



Scarlet and Gold

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans Association, Vancouver

February, 2013

FAIRMONT BARRACKS by Dan Lemieux

On December 12th, 2012, eighty-eight serving and retired members gathered at Heather Stables, (NCO'S Mess) in Fairmont Barracks to say final farewell to the 100 year old building that served the RCMP so well for 92 years. At this time, the future of the building is undetermined, but the past involves a very rich segment of the 139 year history of the Force. Thousands of serving members, special constables, employed civilians, dignitaries, citizens, famous actors and members of other police forces passed through the front door.

Fairmont was built in 1912 as a Boy's School and in 1918, became a hospital for military personnel injured in the First World War. In 1920, it was turned over to the RCMP as "E" Division Headquarters. Over 100 horses were kept in 4 large stables. Much of south Vancouver was undeveloped and Little Mountain was a rock quarry. The horses were removed in 1938, but the four stables were

used for storage and a revolver range until the 1960's. RCMP members in British Columbia only enforced federal statutes. (Customs, Excise, Immigration, Drugs, etc). Some worked out of Fairmont, but many were stationed in detachments throughout the province. Surrey was a single man detachment. In 1920, there were approximately 2,500 members of the RCMP in Canada.

#12352 Cst. Don Van Blarcom of Kelowna, was posted to Fairmont in 1935. He and his troop mates were called upon to maintain law and order during the "On to Ottawa March." Over 1,000 strikers held protests and waterfront strikes, before boarding freight trains with the intention of taking their protest to the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. They were stopped in Regina. 1200 protesters were confronted by police. One hundred and twenty rioters and 39 police officers were injured. One Regina Police officer was killed. RCMP members on horseback

Photo of Fairmont Barracks by **Roger Brett** sometime between 1962 and 1965.



were used for crowd control.

Some familiar names were stationed at Fairmont in 1935. A/Commissioner R.L. Cadiz was C.O. and the Adjutant was Insp. "Turkey" Fowl. S/M Watson looked after discipline and S/Sgt. Cathers looked after Orderly Room and Quarter Master Stores. Tom Fiander and Ernie Cave worked in the Post Garage. Cst. Hap Glanville was the P.T. Instructor and Sgt. "Jockey" Jones was Riding Master. Cpl. Buck Wilson and Cpl. Young looked after drill and small arms. Tom Fiander, Ernie Cave and Hap Glanville were stationed at Fairmont into the 1970's.

In 1936, those in the Mounted Section made up the Musical Ride going to the Rose Bowl in Portland, Oregon and travelling through British Columbia. This group was involved in the making of the famous RCMP film "Rose Marie" starring Nelson Eddy, Jeanette MacDonald and Jimmy Stewart. (Google Rose Marie for details).

In a second civil protest in Vancouver on June 19th, 1938, known as "Bloody Sunday", 1200 protesters occupied the Post Office, Hotel Georgia, Vancouver Hotel and Art Gallery, ultimately doing approximately \$35,000 in damage. As the Post Office was Federal property, the RCMP was assigned the responsibility of removing protesters. They were assisted by Vancouver Police. Forty two protesters and five Vancouver Police officers were injured. A number of Railway Detachments were established to discourage unemployed from riding trains. After the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbour on Dec. 7th, 1941, RCMP members were involved removing Japanese citizens living on the coast, to internment camps in the interior of the province. RCMP members were also involved in transporting native children to schools.

In October of 1950, 492 BC Provincial Police officers were inducted into the RCMP. A number of Municipal Police Departments continued policing cities, but the RCMP took over the remainder. This required personnel of Vancou-

ver Sub/Division to move to Brock House at Jericho Beach in Vancouver. The Drug Squad remained on the 3rd floor of Fairmont. A total of 25 Indoctrination, Part One Recruit Training and Refresher Courses were held before closing in 1954. Gary Cooper visited Fairmont in 1953. ATCO units were added to house the Crime Laboratory, Polygraph and the Bomb Squad. Vancouver Sub/Division remained at Brock House until 1963, while some returned to Fairmont and other locations in the lower mainland.

