



The Powder Horn

Fall/Winter 2004/2005

*Regimental
Remembrance Day
Church Parade.*

Top: Formed up;

*Centre: Last Post and
Reveille; QOR D-Day
Veteran Jack Hadley,
Assoc. Pres. Bob Dunk
and Sgt. Ted Howard
with wreath;
New CO LCol Martin
Delaney CD salutes;
Bottom: Band and Bugles,
Skirmishers and Pioneers.*

REMEMBRANCE DAY CHURCH PARADE



Published by Regimental Headquarters
The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada





Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association Toronto Branch

By Bob Dunk

2004 has been another busy year for the Association in Toronto. Elections were held in April on the Regimental Birthday weekend and the results were as follows:

President, Bob Dunk; Vice President, Ed Teatro; Secretary, Fred Haire; Treasurer, Doug McNeil; Membership Chairman, Dave Lavery; Sick & Welfare Chairman, Gus Amodeo; Immediate Past President, Norm McCracken; Directors: Neil Arsenault, Cliff Ashdown, Brian Budden, Rob Grieve, Ivan Hill, Andy Macnaughton, Harry McCabe, Frank Pearce, Rocco Polsinelli, Ed Rayment, Gerry Senetchko, Frank Sypulski, Dave Vine.

After 32 years, Harry Rollo has stepped down from the position of Treasurer. On behalf of the Association, I would like to thank Harry for his many years of dedication to The Regiment and the Association. His expertise and quick wit will be missed.

In June, Brian Budden and Dave Lavery organized a tour group of QOR veterans, family and friends to

attend the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Normandy celebrations (see Page 3). Early in September, Rob Grieve and committee again held another very successful Association Shoot at CFB Borden (see Page 3).

Later in September, a small group of Association members and their wives and families attended a performance of Tony & Tina's wedding at the Second City in Toronto. One of the cast members, Marco Timpano who plays Tony's father, wore a QOR bow tie and cummerbund and greatly enjoyed playing the role as an ex-QOR Rifleman for the evening. It was agreed to look at going again in the New Year with a larger group.

For 2005, Brian Budden is again taking the lead role in organizing a trip to Holland to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of VE Day. Make sure to check the QOR website for more information. And watch the Association pages on www.qor.com for some exciting changes in the next few months.

See you all in Calgary at QOR2005!



The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada TRUST FUND

"We Look Forward To Mailing You A Tax Receipt Soon"

With each edition of the Powder Horn, your Regimental Trust Fund reminds the extended regimental family of the need to continue 'giving'. Already this year many of our family and friends have made donations to the Trust Fund, and for this we offer sincere thanks. Each contribution is very welcome indeed. Without this support we could not do our part.

However, as in every walk of life, costs continue to rise. The annual financial need of the regiment is not reducing. In fact, with the increasing demand on the unit, comes greater need. Computer support for recruiting, uniforms and accoutrements (not supported by DND), support for The Queen's Own Military Band and Bugles, our Museums, as well as The Rifleman and Powder Horn publications are all part of our mandate. So, please, do take the time to complete the provided form and if possible mail out your donation today ~ prior to the end of this tax year.

*Tax receipts shall be provided for all donations in excess of ten (\$10) dollars. We look forward to mailing **you** a tax receipt soon.*

In Pace Paratus

Adam Hermant
President

CHANGE OF COMMAND

LCol John M. Fotheringham CD, stepped down as Commanding Officer in September, replaced by LCol Martin Delaney, CD. We'll have a complete article with photos in the next issue of Powder Horn. Reviewing Officer at the well-attended parade was Colonel G.R. Stafford, CD, Commander, 32 Canadian Brigade Group.

IN MEMORIAM

Rfn Harold Barton
Cpl Lyle Carter
WO Patrick Ford
George Golenko
Sgt Gord Granger
Lt Dave Luxford
Lt J.D. Palmer
S/Sgt Edward Stuart
Howie Trainor
Sgt Henry (Harry) James Ward



D-Day 60th Anniversary Normandy Tour

By Brian Budden



There were 42 on the trip 2-14 June, 18 veterans, including former Queen's Own Rifles members Joseph Wagar, Rolph Jackson, Ken Scott, John Jones, Hank Killham, Hugh Lamb, David Fletcher, Art Gay, Bill Ross, Sydney Stocks, Charlie Cadieux, John Connelly, Ernie Stallan and Harry Fox .

Highlights included: Cavalcade of Vehicles with all veterans along the Normandy Coast. Each was presented with a medallion from the town of Saint Aubin Sur Mer and Governor General Adrienne Clarkson also greeted them; Abbaye d' Ardenne to pay tribute to the 20 POWs who were murdered by the German SS; Franco-Canadian Ceremonies at the Canadian Military Cemetery Beny-sur-Mer; Government of Canada Ceremony and events at The Juno Beach Centre in Courseulles-sur-Mer, Queen Elizabeth II, Price Phillip, Governor General of Canada and Prime Minister Paul Martin. Our Veterans had the opportunity to meet the Queen and Prince Phillip. I had the privilege of escorting RSM Harry Fox in the laying of the wreath at The Juno Beach Centre. Chest Badge Award Ceremonies to Veterans by the Mayor of Bernieres-sur-Mer, at The Queen's Own Rifles Bunker Memorial; visit to The Hoffer Family at The Maison des Queen's Own Rifles famous house. A wonderful reception by The Hoffer Family. The town presented a beautiful wood hand carved of The Queen's Own Cap Badge and other items such as sand and memorable articles from the children of Bernieres-sur-Mer followed by a wonderful municipal dinner. Inauguration of a new Monument dedicated to the 5 Regiments that liberated the village Carpiquet, followed by a Presentation Ceremony of Liberation of Carpiquet Medals to QOR Veterans. A fantastic day;

