



The Blazon

The newsletter of the British Columbia/Yukon Branch of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada

SUMMER 2024

Vol. 19, No. 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The summer of 2024 is proving to be another record breaking climatic year.

Page 2 has the Vice-Regal Proclamation from our Distinguished Patron, the Honourable Janet Austin, O.B.C., Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

On page 15 Are details of a Society honour awarded to branch members.

On page 14 I have our late Patron The Honourable Iona Campagnolo who died earlier this year.

On pages 3 and 4 is a bilingual article about a new book on the Commissioners of the Yukon written by our latest Fellow, Angélique Bernard.

On pages 9 to 11 I have the details of the changes of our board of directors. We have three retirements and three new directors.

Pages 5 to 8 is an article by past president John Neill on his interest in Spanish heraldry.

The arms displayed here are of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal. Page 13 has details of my attendance at a special reception at Government House with H.R.H. as the special guest.

On page 14 I have details of a heraldry course I am conduct-

ing in Courtenay BC in the autumn. If you want to run a course in your local community, the presentations and material are available for you.

Our branch also participated in two highland games events with our heraldry booth. Details are on page 12. If you need display material for any local activities you want to participate in, let me know and we can arrange for items to display or hand out. This also includes heraldic booklets.

Members are also encouraged to think of heraldic activities in their community. Over the past 10 years, members of our branch have conducted some 32 heraldry presentations and/or attended public events to run a heraldry booth; albeit mostly on Vancouver Island or in Whitehorse, Yukon. This branch has also conducted five heraldry courses since 2016 through the Elder College, again on Vancouver Island. If you want to teach a one, two or three 1½-hour session course we have this available as well.

Let me know if you want to conduct a heraldry presentation in your neighbourhood and we can help with the details and support. Maybe you would like to host a heraldry reception, luncheon or dinner? Let us give you a hand.

We welcome heraldic articles relevant to western Canada.

Enjoy a safe holiday season at home or away.

Steve Cowan
Branch President



The Coat of Arms of
H.R.H. The Princess Royal

See page 13 For the story of the Government House reception.



Canada
Province of British Columbia

A Proclamation

CHARLES THE THIRD, by the Grace of God, King of Canada
and His other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS British Columbia is a culturally diverse province comprising many peoples and communities, and

WHEREAS heraldic emblems are representations of the heritage and historical value in the identity and culture of communities, and

WHEREAS the motto of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada is “For Ancestors and Posterity,” to celebrate the role of heraldic emblems in bringing heritage and history alive for current and future generations, and

WHEREAS June 4, 2024, is the 36th anniversary of the Canadian Heraldic Authority’s creation, followed by International Heraldry Day on June 10, and

WHEREAS Heraldry Week is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the importance and significance of heraldic emblems of institutions, corporations and people as a lasting and recognizable tribute to the diversity of British Columbia;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that June 4 to 11, 2024, shall be known as

“Heraldry Week”

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this thirtieth day of May, two thousand twenty-four and in the second year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

Attorney General

Lieutenant Governor

2024 Heraldry Week in British Columbia Proclamation

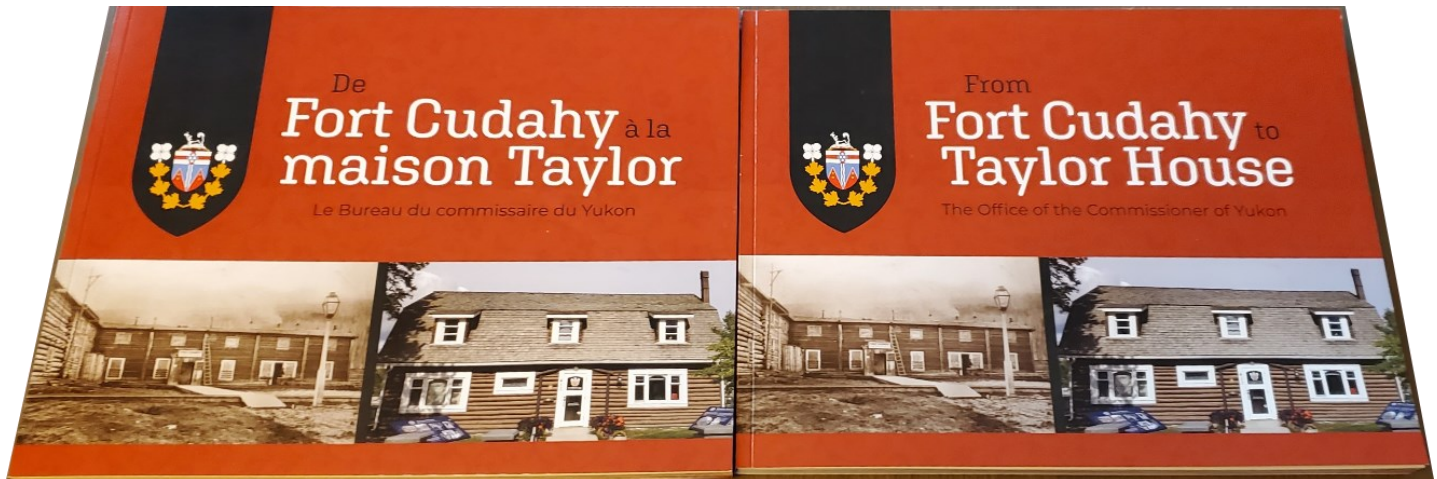
Signed by our Distinguished B.C. Patron, The Honourable Janet Austin, O.B.C.



