

The Guards Star

GGFG Regimental Association, Box 1212, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5R3
Regimental Website: www.footguards.ca

MARCH 2011

EDITOR: ESTELLE LANE



Message from the President

MWO Marty Lane, CD (Retd)

Spring is fast approaching although you would never know it with the dump of snow we had February 28th. It's the time of year when the serving members are thinking about summer employment and we retired guys are thinking about golf and other summer activities.

As far as the Regimental Association is going we were able to fill the vacant positions on the Executive at the annual General meeting held on Friday evening of the regimental weekend. The executive is at the present time putting together a list of items that are going to be discussed in detail at the next Board of Directors meeting to be held shortly. This meeting is chaired by the HLCol and is attended by representatives of all Messes and the Cadet Corps.

Once this meeting is held and decisions are made as to what we are looking at as new projects, we will be asking for some assistance in some of the different projects that we have decided on. i.e. planning for 150th Anniversary in 2022, Anniversary projects and functions are the two main ones at this time. I know 2022 seems like a long way off, but when money has to be raised it is not too soon to start working towards this. With that in mind I would like to remind everyone that a 150th Anniversary fund has been established with several donations already made. Income tax receipts will be issued for all donations to this fund and to the Association in general. If you are making a donation please specify where you want it to go general account or 150th Anniversary).

The Executive has started preliminary planning for the 2012 Regimental Ball. We will be looking at different venues for this event with the cost being a significant decider. We have already been approached by management at the new conference centre and will be looking into this site when it opens in April of this year. There will be a questionnaire given to all troops regarding the Ball for their input towards the planning.

Message from the LCol Comd

LCol Derek Cheff, CD, AdeC

Fellow Guardsmen,

As spring approaches, the command team has received the direction it needs to start grinding out next year's operations and training plan. This is the earliest start to the process that I have seen, and I believe it will lead to a well-coordinated and interesting training year for 2011-12. The theme for next year remains offensive operations, much of which will be done collectively, with other units. In light of this process, all serving and retired members, regardless of rank are welcome to provide comments and recommendations through their applicable chain on training issues, key events timings, and any other relevant issues that might otherwise not be considered during the operations planning process. For non-serving members, these comments can be directed to the Adjutant.

The upshot of a continued collective training focus will be a greater focus on battalion operational command post management, which will impact senior NCOs and Officers. The Regiment is also preparing for a busy summer in support of Ceremonial Guard and to the Battle School in Meaford. I reiterate my earlier direction to serving members; all unit personnel must be involved in some form of collective or individual training or summer tasking, either through participation in Wolf Pack Endeavour in March, or during the summer.

In terms of recruiting for the next year, most units in the brigade have been given about the same number of positions – that is to say *not enough*. The Regiment has 18 slots, which will mean minor unit contraction. On the plus side, the Regiment's rate of attrition is declining a bit, and our Task Force 1-10 troops are back in action following a long leave period. Due to these circumstances, it remains critically important that all serving members are on the ground for exercise weekends. Without critical mass, the training value of the weekends is dramatically reduced, and critical leadership opportunities at all levels are lost forever.

For the *Regimental Archive of Surreal Events*, I offer the formal introduction of Captain Kevin Carleton to the Officers' Mess on the 22nd of February. Aside from his initial reluctance to leave his riding crop and ascot in the Ante Room, thus far he has behaved admirably. Congratulations Kevin! You are a welcome addition to the Officers' Mess.

As we continue to sprint to the end of the training year, I thank all of you for your efforts and commitment to the Regiment. I am continually amazed at the level of professionalism and enthusiasm demonstrated, and the uniformly outstanding reports I receive back from whoever comes into contact with our members. Keep sprinting.

Up the Guards!

Message from the RSM

CWO A McKenzie, CD

The operational tempo is currently very high with unit and brigade exercises, battle school weekends, ceremonial taskings and the occasional social event when we can fit it in. The Regiment also continues to be the "go to" unit within the Brigade which has put a strain on the unit, especially our support company, but we continue to carry out our duties in true Guards fashion.

The Regiment now has all its TF 1-10 personnel parading back at the unit after a well deserved leave period. Despite a draw down of Canadian Forces in Afghanistan in summer 2011 we continue to support overseas operations. We continue to monitor Lt McCallum, MCpl Popadick, Cpl Henry and Cpl Cross as they carry on with their operational tour in Afghanistan. Soon, Capt Hladik will be off on his pre-deployment training and then off to Sudan for six months starting in June.

