

THE DRAGOON

THE NATIONAL VOICE OF THE OLD COMRADES



THE ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS ASSOCIATION

GOING TO FIGHT THE HUNS

2016



IN MEMORY OF THE FALLEN



THE DRAGOON

THE NATIONAL VOICE OF THE OLD COMRADES

FEATURES

In Retrospect	6
Veterans Oral History Project.....	10
Pleasure in the Company of Old Friends and Comrades.....	14
Spanning 110 Years of Regimental HHistory.....	16
Cavalry Again: The RCD in 1916	18
Gathering of Dragoons 2016.....	20

DEPARTMENTS

Messages

The President	2
From the Editor	3
The Last Trumpet Call	4

Mailbag	5
---------------	---

Chapter Reports

Atlantic	26
Quebec	30
National Capital Region	32
Ottawa Valley	34
South Central Ontario	38
Kingston	40
Alberta	42
BC	44

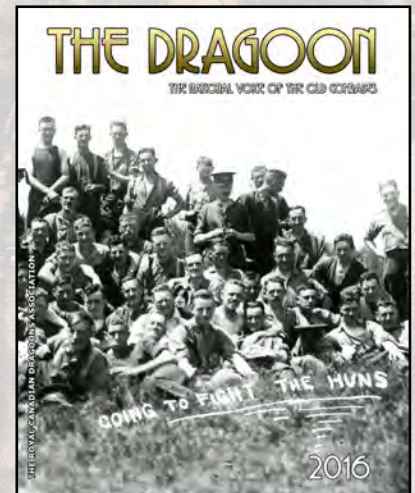
Business

Guild Donors	46
Secretary/Treasurer	48
Association Executive	49
Financial Summary	50



General Rick Hillier (retired)
OC, CMM, ONL, MSC, CD
Patron of the RCD Association

THE COVER



Edited version of “Going to Fight the Hun: Niagara Camp 1916”.

BACKGROUND IMAGE

Your Motherland Will Never Forget [Canada - 1916]

Artist: Joseph Simpson

Original Source: Canada in Khaki

Held by: British Library

From the Editor

Bann Price

Greetings and welcome to the second combined edition of The Dragoon and The Springbok. Last year's "experiment" is considered to be a complete success and while I, as editor of The Dragoon, cannot claim any credit for The Springbok, the two publications together bring the past and the present into a great alignment.

This edition of The Dragoon has some great stories. Tom Urbanowsky has contributed another great remembrance of his early days in the Regiment and the "Sproule Boys", Uncle David and Nephew Chris have contributed a couple of great and remarkably similar stories for your enjoyment. Gary Del Vilano has sent a report on the Veterans Oral History Project being conducted by the University of Victoria and the Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island. There is a report on the great "Gathering of Dragoons" in St Jean-sur-Richelieu this past June and a look back to The Regiment in 1916. And, of course, there are the usual Chapter reports and reports on the business end of the Association.



So enjoy the edition and when you have read it from cover to cover, flip it over and see what the Regiment is up to these days.

Bann Price
Editor



From the President

Denis Levesque

Dragoons, Ladies and Gents

It's with great pride I assume the duties and responsibilities of the Royal Canadian Dragoons (RCD) Association. As a former Regimental Sergeant Major 2003-2006, I have lived many joyful memories of this fine Regiment. We continue to enjoy the spirit of fun, laughter and cohesion, felt by many since 1883. Please read on and enjoy the full spectrum of our serving and retired combined website. We as an association hope you will join us at some point, regardless of rank, amount of service served, or even trade. We have many members and fostered many relationships with our combat supporting and combat service supporting arms. We still have a ton of memories to share. Regardless of positions held.

Who are we anyway? We are an association of retired and serving members of Canada's Senior Armoured Regiment and we can be found in regional Chapters all across the country. We are a friendly bunch, always willing to welcome new faces to our humble group, always willing to lend a hand and always willing to talk about the Regiment and it's service to our country. The Association exists to foster, maintain and promote the traditions, the wellbeing and the esprit de corps of the Regiment; we provide advice, assistance and guidance to the Colonel of the Regiment and we help to ensure the essential purposes of the Regiment are maintained and that the Regimental Family speaks with a common voice on matters of Regimental concern. Equally important, however, is the fact that we look after each other. Because of our regional organization, retired, former or still serving members of the Regiment can always get together with old friends without traveling long distances and help is usually just a phone call away. Every two years, the Association holds a national Reunion, usually at a different place each time, our last formal event was in 2016 in St Jean Quebec, with the next national Reunion to be in Ottawa in 2018. However, the individual Chapters hold many welcoming events throughout the year. Summer BBQs, lunches and dinners corresponding with major Regimental celebrations such as the Leliefontein weekend, the Regimental Birthday, Leeuwarden, Remembrance Day or whatever reason comes to mind at the time are the real reasons the Association exists - keeping people in touch. Membership in the Association is through the individual Chapters and for a minimal price, brings with it subscriptions to the Association's annual newsletter "The Dragoon", and as an added bonus we are now combined with the "Springbok" the serving member's annual newsletter. Individual Chapters also produce annual newsletters so there are many opportunities to keep in touch. As a result, the Association is doing well but it is always ready to welcome new members and I urge you to contact the Chapter representative and talk to them about becoming a member. I recommend that you also to visit the website as often, as possible, there is a fountain of information and it changes like the waters beneath the ground. There are lots of opportunities to keep up with the Regiment and with the Old Comrades.



Mr. Denis Levesque
President
Royal Canadian Dragoons Association

The Last Trumpet Call

2015

Kevin Aitchison
*Ernie Babcock
*Gwendoline Baker
*Lois Battley
*John Beamont
*MWO Tim Bennett
*Jane Benson
Muriel Bierhorst
*Howard J. Bodfield
*Arthur Burke
*Norman Burleau
*Norman Carmichael
Lillian Crombie
*Dave Dillon
*Albert Diveto
Chris Drummond
*Joe Egan
Ron Francis
*Frank Gabriel
*Cy Gaskin

*Ed Gray
*William (Billy) Green
*Edmund (Banjo) Johnson
*Earl W. Landry
*Howie Langan
*Tom MacDougal
*Reg Munden
Lester Leroy Murphy
*Clare Norton
*Bruce Oakley
Marie-Louise Oakley
*Al O'Brien
*Marg Pankhurst
John Poole
*BGen S.V. Radley-Walters
Ernest Sampson
Craftsman Kyle Sinclair
*Donald Thompson
*Jack Walker

2016
(to 31 May 2015)

Eric Albright
*Frank Ainsworth
*Joe Gurney
Margaret Haney
*Fred Heisler

*Thomas Johnson
Alexander Matheson
Shirley Patry
Jean Sproule

"They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, not the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them."



* denotes a Member of the RCD Association

ASSOCIATION

Mail Bag



Edward Henry Gray
Born 29 November 1921
Died 15 November 2015

Dear Sir,

It's with sadness and regret that I forward the death announcement of Edward Gray to you.

Edward Gray was an active and life member of the Royal Canadian Dragoons Association, South Central Ontario Chapter and over the years enjoyed attending the Regiments Base in Petawawa for special events.

Edward Gray was very proud of the history of the Royal Canadian Dragoons Regiment and very proud of the new members of the regiment when he had the opportunity to attend the base and see them for special events.

Please update your mailing records and do not forward any further publication or information to the " Room 563, Seven Oaks Long Term Care Home, 9 Neilson Road, Scarborough, Ontario, M1E 5E1 address.

I have received the recent issue of the publication from this address post his death.

This is an outstanding publication, which Edward Gray, my Father and I enjoyed reading very much to stay updated on the activities of the Regiment and Association that he loved so dearly.

As a retired Police Officer we would share stories of service to country and community as well as sharing a commitment to supporting our troops.

In memorial of Edward Gray's sharing of his passion for the Royal Canadian Dragoons Regiment and the Royal Canadian Dragoons Association with me, I would like

to continue receiving this publication in the future.

I would gladly forward any administrative costs associated with this request to either the Regiment or the Association in order to continue to receive future publications.

Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

David Gray, Retired Toronto Police Service
Son of Edward Gray,
Royal Canadian Dragoons Regiment Veteran
Royal Canadian Dragoons Association Life Member

In Retrospect

By Thomas Urbanowsky.



