

H.A.C.S Newsletter – March 2022

The Historical Arms Collectors Society will be having their 50th annual show this month. However, there have only been 48 shows in that time because of the pandemic.

H.A.C.S. officially started in 1970, but years earlier, 1965 to be exact, the British Columbia Arms Collectors Association was started by a group of historical arms enthusiasts. The original executive included Mike Raynor, JS Brown, MT Bongalis, Mike Galan, Gordon Bader, Tom Bongalis, George Brown, Frank Macey, Don Murdock, and Alex Thunstrom.

By 1970 this group had fizzled out and was replaced by what is now the Historical Arms Collectors Society of BC. They originally wanted to call it the BC Historical Arms Collectors Society which was like the earlier club but by then the BC government of the day vetoed that name, because it indicated the organization was being run by the government. So, BC was placed at the end of the name, and everyone was happy.

The first executive of the new historical Arms Collectors Society of BC was:

President – Miles Fenton

Vice President – Ellis Foulds

Secretary – Ron Tyson

Treasurer – Fred Bardua

Sergeant at Arms – Bob O'Connor

At this point the Directors are unknown.

The very first show in 1970 was held at Jubilee Hall in Burnaby and had 27 tables. The next year's show was at the Seaforth Armories in Vancouver and had 100 tables. H.A.C.S. has since flourished with

monthly and Annual shows in Vancouver, Burnaby, Coquitlam, and Chilliwack.