

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

MARCH 2012 EDITOR: ESTELLE LANE

Message from the President

MWO (Ret) Marty Lane, CD

Well what we thought was going to be a mild winter has turned out to be a late bloomer with all the snow that we did not get earlier this winter coming now and extending the snow accumulation. Oddly enough as I write this we are getting ready for another major snow storm similar to the one we had last February 28th.

As for the Association we have just got over a very successful concert held on February 5th at the Nepean Centrepointe theatre commemorating the Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. A nice crowd was in attendance and the participating bands were at their best.

I would like to thank Jim Milne for doing all the leg work in the planning of the concert, Michael Boughton for his assistance looking after the VIP's at the theatre and Sgt Kerry Godfrey from our band for the layout of the concert poster and programme. I would also like to thank LCol Chilton-Mackay and Major Dave Shaw, the directors of our Regimental Band and the Central Band of The Canadian Forces, for their part in making the concert the success that it was, as well as the musicians of both bands. Also, Pipe Major Al Clarke for his part in the coordination of the pipes and drums from the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, Air Command Pipes and Drums and the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

On the heels of the concert came the Regimental Ball at the Chateau Laurier. Once again a full house in attendance made for a great evening which was enjoyed by members of the Regiment, former members and members of our sister Regiment from Montreal as well as military

personnel from other arms of the military, civic dignitaries and friends of the Regiment. I would like to thank the Association executive as well as the members of the messes that made up the Ball Committee for their work in hounding their members into buying tickets. We sat down 282 members, guests and friends of the Regiment at the Ball.

The Regimental Association is still working on ideas for projects pertaining to the 150th Anniversary which comes up in 2022. As I have said before that is only 10 years away and it will be upon us before we know it. If you have any ideas as to anniversary projects that we can get involved in please submit them to the Association executive for consideration.

Once again we are still looking for new people to fill the vacant executive position on the Association Committee. Remember this is your Association, so if you are interested in filling one of the vacant positions let us know and the Executive can let you know exactly what is involved. As the President I would really like to see us get back to holding regular meetings of the Association on a monthly or semi-monthly basis. If this is to become reality we must have the interest of all of the serving members of the Regiment as you are also members of the Regimental Association by virtue of your mess paying your annual membership.

Spring will soon be upon us which means that members of the Regiment will be off to Ceremonial Guard, courses and training exercises. Let me wish all members of the Regiment no matter what there choice of summer employment a good summer.

UP THE GUARDS!!!!!

Message from the LCol Comd

LCol Derek Cheff, CD, AdeC

Fellow Guardsman,

Since last August, I have unconsciously considered February as a culminating point of the training year for the Regiment; but also for the Regimental Family at large. The regimental command and headquarters team has guided the entire brigade through a progressive force generation and training package that produced Exercise Wolf Pack Endeavour. And to put us all in the right frame of mind, just two day's before our advance party stepped off, we held the Guards' Ball. The scale of the Regiment's success on both counts is clear. There were about 30 more people than in 2010, with 282 in attendance. It was a great evening, and few were in a rush to leave. Thanks to the many planners who made it happen, and all of you who attended that evening.

From my perspective, and from what most have already heard, Wolf Pack Endeavour was a major success. The Regiment led a Territorial Battalion Group of 580 personnel that represented every unit and occupational skill resident in the brigade unit, which also included a headquarters of 70 people. The initial training by the companies and other elements at the varied urban training sites allowed personnel to hone their practical skills in preparation for the bloody battle group attack for the Arisian Monastery in the Village of Ortez later in By the end of the attack, this vast the week. compound was ablaze with torched cars, smoke pots and burning plastic mannequins. The air was thickened with the fresh scents of smouldering rubber, and fresh cordite. The Miles Gear proved that the casualty rate was quite high. My key takeway from the assault remains the ongoing need for us all to communicate more effectively: from a leadership, radio and a technical perspective. On the soldier-skills side, during stand training, I spoke at some length with a very impressed warrant officer who was a member of the Urban Assault Course Cadre in Gagetown. He described the urban ops skills demonstrated by Foot Guard soldiers specifically as "excellent". For the junior leaders on

down to the Guardsmen, I would take this as a very personal compliment.

