



the Ensign

Vol. 22, No. 1

Winter 2012-2013

Raytheon Canada



news, views and seagoing tales from the
Naval Museum of Alberta Society

OUR COVER - A Phalanx Close In Weapons System (CIWS) similar to the one that the Naval Museum of Alberta will soon be receiving. The CIWS is used to defend against anti-ship missiles. It was designed and manufactured by General Dynamics (now a part of Raytheon). Consisting of a radar-guided 20 mm Gatling gun firing at a rate of 4,500 rounds-per-minute and mounted on a swiveling base, the Phalanx is used by the United States Navy and the navies of 16 allied nations. Because of its distinctive barrel-shaped radome, CIWS units are sometimes nicknamed 'R2-D2' after the famous droid from *Star Wars*, and in the Royal Navy as 'Daleks' after the aliens from *Doctor Who*.

President's report

Ken Sivertsen

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and are starting to enjoy a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Our AGM was held on Tuesday, December 4th, 2012 with only a disappointing 17 persons in attendance.

While we didn't have any amendments to our purpose in question, we nevertheless did discuss things of importance to the Society such as our financial statements, election of directors and the inability of the Naval Museum of Alberta to engage a curator/director because of changed DND rules on hiring.

For your information, the following persons stood up to the task and were elected to the Society's Board of Directors for 2013:

Tom Glover	Chairman	403-271-0972	tgglover@shaw.ca
Ken Sivertson	President	403-281-8640	kensivertsen@nucleus.com
Lorne Hanson	Treasurer	403-241-0394	lhanson@bhh.ab.ca
Anita Von	Secretary	403-240-1967	anitavon@hotmail.com
Johanne Aylett	Director	403-245-4517	jaylett@telusplanet.net
David Brown	Director	403-247-6664	browncad@gmail.com
Bill Buchanan	Director	403-274-7535	cutknife@telus.net
Scott Hanwell	Director	403-515-5832	rhanwell@avaya.com
Scott Hausberg	Director	403-441-6756	jhausberg@westjet.com
Nancy Olmstead	Director	403-637-2110	albertaseaweed@live.ca

In addition to the positions shown above, Dave Brown has agreed to be our Membership Chair, Johanne Aylette our Casino Chair and Scott Hausberg continues as *The Ensign* editor.

For those who don't know, we completed a Casino on December 12th and 13th and would like to thank all of you who helped in this effort. Casinos are our most important fund raising project at the moment and essential to the operation of the Society. According to our casino advisors we might only receive \$50,000 - \$55,000 for this casino which will be a significant drop from what we received from our last casino.

We will be sending out our membership renewal forms in the near future. If you don't receive one, let Dave Brown or myself know and we'll get one sent to you.

From the editor

Scott Hausberg

The end of 2012 marks the end of my rookie year editing *The Ensign*. Thanks to all who contributed in 2012 – Bill Wilson, Greg McKenzie, Earle Shirley, Ken Sivertsen, Terry Thompson and of course to George Moore for his professional work in assembling each issue. I believe we produced four very good issues and look forward to putting four more together in 2013.

The content of *The Ensign* is intended to support the NMAS vision of "a community that is informed, excited about and engaged with Canada's navy and its naval heritage." Most of *The Ensign's* content deals with what is happening within NMAS and the NMA, but there are always articles on Canadian naval history and our navy today.

The style that I try to use is mostly a series of short and easy to digest articles, often with one longer article. Hopefully, you have also noticed that I have been including links to some very interesting content that can be found online.

I am always looking for content, ideas and photos. What I don't get, I often create myself, as was the case with the photo of the *Huron* screw on the cover of the summer edition (I bet no one realized that I managed to get all three of my sons in it). So, if you have something to contribute, send it to me at hausberg@shaw.ca.



Chairman Tom Glover addresses the 26th AGM of the Society.

Turning now to what is happening at the museum, we expect to have an official reception to commemorate the turning over of the Burgess and Macpherson collections to the University of Calgary Library located at The Military Museums. It is expected that invitations for this event, planned for March 28th, will be sent out shortly. Greg MacKenzie is coordinating this event from our perspective and is coordinating it with officials of the U of C.

