

The Guards Star

Governor General's Foot Guards Regimental Association, Box 1212, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5R3
Regimental Website: www.footguards.ca/2013

DECEMBER 2014



EDITOR: ESTELLE LANE

Message from the President

MWO Marty Lane, CD (Retd)

The Regimental Association executive has been working at planning for the coming year. We are hoping that we can work on planning some upcoming events with the Mess executives in the coming year. I have had some conversations with some members of the Jr Ranks mess about some possible events that the Association might be able to assist with. If you have any ideas please speak to your Mess executive about them. They can then bring these forward to the Association Executive for consideration.

In March, the Association ran a very successful Regimental Ball with 286 persons in attendance, and a successful reunion Dinner in October with 165 in attendance. This was the largest reunion in many years. This was partly due to the kind generosity of our HCol for his donation of 50 tickets which were distributed amongst the members of the Jr. Ranks mess. The success of these events was due to the participation of all Ranks of the Regiment and the invited guests.

I had mentioned in a previous edition that we were looking at purchasing covers for the tubas and euphoniums for the Regimental band. This project has since been cancelled. We are at this time discussing the purchase of a staff and stand for the Number Four Company Colour.

At this time I would like to thank Mr. Brian Winter of Whitby Ontario who is a grand nephew of Brig. Gen. Charles F. Winter (Staff Sgt. Charles F. Winter of The Sharpshooters) for donating a banker's box full of written documents to the Regimental Museum. These documents consist of

family information as well as a written account of the battle of Cut Knife Hill, pictures, and books.

Shortly after, Mr. Winter once again contacted me and stated that in his downsizing he had come across a pistol that was carried by Staff Sgt. Winter at Cut Knife Hill. After some investigation, it was determined that this was an antique weapon and registration was not necessary since it was built prior to 1898. The RCMP determined that it was a US Arms Company 38 cal. rim shot. Mr. Winter and his wife delivered the pistol to the Museum during a visit to Ottawa in early October. We are getting a stand made to support the pistol and it will be put on display once it is built.



Estelle and I would like to wish each and every one a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.

Message from the LCol Comd

LCol Kevin MacLean, CD, AdeC

As we enter the festive season I would first of all take this opportunity on the behalf of myself and my family to wish you and yours Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. No matter what

faith or tradition you follow, it is a time to be festive and spend with friends, family and loved ones. I look forward to several occasions such as the Guards Club of Ottawa Luncheon on the 1st of December, the Unit Christmas Dinner on the 12th, the Carol Service and Kids Christmas party on the 13th and the New Year Levee on the 1st of January to have a chance to pass on these greetings personally to most of the Regimental Family.

Speaking of the Family; I would like to welcome the 12 new Recruits that enrolled this fall and wish you well on the remainder of your BMQ Course. To put a finer point on the quality of recruit we have, there were over 230 young Canadians that knocked on our door looking to join. The ones we have on BMQ right now represent the top picks from this cohort. We also welcome those new faces that have transferred in or are attached posted from other units. Welcome to the family.

As we welcome the new, we also bid farewell to a number of members that have Component Transferred (CT'd), been posted to other units or have released from the CAF. By the time this hits print we will have completed the Depart with Dignity (DWD) ceremony for Sgt Dominique Kowlessar after 22 years of service. For those of you that do not know him as well as myself and the Sergeant Major, to demonstrate the type of man he is I will share a brief email he sent me in the moments of uncertainty following the killing of Cpl Nathan Cirillo:

Sent: October-21-14 12:29 PM

To: MacLean LCol KC@VCDS D Res@Ottawa-Hull;
Snyder CWO DE@CMP DCSM@Ottawa-Hull

Sir,

[Do not send my release documents to Brigade yet.](#)

[Sgt Kowlessar](#)

Those few words and the sentiment behind it sum up the dedication to duty we have come to know from our members. There comes a time however in our lives where other facets of life require our focus, and although we may depart the

serving ranks we never stop being Guardsmen. Once a Guardsman always a Guardsman.

The killing of Cpl Nathan Cirillo and WO Patrice Vincent hit all Canadians very hard. In large part this was because they see it not as an attack on CAF members, it was an attack on all Canadians and the institutions that represent the essence of who we are. Even the killers realized the significance of what the uniform represents; something larger than the individual who wears it. Unfortunately on those two tragic days, this made us targets of hatred.