In terms of other news, I was informed last week that Captain Kevin Carleton will transfer to the Regular Force this month. While there will be more to follow-on this point, please pass congratulations and best-wishes to Captain Carleton when you see him. Kevin, you have made an extensive contribution to the Regiment over many years, and I know you presence will be felt wherever you find yourself in the Regular Force. I would also like to welcome Sergeant James Mercer as our new Chief Clerk. Sergeant Mercer, welcome to the Regiment and I hope you have a great posting here.

Looking forward, while much of the heavy exercise planning is now behind us, we need to refocus on summer tasks and commitments. including Ceremonial Guard, Regional Summer Training, and CFSAC. My expectation remains that everyone in the Regiment will participate in some form of individual and collective training this summer, so I encourage all serving members to consider this right now. This spring and summer, there will be many unusual and interesting training opportunities on the horizon; including California, Croatia, United Kingdom, the Arctic, Norway, and of course, Gagetown. I hope to get our soldiers out to these opportunities wherever possible, so please consider such opportunities as a means of honing your soldier skills.

Up the Guards!

Message from the RSM

CWO A McKenzie, CD

At the time of writing this article the Regiment has just returned from Exercise Wolf Pack Endeavour, a Territorial Battalion Group (TBG) exercise in Fort Knox, Kentucky. As has been mentioned in previous Guards Stars the GGFG have been the lead unit for the past year for the TBG in that we provide an infantry company as well as the HQ command staff for the TBG structure. I am sure all the details of the exercise will be explained

in other articles throughout this issue but the feedback from the troops has been very positive.

On a personal note I filled the RSM position for the TBG on the exercise which culminated in the entire TBG force attacking an enemy stronghold. It is not often that a reserve force RSM is able to take part in a Battalion level attack and I am sure that LCol Cheff was just as positive on his opportunity to command such a large operation.

Finally as each of my predecessors has done I too have reached the regrettable point of writing my last article for the Guards Star as the SMaj. On May 8, 2012, I will leave the position of SMaj in the extremely capable hands of MWO David Snyder who as DSgt has been an invaluable asset to me. I have no doubt that he will continue, as he always has, to set a fine example of what it is to be a Guardsman

During my tenure it has also been an honour to serve with two outstanding Lieutenant Colonels Commanding, LCol Cheff and LCol Foster. I always felt my advice was valued and that we were truly a command team.

I would also be remiss if I did not thank all the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Regiment who through their professional conduct and no fail attitude have made my job that much easier.

Gathering of the Guards

LCol (Ret) L. Lomas

Our Association members will join members of the Canadian Guards Association at 1130 hrs at the Army Officers Mess, Somerset St, Ottawa, in the paneled room followed by lunch in the main dining room from 1230 hrs.

We hope to have some representation from both the Grenadier and the Horse Guards Associations members that may live in the area. As last year, the dress is Jacket and Regimental tie. As space may be limited please advise Larry Lomas if you plan to attend at lomasl@aol.com

Musical Notes from the Band

LCol Fran Chilton-Mackay, OMM, MSM, CD

The band spent January preparing for their joint concert with the Central Band of the Canadian Forces as they celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen (see article submitted by Maj (Ret'd) Jim Milne). With the huge success of this concert behind them they now move on to their significant engagement of the spring season, namely the Army Ball on April 14, 2012. Although still close hold, looks like the imaginative work of the band will focus their marching and static routine at the Ball on the fact that 2012 is also the golden anniversary of the first James Bond movie!! No telling what this may entail but we are sure the 950+ persons in attendance will be no doubt be dazzled by the creativeness and musicality of the Regimental Band.

Three of our small ensembles, namely the Woodwind Quintet, the Saxophone Quartet and the Brass Quintet, provided the music for the Conference of Defence Association Annual Dinner at the Chateau Laurier on February 24th. No less than six current and former Chiefs of Defence Staff were present, as well as the British CDS. Once again these fine musicians did the Regiment proud.

The Jazz Combo also continues to provide music for numerous presentations and ceremonies at Rideau Hall. All in all, the Regimental Band is a highly sought after and busy group of musicians rivaling the best of military bands in the country. We are indeed fortunate to call them the Regiment's own and I am indeed proud to be their Director of Music.

W.J. Keating Club

CSgt Gord Birkinshaw, CD

The Sergeants' Mess began the year in the traditional manner, celebrating Levee by visiting messes about town, hosting delegations from other messes, and welcoming assorted other guests. Of note this year was a new experience in the mess – a group of Chinese officers dropped in to see the mess and sample the moose milk on offer!