In 1977, Vancouver Sub/Division moved to Airport Square at the north end of the Arthur Lang Bridge. They remained there until 1985 and which time they moved, into the Worker's Compensation Buildings at 37th and Heather in Vancouver. Later, "E" Division Headquarters moved from Victoria to Vancouver. Fairmont Training Academy was formed and began holding courses previously held at CFB Esquimalt on Vancouver Island. In 2001, Fairmont Training Academy closed and all training moved to the Pacific Regional Training Centre (PRTC) near Chilliwack. In 2013, the RCMP will vacate their current Headquarters, including Fairmont, and move to new quarters in Surrey.

Many who worked, trained or visited the old building have passed on, but those still living will have memories of difficult and complicated investigations, dangerous encounters, successful prosecutions, meals eaten, social events attended, courses taken and acquaintances made while at Fairmont. All have stories to tell. It was a second home to many. Because it is a heritage building, the exterior cannot be changed, and must remain as it looked in 1912. It will be interesting to see who the next occupants will be. I lectured and visited there over a period of 60 years. I know, I will miss it. (#15230 – Retired S/Sgt. Dan Lemieux – deebeel@telus.net) Thanks to Don Van Blarcom for assistance in providing historical data from the 1930's



From the Pen of the President, Tom Quilley

Now that we are over the busy Christmas and New Year's season with family and close friends, we can turn some of our attention to the social and business of the Vancouver Division Veterans Association, with colleagues, associates, family and friends. While there is traditionally little Division Association activity for the general membership during December and January, that is not the case for the several Division Committees. By way of example, a quick count of my appointment Calendar for January shows thirteen meetings, most of which were three or four hours long. I commend, and thank all those Committee Members for their sacrifices and efforts on behalf of our members in an effort to make our social and business meetings events to look forward to. So enough whining already, what positive things can we look forward to in our Centennial year.

Sunday, May 19th, 2013, is the formal date of the RCMP Veterans Association Vancouver Division's One Hundredth Anniversary. Our Centennial/Social Committees have finished most of the planning for a 'Church Service and Social' for that day at the Rancho Hall, Abbotsford, B.C. Our Division Padre, Frank McLeod, will conduct the Service. It will be followed by a brunch, which we see as reminiscent of an old fashion 'Church Social'. A well known 'Elvis' impersonator, Steve Elliott, will entertain us during the 'Social' with a selection of Elvis Presley Religious songs. The Service will commence at 10:30am, brunch at 1:30am and 'Elvis' will entertain starting at :00pm. The event is planned for the Vancouver Division Veterans, our Ladies Auxiliary, and guests. The Rancho will hold 250 people. We are hoping for a good turnout so make a note on your calendars. Remember "It's first come first served".

The Centennial/Social Committees are planning three events to celebrate our Centennial year. The second is

tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 24th, 2013, at Thunderbird Equestrian Park in Langley. B.C. The RCMP Musical Ride will be performing on that date and at that location. The logistics require extensive negotiation with the 'Ride', its sponsors and Thunderbird Park. We hope to arrange a family picnic, take in the 'Ride' and provide an opportunity for our guests to meet and greet Ride Members. Please circle the date on your calendar, and we will provide more firm arrangements as soon as possible.



To round out our Centennial Year, we have commenced planning a 'Fall Wine Tour' of the Okanagan by bus. At present we are looking at about a three day trip, around the last part of September or first week in October, 2013. Our Committee members are in touch with the South Okanagan Division, and we hope to be able to arrange a social gathering with their members sometime during the tour. Again, we hope to be able to supply you with much more information soon in order for you to conveniently arrange to be with us.

Our next General Meeting will be Thursday, February 21st, 2013, 11:30 am, at the Newlands Golf and Country Club, Langley, B.C.. As you can see it will be a luncheon. His Worship, Peter Fassbender, Mayor of the City of Langley has been invited as our guest speaker. Mayor Fassbender was a member of the Provincial Negotiating Committee which recently concluded the RCMP/Province of B.C. Policing contract. He was also involved in a National forum on Policing Cost in Canada. He has been asked to speak on his experiences with the RCMP/Province of B.C. Policing Contract. It should prove to be an interesting meeting. 'Hope to see you there.

Tom (1-604-855-0147 ptquilley@shaw.ca)



Mert Rowden, Secretary

Our next meeting is at Newlands Golf & Country Club, 21025 48 Ave, Langley on Thursday, February 21st, 11:30 AM. The course requires the exact number of attendees well in advance of the meeting. The catering manager would like to have that number by February 15th with the absolute total by February 18th. There will be no additions after that date and we must pay for the no shows. We have enjoyed some flexibility in the past few years at our other venues but not so any more.

