



V.I.F.F.A Newsletter

March 2012

www.viffa.org

Welcome to the Spring Edition of the newsletter

We would like to say A huge **Thank you Western Maritime Institute**

For hosting and allowing us to use their fantastic facilities.

The two day fall event consisted of a one day course with **Chris Jancowski** presenting Big Fire Big Water and two excellent presentations from **Glen Saunders** :Fundamentals Of Incident Command & Decision Making
Scott Melville: Fire Investigation.

Western Maritime Institute training facility



Getting Closer to turn propane valves off



Dates for you diary:

Oliver spring training 4-6 May 2012

Salt Spring Island Training 12-15th July 2012

SPRING TRAINING and MEETING

Saturday 31st March-
Sunday 1st April 2012

Business Lunch Meeting
Sunday 1st April 2012 12:30-13:30

Gord Shreiner Fire chief, Comox
Safe and Effective scene Management
Saturday only,- See attached poster

This course is limited to 24 and will be on a first come first serve basis and has had outstanding reviews

George Clem KGC Fire Safety
A Two day auto ex course.

Bob Swartz Wildland Interface Fire
To be confirmed

Where: Port Hardy Fire Department
8890 Central Street

Places to stay

*Quarter Deck Inn and marina.

Glen Lyon inn

Check out porthardy.ca

Registration form is attached

Unfortunately Evolutions will not be held this year,

*offered special rate for FF





Dave Ferguson - Retired

In May of 1981, at age 35, Dave Ferguson entered into the Fire Service joining the Cowichan Bay Fire Department. The recognition of his ability and achievements grew swiftly. In 1984 he took home Cow Bay's "Fireman" of the year award and in 1985 he became a Captain. By 1987 he had risen to become Deputy Chief. Then in January of 2000, on the retirement of Bob Claus, he became Fire Chief. He served as Chief for 8 years before announcing his retirement, after 27 years with the department.

While at Cowichan Bay Dave was widely recognized for his organizational skills and calm leadership. This led to his working with the Office of the Fire Commissioner, which eventually led to his taking the position of Deputy Fire Commissioner for the province of BC. After seven years of service to the province and an incredible 30 years of service to the fire service of British Columbia, Dave has hung up his hat and entered full retirement. The VIFFA Board strongly agrees with the comments of Fire Commissionaire Rebecca F. Denlinger. *"We will greatly miss Dave's deep knowledge of the fire service and emergency management, as well as his gentle and calm leadership and witty sense of humour."*

In 2010 the Vancouver Island Fire Fighters Association was pleased to recognize Dave by making him a Life and Honorary Member. We would like to take this opportunity to wish him a very happy retirement!

We would like to ensure information gets out quickly via email if you have not received any communications from Viffa via email then please let us know

Viffa-secretary@hotmail.ca

Or visit Viffa.org for members emails

Canadian Fallen Firefighters Memorial Golf Tournament

The 4th Annual Canadian Fallen Firefighters Memorial Golf Tournament will be taking place on Saturday June 9th at Arbutus Ridge Golf Course (located in Cobble Hill just a few minutes south of Duncan). This is a fundraising and awareness event. The Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation needs your support by either attending the tournament, sponsoring a hole, or donating prizes or silent auction items

As many of you know, the CFFF is very close to completing a major goal of seeing a national monument erected in Ottawa. This will honor all Canadian Firefighters that have died in the line of duty. Construction is well underway with scheduled for completion in May. The dedication will be in September during this year's annual memorial ceremony.

Check the VIFFA website or contact Wayne Jasper (250) 743-4961 for further information about the CFFF or the golf tournament

In Memory of Daniel Botkin

On December 29, 2011, Captain Daniel Botkin lost his life as a Firefighter in the service of his community.

On January 5th, his brothers and sisters of the Emergency Service gathered in Enderby to honour and celebrate the life of this fallen hero. This included nearly 1,000 Volunteer and Career personnel, along with the RCMP, SAR, BCAS, and the Forestry service. Residents and friends lined the sidewalks as the parade wound through the streets. Nearly 2,000 people came together to mourn the loss of this wonderful young man. He had demonstrated his dedication to his community and had lost his life as a Volunteer Firefighter. The memory of his life and his sacrifice will live long in the hearts and minds of us all. It is hoped that the lessons learned in the wake of his death will help prevent future loss. It is important that events be made sharp in the minds of firefighters everywhere.

Our condolences and feelings go out to his newlywed wife Miranda his family, his friends, and his colleagues on the Enderby Fire Department. A trust fund has been created at the TD Bank and Sicamous Credit Union.





--	--