In mid-January, the new mess committee took their positions for the year. Those who volunteered, were volunteered, elected or acclaimed are: PMC – CSgt Birkinshaw

VPMC – Sgt Alden Secretary – Sgt Chasse Treasurer – Sgt Hacquard.

The Mess Functions Committee is Sgt Dallaire, Sgt Bonneville and Sgt Poirier. Good & Welfare is CSgt Marleau, Property is CSgt Thomlinson, and Remembrance Book is Sgt Kowlessar. A huge thank you to the outgoing mess committee, led by MWO Snyder – they did an outstanding job.

With the Guards Ball behind us, the next event the mess is looking forward to is MCpl's Night, to take place on Saturday, 24 March. All MCpls are invited to attend, and with Sgt Dallaire as one of the planners, count on starting the evening with some form of physical fitness training to get things moving!

Following MCpl's Night, the mess looks forwards to our annual Cut Knife Hill Dinner, taking place on Saturday, 5 May. Details will be forthcoming in the near future. All members of the mess, past and present, are invited to attend.

The next WO1 Keating Club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 13 March. All members please mark your calendars.

Diamond Jubilee

Major (Ret) Jim Milne OMM, CD

On February 5th, 2012 a gala concert, under the sponsorship of the GGFG Regimental Association, was staged at Ottawa's Centrepointe Theatre to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen. A near capacity crowd heard a program of music that paid tribute to our Colonel-In-Chief's sixty years as Queen of Canada.

Our own forty-five member Band of the Governor General's Foot Guards led by LCol. Fran Chilton- Mackay OMM MSM CD, merged with the thirty-five member Central Band of the Canadian Forces led by Major David Shaw CD. The two military bands combined to perform a variety of music such as the Sir Edward Elgar's 'Pomp and Circumstance Marches No. 1 & No.4', 'Royal Visit' by James Gayfer, and 'Elizabethan Serenade' by Ronald Binge. Amongst other pieces of music performed was Robert Farnon's 'State Occasion' which was performed as the Inspection March when Her Majesty presented new colours to the regiment in 1997.

A twenty member representative Pipe and Drum Band drawn from the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, Air Command Pipes and Drums and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pipe and Drums added their own stirring music to the event. The Senior Pipe Major was MWO Alan Clark who doubles as CH of O and Ceremonial Guard Pipe Major.

Major Carl Gauthier, of DND's Directorate of Honours and Recognition, was an excellent Master of Ceremonies for the concert. He also introduced to the audience 91 year old Capt. Ron Milne, former Director of Music of the Canadian Guards and Music Director for the 1967 Canadian Forces Centennial Tattoo, whose 'Marche Vanier' was performed at the concert. In the large and appreciative audience were a number of senior officers of the Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP. In addition a regimental group, including our Honorary Colonel and Honorary Lt. Colonel, attended. The Senior Military Attache of the British

High Commission gave a brief address to the audience.

This was the largest military band concert to have taken place in Ottawa in some years and our Regimental Band had a very prominent part in this celebratory event. It was a very fitting and impressive start to the year of celebrations marking the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

Ex Blizzard Commando

Lt Chris Davey

Exercise Blizzard Commando was held February 13-15, 2012 in CFB Farnham. The exercise consisted of platoon level raids, company level delay operations and a company raid. The GGFG had reinforcements from 30th Field, Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, Stormont Dundas & Glengarry, Brockville Rifles and 28 Field Ambulance.



The highlight of the exercise was a helicopter insertion from 438 Heli Sqn. We received a quick demonstration on how to enter and exit, then off we went. It was a surreal experience for me as a platoon commander when the pilot initially broke contact over the radio as we organized the movement of the platoon to the insertion point.



The delay operation had three different platoons spread across three different routes of the probable enemy advance. Platoon members set hasty defensive positions and had to withdraw before becoming decisively engaged. The company was very creative with their winter camouflage. The delay operation ran smoothly as sections had created creative withdrawal routes that concealed their movement



The exercise ran smoothly due to the leadership of the Recce Commander, MCpl Huang. The recce elements were under constant stress as they had difficult timelines to meet and had to face arduous temperature to complete their tasks. The Company was walked onto objective effectively which allowed them to complete their mission efficiently.

The weather was extremely inclement. The extreme cold was partially mitigated by staying in a FOB. Guards showed a high level of morale within the ORV despite having to wait 45 minutes still in the freezing early morning cold.

