



# THE DISPATCH

## ATLANTIC PILOTAGE AUTHORITY'S 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SERVICE AWARDS NIGHT

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the Atlantic Pilotage Authority hosted the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Service Awards banquet. This year the event was held in the Compass Room at the Casino Nova Scotia. This is a special event where the Authority recognizes those employees who have reached certain milestones of their career.

This year's recipients were:

**Captain Shaun Dauphinee**

10 years service. Captain Dauphinee is a Halifax Pilot and is Co-Chair of the Occupational Health & Safety Committee.

**Captain William Hancock**

10 years service. Captain Hancock is a Pilot in the St. John's, Holyrood and Placentia Bay areas in Newfoundland. He was unable to attend.

**Captain George Hilchie**

10 years service. Captain Hilchie is a Pilot in the Halifax area.



From left to right: Capt. Dauphinee, Capt. Hilchie, Capt. Rae, Capt. Bell, and Capt. Cunningham

**Captain William Hunt**

10 years service. Captain Hunt is a Launchmaster aboard the Halifax pilot boat. He was unable to attend.

Halifax Pilot, the Vice President of CMPA, and is a member of the Technology Committee.

**Captain John Bell**

20 years service. Captain Bell is a Halifax Pilot and is the Chair of the Halifax Pilots Committee.



The employee door prize, a replica of the Bluenose vessel, was won by **Diane Cooper**, the APA's Administrative Assistant. Congratulations Diane!

**Captain Peter Cunningham**

20 years service. Captain Cunningham is a Pilot in the Halifax area.

**Captain Andrew Rae**

20 years service. Captain Rae is a

## SHE'S ALL YOURS, MR. PILOT

One foggy morning in Saint John found Captain Don Duffy, a Saint John pilot with the Atlantic Pilotage Authority, piloting the QE2 into the harbour. The liner's captain, standing nervously beside Captain Duffy, looked around and asked if it was safe to bring her in on such a shrouded morning.

"This is Saint John," replied Captain Duffy. "We work in fog all the time. If we didn't work in fog, we wouldn't work at all."

At first came a big, nervous intake of breath, then the liner captain's voice quivered as he exhaled and said, "She's all yours, Mr. Pilot."

Stories like this don't get told or heard every day. There simply isn't an outlet for it, besides word of mouth. That will change within the next couple of months, however, thanks to 18-year pilot, Captain Duffy, and Saint John lawyer, Mr. Neil McKelvey. The two professionals-turned-authors have researched and written a gathering of Saint John pilots' stories titled *She's all yours, Mr. Pilot*.

The idea began a little more than a year ago when the two met at a memorial in January of 2007, marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sinking of Pilot Boat No. 1. All seven people on board the boat were lost when the **Fort Avalon** freighter sliced it in half amid thick vapour and -30 degree Celsius weather. Captain Duffy was the chairman of the memorial and Mr. McKelvey was counsel at the time for the Traynor family, who lost pilot Will Traynor in the tragedy.

Chairing the service got Captain Duffy to thinking. He decided it would be a shame to lose this history, to forget about those who have piloted before him and the others who work with him. He mentioned to Mr. McKelvey that he was thinking of writing a history of pilotage when he retired. Mr. McKelvey's father was a pilot, and he himself has been exposed to pilotage all his life. It



Pilot Boat No. 1 Memorial Service—January 14, 2007

seemed like a perfect fit.

"Don't wait. Do it now. I'll help you," replied Mr. McKelvey. And that was all either of them needed.



Neil McKelvey and Donald Duffy

Captain Duffy was in charge of the research. He spent hours upon hours finding past pilots in the archives. When asked his sources, he names only one.

"The Saint John Library is a gem," he replies with a smile. The ladies at the library helped him learn how to find what he needed, and they kept an eye out for material that would be relevant to his work. The process took patience and time.

"One day I'd research for three hours," says Captain Duffy. "Another day I'd research for one."

Then came what both Captain Duffy and Mr. McKelvey refer to as their favourite part: interviewing retired pilots who are still around and working pilots. They met with the pilots in the Saint John Pilot Office and asked them about interesting stories they had to tell.