The Regiment Parades through Pembroke in 1955

January 1955. Returning from Christmas-New Years leave period in Toronto and back to Camp Petawawa as a young Trooper who's monthly earnings were less than \$ 50.00 per month, needless to say, one was badly bent and in need of financial resurrection as the next pay-day was far off. Thus one had a choice, apply to your "Family for Assistance" or the local Regimental "Loan-Shark" as in \$ 10.00 for \$ 15.00 or \$ 20.00 for \$ 30.00, in hopes to survive until the end of the month. Life was rough and the endless stream of living-in Troopers would parade within the Shack with the enviable quote "Got-any-pennies-you-don't-need" Yeah.

With the onset of the New Year, The Regiment kicked off with its mired of Trade and Personal Development Courses. As befitted my luck, I and 15 other Troopers were selected to take the new Centurion MK 3 Driver and Maintenance course commencing late January. Winter driving within the Petawawa Training Area was in all forms a "Classic-Event". The roads leading from the hanger area to the field were snow packed, the CC Instructors were hardnosed tolerant, for the novice drivers were "Hot-Rodding" the Centurion on it's "Steel-Tracks" on the Ice covered roads, and thus we learned

the many aspects of Tank Recovery which would serve us well in our future.

Within our 3 Troop, B Sqn, Tp.Sgt. Sgt Westwood, WWII Vet, tolerant and wise in all aspects of Armour life, strived for the young Troopers to advance as quickly as possible to obtain all of the required trades to better ease the burden of financial stress. Graduating as a D&M (T) Group I, gave one a \$ 10.00 boost in pay, and as such 8 of our Troopers were Gp II, as in D&M (T) and Gnr-Op. (Gunner-Operator/Loader) which boosted ones pay by \$ 20.00 or so a month, less Tax .

As the Trades courses were culminating, the Spring Gun Camp sprang into action with each Sqn going through its paces. Within our troop the initial crew rotation Was as, Gunner, Loader, Driver. The Gunner qualified, the loader next and the driver If he was a gunner also fired, as for me, well it was hauling ammo and so on. This being my very first Gun Camp, on the Pad of Trig Point 'hT(Hotel). Tanks on the Pad, guns facing down range, firing is in progress. Ammo casings being ejected from the turrets, ammo detail picking them up and carrying down to the ammo point below the Pad, and



fresh rounds hauled up and stored behind the tanks, all done in unison on a bright and sunny day. The dress of the day; Beret, coveralls, boots and gauntlets, as one approaches behind and between each firing tank to pick up the empties (we were NOT allowed to go beyond the gun-trunnions) one would always have his Beret come-off his head due to the AP-Blast and oh, the concussion was always a welcome to ones ears.

After several trips of up and downs and having experienced "The-Blast" I asked my Tp.Sgt. if there were anything one could have to protect ones ears. He being an old Vet, looked at me and calmly replied, Go to the Med-A and ask for some cotton batten, and so I did. But there were no Med-A at his post but his Jeep Ambulance. So I located a First-Aid Kit, removed some cotton batten, just as a LCpl Medic appeared on site and



asked me just what was I doing, as I explained, He in turn said, You Are On Charge, for removing medical equipment without authority. Well, back to hauling ammo with no cotton batten, exasperated, I explained the whole situation to my Tp.Sgt. Sgt Westwood looked at me and said, you will NOT be charged, I will look after it, now get back to work. This was the life in the early 50th of The-Hearing-Protection; on the other hand you could always run around with a 19 Set Radio headset with a long cord to trip over.

The Regiment was in full swing, D Sqn back from Korea; A Sqn was being prepped to replace C Sqn in Germany, and the whole of the Regiment getting ready for Summer Exercise in Camp Gagetown NB. We were busy, within our Sqn at full strength +, we had an anomaly, with too many troopers to fill the limited crew positions within each Troop. Thus the Sqn created a "L.O.B." Troop, (Left-Out-of-Battel) much to the delight of the SSM and his Adm Sgt, who now could employ the extra troopers to accomplish all of the varied tasks imposed on him. This also created a high degree of dedication to the remaining Troopers to do their very best in their respective tank crew placements, if you slacked off, it's off to the L.O.B. Tp.

Among the mired of thing being done within the Regiment, one item was not the fondest and disliked by all the junior ranks. The monthly, or so, Saturday morning inspection called "The Cock of The North" competition, whereby the Sqn's were paraded on the Square in full Battel Dress and inspected from head to the bottom of your boot soles. First by your Tp NCO's, next the SSM and so on until finally by the Commanding Officer and the RSM. Well by that point in time the SSM's had their quotas met for all of the "Extra-Duties" to be performed that week-end and beyond. This particular theme ran for many a month, until some disgruntled individual notified the Toronto based newspaper called "The Flash" which carried an article of these inspections. Suffice to say, our Commanding Officer, LCol Amy had an invitation to visit Ottawa and by some strange coincidence the "Cock-of-The-North" came to an abrupt end, much to the delight of all the Troops.

The Regiment embarked and loaded its tanks on rail flatcars. Tanks were tied down with enough chains, rods

and wood dunnage to hold the “Queen-Mary” and each tank was crewed by its driver and a couple of NCO’s from each troop. The remainder were assigned to road convoys which took three days to reach Gagetown. Our arrival in NB, in late afternoon at a siding in Hampstead, on the edge of the Saint John River where we unloaded and bent more crowbars trying to dislodge the wood dunnage that we spiked down in Petawawa and proceeded to a nice flat meadow overlooking the River. Very nice, that was the last nice thing we saw as from that point on we bashed our way through forests, hills with sink holes, mud and swamps, and much to our Sqn. SHQ Tank crew, an old farm septic tank and field, where they sunk the whole back end of their Tank. The senior crew members abandoned the vehicle, the driver remained, eventually recovered by our Regimental LAD, SSgt Steel i/c and towed to Camp Gagetown Workshop where it remained for an eternity “The Stink” just would not disapate. LCpl Leo Wagner, crew member, was awarded The Gagetown “STAR” and 2 Qtr Bottles of Red Ball for his perseverance and dedication to Duty.

The Regiment trained, participated as best they could within this heavy wooded environment, and at its end packed up and headed home to Petawawa. The tank train crews were a happy group, when the train arrived at the NB-Quebec border, hard rations were replaced with liquid ones, the guitars and banjos were put to good use and upon arrival in Petawawa Sgt Bill Bentum had only one string left. Unload, clean up, tarp down and head home for some well-earned leave.



THE EMPIRE NEEDS MEN!



**AUSTRALIA
CANADA
INDIA
NEW ZEALAND**

All answer the call.

Helped by the **YOUNG LIONS**
The **OLD LION** defies his Foes.

ENLIST NOW.

PUBLISHED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY RECRUITING COMMITTEE, LONDON - POSTER N° 58 - W. W. 11062 - 1/15

PRINTED BY STRAKER BROTHERS LTD 194-200, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON

The Empire Needs Men! Enlist Now. [United Kingdom - 1915] Creator unknown. Library and Archives Canada



WW1 Renault FT – First tank with 360 degree turret. Hotchkiss MG or 37 mm gun. Speed 7 km per hr. Crew Commander/Driver. Used by RCAC to train Troopers to drive in Camp Borden during early part of WW2 after being purchased as scrap metal by Gen Worthington in early 1941. (Source for training info was SSM Carl Cowden in 1960s).

VETERANS ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

UVIC/RUSI

This is a typical abstract of a Canadian tank trooper at Dieppe that you may be interested in hearing on your computer:

“ In 1942 transferred to the 14th Armoured Regiment in which he became a gunner in a Churchill tank. (11:00) Admits that he “was not a typically good soldier”, but got on very well with the English people he met. Remembers the raid on Dieppe in 1942 and the exhilarating feeling when they landed on the beach near the Casino. Stuck in a tank trap after reaching the promenade they were pulled out by another tank after he had attached the tow line while under enemy fire. Comments that the beach rocks were quite unsuitable for tank move-

ment. Finds it hard to believe that the composition of the beach was not properly appreciated by the military planners. Claims that his was the last tank in action, evacuated and surrendered when the turret became inoperable. Gives details of his surrender. Interrogated by a very knowledgeable person in civilian clothes whom he took to be a member of the Gestapo. (45:00)”

What is the Veterans Oral History Program?

This program is a unique joint effort of the University of Victoria (UVic) and the Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island (RUSI-VI) in order to preserve oral histories of veterans for the future. It also assists

third year history students in their studies of defence and security.

The RUSI-VI is an association principally of retired and serving navy, army and air force personnel based in Victoria, BC that includes armoured officers of both the regular force and reserve regiments. It is an Institute allied with Canadian, British and Commonwealth Royal United Services Institutes and was founded by the Duke of Wellington in Great Britain in 1831. The RUSI-VI was established in Victoria BC in 1927.

