

The Annual Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade Christmas Party, and Awards Banquet – Dec. 3RD at the Fire Hall.

(Photos by Linda Harrington)

By Linda Harrington

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade held their annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet on Dec. 3rd at the Fire Hall in Lower Onslow. A delicious meal was served by members of Trinity United Church and musical entertainment was provided by the band Millstream.

Words of appreciation were passed along to the Brigade by several invited guests including Councillor Doug MacInnes, Mayor Christine Blair and MLA Karen Casey.

The Clifford MacDougall Fellowship Award was presented by Clarie Sinclair to John McKay. The Keith Hamilton Fire Fighter of the Year Award was awarded to Ron Urquhart, who was unable to attend. The Stan Groves Junior Fire Fighter of the Year Award was presented to Daniel Faber by Chief Greg Muise. The John Petrash Most Improved Fire Fighter was presented by Pearl Petrash to Robert Johnson. The Clem MacKinnon Sportsmanship Award was presented to Leo Morrow by Judy Archibald and Gary MacKinnon. The Carl King Officer of the Year Award was presented to Chief Greg Muise by Leo Morrow.



The Carl King Officer of the Year Award was presented to Chief Greg Muise (center) by Leo Morrow, as Greg's wife Colleen looks on.



OBFB Chief Greg Muise presents Ron Urquhart with the Keith Hamilton Memorial Fire Fighter of the Year Award. (Harrington Photo)



The Stan Groves Junior Fire Fighter of the Year Award was presented to Daniel Faber by Chief Greg Muise.

Long Term Service Awards were presented by Chief Greg Muise to the following: Eric Johnson- 5 Years; Rod Nelson and Kevin Crowell- 20 Years; Eric Devanney- 30 Years; Bill McKinnon- 50 Years; Vaughn Dickie, Russell



The Clifford MacDougall Fellowship Award was presented by Clarie Sinclair to John McKay (left). Also pictured are John's wife Hazel and Walter McElhinney.



Stanley Hampton presents Chuck Whidden with a gift of appreciation. (Harrington Photo)

Jennings and Lee Higgins- 55 Years.

Chief Greg Muise gave his annual report. There were a total of 159 calls for the year with a total of \$107,000 in damages. This was comprised of 2 flu fires, 6 grass/brush fires, 84 medical calls, 19 miscellaneous, 9 mutual aid, 32 MVA, 1 structure fire and 6 vehicle fires.

There have been a total of 4913 calls since 1961, with a damage value of \$5,896,559.

Twenty-seven regular training nights were held, with a vehicle extrication practice at Maritime Auto Salvage. Several members completed courses at the Fire School. One member completed Level 1 Program and is in the process of Certification.

Twelve members completed SCBA Certification in May.

This year's Harvest Sale in September raised a record amount of money, and included the sale of the 1974 Chev 934 for \$8100.

Santa made his appearance at the end of the Banquet and handed out gifts to everyone in attendance. He had a special presentation for

MLA Karen Casey. A culvert at the front of the Fire Hall was recently caving in and MLA Casey assisted the Brigade to make sure the culvert was replaced and the driveway repaved. The Brigade presented her with a plaque adorned with a mini culvert that reads "Karen Casey, in Appreciation, OBFB, 2016".

The Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting was delayed until Tuesday, Dec. 13th because of a snow storm on the 12th. The new slate of Officers is as follows: Chief- Greg Muise, Deputy Chief 1- Darrell



The Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade newly elected Officers for 2017 (left to right): Captain- Clint Verheul, Deputy Chief 1- Darrell Currie, Chief- Greg Muise, Captain -Derek Richard. Missing from photo was Deputy Chief 2- Leo Morrow. (Harrington Photo)

Currie, Deputy Chief 2- Leo Morrow, Captain- Derek Richard and Captain- Clint Verheul.



Long Term Service Awards were presented to the following (left to right): Kevin Crowell- 20 Years; Bill McKinnon- 50 Years; Vaughn Dickie, Russell Jennings and Lee Higgins- 55 Years; Eric Devanney- 30 Years and Eric Johnson- 5 Years. Missing from photo was Rod Nelson- 20 Years.



Members of the Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade pose for a photo following their Annual General Meeting on Dec. 13th. (Harrington Photo)



The John Petrash Most Improved Fire Fighter was presented by Pearl Petrash to Robert Johnson. Also pictured are Robert's wife Tracy (left) and Walter McElhinney (right).



The Clem MacKinnon Sportsmanship Award was presented to Leo Morrow by Judy Archibald and Gary MacKinnon (left to right). Also pictured are Leo's wife Gail (right) and OBFB Chief Greg Muise. (Harrington Photo)

My Favourite Pet

Nine year old, Robert Thomson, member of the Clifton 4-H Club enjoys watching his kitten, "Willow" enjoy his first Christmas by exploring the unbreakable ornaments on the family Christmas Tree.



Robert and Willow will receive a \$20.00 Gift Certificate from The Shoreline Journal and Clarence Farm Services Ltd.

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