

DOLPHIN

s a v i n g l i v e s a t s e a



Spring 2002
Vol. 12, No. 1

23rd Annual General Meeting a Success

On February 21-24, 2002, members and guests of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Pacific Region congregated in Victoria for the CCGA-P's 23rd Annual General Meeting. As in past years, this year's AGM was an opportunity for CCGA-P members from throughout the region to meet each other and exchange experiences and ideas through workshops, training exercises and social events.

Thursday, February 21st

Events began on Thursday with a Trade Show/Meet & Greet, which coincided with registration for CCGA-P members. 13 exhibitors from various marine suppliers and related organizations displayed their goods for members and guests alike. The silent auction also began at this time— everything from a limited edition print by Robert Bateman to a Mazda minivan were put up for auction, with the funds raised going to the CCGA-P.

Friday, February 22nd

Friday was devoted for the most part to unit leader workshops and the regional SAR Skills Competition (for more on the competition, see page six). The unit leader workshops were ably facilitated by CCGA-P Archivist/Historian Scott Sutherland, and conducted by Robert Sonier and Mireille Talbot of Marsh Canada Insurance, Volunteer Recruitment & Retention Trainer/Consultant Keith Pattinson, and Public Affairs Specialist and Marketing Consultant Dickson Melville.

AGM Coverage continued on page 4

Members of the CCGA-P and guests are introduced at the AGM's Opening Ceremonies to Bobby, the newest member of the CCGA-Pacific fleet. Bobby will be travelling throughout the region, teaching kids about boating safety.



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DOLPHIN

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President's Comments

Once again, the CCGA-P's Annual General Meeting was a productive and entertaining event—evidence of that can be found throughout this issue of the *Dolphin*. Congratulations are definitely due to the Zone 3 organizing committee for putting together such an informative and enjoyable event. Congratulations are also due to the many award winners at this year's AGM. At Saturday's luncheon and dinner, numerous members received well-deserved recognition for their hard work. Congratulations everyone!

Board of Directors

It is an honour to have been re-elected President for this year. I will continue to strive to fulfill the principles of teamwork, accountability, and growth, along with the rest of the Board of Directors. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome two new members to our Board of Directors, Dave Lamb (Boating Safety) and Brian Cameron (Training). Dave will be assisted in his new position by Deputy Directors John Kane and Ric Tolonen. Allan Hughes and Shawn Burchett will assist Ryan Woodward as Deputy Directors of SAR/Operations. Thank you to all of our directors for their hard work and dedication over the past year!



Frank Hudson, President,
CCGA-P

Welcome to Bobbie

Bobbie the robotic safety boat, who was introduced to us at the AGM, is a welcome addition to our boating safety program. Bobbie, who is patterned after the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary's Coastie and is sponsored in part by Buoy o Boy Marine Safety Wear, will be travelling throughout the region to educate kids and their parents about the importance of safety in and around the water. A second robot has recently arrived in the Lower Mainland, giving the CCGA-P even more of an opportunity to spread the boating safety message. Bobbie will make his first international trip in October, as he attends SAR 2002 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to compete with Coastie in our very own 'Robot Wars'. Best of luck Bobbie!

International Lifeboat Federation

One of the many distinguished speakers at our AGM, Commander Michael Woodroffe of the International Lifeboat Federation, has recently confirmed the CCGA-P's admittance to the ILF. This prestigious membership makes us a part of a worldwide SAR team committed as we are to the ideals of saving lives at sea and promoting boating safety. We are extremely proud to have been made a member of such a worthwhile organization.

Contribution Agreement

On April 17, the five CCGA Presidents from across Canada met in Ottawa to sign the Contribution Agreement with the Canadian Coast Guard. While contribution agreement funds assist us with our operational expenses, they do not nearly cover the true operational and capital costs of running this organization. In order to continue to provide the boating public with an effective and efficient search and rescue and SAR prevention service, we will strive as an organization to find other sources of funding to cover our increasing operational, training, capital, and insurance costs.

Have a safe summer boating season! Until next time,

Frank Hudson
President, CCGA-P

AGM 2002 Coverage (Continued from page 1)



Dave Lindley (Unit Leader, Unit 36 Saanich) receives the unit's new vessel certificate from Captain Richard Town, Pacific Fleet, and Regional Director Mike Henderson, Canadian Coast Guard.

Associate Membership

At AGM 2002, the CCGA-P membership voted to amend the CCGA-P bylaws to include a new class of membership called 'Associate Member'. This class of membership will allow members to remain in the CCGA-P and not impact the cost of operations with the cost of insurance, first aid and training. Unit leaders will have the option of asking inactive members if they wish to be transferred from active to associate membership status after 6 months of inactivity; if they wish to remain active they will have to start participating. If not, they will have to accept the new class of membership or resign from the CCGA-P. Members that are active have the right with their unit leader's permission to move to associate membership class. Associate members also have the option of reapplying to become active members if they wish to begin participating in the operations of the unit.

A CCGA-P website presentation was also held by CCGA-P Vice-President Malcolm Dunderdale, and an Operations Q & A was led by Superintendent John Palliser and Rescue Officer Alison Keighan of the Canadian Coast Guard, along with CCGA-P directors Ryan Woodward and Allan Hughes. The day was capped off with a semi-formal dinner that featured guest speakers Craig Forrest and Chuck Gagnon of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Yvette Myers, Director of Marine Programs, Canadian Coast Guard.

Saturday, February 23rd

Saturday's events began with the meeting's official opening ceremonies. Opening remarks from President Frank Hudson were followed by a prayer for fallen members, led by Unit 14 (Gibsons) Deputy Unit Leader Sheila Flynn. Sheila's thoughtful words were followed by remarks from Deputy Mayor David McLean (Victoria), MLA Sheila Orr (Victoria/Hillside),

National Vice-Commodore Barbara Sands (United States Coast Guard Auxiliary), Captain Richard Town (Pacific Fleet), CEO Harry Strong (CCGA), Hon. David Anderson, MP (Victoria), and Commander Michael Woodroffe (International Lifeboat Federation).

Representing Admiral James Fraser of the Pacific Fleet, Captain Town and Regional Director Mike Henderson (Canadian Coast Guard) presented new vessel certificates to Paul Elsoff (Unit 8 Delta), Ken Morissette (Unit 25 Gulf Islands), Dave Lindley (Unit 36 Saanich), and Mark Livingstone (Unit 38 Long Beach) on behalf of their units.

The morning's remarks were followed by a special guest appearance by the newest member of the CCGA-P fleet, Bobbie the Safety Boat (for more on Bobbie, see page 11).

After Bobbie's introduction, the awards luncheon began. The lunch was presided over by Hon. Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, and featured speeches from her Honour, as well as Regional Director Henderson (CCG). Following these remarks, awards were presented to some of the CCGA-P members who have demonstrated outstanding service to the organization for a significant period of time. Craig Dunn (Unit 35 Victoria) received the Canadian Coast Guard's Commissioner's Commendation, Barry Hastings (Unit 6 Richmond North) received the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary's Leadership medal, and each of the CCGA-P's past presidents received a plaque in recognition of their service. A special posthumous life membership was also awarded to past president Ed Brooke, who passed away in 1999. The award was accepted on his behalf by his widow Pat Murray and son Erik Brooke.