The principal task of the RUSI team members involved in the program is to select topics in cooperation with UVic each year, and identify veterans who agree to be interviewed by UVic history students.

Known at UVic as the Military Oral History Program, it has existed since the 1970s and retains veteran interviews from World War One to the present. The RUSI-VI has committed funding jointly to UVic, thus ensuring that this program will continue well into the future.

Veteran interviews are incorporated into a student research paper. The student who passes the course is awarded a credit towards their university degree.

Here is an outline of the program for veterans who wish to take part:

* For the Jan to March semester, students study a specific operation or activity (i.e., WW2, NATO, Afghanistan etc);

* A veteran who served and agrees to be interviewed by a student takes part in a two hour verbal interview annually in early March. Three veterans are interviewed one at a time by the student and their comments are captured on a voice recorder;

* The student incorporates selected comments of each veteran into a paper that is graded by a UVIC professor.

Each veteran is given a copy of the student's paper on completion of the semester. In addition, the actual verbal interview is retained by the UVIC Collection Library and may be accessed on the internet by the veteran, family, researchers and the public at large. For example,

Ted Barris wrote "Vimy-Canada Comes of Age" some twenty years ago and credited the UVic Library for providing invaluable WW1 veteran interviews years after the last veteran of that conflict had died.

In the winter semester of 2016, students interviewed veterans on the following topics:

* Bletchley Park and Enigma WW2

* Force 136 SOE – Chinese Canadian veterans behind enemy lines in SE Asia

* Northern Ireland – British Army Operations against the IRA

* NORAD

* Bosnia

* Afghanistan.

* The Library has over 700 interviews from the 1970s to the present covering experiences in such actions as WW1, WW2, Korea, Peacekeeping, Bosnia and Afghanistan. The Links at UVic Special Collections Library to hear interviews are as follows:

* See the entire list of interviews since the beginning of the program, shown alphabetically by surname: (35 pages): <http://contentdm.library.uvic.ca/cdm/search/collection/collection13/searchterm/>

* See all interviews for a calendar year: (e.g. 2015) <http://contentdm.library.uvic.ca/cdm/search/collection/collection13/searchterm/year/>

* See all interviews for a person (e.g. Jones, perhaps spanning more than one year): <http://contentdm.library.uvic.ca/cdm/search/collection/collection13/searchterm/surname>

2. Each interview may include more than one audio file, but the abstract of the interview will show key words and phrases for the topics that have been covered during the recording sessions.

3. Please note that each abstract is followed by the op-

tion for veterans to seek amendments or to declare a wish to remove an interview from public access;

4. The RUSI-VI urges all who have not yet been interviewed to come forward with the intention to participate in future MOH semesters through the RUSI-VI Veterans Oral History Program. Veterans will normally be matched with students in January of each year but are usually “recruited” in the Fall of the year. Contact the Director RUSI below for additional information.

In the coming year, we will in cooperation with UVic begin a pilot project to extend the program by using Skype to contact veterans beyond the Victoria BC area and thereby greatly extend our reach to give veterans the opportunity to tell their story and by doing so, and expand university students understanding of defence and security through the stories of veterans. For example, except for WW2 and Korean War interviews, there are no comments by veterans on main battle tanks and this should definitely be corrected in future. We will be contacting veterans who might wish to take part, or they can contact the director as noted below.

The RUSI-VI website may be accessed using: rusiviccda.org

Gary Del Villano Major (Ret'd) RCD

Director, Veterans Oral History Program

Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island
250-886-2637, or delvillano@shaw.ca

Memories of the OLD COMRADES



Germany 1952



Enlist! New Names in Canadian History. [Canada- 1914] Creator unknown. Library and Archives Canada



Pleasure in the Company of Old Friends and Comrades.

At this stage in my life, I am 78, and like many of you have been losing friends and family which only serve to remind us of the fragility of life. However it also serves to remind us of the pleasure we find in spending time with old and dear friends and comrades. That is why I especially enjoy the twice annual lunches we have out here on the West Coast of BC that have become Black Hat events. There are too few of us to focus solely on a Leliefontein or Moreuil Wood celebratory lunch and so we gather in as many black hatters as possible including a few former Garry and 12 RBC members as well as regimental friends and spouses. (I must admit that I always have to check the spelling of those two great battles as they have way too many vowels in varying sequences.) Maybe similar activities happen in other parts of our far-flung country. It is always good to have a beer and a meal with those that we have served with and others that we have met along life's way and to toast our Fallen and our Regiments and of course to receive an update on the activities of the Regiment(s) and the serving members. I have to admit that I rarely know any of the names of serving officers and NCMS but am always reassured that the units are busy and in good shape.

Recently I was sorting through some photos and found some images that I took at the Centennial of the Regiment in December 1983 in Ottawa. I had taken my release from the Regular Force late in 1977 and was living in Yellowknife and working for the Government of the NWT when I learned of the upcoming celebration and I knew that I had to be there for this once in a lifetime opportunity. As it turned out I had to make a staff visit to Frobisher Bay (now Iqaluit) and with the help of some of my own cash made a diversion to Ottawa. What a great event it was with Governor General Schreyer inspecting the Regiment on parade at Rideau Hall and so many of the old guard and ERE in attendance. The dinner dance was such a good party and I was able to see friends I hadn't seen in many years. The attached montage says it all. Later that weekend, I was on a Nordair 737 heading north doing the business of Government of the NWT. I hope that those now serving will be fortunate enough to enjoy each other's company when they are old comrades which as we know will happen way too soon.

David Sproule
Victoria, BC



SPANNING 110 YEARS OF REGIMENTAL HISTORY

Chris Sproule

Looking back and remembering is a time honoured tradition of soldiers. It's a good one as long as there is also eager anticipation of things to come.

In about 2010, I was attending the Leliefontein celebrations in Petawawa. The combined officers', warrant officers', and senior NCOs' dinner was attended by Dragoons who were just finishing their leave after a hard Afghanistan tour. One of the fellows at my table was still recovering from a wound. After the dinner, I struck up a conversation with a second lieutenant who was escort officer for a friend of the regiment. I mentioned to him that I had been an escort officer at my first Leliefontein in 1967 in Gagetown. I went on to say that my guest was one of three Boer War veterans attending. I could see from his face he didn't believe me and suspected that perhaps I was losing my mind... poor old guy. I wasn't hurt. It just made me reflect that although I had 36 years service 1963 to 1999, I could touch 110 years of RCD history, 1900 to 2010, and I thought that was almost unbelievable, myself.

My Boer War veteran's name escapes me now. He was in his early 90s. He was tall, thin, hearty, wearing a suit, regimental tie, and new sneakers. It was cold and snowing during the ceremony so as soon as possible I took him into the RHQ building with its shiny tiled floors to warm up. He was proud of his sneakers and to show me, dashed off down the hallway and back! I was terrified he would either slip or have a heart attack on me.

I remember serving with and talking to RCD horse soldiers such as Major Spike Malone and Major General Churchill Mann. I was ADC for the general on one of his visits and my batman looked after him (better than he looked after me).

Until 1975, the Regiment and Army still had a dusting of WWII veterans including my first CO, Tommy Finan, and many more Korean veterans. I haven't mentioned WWI veterans. They were around but as a young guy, I shamefully didn't go out of my way to get to know them. I do remember that when the Regiment returned to Petawawa from Germany in 1987, there was a WWI veteran at the Leliefontein celebration. He was the last one I remember seeing.

With five regimental tours, I enjoyed my time talking with members of the first contingent back into Germany post war, C Squadron with 27 Bde in December 1951. I enjoyed all the comrades from German tours in Iserlohn and Lahr, from Cyprus, as well as meeting individual Dragoons during my ERE tours in England, Lebanon, Bosnia, Croatia, the USA, and even in Zambia.

Remembering is a part of a soldier's tradition. Take some time and see how far your memory stretches. I doubt that that I'm remarkable and imagine that many of you will span a century of regimental memories before you are finished.



Lick them over there! Come on Canada!. [Canada - 1939] McGill University Library.



CAVALRY AGAIN

It is January of 1916 and the Regiment has received some very welcome news – the cavalymen were leaving the long months in the trenches and resuming their mounted role. From the mud and cold in the Neuve Eglise trenches to village life around Tully, on the shores of the North Sea, with its warm billets, hot food and, above all, no shooting or being shot at, the Dragoons found the transition welcome and easy. Individual training commenced, initially on horses borrowed from the Indian cavalry but the Canadian mounts from England arrived gradually and the full scope of cavalry training could be accomplished.