Every exercise has a moment where everyone can look back and laugh. This one had one particular incident involving the helicopters. As we disembarked the helicopters we had to lay prone and face down into the snow (this would allow the helicopter to take off unobstructed). As we got up after the helicopter left we were in the middle of an engineer training exercise, which we didn't know about beforehand. The confusion mixed with anger set in as it appeared my platoon had given up war fighting and decided to strip down, get rid of their weapons and build winter shelters instead. *Up the Guards!*

Sentry Fund Update

Major (Ret) Wayne Younghusband, CD

At our 23 September 2011 Annual General Meeting the Association membership passed the motion to amend our bylaws to initiate the set up of an Endowment Trust Fund, known as the Sentry Fund.

Key elements of the Fund are:

- It to provide vehicle for a bequests/donations that will accumulate and preserve a pool of capital, the income from which will be used to finance activities of the Regiment.
- Regimental activities are broadly defined, but shall exclude expenditures on food,
 - drink and hospitality.
 - It will be governed by three Trustees, who are not serving members of the Battalion. appointed for three year terms by the



- The Guards Star
- Association Executive.
- The capital will be invested only in federal/provincial bonds and/or instruments within the financial institution used by the Association.
- The assets will be administered from an account separate from that used by the Association with financial signing authority consisting of two signatures; one of either the President or Chief Financial Officer and any one of the Trustees
- Requests for financial assistance will be presented in writing to the Trustees for consideration. A majority decision by the Trustees will be final.
- An audited financial report will be presented to the Association Annual General Meeting. A summary of the Trust's annual operations will be published in the Guards Star

Since the AGM the Sentry Fund has taken shape. At its 28 November 2011 meeting the Executive passed a motion appointing John Brockway, Roy Longbottom and Larry Lomas to three year terms as Trustees of the fund.

The Executive also passed a motion authorizing a transfer of the initial capital to the Sentry Fund in the amount of \$52,950. This amount consists of the \$9,000 Bonner Lowson bequest, and the balances brought to the merger of the Foot Guards Association and the GGFG Foundation of \$12,460 and \$31,790 respectively. The Executive agreed it was fitting the assets of the two merged organizations and the bequest of one of our WWII veterans should make up the initial capital contribution.

The following was submitted by Roy Longbottom **Message from the Sentry Fund Trustees**

Now that the Trust is operating it means that members and friends are now assured that donations will be directed to the long term benefit of the Regiment, and not expended on short term projects.

This Trust may be of interest to those of us who are making or up-dating wills and engaged in estate planning. Income tax receipts will be

provided, so there will be tax savings. As well, the Trustees will consider some form of permanent recognition, or not, as the donor wishes.

The Trustees may be approached directly and in confidence for further information. Please give thought to making a commitment.

John Brockway (613)233-9891 john.brockway@sympatico.ca

Larry Lomas (819)684-2469

lomasl@aol.com

Roy Longbottom (613)736-0673

Roymlong@aol.com

News from Sudan

Major Morgan Hladik, CD

Hello everyone back in Canada! Today is day 95 of my time here in South Sudan, definitely now on the back half of the tour. Been really quite busy as I have been in the G3 chair as well as patrolling as much as I possibly can, as I did not come here to work a desk.



I have been assigned as my Area of Responsibility the county of PARIANG which is the area right along the border with Sudan. There has been a great deal of fighting just over the border and several refugee camps in my area - one of them made the news last November when the North

dropped several bombs on it. We move around by helicopter a lot because many of the roads have been mined in the past and the UN have not yet cleared them. Which is a luxury - much rather take a 30 min hop in a MI-17 versus 3 hours getting shaken to pieces on the terrible roads that exist here.

The other members of the Military Liaison Officers team here in BENTIU are excellent and make life here much easier. I really appreciated the surprise delivery of "Old Lumpy" from the mess - with new furniture in the mess it seemed that "Old Lumpy's" days were over. I am please to report that she has found a new life here and she is the now the best chair and widely sought after by all.

To read more about what I'm doing over here please check my blog

http:/morganinsudan.blogspot.com

Ex Guard Blast

Lt Chris Davey

Ex Guard Blast, as the name implies was all about explosives. The weekend consisted of claymore, grenade and ETHAR (IED Lanes) training. The exercise was completed within 24 hours on December 2-3, 2011. The exercise took place in the ritzy town of Petawawa. The weekend used a stand format to achieve efficiency.