Once the awards luncheon concluded, CCGA-P members conducted the business portion of the meeting. A motion was passed at this time authorizing a change in the CCGA-P bylaws that allows for a new class of membership known as associate membership. This class of membership is available to those CCGA-P members that either can't or no longer wish to continue with the provision of the delivery of operations, boating safety, and/or administration activities (for more information, see sidebar).

At the conclusion of the business meeting, the CCGA-P Board of Directors met to appoint the portfolio holders for the 2002-2003 fiscal year. Frank Hudson (Unit 35 Victoria), Malcolm Dunderdale (Unit 66 Queen Charlotte), and Bruce Falkins (Unit 1 Howe Sound) were re-appointed as President, Vice-President, and Treasurer respectively.

Dave Lamb (Unit 4 Vancouver) was appointed Boating Safety Director, Brian Cameron (Unit 60 Comox) was appointed Training Director, Ryan Woodward (Unit 6 Richmond North) was re-appointed SAR/Operations Director, Craig Dunn (Unit 35 Victoria) was re-appointed Director of International Strategic Alliances, Scott Sutherland (Unit 35 Victoria) was re-appointed Archivist/Historian, and Jim Toogood (Unit 7 Steveston) was re-appointed Equipment/Stores Officer.

Three new deputy directors were also appointed at this time: Shawn Burchett (Unit 1 Howe Sound) will join Allan Hughes as Deputy Director, SAR/Operations, and Ric Tolonen (Unit 35 Victoria) and John Kane (Unit 6 Richmond North) were appointed Deputy Directors of Boating Safety.

Once the Board of Directors meeting concluded, members and guests congregated again for the Saturday evening Awards Banquet. Following a presentation by Commander Michael Woodroffe of the International Lifeboat Federation, the awards were presented (see page 12 for award winners). The awards were followed by a dance, which was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended.



CCGA-P Board of Directors, 2002-2003

Sunday, February 24th

The final day, Sunday, began with comments from the 2002-2003 President Frank Hudson. Hudson introduced the 2002-2003 Board of Directors to all present, and emphasized that all directors will be working hard over the next year to complete the CCGA-P's strategic initiatives. Board introductions were followed by a SAR/Operations presentation from Director Ryan Woodward and Deputy Director Allan Hughes, which was followed by a Boating Safety presentation from new director Dave Lamb. Dave's presentation was followed by a Crew Level Training Manual update from 2001-2002 Training Director John Thomas and Coast Guard Training Officer Tyler Brand.

The AGM drew to a close shortly before noon, with Frank Hudson passing on the burgee to the zone director and unit leader of the unit hosting AGM 2003, Allan Hughes (Director, Zone 5) and Roger Wishart (Unit Leader, Unit 60 Comox).

Due to the hard work of many volunteers (including Zone 3 AGM committee members Glenn Driscoll, René Landry, Merilee Martell, Rick Lewis, and Jay Young) and staff members, AGM 2002 was a success. Thanks go to all of those that helped with the event, and all that attended.

Tanis Toope
Special Projects Officer, CCGA-P

SAR Skills Competition: A Planner's Perspective

Ed Walker, Donna Beesley and I spent a lot of time together planning this year's SAR Skills Competition. Trying to think of absolutely everything takes a huge thought commitment. Requesting Coast Guard vessels, inviting judges, making arrangements with *Milestones* to feed us, getting all the volunteers in order...and the tasks go on and on.

The closer we got to February 22nd, the more our stomachs hurt! Ed went off to RHIOT school and left Donna and I feeling like orphans (we were now joined at the hip). We had no choice but to go shopping, so off we went to *Island*

Blueprint for charts and tide tables, grease pencils, and all those other things girls like to buy.

Getting the communications van was a bit of a challenge. We didn't realize it was not in Sidney. We had already sold our souls to Mark Simpson, Marine Communications & Traffic Services Officer. He needed the van in order to judge the radio communications. As with all the other small miracles, the van was in place for the competition, thanks to members of Unit 60, who drove it down from Comox for the event.

Only a few days prior to the competition, we finally got approval to borrow two Canadian Coast Guard 733 vessels. With Dave Stubbs (Unit 33 Oak Bay) and Tom Christie (Unit 35 Victoria) as coxswains, and Donna and myself as crew, we brought the boats over from the Institute of Ocean Sciences at Pat Bay on February 21st. It was overcast with foggy spots, and the air was bitterly cold, but we pressed on, in

tandem, for the duration. This was our 'One for the Gipper'.

Thursday evening was spent prepping competitors, judges, first aid victims, team directors, and Harbour Ferries skippers. We needed each person to be in the right place at the right time.

Friday morning started very early at the Inner Harbour. It was a cold, wet morning— thank goodness for the beautiful venue. The chill and drizzle didn't stop anyone. After all, it was just weather, and this is what we do.

So, all in all, the competition went very well, due to the professionalism of the judges, the competence of the teams, and the dedication of the volunteers.

Merilee Martell SAR Skills Coordinator, AGM 2002

Congratulations to all of the teams that took part in the CCGA-P 2003 SAR Skills Competition:

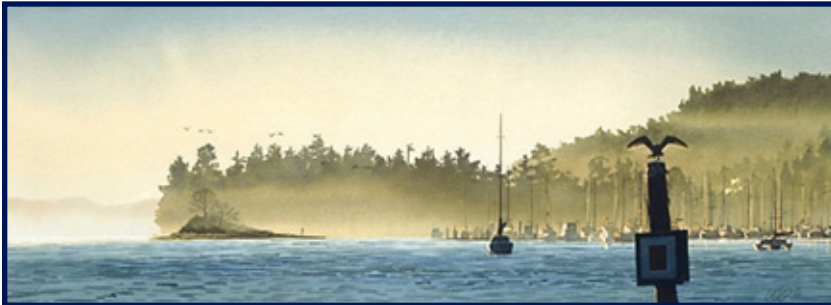
- Team 1: Peter Thomas, Peter Jarvenpaa, Peter MacCaulay (Unit 7 Steveston)
- Team 2: Tony Brearley, Doug Currie, Sheila Flynn (Unit 14 Gibsons)
- Team 3: Bill Nadeau, Marcel Simard, Ryan Cicanski (Unit 27 Nanaimo)
- Team 4: David Holmes, Ed Rothnie, Tom Maxwell (Unit 33 Oak Bay)
- Team 5: Kim Pearce, Simon Pearce, Nick Russell (Unit 35 Victoria)
- Team 6: Les Obbagy, Allan Gornall, Bob Bouck (Unit 60 Comox)
- Team 7: Dario Grossi, Mike Sorensen, Charles Tree (Unit 64 Prince Rupert)
- Team 8: Robert Ells, Peter Grundmann, Jim Henry (Unit 69 Sandspit)



Peter Macaulay and Peter Jarvenpaa of Zone 1's SAR Skills Competition team get ready for the on-water portion of the event. Zone 1's team (which also included Peter Thomas) came in first place overall in the competition, and will be representing the Pacific Region at SAR 2002 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on October 5, 2002. Team alternate Simon Pearce (Unit 35 Victoria), who was chosen by draw from the rest of the SAR competitors, will also attend.

AGM Silent Auction Buzzes with Success!