The return to the cavalry role was part of a grander plan which was aimed at a major offensive astride the Somme to take place in the summer of 1916. In preparation, the Canadian Cavalry Brigade became truly Canadian when the Fort Garry Horse joined the brigade replacing the 2nd King Edward's Horse and the Brigade became initially part of the 1st Indian Cavalry Division and then

the 2nd Division. Another reorganization in the Brigade saw the machine gun section expanded to squadron size and Lt Tiny Walker, promoted to Captain, becoming its first Commanding Officer.

The training period around Tully featured not only replacement mounts but also replacement Dragoons





The RCD in 1916

from the Depot in Camp Borden and the training areas there and in the Niagara area. Some of these replacements had joined the Regiment when it was still in the trenches and found the reversion to cavalry training difficult. As one such Dragoon, Trooper Powell put it, "It was most difficult to compel one of these trained horses to misinterpret an order but with patience I succeeded". In spite of all of this, March 1916 saw the Regiment parading as a cavalry unit for General Seely and their own General Lessard and late June saw the Canadian Cavalry Brigade moving forward to the front in anticipation of the coming operation.

The plan for the CCB was to exploit any breach made in the German defences and to gallop to Cambrai, encircle it and cut the rail lines to the east. Good tasks for cavalry but they never materialized. From the more than 60,000 casualties on the first day of the battle to the equally futile series of attacks which lasted into November, there were no breaches of the German line to exploit



and the cavalrymen were employed on a number of support tasks such as trench maintenance, laying wire, mending roads, preparing rail lines and burying the dead. Unglamorous but necessary work and as the British, French and Germans had exhausted themselves fighting the Somme and Verdun, the Regiment spent a fairly quiet winter a reserve role and waited for the next major event.





Gathering of Dragoons 2016

Gathering of Dragoons 2016

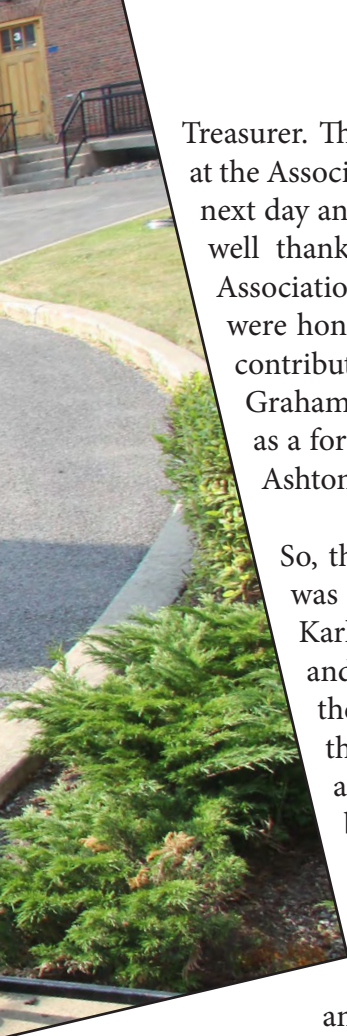


The fireworks display was spectacular! For those 80 odd people gathered on the back lawn of the Viex Mess in St Jean-sur-Richelieu the colourful and noisy display, the lovely warm evening and the excellent company of former and serving Dragoons made it the best possible start to the "Gathering of Dragoons", the RCD Association's biennial reunion in June of 2016. Karl Kramell and Mike Vezina, the organizers of the event, were particularly proud of the fireworks but there was just a hint that the fact that it was St Jean Baptiste Day in la Belle Province may have contributed!

The rest of the Gathering went off with just as much display. The setting was carefully chosen and as one of the Regiment's pre-war garrisons, there were several

decades of Regimental history to keep us all company. That history was visibly augmented by members of the Regiment dressed in the traditional ceremonial uniforms so a comfortable "regimental" feeling set in very quickly. The meet and greet of Friday evening was followed on Saturday by an excellent dinner and dancing, once again in the Viex Mess and once again accompanied by beautiful weather. And, if a break from the festivities was needed, a stroll down the lawn to the banks of the Richelieu River to watch the pleasure boats cruise by made for a pleasant half hour.

We also did some business, as is customary for these weekends. The Association's Board of Directors met early in the weekend and the most important piece of business was the nomination of a new President and a new Secretary/Treasurer. As might be imagined, the nominations were unopposed and Denis Levesque was nominated as President with Tim Datchko as Secretary/



Treasurer. These appointments were formalized at the Association's Annual General Meeting the next day and yours truly and John Moyer were well thanked for their contributions to the Association. Three other Association members were honoured for their extra-ordinary past contributions to the Association – David Graham as a former President, Terry Seely as a former Secretary/Treasurer and Norm Ashton as the first editor of *The Dragoon*.

So, the Gathering of Dragoons for 2016 was a huge success. The organizers, Karl and Michel, put on a great event and Mat MacDonald, Colonel of the Regiment, thanked them for their work and for choosing such an appropriate setting. Attended by the Commanding Officer, the Regimental Sergeant Major and the Deputy Commanding Officer, the Regiment's support to the Regimental Family was excellent and contributed considerably to the

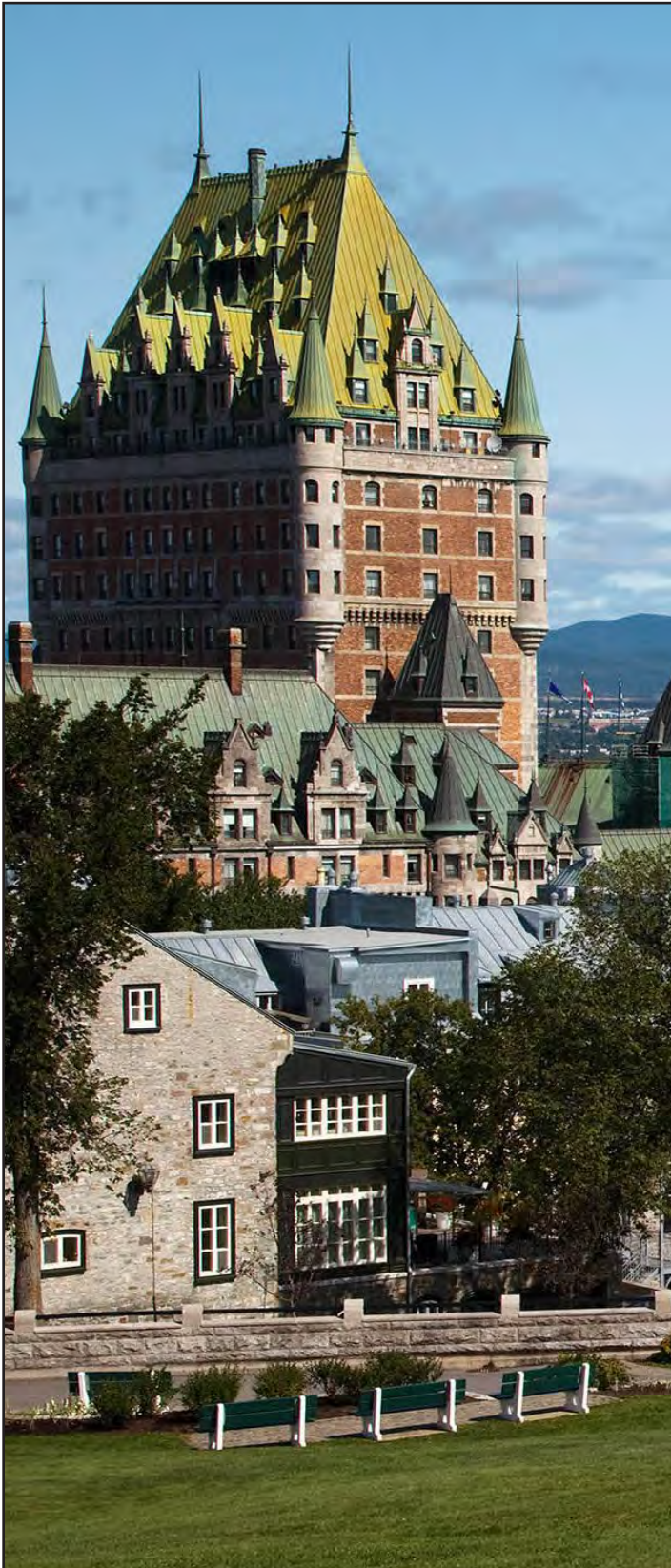
ambiance and the success of the event. But the real benefactors of all of this were those who attended. Good friends, good food and drink, an historical setting, great weather (and those fireworks, of course), all made the weekend a Gathering to remember.







