

Canadian Coast Guard Association

Christmas 2014 Newsletter



Photo by Bill McKechnie of Bartlett working Boat Bluff

Message from the editor - Phil Dauphinee - This newsletter will need a new editor before next year's Christmas edition as I will be stepping down. In the meantime, any stories memorable Coast Guard experiences and photos will be very welcomed for inclusion in the newsletter. Please pass all input to me: Phil Dauphinee, Editor, 3621 Crestview Road, Victoria B.C. V8P-5C5; 250-595-2335; E-mail: pdauphinee@shaw.ca

Members with access to the Internet should bookmark the Coast Guard Association website at www.ccgawest.ca Members are encouraged to forward pictures to the Editor for publication on the website.

The Newsletter is also available on the Coast Guard Alumni website at <http://www.coastguardalumni.com/>

Contents of Christmas 2014 Newsletter

1. Greetings from President
2. Membership Dues and Updates
3. Our Christmas 2014 Luncheon is Thursday December X and the time is 1130hrs - mingle; 12:30 luncheon starts at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, 3475 Ripon Road Victoria
4. Remembering those who have crossed the bar
5. Bill Stewart - Pay and Benefits Supervisor by Joan Scharf
6. Weathership Photos by Bill McKechnie
7. Ships Old Coast Guard Bases by Ron Watson
8. Short History of the Canadian Coast Guard Association
9. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP FORM

1. Greetings from the President

Ahoy mates!

I hope all you members of the Coast Guard Association are having a great year. As I was thinking about what to say in our newsletter, I was wondering what the Canadian Coast Guard was up to.

I found a few things that confirm CCG is alive and doing well.

How about that Russian cargo vessel adrift off the Haida Gwaii and the CCGS Gordon Reid's daring attempt to keep a towline on her to keep her off the rocks.

In October CCG added its ninth midshore patrol vessel, CCGS Captain Goddard MSM to the fleet completing the acquisition of nine MSPV. Four of the vessels were for the joint CCG and RCMP Marine Security Enforcement Team in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway. The remaining five have taken on their roles of Conservation and Protection in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and both the east and west coast.

CCG has also replaced a hovercraft, the new "Moytel". There are two offshore scientific vessels next on the list of acquisitions.

Here are some statistics that will continue to reinforce CCG's mandate within Canada:

On an average day the Canadian Coast Guard-

-saves 15 lives.

-assists 52 people in 27 search and rescue cases.

Manages 1,233 vessel movements.

-carries out 1.1 Fisheries patrols.

-supports 8 scientific surveys.

-supports 3 hydrographic missions.

-surveys 3.5 km. of navigation channel bottom.

It has been a good year, and I will be looking forward to seeing you at our December Christmas luncheon.

I would encourage you to continue to support the Canadian Coast Guard Association by recruiting new members and by attending our luncheon socials.

Terry Weber,
President.

2. Membership Dues and Updates

Annual dues will remain at \$5.00 for the year 2015 and if not already submitted can be paid at the winter luncheon. Please note that the spouses of deceased members are most welcome to continue as associate members of the CCGA.

Secretary **Joan Scharf** reminds members to keep us informed of any changes to telephone numbers, mailing addresses and/or email addresses. Changes should be emailed to **Frank Statham** f_statham@shaw.ca or **Joan Scharf** hjmacdon@shaw.ca or #204 - 3969 Shelbourne St, Victoria, BC V8N 6J5 or 250-477-1390

Remember to keep our Service Committee informed about how our members are doing. Anyone knowing of a member (or member's spouse) who is ill, or who has suffered a family bereavement or problem and/or who may need a little help, comfort or recognition, please give **Joan Scharf** or **Bill Dancer** a call. We will be pleased to see if there is any way our organization can be of assistance, and to let fellow members who may be concerned know of the situation. Joan Scharf can be reached at 250-477-1390 and Bill Dancer at 250-721-5273.

3. Christmas 2014 Luncheon - Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

WHEN: Thursday December 4 - 11:30 - mingle; 11:45 - bar opens; 12:30 - luncheon

WHERE - the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, 3475 Ripon Road Victoria

AIM: To relax, yarn, enjoy the Luncheon Buffet and celebrate the coming summer with friends and colleagues in the dining room of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

WHO: Coast Guard Association members, Coast Guard Retirees, their Spouses and Guests and serving Coast Guardsers are most welcome!

