



Dedication of Search and Rescue Cutters “Cape Edensaw” and “Cape Ann”, by Lieutenant Governor Iona Campagnola, 23 June 2005. (Additional pictures on website <http://members.shaw.ca/aprovan/> - Ed.)

## Canadian Coast Guard Association - Christmas 2005 Newsletter



**Contributions to our newsletters are always welcomed and encouraged. Many thanks to all those who contributed material for this Edition.** Please pass all input to: Alec Provan, Editor, 2656 Bukin Drive E., RR #7, Victoria, B. C., V9E 1H4 Telephone: (250) 479-9132; E-mail: [aprovan@shaw.ca](mailto:aprovan@shaw.ca) or Joan Scharf, #204-3969 Shelbourne Street, Victoria, B. C., V8N 6J5 Telephone: (250) 477-1390; email [hjmacdon@shaw.ca](mailto:hjmacdon@shaw.ca)

### 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 151 members.”

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### 1. Greetings from the President



81 members and guests attended the summer luncheon held in the Princess Mary Restaurant on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Joan Appleton for looking after membership at the door. A short Annual General Meeting was held after the luncheon and the draft minutes are included in this newsletter (*p.11 – Ed.*).

Captain George Graham, Chief Engineer Jim Cumming and Alex Gilbertson have passed away since our Annual Meeting in June. Condolences to the families and friends of these retirees. On a happier note, the Times-Colonist reported recently that Glen Vallance, who retired as superintendent of the Telecommunications Workshop at Victoria Base, celebrated his 90th Birthday at the "Victorian" on Feltham where he has resided for a number of years". I am sure you will join me in extending our best wishes to Glen.

It has been a busy summer and fall and with winter in the offing we will be into the usual round of get togethers, so just a gentle reminder not to forget our own December event at the Princess Mary. Our summer get together /AGM was a very successful event but unfortunately we could not hold our fall luncheon in Vancouver as our date conflicted for many and we could not meet the venues minimum number requirement at the end of the day. We will get out a date for the spring Vancouver luncheon at the Christmas lunch so people have plenty of warning to say if that date presents a conflict. As mentioned elsewhere several members helped out in the Tall Ships this summer including at the Coast Guard Display. I can say from first hand experience there was considerable interest both in what exactly Coast Guard was about and if any jobs were available.

The annual Canadian/US Coast Guard training session was recently held at the Victoria Coast Guard base. Aussie Gronow, Joe Shembri and myself attended what was a very good end of training BBQ. We were all there to see the official presentation of a bench in memory of Ernie Noel, a long serving Quartermaster who passed away earlier this year. This and the employee awards ceremonies were very well done and it was a pleasure for me to talk with Ella Clark, Ernie's sister, and her son whom we hope to see at our December luncheon. I also took the opportunity to say that our Association welcomed all Coast guard employees and retirees to be members not least of all because we needed some more "good stories" to add to our collection. We maintain contact with our sister organization in the Maritimes region which continues to thrive under its new President David Parkes whom I knew as an Engineer Officer on the "Louis .S. St. Laurent" and went on to head up the Coast Guard College and then was a member of the Maritimes Region management team prior to his retirement. I would wish all of you who may not be able to attend our Christmas Lunch a very happy festive season and to all a great winter and very prosperous 2006. Bill Dancer.



Summer Lunch, June 9, 2005

## 2. Our Christmas 2005 Luncheon

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 8th, 2005. 11:30: - Mingle; 12:15: - Luncheon starts.

**AIM:** To relax, yarn, lunch and celebrate the coming Holiday Season with friends and colleagues in familiar surroundings.

**WHERE:** In the Princess Mary Restaurant, 344 Harbour Road, Victoria, our traditional Christmas Luncheon gathering place.