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2013 Meetings & Social Events Schedule

February 21st, Thursday, 11:30AM
at Newlands Golf & Country Club,
See Above

March 21st, Thursday, 11:30AM
Rancho Caterers, Abbotsford

April 18th, Thursday, 11:30 AM
Newlands Golf
& Country Club

May 19th, Sunday, 10:30, Church
Service & Service & Social, Rancho
Caterers, Abbotsford

June 6th, Thursday, 1:00 PM, Golf
Tournament, Kings Links, Delta
See Page 7 & 8

June 20th, Thursday, 4:30,
Rancho Caterers,

August 24th, Musical Ride and
Picnic

September 19th, Thursday, 4:30,
"E" Division HQ (tentative)

Late September/Early October,
Centennial Bus Wine Tour,
Okanagan, Dates TBA

October Meeting, date& venue TBA

November 21st, Thursday, 11:30 AM,
Newlands Golf & Country Club

December 12th, Thursday, 3:30 PM,
Levee, Rancho, Abbotsford

The following is written by 90 year old Regina Brett of Cleveland , Ohio .

To celebrate growing older, she wrote the 45 lessons life had taught her. Here are 10 of them:

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. . When in doubt, just take the next small step.
10. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
17. It's never too late to be happy. It's all up to you and no one else.
18. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
27. What other people think of you is none of your business.
29. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
35. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
37. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
40. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.

Complete list at: http://blog.cleveland.com/pdextra/2007/09/regina_bretts_45_life_lessons.html



Treasurer's Report by Ben Gwaltney



Financially, our position remains positive. Our bank account at \$32,226.51 is down very slightly from the level at the beginning of the year. Accounts receivable are just over \$2,000.00 attributable entirely to our sale of advertising space. We bill on an annual basis and the invoices for 2012 have only recently been mailed out. We anticipate that all receivables will be received over the next month or so. We do not have any liabilities at this time. Our GIC account remains at \$27,655.08.

Thank you to all 228 Members of Vancouver Division who have paid their 2013 annual dues. Receipts and current year Membership Cards for these Members have been prepared but we require one more item before mailing them out. The supplier has promised delivery by the end of February and we are committed to completing our mailing ASAP after the supplier delivers.

We are being asked by the Association to pay National Dues in advance of receiving them from our Members. We have, thus far, resisted making advance payments. Our position becomes more salable as more of our Members do pay their dues. For example, National Dues payable for the 228 Members amounts to \$5,016.00 which we have paid. If we were to pay in advance, then we would have to forward an additional \$4,000.00 to Ottawa without having first received it from our Members.

Division Membership Dues are \$60.00 and became **due on January 1st, 2013**. Our address remains unchanged at **657 West 37th Avenue, Vancouver V5Z 1K6** although the relocation of "E" Division HQ to Surrey has commenced. It is being done in stages and it is reported that our current mailing address will remain unchanged until the end of March. We will publish the new address in advance of the change.



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Guard Report by Director Dan Lemieux

In 2011, we received approval to set-up two Guard Commanders-At-Large to fill in when one of our Team Guard Commanders is unable to attend a service. Each Commander-At-Large is fully equipped with a shabrack, Stetson, CD, CD player and flags. We went through 2012 without having to call on either Sheldon Boles or Murray McLaughlin. The pre-planning has finally paid off, as it has recently been necessary to ask Sheldon Boles to fill in for two services. We are most fortunate to have such dedicated team commanders and team members to attend services to provide support and comfort to the families of deceased members. We also greatly appreciate the serving members who volunteer to assist the Honour Guard. Veterans are reminded they are welcome to serve in the Honour Guard with any team.

CENTENNIAL EVENT

**The Centennial Committee of the R.C.M.P. Veterans' Association
(Vancouver Division)
is pleased to announce a**

CHURCH SERVICE & SOCIAL

On Sunday, May 19, 2013

**To celebrate establishment of the Vancouver Division Veterans'
Association 100 Years Ago on May 19, 1913.**

Non-Denominational Service by Padre Frank McLeod,

followed by Buffet-style Brunch

and Gospel Music by Steve "Elvis" Elliott.