The 2002 AGM in Victoria set the stage for the CCGA-P's first Silent Auction fundraiser, an event that ran throughout February 21st - 24th and was open to all attending delegates. This event helped to offset some of the costs associated with the 2002 AGM, and proved to be a fun, competitive and entertaining opportunity to bid on a wide spectrum of exceptional merchandise.



The framed print *Boats at Sunrise* was donated by Saltspring Island artist Carol Evans.

Auction items were unveiled Thursday evening during the opening Tradeshow and Reception Mixer, and the bidding action really heated up on Saturday in anticipation of Sunday morning's auction close. The event captured the interest of delegates and spouses, as would-be auction winners carefully watched climbing tenders and jockeyed their bids into winning positions.

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Thank You

CCGA-P would like to extend special thanks to the following private donors who provided us with these exciting and valuable auction items:

- Karel Doruyter– framed original oil painting, *Pesuta*
- Ken Faulks– framed original oil painting, *Boat by Government Dock, Sooke BC*
- Christel Fuoss-Moore– framed original water colour, *Barb's Place*
- Carol Evans– framed limited edition print, *Boats at Sunrise*
- Robert Bateman– limited edition print, *Piping Plover*
- Cindy Rudolph– numbered print, *Litter Mates II*
- Jill and Douglas Kot– 1989 Mazda MPV Minivan
- Johnson Family– Mustang Cruiser Suit

As well, we would also like to recognise the substantial corporate contributions of survival gear and equipment to our Auction from Buoy o Boy, McCormick & Co, Mercury Marine, Mustang Technologies and Whites Manufacturing.

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The original painting *Pesuta* was donated by Victoria artist Karel Doruyter.

Corporate sponsors, private donors and a small number of auxiliary units graciously donated many items to the auction block. Included in the list were a variety of artwork, marine equipment, survival clothing, tour packages, airline and ferry passes, and even a minivan! Proceeds collected from the Silent Auction exceeded expectations by totalling just over \$5000— a result that surprised and delighted AGM organizers.

A special thank you goes out to the auxiliary units that responded to our call for contributions of auction and prize items— your efforts are very much appreciated. Given the success of this year's Silent Auction, plans are already underway to include the event at the 2003 AGM in Comox, so watch for your chance to bid on new and exciting items next year!

Judith Cook
Financial Development Coordinator, CCGA-P

ANSWERING THE CALL....



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A Critical Situation

I have had many courses in critical incident stress. I assisted in forming the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary peer defusing group, and have carried out many missions in attending to our members. In addition, I make the topic mandatory in all of my Coastal SAR course presentations. We are taught that a critical incident is an event with significant impact that will change your life forever. We also know that with a buildup of untreated incidents, cumulative stress disorder may result. To whom and when this disorder may occur cannot be defined.

We must constantly be aware of our own fragility, and that of our coworkers. Have you changed? Is your behaviour different? Do you have outbursts of anger or sleep disorders?

Personally, over the last few years, I found myself crying at news stories concerning children, and I was losing my temper at small situations. But as a trained person, I felt that these were normal reactions due to my 35 years in Coast Guard, and 18 years in the CCGA. This, after all, is what critical incident stress does. It wasn't affecting my response or duty, it was 'just the way it is!' During the past ten years, I'd also experienced 'disassociation'. This is the 'thousand mile stare'— you literally blank out.

On November 25th last year, I'd finished the third Coastal SAR course in less than two months, and had been heavily involved in SAR competitions, etc. I came home and sat in front of my computer to write a report, when it happened. I literally broke down. I recognized the seriousness of this uncontrolled abnormal situation, reached for the telephone and called a unit peer. Put yourself at the end of this telephone: you say 'hello', and at the other end is a friend sobbing uncontrollably, wailing hysterically that 'they are all dead— I can't do this any more!' Wow!! My peer's reaction was immediate; he was in my driveway in less than ten minutes.

The next day, I received a phone call from CCGA Victoria, and I was in professional counseling in less than 24 hours.

As a trained CIS person, I knew I was in trouble. I know the benefits of treatment. I share this with all of you. It is vital that you are not only aware of your own mental condition, but also those of your mates.

In closing, there are three people I owe my life to: my peer buddy Ryan Woodward, my Zone Director Bruce Falkins, and to Stan Warlow. Then there is the Board of Directors who also saw to my care and attention.

When we think rescue we think boats and high seas. The 'confidentiality' of the peer system generally would not recognize that a 'life has been saved'. They saved my life.

Let's look after ourselves, and let's continue to look after each other.

Activating the Program

A critical incident is any event of such emotional significance as to overwhelm a person's or group's ability to cope.

Some common situations that lead to critical incident stress in CCGA members are:

- serious injury or death of victim/rescuer
- physically distressing situation (ie, sights & sounds)
- prolonged physical/emotional event
- extraordinary danger to rescuer
- death of a child

It is important to recognize the symptoms of critical incident stress. Common reactions include:

- Cognitive: confusion, difficulty concentrating
- Emotional: helplessness/guilt, feeling driven
- Physical: headaches/dreams/sleep problems, flashbacks
- Behavioral: withdrawing, low appetite

If you are part of an incident and think the CIS Program would be helpful, please request it through your unit leader or CCGA-P Office Manager and CIS Peer Team member Melanie Fugard, at 250-480-2798.

In case of emergency, there is also a 24-hour support number: 1-800-667-0993

New Operations Awards Unveiled at AGM

This year, the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Pacific Region Annual General Meeting was a time for moving our organization ahead, conducting business, renewing old friendships and making new ones. This is a time we recognize the contributions our volunteers have made in their communities.

In the operations presentations at the AGM, Ryan Woodward highlighted that the magic number in operations is one. One response by a unit over the course of a year can make a significant difference in many people's lives. This was certainly the case in some of the new awards that were presented at the AGM Awards Banquet on Saturday February 23, 2002.

This year the Awards Committee added a number of operational awards to honour our members that make a difference. These awards were the John McLean Award, the Incident Duration Award, and the Operations Director's Award.

The John McLean Award is a new operations award that recognizes the owner operator that exemplifies the dedication and professionalism of the CCGA. It was named in honour of John McLean, a founding Director of the CCGA-P, and an owner operator for three decades. The first recipients of the John McLean Award are Bruce and Gordon Jones from Unit 58 (French Creek). Bruce and Gordon joined the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary in 1988. The Joneses presently have two vessels in the CCGA-P owner operator fleet, the *Pac One* and the *Sea Ranger*. The Joneses maintain a vigilant watch on channel 16 listening for mariners in distress in their area, and are quick to dispatch with assistance when required. Gordon and Bruce epitomize the dedication of our owner operators.

The Incident Duration Award was created for the unit that responds to the longest call of the year. This award raises an awareness of the commitment our volunteers make to accomplishing a task. The first unit to receive the longest call award is Unit 53 (Bamfield). Unit 53 primarily co-crews with the Bamfield Coast Guard Station onboard the 47-foot lifeboat the *Cape Calvert* and the station's 733, the *Bamfield 1*. On August 17th, the Bamfield Station was tasked at 0120 to escort a damaged fishing vessel from 70 miles offshore to Port Alberni. The fishing vessel had been involved in a collision with another vessel over 100 miles offshore. The fishing vessel had already been under escort for several hours by the lifeboat *Cape St. James* from Tofino, and the Bamfield Lifeboat was tasked out to relieve them. Bamfield departed in the 44-foot motor Lifeboat *Tofino* and was capable of 11 knots and would take six hours to reach the fishing vessel. The fishing vessel was escorted into Port Alberni arriving at 2000 and the crew then returned to Bamfield at 0040 for a total time on incident of over 23 hours.