The models of the Fairmile ML and the *Sapperton Park* Defensively Equipped Merchant Ship, both of the WWII era, have now been transported to the museum after having their display cases finalized in the annex workshop by Don Connolly, Gary Hansen, Jim Cowie, etc. They look good and you should make a point of viewing them soon.

That's it for now ... fair sailing!

Museum ops update

Bill Wilson

Much has been accomplished in the museum since the last edition of *The Ensign*. For example, the models of the Park merchant ship as well as the Fairmile ML arrived and Jim Cowie, Don Connolly and Gary Hansen commenced construction of the wood bases. On completion, acrylic tops were ordered, received, installed and both models have been transported to the museum and are now on display. Jim, Don and Gary also built a base for the WWI destroyer which has been in storage at the museum.

The two engineering models at the museum have been moved to the Society's annex workshop where work will commence on the manufacture of new bases and, on completion, acrylic tops will be ordered. On that note, there appear to be a few parts missing from the Parsons boiler model, so if there are any members who are former stokers or tiffys who could come down to take a look, give us a call.

The model of HMCS *Bonaventure* has been moved from the museum to the workshop where some 'tiddling up' can take place.

Don Connolly has made his way to Texas for his winter vacation, leaving in early November, and is 'scheduled' to return in February. In the interim, Gary intends to commence some restoration work on the 3"70 gun mount model.

The Shield missile decoy countermeasures mounting has arrived from Esquimalt and has been located temporarily between the twin 4" and 3"70 guns. It has been confirmed the mounting was removed from HMCS *Calgary* during her soon to be completed mid-life refit. When *Calgary* returns to sea she will be the most up-to-date ship in the West Coast fleet (she has always been the most 'effective').

Frank Saies-Jones ('the ancient submariner') has finished a complete evaluation of the artefacts stored in the annex and methodically culled the inventory. The end product was the removal of a huge amount of redundant material. He has identified surplus and or duplicate artefacts that will be offered to other museums, some that can be sold and, of course, items that will be retained for a variety of reasons. Frank has yet to review the clothing inventory but this will be taken in hand this year.

It took almost two months to finally complete the identification and removal of all surplus items and material from the workshop area. The Army supplied us with a large container to carry off metal material, gash gun parts, etc., etc., and a 40 foot open-top unit for combustible material. When the dumpsters left they were both filled to capacity, all surface areas in the workshop were then thoroughly vacuumed, and Don and Gary finally took a rest.

A supplier has been contacted and measurements taken for the glass window in the Asdic hut which 'exploded' some time ago. The replacement will be installed momentarily.

A meeting was held in the museum on November 29th

with LCdr Thibault and Mr. Luc Portelance (NDHQ) and Mr. Claude Coates (Raytheon) to review the plans for the loan and installation of a Phalanx CIWS. It would now appear that all factors involved have finally been resolved and installation is planned for early January.



Volunteers move the Macpherson Photo Archives and the Burgess Convoy Records out of the Museum Annex. They were subsequently moved to the University of Calgary Library at The Military Museums.



In the last issue of *The Ensign*, it was reported that our Treasurer, Lorne Hanson had been awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. The presentation took place aboard HMCS *Tecumseh* on October 27th, 2012, and Lorne is seen here receiving his medal from The Honourable Donald S. Ethell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta. Congratulations Lorne!

Casino report

Johanne Aylett, Casino Chair

Another very successful Casino was held on December 12th and 13th in spite of the time of the year and the cold weather, the following volunteers came out to work: **Managers:** Ken Sivertsen and Doug Clark; **Bankers:** Tom Glover, Lloyd Northcott, Bob Henderson and Lorne Hanson; **Cashiers:** Bruce Connolly, Marie Bain, Cal Annis, Berdie Archer, Twyla Tobler, Scott Hausberg and Tom Conrick; **Chip Runners:** Kay Luna, Dave Dalgetty, Terry and Joan Thompson, Brent Felix, Jack Pidgeon, Doug Ewing and Johanna Roskey; **Count Room Staff:** Doug Bourne (supervisor), Jollean Sivertsen, Bob Cruickshank, Susan Hausberg, Scott Hanwell, Chuck Von and Dave Brown.