QOR Ceremony and wreath laying at Canadian Military Cemetery at Bretteville-sur-Laize – Cinthaux; Visit to QOR objective on D-Day in Anisy, ceremony at the memorial and a reception; Caen Memorial Centre – tour and presentation of Commemorative Certificates to Veterans; visit to Juno Beach Centre; Ceremony at Marie de Giberville and March with their Band to Rue Harry "Buck" Hawkins; Visit Ouistreham and Sword Beach, Arromanches and Gold Beach, the Batteries Longues in Longues-sur-Mer, Omaha Beach and Pointe du Hoc; Le Mesnil Patry Ceremony at the newly renovated Memorial with all the names of the QOR and 1st Hussars who made the Supreme Sacrifice. Installation of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Street in Anguerny. Vimy Ridge Memorial – Museum/Trenches/Tunnels & Dieppe Beach and Memorial. Thanks to Dave Lavery for all his hard work in making this trip a success and to Mark Ross for providing not only your French Translation but suggestions and ideas to benefit the tour. To Andy MacNaughton your contribution on the idea of Grave markers at the cemetery. An excellent idea and all QOR graves are now very noticeable.

Post-event activity: On September 11-13 we welcomed The Mayor of Bernieres-sur-Mer, Maryvonne Mottin and her husband Jean Claude and deputy Mayor Leone and Henri Vincent in their visit to Toronto. At our September Get-Together 120 people attended. Thanks to RSM Harry Fox for presenting the Normandie Memoire Badge and Carpiquet Medal to those in attendance.



Veterans gather at the FUP on rue Queen's Own in Bernieres-sur-Mer on D-Day+60 before attending Memorial Services at The Queen's Own Rifles Memorial on the beachfront.



QOR Association Annual Shoot

By Rob Grieve

This year's Annual Association shoot was held on Saturday, 18 September at CFB Borden Langemark Range. This year we had 57 Association members and their guests fire over 1,700 rounds of .303, 9mm and 7.62mm ammunition. The shooting competition was held using #4 Lee Enfield rifles and we also fired a FNC1A1, a C1 SMG and a Browning Hi-Power at the same time on Bay 3. The use of two bays on Langemark helped out this year as everyone had more time to fire. We also fired some new firearms this year including a German MG42, a Russian PKM and a Danish Madsen that

were demonstrated by Ross Williams and Finn Nielsen.

Gord Engerer and his wife Shirley did a tremendous job preparing and cooking the lunch hamburgers and chili. Everyone ate well. In the afternoon, the CO, RSM and other staff dropped by to see us as they had been training in another area in Borden.

After a full day of shooting we had a tie for the top individual score and Gerry Senetchko triumphed after a toss of the coin. Many thanks to the members who helped prepare our lunch, supplied the firearms and to those who turned up to help support the day. Thanks to all! (Next year's shoot will be again held in September and the final date will be announced early in 2005.)



Past President of the Toronto Branch of the Association, Norm McCracken (left) chin-wags with his ex-RCAF brother Bob on Warriors' Day at the CNE, in August



Sandy Cove Veterans Social Club

By Ivor Macleod

Calgary Reunion 2005: Pat and I are looking forward to the reunion and the chance to scoot up to Cold Lake to spend time with our RCAF son and his family as well as to join up with some Airborne types elsewhere in Alberta. This latter at the suggestion of MGen Herb Pitts and Marianne during a visit to Ontario earlier this year.

'Salute to the Veterans': The Sandy Cove Acres program in October was very enjoyable and certainly enthusiastically received by the large audience. We had excellent Flag Party representation by various branches of the RCL, Military groups from Navy, Army and Air Force, the merchant Marine and Cadet Services of Canada. As a member of the Huronia Branch, Airborne Forces Association, I had the distinct honour and privilege of carrying the Colours of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion. Following the 'March On' of the Colours, we were entertained by a presentation of "Stagedoor Canteen Auditions," presented by the Sandy Cove Variety Club -- an outstanding performance, with excellent singing of some favourite wartime songs by individuals and choral groups, plus a hilarious skit by two "female impersonators."

CHANGE OF QOR ASSOCIATION E-MAIL OR POSTAL ADDRESS

From West to East, the Branch contact information:

Vancouver Island Branch

Jim Carroll, 1365 Hastings Street, Victoria, BC, V8Z 2W5. Phone: 250-727-2064

e-mail: association.vancouverisland@qor.com

Calgary Branch

Clay & Louise Hodder, 4111 Sarcee Rd. SW, #A16, Calgary, AB T3E 6V9

Phone: 403-249-4434, Fax: 403-217-1229 or 403-777-8402

e-mail: association.calgary@qor.com

Toronto Branch

Dave Lavery, c/o The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, Moss Park Armoury

130 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON, M5A 1R9, Phone: 905-831-7966

Fax: 416-635-2762, e-mail: association.toronto@qor.com

Newfoundland and Maritimes Branch

John Metcalfe, 7 Cowan Place, Clarenville, NL A5A 1E5

Phone: 709-466-7306, e-mail: association.nfldandmaritimes@qor.com

VE DAY + 60 TRIP

Verstraete Travel (416-969-8100) has developed an itinerary for the Toronto Branch for a trip to Holland in May 2005. It will include attendance at the VE-Day parade in Appeldoorn on 8 May, as well as a trip to the QOR Memorial at Wons. Contacts other than Verstraete will be Brian Budden and John Miedema.