The Operations Director's Award was created for the unit that demonstrated an outstanding SAR readiness. The first unit to receive this award is Unit 5 (Crescent Beach). Among other accomplishments, Unit 5 capably handled an increased number of incidents, participated in boating safety events, and kept a very good availability record. The unit also responded to a number of significant SAR incidents, and as a direct result of their actions, lives in jeopardy were saved.

Congratulations to these and all AGM award recipients!

Allan Hughes
Director of Zone 5/Dep. Operations



Bob McVie receives the Incident Duration Award on behalf of his unit (Unit 53 Bamfield) from CCGA-P President Frank Hudson (left).



Rob Weekes receives the Operations Director's Award on behalf of his unit (Unit 5 Crescent Beach) from CCGA-P Operations Director Ryan Woodward (left).

Bobbie Joins the CCGA-P Fleet

At the 2002 Annual General Meeting opening ceremonies, attendees were introduced to the newest member of the Pacific Fleet, Bobbie the Safety Boat. Bobbie, who is 44 inches long and 120 lbs, is a remote-controlled robot whose job is to teach kids about boating safety. He is fully equipped with navigation and searchlights, a rotating beacon, a siren, an air horn, and eyes and eyelids that move. He talks, plays music, and interacts with the instructor and children during presentations. He even has a bilge pump that pumps water like a real boat.

The CCGA-P was first introduced to Bobbie's prototype, Coastie, in June 2001, in Whittier, Alaska. Vice-President Malcolm Dunderdale and Executive Officer Stan Warlow travelled to Whittier to attend a United States Coast Guard Auxiliary vessel dedication, and were introduced to Coastie, one of the numerous robotic safety boats used by the USCGAux. throughout their country. Coastie was originally introduced in Ohio in 1996, and because of his extremely positive interactions with parents and kids at schools, boat shows, parades, and hospitals, the Coastie program has developed into a nationwide effort in the United States.

Based on this positive feedback, Coastie's manufacturer was contacted by the CCGA-P, and a few minor alterations later, the CCGA-P's Bobbie was born.

In his short lifetime, Bobbie has attended the AGM and the Victoria Boat Show, and has even guest starred on a segment for CH News in Victoria. These experiences have already shown that Bobbie is an extremely effective tool for interacting with children and their parents and teaching them about safety on and near the water.

Bobbie is currently based on Vancouver Island, while his 'brother' (an identical robot) has recently been placed in the Lower Mainland.

More information on Bobbie the Safety Boat can be obtained by contacting the CCGA-P Director of Boating Safety, Dave Lamb, at dave.lamb@ccga-p.ca.



Bobbie's appeal to kids is undeniable. Here, he makes a new young friend at the CCGA-P AGM in February. Because Bobbie's operator is not always able to see and hear who he is talking to, he usually works with a partner, who stays upfront with Bobbie. Bobbie's assistant here is United States Coast Guard Auxiliary National Vice-Commodore Barbara Sands.



CCGA-P Financial Development Coordinator Judith Cook poses with Bobbie at the Victoria Boat Show in March.

AGM 2002 Award Winners

The following awards were presented at the Awards Banquet on February 23rd at the CCGA-P's Annual General Meeting. Congratulations to all award recipients:

SAR Wars Ultimate Warrior

Presented to the team that wins the Regional SAR Skills Competition.

Zone 1 team– Peter Jarvenpaa, Peter Thomas, Peter MacCaulay

Certificate of Commendation

To those members and/or units that have displayed commitment and professionalism through their service with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary-Pacific.

Bruce Falkins (1–Howe Sound)	Peter Tabler (39–Port Alberni)
Nicol Warn (12–Halfmoon Bay)	Fred Hyde (53–Bamfield)
Leo White (14–Gibsons)	Stephen Clarke (53–Bamfield)
Mark Stipek (14–Gibsons)	Nathan Webb (53–Bamfield)
George Baracos (33–Oak Bay)	Ruedi Pletscher (54–Campbell River)
Mark Livingstone (38–Long Beach)	Brian Cameron (60–Comox)
Lyle Brewster (38–Long Beach)	Hugh McKinnon (60–Comox)
Unit 39, Port Alberni	Geoff Gould (64–Prince Rupert)



John Palliser, Superintendent Marine SAR, Coast Guard (right), presents members of Unit 42 (Kyuquot) with the JRCC Award for unit operations.

Certificate of Merit

To those members and/or units that have given meritorious service to the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary-Pacific.

Jay Willoughby (2–Indian Arm)
Richard Yorke (33–Oak Bay)
Dave Scott (36–Saanich)
Gary Blake (36–Saanich)

JRCC Award

The Joint Rescue Coordination Centre's Award for unit operations.

Unit 42 (Kyuquot)

Honorary Membership

To a non-member who has given outstanding and exceptional service to the CCGA-P.

Alison Keighan (Rescue Officer, Canadian Coast Guard)
John Palliser (Superintendent, Marine SAR, Canadian Coast Guard)
Clay Evans (Officer in Charge, Bamfield Station)
Clifford Charles (Officer in Charge, Bamfield Station)
Geoff Sanders (Officer in Charge, Campbell River Station)
Tom Burdett (Officer in Charge, Campbell River Station)
Cam Murray (Officer in Charge, French Creek Station)
Cliff Hume (Officer in Charge, French Creek Station)
Ian Kyle (Officer in Charge, Ganges Station)

Office of Boating Safety Award

In recognition of significant contributions in the advancement of boating safety in the Pacific Region.

Dale Scott (3–Fraser Valley)

Mike Award

In recognition of the first rescue of the year performed by a CCGA-P unit in the aid of their fellow mariners.

Unit 64 (Prince Rupert) – Mike #002

Incident Duration Award

In recognition of the CCGA-P unit that took part in the year's longest incident. This award was based on the reports provided to the office.

Unit 53 (Bamfield) – Incident Duration: 23 hours

John McLean Award

In recognition of outstanding service given to the CCGA-P by an owner/operator member.

Bruce and Gordon Jones (58–French Creek)

Tolonen Award

To the CCGA-P unit that accomplishes an outstanding operational record in volunteer marine search and rescue in a support role to the Canadian Coast Guard.

Unit 36 (Saanich)

Operations Director's Award

In recognition of outstanding SAR readiness demonstrated consistently by a CCGA-P unit.

Unit 5 (Crescent Beach)

Lifetime Membership

For outstanding and dedicated service to the CCGA-P.

Tully Waisman (6–Richmond North)

Ric Tolonen (35–Victoria)

John McLean (posthumous)

Ed Brooke (posthumous)



Barry Hastings (Unit 6–Richmond North) receives the CCGA Leadership medal from CCGA CEO Harry Strong and British Columbia Lieutenant-Governor Iona Campagnolo.

Congratulations

An awards luncheon was also held on the Saturday of the AGM, and was presided over by the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, Iona Campagnolo.

