



The Guards Star

Foot Guards Association, Box 1212, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5R3
Regimental Website: www.ggfg.ottawa.on.ca

JUNE 2009

EDITOR: ESTELLE LANE

President's Message

Marty Lane, CD

Here it is June already and the Regiment has stood down for the summer months. We have welcomed back all of our soldiers from their tour in Afghanistan. I have spoken to a number of them and have found their reports and experiences of the tour very interesting.

The LCC and I have tentatively set the weekend of September 11-13th aside for the Regimental weekend. This date is earlier than it has been in the past, but this was only weekend available, due to the Regiment's heavy training calendar. The final arrangements are not available at this time but will be sent out to all members as soon as they are complete.

Friday September 11th, 2009 is set aside for the Annual General Meeting of the Regimental Association at 1900 hours, followed by a meet and greet evening. The dinner will be on Saturday with the memorial Service to precede it. Just a reminder that in accordance with the Association By-Laws the AGM is when the election of officers takes place for the coming year. As per article 36.2 of the By-Laws a notice to members regarding changes to the By-Laws must be sent to the membership 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. This notice is found later in this edition of the Guards Star.

Since this time last year, the Regimental Statue project under the direction of Jim Milne had been completed with the exception of a few minor

details. Jim is at present dealing with the contractor to correct these problems.

It is time to start the planning committee for the Guards Ball to be held in February 2010. At the last Regimental Council Meeting in February, I requested from the LCC that a representative of each Mess be assigned to assist the Association Ball Committee. Once I know who the Mess reps are I will ask the various PMC's to inform their members who the reps are. If you have any suggestions regarding the Ball please pass them on to your mess rep so they can bring them to the planning committee for consideration.

At the last Association Executive meeting, the executive discussed a couple of ideas for the members' consideration. Nothing concrete was decided and some of these ideas will be on the agenda for discussed at the AGM. Remember this is your Association and if you have any suggestions please let the members of the executive know about them. It is suggested that these be submitted in writing giving us a paper trail. We will then discuss them at our Executive meeting and let you know the results of our discussions. If you do not know the members of the Association executive let the PMC of your mess know about your suggestions and they can pass them on to us.

To all members of the Regiment and Regimental family, have a safe, happy and healthy summer.

Message from the LCC

Lieutenant Colonel Rob Foster, CD, ADC

I just finished writing the article for the March edition of the Guards Star and already we are in June. Time is marching far too fast.

Sergeant Major Carleton and I had the opportunity to meet with all of the soldiers who came back from TF 3-08. They all did very well judging by the PERs that I have read. It was interesting to note on one of the PERs how one of our Corporals reacted under enemy fire and adopted the correct fire positions. Not something we are used to seeing on an evaluation but absolutely critical for the job in Afghanistan.

On 12 May 2009 the pace stick was successfully passed to Sergeant Major McKenzie and we have engaged in a number of issues already. Not the least of which is securing the Sergeant Major's promotion.

Sergeant Major McKenzie and I had the sad occasion to attend the wake of Major Harold Blackman (Retd). Harold was 97 and a shining example of all that is best in Guardsmen. Having joined in 1926 with the Canadian Grenadier Guards he was the RSM of 22 CAR (CGG) during operations in North West Europe and came to Ottawa and joined the GGFG in 1946. He was RSM of the GGFG from 1952 to 1957 at which time he commissioned. As a Major he was instrumental in setting up the GGFG Cadet Corps in 1965 and became their first Commanding Officer. Major Blackman was a gentleman, second to none.

One company has wrapped up another successful training year thanks to the command team of Capt Gagnon, Capt Brulotte and CSgt Porter. I believe that the soldiers enjoyed the increased emphasis on marksmanship and understanding the essentials of patrolling. The training was interesting and focused on core infantry skills.

Capt Gagnon recently returned from Australia where he was part of the Canadian Team at the Australian Army Shooting Matches. Capt

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Gagnon picked up two medals, a gold (pistol) and a silver (team rifle shooting). Well Done!

