

hack and swear for 19 holes. Then they and 35 others settled down in the evening for the traditional BBQ. The winners of The Ted Smith Memorial Trophies were: Men's Low Net — Ken Jones (Reg. No. 23354) and Ladies' Low Net — Lois Goranson (wife of Bill [Reg. No. 18486]). Many other prizes were handed out to the participants.

The 20th Annual Reunion will be held Saturday, February 17, 2001, at the Apache Junction Legion, 1018 South Meriden, Apache Junction, Arizona. The golf tournament will be held the following day. For further information, contact Steve Onderko at (480) 396-2213 or by e-mail at steve.onderko@usa.net or Jack Van Norman at pajack@nucleus.com. Pre-registration is required and fees will be \$20; golf \$35, and BBQ \$15 (per person based on U.S. funds).

By John Religa

VETERAN PROFILE

A MOUNTIE FOR ALL DIVISIONS ... A BIOGRAPHY OF CLARE DENT

When Clarence James Dent graduated from high school at the age of 18, he had several career options to choose from: he could play professional hockey, pursue flying, or join the RCMP. On his father's advice, he chose career path number three — a career that ended up encompassing postings from coast to coast, nine different Divisions, 20-odd towns and cities, and six North of 60 transfers including two to the heart of Canada's barren lands.

On April 17, 1947, in Toronto, Ontario, Clare was sworn into the Force by none other than retired D/Commr. William Kelly, who was the Personnel Officer at the time. Clare's first posting after training at "Depot" was at Halifax Detachment in "H" Division. From there, Clare was posted to just about everywhere. He served throughout Canada in several Divisions, namely "G," "E," "O," "K" and RCMP HQ at Ottawa. Between enforcing the law and a barrage of transfers, Clare married Vera Jean Dooks on January 31, 1953, and together

they had three children: Wayne, Susan and Sharon.

Clare and his wife Vera saw several years of service in the North, specifically at Glace Bay, Baker Lake, Teslin, Whitehorse and Yellowknife. While posted at Inuvik Sub/Division, yet another northern posting, Clare and Vera were part of the first-ever formal ball held north of the Arctic Circle. The ball, held at CFS Inuvik, "was an unqualified success," Clare says. The invitations went out specifying formal or Native dress. Says Clare: "We had the most outlandish display of the finest formal gowns and Native clothing you can imagine." Guests of honour included the Commissioner and Mrs. Hodgson, the CO of "G" Division, the N.W.T. Chief Justice and his wife, members from Alberta and the Yukon, and almost every member of Inuvik Sub/Division, in addition to Eskimo, Indian and Metis in their finery. This was just one of the many heart-warming experiences Clare and Vera were privileged to be a part of.

Having attained the rank of superintendent, Clare retired on April 17, 1981, after 34 years of service, and moved to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, where he and Vera still live today.



Clare Dent and his wife, Vera, shared memorable experiences and made lasting friendships at every one of Clare's postings in the Divisions across the Force.