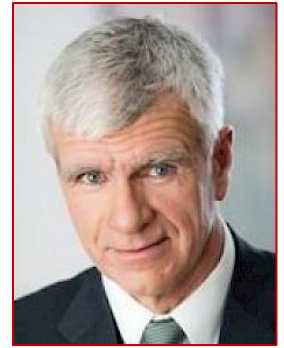




CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME

Garry Mancell



Summary

Garry Mancell is known more for his credentials as one of the *Best Lawyers in Canada* in Natural Resources and Energy Law with one of the world's leading global law firms, than for his achievements with the paddlesports community. Garry has raced with Canadian crews to multiple Top 3 placings at the Catalina Channel Crossing race when there were only 2 outrigger canoe clubs in Canada. Garry has medaled in the Molokai Hoe race as recently as 2012. Garry has been a pioneer through the early days of outrigger canoeing in BC, when Lotus in 1988 was founded as only the second outrigger canoeing club in Canada, when Lotus in 1989 hosted the first outrigger canoe Iron event in the Pacific Northwest, when Lotus in 1993 hosted the first double-hull outrigger canoe event in Canada, and when CORA in 1992 was founded by Garry, David Boulding, and Hugh Fisher.

Early Career

Earl and Caren Mancell had 4 sons (Garry; Jim; Don; Doug), were grandparents to 17, and great-grandparents to 3. Three of their sons would become synonymous with Lotus Sports Club. [01] Garry was born September 1951 in Vancouver BC, Jim was born in 1954, and Doug was born in 1959. The Mancell brothers have been an integral and continuous presence in dragon boating and outrigger canoeing with the Lotus Sports Club since the 1980s.

In 1974, Garry would graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry (BSF) and the Canadian Institute of Forestry Gold Medal [02] from UBC. [03] Garry would spend 1974-1982 working his way through law school as an employee of British Columbia Forest Products. [04] Garry would write an article published in 2006 by Forest History Association of British Columbia entitled "*Of Slacklines and other Tales of the Rigging*", [05] where Garry discusses working in the high-risk vocation of slackline yarder. [06] In 1981, Garry would graduate with an LLB (Bachelor of Laws) from University of Victoria. [07] Garry would work as a forestry litigation lawyer for several firms including O'Grady & Associates and Crown Forest Industries Ltd, before joining Davis LLP (Davis & Company) in 1988, eventually becoming partner, [08] later to be acquired by DLA Piper LLP in 2015. [09]

The "Lotus Eaters" men's team would win the 1988 Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival and go on to represent Canada at the 1989 Hong Kong World Championship International Dragon Boat Festival. [13] The "Lotus Eaters" men's team was comprised of cross-country ski racers, kayakers and canoeists, triathletes and ex-Olympians including Garry Mancell, Jim Mancell, Walt Dengler, Kris Landal, John Simpson, Scott Selbie, Ken Williams, Chris Cooper, Eric Grummisch, Gord Lyster, Mike McRae, Al Thomas, Peter Price, Steve Schleicher, Jack Cairney, Jim McArthur, and Bill Alley. [14]

Outrigger Canoeing Achievements

Although the first outrigger canoes did not arrive in BC until 1987, Lotus paddlers including Garry / Jim Mancell were already attending distance outrigger canoe races in Hawaii and California as early as 1987. Lotus paddlers including Garry / Jim Mancell would attend the Catalina Channel Crossing race in August 1987 when this event preceded the Queen Liliuokalani Race. Lotus would send a crew for the first time to the 1987 Queen Liliuokalani Race, when the change-out race was introduced and then every other year for decades.

Garry confirmed that when Lotus finished building the two Canadian *Malias*, they trailered them to the Catalina Channel Crossing race in August 1988. The Lotus mens team consisting of Garry / Jim Mancell, David Boulding, Bob Disbrow, Pete Zubick, John Healy, Jack Cairney, and a California steersman would place 2nd in their age category behind a team from Hawaii who were racing in a Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR). Bob Disbrow of First Marathon Securities was one of the paddlers on the Lotus mens team. After the 1988 Catalina Channel Crossing race, Bob Disbrow was convinced by Jim Mancell to buy a Hawaiian Class Racer for Lotus so the Lotus team could be more competitive. The Lotus mens team consisting of Garry / Jim Mancell, and most of the 1988 Catalina Channel Crossing team trailered the "Disbrow" Hawaiian Class Racer to the 1989

Catalina Channel Crossing race and would place 3rd in their age category behind teams who had moved to the then dominant Bradley Racer.

