

# MEDIA KIT

2009 Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Community Awards



## **2009 Citizen of the Year**

*Sponsored by: Canadian Tire*

### **Background information**

The Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce has been presenting the Citizen of the Year award since 1974 with the first recipient being Dorothy Stubbs.

This award is given in recognition of outstanding voluntary service by a full time resident of the Comox Valley to the community at large, over a significant period of time. This service can be of an individual nature or through clubs and community organizations.

The 2008 recipient of this award was Derek Newnes.

The Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce and Canadian Tire are pleased to present the 2009 award this year to recipient – **John Marinus**.

### **Background**

John Marinus was born in Holland in 1937, immigrated to Canada in 1953 and settled in the Comox Valley. He was so grateful for the life that not only Canada, but the Comox Valley, provided; he vowed that he would spend his entire life giving back to the community. His community service includes 37 years as a volunteer fireman with the Comox Fire Department. During that time he was awarded the BC Fire Service Medal and the Canadian Medal for exemplary service. Although he retired in 2003, he was still actively volunteering with the department providing education to children. John is a current member of the Comox Rotary club and has been for 27 years. In that time he has served as President (1995-1996), director and served on many committees. Since the inception of the “Ducky 500”, the famous duck race on Canada day, John has singularly been responsible for a large portion for the sale of the 5000 tickets. He is currently Rotary’s Bingo representative with the Gaming Commission. John is also a life member of the Comox Legion, the Knights of Columbus the Elks Clubs and a director for the Comox Senior’s Centre. You will also find him fundraising for the Courtenay Lawnbowling Club. The Comox Probus club is proud to have John as a charter member and as the first treasurer. When he isn’t driving the cancer van, picking up food for the Food Bank or collecting tabs from aluminum beverage cans, he is playing soccer, darts and lawn bowling. In addition to his position as Councillor for the Town of Comox, he has spent 15 years of his life doing his best for the Comox Valley.

**Contact:** John Marinus, (Retired) – phone:: 250-339-5725