On the evening of Tuesday, February 22nd, we also had some movement within the Sgt's Mess when I escorted CWO Carleton down to the Officer's Mess where he took up his position as the newest Captain within the Regiment. We wish him well as he enters the ~~Dark Side~~ next phase of his military career.

Finally this years Cut Knife Hill Dinner is being held on Saturday, April 30, 2011 and I encourage all former mess members to come out and honour our Sharpshooters and Regimental history.

Musical Notes from the Band

LCol Fran Chilton-Mackay, OMM, MSM, CD

The Band focused their efforts in January preparing for a joint concert with their Regular Force counterparts, The Central Band of the Canadian Forces. The concert was held on Sunday February 6th at the Canada Aviation Museum to a packed house. This was a hugely successful event. The massed band, seventy musicians strong, performed many demanding pieces from the classic military and wind ensemble musical literature. It had been some time since the two full bands had performed together and judging by the reaction from the audience it will hopefully become a yearly event.

The band now turns its attention, amongst other engagements, to preparing a marching routine for The Army Ball being held on Saturday April 16th at the Hilton Lac Leamy. It promises to be a unique and entertaining show yet again!

The band welcomed two additional 'junior' musicians into the group last fall. Cpl Mitch Cousineau and wife, Ginette, welcomed Xavier, a brother for daughter Zoé into the world. Cpl Dan Beaulac and wife, Vanessa, became the proud first time parents to daughter Agnes. Congratulations to both families.

We say goodbye to MCpl Natalie Meggison who has just recently retired from the Canadian Forces after many years of dedicated service to the CF and the band. Natalie has been our stalwart band librarian since joining the band in 2006. She will put her new found free time to good use as she further pursues her civilian library science career, including teaching at the post secondary level. We wish her well and hope to get her back to the band in the near future to properly say goodbye.

Number One Company

Major Chris Lynam, CD

In contrast to last winter when the Regiment's activities were scaled back due to budget restrictions, Number One Company has been very active over the past few months. In early December, members participated in Exercise Digital Guard which included use of computer training aids such as the small arms trainer at the Simulation Centre in Petawawa. The exercise also involved the junior officers conducting a Tactical Exercise Without Troops (TEWT) where they were required to complete a combat estimate for a combat team attack against an urban objective. The exercise proved very beneficial to hone individual marksmanship skills, communication between fire team and group members as well as planning and presentation skills.



Following the holiday stand down period, the Company began preparations for Exercise Guard Blizzard, the annual winter warfare refresher training weekend that took place in Petawawa from January 21-23. Training included constructing snow defences (and later testing their effectiveness with live rounds), snow shoeing, military skiing and recce patrols. With lows of minus 27 (-38 with wind-chill), participants put their winter warfare skills to good work and successfully proved they can operate in harsh conditions.

In February, 10 members of the Company had the opportunity to participate in an adventure training event. The training involved an ice climbing expedition near Huntsville, Ontario, about four hours west of Ottawa. The members received instruction on basic ice climbing, anchors and belaying, rappelling, ascending and high angle rescue. Despite cold temperatures and windy conditions, participants challenged themselves mentally and physically to learn the new skills and became very proficient by the end of the event.



The tempo for the company is not expected to slow down anytime soon. Selected members will be attending the week-long Brigade exercise, Wolf Pack Endeavour in mid March and the Company will conduct Guard Strike Two, a live fire exercise in Petawawa from March 25-27.

W.J. Keating Club

MWO Dave Snyder, CD

The Sergeants' Mess has started the new year with a new committee. The latest members who volunteered (or were voluntold) for positions are MWO Snyder as PMC, VPMC is CSgt Birkinshaw, Secretary is Sgt Van Veen, Treasurer is Sgt Bott, and Mess Functions Committee head is Sgt Kowlessar. They are well into planning upcoming social events and handling their new portfolios.

The latest mess event was the Ladies' Dining In on Friday, February 11th, held at the Drill Hall. Sgt Kowlessar did a great job ensuring the significant others were suitably impressed with the meal, surroundings, and dazzling conversation, although he's still under the limitations of a harsh

verbal warning issued by his wife for not warning her she had a toast to give at the dinner!