Atlantic



Since our last report to you, April 2015, our Chapter has seen some losses of membership, both in decline in health, death and voluntary departure due to "AGE". However on the "Upside" we did manage to pick up a few retiring members from the CF/RCD departures and thus, we are still viable and supportive to all concerned at 131 members. As for our 34th Annual BBQ and Dance, held on Sat 13th of June, the response was "Sporadic" with 60 members in attendance, from all who did, the response was "Excellent" and enjoyed by all to the utmost. This said, the committee looked at all of the cost related items and those who attend the functions, past and present, and although it is "Self-Supporting" we did manage to subsidize with "Careful-planning-donations-begging-selling-stuff" to encourage member attendance, we never did quite manage to "Break-Even", close, but not over the top as we had hoped. SO, the end result of this is as follows; (1) The 2016 Chapter BBQ and Dance is hereby "CANCELLED". (2) We will try and hold our 35th BBQ and Dance in June of 2017, IF, the membership shows sufficient interest, if not, well, Ces't la vie.

As for the reaming summer month, our Black Hat Luncheons are on track with visitors dropping by and in as they pass through our area, of note, Bob and Margaret Butler (AB), Tom Archibald and Biff Watson (ON), and those who "Whiz-By". To all, who mender by our shores, stop-by and say Hello, we still meet on the last Thursday of every month at Minglers in Oromocto NB, 1230 for 1300 hrs.

During the summer month we had many changes within the CFB Gagetown, 5th Division Units; "C" Sqn RCD

Incoming OC- Maj Paul Marois and SSM- MWO Stephane Larouche. RCACSchool Incoming Commandant- LCol Chris Hutt and RSM CWO Kevin Mathers. Combat Training Centre Incoming Commender- Col DC Aitchison (Inf) and RSM CWO (Mr.Gnr) Beaudry. 5th Div Sp GP. Commender-Col MacIsaac (Eng) and RSM CWO Walter Laughlin (LdSH RC).

This being the 75th year of the Royal Canadian Armour Corps, the full slate of activities took place here at CFB

Gagetown NB, hosted by the Armour School and its staff. On September 29 and 30th the School conducted the 2nd Worthington Cup Challenge with Canadian Units and an Armour Unit from Denmark, very successful and challenging.

On October 1 to 4, the Corps 75th Anniversary Celebrations took many forms, however the highlight of the day was on Thursday the 3rd with a Grand Parade with full Armoured Roll Past with the soldiers standing proud and looking very sharp. And of course followed by an All Ranks Dinner and Dance that evening.

We closed out the year with the 115th Celebration of The Battel of Leliefontein with members of C Sqn RCD and Armour School Dragoons, and The Regiments 132nd Birthday as the last function of the year on 21st December.

The last comment is in order of the year ending 2015 and the commencement of the year 2016, which was not without a few heartaches as our losses of members keep mounting in all categories and replacements are few and far between. In that respect, we bid "FAREWELL" to Banjo Johnson, Tim Bennett, Bruce Oakley, Reg Munden, Ernie Babcock, Earl Caddy, Cyrus Gaskin, John Poole, Dave Dillon Thomas Johnson and Joe Gurney. May they Rest in Peace.

This the beginning of March 2016, and the "Winter-Package" is well into decline, and thus far it has been quite acceptable for an "East-Coast-Winter" all of which led to a good turnout for the Black Hat Luncheon

As usual this time of the year we have our "March" turn-over, whereby numerous members depart for the

"Southern-Regions" while other "Snow-Birds" migrate to warmer regions "North", and by the end of April they all come home to roost.

On the 15th of April members of the Atlantic Chapter, C Sqn RCD and Armour School Dragoons celebrated the 71st Anniversary of the Liberation of Leeuwarden at K-19 CFB Gagetown, home of C Sqn RCD. Saturday

the 14th of May, 16 Chapter members attended the Armour School RSM's Sr NCO Black Hat Mess Dinner, at which time our own chapter secretary MWO Matt Robichaud was "Muged-Out" for the final time with 42+ years of service.

On the 24-26th of June, 11 members of the Chapter attended the National Gathering of Dragoons at Fort St Jean (CMR) in Saint Jean sur Richelieu Quebec. A most enjoyable event, details of which will be published by the Association President in the 2016 "Dragoon".

As with all "Things-Administrative", the Atlantic Chapter Staff, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and supporting hoards of volunteers, we try extremely hard to keep all communication channels open, as in e-

mail, Facebook, phone and Mail-Post, the last being the most ineffective and very expensive to our very limited budget, which is only funded by you the members and by your donations to us, for which WE gratuitously "THANK YOU".

This being The-End-of-June dead line as set by the "President" for the publication of The Dragoon, I will add my LAST comment: It has been a pleasure to serve The Association as a Director and as the Atlantic Chapter Chairman for many a year, and at the age 80, I think it is time to "Tarp-Down". So, as of the 1st of July 2016 we will have a NEW Atlantic Chapter Chairman; Mr. Mathurin (Matt) Robichaud.

Thank You, Stay Safe, Stay Active and have a great Year.

Respectfully yours,

Thomas Urbanowsky, Chairman.





The strong arms of Canada. [United Kingdom - 1916] John Byam Liston Shaw. British Library

Quebec



Bonjour a vous et salutations de la belle province. Greetings from all twelve of us or is it eleven? Since my last report we lost contact with Stuart and Beverly Struple. Mail was returned and phone no longer in service. Any information on their whereabouts would be appreciated. Besides that all is well here besides a few limbs getting weaker and older. No news is always good news, or is it?

Michel Vezina and I are quite relieved now that the reunion "Gathering of Dragoons 2016" has ended successfully. It took two years of planning, running around and pulling a few hairs out, which I can't afford. We started planning two years ago. Our first step in planning was to decide on the location in our province. Next was to secure a motel and the caterer. This has to be done at least two years in advance. Our final decision was at the Old Fort (CMR) in Saint-Jean sur Richelieu. Our old home from 1901 to 1940. Once we had the hotel and caterer secured in writing and rest fell in place over the next two years. I won't go into detail on the reunion as Bann has it all covered in his article.

A few thank yous are required. First of all my planning team, all four of us. Michel, his wife Ginette and Steven Barrette from the Royal Canadian Hussars Montreal. Without them this would not have happened. A big thank you to you three. I was sorry for Michel that some of his hair turned gray.

The support of the regiment for these events is of utmost importance not only to make the weekend more interesting but also to maintain some sort of physical link between the regiment and association. The kit shop was provided and two smartly dressed soldiers to greet our guests on their arrival for both events. The regimental photographer, Cpl Langille did an outstanding job in covering the whole event and taking the official portraits of everyone. By providing the photographer, the committee saved some expenses by not having to hire someone at a high cost. Cpl Langille always does an outstanding workmanship.

I also wish to thank all our donors that helped in keeping our cost to a minimum through their generous donations.

Overall it was an excellent event except for the lower attendance compared to previous reunions. I believe we will all see you again in two years in Ottawa or surrounding area.

I wish everyone a good Fall and see you at the Leliefontein celebrations.

Karl Kramell
Chairman
Quebec Chapter

Memories of the OLD COMRADES



Stanley Barracks Chapel circa. 1940



National Capital



The National Capital chapter continued with our traditional gatherings. The 2015 Leeuwarden Day celebration was held on April 17th, and we were pleased to welcome representatives from the Dutch Embassy, including Wendy Sewell, who has become the continuity person for these events. We then had our customary summer lull, with several of our members, including Terry and Rita Seeley and Ross and Jackie Carruthers, attending the newly-relocated RCAC gathering now held in Perth at the Legion. This was well attended and favoured by fine weather.

Our Leliefontein function was held on Friday, the 13th of November, and the Regimental Birthday was celebrated on December 18th with a luncheon at the Ottawa Mess. Leeuwarden Day 2016 was marked on April 15th, and once again Wendy Sewell attended on behalf of the Dutch Embassy. Others in attendance included Bill Smith, Mike Appleton, Alan Bolster, Terry Seeley, Bob Hart, Luc Petit, and Tom Burnie. We were particularly pleased to have both Bann Price, the National President of the RCD Association, and Col Georges Rousseau, the Colonel-Commandant RCAC in attendance. Both spoke of having attended the Regimental event in Petawawa the previous week. The guest of honour at this event was Don White, who was at Leeuwarden the first time!

Finally, on June 6th, two of our members, Ross Carruthers and Clive Addy, joined Clive Milner, Dave Graham, and Jack Caverson at the Merchant pub in Kingston while their spouses attended an RCAC Ladies Luncheon at the Fort Frontenac Officers' Mess.