The following awards were presented by her Honour:

Commissioner's Commendation

In recognition of exemplary service to the citizens of Canada as an outstanding volunteer with the CCGA-P. Awarded by the Canadian Coast Guard.

Craig Dunn (35–Victoria)

Leadership Medal

In recognition of sustained professional and/or leadership achievements in operations or administration. Awarded by the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (National).

Barry Hastings (6–Richmond North)

Past President's Recognition

Recognition trophies were awarded to all of the past presidents of the CCGA-P, in appreciation of their hard work and dedication.

Jack Simpson (posthumous)

Rick Weldon

Hugh Chamberlain

Mike Lucas (posthumous)

Gordon Hall

Dave Lindley

Fred Switzer

Ralph Ashton

Alex Muir

Ed Brooke (posthumous)

Craig Dunn

Biographical information about the CCGA-P Past Presidents is now available on the website at: <http://www.ccg-pacific.org/pastpresidents.html>

CCGA-P to Launch Kids Don't Float Displays

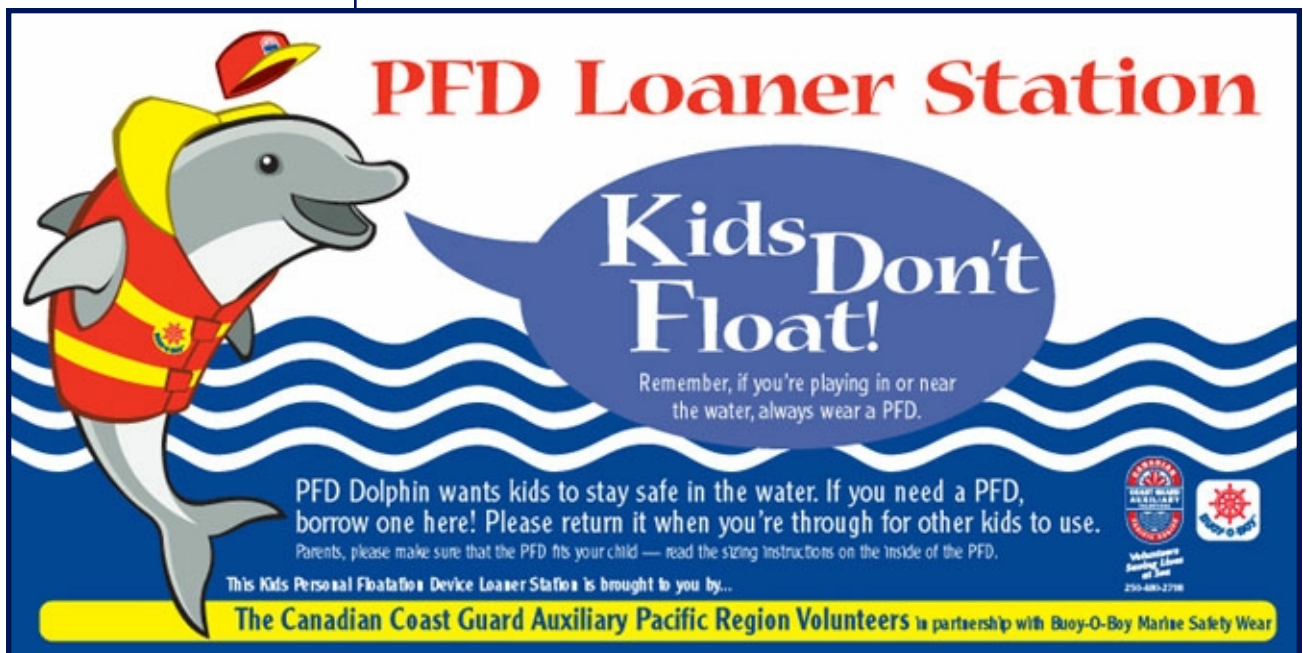
This summer, the CCGA-P will be launching the Kids Don't Float PFD Loaner Station project in numerous locations throughout the Pacific region. These loaner stations will consist of a colourful poster (pictured below) reminding children about the importance of wearing a PFD in or near the water, and offering loaner PFDs for use by any child needing one. The PFDs, which will be available in three junior sizes, will be hung on the sign in easily accessible spots for children.

The Kids Don't Float program began in 1996 in Homer, Alaska, as a response to the high number of drowning deaths in the state. While the program was designed to educate the public about water safety, its primary purpose was to reduce the number of water fatalities. Displays that held children's PFDs were built at lakesides and harbours with high water traffic, so that any child involved in water activities would have access to floatation gear.

The success of the display in Homer prompted the development of other stations in Alaska, and within a few short years, the program was put in place state-wide. There are currently over 250 PFD loaner stations throughout Alaska and over 115 communities participating in the project throughout the state.

The Kids Don't Float program has two main goals: to provide loaner floatation devices to kids at strategic locations, and to educate the people that care for children, such as parents, teachers, and older siblings. The CCGA-P is currently in the developmental stages of the program, and units involved in the pilot project will be launching PFD loaner stations in Greater Victoria, Port Alberni, Cultus Lake, Prince Rupert, Kitimat, and the Queen Charlottes in time for the summer. Children's PFDs are being generously donated for this project by Buoy o Boy Marine Safety Wear.

For more information on the Kids Don't Float project, please contact Vice-President Malcolm Dunderdale at malcolm.dunderdale@ccga-p.ca



Tall Ships Heading for Richmond

On January 31, 2002, Unit 7 (Steveston) escorted the HMCS *Oriole* into Steveston as an introduction for the Richmond Tall Ships 2002 Maritime Festival. The festival, which takes place August 8-12 of this year, marks the beginning of the Tall Ships Challenge 2002. The only Canadian port of call, Richmond/Steveston will host an 'opening ceremonies' of sorts featuring dragon boat races, a tugboat ballet, and a parade of sail, before the ships travel to Seattle to begin their race, which ends in September in San Diego.

The Auxiliary will be a major player in the waterside security and SAR for the event. We will be working in conjunction with BC Ambulance Services, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, RCMP, the Richmond Fire Department, and the Fraser Port Authority during the event to ensure the safety of all who will be attending.

There will be approximately 500,000 spectators over the course of the event that will feature 20 tall ships from around the globe. The ships are Class A, B and C ships ranging from 60 feet to 380 feet, some with a draft of 22 feet.

The intention is to have CCGA-P vessels provide an escort through the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Strait of Georgia, and into Steveston. We will also be escorting the vessels out of the Fraser River at the termination of the event.

Jim Toogood is coordinating the event for the Auxiliary. For more information, please contact Jim at jim.toogood@ccga-p.ca.



The HMCS *Oriole* was escorted into Steveston in January, giving residents of Steveston and Richmond a small taste of what to expect this summer. Over 100,000 square feet of sail is expected to arrive this August, accompanied by over 500 young crew members.

Naval Lore

Prior to the 1800s, the left side of a ship was called the 'load board', because that was the side of the vessel that it was loaded on. Later, it was gradually shortened to 'larboard'.

The right side, in those days, was known as the 'steer side'.

The term 'steerboard', later starboard, may be traced to the Vikings, when the steering was done on the right side, or starboard quarter. This side rudder was used by the Norse mariners until the 12th century, when a second rudder was placed on the left side. Eventually, a stern rudder replaced the two quarter rudders.