**THE OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF YUKON**

**LE BUREAU DU
COMMISSAIRE DU YUKON**

Angélique Bernard, O.Y., F.R.H.S.C.



“Be open to all possibilities” is the motto on my coat of arms. It is fitting, as I never thought that I would be adding writer to my list of accomplishments!

On April 19, 2024, in Whitehorse, Yukon, I launched the free bilingual book *From Fort Cudahy to Taylor House: The Office of the Commissioner of Yukon/De Fort Cudahy à la maison Taylor : Le Bureau du commissaire du Yukon*.

The idea came to me during the COVID-19 pandemic when 75% of my social job as Commissioner of Yukon was impacted by the lockdown and cancellations of events. I still wanted to continue to fulfill my pillar of education and inform the public about the position, as “What does the commissioner do?” was the question I was asked the most. Also, someone once told me that I was one of only

« S’ouvrir à toutes les possibilités » est la devise de mes armoiries. C’est pertinent, car je ne pensais jamais ajouter écrivaine à la liste de mes réalisations!

Le 19 avril 2024, à Whitehorse, au Yukon, j’ai lancé le livre bilingue gratuit *De Fort Cudahy à la maison Taylor : Le Bureau du commissaire du Yukon/From Fort Cudahy to Taylor House: The Office of the Commissioner of Yukon*.

L’idée m’est venue durant la pandémie de COVID-19 quand 75 % de mes activités sociales à titre de



Four commissioners/Quatre commissaires – Ione Christensen, Angélique Bernard, Adeline Webber, Geraldine Van Bibber.
Office of the Commissioner of Yukon/Bureau du commissaire du Yukon

commissaire du Yukon ont été touchées par le confinement et l’annulation d’activités. Je voulais continuer à satisfaire mon pilier de l’éducation et informer les gens sur le rôle, car « Qu’est-ce que fait un commissaire » a été la question la plus posée. Aussi, on m’a dit un jour que



36 people to hold this position since 1894. I was curious to know who my predecessors were.

I started the research in the fall of 2020, with most of the writing taking place in 2021 and the search for pictures in 2022. The final proofreading took place in August 2023 and the official launch happened almost a year after the end of my mandate.

The book retraces the evolution of the role which is closely linked to the evolution of the Yukon towards responsible government. You will learn more about the commissioners, the various offices, the Commissioner's Residences in Dawson and Whitehorse, the honours, awards and programs of the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon, the symbols of the office and the royal members who have visited the Yukon. Numerous archival pictures further illustrate this history.

Contact the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon at commissionersoffice@yukon.ca or 867-667-5121 to get a copy of the book. I hear that the paper copies have all been given out. The latest news I heard was that the Office was working on a digital copy of the book.

I hope that readers will learn more about the fascinating history of the territory and of the people who have held the position of Commissioner of Yukon over the last 130 years.

Editor's note:

While Angélique was the 36th Commissioner of the Yukon, she was our first Distinguished Patron from that branch area. This happened on November 4, 2019 and the announcement and Certificate of Patronage can be seen in Blazon issue volume 14 number 3 winter of 2019. And we continue to enjoy the Distinguished Patronage of the Commissioner of Yukon.

This is the second publication by Angélique. Readers may recall Blazon issue volume 18 number 1 summer 2023 with the bilingual article "Promoting Yukon's Heraldry". This article by Angélique featured her first book **Heraldry in the Yukon**.