Many thanks also to the volunteers who allowed their names to stand as spares.

The Casino was very quiet for our volunteers but, as all the money for the last four months is put into a pool and divided between all volunteer groups, we should do alright financially. Thanks again to everyone who volunteered!

New NMAS brochure

Scott Hanwell has produced a 'tiddly' brochure explaining the Naval Museum of Alberta Society and the benefits of membership. Check it out the next time you are at The Military Museums. It is in the brochure rack just inside the main entrance.

Renew your membership in the NMAS for 2013!

You get free admission to the TMM and your *Ensign* subscription all for a mere \$20!

Simply send a cheque for \$20 to the address shown on the back cover of this issue.

www.awesomenavystuff



Ojibwa moves to Port Burwell

The following link will take you to seven videos produced by CTV London on the move of the former HMCS *Ojibwa* to Port Burwell, Ontario. The Elgin Military Museum will be establishing a satellite museum at Port Burwell called the Elgin Military Museum of Naval History featuring *Ojibwa*.

<http://www.ctvlondon.ca/tag/hmcs-ojibwa/>

Crusader in Korea



HMCS *Crusader* was the Canadian champ of the Trainbuster's Club during the Korean War, being credited with a total of four trains, three within a 24 hour period! The contest was initiated by the commander of Task Force 95, part for the strategic value of keeping arms and munitions from the enemy, and part as a morale booster. The RCN did its part accounting for 8 out of a total of 28 trains destroyed.

Source: Militrivia

HMCS *Calgary* supporter receives the Caring Canadian award

Shelley Lipke, Staff Writer, *The Lookout* (Nov. 9/12)

Talk to any member of HMCS *Calgary*'s crew and they know the name Paris Sahlen. He's the ship's biggest fan. The Calgary native has been involved with the ship since its commissioning in 1995. "Some people collect stamps or coins," says Sahlen, "I do this for a hobby. I find it very rewarding and it is a big honour to do anything I can for the ship and its namesake city."

This year he received the Governor General's Caring Canadian award for years of selfless work contributing to the ship and the morale of the crew. "We have many amazing friends in our namesake city, but none better than Paris," says *Calgary*'s Commanding Officer, Cdr Paul Francoeur. "His tireless efforts in support of our annual 'Cowboy Up' have helped *Calgary* raise over \$50,000 for the Foothills Hospital Burn Unit. "Every ship deserves a Paris Sahlen. I wish the stores system stocked them and I could order a couple more. You won't meet a sailor who has served in *Calgary* that doesn't know Paris and hold him in the highest regard."

The union of ship and supporter began in 1995. Sahlen, a former weapons technician in HMC Ships *Margaree* and *Antigonish*, took part in *Calgary*'s commissioning. "There were over 10,000 people there and it was the biggest commissioning of any ship in the Canadian Navy," recalls Sahlen. "The Calgary Stampede, the police band and the people of Calgary all took part in it. It was a grand event."

Ever since, he has had a hand in making things happen and gaining support for the ship and crew from local businesses. "Paris is what I call the ship's City of Calgary liaison," says CPO1 (Ret'd) Darren Macdonald, who nominated Sahlen for the Caring Canadian award. "He's one of the many Canadians who give of their personal time to simply enhance the lives of others, with no thought of personal gain or accolades." Sahlen received the Caring Canadian award on September 11th from Alberta's Lieutenant Governor, Col (Ret'd) Donald Ethell. This award was created in 1995 to recognize the unsung heroes who volunteer their time to help others, and to build a smarter and more caring nation. The award also highlights the example set by these volunteers, whose compassion and



Paris receiving the Caring Canadian Award from The Honourable Donald S. Ethell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta.

engagement are so much a part of Canadian character. "Each year at the Calgary Stampede Paris takes two weeks off to look after the crew and make sure their Stampede goes smoothly," says CPO1 (Ret'd) Macdonald. "He stores all of the items for the Stampede in a storage locker and each year he loads up tables, chairs, display booths, merchandise, etcetera, and hauls it down to the Stampede grounds. I know of no other ship in the navy that enjoys that kind of support from their namesake city, and I dare say this is primarily because of Paris Sahlen."