**WHAT:** The famous Princess Mary Christmas Luncheon Buffet, with all the trimmings.

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

**COST:** \$18.00 per person, including gratuity. There will be the usual "No Host" Bar.

**To facilitate catering, we need to give the Princess Mary Restaurant staff firm numbers not later than Monday, December 5th and we are liable for the numbers reserved. To avoid disappointment, please reserve your place(s) with one of the following as soon as possible (or reserve by email to Bill Dancer [dcdancer@shaw.ca](mailto:dcdancer@shaw.ca) or Joan Scharf, [hjmacdon@shaw.ca](mailto:hjmacdon@shaw.ca))**

Island: Migs Turner 592-1198 Bill Dancer 721-5273 Bob Baird (answering machine) 477-3605  
Mainland: Herb Adrian (Surrey) 596-9355 Cec Rempel (Chilliwack) 858-1983 Diana Miskell 319-8142.  
(Herb. Please co-ordinate with Cec and Diana and pass information to Bill Dancer [dcdancer@shaw.ca](mailto:dcdancer@shaw.ca) Bill will co-ordinate with the Princess Mary Restaurant re number of reservations. Thanks!)

**Mark 11:30 Thursday, December 8th on your calendar and make your RESERVATIONS NOW!**

**For Vancouver/Mainland attendees:** Usual ferry arrangements prevail. **Please let Herb, Cec or Diana know by December 3.** As usual, if you catch the 9 a.m. BC Ferry on **December 8th** as a foot passenger

from TSAWWASSEN (free 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.

**Volunteer Drivers:** We thank Gerry Dixon for being available as our “ferry pick up driver” for our last luncheon. *Would anyone prepared to help out on December 8th please phone Bill Dancer 721-5273).*

### **3. Planning for Summer 2006 Luncheon**

Date and location for the Summer 2006 luncheon - June 8, 2006 at the Princess Mary Restaurant.

### **4. Member Thumbnails**

In our last few issues, we have included a section containing a few words about some of our members, to try to help re-establish contact between former colleagues. As we have said before, so often we see a familiar face at the luncheon or hear a name that “rings a bell”, but because we meet so many people over our working years, we can’t quite remember what each person did. More member “Thumbnails” follow.

**STUART, Wil** - In 1967 Wil returned to Canada with his wife and two children after he had been piloting ships for the previous ten years. In August he joined the Coast Guard at Dartmouth, N.S. and sailed on various vessels, and was CO on the CG cutter Rally. In 1970, Wil was employed in the office of Admiral Tony Storrs as Operations Officer. Two years later he returned to Dartmouth, wrote an exam and was admitted to Ship Safety where his duties included Examiner of Masters and Mates.

In 1974, Wil became the Regional Superintendent Vessel Traffic Services, Maritimes. While in this position the concept of ECAREG Canada was initiated and was later developed and introduced as a VTS system. It proved to be a great success and from it WESTREG and NORDREG were spawned. It is interesting to note that all three of these systems were recently expanded to include Marine Security.

Wil remained in the position of Regional Superintendent, VTS, Maritimes until he retired in June 1991. “The people I met while working in the Coast Guard were, without exception, of high calibre and for this I feel privileged. Furthermore, living in Canada has afforded me enormous pleasure and I will be forever grateful to the country and its people. ... Wil”

**SUTHERLAND, Angus** – Angus graduated from the Canadian Coast Guard College in May 1977. He then served in Central Region as First through Fourth Engineer until August 1979 at which time he went to work for Gulf Oil Canada. Angus returned to the Coast Guard in 1981 as Relief Engineer in Central Region and moved to the Western Region in 1982. He served on the CCGS Sir James Douglas, Camsell, Martha L. Black, Norman McLeod Rogers, and Sir Wilfred Laurier. He was also Chief Engineer, Fleet Maintenance at the Coast Guard Base Victoria, Sea Training Officer – Engineering Officer Cadets at CG Headquarters in Ottawa

Since 1997, Angus has been with the British Columbia Ferry Corporation as Chief Engineer/First Engineer.

**SWEENEY, Don** - Don and his wife are away on a cruise! We’ll have to catch him next time to get the information.

**THOMAS, George** - George began working with the Coast Guard in September 1960. He served on the CCGS Sir James Douglas, and Camsell out of Victoria, and the Nahidik out of Hay River. He retired as Senior Steward in May 1984.

George delighted in his second role as the original “Santa Claus” who brought lightstation children gifts by CCG helicopter from the CCGS Camsell during the Christmas supply trip, for many years.