It was at the annual Vice-Regal Conference in Whitehorse YT in June of 2023 that the Society announced that Angélique was made a Fellow of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada.

At the branch board meeting of August 7, the board members welcomed Angélique as a new board member to represent the Yukon Territory as part of our branch area.

j'étais une de seulement 36 personnes qui avaient occupé ce poste depuis 1894. J'avais envie d'en connaître plus sur mes prédécesseurs et prédécesseuses.

J'ai commencé la recherche à l'automne 2020, la grande partie de l'écriture s'est faite en 2021 et la recherche de photos en 2022. La correction d'épreuves finale a eu lieu en août 2023 et le lancement s'est tenu presque un an après la fin de mon mandat.

Le livre retrace l'évolution du rôle qui est étroitement lié à l'évolution du Yukon vers le gouvernement responsable. Vous en apprendrez plus sur les commissaires, les divers lieux ayant abrité les bureaux, les résidences du commissaire à Dawson et à Whitehorse, les distinctions honorifiques, prix et récompenses, les symboles du Bureau du commissaire et les membres de la famille royale qui ont visité le Yukon. De nombreuses photos d'archives illustrent en détail cette histoire.

Communiquez avec le Bureau du commissaire du Yukon à commissionersoffice@yukon.ca ou au 867-667-5121 pour recevoir un exemplaire du livre. J'ai entendu dire qu'il ne reste plus d'exemplaires papier. Aux dernières nouvelles, le Bureau travaillait à une version numérique du livre.

J'espère que les lecteurs et les lectrices vont en apprendre plus sur l'histoire fascinante du territoire et des gens qui ont occupé le poste de commissaire du Yukon au cours de 130 dernières années.



Book launch April 19/Lancement du livre 19 avril.
Maryne Dumaine, l'Aurore boréale



HERALDIC PRACTICE IN SPAIN

John W. Neill M.Phil., F.R.H.S.C.



Heraldry first appeared in Spain at about the beginning of the eleventh century AD and its origins were similar to that in other European countries: the need for knights and nobles to distinguish themselves from one another on the battlefield, in jousts and in tournaments. Knights wore armour from head to toe and were often in leadership positions, so it was essential to be able to identify them on the battlefield.

The design of the arms themselves, within the rules of heraldry, were up to the owner, and sometimes the design had a specific meaning or symbolism. Originally, any knight could bear (display) arms. Later, it became more of a practice for the nobility. Until the end of the Middle Ages, only the paternal arms were used but later both the paternal and maternal arms were displayed. The arms of the maternal and paternal grandfathers were impaled (shield cut in half vertically, showing the respective arms on each half) Figure 1.



Figure 1 – Impaled arms at Elche, Alicante Province.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, the use of four quarterings came into use by the nobility (the shield was cut into four parts and the design of the arms of each grandparent was placed in each quarter). The order of display was:

1. Paternal grandfather
2. Maternal grandfather
3. Paternal grandmother
4. Maternal grandmother

Descent of Spanish Arms

The Spanish nobility, unlike their other European coun-



Figure 2 – Quartered arms at Alicante, Alicante Province.

terparts, was based almost entirely on military service. Few families of eminence came from the law, commerce, or the church. The great families of Spain and Portugal fought their way to their rank, which allowed commoners to join the ranks of the nobility through loyal and successful military service. Many poor families came to prominence and wealth quickly because of their successful military exploits. In Spanish heraldry, arms are a symbol of lineage and a symbol of the family as well. Spanish arms are inheritable like any other form of property.

The descent of Spanish arms and titles differs from much of Europe in that they can be inherited through the female line. Also, illegitimacy does not prevent the descent of arms and titles. The great Spanish families believed that a family pedigree could be more damaged by misalliance than by illegitimacy. Indeed, the Patents of Nobility of many Spanish families contained bequeathals to illegitimate branches in case no legitimate heirs were found. Illegitimacy in Spain is divided into three categories:

1. Natural children: Those born of single or widowed parents who could be legitimized by the marriage of their parents or by a declaration by their father that they were his heirs.



2. Spurious children: Those whose parents were not able to marry. These children had to be legitimized by a petition of royal ratification.

3. Incestuous children: Those born of parents too closely related to marry or who were under a religious vow. These *hijos* required a Papal dispensation in order to inherit their parent's arms or property. These papal dispensations were granted so often that every diocese in Spain had signed blanks ready to affix the appropriate name.