Every year the crew visits local veterans and has a barbecue at the Glenmore Reservoir. "This event is a highlight for the veterans as they get to see first-hand the kind of sailors that have come after them. Paris organizes the event," says CPO1 (Ret'd) Macdonald. "He also forged a relationship between Wolseley Plumbing and *Calgary*, so much so that Wolseley invites two members of the crew to their annual golf tournament as their guests and I believe they pay for their flights."

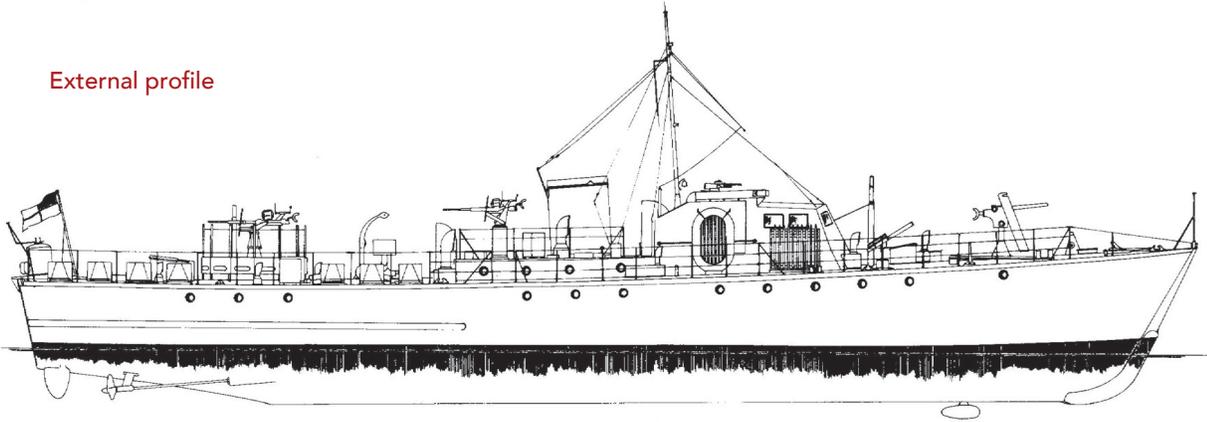
"Many people in Calgary don't know we have a ship. I have noticed that people in the navy, from Ordinary Seaman to Commanding Officer, take great pride in what they do and I am all about spreading the word to the people of Calgary that we need to support this ship," says Sahlen.

Sahlen also served on the executive of the Naval Museum of Alberta, which has developed into the largest naval museum in Canada and provides extensive educational programs for youth and adults. The list of good deeds seems endless, and the consensus is "Thanks Paris" from all the crew, past and present of HMCS *Calgary*.