In 1967 George received the Centennial Medal and Good Show Award given to him by Pat Carney, of the B.C. Government.

**THOMAS, Norman** – Norm started on the CCGS Sir James Douglas in 1966 as a Steward and became Quartermaster in 1965. In 1968 he went to the Coast Guard College and graduated in 1972. He went to

Quebec and sailed on the Bernier, Diberville, and Simon Fraser before moving to the Maritimes in 1974. In the Maritimes he sailed on the Cornwallis, Alert, and Relay. He resigned to come to the West Coast where he joined the Quadra as 3<sup>rd</sup> Mate in the winter of 1975. He has sailed on the Douglas, Camsell, Wolfe, Parkes, Rogers, Narwhal and also on the chartered vessel Arctic Ivik.

Norm is presently Commanding Officer on the Laurier.

**TRUMBLEY, Cec** - After seven years in the RCN, and a few years as a civilian with the RCMP, in 1964 Cec joined the Coast Guard and began working in Stores. He was in charge of the Clothing Store, and also acted as Stores Manager in the absence of the Manager. Cec did all the ordering for the Base. He retired in March 1981 after 17 years and 4 months.

Cec is not able to comfortably attend the luncheon because he has difficulty walking and seeing, but wants to say "Hello" to everyone.

**TURNER, Migs** - Following a 31-year career in the Navy that included commands both afloat and ashore, Migs resigned from the Navy in 1974 to join Coast Guard as Chief of Policy and Coordination, Telecommunications & Electronics (T&E) Branch, Ministry of Transport working for Boris Borodchak in Ottawa. Two years later he became Senior Advisor Development, T&E.

In 1977 Migs came back to the West Coast as Regional Superintendent Coast Guard Vessel Traffic Systems with intervening spells as Acting Fleet Systems Manager, Western Region from 1979 to 1981 and then again from 1985 until 1987 when he was confirmed in the RMFS(W) position. In 1988 he resigned from the Coast Guard to work as a consultant in marine safety.

Migs describes his 14 years association with the members of Coast Guard/MOT as the happiest years of his working career.

In December 1988, Migs, together with Bob Baird, Bud Brett, Doug Callin, Randy Dykes, Bill Exley, Claude Gourdeau, George Graham, David Guy, Peter Jensen, John Linggard, John Strand, Fred Wedgewood and our guest Larry Slaght met at the Princess Mary Restaurant for what was to become our first Coast Guard Association (initially called the Coast Guard Retired Officers' Association) Christmas lunch.

**TURNER, Michael A.H.** - Michael joined the Federal Public Service in May 1969 and began his career with the Coast Guard in May 1971 as a Junior Electrical Engineer in the Maritimes Region at Dartmouth, N.S. He moved to Ottawa in 1983 to take the position of DG Aids and Waterways after John Ballinger passed away, became Deputy Commissioner in 1988, served as Acting Commissioner on two extended occasions, and left the Coast Guard after the appointment of John Adams as Commissioner in December 1998. At that time, he was awarded the Commissioner's Commendation, and the Meritorious Public Service Medal by the Commandant, USCG. Soon after, he joined Public Works and Government Services, where he became Assistant Deputy Minister, Government Telecommunications and Informatics Services in early 2000, returning to his original professional background. After five years in IT services and Government-On-Line he retired from the PublicService, and is now involved with several high-tech companies in Ottawa, as well as doing some international and local consulting.

In June 2005, Michael was awarded an Honourary Diploma from the Canadian Coast Guard College, in recognition of his contribution to the organization.

**VALLANCE, Glen** - Glen retired from the Coast Guard in 1973 after 35 years of service. He began his career in 1938 as Radio Operator at Estevan Point, and retired in 1973 as Telecommunications Area Manager, Victoria. **32 years of retirement! Congratulations, Glen.** We understand Glen just had his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**WATSON, Keith** - Keith was employed as a Marine Aids Technician for most of his career with the Coast Guard and retired on January 7, 2005.