As we reach the mid-point of 2016, our membership is steady, but we are always looking for new members. If you know of any Dragoons moving into the area, please let Ross Carruthers or Bann Price know. They'll be more than welcome.



Memories of the **OLD COMRADES**



C Sqn Harbour Routine 1952 Germany

Ottawa Valley



GREETINGS FROM THE OTTAWA VALLEY CHAPTER on behalf of all members we wish you and your family happiness, good health and prosperity in the upcoming year.

Over the past year it has been business as usual. The Association members have attended the Leewarden, Change of appointment for the Col of the Regiment, Leliefontein parade and the Soldiers Christmas Dinner. We have also conducted several meetings and our annual Oktoberfest, accomplished all with great success.

Leewarden was celebrated in the traditional manner and it was great to see Don White and so many distinguished guests turn out for the event.

The next significant historical event was the appointment of MGen (ret'd) Matt Macdonald as Col of the Regiment from Col Georges Rousseau. The Ottawa Valley Chapter would like to acknowledge the dedication and stewardship of Col Rousseau during the past several years, especially for his guidance during the transitioning of the Guild. To the new Col of the Reg't we, the Association look forward to your leadership, guidance and visits over the upcoming years. Welcome aboard!

Please allow me to take this opportunity once again this year to introduce you to the RCD Ottawa Valley Association Executive. The Chairman, Bruce Prendergast, Vice, Sterling Mercer, Secretary/Treasurer Fred Heisler, and Entertainment Chairman Roger Munger. Fred Heisler, at the end of 2015 relinquished his position as the Secretary/treasurer, so we are on the hunt for a new member to step up to the plate. Fred has done an outstanding job of managing

the affairs of the chapter and we thank him for his hard work and dedication. To Fred and Gina thank you and we wish you all the best.

In order to get the maximum attendance we held our Oktoberfest on the 20 September, which was a huge

success. The Entertainment Chairman, Roger Munger did an outstanding job. The tables were all set and Roger paid attention to detail ensuring everything was just perfect, including a special table for “our fallen comrades”.

We hosted 38 people including the CO, RSM and their lovely wives.

This was our 11th annual Oktoberfest (how time flies) and Birgith Munger, treated the members to a fantastic German meal.

Gordie Meighan, once again provided the German music for the evening, getting everyone into the spirit. Well done to all. As you can see by the photo’s everyone enjoyed the evening.

Once again through the initiative of the CO, LCol Steve Graham and RSM Shawn Mercer we had 3 more serving members and the lovely spouses join the Ottawa Valley Chapter of the RCD Association. They are Sgt Stephen Rice and Jennifer, Sgt Shawn Murphy, and Heather, and Sgt Eric Hunter, and Stephanie. Welcome aboard, it is great to have members with new ideas and spirit. It kind of rejuvenates us more mature members, LOL.

Before I leave this subject, I would like to thank the CO and RSM for once again taking the time to attend, in light of their hectic schedule and allowing us to utilize the Regimental facilities. Without their continued support activities such as this may not be possible. During the evening, many “war stories” were told and maybe some embellished somewhat! Anyway, all was very good with a lot of laughter throughout the evening.

The Leliefontein parade in November was once again a memorable one. This year with the milder temperatures, both the soldiers on parade and the spectators could relax and enjoy the steadiness and precision of the soldiers on parade. Gen (Ret’d) Clive Milner led the “Old Guard” on the march past and they got a rousing cheer as we gave the eyes right to the Colonel of the Regiment.

Sterling Mercer and I had the pleasure of breaking bread and chatting with a number of the soldiers at the Soldiers Christmas Dinner on the 10 Dec 15. It

is always a highlight for the Association members, we are extremely proud of our serving Dragoons and appreciate every opportunity to interact with them. In our conversations the soldiers were very enthusiastic and proud of the many accomplishments over the past year. The moral within the Regiment is very high. Thanks to everyone who shared their stories of current Regimental activities with us.

This past year The Dragoon and Springbok were combined and in not only my opinion but many others have said “it is an excellent publication”. Therefore, to all those involved, especially the editors and Cpl K. Langille should be commended for their outstanding work.

I would be remised if we did thank Muggsie for her continuous support; she has been the continuity over the past years. Well done to all.

In closing, the support of the Regiment over the past year has been outstanding, both LCol Steve Graham and CWO (RSM) Shawn Mercer have gratefully open the doors to all Regimental activities and welcomed all members of the association with open arms. Tanks.

Audax et Celer!



Don White and Sterling Mercer stop chatting for a photo op.



Bruce Prendergast and Sterling Mercer enjoy a great meal and conversation with soldiers at the Soldiers Christmas Dinner, 10 Dec 15.



Marion McNeil and Peggy Cook have a chat and a little “wobbly pop” at Oktoberfest.



Birgith Munger serving Gina and Fred Heisler at Oktoberfest while Mick and Brenda McMullen wait in line.

Memories of the
OLD COMRADES



Cpl Doug Grey discovers the wonders of a driving course - 1974

South Central Ontario



Greetings from the South Central Chapter!

It's been another great year to be a Dragoon!

Last summer started off with Don White's annual BBQ held at his house in Oshawa in mid July. It was great to see some old faces and a few newer ones as well. The Ontario Regiment was represented by former CO, Col Brown which was a very pleasant surprise! There was lots of swimming for the kids and catching up for the adults and all hosted in true Dragoon tradition by Don and Chris White and their family. Thanks again Don, looking forward to this year!

With the coming of August, the other summer tradition was upon us, the Warriors Day Parade through the Princess Gates of the Canadian Nation Exhibition. With a little help from the Governor General's Horse Guards, the RCD contingent made another proud showing in front of thousands of cheering spectators. There's not much better than marching down the street with bands playing and the RCD flag flying!

Our annual chapter meeting was held in late Sept and there were a few changes brought in. Steve Mercer became the new Chapter Chairman, replacing Kevin Lee. Terry Shaw became the Vice Chairman and Bill Nash as Secretary.

A quiet fall was punctuated by many members attending the Leliefontein Parade in Petawawa and then settling in for a long winter.

In April, Don White was honored by the Regiment during the Leeuwarden Parade and given the opportunity to address the Regiment. This is truly a rare occasion and Don did us all proud with a heartfelt and moving speech. Thanks Don!

Moving into another year we have lots to look forward to. More BBQ's at Don's, more parades and more good times with our fellow Dragons and their families.



Memories of the OLD COMRADES



Riot Control practice - Beachburg 1991

Kingston



Ladies and Fellow Dragoons

Once again it's my pleasure to address you from the beautiful banks of Lake Ontario. The Kingston and Region Chapter of the Royal Canadian Dragoons Association is a small but proud chapter of 45 members. We have had a few gatherings this year and as always I would like to share some of the Chapter events that we had over the year

The Chapter usually maximize attendance at two Corps events the last week of July 15. Starting with the CWO Henry Sampson Memorial Golf Tournament in Smith falls on the Friday. This annual event is so well turned out that if you don't get yourself on a team and get your registration done early, you could miss the boat. Donny Craig and his outstanding crew of volunteers do an amazing job getting 140 plus Corps members on the golf course. Hand shaking and the renewing of old or new acquaintances can be seen as people gather for the registration. Organization can be a task but somehow they manage to get everyone out on the course in time for the shot gun start. Those who enjoy golf or simply old friendship should keep in mind that this event is probably the most attended in the Corps. Wow more people there than a unit parade.

The following day which is traditionally the last Saturday of the month of July is the annual Corps BBQ in Perth. Clive Addy was determined to ensure the Corps BBQ would survive. This year the Perth Legion was the place to be, this beautifully treed lot on the Rideau River, this was an exceptional choice for the Corps BBQ. It was an amazing time with a huge attendance from all Regiments, approximately 150 Retired and Serving members across Canada gathered for an afternoon of socializing. We hope this can be replicated annually as the tradition continues.

The Kingston and Region BBQ Aug 2015 attended by a small group of Chapter Members. This BBQ had been replaced by the Corps BBQ at Oak Haven and we decided it was time to have a Chapter BBQ. The ANAF catered



the event and those in attendance enjoyed a steak dinner with all the trimmings. This was a none hosted event, just come with a story and great conversation.

Once again 11 November, Remembrance Day was on the radar, the Chapter gathered again at the Army, Navy and Air Force Club (ANAVETS) on Gore Road. Our small but tight group paid tribute together with Tony Slack and Denis Levesque laying the wreath on behalf of us all. This tribute to our fallen is always a worthwhile event. I think Dragoons always have a show in strength and make a great impression.