"Sometimes, the pilots would come in to be interviewed, sit down and then say they didn't have a story to tell," laughs Captain Duffy. "They'd just clam up!"

When that happened, Captain Duffy says he would tell them a story of his, just as an example, to ease them into the interview. Or, he would simply remind them of a story they had already told him sometime before.

"The most important thing was to get everyone's story," says Captain Duffy.

"And they had fantastic stories," says Mr. McKelvey.

Captain Duffy says the book goes quite far back, to the 1600s, when the First Nations were the ones to teach settlers about the waters. It goes through those who piloted with sails instead of motors, all the way up to the pilots you can find at the docks today and shake their hands with. Sifting through all this information in his research allowed Captain Duffy to appreciate the stories and the history behind his livelihood.

"When you pilot, you tend to think about what's at hand and what's going on around you," he says. "You don't tend to think about the history behind it all."



## SHE'S ALL YOURS, MR. PILOT (CONT'D)

And there are centuries of history behind it. After the months of research were finished, Captain Duffy turned to Mr. McKelvey.

"He [Captain Duffy] produced a mass of press reports," says Mr. McKelvey. "So I had to sort them out, organize the book and do the writing."

After Mr. McKelvey did this, he sent the drafts back to Captain Duffy for what he jokingly refers to as his "homework": editing the writing.

"If something didn't sit right with me, I'd tell him," explains Captain Duffy. "You know, if the wording just wasn't right."

Back and forth they would go until they were satisfied. By the end, they had written about 28 deceased pilots and interviewed 17 pilots – 10 retired and seven active. There is also a fictional chapter about the seven pilots' last days on Pilot Boat No. 1. This chapter was written by neither Captain Duffy nor Mr. McKelvey; Dr. Cameron MacDonald from Windsor, Ontario wrote it. He is married to Will Traynor's daughter.

When asked what story was the most difficult for him, Captain Duffy says Dr. MacDonald's fictional account was the hardest. Not because of the work, of course, but because of its content.

After 10 months of toiling away on this project, both Captain Duffy and Mr. McKelvey thought they would have the book published by Christmas. Unfortunately, problems with their publisher pushed the date back, and now they have a new publisher and are aiming for a March release.

The two authors are hoping that anyone who has an interest in the harbour will read this book. Captain Duffy says there is such a sense of community surrounding the publication that he already knows there's a lot of interest amongst those connected to the port. It will hopefully allow today's pilots and future pilots to appreciate the past as much as both Captain Duffy and Mr. McKelvey do now.

"I really admire the pilots before me," says Captain Duffy. "All the present day pilots in Saint John owe everything to them."

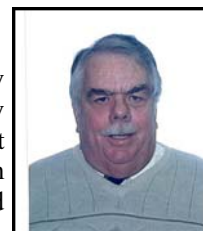
Is there an upcoming milestone in your life? Tell us about it at [elockhart@atlanticpilots.com](mailto:elockhart@atlanticpilots.com) or 902-426-2551.

### Board Departure



**Gerard Fitzpatrick.** Appointed December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2002, Mr. Fitzpatrick contributed his working knowledge of financial accounting to the Board through the expertise he gained as partner of Beaton Fitzpatrick Murray. Mr. Fitzpatrick is past chairman of Georgetown Shipyards, the PEI Institute of Chartered Accountants, and the Atlantic School of Chartered Accountancy.

### Board Arrival



**William Rooney.** Appointed January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008. A graduate of the University of PEI, Mr. Rooney began his career at Revenue Canada's Special Investigation Unit. He is presently the owner and operator of Your Investment Doctor. Currently, Mr. Rooney has membership in the N.B. Easter Seal Campaign and is on the advisory board of the Souris Hospital in PEI.

### Milestones

Congratulations are extended to Captain Jason Wicks and his wife Stacey on the arrival of their baby boy, Jaxon Bruce. Born on December 6<sup>th</sup> 2007, Jaxon weighed 9 lbs. 14 oz. Captain Wicks is a Pilot in the St. John's / Holyrood / Placentia Bay district. Congratulations Jason and Stacey!