In the British Navy, the term Larboard designated the left side of the ship until 1830 when they adopted the word Port. The United States Navy followed suit in 1846. This change is credited to the Portuguese Tagas River pilots who complained to the Admiralty that the similarity of the sounds of Larboard and Starboard made it confusing and dangerous. Hence Larboard became Port.

Kenneth Moore, courtesy and permission of the Chief & Po's Association

Coxswain Profile

Bruce Carlos: Coxswain, Unit 42 Kyuquot

Bruce Carlos is the Unit Leader for Unit 42 (Kyuquot). Although Bruce recently moved from Kyuquot to Parksville, he has remained extremely dedicated to his unit, travelling between the two communities on a regular basis to hold unit meetings and training exercises.

Recently, I asked Bruce some questions about his experiences in the CCGA-P:

How did you get started in the CCGA-P?

The first few years I lived in Kyuquot there were several boating incidents involving children (some of them primary students that I had taught) that made me start looking for programs that would promote safe boating in Kyuquot.



Bruce Carlos (standing right, in ball cap) poses with members of Unit 42 after a training exercise.

I began by inviting the crew of passing Coast Guard and RCMP vessels to present boating safety information to my students. On one visit, a French-Canadian First Mate came ashore and gave a presentation to the students about wearing life preservers. After the informative presentation, I walked the crew back down to their waiting 733. He told me that he had been in many scary situations with the Coast Guard, but not nearly as scary as talking to our group of students!

After learning more about the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary, I began making phone calls. I ended up connecting with then CCGA-P President, Craig Dunn. He was very helpful in setting up a visit into Kyuquot to introduce the CCGA to

Kyuquot. In spring 1998, Craig and a few CCGA members flew into Kyuquot aboard a CG Huey Helicopter. The noise itself made a big impact on the people in Kyuquot! Interested individuals crammed into the meeting at the local band office.

From this point on, I began the process of signing up members for our newly reinstated Unit 42!

What sort of changes have you seen take place during your years with the CCGA-P?

I have seen our unit grow from a group of people interested in boating and helping people into a group of members who work together as a well-oiled machine to do whatever it takes to assist people in distress.

The community now recognizes our unit as a group of trained and equipped people who respond to incidents in an organized and safe way.

Your unit is quite isolated geographically. What do you see as some of the unique challenges you face as a result of this?

Our challenges are related directly to funding new equipment and training.

As we are a five-hour trip from Campbell River (two hours by highway, two hours by logging road, one hour by boat), it is costly to provide transportation for trainers.

Also, the community does not have large corporations to approach as potential donors. The limited equipment we have has either been purchased by our members, given to us by the CCGA-P or paid for through local fundraising.

One of the best parts of our unit is the fact that our vessels are well-kept because using boats in Kyuquot is as normal to us as driving our vehicles around town.

Describe your most memorable SAR incident or CCGA-P experience.

My most memorable incident is the incident in the Summer of 2001. On July 6th, members of Unit 42 responded to an incident several miles off Kyuquot. In rough seas, members professionally assisted a sailboat and two people aboard who were in distress. The wife, who suffered from a brain aneurysm, died after being transported to hospital from Kyuquot. I was impressed by the members' skill in completing the incident and their humanity in dealing with the grieving husband.

What sort of direction would you like to see the CCGA-P take in the future?

I hope that the CCGA-P will continue to increase their support for the small units on our Coast. While our units are small and isolated, they provide a valuable service in their regions.

Do you have any advice or words of wisdom you would like to share with new or prospective members?

I am proud to be a member of Unit 42 and of the CCGA-P. We are part of an organization that stresses professionalism, pride in our members, skill-development, and recognition of members.

I hope our units will continue to encourage younger members to join our units. If you're willing to learn, love the water and enjoy working with people, you have a place in our unit.

-interview by Tanis Toope

Director Reports

Training

Greetings! As the newly appointed Director of Training, I thought it would be appropriate to provide some sort of introduction.

My background is from the military, with a strong emphasis on the training and operational aspects. I have spent the last five years working with Unit 60 (Comox) as their Training Officer and a duty coxswain. I've also had the pleasure of working with Tyler Brand on both the Small Craft Training Instructors Course and the working group for the new SAR Crew Manual.

As you know, the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary is an integral part of the Canadian Search and Rescue (SAR) system. In the future, I suspect that the CCGA and in particular Pacific Region will play an even bigger role in the provision of SAR services. In order to accept this challenge, we on the West coast will have to continue with the strides we have made over the past few years. In particular, we need to ensure our crews are properly trained and safety oriented. It is our responsibility, from unit leader to the highest level, to ensure that our crews can go out, do their job and return safely.

I believe the effectiveness of our organization is based on well-trained and prepared crews. This can be obtained by a good training program, a proper training standard and the necessary support both at the unit and regional levels. I also believe in responsibility and accountability. Crews don't operate by themselves, but they do operate in units and therefore the unit leaders have a very unique position in regard to responsibility and accountability, not only to their crews but also up through the supportive chain of zones and to Pacific Region. I see unit leaders providing a training program or environment that is realistic and dynamic, catering to the growth and changes of their units. In return, my responsibility as a training team member will be to provide guidance, advice, direction and support.

Shortly, we will have a Regional Training Directive, which will provide unit leaders with the necessary guidance and direction. It will present a training standard, to which they can strive towards. This standard will ensure our credibility as SAR professionals. It will also include crew and coxswain (RHIOT) standards. Part of this standard will also include having new and existing members with a CCGA PCOC (or equivalency) certification. Hopefully in the very near future, we will have a distribution plan for the new crew training manual. This will help us ensure we are all singing off the same sheet of music, but the nice part about our organization is that we can be flexible and draw on the wealth of knowledge and experience of our members, while we all move towards a common goal and standard in our training.

As mentioned, part of my responsibility is to provide support and this can come in the form of financial resources. In order to help me with this, it would make sense that unit leaders, through their zone directors, provide more information, so we can all be accountable in ensuring that we get the "best bang for our training bucks." This can start with unit training plans, and more details (the basic who, what, where, when and how) in the training requests. Feel free to add an additional page on those administrative request forms, when submitting them through your zone directors. The more support I get from the unit leaders, the more support I can provide you and your crews.

Training is essential—
it builds trust and
professionalism



SAR Skills Competitor Sheila Flynn (Unit 14 Gibsons) finds her target in the pump competition.

I think, over the years, we have come a long way on the training side. The challenge continues as we address the diversity of our organization, as we stretch from urban to remote units, owner operators, loaned vessels to community owned vessels of every description, some units with a lot of resources and society support to others without. It also includes units with members who have lots of time, experience and knowledge to those that do not. These are all interesting and demanding challenges that we can meet, as we work together as a team with Boating Safety, SAR Operations and our training approach and keep our common goal in mind—“saving lives at sea” and to do it as safely as possible.

I look forward to working with you on training this year and encourage your comments, concerns and suggestions (keeping your zone directors informed) as we strive towards becoming a world leader in Marine Search and Rescue.

