# Campaign for Real Ale Society of British Columbia



2010 Annual Report

#### **CAMRA BC Executive 2010**

President: Phil Atkinson

Vice-president: Dustin Sepkowski Treasurer/Secretary: Paul McGroarty

Director: Maureen Blaseckie Director: Warren Boyer

Branch president – Penticton: Liam Kidner Branch president – Vancouver: Lundy Dale Branch president – Victoria: Glen Stusek

With many thanks to Mark Blaseckie for advice and assistance in numerous areas.

## **President's Report**

December 31, 2010

At December 31, 2010 CAMRA BC comprises three branches: Penticton, Vancouver and Victoria. I am pleased to let you know that each branch stands in good order financially and is in good standing within the society.

We also have an application for recognition of a new branch pending. The executive hopes to verify and welcome 'CAMRA Fraser Valley' early in 2011.

CAMRA BC Members 719 Finances: credit \$811.05

Penticton Members: 10 Finances: credit \$120.00

Vancouver Members: 433 Finances: credit \$7,282.09

Victoria Members: 276 Finances: credit \$6,321.08

#### **Activity**

After many years operating as a society with a single branch, our *modus operandi* was clearly outdated, with gray or unexplored duties and conditions. Consequently, much of the focus of this year's work has been on establishment and clarification of roles and responsibilities, protocols and best-practices. The results are available on our new website at <a href="www.camrabc.ca">www.camrabc.ca</a>

As part of that review, the board approved a modest increase in two membership categories— Joint and Corporate—to bring standard fees to all branches. In addition, it was agreed that instead of the Victoria branch paying our bills then billing other branches for reimbursement (as under the old model), a portion of all membership fees shall go directly to the society to cover common costs, such as insurance, newsletter, internet and filing fees.

Finally, the recurring problem of how best to hold equitable meetings for a society with branches across such a vast geographic area as British Columbia was addressed. We now officially recognize e-Meetings as valid, and have devised a workable method of gathering views and suggestions, disseminating information and polling our members online. Nominations for the 2011 CAMRA BC executive were gathered this way throughout the first two weeks of December and, although no position was contested so no election is required, the system seems eminently satisfactory.

Penticton branch took great strides to get off the ground with back-to-back beer tastings and several meetings throughout 2010. Towards the end of the year, however, work commitments required all four branch executives to go overseas so the branch is currently in hiatus pending a successful call for replacements.

Vancouver branch planned and produced ongoing annual events such as excursions to Mission and Washington, as well as Oktoberfest and supplemented those with its involvement in the

highly successful Vancouver Cask Beer Week, which included "Women and Beer,' a unique landmark event spotlighting the contributions women have made and continue to make in British Columbia's craft beer sector.

Victoria branch's decades of monthly meetings and events with highly interesting craft-brewing industry guests and speakers continued unabated. As usual, these gatherings included Victoria's summer picnic and Yuletide gatherings in the capital. Of particular note was the tremendous turnout of CAMRA members at city hall in support of neighbourhood pubs when *The Moon Under Water* licence application was being considered. I am pleased to report a resounding success.

And, of course, we have to include the success of the Great Canadian Beer Festival which is volunteer-staffed mostly by CAMRA members. The GCBF made a generous donation of \$500 this year to CAMRA BC for which we are very appreciative. 2010 was CAMRA BC's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we received 'happy birthday' donations from J. Random and A. Toper of \$50 each. Many thanks!

It has been a great honour to serve you as president and I am glad to hand over the reins with the society in such good state. Thanks to all the branch executives for all the hard work, and thanks to all members for your continued support. I hope the coming year is every bit as successful as the past year and look forward to taking the Real Ale message all across our province and beyond.

Phil Atkinson President CAMRA BC

# Treasurer's Report

Dec. 31, 2010

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Paul McGroarty Treasurer CAMRA BC

<sup>\*(</sup>with liabilities regarding payment to CAMRA Victoria of approximately \$2,000 for newsletter, insurance and filing)

### 2010 Amateur Brewers Competition

#### Report submitted by Bill Riel, CAMRA Victoria

Judging for the 2010 CAMRA BC Amateur Brewers Competition took place on April 24<sup>th</sup>. This year the quality of entries was uniformly superb: the judges commented that this was the highest quality competition thus far! In addition to our usual first, second and third place awards for each category and the best of show prize, we had an additional special prize: the Phillips Showcase Showdown sponsored by Phillips Brewing.

Congratulations to Gary Giesbrecht who won Best of Show and the Phillips Showcase Showdown and top Graham With for his outstanding IPA which won the James Cline Memorial Award.

And a big thanks to all the volunteers, judges and stewards and the others who work hard to make the competition a success. In particular, I'd like to thank Ken Healy at Askim's Beer and Wine, R.J. Spagnols in Vancouver and Warren Boyer for taking on the Vancouver component of this competition.

I'd also like to acknowledge and thank our corporate sponsors for their support and generosity. A special thank-you goes out to Matt Phillips and Phillips Brewing for the Showcase Showdown and to Spinnakers Brewing for sponsoring the top Victoria Brewer!

In addition, the generous support of the following sponsors is gratefully acknowledged:

Driftwood Brewing Lighthouse Brewing Tipsy Vancouver Island Brewing Avalon Cottage Bedford Brewing Christie's Carriage House

2010 marks the last year that I will organize the home brew competition. I would especially like to thanks the CAMRA Victoria executive and members who pout so much work into making this such a successful event. And I wish my successor the very best of luck in 2011.