Congratulations are extended to Tina Panopolis and her husband Dimitri on the arrival of their baby boy, Thomas Panopolis. Born on December 21<sup>st</sup> 2007, Thomas weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. Tina is the Human Resources Administrator at APA's Halifax office. Congratulations Tina and Dimitri!

Congratulations are extended to Captain Patrick Careen and his wife Tina on the arrival of their baby boy, Jack Patrick. Born on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Jack weighed 8 lbs. 7 oz. Captain Careen is a Pilot in the St. John's / Holyrood / Placentia Bay district. Congratulations Pat and Tina!

### OHS Committee

In the upcoming months, the Occupational Health & Safety Committee will be seeking new members. One of the keys to the Committee's success is having a steady flow of new members. This will give all employees the opportunity to bring forward new ideas and allow them to foster an environment of Health and Safety in the workplace. Anyone interested in joining the committee should submit their request to John Griffin, Co-Chair of the OHS Committee, at [jgriffin@atlanticpilots.com](mailto:jgriffin@atlanticpilots.com).



## ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

### Arrival

**Captain Daniel Forrestall** joined the Authority on August 20<sup>th</sup> 2007 as an apprentice pilot in the Halifax district. Captain Forrestall began his career with the Federal Offshore Services as a galley steward and worked his way up to Master of the "M.V. Arctic". Captain Forrestall enjoys the challenges of being a Harbour Pilot. Welcome aboard!



### Arrival

**Captain Evan MacDonald** joined the Authority on October 13<sup>th</sup> 2007 as an apprentice pilot for the Cape Breton district. Captain MacDonald started his marine career at an early age sea fishing with his father. He attended the Canadian Coast Guard College in Sydney and worked as a Captain for Secunda Marine in Trinidad & Tobago. Welcome aboard!



### Arrival

**Captain Brian Stanley** joined the Authority on November 8<sup>th</sup> 2007 as an apprentice pilot in the St. John's, Newfoundland district. Captain Stanley spent 21 years at sea globetrotting on different ships with the last 11 years at Maersk Company of Canada. Captain Stanley is married and the father of three children. Welcome aboard!



### Arrival

**Captain Denis Barry** joined the Authority on November 16<sup>th</sup> 2007 as an apprentice pilot in the Saint John, New Brunswick district. Captain Barry was only 17 when he joined Marine Atlantic's "Princess of Acadia". In 2007 Captain Barry was promoted to Captain of the "T & T Spirit" which runs between Trinidad & Tobago. Welcome aboard!



### Departure

**Captain Michael Furlong** retired on February 8<sup>th</sup> 2008, after working as an APA Pilot for 19 years within the Placentia Bay / Holyrood / St. John's district. During this time, he also served for 3 terms as a Board member.



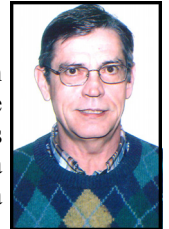
### Departure

**Captain Frank Durnford** retired on March 1<sup>st</sup> 2008, after working as an APA Pilot for 16 years within the Stephenville / Corner Brook / Bay of Exploits district.



### Departure

**Captain Peter Cunningham** retired on March 11<sup>th</sup> 2008, after 21 years with the Authority. He commenced his employment with the APA as a Launchmaster and in 1987 became a Halifax Pilot.



### Departure

**Captain Alex MacIntyre** retired on April 12<sup>th</sup> 2008, after working as an APA Pilot for 25 years within the Halifax district. Captain MacIntyre was a former Chair of the Halifax Pilots and former VP of CMPA. He presently serves as President—Eastern Division of the CMSG.



### Best Wishes



The Authority would like to wish all of our retiring pilots the best of luck for the future. Your work will be remembered and appreciated for years to come.

### Passing

**Captain Jerry Phillips** passed away March 7, 2008. He worked for 3 years as a casual Launchmaster in the Port of Saint John. Jerry is remembered for his helpful nature and will be missed by all who worked with him.

Send us your news for inclusion in the next issue of The Dispatch.

Deadline for submission is **October 31st, 2008**. We also welcome your feedback. Please email the Editor, Elaine Lockhart, at [elockhart@atlanticpilote.com](mailto:elockhart@atlanticpilote.com) or call (902) 426-2551

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