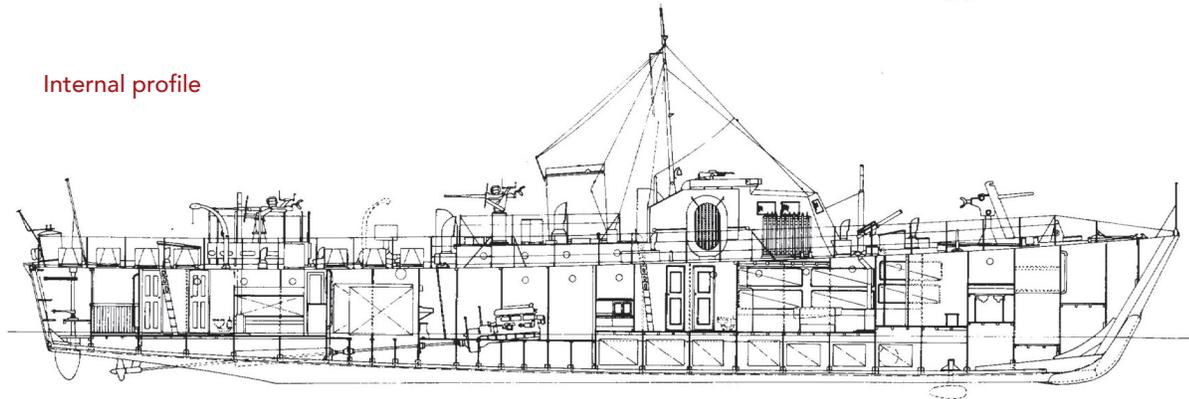
Fairmile 'B' motor launches

(The following information [excluding the drawings] is from the new Fairmile 'B' model on display in the NMA)

External profile



Internal profile



Fairmile 'B' type motor launch.

From: "The Fairmile 'D' Motor Torpedo Boat," by John Lambert, (Naval Institute Press, 1985)

Canada built 88 wooden hulled Fairmile 'B' type motor launches of which eight were transferred to the US Navy for use as sub-chasers, and three were loaned to the Free French for patrol off the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

These vessels served on the east coast escorting convoys between Newfoundland and the mainland as well as in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the St. Lawrence River. Several were allocated for harbour defence, anti-submarine patrols and rescue operations.

During the spring of 1942, six boats of the 73rd Flotilla operated out of Miami and Key West under the (US) Commander Gulf Sea Frontier due to the shortage of US escorts, and boats of the 70th and 78th Flotillas were based in Bermuda for the winter of 1943-44.

The motorized scale model (scale 1/2" = 1') is of HM Motor Launch Q 061.

Length	112 feet (24.14 metres)
Beam	17 feet (5.18 metres)
Weight	79 tons
Speed	20/22 knots
Armament	1 Depth charge thrower ("Y" type) and 2 x 20 mm Oerlikons
Crew	3 officers and 14 men

The scale model in the museum was built over a period of five winters by Mr. Douglas B. Munro of Ottawa, Ontario, a former wartime RCNVR rating, and was presented to the Naval Museum of Alberta on October 21st, 2012.

2013 History courses and battlefield tours

Scott Hausberg

In the last edition of *The Ensign* I advised of history courses and battlefield tours presented by Dr. Stephane Guevremont, a professor of history at Mount Royal University. His next round of courses run from January 21st to April 3rd (10 x 2 hour sessions for \$225.00) and are as follows:

- Mondays: History of Europe 1450-1850.
- Tuesdays: History of the Second World War 1942-1945.
- Wednesdays: History of the Holocaust 1942-1945.

His 2013 battlefield tours are as follows:

- Third Reich August 4th to 21st - WWII sites and concentration camps in Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland. Cost: \$6,000.00.
- European Battlefields July 3rd to 20th - Canadian battlefields in NW Europe. \$5,000.00

I am enrolled in his History of Europe course and thoroughly enjoyed his 2012 battlefield tour. Contact Stephane at squevrem@ucalgary.ca if you are interested in a course or a tour.

Just another reminder to please renew your NMAS membership for 2013!

You get free admission to the TMM and your *Ensign* subscription all for a mere \$20!

Simply send a cheque for \$20 to the address shown on the back cover of this issue.

Volunteer of the year



Our Volunteer of the Year for 2012 is Adam Hausberg, who is shown above receiving the award from NMAS President Ken Sivertsen. Adam was recognized for his work in packing and moving a great deal of the Macpherson and Burgess collections from the Museum Annex to the University of Calgary's library at The Military Museums. Congratulations Adam!

The Ensign back issues

PDF versions of 2012 issues of *The Ensign* can be downloaded from Google Docs at the following links:

Winter 2011-2012

<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0BzJm0KBVZn22WGtOUjFJN2tkdms>

Spring 2012

<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0BzJm0KBVZn22dmxqcFNQR2xYRzQ>

Summer 2012

<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0BzJm0KBVZn22WWRIbXJQaWdsMWM>

Autumn 2012

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0BzJm0KBVZn22ZVI0elHcbW56Z1U/edit>

The SS Erik Boye

Danish Maritime Museum



The *Erik Boye* was the first Canadian Merchant Marine vessel sunk during WWII when it was torpedoed by *U 38* off the coast of England on June 15th, 1940. A total of 72 Canadian Merchant Marine vessels were lost to enemy action during the war at a cost of 1,600 lives. According to Veterans Affairs, the Merchant Marine had a higher casualty rate than the Army, Navy or Air Force.