The full-time staff along with some incremental staff went to Meaford for the later part of April and all of May to run the Basic Infantry Qualification course. This enabled 19 Guardsmen to get training on top of another 7 from other Brigade units. My thanks to Capt Hladik, CSgt Doucette, Sgt Marleau, MCpl Price, MCpl Perry and MCpl Popadick for a job well done!

The change of Brigade Commander took place on 30 May 2009. Colonel Waite assumed command of 33 CBG. Col Waite served in the GGHG for a number of years before working as Directing Staff at the Army Staff College in Kingston. The parade and mess dinner was coordinated in large part by the GGFG. My thanks to Capt MacDonald, Capt Paquette, Capt Lypps, CSgt Woods, Lt Fysh, Sgt Diceseare, Cpl Grella, Pte Myers, and Gdsm Lewis for outstanding support during the parade. For the Mess Dinner thanks to Capt Bell and Lt Kaine for pulling it off. The Comd LFCA said it best when he commented on the tremendous talent of the Band of the Governor General's Foot Guards and the great work that they do at various functions. The Band played superbly on parade and at the Mess Dinner.

The LFCA Platoon Skills Competition was cancelled at the eleventh hour as a result of the inability of a number of Reserve Brigades to generate a full team. The time of year just isn't conducive to that type of team event. My thanks for the hard work of Lt Nick Fysh for trying to keep the team together.

Major Cheff and I attended Exercise Bayonet which is a professional development weekend sponsored by the Director of Infantry to discuss issues affecting the infantry corps. It is closely tied to the Canadian Infantry Association. It was an excellent event and the knowledge passed on was very relevant to the situation today in Afghanistan. The GGFG will be hosting the event

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next May in Ottawa and I encourage all members to attend if possible.

In closing, all the best to the Regiment and the Regimental Family as we enter into the Summer. For those of you on taskings or on course – Remember, you wear a cap star and represent the Regiment. Never falter, lead by example and do us proud!

Message from the RSM

MWO A.W.G. McKenzie, CD

I have been reading this column for 28 years and have now been given the honour, as the Sergeant Major, of writing it. As was mentioned by the Lieutenant Colonel Commanding at the Change of Sergeant Major parade, I have some large boots to fill. CWO Kevin Carleton did an outstanding job over his three year term and set a fine example for all within the Regiment. His value not only to the Regiment but also the Brigade was recognized when the Brigade Commander presented him with a 33 Brigade Coin for his work as the acting Brigade Sergeant Major over the past year. I wish him well as he continues with his Class B position at NDHQ as well as take on the additional task of Sergeant Major for the Territorial Defence Battalion.

It was with great sadness that my first official event as Sergeant Major was accompanying the LCC to pay respects to the family of Major (R) Harold Blackman upon his passing. Harold, as well as being a former Sergeant Major of the Regiment, was the founder of the GGFG Cadet Corps and a regular fixture at all Regimental functions. He will be greatly missed.

On May 30 I attended the graduation parade in Meaford of 18 Gdsm from their DP1 Infantry Course. The instructional staff for the course was all Foot Guards and feedback both from the staff and candidates was that the course went very well. The

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majority of the graduates will now join their comrades on Ceremonial Guard for another season of public duties.

Our junior leadership is also showing great promise with five Master Corporals attending their Infantry Platoon Support Weapons Course on their way to achieving their required courses for promotion to Sergeant. The Regiment also has ten Corporals scheduled to complete their Primary Leadership Qualification Course which is a prerequisite for their promotion to Master Corporal.

The Regiment, after the upcoming busy summer, is set to enter the next training year on a very solid footing.

NOTES FROM THE BAND

LCol Fran Chilton-Mackay, OMM, CD

The spring has been a busy season for the band, with focus on two main events. The first was to record music for the soon to be released GGFG Band CD, “Encore! Music from Canada’s Capital. It was recorded at the Central Band Room in late March. Editing is almost complete and pressing should begin later in June. The CD will feature the band and all of our smaller ensembles.