Calgary Branch

By Ralph Ridley

Birthday, Christmas events. Sixty five members attended the 2004 Birthday Celebration at RCL Branch 264, a considerable increase over previous years, with Ron Wilson once more being the 'long driver,' coming from Brandon. The Christmas luncheon hosted 42 members.

Peacekeepers' Day. There was large public attendance in August at Peacekeepers' Park, Garrison Green, Calgary (formerly Lincoln Park), to honour 119 military personnel who have fallen while engaged in Peacekeeping operations. Alberta Lieutenant Governor Hon. Dr. Lois Hole, accompanied by Don Ethell, National President of the Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping (CAVUNP), were among those present. Thirteen streets with Garrison Green have been re-named to honour a number of Peacekeepers, including QOR members Maj-Gen Lew MacKenzie and Don Ethell.

Change of Command, QOR of C. Congratulations to LtCol M.J. Delaney, CD, upon assuming command of the Regiment. We would be remiss if we failed to mention the reports received of the very capable hands the Regiment was in when commanded by LtCol John Fotheringham, CD. Our best wishes are extended to both for continued success.

Special Mission: John Cresswell. John was in the UK in October to participate in Palestine Police Force Celebrations, in which he played a key role. He is a very dedicated supporter of the Calgary Branch and is extensively and continuously involved in area military and civic events and we salute him for that.

Travel and Remembrances. Jim and Dorothy Taylor attended the Lest We Forget Society's reunion at Arnhem/Oosterbeek in September. Jim was one of 673 Canloan officers in WWII -- Canadians who volunteered to serve with the British Army. It was costly, with 465 casualties, 127 KIA. Over 100 decorations were awarded, including 41 MCs. Jim, the only survivor of four

Canloan Calgary Highlanders, was one of many Allied soldiers taken prisoner at Arnhem. He recalls Field Marshal Montgomery's famous quote: "When you meet a man who says he was at Arnhem, shake his hand." The Taylors were most impressed with the ceremonies, especially the ceremony where over 1700 Dutch school-children placed flowers on graves of the airborne dead, which caused many tears to flow.

Commendation: John Hearn. John received a Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Cancer Society, Alta/NWT Div. Board in April. He also received the Paul Harris Fellowship Award for his significant contributions to the Calgary Community. (Paul Harris was the founder of the Rotary Club). Those who served in the West during the time the QOR was on active service in the 50s and 60s will remember CSM Hearn.

Relocation: Una Moad. Una has moved to Edmonton, after celebrating a family Thanksgiving in her home in Red Deer.

Still wanted. We're still looking for any Regimental stories and anecdotes that any of you out there can pass along for potential use by LtCol Frank Mulrooney as he updates the Regimental History. A big 'thank you' to Maurice Whiting for his lengthy article on his four years with the Bn in Calgary in the 60s, which contains many recollections of people and events. He was inspired to write his recollections down at the urging of his grandchildren. There must be lots more out there!

In Memoriam. Brenda Moore, 25 Apr 04. Brenda came to Calgary in the mid-40s as a war-bride. Daughter of a British soldier, she served in the Canadian Militia and Reserves for 15 years and will be remembered for her support of the military and the community. George Gofenko, 14 Aug 04. A loyal Association member, he served for 25 years, at home and in Korea, Germany, Cyprus and Israel, first with the QOR before rebadging to the Patricias.



MOVING ON

With every issue of the Powder Horn we receive envelopes returned because delivery failed. Unfortunately, no forwarding address is provided so we are unable to keep in touch with these intended recipients. Here are the names of those we were unable to reach with the last two issues. If you know the current address of any of the following, I'd appreciate a note to: Capt. C.D. McGregor, 22 Calder Cres. Whitby, ON, L1N 6M3 or e-mail me at chickmcgregor@sympatico.ca. If any of these named have passed on and were

members of The Queen's Own, let us know that and we'll remember them in the Powder Horn's 'In Memoriam' column.

Wm Adair, Owen Sound; Albert Barrett, Comox; Col W.C. Ball, Honolulu; Joe Brunelle, Victoria; Gerry Brunet, Guelph; Frank Chevrier, Victoria; Peter deBoer Brampton; Capt. C.D. Dakin, Niagara on the Lake; K. Day, Calgary; Dave Fields, Victoria; Chris Fowlie, Toronto; G.E. Goodale, Cambridge; Gordon Glover, Innisfil; Charles Hepworth, Winnipeg; Sgt David Hodgson Toronto; Sgt. Todd Holmes, North York; Robt Horsley, Kitchener; Lt. Sam Hughes, Toronto; Leonard Ingleson, Mississauga; Sgt Jeff Johnston, Toronto; L. Kowalski, Toronto; Lt. W.E. Larsen, West Hill; Maj H.R. McCabe, Shawinigan Lake; Cpl Jeff Myers, Toronto; Capt Brenda Morre, Calgary; Lt J.D. Palmer, Ingersoll; D. Salmon, Scarborough; Sgt. Anita Selby, Cold Lake; Burt Smith, Stewart; Norman Walker, Carnduff; LCol R.J Wilkinson, Don Mills; WO2 Ray Wildman, Bowmanville.



Maritimes Association Newfoundland & Labrador Branch

By Ben Turpin



Some of those who attended the first meeting of the Maritimes Queen's Own Rifles Association, Newfoundland and Labrador Branch. Standing at the left of Major-General Lewis MacKenzie, OStJ, OOnt, MSC, CD (kneeling) is John Metcalfe, first president of the new Branch.

I was contacted by John Metcalfe suggesting that there should be a Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Maritimes Association Newfoundland & Labrador Branch. I knew there were former QOR personnel around but not as many as John had compiled. John felt a 'good ole Newfoundland' (pronounced New-fun-land) reunion would be in order. He convinced me to get involved. He was also successful in convincing Rod Mole from St. John's to take on the task of collecting the funds for the event. And Rod did that and much more.