Over his thirty-one years, he participated in National Nav Aids Committees, worked as a Level of Service Officer for about three years, worked as a yard scuba diver and acted as the Shop Foreman for the Lamproom for almost a year. During that time they were honoured through the suggestion award program for their contribution to the development and ultimately the solarization of the entire West Coast, the first Region in Canada. Keith served on Safety Committees, filled in as Shop Steward for many years and did one year as President of Local 20220.

## 5. New Members

We welcome the following new CCGA members to our Association.

**NEWCOMB, Catherine** – Cathy joined the Coast Guard as Admin Clerk in the Helicopter Section in August 1978. She left in October 1997 as Compensation Advisor, Human Resources, and is presently working with the Department of National Defence.

**BRYANT, Rick** - Rick has renewed his membership. He was formerly the Regional Director of the Canadian Coast Guard, Pacific Region.

**BENCKHUYSEN, Justus**. - Justus began his career in Ottawa as a Naval Architect and retired as A/Manager, Engineering and Maintenance, Hull and Materials, Mechanical and Electrical – Technical Services in October 2001.

**HARROLD, Sheila** – Sheila spent twenty years in the Accounts Section. She started in 1966 and retired in 1986. Almost twenty years of retirement!

## 6. Don Clark's Retirement

*(The following is the speech which Don Clark made at his retirement party. – Ed.)*

"To everyone who was part of my retirement party, I say thank you from the bottom of my heart. I appreciate the time and effort that went into putting on the best retirement party ever! I can also appreciate the cost because things have been tough the last while and Christmas is fast approaching. I was very proud to have been honored and hear all the nice things that were said about me with my family there to share in the moment; it proves to me once again that the Coast Guard is not about the company, it is about the people and people who care. I have many great memories of the Coast Guard and you have given me one more that will last a lifetime. Thank you all once again and this is not good-bye but see you soon. Don Clark.

PS: To those of you that know me, you will understand why I got Mo to pass on my words."

## 7. Profile: Frank Statham

*(A "Thumbnail" on Frank Statham was included in the Summer 2005 Newsletter, however, Frank's career with Coast Guard deserves additional space. – Ed.)*

I was hired by Transport Canada Air Services as an electronics technician in June of 1967. I was asked if I knew where Sandspit was, and since I didn't know. I was given a plane ticket and ride in a DC-6 to find out. The one month posting, under Jack Fraser, as a relief technician at the airport turned into four, and was a good introduction into the job. Work was done, not only on the airport electronics, but Fisheries, Coast Guard, and RCMP equipment as well. In November of that year I was posted to the Victoria Ship Electronics Workshop. During the following eight years I was one of Glen Valance/Bim Baylis/Gerry Dixon's gang who did the maintenance and installations on board the vessels, island lightstations and Victoria CG Radio. At that time VSEW also had maintenance responsibilities for Nanaimo, Tofino, and Victoria Airports and so I spent some periods at these stations. Two weathership and two summer arctic patrols were also chalked up.

In 1975 through to 1979 I was Transport Canada's Telecom Branch's marine electronics maintenance specialist. This was a busy period for Telecom as the Vessel Traffic and Loran sites were installed and turned up. Up to this time Marine Services had no electronic field technicians, so every tech had a choice to stay with Air or move to Marine. I had no hesitation in moving to Marine, and since in 1978 my desk was moved from TC Air Services on West Hasting Street to TC Marine Services on Burrard, I went with it.

In 1979 I came back to Victoria as a field technician and carried on with the work on the vessels and equipment scattered around the island. I went up to Hay River a half dozen times in the spring to prepare the vessels based there, and in Fort MacMurray for the summer operations.

By the mid 1980's electronic equipment was becoming very reliable and as such required very little maintenance, staff was being cut back and things were looking a bit grim. As that side of the job decreased new stuff, office automation – computers and networks- was on the rise and tweaked my interest. As the 1990's progressed more of my time was devoted to computer desk top and network support and less to conventional electronics. The job classification turned into a Computer Support person and, by the time I retired in 2001, I was filling the role of acting Regional Network Services Administrator for the electronics branch.

Una and I moved up to Cobble Hill a couple of years ago, and have one granddaughter. I lasted four months on the beach, puttering about the house and then landed a technician job with the local Victoria based Motorola radio dealer RadioWorks. Now my time is taken up with installation and repair of public safety and the commercial two way radio systems, sort of back where I started!