Source: Militrivia

Verdun to Dunver



Commissioned in November 1943, HMCS *Dunver* was to be named after the city of Verdun, Québec. Unfortunately the Royal Navy already had a ship named *Verdun*, so the city held a contest to name the ship. The winning entry was *Dunver*, as the other entries were the names of famous citizens and ships could not be named after people. Many objected that *Dunver* was a made up name representing nothing, however, when they suggested changing it, the sailors of *Dunver* objected, noting that the crests had already been created and that changing the name would bring bad luck. So HMCS *Dunver* set sail – a ship named for a city that wasn't.

Source: Militrivia

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
IN THE NMAS TODAY!**

www.awesomenavystuff

DND Photo, Cpl Colin Kelley



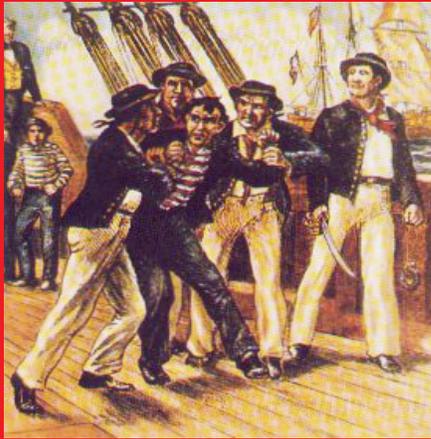
HMCS *Vancouver*.

A good video showing a day in the life of HMCS *Vancouver*.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9R19WJJBgik>

Seems pretty good, but then there are stormy seas!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmgeKLX4HQQ>



We always have a pressing need for volunteers to serve as Naval Museum Watchkeepers!

If you would like to enlist in our fine body of Naval Museum Watchkeepers, please contact Bill Buchanan at 403-274-7535 or cutknife@telus.net and we promise not to send the Press Gang to your door!

The NMAS is still seeking a volunteer or volunteers to rebuild the Society's website!

If you can assist, please contact the Society at execdir@navalmuseumsociety.ca

Content is always wanted for *The Ensign*

If you have any material you think would be appropriate, please send it to Editor, Scott Hausberg hausberg@shaw.ca

ISSN 1483-7080

THE ENSIGN is published on a quarterly basis by the Naval Museum of Alberta Society, and is mailed to all who purchase a \$20.00 annual membership in the Society expiring 31 December of each year. Portions of this publication may be copied without permission provided specific copyright is not indicated and full credit is given to both the author(s) and **THE ENSIGN**. The editor is solely responsible for content; any opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or positions of the Department of National Defence, the Naval Museum of Alberta Society and/or the Naval Museum of Alberta. The Naval Museum of Alberta is a fully accredited Canadian Forces museum and the Naval Museum of Alberta Society is a duly registered non-profit organization.



Creative services and layout are provided by **Cascade Creek Publishing®**

LCdr (Ret'd) George A. Moore, President
1871 Primrose Crescent, Kamloops, BC V1S 0A5
Phone 250-314-1284 • Fax 250-314-1286 • cascadecreek@shaw.ca

The Naval Museum of Alberta

is located at The Military Museums
4520 Crowchild Trail, SW, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5J4
Telephone 403-974-2807

Admission Prices

Adults \$10.00, Seniors \$5.00, Youth 7-17 \$4.00
Serving personnel (past and present) and their families FREE
NMAS members FREE • Ample free parking

Hours of operation

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Weekends and holidays 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

The Naval Museum of Alberta Society

1820 - 24th Street, SW, Calgary AB T2T 0G8
Telephone 403-242-0002
Facsimile 403-240-1966
execdir@navalmuseumsociety.ca

The Ensign Editor

Cdr (Ret'd) Scott Hausberg
hausberg@shaw.ca