On September 11, 2004 at the #1 Legion Hall in St. John's our reunion took place. Major-General Lewis Mackenzie led off the evening with a short speech followed by dinner. An election of officers was run by Tom Martin, visiting from out of province. Elected as president was John Metcalfe and as secretary/treasurer, Ben Turpin. People wanted to become members right on the spot and we now have 40 paid up members, coming from most Maritime Provinces. Both John and I have received many emails, pictures and letters from attendees, and excerpts from one from Tom Midgley pretty well tells it for all.

A VIEW TO THE PAST

I "came from away" to the first reunion of the Newfoundland and Labrador Branch of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association in St. John's, and it was a privilege to be able to attend. The motto "Once in the Queen's Own, Always in the Queen's Own" is ever so true. The years spent with buddies during the late 50's in Calgary with the 1st Battalion

was truly a family building experience. It was time to resurface "The Family Tree" and here was my opportunity. Over the past 40 some years, memories of my life and friends I had made in the 1st Battalion, in Calgary have often surfaced. Always wondering where these men were and what they had done with their lives haunted me. The internet had allowed me to find some but many still remained a mystery.

In late August, we headed east in our motor home. John had given us a contact

name once we reached St. John's. What a kind gesture because we did contact Bill Hayes for some much appreciated assistance. On September 11 we arrived at #1 Legion eager to meet some old faces. John and his organizing crew had everything beautifully arranged. He was at the entrance ready to greet everyone. Name tags had been prepared and those 'cfa's' were given Newfoundland pins. An area with Queen's Own memorabilia had been laid out. A large Q.O.R. flag was displayed in front of the head table, Q.O.R. military band music resounded through-out the hall setting the tone for the evening. Some of the men proudly wore the Association's Green Jacket and tie ensemble. As people started to arrive I was amazed how many I could still recognize without having to look at their name tag and I was impressed to learn they had lived fruitful and interesting lives, choosing many different vocations, after leaving the service. I learned the whereabouts of several and sadly the passing of guys who had died young.

The surprise entrance of Major-General Lewis Mackenzie (retired) was a real treat. He mingled so easily among the men and gave a speech recanting his years in the Queen's Own and also congratulating the efforts put forth to establish this very new branch of the association and wished them nothing but success. He happened to be on the island attending a car racing event - one of his passions.

I know many people put a tremendous amount of time and effort into establishing this branch of the association and the successful first reunion. Congratulations!



Ottawa Branch

By Grahame Baskerville

The small group of QOR survivors, numbering about thirty with spouses, in the National Capital and Eastern Ontario area celebrated the Regimental Birthday at an informal reception to at the Courtyard Restaurant in downtown Ottawa. We were joined by several retired Patricias that had served alongside the Rifles in the "Army of the West" or in Germany, such as Jack Kitson, Bill Love and Dave Snowball. We were pleased to have a few out of town visitors with us: Charlie and Mary Park from B.C., Garry Whiting visiting his father Maury, Lew MacKenzie, and Dick Cowling.

Terry Cassidy Visit

At the end of July, Terry and Judy Cassidy stopped in Ottawa enroute from Kelowna BC to a family reunion in the Maritimes. Clair and Carol Donnelly hosted a small gathering of Ottawa area Riflemen that had served with Terry in Calgary or Germany in the late 1950's / early 1960's.

Capt Howard J. Traynor

It was with sorrow that and regret that the we learned of the passing away of Howie Traynor a longtime comrade, on the 1 Aug 04, in his 83 rd year. Our sympathies go out to his wife Jeannette (Jan).

He joined the Queens Own in 1951 and served in Korea with the 2 nd Bn.

Who Was the First QOR Member to Qualify as a Parachutist?

The QOR has now had an Airborne tasking for just over 20 years, and is the only Militia unit able to retain this tasking. Many Regular Force QOR members

qualified as parachutists and served with distinction with the Airborne Regiment. Also within the Regular Force the QOR had members who had served in WW II with the 1 st Cdn Parachute Battalion as well as British Airborne Forces. It seems appropriate, as a point of regimental historical detail, to try and determine who was the first person wearing a QOR hat badge to qualify as a parachutist. Was it someone during WW II or was it later.

It would be interesting to get input from the Regimental family.

One of the earliest Regular Army paratroopers was MWO (Ret) Pete Mitchell. He enlisted (at age 17) in 1944 with the 2nd (Reserve) Bn QOR in Toronto. He joined the Regular Army in 1951 and went to Germany with the 1st Cdn Rifle Bn (QOR Coy) in 27 Bde. Sgt Mitchell, along with Sgt Fred Swan (also QOR) returned to Canada in 1952 and went to Rivers Man where they qualifies as parachutist on Basic Para Course 164. They remained at Rivers as Para Instructors. Sgt Swan later re-badged to PPCLI to continue his parachuting. Pete Mitchell returned to 1 BN QOR in 1954 where he served in Calgary and Germany. He later re-badged to PPCLI and retired in 1980. Hearsay evidence indicates that these two were the first to return to Canada for parachutist training. As Mitchell is ahead of Swan alphabetically, it is highly possible that Pete Mitchell may be the first QOR person to qualify as a parachutist.

Are their others? Could be interesting. Forward your comments to the Editor of the Powder Horn.

BATTLE OF NORMANDY PARADE



Led by CO LCol John Fotheringham CD, The Queen's Own lead 32 Canadian Infantry Brigade troops down Bayview Avenue in Toronto on a route march from Sunnybrook Hospital to Queen's Park for a memorial service to mark D-Day+60.