Howard Cable, Canadian composer extraordinaire, was commissioned to compose the opening track which is a fanfare based on the regimental slow march, Figaro. Also included will be the first military band recording of “The Red Feathers”, which was composed by the Coldstream Guards Director of Music, J. MacKenzie Rogan in 1904. It was written and dedicated as “The Regimental March of H.E. the GGFG of Canada”, but was never formally adopted as the regiment’s official quick march. The band also recorded “GGFG Two Step” composed in 1906 by A.A. Clappe, a former Bandmaster of the GGFG. This march was composed for the GGFG 1906 visit to New York City and West Point. No doubt the CD

will be available for distribution during the Association Weekend in September and will become a time marker demonstrating the excellent calibre of music that the Regimental Band portrays.

The other main effort was to participate once again at The Army Ball, held this year at The Hilton Lac-Leamy. As the date of the Ball also occurred on ANZAC Day, the Day of Remembrance for Australia and New Zealand, the band started their long day performing the Service of Remembrance at the War Museum. Then it was off to the Hilton for rehearsals and the Army Ball that same night. We were very fortunate to have been loaned Sgt David Fiu, from the New Zealand Army Band, who worked with us for two weeks prior to the Ball and was a featured vocalist and trombonist at both events.

During the tribute to Australia and New Zealand at the Ball, members of the band joined forces with Sgt Fiu and members from the New Zealand High Commission to present "The Haka". The New Zealand Army is an official Maori tribe, and as such routinely performs this ritual at military ceremonies and passing out parades. Our bandsmen got right into the act, followed by LGen Leslie, the Commander of the Army, taking the Maori salute following the ceremony. All in all, the Ball was a tremendous success this year with 830 people in attendance.

The band also performed for the 33 CBG Change of Command Parade and Dinner. During the Area Commander's address, BGen Collin personally remarked about the continued excellence of the band. The Fanfare Team also performed at the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards, and Ottawa-Carleton District School Board All Star Band Concert. The Saxophone Quartet provided musical support to several Mess Dinners over the past two months.

Eight members of the band will receive training at the Music School in Borden over the summer, and nine members have been tasked to the

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Band of the Ceremonial Guard. The Band has been asked for the second year in a row to support the RCMP Musical Ride Sunset Ceremonies here in Ottawa from June 26 – 30 as the host band. This high profile event attracts thousands of spectators each night. Bring your lawn chair and hope to see you there!

Announcements

Sgt Marc Chassé and Valérie Cannavino welcomed Zakary Cannavino-Chassé into the world on January 9, 2009. He was born at 10:30 AM at the Monfort Hospital and weighed 5 lbs 10 oz.

Sgt Joachim Roos and Tricia Roos also welcomed a son, Tavin, on April 23, 2009 weighing 8 lbs and 7 oz.

Congratulations to both families!

From the Guards Cadet Desk

Major Silver Buckler, CD

A very successful 2008/2009 training year has come to an end for the Regiment's Cadet Company, culminating on June 10th with our Annual Cadet review (ACR). As usual, the cadets performed admirably, showing the Reviewing Officer, Major-General Tabbernor, the abilities, skills and knowledge they worked so hard to develop over the past year. The ACR was also attended by many other honoured guests, including both Regular and Reserve Force members, CIC officers, parents, family and friends.

In addition to our ACR, we have had several other events in the past year, including Change-of-Command Parades for both the Cadet RSM (CWO Asboth to CWO Hargrave) and the Corps CO (Captain Horvath to Major Buckler), our Annual Unit Christmas Dinner at Connaught Range and

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Primary Training Centre in December, as well as our Graduation Parade on June 3, 2009.

The Graduation Parade on June 3rd allowed the cadets to be recognized for their development over the past year. They have exemplified themselves, showing excellence in all aspects of the RCAC programme including the areas of Leadership, Citizenship, Physical fitness, and the promotion of knowledge of the Canadian Forces. The Grad Parade included the awarding of star level qualifications for all levels, including Green, Red, Silver, Gold, NSCE and Master Cadet. Bravo to the cadets, and the work they have put in over the past year!