Style and Practice

Spanish heraldry style and practice follows the Iberian branch of the Latin heraldry tradition, and which also includes Portuguese heraldry, with which it shares many features. The most common shape heraldic shield used in Spain is the Iberian style (also referred as 'Peninsular', 'Spanish' or 'Portuguese') which is of simple shape, square on top and round at the base. The charges shown on Spanish armorial bearings can depict historical events or deeds of war. They are also characterized by a widespread use of orles and bordures around the edge of the shield. In addition to bordures, Spain and Portugal marshal arms more conventionally by quartering. Iberian heraldry also allows words and letters on the shield itself, a practice which is considered incorrect in northern Europe. While crests are common in Portugal, they are rarer in Spain, with the helmets of Spanish coats of arms being instead usually topped by feathers (Figure 3).



Figure 3 – 'Iberian' coat of arms on a grave slab at Valencia Cathedral

The 'coat' of arms, or more correctly the 'achievement', in Spain is composed of the shield, mantling which can be simply drawn or ornate, a helmet (optional) or a coronet if for a member of the nobility and a motto (also optional). In Spanish heraldry, that which is placed on the shield itself is the most important element.

In British and Canadian heraldry, one can find various additional accessories not as frequently found or used in Spanish heraldry. They can include, in addition to the shield, the wreath or torse (a circle of silk with gold and silver cord twisted around and placed to cover the joint between the helmet and crest), the crest, motto, supporters (animals real or fictitious, or people holding up the shield), and the compartment (what the supporters are standing on). Noble or royal Spanish heraldry may include coronets of

rank, insignia of Orders of Chivalry and badges. As a general rule, the older the arms, the simpler or plainer is the achievement.

The Regulation of Arms in Spain

The office of the Chronicler King of Arms (*Cronista Rey de Armas*) in Spain originated from the early days of heraldry, when anyone could bear arms and there arose disputes between individuals and families. These disputes were originally settled by the King in the case of a dispute between nobles or by a lower ranked official when the dispute involved non-nobles. Eventually, the task of settling these disputes was passed on to officials called heralds who were originally responsible for setting up tournaments and carrying messages from one noble to another.



The *Cronista Rey de Armas* heraldic office dates from the 16th century. Prior to that, heralds were usually named after provinces and non-capital cities, whilst the *reyes de armas* were named after the Spanish kingdoms. Various chroniclers of arms were named for Spain, Castile, Leon, Seville, Cordoba, Murcia, Granada (created 1496), Estella, Viana, Navarre, Catalonia, Sicily, Aragon, Naples, Toledo, Valencia and Majorca. While these appointments were not hereditary, at least fifteen Spanish families produced more than one herald each during the past five hundred years (compared to about the same number for England, Scotland and Ireland collectively). The Spanish *Cronistas* also had judicial powers in matters of noble titles, and served as accreditation officers for pedigrees and grants of arms.

The post of King of Arms took several forms and eventually settled on a *Corps of Chronicler King of Arms* (*Cuerpo de Cronista Rey de Armas*) which was headed by an Elder or Dean (*Decano*). It usually consisted of four officers and two assistants or undersecretaries who acted as witnesses to documents. The entire corps wore a distinctive uniform. The corps were considered part of the royal household and was generally responsible to the Master of the King's Stable (an important position during the Middle Ages). Appointments to the Corps of Chronicler King of Arms were made by the reigning King or Queen. These appointments were for life and while not intended to be hereditary, often went from father to son or other close family member. The Spanish heralds had other duties which pertained to matters of protocol and often acted as royal messengers and emissaries.

The precise functions and duties of the King of Arms were clearly defined by the declarations of several Kings and are still in force today. In modern times the Corps of Chronicler King of Arms went through several changes. Important changes were made in 1915 and the office was abolished in 1931 with the establishment of the Second Spanish Republic, but was restored under the Franco regime. The last Chronicler Kings of Arms appointed by the Spanish Ministry of Justice was Don Vicente de Cadenas y Vicent, who died in 2005. The government of the autonomous community of Castile and León has since appointed Don Alfonso Ceballos-Escalera y Gil, *Marques de la Floresta and Vizconde de Ayala* as Chronicler of Arms for Castile and León. Don Alfonso also serves as personal heraldic officer to the King of Spain.

Formerly, the actions of the Chronicler King of Arms had to be approved by the Spanish Ministry of Justice. However, recent legislation has established the *Cronista de Castile and León* as the modern equivalent of the Spanish King of Arms with the authority to make grants of arms to citizens of Spain and individuals from families associated with its former colonies without reference to the Ministry of Justice.