After completing TOETs, Guards threw two grenades each. Guards participated in refresher training for the claymore, many of whom had not touched the weapon since DP1. The training was informative and was aided by 2 CER. Only three members from each platoon were able to blow claymores due to supply shortages.



Gdsm Crego

The ETHAR training was enjoyed by all members of 1 Coy. The training was challenging for every level of the platoon. The platoon commanders had to move their troops through hazardous areas. The section commanders had to ensure strict adherence to spacing due to the IED threat. Individual section members had to be extremely vigilant, constantly looking for threats. As leadership was removed from combat, section members had to assume positions of leadership. This created stress and confusion for the section and made the exercise valuable training for all members.

The greatest lesson learnt during the ETHAR training was that of IED placement. Frequently the IEDs were placed in a manner in which it would suck in the section with a distraction further away; while the actual IED was closer to achieve maximum surprise. After the first patrol, the sections recognized this deception and reacted accordingly.

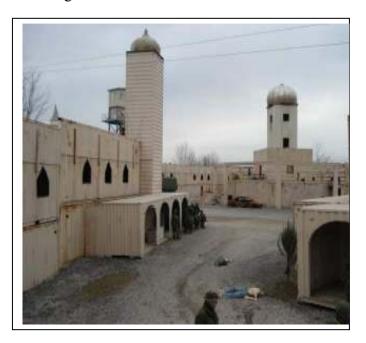
Ex Guard Blast was essential training for Exercise Wolf Pack Endeavour in February. The

Guards have to complete all of their IBTS training to be deployable within the TBG framework. *Up the Guards!*

The Guards Deploy to Kentucky! Lt John Makela

This February saw the most exciting and involved exercise for the GGFG in years. From the 17th of February to the 26th of February 2012, the GGFG deployed to Fort Knox Kentucky for Exercise Wolf Pack Endeavour. A truly massive undertaking, this was the opportunity to participate in a brigade exercise including 2 fully manned infantry companies and a headquarters company complete with Psychological Operations (PsyOps), Civilian Military Coperation (CIMIC), Medical, Recce and Signals Engineering, Armoured attachments. The Majority of the Guards found themselves in Alpha Company which commanded by Maj Chris Lynam with MWO Guy Doucette as his Company Sergeant Major.

Besides having the opportunity to take part in a fully manned Rifle Company, the soldiers had the chance to use some truly great training facilities including Burcham Urban assault course, an Afghan village stand and two villages consisting of 40 plus buildings each.



The majority of 1 Coy members found themselves in A Coy and their exercise started with stand training on the Burchum Urban assault course. After a full morning of instruction on the basics of Operations with Urban Urban Operations Instructors the troops had the opportunity to smash in doors with battering rams as well as use hooligan tools. The highlight of the day was an assault course where the soldiers traded rifles for paint ball guns and fought down an alleyway complete with exploding cars and simulated 50 Cal machine gun fire. As the troops worked their way down the narrow alleyway they had to deal with casualties from explosions and a never ending set of reactive targets popping up from every possible angle. At the end of the alleyway, the troops found a cache including small arms, ammunition boxes and artillery. The sound tracks added to the ambiance and confusion of the course adding a greater challenge to communication.

The next stand for A Coy was the Afghan Village Stand which according to many of our recent Afghan vets was one of the most realistic patrols they had been on since returning to Canada. One at a time the platoons patrolled into a village located in a valley filled with role players. Upon entering the village the patrol interacted with several personalities including simple villagers and the village mayor.



Depending on the actions taken by the patrol, the scenario unfolded differently. Common

to all was that a cell of enemy had taken up residence two days prior and had begun to intimidate locals. Each Platoon had an attachment from CIMIC and PysOps to aid them and each patrol conducted a key leader engagement. As the scenario unfolded for 2 platoon, medical aid was provided to an injured civilian in a gesture or good will, while the weapons cache was found and two enemies detained.

Prior to being detained, the final enemy attacked with harassing fire but were defeated. After the patrol, all the members got a chance to take part in their own key leader engagement with experienced CIMIC and PsyOps personal role playing for them.