Vancouver Island Branch

By Ira MacDonald

Executive Committee for the 2004/2005-year are; Pres. Ira K. MacDonald; VP Bill Brayshaw; Sec. Bob Drinkwater; Treas./Membership Jim Carroll; Entertainment Kevin Walsh; Up Island Rep Art Saretsky; Kit Shop Ron Kinnersley, Pete Kolbe; Photog Russ Kierstead; Museum Jim Schulz, Dave Stones; Custodian Gord Kitsch. The Committee wants to sincerely thank Sandy Rozon for her many years of service to the Branch as the Photographer. Special Notice to Members

Chemical Warfare Trials. A website, recognition@forces.gc.ca, is available for answering questions about, and applying for, compensation for participants in Trials in Suffield (Ex VACUUM-Sept-Oct 1968). There were also smaller ones in Sarcee (Ex SPOT CHECK -1962-64). Apply or get information if you participated. 1st and 2nd Battalions provided the bulk of the "players".

National Metis Veterans Association. If you are a Veteran or the surviving spouse of a Veteran of Metis descent you may be eligible for benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada. Contact Bob Ducharme at (250) 756-2493 or by Email at: playtimeminor@shaw.ca.

Vancouver Island Branch Photo Album Project. Jim Carroll and Russ Kierstead are putting together a photo album of all Branch members. Photos can be either taken at the monthly luncheons held at the Pro Pats Legion in Victoria or at the monthly "Coffee-Get-Together" at the MGM Café in Nanaimo. Members not able to attend either of these functions wishing to have their pictures in the Album are encouraged to send a "chest-up" photo to Jim Carroll via email at tigerlily.sask@shaw.ca or by Canada Post to "Membership Photos" 1365 Hastings Street, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 2W5. Please include the following information with your photo: Years of Service, From and To; Civilian work history "Major Only".

QOR of C Base Museum Project. Our galleries in CFB Esquimalt Museum are nearing completion insofar as acquisitions are concerned. If Members have articles of interest or value and wish to donate them, they should contact Jim Schulz, Dave Stones or Herb Pitts not later than the Annual General Meeting slated for 15 Jan 05. At that time, the list of Donors will be completed for installation on a permanent plaque in the Museum so as to be ready in time for the next Regimental Birthday Dinner in April 05. We want to thank those members that have contributed their time and talent to the construction phase of this Project. Special thanks to Paul Cassidy for his contribution of a full set of Tin Soldiers in Regimental Band formation. These are currently being painted and, when complete, will be part of the Museum Display.

Annual General Meeting 2005. Please mark your calendars to record the date of the Annual General Meeting of your Branch scheduled for January 15th, 2005 commencing at 1330 hrs at the Naden Wardroom.

145th Regimental Birthday Dinner & Dance – April 22nd & 23rd, 2005. The weekend celebrations will kick-off with a "Meet and Greet" to be held at the Langford Legion on Friday April 22nd starting at 1730. The 145th Regimental Birthday Dinner/Dance will be held at the Naden Wardroom on April 23rd, 2005. Ticket prices for this event will likely remain at \$25.00 per person for members and their spouse/partner, and will be on sale from February 1st to March 31st, 2005. There will be no holding of tickets for persons wishing to pay for them at the door due to financial commitments that have to be made to the Wardroom. Members wishing to bring guests (other than as an escort) will be advised if they will be able to purchase tickets after March 31st, space permitting. Guest ticket prices are expected to remain at \$30.00 each. Seating at the Dinner is limited. This event is sold out every year so you are encouraged to purchase your tickets early to avoid being disappointed.

We will be approaching the Wardroom to offer accommodation to members and their guests for the 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th of April 2005. If rooms are available they will be assigned firstly to persons from outside the Vancouver Island Branch area and then to those from outside the Greater Victoria area. Any remaining rooms will be made available to members living in town. Application forms for tickets to the 145th

QOR of C Regimental Dinner & Dance will be sent out with the January 2005 Newsletter.

Our annual celebration of the Regiment's Birthday held last April 24th was an enormous success. The celebration sold out early with our seating capacity of 210 being pushed to 216 to accommodate some out-of-town guests. Thanks to the Naden Wardroom staff for a job well done and special thanks to Jim Carroll for doing an incredible job organizing the entire weekends activities. Jim Lloyd won the Shadow Box that was designed and built by Art Saretsky. The Regimental Wine Glass sets were won by Kathleen Bender (Bob Drinkwater) and Howard McCabe.

New Members. The following joined or re-joined our Branch of the QOR of C Association in 2004: Andy Aak Bob Bluett Alan Bruce Derek Bamford Wally Budgell Dave Chalk Don Chamberlain Ed Chase Lee Driver Wes Everitt Eugene Farand Howie Gagnon Ron Hadland Dick Kreis Andy Lavis Jim Lloyd Ron Logan Wayne March Ralph McDiarmid Ray McLennan Tony Palamar Nick Pope Dale Ratzlaff Ron Ronriguez Bill Skrypnick Ian Schantz Bob Simpson Swen Stone Bill Thompson John Wilcox William Wilcox Keith Mackenzie; Gary Clark Ross Bright

Kit Shop. The Kit Shop has a broad selection of items bearing the Regimental Crest available for purchase. Please contact Pete Kolbe or Ron Kinnersley for information.

Monthly Events. Members are reminded of the regular monthly luncheon held on the last Wednesday of each month at the Pro-Pat's Legion on Gorge Road and the monthly coffee break held at 10:00AM on the first Tuesday of each month at the MGM café at 240 Nicol Street in Nanaimo. All Members are invited to attend. Members, please note that the December 29, 2004 lunch and January 4, 2005 coffee break gathering will not be held.