In December the Kingston Chapter of the RCD and RCR Association gathered to celebrate their regimental birthdays together. This year the event was held on the 6th of December 2015 at the Kingston Legion on Montreal Road Kingston, with the RCR Chapter hosting. Many past and present members of the regiments along with family and friends gathered for an evening of socializing. We received updates on both regiments followed by toast to each. Of particular note MGen Dean Milner was our guest speaker, he gave us an update on the regiment and current operations including the DART was heading out the door. It was

also his birthday, so with great enthusiasm we sang Happy Birthday to him. We now know why we joined the Army!

The celebration of Leeuwarden by serving and retired Dragoons in the Kingston Area was held on 15 Apr 16 this year. A crowd of about twenty, gathered at the RMC Cadet Officers' Mess to toast the accomplishments of the Regiment. MGen (Ret'd) Clive Milner spoke about Leeuwarden and its connection to RMC and how there are artifacts in RMC to commemorate the link. Clive and I were a bit late

and I was attempting to navigate our way to the Cadet Mess, Clive was telling me it's not that way, I responded with, how do you know? Well the last room on the right was mine and I know they would never put the Mess near my room. We laughed then continued on our lost but making god time, venture. Chris Catry was the organizer of this event, with his Captains and they did well, as always.

The Kingston Chapter is alive and well. We're keeping busy but enjoying our retirement at the same time. We're looking forward to yet another year of excitement and we hope that you'll be able to join us.



Alberta



Greetings from the Alberta Chapter and I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank those who have maintained contact with us over the past year. Your messages of condolence, emails, phone calls and especially the “Moccasin” telegraph has kept us up to date on the happenings around your Chapter and Association. Greatly appreciated.

We have just received the 2016 Board of Directors Minutes and were pleased to see the agenda cover the present drop in overall memberships and the low attendance numbers at Association functions. The Chapters have been experiencing the same drop at a somewhat faster pace.

We had to cancel a very popular function last year due to health difficulties, inability to drive and weather. One Member said, “The spirit is willing, but the body isn’t cooperating”.

We fully support the initiative to recruit new Members and look forward to hearing more of the implementation process and are happy to assist in any way.

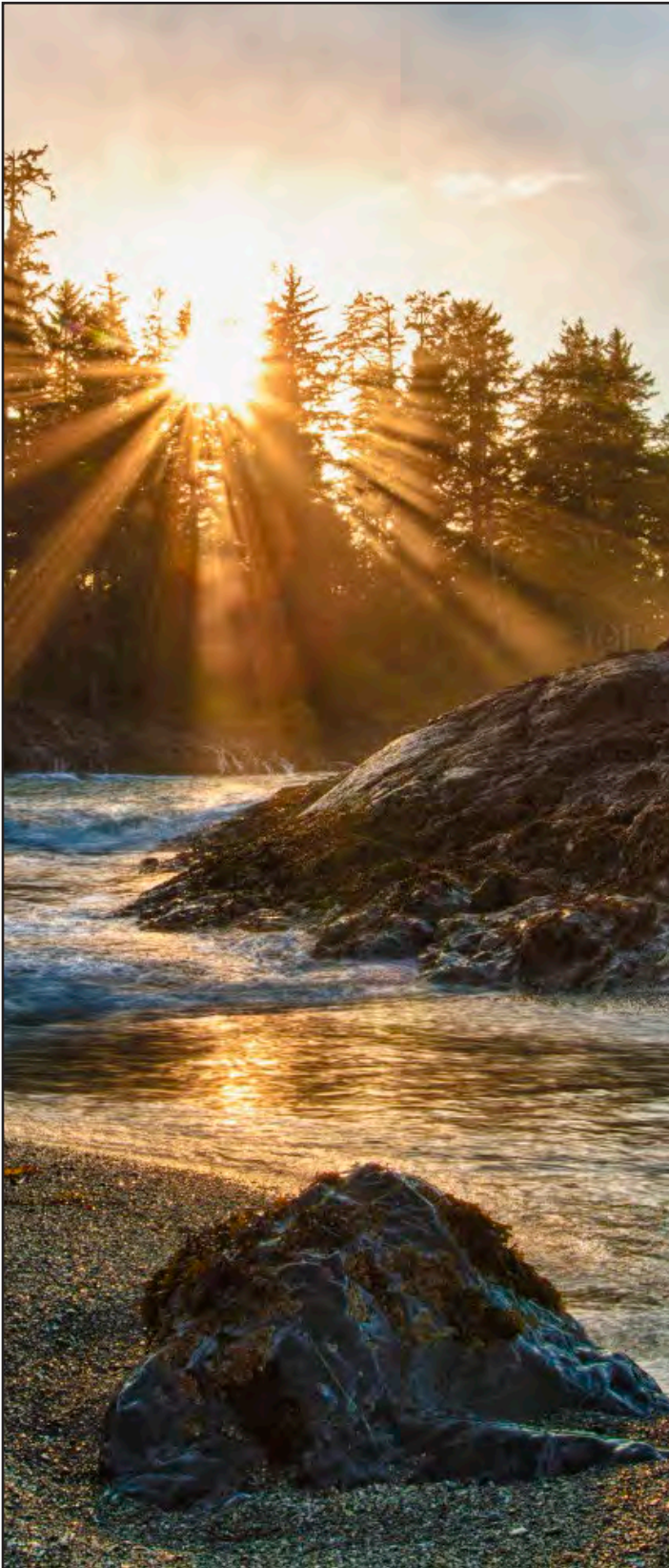
From all Members, sending our best wishes to all. Have a great summer and be assured, the Dragoon Spirit is as strong as ever out West.

Memories of the OLD COMRADES



Good Luck Banner for CAT 83

British Columbia



Greetings, from the BC chapter. According to Bann price we are on the left coast and are different. This past year has been different and devastating in medical terms. And our nominal roll has gone down by four this past year. Mr. Malcolm Brown passed away last year and John Innes moved to a nursing home in Winnipeg where hopefully he is resting comfortably. I was informed by Aannette Johnston in the last couple of weeks that her mother Ruth Johnston passed away on 13 November 2014 from cancer. Aannette did say that both she and her mother really enjoyed getting the Springbok and Dragoon. Aannette also mentioned that Lillian Pierce had also passed away. I am trying to contact Jim Pierce, the son, to regain contact information for John Pierce. David Sproule advised me that his beloved wife Jean passed away peacefully on 15 January after a brief stay in the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria BC. I regret to say that I cannot locate Dr. Mustard and have placed him in the lost trails category. Lloyd and Mia Vickers are both having medical difficulties, he with his hearing and Mia with her ankle. Both are an example of getting older "is not for sissies" Fred Berge had a right lung lobectomy for cancer. Dave Stewart in Kamloops is on the mend and is looking forward to better life. Emie Babcock is hanking in there in Sechelt.

As is normal our main activity in the chapter is to attend the Leliefontein luncheon as close as possible to 7 November. The last luncheon was held, 05 Nov. at the Ladner Legion in Ladner, which is a change of venue from the Tsawwassen Legion. It was a disappointing turnout for the luncheon. Regretfully Lloyd Vickers, Alan Donovan, Steve Griffin, Ian Ham, Gene Lake, John Olafson, John Pierce, Paul Philcox, Dave Sproule, Tom Thomas Jack Dangerfield, and Dave Stewart were unable to attend. Jackie the Legion manager and her assistant Donna welcomed us to the Ladner Legion branch and served us our meal and refreshments, which we very much appreciated. I started the luncheon off by introducing our fellow guest Black Hatters: Rollic Keith, Dave Scandrett, Dave Letson, and Roy Cooper. Following the introductions I updated those attending on what was happening in the chapter. And gave a

brief update of what was happening in the Regiment as provided by Bann Price. BGen Darrell Dean updated us on what was happening in the Armoured Corps. Gary Del Villano then gave a briefing and update on his favorite project “ anecdotal military history “. Cary is also very active with the Royal United Services Institute.

I must I must give kudos to Frank and Margret Miliedge for attending every luncheon since we started them about 20 years ago. Similarly Richard Kitcher has attended every luncheon and he is also I believe the chairman for the Strathcona Association on Vancouver island. Many thanks to Peter Jarvis for taking the pictures. And it is always a pleasure to see Paul Crober at the luncheon's.

