tallman Shelly and Ellen High.

-Frederick enlisted in the Boer War, but his mother got wind of his plans and rescued him because he was underage.

-Frederick, again enlisted with the Boer War and this time served a short time as a soldier.

-After his time as a soldier Frederick began to drift west.

-Frederick worked as a cowboy on the "Gang Ranch" in the Cariboo.

-Frederick went to Prince George and worked stacking timber.

-Frederick worked in Clinton in the Cariboo as a mail carrier.

-Frederick joined the timber cruises in Terrace and worked as a cook.

1905- Frederick opened a bakery in Vancouver on Broadway Street and named in "Shelly 4x", the same name his father used for his bakery in St. Catherines, Ontario.

-Fred's brother William joined the bakery on his return from Texas.

-The two brother's opened a 2nd Bakery, again named the Shelly 4X in Nanaimo on Selby Street. From that bakery they delivered up the island as far as Port Alberni.

1908 - Frederick Shelly married Gertrude Ellen Thompson (born Nov. 20, 1884).

1909 - Murray Tallman Shelly was born on June 1, 1st child to Fred and Gertrude Shelly.

1911 - Willett Webster (Fats) Shelly was born on February 3rd, 1911 in Vancouver, B.C., the second son to Fred and Gertrude Shelly .

1913- Fred decided to live permanently on Vancouver Island. He sold his share in the bakery business and chose to settle in Parksville. He purchased W1/2 #42 E of Lot 12 from the Rushtons and began a chicken farm. It is said that he had the largest incubator in BC at that time and could hatch 1500 chicks at a time.

1913 - Russel James Shelly was born on Dec. 13th.

1915 - Fred Mayhew Shelly was born. He died at age 9.

1918 - Ellen Shelly was born on Aug. 16th.

-Fred's interests spread to sheep farming and later berry farming.

1925 - The idea for a **Parksville Community Park** was sparked by the Women's Institute, and the rest of the community was quick to support the idea. There were two pieces of land that were

put up for purchase at that time in 1925. Mr. Rushton and his group suggested the piece of property that the Island Hall currently occupies and Fred Shelly suggested the property that became the Community Park. The decision to be made was between the smaller more affordable piece proposed by Mr. Rushton or the larger more expensive piece proposed by Fred Shelly. At the initial meeting where the vote took place Fred Shelly had presented his foresight for a community hall and sports field as well as community access to a beautiful beach. Fred Shelly won the vote. Those that are considered the founding fathers of the Parksville Community Parks are those that were elected to the first board: Robert Craig - President, Robert Hickey Sr. - Secretary, Col. Greig - Director, Fred Shelly - Director, and James Kingsley - Director.

- Fred held a fund raising barn dance in his own barn which was a huge success and netted \$1,700 for the park.

- A sports day was organized by Fred Shelly and drew in over 2,200 people. "Fred Shelly was operating a game where you put silver on the table and throw rings from a certain distance. If you ringed a coin, you kept it. He was raking the money in when a policeman from Duncan by the name of Mustart stopped him. So he sent home for a canvas and a few cases of eggs, and a friend of his made up a helmet and put his head through the canvas and you could get three eggs for twenty five cents and hit the chap whose head was in the canvas and get a prize for it. By four o'clock that afternoon the stench was so terrible we had to stop him! He covered the mess with sand, moved the tent and sent home for strawberries and the show carried on. You just couldn't beat him (Fred Shelly)." *Edward Kingsley*

1928- By this time Fred's house and barns had burned down twice, and Fred decided it was time to get out of the farming business. Fred's new business was winemaking.

1948 - Frederick Shelly died at the age of 64 years.

1959 - Gertrude Shelly died.