Brian Cameron
Director of Training

Boating Safety

As the newly elected Director of Boating Safety for the Pacific Region, I have been working to improve communication between the directors and the units. I have asked my Deputy Directors John Kane (Mainland) and Ric Tolonen (Vancouver Island) to assist me in providing this support to the members. We have been in contact with many units and received very clear directions from the members. The members have identified training, communications, educational materials, and simplified administrative support systems as priorities for the next year.

In response to this feedback, a number of measures are being introduced to provide increased support to the units with Boating Safety programs in place. It is my intention to support unit members with improved communication procedures and material that is more accessible. The end result will be an improvement in the auxillarists' abilities to support the safety of the boating public.

Forms used by Boating Safety Program members are a priority, as written communication is an important piece of our accountability framework. Being accountable means that we can assure the funders, the public and the members that we are meeting our mandate and goals. Written communication, such as standard forms, are one way to demonstrate the way we provide services. The forms were routed through several people for editorial comments and are available on the website, at www.ccca-p.ca. The forms can be downloaded or printed. They would then be sent to the Director/Officer responsible either through e-mail or fax. I am able to send a completed sample of these forms via e-mail if required. I welcome constructive suggestions for improvements.

In closing, I want to thank you for your support up to now and know that I can and will be depending on you for continued feedback and your usual hard work.

Dave Lamb
Director of Boating Safety

Forms

The following boating safety forms were revised in March 2002: the Boating Safety Training Request form, the Boating Safety Event Request and Follow-up form and the Boating Safety Supplies Requisition form. The revisions are intended to clarify the information requested, update information on the form and to generally make it easier to complete in a way that is useful for the members and the administration.

Please note that all requests for Boating Safety Supplies are to be submitted on the revised form and forwarded to the Officer listed on the form. Do not send requests directly to the Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety.

The new forms introduced in March 2002 were designed primarily as a tool to assist members in meeting the requirements for better accountability in our program. It is not mandatory to use these forms, however the information collected on them is required.

The three new forms include the Boating Safety Month End Report (for Unit and/or Zone Boating Safety Officers), Boating Safety Event Attendance Record (for organizers of events), and the Boating Safety Members Daily Activity Record (for members working alone, not for use at organized events).

Contact Information

As the Director I am able to provide you with a variety of communication avenues. Constructive suggestions are always welcome and I look forward to hearing from you. I can be reached as follows:

Pager: 604 979 1073 (Lower Mainland)

Pager: 1 800 304 9310 (toll free, outside Lower Mainland)

Fax: 604 464 6659

E-mail: dave.lamb@ccga-p.ca or dtlamb@telus.net

Director Report

SAR/Operations

Another hello to everyone!

The last few months have been about the same as any others—BUSY! All members deserve a huge pat on the back for the amount of effort and energy that gets put into Search and Rescue (SAR) response and readiness on an ongoing basis. In order to help support the operations of the Pacific region better, the operations portfolio has recently grown with Shawn Burchett joining the team (Allan Hughes and myself) as a Deputy Director of SAR/Operations.

Based on the SAR Mission Reports received by the CCGA-P Office, the following statistics were generated: The 2001 calendar year saw CCGA-P members of 35 different units take part in over 1079 SAR taskings, which took over 6,900 person hours of time to complete. This is an even more impressive number when the amount of support, logistical, training and fundraising work that must take place in the background is considered.

So far, 2002 has also gotten off to a very busy start, with CCGA-P members in 25 units responding to over 88 SAR taskings requiring over 506 person hours. During the course of these 88 SAR taskings, 56 people were assisted, and an additional 17 were saved!¹

Regarding vessels being out of service, when the log was first initiated in July 2001, an average week saw seven vessels reporting out of service for any period of time. Over the entire month of February, we had a total of three vessels report out of service for any length of time— all due to mechanical problems. Of note is that in any case, having a vessel out of service is not the same as the entire unit being unavailable for SAR. Use of owner operators and spare vessels (when and where available) has contributed greatly to keeping down the number of times CCGA units are unavailable even though a unit's primary vessel may be unavailable. Please continue to put in the extra effort to ensure that SAR coverage stays in place— you're all doing a great job!

With respect to the vessels operated by CCGA-P units, since the vessel database update completed this past summer, the number of owner operators has been on the rise with five new vessels recently being accepted in Sooke, Port Hardy and Prince Rupert. In addition, two new replacement dedicated response vessels that are in construction now should be in service with Delta and Saanich later this spring.

The Special Event (SE) season will be upon us very soon. Please try to submit your SE requests to the office as early as possible, and remember to submit a request for every SE your unit intends to participate in!

On the administrative side of things, brace yourselves for revisions to the SAR Mission Report form, AVI form and the operations section of the Unit Leader's Manual, which should all be coming this spring. We're still not getting SAR Mission Reports from all units consistently! Ideally, we should be getting them from all of our owner operators, all of our dedicated response vessels and all of the units participating in co-crew activities with the Canadian Coast Guard.

A reminder to even numbered units that your AVI/CE and Vessel Offer renewals are due back to the office by May 1, 2002. If you have any questions regarding this please contact Allan or myself.

As always, if anyone has any operations questions, comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me! Until next time– keep up the good work & STAY SAFE!

Ryan Woodward
Director of SAR/Operations

ⁱ Based on information from submitted CCGA-P SAR Mission Reports. Algorithm used: Lives saved = “saved field” if the report shows the unit/vessel assisted is in “Distress”; Lives assisted = “saved field” if the report shows the unit/vessel assisted is in “Imminent Danger” or “No Danger”.

ⁱⁱ This represents the number of reports where the type of incident could not be determined due to lack of information on the report.



Unit 8 (Delta)'s new vessel is primed for painting. Delta's new vessel is being manufactured by Sidney's Carswell Industries.

In 2001 the most common incident types were:

1.	Mechanical Failure	134
2.	Disabled	96
3.	Grounded	93
4.	Adrift (no POB)	84
5.	False Alarm	77
6.	Overdue	69
7.	Medical	48
8.	Other	47
9.	Unknown	47
10.	Capsized	43

The most common activities undertaken by CCGA crewed vessels in 2001 to resolve SAR incidents were:

1.	Search	283
2.	Tow	203
3.	Unknown ⁱⁱ	85
4.	Investigation	83
5.	Tasking Cancelled	78
6.	Monitor	63
7.	Escort	56
8.	Transport Person	36
9.	Medevac	29
10.	Recovery	29

Unit Updates

Zone 5 – Central Vancouver Island

Another winter has nearly passed (far too slowly) and the summer boating season will soon be arriving. Units in Zone 5 gathered with the membership of the CCGA-P in Victoria to celebrate the year's accomplishments and look forward to a challenging year ahead. Zone 5 saw its fair share of awards this AGM for outstanding and meritorious service to the CCGA over the past several years.

The Canadian Coast Guard and the Auxiliary play a very important team role in Zone 5 with three co-crewed Lifeboat Stations. These stations located in French Creek, Campbell River and Bamfield are staffed by Coast Guard crews, but volunteers of the CCGA-P are often used as an additional resource when two vessels need crewing or a long incident requires additional resources.

The Officers in Charge of these stations play a vital part in the development of our volunteers and often play an important role in its day-to-day management. The OICs from these three stations assist in training, administration and leadership to our members. This year the Officers in Charge from Bamfield (Clay Evans and Clifford Charles), French Creek (Cam Murray and Cliff Hume) and Campbell River (Tom Burdett and Geoff Saunders), were recognized for their contributions and support of the CCGA and awarded Honorary Memberships. CCGA members received awards for their volunteer efforts for long-time service and going above and beyond the call of duty.