MENU

Salads

Spinach & Chicken Orange Vinaigrette
Roasted Cauliflower

Chaffer

Sliced Turkey/stuffing/turkey pan jus/roasted potatoes/cranberry sauce

Vegetable

Maple Glazed Root Vegetables

Desert

Buffet Cakes, Assorted Christmas, Cookies, Mince Tarts
Coffee & Tea

Cost - \$31.00 (includes Tax & Gratuity)

To facilitate catering, we need to give the Yacht Club staff firm numbers not later than Friday November 28 and we are liable for the numbers reserved. To avoid disappointment, please reserve your place(s) with -

Terry Weber 250-383-6626 terry.eldon.weber@gmail.com

Mark Thursday December 4 on your calendar and make your RESERVATIONS NOW!

For Vancouver/Mainland attendees: Usual ferry arrangements prevail. Please let Herb Adrian (Surrey) 604-596-9355 or Cec Rempel (Chilliwack) 604-858-1983 know by Monday December 1. As usual, if you catch the 9 a.m. BC Ferry as a foot passenger from TSAWWASSEN (half price if you are a senior) we will meet you in SWARTZ BAY. After lunch, we will aim to get you back to SWARTZ BAY in time for the 3 p.m. ferry. *Would anyone prepared to help out on please contact Terry Weber terry.eldon.weber@gmail.com 250-383-6626*

4. Remembering Those who have crossed the bar since the last edition.



Robert "Paul" (Bearcat) James began his Coast Guard (CG) career at the Kitsilano CCG Base where he worked for a number of years. In 1978 he joined the newly formed CG Search and Rescue Prevention Group (later to become the CG Boating Safety Group), where he served for most of his career. He was an excellent safety instructor and his talents were used to teach members of the CG Auxiliary, power squadrons, and other marine related organizations. He also served as a CG liaison officer in Vancouver during Expo '86 and on many other occasions during his career. He returned to the Kitsilano CCG Base to spend the last few years of his career as the officer-in-charge.

Gerry Loiselle was also a member of CG Boating Safety Group. Gerry started his CG crew the first summer of the Inshore Rescue Boat [IRB] program the summer of 1972.

5. Bill Stewart - Pay and Benefits Supervisor by Joan Scharf

I was a Pay and Benefits Clerk. I worked with Sandy Kelley, Joyce Camsusa and Donna Steinicke, and we jokingly referred to ourselves as "Bill's Girls". Bill was the Supervisor.

In 1976 we were very busy filling out forms by hand to keep paycheques rolling. Every little change meant another form or two to be completed. Forms were sent to DSS (Department of Supply and Services) every day, and this information was entered into a computer by Data Processing Clerks. Heaven help us if we sent incorrect information. As we all know, computers are unforgiving and

mistakes take forever to correct. Bill had a sharp eye and not too many errors went through his hands.

The Princess Mary Restaurant was famous for its strawberry pie. One day we were discussing this and decided we would all go to the Princess Mary at lunchtime and treat ourselves to strawberry pie. We were located at the Toronto Dominion Bank Building on Douglas Street at that time. Bill brought his car to work the next day and parked it in the small parking lot behind the bank. He backed into his parking spot to make it easier to get out at lunchtime.

Twelve o'clock on the dot we raced out the door down to the car. Bill manoeuvred the car skilfully out of the small parking lot, and we were soon on our way. The traffic was heavy as usual at lunch hour, and Bill carefully navigated his way over the Johnson Street Bridge to the parking lot of the Princess Mary.

We hurried inside to find a seat. Luckily, there were five seats available at the large lunch bar and so we were able to sit right down and order the famous strawberry pie. It didn't take long to finish the pie and a cup of coffee. It was time to get back to work.

We rushed back to the parking lot, got in the car, and Bill took off again. The traffic was even heavier. As we drove along, some cars pass us in the other lane and they were honking their horns and smiling. We smiled back politely. Other people were waving. We waved back.

"I wonder what these people are honking and waiving about. I noticed it on the way to the Restaurant too," said Bill. "I'm driving okay, at least I think I am. Maybe it's because I have four women in the car."

"Yeah," someone replied. "They must be jealous." This prompted a round of laughter and giggles from all of us.

The honking and waving continued all the way back to the parking lot at the Toronto Dominion Bank Bldg. After Bill backed the car into his parking space, one of the "girls" went to the back of the car and started laughing.

"Come and have a look at this, Bill," she said.

We all went to have a look. There, on the back of the car, was a sign that read "Just Married.."

It was hard to get down to serious work after that and, of course, no one ever confessed to putting that sign on the car.

Bill was a good sport and enjoyed a great laugh that afternoon, and I have a good memory as a Pay and Benefits Clerk, one of "Bill's Girls".