Any year with two CoC parades is challenging, and this year was no exception. In addition to the high standard demanded by the new RSM, there has been a re-focus on the development of the abilities and duties of the senior cadets of the unit, which they have embraced and are emulating as best as possible. Although initially adapting to the changes was somewhat disorienting, it is now hoped with more guidance and practice, the senior cadets will be able to run the cadet corps without the benefit of officers!

Of particular note this year are the achievements of the special teams and training. The National Star Certification Examination saw 10 candidates attempt Phase I and Phase II, with a 100% success rate. This means we have a large number of new instructors able to impart their knowledge and experiences to the more junior cadets. Excellent show! The Biathlon and Marksmanship teams were particularly successful this year, with both teams advancing to Provincial competitions. This was due to the hard work and dedication of the cadets and staff in both practice and competition. The competitions were undertaken in true Guards' style, second to none.

It has been an excellent year, with the regimental family growing closer. Instrumental to this was the help of Lieut Nick Fysh, who dedicated

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his time and energy to helping the unit's CIC officers develop the GGFG cadets. We look forward to even closer links and mutual support in the future, with the members of the Guards imparting their knowledge and experience to the cadets, and the cadets showing how their drive and eagerness to learn can benefit anyone they work with.

Cadets will soon scatter to the winds for summer, to reassemble in September. This year summer training allocation was very successful, with many positions inside and even outside Canada. Cadets will be attending courses in Connaught, Blackdown (Borden), Banff and Petawawa. Several elite courses will be attended by our cadets, including spots in Banff Leadership and Challenge (aka Rocky Mountain), National Rifle Team (aka Bisley) and the CF level Basic Parachutist Course (aka Para). In addition, there are many senior cadets who have been accepted as Staff at the various summer training establishments around the country. We wish the cadets the best of luck this summer, and we know they will do us proud in their representation of the cadets unit and Guards family during their summer endeavours.

All of the hard work and dedication by the cadets has been supported by various people and organizations. We would like to thank the Kiwanis Club of Canada, Branch 595 Strathcona Royal Canadian Legion, the Army Cadet League of Canada, Support Committee, Officers, and Volunteers. Lastly, we would like to extend our gratitude for the help, supplies and role models offered by the Governor General's Foot Guards. The long history and professionalism of the Regiment has allowed the cadets to set themselves apart from their peers in their continued pursuit of excellence.

Memorials and Tributes

Estelle Lane

Cody, Sharon

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At the Dr Everett Chalmers Hospital on March 31, 2009 at the age of 65. Beloved wife of Mac Atkinson, a former serving Officer of the Regiment and Life Member of the Foot Guards Association.

Luxton, Anne D.

Peacefully at the Ottawa General Hospital on Tuesday, March 31st, 2009, at the age of 93. Loving wife of the late Ted Luxton, a former serving Officer with the Regiment, past President and Life Member of the Foot Guards Association. Mother of David Luxton who was a GGFG Cadet as well as a serving Officer with the Regiment.

Church, Jean Marjorie

Passed away peacefully with dignity at home on Saturday April 25, 2009 with her beloved husband, children and grandchildren by her side. Devoted wife and best friend of 58 years to Orville Church. Loving mother of the late Ed Church, a former Guardsman and mother-in-law of Linda Church, a Member of the Foot Guards Association.

Fleming, James "Jim" Bryce C41254

Peacefully on Thursday, April 30, 2009 at the Ottawa Heart Institute in his 99th year. In June 1940 Jim transferred to 21CAR (GGFG) from the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish and was appointed CSM, and in November 1940 was appointed RSM. He, along with Capt Lanceley and George Joiner, was instrumental in starting the Regimental Museum. Jim was a Life Member of the Foot Guards Association.