National and civic arms

Like most European countries, Spain has a National coat of arms. Many cities also have civic coats of arms; some are recent grants, whereas others date back to the Medieval period. Toledo, at one time the most important city of Spain, has a particularly elaborate coat of arms; it uses the double-headed eagle of the Holy Roman Empire as supporter on its coat of arms, representing its former importance and power. Madrid, the capital, has a less elaborate coat of arms, depicting a bear taking fruit from a tree. Coats of arms are regularly depicted on various buildings and objects belonging to national, regional or local government; in Alicante, even such unglamorous objects as manhole covers are decorated with the civic coat of arms!



Figure 4 – Stamp of Toledo



Figure 5 – Alicante manhole cover



Personal arms

Many ancient Spanish families bear personal arms. For example, the Dukes of Alba, historically among the most powerful noble families in Europe, bear an elaborate achievement of arms, featuring the armoured 'arms of justice' symbolizing their hereditary office as Constables of Navarre. The King of Spain and the heir apparent also have their own personal coats of arms. As in other European nations, arms are regulated, and it is unlawful to assume arms belonging to someone else.



Figure 6 – Achievement of arms of the 19th Duke of Alba

Spanish coats of arms are quartered in the same fashion as in other European countries. Since arms are granted to newly armigerous families, there may be the need to combine multiple coats of arms into one when a new branch of a family was formed. Thus, escutcheons are commonly parted. The tradition of differentiating between the coat of arms proper and a lozenge granted to women did not develop in Spain. Both men and women may inherit a coat of arms from their armigerous fathers (or an armigerous member of a clan who has adopted them). In the case of women, they may also adopt the arms of their husbands.

Adapted from Wikipedia



Figure 7 – Arms of Charles V as Holy Roman Emperor at Seville Cathedral



Figure 8 – Ecclesiastical arms at Alicante

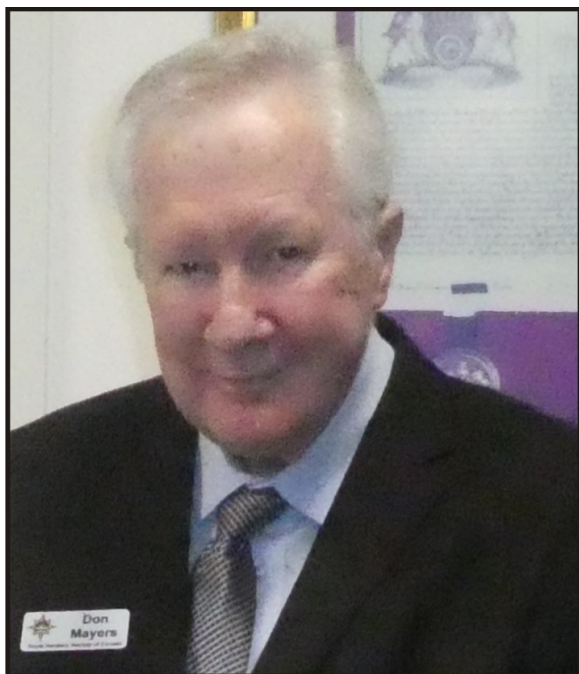


BRANCH BOARD RETIREMENTS

This year saw the retirement of three of our branch directors. With our annual general meeting last March we said farewell to Don Mayers and Lee Van Horne.

Don Mayers, of Powell River BC, had served as our branch treasurer from 2013 to 2021. During Don's time as our money handler he had put together the various financial statements and reports that became an essential part of our branch annual reports. Don is a retired long serving employee of the Royal Bank of Canada. His heraldic background is from his family in Barbados.

In 2021 the Society presented Don with a well earned Meritorious Service Award certificate. Details of the presentation to Don can be seen in Blazon issue of autumn 2021, volume 16, number 3.



Don Mayers, Powell River BC
Branch Treasurer (Retired)

Photo: Steve Cowan, 2021

Lee Van Horne of Parksville BC has served on our branch board for eighteen years. And a key part of Lee's participation has been handling the job as our webmaster for most of that time.

Lee's education and career was as an electronics officer with the Canadian Coast Guard. His degree in electronic engineering led to designing numerous systems within the naval/marine field. He then became a college instructor in electronics. His pre-

retirement career was as a private tutor in high school math, physics and chemistry. Lee retired in 2022 from teaching but continued to promote heraldry and to be a branch board member until 2024.