Attendance open to all Vancouver Division Veterans &

Ladies Auxiliary, family & friends

at the "Rancho Restaurant"

35110 Delair Rd., Abbotsford, B.C.

Service at 10:30 a.m. (doors open 10:00 a.m.)

BY RESERVATION ONLY (SEATING LIMITED TO 250)

Phone Director, Comp Kelly (604) 535-1970

for reservations, cost, & directions.

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Larry Proke

604-510-4824

Ron Budd

604-535-5960

Jane Hall

604-534-3456

Division Historian

Bob McKee 604-885-6372

Toll Free BC only 1-866-970-7267

Caring Committee Chairperson

Frank McLeod 604-542-0897

Honor Guard Coordinator

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It's dues time, \$60 Please send your cheque for your 2013 dues to Treasurer Ben Gwaltney at 657 West 37th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1K6

As previously reported Treasurer Ben and I are updating our newsletter mailing list to ensure it is current and includes only Life, Honorary, Associate and Active Members entitled to receive the Scarlet & Gold Peter

Following the H.Q move to Surrey Vancouver Vets will continue to use the old address for an interim period.

RCMP Vancouver Vets' Spring Golf Tournament

Thursday, June 6TH, 1:00 PM, Kings Links Golf Course

3388 - 72ND Street, Delta, B.C. Phone: 604-952-0999

Email: proshop@kingslinks.ca Cost: \$85

Participants are encouraged to enter as a foursome but all entries will be accommodated
Players are responsible for procuring their own power carts
and must do so by contacting the course Pro-Shop

Submit entry fees to:

Bill Duckworth, Ste. 216 - 1315 56 Street, Delta, BC V4L 2A6

Phone: 604-948-9928 E-Mail: wd9928@telus.net

Application for entry on over side





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Theatre Seats Contributed by Russ Borys

An old man lay sprawled across three entire seats in the movie theatre. When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the old man, "Sorry sir, but you're only allowed one seat." The old man groaned but didn't budge. The usher became more impatient. "Sir, if you don't get up from there I'm going to have to call the manager." Once again, the old man just groaned. The usher marched briskly back up the aisle, and in a moment he returned with the manager. Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move the old disheveled man with no success. Finally they summoned the police.

The officer surveyed the situation briefly then asked, "All right buddy what's your name?"

"Fred," the old man moaned.

"Where ya from, Fred ?" asked the police Officer.

With terrible pain in his voice, and without moving a muscle, Fred replied, "The balcony."



RCMP Vancouver Vets' Spring Golf Tournament, 2013

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____



Ladies Auxiliary

February 7, 2013 Luncheon/Meeting: This was the first Auxiliary Luncheon/Meeting for 2013 and was held in the Arian Room at the Best Western "Abercorn Inn" in Richmond, B.C. This is also the same hotel where we hold our Annual Christmas Luncheon. After much searching for a new location, since the Fairmont Building was closed in December 2012, it was decided to try this location and the decision was well-received by those in attendance. We were able to seat the 40 ladies present with room to spare for more attendees as well. The meal of soup, sandwiches, fruit, veggies, tea/coffee and desert was presented buffet style by the hotel with waiter service. The Auxiliary Executive provided its members and guests with a decorated birthday cake to celebrate our Auxiliary's 77th Birthday (the actual date being February 26th). Red balloons, and table center-pieces of potted red primroses, added to the decor. Many of the ladies wore something in "red" to celebrate "Heart Month" and St. Valentine's Day."

Our Guest Speaker was Sgt. Elizabeth Smith, from the new "E" Division Headquarters Building, who had been our Guest Speaker when we first located our Auxiliary meetings in the Fairmont Building a number of years ago. She gave a very interesting and informative talk about the location, layout, and use of the new R.C.M.P. facilities and handed out a site plan and photographs of the buildings, etc. She, too, dressed in red, wearing her red tunic jacket and black long uniform formal dress skirt for the occasion. It was decided that the present Auxiliary Executive would remain in place for this coming year of 2013. No new names came forth in 2012 for nominations for the 2013/2014 Executive positions, and with the

major change and uncertainty of having to find a new location for our Luncheon/ Meetings, it was felt that a change in Executive at this time would not be appropriate.