Blackman Harold V. Major (Retd)

Peacefully, in hospital Sunday May 17, 2009 at the age of 97. Predeceased by his loving wife of 67 years Dorothy Chevrier. Harold served with the Canadian Grenadier Guards and was the RSM of 22 CAR (CGG) during operations in North West Europe. He came to Canada and joined the GGFG in 1946 and was RSM of the GGFG from 1952 to 1957. He then commissioned, and as a Major he was instrumental in setting up the GGFG Cadet Corps in 1965 and became their first Commanding

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Officer. Harold was a Life Member of the Foot Guards Association.

Harold was a Guardsman through and through and his funeral was a real tribute to the gentleman he was. Two sentries in scarlet, one GGFG and one CGG (from Ceremonial Guard) stood guard at the church entrance before and after the service. His casket was greeted by an honour guard comprised of members of the Foot Guard and Grenadier Guard Associations and Cpl. John Altoft. At the National Military Cemetery, a Guard of Honour from NDHQ awaited the arrival of the cortege. Last post was sounded by Cpl Ann Gregory of the GGFG Regimental Band. The family was most appreciative of the tribute accorded their father and grandfather.

Sarazin, Maurice J. C58190

Retired City of Ottawa Firefighter. At the Monfort Hospital on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at age 84 years. Moe served with 21 CAR (GGFG) and was a Life Member of the Foot Guards Association.

*May their souls and the souls of all
the departed, rest in peace*

NOTICE

Please do not forget to notify us of your new address if you are planning to move.

By telephone: 613-233-6979

By email: elane22@rogers.com

**DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2009
GUARDS STAR IS AUGUST 26, 2009**

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City _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

Dates of Service from _____ to _____

Decorations _____

Date of Birth _____

Please find enclosed \$ _____ for Annual/Life Membership in the Foot Guards Association.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Applications and dues to be returned to:

The Foot Guards Association
PO Box 1212, Stn B
Ottawa, ON, K1P5R3
Attention: Membership Chairman

Membership

Membership Application

Membership Fees

Annual \$25.00

Life \$100.00

Life membership may be granted to a member of the Foot Guards of a lump sum of money once the member has reached the age of sixty-five (65).

Please return this section to the Association

Name _____

Address _____

Proposed By-Law Amendments

Major J.A. Summerfield, CD

PROPOSED AMMENDMENTS TO THE GGFG REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

A review of the By-Laws approved at the 2008 AGM by the Association Executive has found some corrections and amendments are required. In accordance with the amending provisions in the By-Laws (Article 36), the following proposed amendments are put forward to the membership for their consideration:

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Article 13 Order of business

1. It was felt that using the word “shall” in the first sentence did not allow sufficient leeway for the agenda or order of business for any General Meeting so that it could be modified to match the requirements at the time. It is proposed that the word “shall be replaced by “should” to make it more generic.

2. For consistency throughout the By-Laws, it is proposed to amend current numbering of the paragraph and subparagraphs of the Article to match the remainder of the document (i.e. “13.1” vice “1.1”, “13.1.1” vice 1.1.1”, etc)

It is proposed that the following be added to the Agenda, items which are specific to the Annual General meeting as follows:

- 13.1.16 Auditors Annual Report; and
- 13.1.17 Election of Officers

It is proposed that Articles “13.16, 13.17, 13.18 “ be re-numbered to read “13.18, 13.19 and 13.20”

Article 20 Duties of the Chief Financial Officer

1. The financial/fiscal year of the association has been moved from December 31 to June 30 to allow the financial records to be closed and the annual audit done in time for the fall AGM. It is proposed that the

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last sentence in paragraph 20.3 be amended to delete ”December” and insert “June 30.

Article 22 Auditors

2. In order to correct the naming error of the Annual General Meeting and allow flexibility in choosing the date for the AGM, it is proposed that paragraph 22.1 which calls for the appointment of auditors “at the Annual Meeting “ in October” be amended to read “at the Annual General Meeting”.

Article 24 Social Activities and Membership Committee

1. As per above, the stipulation in paragraph 24.3 that the annual Regimental Weekend is to be in October is too restrictive and does not allow for possible conflicts .It is proposed that “ in October” be amended to read “ in the fall” to allow flexibility in planning.

These proposed amendments will be discussed at the AGM and be put forward for adoption.