## 8. Triangle Island Light.

A ceremony was held at Sooke Museum on 26 June 2005 to celebrate the relocation of Triangle Island Light from Victoria Coast Guard Base, where it had been stored for many years, to Sooke Museum. The attached photographs show the Light with Graham Kennell in front and some of the Coast Guard retirees who attended the ceremony, including retired lightkeepers Don and Linda Weeden, Doug and Gwen Fraser, along with Graham Kennell and Lanny Seaton. Ed.



## 9. Captain Asbjorn (Aussie) Nilssen

(Honorary member Shirley Hewett provides us with this summary of Captain Asbjorn Nilssen's career with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. – Ed.)



” She’s the best ship there is,” says retired Coast Guard Captain Asbjorn (Aussie) Nilssen, talking about the *CCGS Tanu*. Three years after he retired as the *Tanu*’s skipper, Captain “Aussie” found a way to re- connect to the salt water that shaped his life’s career. As a volunteer, he had a special view of Victoria’s four day June Tall Ships 2005 events. During his role as community liason on board the American gaff rigged topsail schooner *Bill of Rights*, Aussie became part of the ship’s crew, answering questions from the public, giving tours, and helping with ship’s chores.

Following a marine career was a natural for the young Norwegian who grew up in Utskarpen, at the end of a fjord just south of the Arctic Circle where his father fished for cod. When he was 17, Aussie went to sea in the training ship *Statsraad Lehmkuhl* which sailed across the Atlantic Ocean from Bergen to the United States. He fetched up in Vancouver in 1966 and got a job with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans starting as a deckhand. He served on several ships including the *CCGS Hunter Point*, a cutter which was later renamed the *Rider* and the *Sir Wilfrid Laurier*. He got his Home Trade master’s ticket in 1971 and joined the *CCGS Tanu* in 1978, retiring in 2002.

Captain Nilssen talks fondly about his command. “The *Tanu* was built properly (by Yarrows),” he says, “and that made her last. The crew takes great pride in their ship.” He also remembers the days when the *Tanu* roamed as far as the Bering Sea to monitor fishing zones, “I’ve been out in weather you wouldn’t believe”. The worst was off Quatsino Sound in 1985.

For his new career track, Captain Nilssen has transferred the "people skills" honed at the helm of the *Tanu* to benefit visitors to Victoria. As well as the Tall Ships, he acted as the ambassador liason for the Norwegian Curling Team during this spring’s mammoth curling championship events at the new Save on Foods arena. “I never saw a game of curling before I volunteered.” His take on volunteering? “It’s so much fun!”

## 10. Obituaries.

Captain George Graham (1927-2005) passed away peacefully Sunday June 26/2005 after a long illness. Captain Graham joined the Dept of Transport, Marine Services now the Canadian Coast Guard in 1944. He spent his early years sailing out of Prince Rupert as a seaman on the *Alberni*, eventually becoming a mate on the *CCGS Estevan*. George achieved the rank of Captain and sailed as Commanding Officer on the R - Class Cutters, *CCGS Douglas*, *CCGS McKenzie*, *CCGS Nahidik*, *CCGS Darby*, and *CCGS Camsell*. Captain Grahams last command was the *CCGS George R Pearkes*, he retired in Aug of 1988 after an illustrious 44 years career. (A profile of Captain Graham’s illustrious career, originally published in the Summer 2003 Newsletter, is reproduced in this issue. – Ed.)

Jim Cummings died peacefully at Victoria Hospice on July 27, 2005, after a short and intense struggle with cancer. Jim joined the Coast Guard in 1978 as Second Engineer on the *Weathership Vancouver* after a long career that included service in the Royal Navy, the Royal Canadian Navy (where he became the CERA of the *Oberon*, a position that made him the top Submarine Engineer Chief in the RCN) and later engineering positions in private industry. He stayed with the *Weathership Vancouver* until it was decommissioned and then went to the *George E. Darby* as Chief Engineer, until retiring in 1984.