With the stand training complete the Company moved into the final tactical exercise which for A Coy involved securing the town of Ortez located in the Fort Knox training area. Using the engineers the company established and built FOB Brulotte 700 meters from the town and began a series of patrols to establish the Company's presence. The town of Ortez itself consisted of 40 plus buildings over shadowed by a massive walled monastery which played a major role in the final day. Over two days the Platoons operated as they would in real life sending reports and returns to higher command. The Company made use of medical, engineers, a FOO Party, Military Police, Signals, Padre, CIMIC and PsyOps attachments to establish CF presence in Ortez. Vehicle checkpoints and patrols encountered friendly, neutral and hostile role players throughout, building to the final seizure.

When Friday morning arrived enough intelligence and information had been collected to confirm that the monastery in the town of Ortez was occupied by an IED cell with 30 enemy personnel who had taken 2 Canadian hostages. The Monastery was so big that it would take both rifle companies to secure. Waiting inside the Monastery was an endless series of simulated Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPGs), IEDs weapons effects, burning cars, and smoke that made for a challenging attack. While taking enemy fire, the troops could see

explosions all around them, rockets over their heads and enemy fire from every direction. Engineers were clearing obstacles while medics treated the wounded.

3 Platoon breached the Monastery with speed and aggression but took heavy casualties as they were the first platoon to gain lodgment. 1 Platoon made primarily of soldiers from the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment pushed through them followed by 2 Platoon. Thanks to the individual skills and aggression of soldiers, A Coy cleared most of the objective securing the hostages and leaving the final buildings for B Coy.

Mission Accomplished, Ortez was seized, the Battle Group was stood down and we prepared for an 18 hour long bus ride with thirty of our closest friends.

Up the Guards!

Headquarters

Lt Geoffrey Miller

Among all of the training that went on at Fort Knox the Territorial Brigade (TBG) HQ level training was not to be overlooked. During Wolf Pack Endeavor the TBG HO trained in various ways to manage the information and battle. The Tactical Operation Center (TOC) crew contained members from every entity that was involved in the TBG; a representative from the 33 Combat Engineer Regiment, one rep for all three Artillery Regiments within 33 Brigade, 33 Service Battalion, 2 Intelligence Platoon, the Operations Officer from the GGFG and four Duty Officers from various infantry regiments. Each of these representatives learned a new communications system provided by 33 Signals Regiment called LCSS. LCSS was used to streamline and quicken the pace at which information could be relayed and distributed to all facets of the TOC. LCSS, through voice chat and a program called Transverse, aided in communication between higher HQ, and all of the stations within the TOC itself. In this way all stations on the TOC were able to communicate information to the whole TOC efficiently. Through a Program called "Battle

View" the TOC created maps that could relay the movements of both static and dynamic units. Battle view had the ability to track mobile units via their GPS' and thus move the map markers accordingly. With the aid of map markers imputed by the duty staff with collected data and the GPS markers Battle view displayed a picture of the battle field that was comprehensive at a glance.

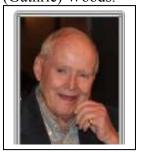
Also the 33 Signals Regiment provided communications and signals operators to augment the TOC's abilities to collect the most up to date data. The 33 Sigs personnel enabled the TOC to run smoothly through professionalism and swiftness of communications. To quote the 33 Sig signals officer, Capt Robelin: "in this capacity the Signallers were not on exercise practicing their trade. There is no way to fake a radio going down or LCSS not working properly. All the Signallers here are working." In this light they were instrumental to our training success.

All in all the training undertaken by the TBG HQ was a successful demonstration of how a TOC should function and how to successfully collect, relay, and decipher incoming information that allows the commander to have the fullest picture of the battlefield to make his decisions.

WOODS, Norman "Guthrie"

Wayne Younghusband, CD

Founder of Guthrie Woods Products Ltd. Suddenly, in Stittsville, Saturday, January 14, 2012. Guthrie Woods age 80. Beloved husband of Christine (nee Bertrand). Loving father of Gus (Sarah), Tim and Patrick. Proud grandfather of Beatrice, James and Amy. Son of the late Shirley Woods and Catherine (Guthrie) Woods.



Service in the Regiment was never in doubt as Guthrie's grandfather, James William Woods, commanded the Regiment for seven years, from 20 Oct 1910 to 7 Nov 1917. Guthrie joined the Regiment in 1949 and shortly after completed the six month infantry officer basic training course at the Infantry School, at that time located in Camp Borden. On completion of the course he served as a subaltern until moving to Montreal a few years later.