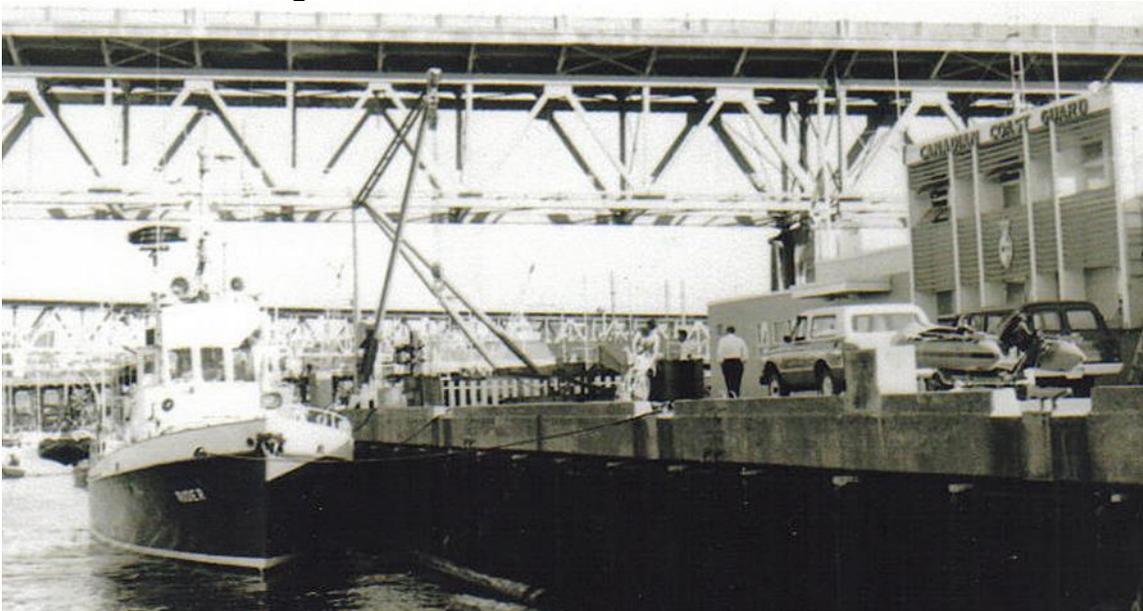
The Quadra and her predecessor the Stonetown



7- Ships at Old Coast Guard Bases by Ron Watson



The Douglas at Harbour Road & The Rider at Kits Base



8. Short History of the Canadian Coast Guard Association

An informal group of 12 Retired Coast Guard Officers met for a Christmas Lunch at the Princess Mary in 1988 and the number increased to 96 by 1995, due largely to the dedication and hard work of Migs Turner. A Canadian Coast Guard Retired Officer's Association Steering Committee was formed in March 1995 to determine the future of the Association. It was agreed that Art Mountain would chair a small working group to look into incorporating under the Societies Act of B.C. On June 20, 1996, Art was elected President of the newly formed Canadian Coast Guard Association and began the process of incorporation, which was completed on July 17, 1996. We now have over 150 members.

9. CANADIAN COAST GUARD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ RENEWAL

THE PURPOSES of the Canadian Coast Guard Association (incorporated in July, 1996, under the B.C. Society Act) are:

- 1) To continue our Canadian Coast Guard camaraderie into retirement.
- 2) To support our Membership and their families, when and as appropriate.
- 3) To support those currently serving in the Canadian Coast Guard and other maritime interests, when and as appropriate.
- 4) To undertake or support other activities approved by the Membership.

MEMBERSHIP - A person who has retired from, or is serving in the Canadian Coast Guard, with at least five years of Federal public service, who is willing to accept the purposes and objectives of the Society and pay the annual membership dues, may apply to the Directors for membership in the Society and on acceptance by the Directors, shall be a member.

The Commissioner of the Canadian Coast Guard has fully endorsed the Association and its purposes, with the understanding that serving CCG personnel would not become directly involved in controversial issues through their membership in the Association or serve on the executive.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP may be made by completing the information below and forwarding the signed application, along with one year's membership dues to

**W. McKechnie, Treasurer, Canadian Coast Guard Association,
2010 Corniche Place, Victoria, B.C. V8N 6C1**

(Current Annual Dues \$5 - covers Newsletter mailing and administrative costs).

FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, complete name and address sections, check "Renewal", enclose one year's current membership dues, sign and mail as above. Thanks!

Name:	Tel. No.	RENEWAL?	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Address:

Email address:

Canadian Coast Guard Service:

Retired (Date):	Still Serving?
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Started career as:

On (Date):

Other areas of work/location in Coast Guard:

Retired or left as:
On (Date):

Other Canadian Federal Service:
From: To:

Signature _____ Date