

## REUNION 2013 – April 12 – 14, 2013 – Victoria, BC



## Party Like a War Bride!

Reunion 2013 @ Victoria's Empress Hotel was a HUGE SUCCESS!!!

All of the hard work of your Executive Reunion Committee produced an amazing week-end at the Empress Hotel in Victoria from start to finish!!! The City of Victoria is always lovely in April and the setting at the Empress Hotel was absolutely gorgeous! We had a final total of 61 War Brides that attended part or all of the week-end events. We had another 139 family members, friends plus numerous special guests that came for the party too!

Our 2 registration afternoons were well received and kept very busy. In between providing registration packages to War Brides, we had television cameras & reporters vying for attention and very excited to meet & interview a real 'live' War Bride!!! We also had CHEK TV drop in on Sunday morning for their interviews & news coverage. The Hospitality Suite in the Blanshard Room was very popular throughout the week-end with endless pots of Yorkshire tea & biscuits on offer and the constant sound of wonderful conversations and lots of laughs reaching out to the hallways.

Many enjoyed the optional tours of the City of Victoria and to Butchart Gardens. A small group that did the Sunday afternoon tour to the Wooden Shoe Deli enjoyed delicious Dutch coffee & cookies provided by the store owners. We also managed to find a few bits & pieces to buy for our cookie jars & candy dishes at home.

All of our entertainment was much enjoyed including Bev Tosh and her beautiful paintings, singer Sue Doman & pianist Peter Rothhauser performing a lot of the songs we all love, the Jolly Tars Jazz Quintet from CFB Esquimalt had us all singing along and dancing in our chairs or on the dance floor of the beautiful Crystal Ballroom, and who can forget the 'conga line' at Sunday Brunch thanks to the music & song with Ron Berod!?!

We were honoured to have as special guests for our Saturday night Gala Banquet, the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia Judith Guichon, Rear Admiral William Truelove & his wife from CFB Esquimalt, and BC/Yukon Command Legion Foundation President David Sinclair & his wife. We were fortunate to receive a large donation from the BC/Yukon Legion Foundation that was used to reduce the registration costs for our War Brides.

Thank you to everyone that attended and enjoyed themselves. As my War Bride Mum Joan Reichardt said, 'What a week-end! We still have what it takes, it just takes us a little longer!'