Lotus would send 2 womens teams and 2 mens teams including Garry / Jim Mancell to the 1992 Sacramento IVF World Sprints. [15] Garry / Jim Mancell purchased 2 of the Jerry Montgomery OC1s used at the 1992 Sacramento IVF World Sprints, [16] and made arrangements with Hugh Fisher, Don Irvine, and David Boulding to have them delivered to Lotus.

The Lotus mens team consisting of Garry / Jim Mancell, Dave Ruse, Colin Shaw, Brent Bagnall, John Taylor, Pete Zubick, Mike Jordan, and Pierre Buchholz would participate in their first Molokai Hoe race in 1993. In 2012, a team of one Australian, four Hawaiians, and seven Canadians, including Peter Forand, Bob Stewart and Garry with the legendary "Nappy" Napoleon as steersman, [18] would take Silver in Masters 60+ and a 43rd place finish overall. [19]

Coach-Builder Achievements

A Victoria Times Colonist article from June 1994 discusses Garry, co-founder of CORA and coach of the Lotus Eaters Outrigger Canoe Club, holding an outrigger clinic with Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club (VCKC). [20] Arrangements had been made to add an outrigger canoe to the VCKC fleet by way of a one-year loan of "The Burrard", a 45-foot six-person outrigger canoe, that CORA was making available to new outrigger canoe clubs as a starter canoe. [21]

Pioneering Achievements

The "Lotus Eaters" were formed in 1986 to compete in the inaugural Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival. Lotus Sports Club was founded in 1988 by Garry / Jim Mancell and Bob Disbrow shortly after John Ticknor negotiated for Lotus to be able to acquire and move into the former Texaco facilities at Barnet Marine Park in late 1988.

The Lotus Iron inaugural event was started by members of the Lotus Competitive outrigger teams including Garry / Jim Mancell, first taking place in 1989 at Barnet Marine Park with 2019 marking the 30th Anniversary. [22] The Lotus Iron was the first and the longest running outrigger canoe race in Canada as well as the whole Pacific Northwest. [23]

The Lotus Ice Breaker double-hull (V12) inaugural event in 1993 was started by members of the Lotus Competitive outrigger teams including Garry / Jim Mancell. The Lotus Ice Breaker was the first double-hull event in Canada and is traditionally held in January as the first event of the year. The Lotus Ice Breaker was inspired by the Queen Liliuokalani Race Sunday double-hull event that Lotus had first attended in 1987, and was started as a way to kick off the outrigger canoe racing season and made for a safe winter outrigger canoe racing event.

Attending outrigger canoe racing events often involves trailering 44' canoes. The ability to get canoes to venues where events were being held was facilitated when Garry / Jim Mancell commissioned John Taylor, who had a metal fabrication shop in New Westminster, to organize the construction of the first six-person outrigger canoe trailer in Canada.

Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) was incorporated in 1992 through the efforts of Garry Mancell (Lotus), David Boulding (False Creek), and Hugh Fisher (Pemberton) representing the first three outrigger canoeing clubs in Canada, to solidify a place for Canadian outrigger canoeing by filing the requisite documents with the federal ministry.

Exemplary Achievements

Garry has made significant community involvement contributions. As an avid mountaineer, Garry has volunteered as a member of Coquitlam Search and Rescue since 2000, [24] where he was President in 2012, [25] and has participated in a 100s of searches. [26] Garry is also Counsel for Junior Forest Wardens of British Columbia and Evans Lake Forest Education Society. As a writer, Garry is also a Contributing Editor with British Columbia Forestry Law for the Canada Law Book, 1995. [27]

Adjunct Professors offer an invaluable service by allowing students to gain insights into what is involved in the day-to-day practice of law. [28] Garry is one of a number of these practitioners who have waived their honouraria and has donated his time as Adjunct Professor of Law, Forestry Law, University of British Columbia, since 1988. [29]

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