Lee Van Horne, B.S.E.E., Parksville BC
Branch Director and Webmaster (Retired)

Photo: John Burrage, 2012

In 2015 Lee was honoured with the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. The citation read: Since 2004, Lee Van Horne has been the volunteer webmaster of the BC/Yukon branch of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada. He has helped expand the Society's reach by designing an Index Armorum, a reference tool used to search for heraldic emblems. His successful efforts have led to his appointment as webmaster of three national conferences and as deputy webmaster of the Society's national branch.

Lee was in the first group of Canadians to receive the new honour.



Arms of
Lee Van Horne
Source: Public Registry,
The Canadian Heraldic Au-
thority, dated 15 August
2007, Volume V Page 165.



This summer we also said farewell from our branch board of our Honorary Secretary Gary Mitchell.

Gary Mitchell, M.A.S., F.R.H.S.C., of Victoria BC stepped down as our branch secretary after twelve years of recording our meeting minutes, tracking correspondence and being a wise sounding board for board actions and decisions. In his public life, Gary was the Provincial Archivist for the Province of British Columbia. And his archival achievements include a Masters degree in Archival Studies, an Honorary Life Membership of the Association of B.C. Archivists in 2014, the same year he became the Provincial Archivist Emeritus, and a Distinguished Leadership Award in 2017 from the B.C. Museums Association.

For Gary's contribution of our branch as well as our Society he was made a Fellow of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada in 2022.



Gary Mitchell, M.A.S, F.R.H.S.C.
Branch Secretary (Retired)
Photo source: heraldry.ca

INTRODUCING NEW DIRECTORS

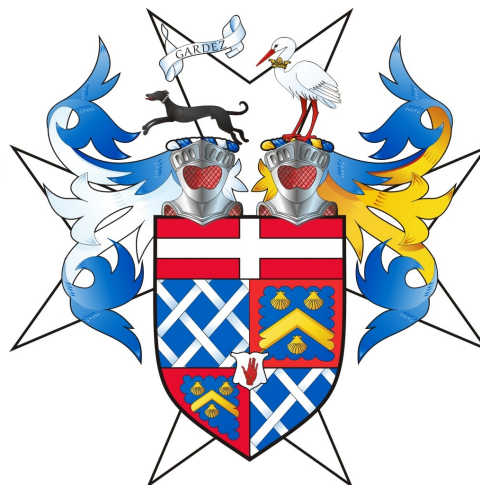
With the retirement of three branch directors, two were replaced during the election as part of our annual general meeting last March, 2024.

John Cave-Browne-Cave, Bt., of Delta BC brings to our board a long-time interest in heraldry that includes an extensive interest in ancestral history in genealogy. John is the Seventeenth Baronet of the Cave-Browne-Cave Baronetcy of Stanford in the County of Northampton England. The baronetcy was created on June 30, 1641 for Thomas Cave, a Royalist who fought in the English Civil War. The practice of awarding baronetcies was originally introduced in England in the 14th century. John is also a senior officer with the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller in the Vancouver Commandery.



John Cave-Browne-Cave, Bt.
17th Baronet Cave-Browne-Cave
Photo source: bc-yukon.heraldry.ca

Arms of
Gary Mitchell
Source: Public Registry,
The Canadian Heraldic Authority,
dated 15 December
2004, Volume IV Page 165.



Augmented arms of
John Cave-Browne-Cave.

Registration of
Arms February 20,
2015 Volume VI,
page 485 from an
original registration
of John's late father
Robert Cave-
Browne-Cave of
May 26, 2000 Vol-
ume IV, page 33.



Dr. Donald McLeod of Merritt BC joins our board to represent members from the BC interior. He is a family physician and has had his practice in Merritt for many years.

While Don is very interested in heraldry, he also has a genealogical passion with being very involved with the MacLeod Clan and has attended several clan gatherings. In 2016 he hosted the 11th North American MacLeod Clan gathering in his home community of Merritt BC.

Don is also interested in interplanetary exploration with a keen interest in the planet Mars. Don's clan website features a Martian Coat of Arms that would make an interesting article.

Angélique Bernard of Whitehorse, Yukon joins our branch board following the retirement this summer of Gary Mitchell. Angélique has worked with our branch having been our vice-regal Distinguished Patron during her term as the Commissioner of Yukon. In 2023 Angélique published her bilingual booklet *Heraldry in the Yukon/ L'héraldique au Yukon*. As a professional translator, she continues to contribute to our branch with translation services; see page 3 in this issue for details on her latest bilingual book. Angélique was made a Fellow of our Society last year.