However, I have heard that Alan Donovan and Ian Ham as well as Dave Stewart may be able to attend the Leliefontein luncheon to be held on 03 November at the Saanich yacht club. Detailed information will be forthcoming in either late September or early October. This will be my last article for the Dragoon. BGEN Darrell Dean has graciously accepted to become the new Chair for the BC Chapter



GUILD DONORS 2015

Guild activities depend upon donors from all parts of the Regimental family and friends both individuals and corporations. Unfortunately, space in this magazine does not permit us to thank all who gave, so we have published the names of those who donated \$100 or more. Many others have generously given and we certainly thank all donors.

\$100 - \$499 - Friends of the Regiment

Abbott, T	Farnell, M	Marois, PA	Smith, C
Clarridge, K	Layden, R	Clark, I	Smith, K
Hutt, C	Bride, R	Holton, R	Szydlo, D
Adams, DJ	Follwell, J	Marois, RV	Tan, P-A
Cotton, RT	Leamon, JG	Mathers, K	Thomas, LE
Isenor, M	Brown, C	Maurice, A	Tremblay, R
Allen, J	Frank, MA	McCarty, MGC	VanRyswyk, TW
Cross, D	Leblanc, D	McCluskey, M	Watt, F
Kapchinsky, R	Brown, JM	McKenzie, A	White, C
Andrechek, J	Gabriel, K	McNeil, JA	Wilhelm, B
Curley, S	Lesage, M	Mercer, S	Wong, KW
Keith, C	Brown, RJ	Milner, DJ	Zeisig, J
Andrews, JL	Gagnon, M	Monaghan, C	Zinck, D
Cushing, K	Lillington, C	Morin, R	
Kewley, A	Brush, JM	Muise, A	United Way - Central
Auld, F	Gaudette, J	Muralt, D	NB
Cyr, A	Lofgren, W	Murphy, JW	
Knights, J	Brush, JM	Nette, G	
Bagayao, W	Graham, A	Newton, TS	
D'Andrea, C	Lynk, DA	Nickerson, JNJ	
Knowles, S	Burchart, J	Nixon, MA	
Beckett, B	Graham, S	Ostler, JR	
Davenport, C	MacIntosh, N	Ouellette, NGE	
Kuehne, M	Cadden, SM	Peitzsche, TJ	
Beharrysingh, D	Grant, DJ	Pineau, S	
Dewinter, RA	MacMillan, MM	Popov, M	
Lacasse, RD	Cameron, J	Power, BR	
Bennett, B	Guest, G	Ready, R	
Donald, R	Macdonald, W	Renahan, C	
Lai-Serverini, J	Cartmell, M	Richards, WA	
Benoit, R	Harwood, K	Richardson, S	
Doucet, J	Maclean, JM	Ring, J	
Laing, W	Catry, C	Ritchie, JL	
Bigney, R	Hatfield, S	Robichau, PA	
Duncan, C	Malloff, M	Robinson, K	
Lambie, WD	Chadwick, HC	Sagocak, B	
Blais, S	Hawley, W	Saunders, E	
Dunn, M	Maraj, S	Scheffelmanier, WT	
Larocque, J	Chapman, A	Schoenermarck, JCH	
Boire, M	Head, DW	Schroeder, WM	
Ermel, R	Marion, KC	Shaw, R	
Larson, N	Christianson, DR	Shewan, B	
Bramhill, RJ	Hillier, CR	Shurdha, B	

\$500 - \$1,499 - Regimental Family

Atherton, A
Kerckhoff, EA
Rousseau, G

Bell, J
Latta, W
Snape, A

Bonefant-Deguisse, JP
Riganelli, P
Tremblay, D

Sakto Corporation
Waterford Property
Group Ltd

\$1,500 - \$9,999 - Patrons of the Old Guard

Natynczyk, W
King Science Promotions

\$10,000 and above - Commanding Officer's Circle

Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment Ltd



SECRETARY/TREASURER'S SITREP 2016

This will be my last SITREP as Secretary/Treasurer. On Jan 1st, 2017, I will hand over my duties to Tim Datchko who has 'volunteered' to succeed me. I trust that everyone will continue to offer Tim the magnificent cooperation that I have been afforded over the last 11 years. Your input has made my tasks easier to accomplish.

As always, I want to offer a sincere THANK YOU to all those Members who have forwarded information concerning addresses, membership dues, deaths and other significant events. Without timely reports, it would be impossible to maintain contact with our comrades. Maintaining current addresses is probably the most challenging task that I have had and any assistance you provided was truly appreciated.

This issue of The Dragoon includes several summaries concerning Membership and finances. Financially, the Association is on a solid basis with no identifiable challenges on our agenda. We are comfortable to the point that in January 2017, the Chapters will be receiving a rebate of \$10 per member to support their activities.

Our Membership numbers have been gradually declining in recent years and at the 2016 Gathering in Saint-Jean a commitment was made to increase our recruiting efforts. I'm certain you will be hearing more about this initiative in the future.

As always, if you have questions concerning either membership or finances, don't hesitate to forward them to me by whatever means.

Lastly, as a gentle refresher, the Guild of the RCD can issue charitable income tax receipts for the donations it receives. Bursary and general donations to the Guild can be forwarded directly to the Regiment. Cheques must be made payable to The Guild of The RCD to qualify for a receipt.

Again, my heartfelt thanks go to all those who have supported me since 2005.

John Moyer
Secretary/Treasurer

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Life	- 208
Associate Life	- 35
Annual	- 195
Associate Annual	- 25
Honorary	- 16
	<hr/>
TOTAL	479

ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE

Executive Directors

President

Mr Denis Levesque
202 Ellesmeer St
Kingston Ont K7P 3E4
dlevesque7@bell.net

Vice President

Mr Michel Vezina
107 Rene Emard
Ille Perot, Que, J7V 8V5
vezina_1@sympatico.ca

Secretary/Treasurer

Mr JK Moyer
826 Bridle Path Cres
Kingston, Ont, K7P 1P7
jbmoyer71@gmail.com

Directors

Mr RC Barwise
140 Martinview Close NE
Calgary, Alta, T3J 2P2
rcbarwise@shaw.ca

Mr. Sterling Mercer
9 Roy St
Petawawa, ON K8H 3A5
spmer@sympatico.ca

Captain Kevin Lee
31 Cedar Creek Rd
Midhurst, ON L0L 1X1

Mr Robert Riendeau
70 Ochterloney St, Suite 204
Dartmouth, NS, B2Y 1C2

Mr Lance Wiebe
46 Estabrooks Ave
Lincoln, NB, E3B 9K3

Mr Geoff R. Hall
937 Sunbury Road
Inverary, ON K0H 1X0
duchyofohall@xplorenet.com

Chapter Chairmen

Atlantic Chapter
Mr Matt Robichaud
3A McTavish St
Oromocto, NB, E2V 3N7

South Central Ontario
Steve Mercer, CD
42 Hettersley Dr
Ajax ON L1T 1S1
cav_501@hotmail.com

Quebec Chapter
Mr Karl Kramell
332 Route 202
Hemmingford, Que, J0L 1H0
karlheinz009@sympatico.ca

National Capitol Region
Mr RF Carruthers
170 Paddy's Lane
Westport, Ont, K0G 1X0
rosscarr@kingston.net

Alberta Chapter
Mr Ron Bancroft
191-7707 Marthas Haven Parke NE
Calgary, AB, T3J 3Z7

Ottawa Valley Chapter
Mr Bruce Prendergast
286 Mink Lake Rd.
Eganville On K0J 1T0
bwprendergast@hotmail.com

Kingston Chapter
Mr AJ Slack
660 Barnsley Crescent
Kingston, Ontario, K7M 8X4

BC Chapter
Mr RFJ Berge
10007 Merritt Drive,
Chilliwack, BC V2P 7Z2
berge1@telus.net

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2015

as of 31 December 2015

Opening Bank Balance - 01 January 15	\$21,797.46
--------------------------------------	-------------

REVENUE

Dues Received (2015+)	\$4,120.00
Donations	\$0.00
GIC Interest Earned	\$1,263.18
Matured GIC	\$42,500.00

Total Revenue	\$47,883.18
---------------	-------------

EXPENSES

Mailing of The Dragoon/Springbok	\$1,115.46
Springbok14 Postage	\$783.08
Leliefontein Bursary (Frank Gabriel)	\$100.00
Seed Money (recoverable) for RV2016	\$500.00
Secretary/Treasurer (various mailings)	\$148.15
Returned Springboks	\$22.12
GIC Purchase	\$44,000.00
Total Expenses	\$46,668.81

Operating Surplus/Deficit	\$1,214.37
---------------------------	------------

Closing Bank Balance - 31 December 2015	\$23,011.83
---	-------------