The next event is Master Corporals' Night scheduled for March 4th. It will be a jacket and tie event involving the unit's master corporals to recognize their significant contribution to the unit and to expose them to what a wonderful future they could have in the sergeants' mess. A guest speaker will be giving an address on principles and techniques of leadership. Following that is the annual Cut Knife Hill Dinner scheduled on Saturday, April 30th. All mess members of all categories, past or present, are invited to attend.

The next mess meeting is scheduled for Tuesday evening, March 8th.

Sgt Kowlessar was awarded the football-bat in a moving ceremony in February, receiving it from its previous owner, a not-so-reluctant Sgt Thomlinson. This infamous award was presented to highlight his perseverance and attention to duty in the face of various hardships involving navigation and communication breakdowns experienced during a winter fighting patrol on the coldest weekend of the year. Well deserved!

Sadly, CSgt Guerrin's mother passed away recently. The mess members pass along their condolences. Sgt Benoit and her husband were blessed with a new boy late last year named Tyler. Best wishes to that expanding family.

Vimy Anniversary Tour

Capt R.J. Duncan, CD

I am writing to advise you of the above mentioned tour that I am arranging. I am working with the CAA and Trafalgar Tours who have a 10 day package for us. We will depart Ottawa for Paris on Tues 03 April 2012. The first day is yours to relax, but our second day in Paris will include a tour of some of the sights. On day 3 we depart for Caen and Juno Beach. After spending the night in Caen, on day 4 we make our way to Dieppe. On day 5 we depart for Arras, where we will spend 2 nights. We will spend much of Monday April 9th, the 95th Anniversary of one of Canada's most famous

battles, on and around Vimy Ridge. On day 10 we depart for Ypres, Belgium visiting battlefields and cemeteries as we go. Day 11 will find us departing for London making a stop or two along the way. Our last three nights will be in London where we will spend two days touring.

Cost for the land portion of the trip is \$2750.00, hotels, many meals, bus transportation, and guides included. It is too early to estimate cost for round trip air fare at this time, however, our agent does believe that it should be less than \$1300.00, taxes, fees, transfers included.

The CAA has set a milestone of 25 people signed up, ie, paid a deposit, by April to prove interest in this endeavour. So far 14 have paid and six more have expressed serious interest, however, if you are interested, I would encourage you to contact me as soon as possible at vimyridge2012@gmail.com and I will provide more information and contact information for our travel agent as well.

Thanks for your interest. I look forward to having you join us on this tour

Memorials and Tributes

Estelle Lane

Lowson, Bonner – C58158

In Perth, Ontario on March 16, 2008. Bonner served overseas with 21 CAR(GGFG) and was a Life Member of the GGFG Regimental Association.

Lee, Alexander F. – B50118

In Kirkland Lake, Ontario on Tuesday October 5, 2010 at the age of 92. He served with 21 CAR(GGFG).

(From RCL Magazine)

Kenwell, Murray MID – B135481

In Chelmsford, Ontario on Friday November 12, 2010 at the age of 89. He served with 21 CAR(GGFG).

(From RCL Magazine)

Whitty, Michael

On Thursday December 2, 2010 at the age of 78. Michael was the brother of Lorne Whitty, a Life Member of the GGFG Regimental Association

Pelisek, Mary

In hospital on Saturday December 4, 2010, beloved wife of Joe Pelisek. Mary was a CWAC with the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps, and it was through this association that she met Joe. She was a long-time member of the Royal Canadian Legion and the head coach for the Montgomery Curling Club.

Bertrand, Paul Armand – C58200

In hospital in Arnprior, Ontario on Saturday December 18, 2010 at the age of 92. Paul enlisted with the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regiment before the war and transfer to the GGFG in 1940, serving with 21 CAR(GGFG). He was a Life Member of the GGFG Regimental Association.

Prest, Clara

On Tuesday December 21, 2010 at the Peter D. Clarke Centre in Ottawa. Beloved war bride of the

late Lorne Prest who served overseas with 21 CAR (GGFG)

Clunie, Prudence Doris Emily

Suddenly on Monday January 24, 2011 at North York General Hospital in her 97th year. Dear mother of The Reverend Canon David Clunie of St Bartholomew's Church. Reverend Clunie is also our Regimental Padre

Kelley, James

On January 21, 2011 in his 89th year. Veteran of WWII and the Korean Conflict. James was a Life Member of the GGFG Regimental Association.