With Angélique joining our board we now have board participation from our branch Yukon area.



Donald McLeod, B.Sc.(Hon), M.D., F,S,A, (Scot)
Photo: Tom Mercer



Angélique Bernard, O.Y., F.R.H.S.C.
Photo: Taylor House, Whitehorse YT



Arms of Dr. Donald McLeod of Rothie, Scotland.
Source: The grant is recorded on the 42nd page of the 82nd Volume of the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland on 12 October 1995.



Arms of Angélique Bernard
Source: Public Registry, The Canadian Heraldic Authority Grant of Arms and Supporters, May 15, 2019 Volume VII, page 187.



OUR HIGHLAND GAMES PARTICIPATION THIS YEAR



To dexter is branch vice-resident Tom Mercer and to sinister is branch member Joan Merrington at our Victoria booth. Photo: Tom Mercer



Over the weekend of May 11 and 12 we had our branch booth at the 161st Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival at Topaz Park in Victoria BC.



To sinister the arms of the City of Victoria granted by the College of Arms, London, May 10, 1962. Registration with the Canadian Heraldic Authority May 20, 2005 Volume IV, page 492.

During August 10 and 11 we had our branch booth at the Campbell River Highland Gathering at Nunns Creek Park in Campbell River BC.

The wind made for a great display of our flags. We were next to the Campbell River Genealogy Society booth with their selection of baked goods for sale.



Branch member John Neill attending our branch heraldry booth at the Campbell River Highland Gathering. Photo: Steve Cowan



To dexter are the arms of the City of Campbell River BC granted by the Court of the Lord Lyon, Edinburgh, Scotland on September 5, 1987. These arms are not yet in the Canadian Heraldic Authority public registry.



RECEPTION WITH H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL

Steve Cowan, Comox BC



In April this year I received an invitation from Government House in Victoria BC to attend a special event. The invitation, from our Distinguished Patron, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, was to attend a reception to commemorate the visit of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal and Vice Admiral Sir Timothy Laurence on Saturday, May 4, 2024, at Government House.

Her Royal Highness was on a three-day visit to Vancouver and Victoria. She first arrived in Vancouver on May 3 to help with the commissioning ceremony of **H.M.C.S. MAX BERNAYS**, the Royal Canadian Navy's first Arctic patrol vessel to be added to Canada's Pacific Fleet.



Ship's badge of
H.M.C.S. MAX BERNAYS,
C.H.A. approval of the Badge
April 15, 2020 , volume VII,
page 246

The format of the Victoria reception was very unique. The guests were grouped at assigned stand-up tables that were arranged in four columns. One guest I knew at my table was Mr. David Spence, president of the Vancouver Island Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society.

When the Royal party arrived, Her Royal Highness went to the first table and began chatting with the guests; Sir Timothy went to the tables in the other half of the reception room. We each wore a large name card with our personal and organization details clearly shown. I was fortunate that I was in the table columns that were visited by Her Royal Highness.

What a delight it was to speak with Her Royal Highness. After glancing at my name tag she was curious about seeing Yukon in our branch name. I explained our branch area and activities. We then discussed local heraldry and how the Royal crowns we still use are of our late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It was a great pleasure to have this short but personal time with H.R.H. And then she moved onto the next table.



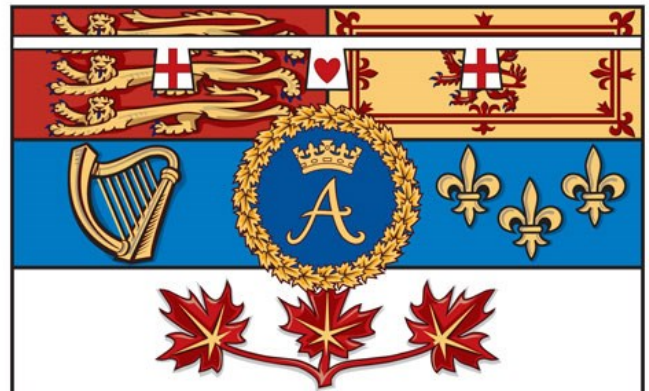
Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal chatting with reception guests. Accompanying H.R.H. was our Distinguished Patron The Honourable Janet Austin seen in the centre of the photograph.

Photo credit: D. Craig



A overhead view of the guests at their assigned tables awaiting the arrival of H.R.H. The Princess Royal and Vice Admiral Sir Timothy Laurence.

