

CCGA PACIFIC Newsletter

December 2022

Happy holidays and Merry Christmas from RHIOT school. See you in 2023



Merry Christmas

Greetings from the President.
CCG Updates
National CCG Alumni update
Remembering
Miscellaneous

Greetings from the President

I hope you are all keeping well and safe.

Our First official lunch after the Covid years was well attended at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, 01 December 2022. The Assistant Commissioner Derek Moss joined us to meet the membership giving us a brief update on the CCG as well emphasizing the need of recruitment for the organization. Derek was instrumental in helping us get the Alumni ID Cards project underway and to be able to use the Commissionaires to create the ID cards for us. You may recognize many in the photos on the website. It was great to see everyone especially those that travelled from the mainland or from up island. It was announced that the CCG Association Pacific was started by Art Mountain, (who attended the luncheon) and a small group of CG members in 1988 who then incorporated the Association with the BC Societies Act in 1996.

The IRB celebrated its 50th Anniversary Saturday, 03 December, 7pm at the CFB Esquimalt Gunroom, Victoria View Road, Victoria. It was organized by Krystal Aikman (CCG) with help at the event from Clay Evans who presented Phil Dauphinee with an award for having served on IRB the earliest and for passing on his great story about his time at IRB 502 in Long Beach. Photos of the event, courtesy of Jordan Wilson will be added to our web site shortly. I clearly remember attending the 30th Anniversary with Jon Churchill and Rick Tolonen at the Royal Oak golf course. How quickly time has gone by. The 50th was very well attended and I did recognize some of the senior managers.

There was also a "Pirate get together" in Courtenay Sept 17th to recognize many well deserving retirees over the last year. I gather it was a blast. A few photos may be seen on our web site under Photos/Retirees courtesy of Sean Potter "Bucko" who also arranged and organized the event.

Please note that Photos from the events and ones taken occasionally from CG Facebook sites are all available on our website at www.ccgapacific.ca

The ID Cards we have started issuing have turned out to be extremely popular both as a second piece of photo ID and for occasional discounts at certain locations. If anyone would still like to obtain a card please either send me a smiling head and shoulders photo or make an appointment to meet with Commissionaire John Meikle at the Victoria CG Base at 250-480-2600.

I look forward to seeing many of you at future get togethers and wish you all the very best for Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

John

Coast Guard Updates

The latest updates from CCG are now available through the Commissioners and the Assistant Commissioners NxNW monthly and bi-monthly Regional Newsletters on our web site at www.ccgapacific.ca.

Along with the Echo newsletter they provide an excellent update from CCG and DFO.

The National Alumni Regional Associations met in person and via Zoom with the CCG Commissioner in Ottawa on October 1st

The group discussed a few items regarding the continued CCG support to the Regional Associations and to the continued building of a National CG Alumni. The following are the notes from the meeting:

Commissioner's Update

- College stepped in to help with Hurricane Fiona
- Looking to expand College programs beyond officer training.
- Long term strategy: CCG will be in 30 years? Michael Wernick assigned to the file.
- FSI – capitalize the entire fleet. Going to go with a big ask for funds.
- Creation of the Personnel Branch to work on Attraction and Recruitment including advertising. Also how can we make it easier for people to join the CCG?
- Success of Adopt of Ship program.

Preserving CCG's History Project

- Nobody hired yet to continue the project.
- Need to Find news clipping of significant events e.g. Air India, when CCG joined DFO etc.
- Additional ideas to capture history: CCG in middle east, IMO missions, Taiwan, CCG's ER involvement in 1991 Gulf War, international leadership vessel traffic services
- Highlight careers, not just vessels, but also shore based operations, admin support, finance, etc.
- Videos being made will be shared with Regional Association members.

Record of Service Card

The Record of Service Card similar to the DND Retirement Card is still being looked into by Ottawa but it maybe a while yet before any decision is finalized. When it does eventually get implemented it is only expected to be issued to people as they retire. Not

to people already retired. In the meantime however as you may be aware we have started issuing Alumni Photo ID Cards in Western/Pacific Region. The Card was very well received at the meeting and each Regional association will consider using the template that is being used by Pacific and shared as the National format (with or without photo) for future use.

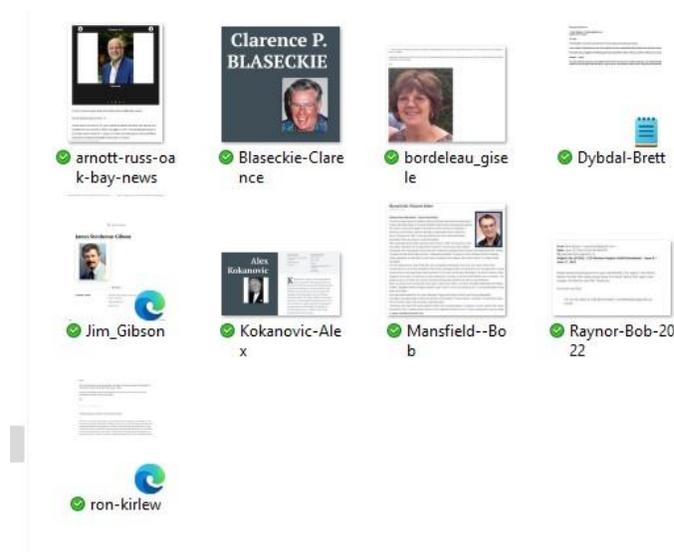
Alumni Items and Dress Code Update

Options to obtain an outlet to sell CCG and CG Alumni items such as Mugs, Crests, Badges, CG Pins, Clothing etc were discussed. Many options such as CANEX, Private businesses, CG College and a Regional Association were suggested however unfortunately none of them seemed viable at this time due to the limited amount that would be sold. The college is however being approached to see if they could possibly just sell the Badges and Pins. If anyone has a suggestion how we might be able to offer such items for sale nationally, please let me know.

The Uniform for Alumni for official functions such as Remembrance Day, memorials etc was discussed. It is suggested that business attire would be grey trousers, blue blazer and CCG crest. The Crest could be an identifier crest, e.g. clip on like Master Mariners use. Sample photos of CG Alumni Crest badges will be sent out to all members for comments and suggestions. The Blazer badge crest would also become a small lapel Pin.

Remembering those that we have lost this year

Individual details may be found on our website under Bulletins / Crossing the Bar



Miscellaneous

Donations: We make annual donations and we are still requesting your input of groups/organizations you feel to be a worthwhile cause. We have previously donated to the Honour House in New Westminster honourhouse.ca that provides a temporary home for members of the Armed Forces and Emergency Services (CCG) who are attending medical services on the lower mainland. Also donations were made to the local Victoria Hospice Society. Please let me know if you have any other worthwhile causes that you would like us to consider.

NAFR: If not already a member, please note the National Association of Federal Retirees (federalretirees.ca) is an advocacy group spread across Canada with a national office in Ottawa. It advocates for our pensions, medical and dental plans, plus keeping an eye out for any federal plans to reduce our benefits. Well worth the small monthly dues off our pension cheques.

Contributions to the Newsletter: Please remember that any articles or photos are very much appreciated for future newsletters. We are now able to keep articles on our permanent website they are not only keeping members up to date but become invaluable historical Association information.

Membership Application: Information may be found on the bottom of the Home page on our website.

Member assistance: It has been especially difficult keeping in touch with everyone over the last few years however please remember to keep us informed about how our members are doing. Anyone knowing of a member (or member's spouse) who is ill, or who may need a little help, let us know. We will be pleased to see if there is any way our organization can be of assistance