Bradley, Roger

At the Champlain Hospital in Verdun, Quebec on Thursday February 3, 2011 at the age of 93. Roger was a Life Member of the GGFG Regimental Association.

Joiner, Kathleen (Kitty)

Peacefully at the Hospice of May Court on Monday February 14, 2011 in her 90th year. Beloved wife and valentine sweetheart of the late George Joiner. Former RSM of the GGFG.

Christie, Pamela

Peacefully on Monday February 28, 2011 at the age of 98. Beloved wife of the late Archdeacon Doug Christie, long time Padre of the Regiment and the GGFG Association.

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

NEXT ISSUE....

**Submissions for the next edition of the
GUARDS STAR are due June 21, 2011**

Membership

Membership Application and Renewal

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 _____
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:

GGFG Regimental Association
PO Box 1212, Stn B Ottawa, ON,
K1P 5R3
Attention: Membership Chairman

REGIMENTAL KIT SHOP PRICE LIST

March 2011

Badge, collar, Sr. NCO, each	\$ 14.00
Badge, rank, Major, St. Edward's Crown pr	\$ 32.00
Badge, rank, small, CWO	\$ 26.00
Ball caps, crested	\$ 15.00
Belt, black, w/crested buckle	\$ 18.00
Belt, riggers, khaki	\$ 10.00
Blazer crest, silver wire	\$ 25.00
Block note pad with Regimental Crest	\$ 5.00
Book, Regimental History (hard cover)	\$ 50.00
(soft cover)	\$ 25.00
Boot bands, pair	\$ 1.25
Buckle, belt, crested	\$ 14.00
Bungee cord kit	\$ 12.00
C.D., Regimental Band(On Duty with the Guards)	\$ 15.00
C.D. Canada's Heritage of Military Marches	\$ 18.00
(performed by the Band of the GGFG)	
Coasters, Mylar	\$ 5.00
Coffee Mug, plastic w/lid, khaki	\$ 8.00
Collage and war map	\$ 2.00
Cord, gold, (per inch)	\$ 2.00
Cord, white, (length)	\$ 3.00
Cover, field message pad, khaki	\$ 14.00
Cufflinks, silver w/star	\$ 15.00
Decals	\$ 1.50
Earrings, silver w/star	\$ 10.00
Flag, Regimental	\$ 60.00
Garter Star pair	\$ 32.00
Golf shirts, crested	\$ 30.00
Helmet Liners, khaki	\$ 13.00
Key chain, plastic, Regimental Colours	\$ 4.00
Lapel pins (Guards Star)	\$ 8.00
Plaque, Regimental Crest, (pewter) large	\$ 90.00
**Plaque, Regimental Crest, pewter small	\$ 45.00
Regimental Coin	\$ 8.00
Shoulder titles, cloth, pair	\$ 2.00
Tie pins, silver w/star	\$ 8.00
Tie, blue w/Regimental star, (polyester)	\$ 12.00
Tie, Brigade of Guards, (silk)	\$ 35.00
Toy Soldier, 125 th Anniversary	\$ 25.00
Track suits, crested	\$ 50.00
Tuques, fleece	\$ 13.00
T-shirt, V-neck, khaki, w/star	\$ 12.00
T-shirt, crew neck, navy, crested,	\$ 18.00

NOTE:

1. Prices subject to change without notice
2. Prices do not include the cost of shipping & handling.
3. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.
4. All orders must be prepaid by cheque or money order.

Telephone: 613-233-6979
Email: elane22@rogers.com

** denotes new item

Changes in distribution as of the March 2011 Guards Star

In order to reduce the cost of printing and distributing the Guards Star the Association will start email distribution to some members with this month's issue. To print, package and mail a copy costs between \$5 -\$7, depending on the number of pages. So every copy we don't have to print and mail means the \$5 -\$7 stays in the Association's pocket.

The email notification for the Guards Star will contain a link to the GGFG website (<http://footguards.ca>) where the .pdf file for the current and previous issues can be selected and downloaded.

Serving members of the Association will automatically receive an email notification. Non serving members for whom we have email addresses will also receive email notification.

If you received a hard copy of the Guards Star and would like to help keep our costs down, please contact Estelle Lane at elane22@rogers.com and your name will be added for email distribution