Last Post (2004). Lyle Carter, Nanaimo, 25 July; Gord Granger, Summerland, 30 Sep.; Harold Barton, Lake Cowichan 30 Sep; Patrick J. Ford, Williams Lake, 03 Sep 2004

144th Regimental Birthday Dinner and Dance. Our annual celebration of the Regiment's Birthday held last April 24th was an enormous success. The celebration sold out early with our seating capacity of 210 being pushed to 216 to accommodate some out-of-town guests. Thanks to the Naden Wardroom staff for a job well done and special thanks to Jim Carroll for doing an incredible job organizing the entire weekends activities. Jim Lloyd won the Shadow Box that was designed and built by Art Saretsky. The Regimental Wine Glass sets were won by Kathleen Bender (Bob Drinkwater) and Howard McCabe.

Any news? If you have any news or information of interest to the members please contact any member of the Executive at the numbers provided above or email Jim Carroll, at tigerlily.sask@shaw.ca.

MAIL CALL

From the Office of HRH Princess Alexandra, Buckingham Place.

"Thank you so much for sending the Powder Horn to this office. This will be shown to Princess Alexandra, who is always grateful to be kept informed about The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada."

Yours faithfully, Mrs. W. Blake,
Secretary to LCol Richard Macfarlane
(Private Secretary to the Regiment's Colonel-in-Chief)



THE NIJMGEN MARCH- JULY 2004

By Larry Diebel



Larry Diebel

I was privileged to serve with both our 1st and 2nd Battalions in Calgary, Victoria and Cyprus and the Queens Own Regimental Depot in Calgary and it was with great anticipation that I agreed to join the Nijmegen March this year. The March grew out of a Netherlands Army infantry training initiative of 1909 and has since become a famous annual international military and civilian test and demonstration of fitness. Each July some 45,000 civilian and 5,000 military marchers march for four days in a pattern of routes in the area of the city of Nijmegen, in Holland. For the military the challenge is to march 40 plus km each day for four days. Weapons are not carried but male marchers are required to carry at least 25 lbs of dead weight. Participating military teams come from all three services of West European nations, Australia and the US.

Since the closing of Lahr and Baden Sollingen, the CF contingent to the March has been restricted to the 180-190 marchers and 25-30 support personnel (Heavy on medical staff-God bless them!) who can fit in an Air Transport Group 310 Air Bus. Qualifying requirements for Canadian teams: prior to departure are that they must have previously marched at least 700 kms and 80 or more of these must have been completed on two consecutive days. Why me? One of the regular sponsors of the March is The Royal Canadian Legion, which tries to get at least one of its members to become a member of the Canadian Contingent. Long story, short – I was talked into it!

The marching part of it was a reasonable chal-

lenge to which was added (for some) the problem of blisters. Far more important for me was the experience of being around troops again after many years -- two NDHQ teams of about 35 serving members of the Regular and Reserve Force in ranks from Cpl to LCol of all three services. I approached this with the deep conviction that nothing I would encounter could honestly compare with the kind of real soldiers I had the privilege to serve with back in 1958 in D Coy of the good old 1st Battalion. I will sum up my reaction when I actually got to know these troops by repeating what Lew MacKenzie has said: "The amazing thing is that Canada continues to get far better troops than it deserves." I found all ranks, men and women, well educated, well informed, professional and fit. Their morale was very high while they the March, with deadly seriousness. Interpersonal relationships were excellent. Best of all, they had/have a wonderful quick wit and sense of humour that made being around them great fun. I must go further to say that I saw people continue to march in spite of discomfort and pain when this required real personal bravery of an order that I had not seen in the "good old days". I thought that, although the men were all round first-rate, the women were the outstanding personalities, who did the most to give their teams solidarity. (I confess that it was not long ago that I was totally opposed to recruiting women.) It is also worth mentioning that of the service women participating in the march, only the Canadians carried the same pack load as the men.

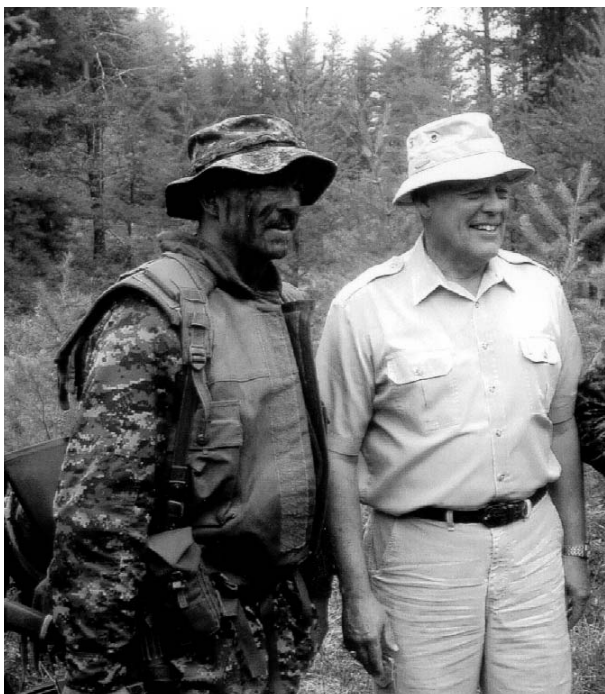
Finally, along the March route we were not prepared for the warmth the Dutch people offered to us as Canadian servicemen. There is a legacy of good will left over from the Canadian liberation of the NL in WW II that did wonders to take our minds of our aches and pains.



"On the March"



A salute to Queen's Own Rifles Sgt. Aubrey Cosens VC, at his gravesite in Groesbeek Canadian Military Cemetery in Nijmegen, Holland.