Alex Gilbertson was a regular attendee at our Princess Mary Restaurant lunches. Alex was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on May 1, 1922 and passed away in Victoria on September 27, 2005. We hope to have information on Alex's career in the Merchant Navy and Coast Guard for our next issue.

## 11. Profile: George M. Graham



George was born on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1927, in Clearwater, Manitoba. His father was an Anglican Church Minister. The family moved to Masset, BC in 1930. In 1935 they moved to Atlin, BC. His mother and father passed away in 1940 and 1944 respectively. George's first job was working with the White Pass and Yukon Route on Atlin Lake and Tagish Lake. He left school in 1942 after completing grade 9 and moved to Whitehorse, Y.T in the fall of 1943. He worked there as a swamper on the trucks hauling cord wood.

In the spring of 1944 he moved to Prince Rupert and worked in the shipyard until he got a job with the Department of Transport in August 1944 as a Seaman on the "Alberni". He served under Capt. H.A. Ormiston until Capt. Ormiston was transferred to Victoria in the fall of 1945. He was promoted to Boatswain and served under Capt. Joe Peterson until 1950. In 1951 he undertook home study and got his Limited Master's Certificate. Also in 1951 he was promoted to 2nd Officer and served under Captain Arthur F. Davidson until January 1955. In 1952 he again undertook home study and got his Mate Home Trade Certificate in April.

In 1955 George met Bev, and they were married on June 9, 1956. During this time, George was promoted to Chief Officer and served under Captain R.E.S. Armstrong until the fall of 1956. Also in October 1956, George attended Vancouver Vocational Institute, and by February 1957, had received his Master Home Trade Certificate. In 1957 George was promoted to Relief Master West Coast. He served on the "Alexander MacKenzie" and "Alberni" as Relief Master until George decommissioned the "Alberni" in April 1960 in Victoria.

Upon his return to Prince Rupert he spent some time in the Office and relieving on the CCGS Alexander MacKenzie until 1962. During this time in Prince Rupert, as well as going to sea, George was busy with his family life. Jim was born in 1957, Keith in 1958, Marjorie in 1959 and Muriel in 1961. (George and Bev now have 4 wonderful grandchildren, Christopher, Adina, Andrew and Kelsea.)

George was transferred back to Victoria as Relief Master and Chief Officer in 1962. He relieved on various ships, CCGS Simon Frazer, CCGS Camsell, CCGS Sir James Douglas and CCGS Estevan until September 1964. George was appointed Master of the CCGC Racer in 1964 and served on her until 1968 when he was transferred back to Prince Rupert as Master of the CCGS Alexander MacKenzie. In January 1971. George again returned to Victoria as Master on the CCGS Sir James Douglas. On this transfer Bev and the kids, the dog, plants and trailer all came down on the ferry via Port Hardy. Bev says George came first class as he flew down with no kids. Between 1971 and 1974 George served numerous times as Master on CCGS Camsell.

In 1973 he went back east and spent 3 months as supernumerary on the CCGS Louis S. St.Laurent in the Eastern Arctic. On July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1974, George was transferred to Hay River District as Master on the CCGS Nahidik. He joined the CCGS Nahidik in Vancouver where she was built in Allied Shipyards. They sailed from Vancouver at the end of August across the North Pacific through the Bering Straits and through the Western Arctic arriving in Tuktoyaktuk on September 25<sup>th</sup> and sailing up the Mackenzie River to Hay River, arriving there October 10<sup>th</sup> 1974. George completed the end of the season on October 22 and returned home to Victoria around the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1974. George worked in the Hay River District and Western Arctic until March 1981.

By 1978 George had studied for, and received his ONI certificate. In 1981 he transferred back to Victoria and took Command of the CCGS George E. Darby, also relieving as Master on the CCGS Narwhal and, in 1981, on the CCGS Camsell. In 1982 George was appointed Master of the CCGS Camsell and served on her until 1986, when he took command of the CCGS George R. Pearkes. That was a busy time with commissioning a new ship, performance trials, teething problems, equipment changes, and managing to work within budgetary changes that the Coast Guard was experiencing at the time. Captain Graham retired from the Coast Guard on September 30<sup>th</sup> 1988.