Linus Afghans/Blankets: At this February meeting, 19 blankets were handed in by members and guests for presentation to the Variety Club. With the Variety Telethon this month, the afghans/blankets are very much appreciated for presentation to the children attending the Telethon, many of whom are sitting in wheelchairs for some time during the event. A letter has been received from the Variety Club thanking us for our donations, and they also sent along heart-shaped pins (for presentation to the ladies who donated the afghans/blankets) which were presented by President, Kathy Turnbull, at this meeting.

Thirty toques were also donated at this meeting by Mae Kneipkemp, a guest of the Auxiliary, and these have been delivered to "Covenant House" for use by their clients.

Life Membership Presentation: At the December 6, 2012 Auxiliary Christmas Luncheon, Bev McShane was presented with her 20-Year Life Membership certificate and pin by Auxiliary President, Kathy Turnbull. Bev joined the Auxiliary in 1992 when the Auxiliary met in the Kerrisdale District of Vancouver.

March 7, 2013 Luncheon/Meeting: We will be meeting at the Abercorn Inn (Best Western) in Richmond, B.C. for our March event. Members are reminded that we usually wear something "green" to celebrate the month of "St. Patrick."

Dorothy Martinson,
Past- President (604) 261-4630



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White Rock Koffee Klatch

ABC Restaurant on King George Hwy.
10:00 AM, Second Tuesday of Every Month

Abbotsford Koffee Klatch

Roseland Family Restaurant, 5 Corners
33550 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford
10:00 AM, last Wednesday

Richmond Koffee Klatch

Minoru Seniors Centre, Minoru Blvd and Granville
Ave., 9:45 AM, 4th Thursday of every month

Friday Lunch Crew

Every Friday at 11:00 AM at the Legion in Ladner.

Chilliwack Vets & Ladies Coffee Klatch

Younies Family Restaurant, Corner of Yale
& Hodgins, Chilliwack

2nd Monday each month, 10 AM

North Shore Koffee Klatch

The Mosquito Grill & Bar, Westview Shopping Mall,
11:00 AM, 1st Tuesday of every month

Vancouver Koffee Klatch

White Spot Restaurant in Oakridge Mall
Second Thursday each Month, 10 AM
Call Herb Martinson, 604-261-4630

Coquitlam Koffee Klatch

Coquitlam Grill on the Barnet Hwy.
3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:30 AM

Maple Ridge Coffee Crew

ABC Restaurant on Lougheed Hwy. at Dewdney
Trunk Road. Every Sunday morning at 9:30 AM

Langley Koffee Klatch

Langley Golf Centre, 21550—44th Avenue, Corner
of 216th Street and 44th Avenue, Langley 9 AM, first
Tuesday of the month.

The RCMP Vets Vancouver Division
newsletter is produced monthly, July, August
and December excepted.

Vancouver Division Governors

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Cpl. Mike STANFORD, 604-598-5687

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- Veteran Affairs (DVA) for Hearing Pensions 1-866-522-2122
- B.C. Health Care Plan (MSPBC) Vancouver 604-736-2033
- Old Age Security (OAS) & Canada Pension Plan (CPP) 1-800-277-9914
- RCMP Veterans' National Association: www.rcmpvetsnational.ca
- <http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/> Password: stroch

Dinners Call Secretary Mert Rowden at 604-434-0424 three days prior to meeting to ensure a meal will be available for you. In Abbotsford the bar opens at 5:00 PM and dinner is at 6:00 PM. In Vancouver the bar opens at 11:30 AM, lunch is at 12:00 NN.

Are you shut in? Would you like a visit from a fellow vet? Call Jim Druchet at (604)-536-1925.

Dues The dues for the Veterans Association at \$60.00 per year and are due on January 1 of each year. Funds should be forwarded to the Veterans Association office using our mailing address.

Our Address *Until further notice*

RCMP Vets Association, Vancouver Division
657 West 37th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1K6

www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com

Newsletter Editor

Peter Bond,
6394 Gale Avenue North, Sechelt V0N 3A5
Tel: (604) 740-9962
Email: bondsechelt@dccnet.com

Rides to Vet's Meetings Don't drive at night? Don't drive in the rain. Don't drive at all but want to go to a meeting? Dick Hawkshaw or Carl Anderson. Dick or Carl will arrange transportation for you. If you're willing to provide a ride for a fellow vet to a meeting please call Dick or Carl.

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