LtCol John Fotheringham, Commanding Officer of The Queen's Own chats with Dick Hilton, Hon. LCol 25 MP, during Exercise Stalwart Guardian at CFB Petawawa in August, 2004. Fotheringham was Commanding Officer, 32 Light Infantry Battalion - 415 soldiers



LtCol Ted Shuter (r.) with Maj Morris Whiting, Shuter's adjutant in Korea.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS

A gathering of Canadian veterans of the Korean War was called in September, 2003, to dedicate the monument at 55 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa -- a memorial to all Canadians who fell in Korea. The sponsors, which included the Federal Government and the Korean War Veterans Association, were overwhelmed by the turnout of veterans from all the units that served in Korea. A get-together was held the day before the dedication where many old friendships were renewed, followed by a dinner party that evening. The Official Ceremony and March Past took place on 28 September, with the salute being taken by then Prime Minister Jean Chretien, who was flanked on the saluting base by Lieutenant-General Charles Belzile and Major-General Herb Pitts.



Ken Barrett (second from left) and John Freidt of the QOR Association, Calgary Branch presented a QOR D Day picture and QOR crest to the Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies in Calgary. At left is the school principal, LCol Lee Villiger, CO of The Calgary Highlanders. Holding the crest are Grade 6 students Sarah and Shilo.



Korean War veterans en route to take part in the march past, where the salute was taken by Prime Minister Jean Chretien, flanked by LGen Charles Belzile and MGen Herb Pitts.

Mark Your Calendars, Daytimers or Blackberrys:

There will be a tribute dinner for BGen Don Pryer on Saturday 23 April 2005 at the RCMi to honour his ten years of service as Honorary Colonel of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada and his long service to the Canadian Forces.



REGIMENTAL REUNION - JUNE 2005

By Don Ethell

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada will hold their Regimental Reunion in Calgary on the weekend of 03-05 June 2005. All venues and accommodation will be in the University of Calgary.

As many of you you will recall, in the 60's the 2nd Bn QOR stationed in Calgary was reduced to nil strength - and the remaining personnel posted to either the 1st Bn or other Regiments. The QOR Regimental Depot had closed out in Calgary a few years before.

On the 26th of April 1970, the 1st Bn paraded en masse on the Work Point parade square in Victoria BC - and we changed cap badges to PPCLI. Although it was a very sad day for the Regiment, it has been a very 'happy marriage' with the Patricias.

Following the demise of the 1st Bn, the 3rd Bn (Militia Bn) stationed in Toronto assumed the title of 1st Bn QOR of C, and RHQ was established in Toronto - so the traditions of the Regiment continued, and continue to this day. And they do it very well!

During the past five years, through the wonders of cyberspace, particularly the Internet/email, many of the retired QOR personnel have 'surfaced' on various QOR electronic address books, including many retired personnel. It is amazing to hear from soldiers with whom one soldiered with 30 to 40 years ago! To the extent that, under the leadership of our Honourary LtCol (Col Paul Hughes) the Calgary Branch of the

QOR of C Association will host the 145th Anniversary celebrations next June. (Although April is our birthday month, we moved the date to June to facilitate travel by POMC for our colleagues living in Victoria, Winnipeg and down East).

We expect 250 to 300 pers to attend the Reunion, including representation from our Branches in Nfld, PEI, Ottawa and across Western Canada - along with good representation of our Riflemen at the Home Station in Toronto (1 QOR of C and RHQ). As you're well aware, throughout the years many RCOC and Logistics Branch members served with various Queen's Own Battalions. QMs and Sup Techs - bless 'em, and they were always treated as 'Riflemen' (ie one of the family) and we're hoping to reach all of these through various publications.

It will be a grand affair, with many a war story doing the rounds! It is planned that MGen Herb Pitts will be the Featured Speaker during the Meet and Greet on Friday evening, and LGen Charlie Belzile as the Featured Speaker during the Dinner/Dance on the Saturday evening. The latter will be introduced by MGen Lew MacKenzie. All three gentlemen are cherished members of the Regiment. (No speaker during the Stampede breakfast - just Western music!). One of the entertainment(s) during the dinner/dance includes the famous Queen's Own drummers.

(See pages 12 - 14)



Jan de Vries of 1 CanPara, Honorary Chairman of the Cpl. Fred Topham VC Fundraising Project, with a presentation made to King George PS in Toronto. Topham attended the school in the 1920s.



Billy Willbond (l.) and the Canadian High Commissioner to East Africa, Jim Wall, lay a wreath at the Nairobi gravesite of Sgt R.H. Moore (RC Sigs) a peacekeeper who died in the Congo. Willbond is a member of ICROSS Canada, which is supported by the peacekeepers of Canada.



Former Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Honorary Colonel, the Hon. Barnett (Barney) Danson, PC, OC, takes the 2004 Warriors' Day salute in Toronto.



QOR Veterans march past the saluting base during the Warriors' Day Parade in Toronto.

To contact the editor of
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University of Calgary

Conference Housing

104 Cascade Hall, 3456 24th Ave NW
Calgary, Alta Canada T2N 4V5
Tele (403) 220-3203 Fax 220-6760
Email: conference.housing@ucalgary.ca
<http://www.residence.ca/residence/>

Conference: Queen's Own Rifles Reunion 2005 – Calgary

Date: June 3-6, 2005

A room block is held for this conference for the dates indicated above. Rooms are assigned on a first come, first service basis. Conference Housing will accommodate bookings after the group block is full, based on availability.