Photo credit: D. Craig



Personal Flag of The Princess Royal for use in Canada. Registration of this personal Flag with the C.H.A. July 15, 2013 , Volume VI, page 243.

In my haste to arrive on time and as I departed by foot after the reception I failed to see if this flag was being flown from Government House.



IN MEMORY

**The Honourable
Iona Campagnolo P.C., O.C., O.B.C.**

October 18, 1932 - April 4, 2024

It was with great sadness we learned of the death of our former Distinguished Patron. Her Honour was appointed by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and became the first woman appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of BC. Prior to this, Her Honour had a career in civic and national politics including being president of the Liberal Party of Canada..



The Honourable Iona Campagnolo P.C., O.C., O.B.C.
Image source: The Comox Valley Record, April 4, 2024



The Honourable Iona Campagnolo, P.C., O.C., O.B.C.,
In office as the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia
September 25, 2001 – September 30, 2007
Registration of Arms and Supporters January 15, 2004
Vol. IV, p. 348

Image source: Public Registry of the C.H.A.

LOCAL HERALDRY COURSE

Its that time of year, again. During November we will be conducting a three session heraldry course with Elder College at the North Island Campus in Courtenay BC.

This is part of our Society's aim of promoting heraldry to Canadians.

Aspects include the history of heraldry as well as our heraldic heritage from the United King-

dom. We feature the development of Canadian heraldry with its modern application in Canada and how arms are granted by the Canadian Heraldic Authority.



For those seeking more participation we also mention membership in our branch and Society.

If you would like to run a local course within your community please ask about syllabus and material available at:
bc_yukon@heraldry.ca



NATIONAL HONOUR TO BRANCH MEMBERS

At the national annual general meeting held in Toronto ON held on Saturday, June 8, the following members have been awarded the

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Joan Merrington of Victoria BC. is awarded the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada Certificate of Meritorious Service in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the field of heraldry both in Canada and internationally. Her involvement with heraldry began in the 1970s in Salisbury, Rhodesia, where she played a key role in the Rhodesia Heraldry and Genealogy Society. Over the years, Mrs. Merrington has demonstrated her remarkable talent through the creation of heraldic certificates, municipal arms, and military heraldry, earning her the title of Licentiate of the Society in 1979.



Joan in her studio working on the artwork on the grant for John Stephen Carbone in 2009. Joan was a heraldic artist for the Canadian Heraldic Authority from 2008 until 2017.

Photo: courtesy of Joan Merrington

Joan's heraldic artistry has been crucial in shaping the heraldic identity of several African nations. She was the original heraldic artist for the new arms of the Republic of Zimbabwe in 1981 and helped design the arms of the Republic of Namibia in 1990. Her expertise earned her appointments to

South Africa's Heraldry Council and Committee in 1998 and 2004, underscoring her significant influence and the high esteem for her work internationally.

Lee Van Horne of Parksville BC. is awarded the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada Certificate of Meritorious Service in recognition of his exceptional dedication and service. Since 2006, he has served in various leadership roles, contributing significantly to the Society and BC/Yukon Branch. His expertise in technology has been invaluable, particularly in maintaining the Branch website. Through his creative approaches, he has enhanced engagement and ensured the site remains current and informative.



Lee Van Horne

Photo: John Burrage, 2012

He has contributed significantly to the Society's literary landscape by penning numerous articles for publication. His writings frequently delve into nautical themes from a heraldic standpoint, infusing our publications with depth and variety. His dedication and substantial contributions render him a truly deserving recipient of this honour.

Congratulations! And thank you both for your work in helping the Society strive to achieve our aim of promoting heraldry to Canadians.

The branch executive look forward to presenting the M.S.A. certificates to our new honourees when we get together with our other branch members. Not date is set at the present time for an autumn branch get together.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES

The month of August has two wedding anniversaries of senior members of our Society and Branch.

Laurie and Lynne Patten of Nanaimo BC celebrate their 71st anniversary! Laurie is a founding member of our branch. He is a retired heraldic craftsman and has done a lot of heraldic artwork for Government House in Victoria.



Laurie and Lynne Patten



Laurie's arms from 1994

Charles and Valerie Maier of Ottawa ON celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on the last full weekend of August. Charles is our national second vice-president as well as being the branch president of Ottawa Valley branch. Both Charles and Valerie have attended several of our branch events; Charles has been a featured heraldic speaker for us as well.



To dexter, a heraldic badge made to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Charles and Valerie Maier, pictured above.

THE BLAZON

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Articles are welcome for submission
to the Blazon Editor

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