In the mid 1980's his business pursuits brought him back to the Ottawa area. Until his permanent move back in the early 1990's Guthrie commuted each week from his home in St Lambert QC. He used the spare time in the evenings to consider ideas that could provide increased profile, and cash, for the Regiment.

The GGFG Foundation was his offspring in 1985, and was the sponsoring organization for a variety of successful fund raising projects. The list is impressive - The creation and sale of the Changing the Guard colour brochure on the Hill during the summer in the early 1990's - The production of Summer evening Sunset Ceremonies at the Drill Hall, complete with bleachers to seat a few hundred people. - The production of several Military Band Concerts at Centrepoint Theatre, and fund raising through bingo events and Nevada ticket sales.

He was the imagination and energy behind the restoration and relocation of our WW2 M4a4 Sherman tank 'Forceful' from CFB Borden to Cartier Square and then to an exhibit in the new War Museum. Most recently he was involved in the CO picture restoration project and offered valuable ideas and advice

Guthrie had an eclectic interest in music. In 1994 he set up and sponsored the Woods Manufacturing Company Brass Band which performed for many years at the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo, and other venues in Europe and the USA. He delighted in telling the story of his assigned opening performance at the Halifax Tattoo one year, where he was dressed as a janitor complete with broom and dustbin. In the one minute performance he 'swept' a spotlight beam across the floor, finally catching it and sweeping it into his dustbin. The Tattoo then got underway.

He had a particular interest in military music and worked on different productions with our Regimental Band, the Band of the Ceremonial Guard, the Marine Corps Band of Albany GA, as well as local choirs. He produced a number of CD's over the years, some of which are available from Guthrie Woods Products.

Guthrie had a knack for moving comfortably in all circles, particularly within the military chain of command. From the bottom up he had developed contacts in the course of business that he didn't hesitate to use when hot on the trail of a Regimental project. Financial, administrative or artistic hurdles that could make others flinch didn't seem to bother Guthrie. His answer was to step back a few paces and run harder at, around or over the problem. He was impatient with structure and rules and although his methods were sometimes unconventional, he got the job done.

Always ready to chat, Guthrie had a seemingly endless supply of interesting anecdotes woven from his various business and personal pursuits, all for the price of a soda water.

The Regiment has lost a faithful friend.

Memorials and Tributes

Estelle Lane

BROWN, Claude C40012

Passed away peacefully at the St. Albert Youville Home on December 15, 2011 at the age of 91 years. Claude was born in Ottawa and joined the Armed Forces in 1939, serving with 21 CAR(GGFG). He was a life member of the Foot Guards Association

PIGOTT, Jean

Passed away peacefully on January 10, 2012. A lifelong resident of Canada's capital and a proud member of the fifth generation of her family to call the Ottawa and Gatineau valleys home She was the beloved sister of our Hon Colonel Grete Hale.

ALLEN, Darcy C58616

Passed away peacefully on Friday January 20, 2012 at the age of 91. He served with 21 CAR(GGFG) and was a life member of the Foot Guards Association. He played a major role in the founding of St-Vincent de Paul at St- Thomas d'Aquin and worked for many years at the House of Commons with the Leader of the Opposition's office.

Pallas, Edith

Peacefully at Starwood Nursing home on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at the age of 87. She was the mother of the late Captain Stephen Pallas, a long time member of the Regiment and the Cadet Corps.

CHURCH, Orville

Peacefully at home on Thursday March 1st, 2012 at the age of 84. Although Orville never served with the Regiment he participated in the Centennial Year of the GGFG Tattoo held on April 30, 1972. He was then granted an Associate membership to the Foot Guards Association. His son, the late Ed Church, served many years with the Regiment.

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

150th Anniversary Fund

Marty Lane, CD

In the year 2022 the Regiment will be celebrating its 150th anniversary. I know that is ten years off but it will be upon us in no time. At the annual general meeting held on November 26, 2010 it was moved, seconded and carried that we start a fund to raise money so as to be able to commemorate this occasion properly. There have been some donations made so far. The fund will be used for special functions and to carryout special projects to commemorate the anniversary year. Persons donating to this fund will be issued an Income Tax receipt from the Association. This money will be accounted for separately and when a substantial amount is collected it will be converted into an interest bearing certificate.

NEXT ISSUE....

Submissions for the next edition of the GUARDS STAR are due May 22, 2012