Please Type or Print

First name _____

Last name _____

___ Male ___ Female

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Prov _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Please Note: All rates are per person, per night. Rates are subject to change without notice. All beds are single beds (except in hotel rooms). A 5% Hotel Tax as well as a 7% GST applies to accommodation. To guarantee your reservation, a credit card number must be provided.

Roommate for shared room (must be mutually requested)

Name _____

Please charge the one night deposit of _____ to: ___ Visa ___ Mastercard

Cardholder's Name _____

Card Number _____ Expiry Date _____

Signature of Cardholder _____

Arrival Date _____

Departure Date _____

Please Rank in Order of Preference:

a. Traditional Dormitory Accommodation:

Bedroom with two beds/desks & closets shared washroom facilities at end of hall.

___ single room \$32.00 ___ double room \$44.00

b. Suite-Style Accommodation:

Private suites have a bedroom/living area, refrig and washroom. Shared Suites have 2 or 4 bedrooms in the unit, and contain a shared living area, refrig & washroom(s). In some suites you have the option of sharing a bedroom, shared bedroom/shared suite (two beds/bedroom) however to share a room within a suite, you must have a mutually-requested roommate.

___ **Private Suite** (one person) \$56.00/person

___ **Private Suite** (two people) \$33.00/person

___ **Private Room/Shared Suite** \$41.00/person

___ **Shared Room/Shared Suite** \$28.00/person

c. Hotel Suites: are also available and have full amenities standard in all hotels. Please contact Conference Housing directly to book a hotel room as space is limited.

Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to arrival date, if you cancel after this time or fail to show up for your booking a one nights stay will be charged to your credit card

**Queen's Own Rifles of Canada
Regimental Reunion 2005**

**145th Anniversary Celebrations June 3 – 5, 2005
Calgary Alberta**

- Registration form -

Surname _____ **First name & Initials** _____

Nickname _____ **Spouse or Guest** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Province:** _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Telephone (____) _____ **Fax:** _____ **Email:** _____

Registration Fee: \$70 per person (incl taxes). All registrations must be mailed via Cda Post. No formal registrations will be accepted via email, fax or telephonically.

Cheque or Money Order payable to QOR of C Association Calgary Branch (Noted at the bottom of the cheque "QOR of C Reunion 2005"). Please mail the registration form and fee to:

**QOR 2005 Reunion Committee
c/o Mark Staffing, 730, 734 7th Ave SW Calgary Alta, T2P 3P8**

In addition to great comradeship, your Registration entitles you to the following:

- a. Meet & Greet (includes finger food) on Friday evening;
- b. Stampede breakfast on Saturday morning;
- c. Dinner/Dance on Saturday evening including a performance by the famous 'Drum-line' and other entertainment;
- d. "Featured" Regimental speakers on Friday and Saturday evenings;
- e. Nominal roll of attendees;
- f. Access to very reasonable accommodation at the University of Calgary;
- g. Free transportation from/to the Calgary airport;
- h. Participation in tours during the afternoon of Saturday 05 June;
- i. Welcome package including a QOR 2005 Reunion souvenir

NB A 'no-host' cash bar will be available. A Regimental kitshop, and tickets for a 50/50 Draw and a Raffle will be available during the Meet & Greet.

Dress for both the Meet & Greet (Friday) Stampede breakfast (Saturday morning) is casual – although you are welcome to wear Western dress for the breakfast. Dress for the Dinner/Dance is jacket and tie, although the wearing of the Regimental blazer with medals is encouraged. Ladies equivalent.

The venues for the Meet & Greet, Stampede breakfast, and dinner/dance are all in the MacEwan Hall of UofC, 2500 University Dr NW, Calgary Alta T2N 1N4.

On-site underground parking is available in the UofC MacEwan parking garage (below the location of the venues for 03 & 04 Jun). For those arriving via POMC, enter off of 32nd Ave NW to Collegiate Boulevard and proceed directly to the MacEwan parking garage (follow the QOR signs).

Do you have special dietary considerations? Yes/No _____

Vegetarian _____ kosher _____ other _____

Do you require handicapped assistance? Yes/No _____

(Note – all facilities in the UofC are handicap friendly).

If you are arriving by air, do you require transportation from/to the Calgary airport?

Yes/No _____ # of pers? _____

If yes, please advise (when known) your carrier, arrival and departure flights numbers, date and time. QOR of C transportation will be provided to/from Cascade Hall/airport for arrival on Friday the 3rd of June and departure on the 5th of June 2005.

Please indicate your interest in attending a tour of the following tentatively planned for Saturday the 4th of June:

	Yes/No	# of pers
a. Museum of Regiments (half day – no charge)	_____	_____
b. Banff tour (all day – approx \$20.00 per person)	_____	_____
c. Spruce Meadows (all day – no charge)	_____	_____
d. A local Legion (#264) available for 'comradeship'	_____	_____

NB Commitment of QOR of C transport for the foregoing is contingent upon sufficient participation.

Accommodation. Please note that you are required to make your own arrangements for accommodation, either privately or through the University of Calgary. Please see attached accommodation request form. You are entitled to take advantage of the UofC gym, pool and dining facilities. On-site parking (chargeable) is available. The UofC Accommodation Reception office (in Cascade Hall) is open 24 hours a day. If desired, and if accommodation is available you may arrive earlier than Friday 03 Jun, and depart on a later date than 05 Jun. The accommodation (ie Cascade Hall) is approx a five-minute walk from the Friday and Saturday events in MacEwan Hall.

If required, camping or motorhome accommodation is available at Calgary West KOA.
Toll free reservations 1 (800) 562-0842.

Reunion website: www.qor.com/reunion

Reunion information telephone number: (403) 263-5120 extension 317

Reunion Information email address: qor2005@markstaffing.com

Signature _____ Date _____