

Events Calendar

December 4, 2005

Mustard Seed Dinner
The 5th Field Band entertains hundreds of guests and volunteers for this successful annual event. For more information visit www.mustardseed.ca

December 7, 2005

Combined Christmas concert with Greater Victoria Concert Band and 5th Field Band
Esquimalt High School Auditorium, 8pm
Admission is by donation, with all proceeds to the Mustard Seed. For more information visit www.5fieldband.ca

Contact us

We would love your feedback! If you have suggestions for our newsletter, please send us an e-mail at info@5fieldband.ca or give us a call at 363-8203.



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The Mouthpiece

*The newsletter for friends of the
5th (BC) Field Regiment Royal Canadian Artillery Band*

In this edition:

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- Summary of our summer
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Welcome!

From CWO Frank Eigler, Bandmaster

Over the past few years we have had numerous requests from you, our supporters, for more information on the upcoming events and general activities of the band. I therefore offer you this, the inaugural edition, of the 5th (BC) Field Regiment RCA Band newsletter, affectionately entitled The Mouthpiece.

After an exciting summer of local parades and concerts, along with a few of our members performing on Parliament Hill in Ottawa with the Band of the Ceremonial Guard, and others teaching Army cadets in Vernon, everyone was glad to return home to share stories of their summer experiences.

With Remembrance Day upon us and December fast approaching, I hope you will find time to sit back, peruse our contributions, and come see us perform.

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Summer Summary

By MWO Daniel Moses, Band Sergeant Major

The Band had one of its most active and most successful summers in recent years. Between June 22 and September 17, we performed at twelve events, making for a very busy time.

The highlight of the Summer was the Band's participation in the state funeral of Sgt Smokey Smith, the last surviving recipient of the Victoria Cross. A ten-member contingent from the Band travelled to Vancouver on August 12 to join forces with the Band of the 15th Field Artillery Regiment, and the Pipes and Drums of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, to form a 70-piece band. The next day started early, with a long parade from the Seaforth Armoury, across the Burrard Street Bridge through downtown to St Andrew's Wesley United Church. It was a VERY hot and sunny day, and a long march, leading 300 troops, but the bands weren't finished yet. We then went on and performed for three hours at a reception held at the Armoury. It was an honour to participate in this very high-profile day; it was seen by the whole nation, and all the bands acquitted themselves very well.

Other events this summer included our 18th annual series of Sunday afternoon concerts held at Fort Rodd Hill in August. All four concerts were well-attended and the band sounded great!

New this year was the band's taking to the parade square for the graduation ceremonies of the Naval Officer Training Centre and of the Raven Programme, a Basic Military Qualification course for First Nations recruits, both held at Workpoint. Once again this year, we performed at Beaver Lake Park for the Saanich Strawberry Festival and at Beacon Hill Park to close the City of Victoria's summer concert series. The Band also played at Fort Rodd Hill on two more occasions.

Just prior to the Tall Ships Festival, the band played at a public reception in the park, for all the officers and crew from the various ships in the harbour, and on Canada Day we played a light concert of favourites (including Happy Birthday!) for a crowd of about 500 happy cake-eaters! Finally, the Band regrouped its members, returning from summer employment elsewhere, and performed for the official opening of the Metchosin Pavillion, a new bandshell on the grounds of the municipal offices.

The band continues to build its audience as it expands its profile in the community. Not only do our Summer appearances entertain thousands of people, but they benefit recruiting and our community footprint. On top of that, our military and associate members have a great time making music!



MCpl Ameer Bodman takes her first step on a rappelling exercise.

Fifth Field Facts

Visit us online! Did you know that the 5th Field Band has its very own website? Updated regularly by musicians, it has a wide variety of photos, upcoming events, and interesting historical facts. Visit us at www.5fieldband.ca

The 5th Field Band has a rich and important history on Vancouver Island. Did you know that during the 1920's, a string section was added to the existing brass and reed band? This group became very active within the community, and members from the string section later became the nucleus of, what is today, the Victoria Symphony, which is celebrating 65 years of wonderful music this year!

Recruiting Corner

We are currently accepting applications for the following sections:

- **Flute**
- **Clarinet**
- **Trumpet**
- **Saxophone**

Our next auditions will be held December 15, 2005. See our website for details on auditioning.