During all those years, George managed to not eat hundreds of different vegetables, and almost quit smoking several times! He and Bev live in Glen Lake and became avid golfers at the Metchosin Golf Club upon retirement, although recently his health has limited his golfing activities. In his 44 years of service, George served in 3 different Districts with 9 different District Marine Agents and District Managers. George also commissioned three new Ships into the Coast Guard Service.

## 12. Victoria Tallships Event

The last weekend of June was a busy time for a number of our members, who participated in events associated with the Tallships Visit to Victoria. As mentioned earlier, our President Bill Dancer and Jas Heer volunteered at the Coast Guard display where great interest was shown in employment opportunities and other aspects of Coast Guard's role.

David Snider took part in the dedication ceremony for the two new lifeboats, "Cape Edenshaw" and "Cape Ann". Rick Bryant, David Bremner, Bill McKechnie, Chris Hyde and Alec Provan participated in a Conference "The Master's Dilemma", hosted by the Company of Master Mariners of Canada. A table-top exercise involving the hypothetical loss of steerage and subsequent grounding of a large passenger ship just outside the limits of Vancouver Harbour provided the focus of the event. Just a few days later, the "Queen of Oak Bay" ran aground in Horseshoe Bay!



Lieut. Governor Iona Campagnola  
and Captain David (Duke) Snider



Rick Bryant, Bill McKechnie, Dave Bremner, Chris Hyde and Alec Provan

**MINUTES**  
**CANADIAN COAST GUARD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**PRINCESS MARY RESTAURANT, JUNE 9, 2005**

**1. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 1313 hours.

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Des O'Halleran moved that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of June 10, 2004 be approved as circulated. Seconded by Bob Manning and carried.

**3. Approval of Actions by the Executive**

Bob V. Jones moved that the actions taken by the Executive on behalf of the CCGA since the last meeting be approved. Seconded by Tony Keil and carried.

**4. Reports**

a) General Report to Members by the President

The membership continues to grow. We had two successful luncheons in Steveston this past year with about 45 members attending each one. We are now turning the logistics of future luncheons over to the Vancouver members. We will report the number of people coming from Victoria and they will co-ordinate the event. The Coast Guard Association in the Maritimes now have a President and we will endeavour to keep a contact with them.

In the coming year Bill plans to visit both the Vancouver Office and the Victoria Base to encourage membership in our Association.

b) Treasurer's Report

The report was presented by Hugh MacDonald and it was noted our financial status is stable and \$1,000 is invested in a GIC. Last year with the interest rate at 1.3%, we earned \$13.00 on our investment. This year it is invested at 1.6%, so our interest will be \$16.00. It was moved by John Gronow and seconded by Reg Gunn that the report be accepted. Motion carried.

**5. Elections**

Bill Dancer stated that Secretary, Joan Scharf and Treasurer, Hugh MacDonald and himself, President, were prepared to stand for another term. There being no other nominations from the floor, Bill Dancer was declared President, Joan Scharf, Secretary and Hugh MacDonald Treasurer, by acclamation.

Bill announced that Ivor Roberts no longer wished to be on the Service Committee, but Sandy Kelley will continue on the Committee. Bill thanked Sandy, Gerry Dixon for his chauffeuring this past year, and Reg Gunn for his work as communication person. Thanks were also expressed to Joan Appleton, Muriel Guy and Janice Phillips for their assistance in receiving membership dues and issuing receipts at the luncheons.

**6. New Business**

There was no new business.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1328 hours.

William Dancer  
President

Joan Scharf  
Secretary.

## Appendix

### 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.

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**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP** may be made by completing the information below and forwarding the signed application, along with one year's membership dues to Joan Scharf, Secretary/Membership, Canadian Coast Guard Association, 204 – 3969 Shelbourne Street, Victoria, B.C. V8N 6J5.

(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!

**N.B. This form can be filled in on-line. Use mouse to move from one line to the next within each frame.**

Name:  Tel. No.  RENEWAL?

Address:   
Email address:

#### Canadian Coast Guard Service:

Retired (Date):  Still Serving?

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: \_\_\_\_\_