Unit 38 (Long Beach) members Lyle Brewster and Mark Livingstone received Certificates of Commendation for their hard work over the past year getting their new 733 the *John Hamelin* into service.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Unit 60 (Comox) member Hugh McKinnon. Hugh has been instrumental in assisting Unit 60's operations and has provided tremendous administrative support to the unit.

Unit 60 Training Officer Brian Cameron was awarded a Certificate of Commendation. Brian has been instrumental in the development and implementation of an annual training plan for the unit.

A Certificate of Commendation was awarded to Unit 54 (Campbell River) member Ruedi Pletscher for his role in a rescue last summer off Cape Mudge that resulted in the saving of three people's lives. Ruedi is the third longest serving member of the unit (joining in 1990) and plays an active role in training members of the unit, which co-crew with Canadian Coast Guard cutter *Point Race* and *Point Race 1*.

Upcoming events in Zone 5 include launching a new vessel. Unit 59 (Bowser) is close to launching their first dedicated response vessel the *John McLean* (left). They took delivery this fall of the *Nunalla* that was previously stationed with Unit 29 (Ladysmith). Unit 59 members have been busy refitting the vessel and preparing it for service. Most of the new equipment has been installed on the vessel, including a GPS, Plotter and Depth Sounder. The vessel will serve the area around Qualicum, Baynes Sound, Denman and Hornby Islands. The dedication of the *John McLean* will take place on May 18, 2002; all are invited to attend.



Unit 39 (Port Alberni) is partnering with the Canadian Coast Guard, Red Cross, RCMP and the Alberni Regional District on a water safety program this summer. Port Alberni is surrounded by many lakes and hopefully their program will improve safety and educate boaters of recent changes to the Small Vessel Regulations, Boating Restriction Regulations and general on-water safety. Unit 60 will host the next AGM in February 2003. The AGM Planning Committee from Comox has already met with Stan Warlow, Tanis Toope and Judith Cook to get a jump-start on the work ahead. It promises to be a fun-filled weekend.

By the next issue of the *Dolphin*, members in Zone 5 will have responded to over 50 marine incidents, put in hundreds of person hours of training on the water, conducted Courtesy Boat Checks, and participated in first aid courses and numerous special events. Have a safe summer.

Allan Hughes
Director of Zone 5

Zone 3 – Vancouver Island South/Gulf Islands

Every year it seems that the major incidents start coming earlier and earlier in the season. This year, the winter wasn't even over and there were fatalities on the water in our zone. I'm sure this isn't unusual, so it must be my age— and the fact that winters seem longer now than when I was young and immortal.

Zone three has been busy. By the end of March this year we had many incidents, several of them involving more than one unit or resource. So far in 2002, the longest one was a 17-hour search for two crab fishermen involving Units 37 (Sooke) and 35 (Victoria), accounting for 34 hours on the water; the units were assisted by helicopters and Buffalo aircraft from 442 Squadron in Comox and the Canadian Coast Guard Helicopters in Victoria. It feels good to be a part of Team SAR.

Another busy period for Zone three was the CCGA-P Annual General Meeting and Regional SAR Skills Competition highlighted elsewhere in this issue. I'm told that this was the first ever "Zone Hosted" AGM, with each of the four units in the South Island taking responsibility for various segments of the conference. The committee was comprised of René Landry (Victoria), Merilee Martell (Oak Bay), Rick (Red) Lewis (Sidney), and Jay Young (Sooke). Congratulations to all of you for a job well done!

The weekend following the AGM was another busy one—the Victoria Boat Show. Another first— with Sidney, Victoria and Oak Bay working together promoting Boating Safety. Many thanks to Dean Polvi (Victoria) and Judith Cook (Head Office) for introducing Bobbie to the public— and showing off how much fun SAR Prevention can be! We are looking forward to a lot of Boating Safety activities this year.

Thank You

I am writing to voice my family's appreciation for all the long hours and work that the Sooke unit recently put in during the search off the East Sooke coastline following the discovery of my brother's capsized boat off Beechy Head. It must be an incredibly hard job to do once it's realized that it has turned from a rescue to a recovery search, but your people carry on through. I find it amazing the dedication of them. Everyone has his or her real life, and problems etc., yet they give so fully of themselves to try to bring home our loved ones. The ground search teams, and the air search, are all to be commended. The ground team welcomed me into their search party on the Wednesday, along with two other family members. They put us in with experienced people, and at all times I felt a part of the team. I'll never be able to thank them enough for giving me the opportunity to be out there with them. They were a very caring and compassionate group, a true inspiration.

Once again please pass along to your volunteers our appreciation and gratitude for their efforts. Sincerely,

Des Rogers, brother; family of Monty Rogers, and family of Art Moffit, our cousin.



Unit 37 Members (L to R): Dereck Lidstone, Todd Genereux (Unit Leader) and Martin Hill.

From West to East throughout the zone, we have had several adventures and mis-adventures with our various vessels. Unit 37 (Sooke) has been plagued with a blown powerhead in a white engine; Unit 35 (Victoria) recently purchased some new silver engines and is looking forward to a new radar for their Zodiac 850; Unit 33 (Oak Bay) keeps plugging along with their Titan and polishing their props; Unit 36 (Saanich) just keeps adding to their incident count with their Titan and the Brentwood Dory; and Unit 25's (Gulf Islands) fleet is constantly in motion.

A very pleasant surprise took place for me this spring during a visit to the Ganges Lifeboat Station on Saltspring Island. I took the opportunity to spend some time with the Officers In Charge, Ian Kyle and Sid Jones, and discovered that the working relationship at this co-crewed station is absolutely phenomenal—keep up the good work everyone! Congratulations also are due to Ian Kyle on being awarded an Honorary CCGA-P Membership at this year's AGM.

Glenn Driscoll
Director of Zone 3

Unit 9 – Southern Interior

Unit 9 Display Takes Top Prize

Unit 9 (Southern Interior) members got the CCGA-P boating safety message across and even walked home with a prize from the 36th Annual Soroptimist Home and Leisure Show.

The show took place in Penticton over a weekend in mid-March, and saw almost 6,700 people attend. Unit members Garth Norris, Ray Davis, Cal Reid, Fred Hrebik, Denis Percival, and Unit Leader Jim Wilson all spent time manning the booth (pictured left). The unit's attractive and informative display won them first place in the Best Booth under 100 square feet category. More importantly, unit members made personal contact with over 675 people, and were able to answer questions on everything from flare use to the difference between a lifejacket and a PFD.

Unit 9 is based in Penticton, and focuses on boating safety in the Southern Interior of British Columbia. According to Unit Leader Jim Wilson, "The Southern Interior has a large number of lakes, and consequently, a large number of recreational boaters. By attending events such as the home show, our unit is able to reach and educate a large number of these boaters on a personal level, while at the same time increasing public awareness about the CCGA-P's role in our community."

Congratulations to Unit 9 on a job well done!



Garth Norris (left) and Jim Wilson of Unit 9 (Southern Interior) man their booth at the 36th Annual Soroptimist Home and Leisure Show, which took place in Penticton in March.