This is something to hold on to every time you put on your uniform and go out in public; you represent the CAF and everything you do is a representation of that institution and a reflection of the trust that all Canadians place in us. You are the target of both praise from the vast majority of those that value peace and liberty and a target for those who wish to attack the institutions that are representative of this great Nation.

The compassion and support for the families and all members of the Canadian Armed Forces expressed by Canadians was overwhelming. I would like to thank you all serving members for your response, you followed direction and represented us well, particularly while the event was unfolding and we were dealing with the potential of an organized and coordinated attack.

The best way to honour the memory of WO Vincent and Cpl Cirillo is learn from the experience and to ensure that we do what we can to avoid or minimize the effect of the next attack. We have enhanced our force protection levels and revisited the process that we have in place. The key take away is that there will be violent act sometime in the future; however, we will not let this threat curtail us from doing our job or projecting our presence. The resumption of the Guard on the Tomb was symbolic. We will not be intimidated and we will carry on.

As we look forward to the New Year, there are no surprises; we will focus on fitness,

marksmanship and soldier skills. As you are all aware, we are very strong, and have no issue attracting the limited intake of recruits. Where we have a challenge is in the generation and retention of MCpls, Sergeants and Captains. I encourage all to strike a balance in their lives that permit your continued service to the Regiment so that the Guardsmen of today will be the Sergeants and Captains of the future. The chain of command is there to assist you in striking this balance, so if you are considering leaving the serving ranks, please consult your leadership for guidance and assistance in striking this balance.

Have a safe and happy holiday and see you all back to work in January.

Up the Guards!



LCol Kevin MacLean, Capt Jamie Bell and OCdt Liam Bell at a reception following the National Service at the War Memorial on November 11th.

Message from the RSM

CWO (RSM) David Snyder, CD

Well done once again to Colour Sergeant Dallaire and members of the guards who took part in this year's Canadian Armed Forces Small Arms Concentration event. CSgt Dallaire and Corporals

Muldoon and Valcour are becoming familiar names when it comes to performance shooting.

The Association conducted a great annual dinner under the organisation of Rob Duncan and Marty Lane. It was a touching moment for all when Marty and Estelle Lane were presented a well-deserved award of recognition for all the volunteer work they have done. It was a well-kept surprise that I'm sure will be a source of pride for years to come. Thanks to those who helped set-up and tear-down for the event, and to the Honorary Colonel for sponsoring tickets so that a number of junior ranks would attend. A reminder that everyone in the unit is part of the Association, and if you are interested in helping a lot or a little, Mr. Lane in the museum would be happy to speak with you.

Another example of how the Association and Museum are crucial in supporting our unit history and heritage is the recent acquisition of Colour Sergeant Charles Winter's pistol that he had with him during the Northwest Canada campaign of 1885 to which the guards contributed a contingent of "Sharpshooters". The Lanes entertained Charles Winter's grandnephew and his wife who travelled to Ottawa to donate this uncommon weapon. It will be available for viewing once it is properly prepared.

I was very proud to be able to witness the presentation of Legion of Honour awards from the French government at a fantastic event held at the War Museum on November 8th to three members of the guards who served in the Second World War. These individuals were still sharp in both bearing and memory, able to joke with me about how one had to be as wary of Americans conducting bombing runs back then as now.

The Regimental Chaplain – Reverend Clunie – performed a magnificent ceremony at the Guards' Chapel to formally recognise the restoration and re-location of the unit's fifth and sixth stand of Colours. We were privileged to have His Excellency the Governor General along with regular members of the congregation in attendance.

By now, I'm sure the officers have recovered from a crushing defeat yet again in the Adjutant's Cup football game at the hands of the sergeants' mess and are ready to serve Christmas dinner to the junior ranks. This Christmas season should be a time to reflect on the important ties that we all share in service to the Crown and our country. We are thankful for the safety of Master Corporals Kidd and Toledo and Corporal Porter following the sad shooting incident at the National War Memorial.

Safe holidays to everyone.

Brulotte Scholarship

Capt Ryan Barber

On December 2nd, The Governor General's Foot Guards Honourary Colonel, Bryan Brulotte, presented the first Academic Scholarship of \$2,000 established by the HCol to Corporal Sebastien She-Ming Lau-Chapdelaine, in recognition of his exemplary service to the unit and his impressive academic achievements.

Cpl Lau-Chapdelaine graduated from the University of Ottawa in 2009 with undergraduate degrees in both Mechanical Engineering and Computer Technology, and finished his Masters of Applied Science degree in 2013. He is currently pursuing his doctorate in the study of hybrid fuel combustion. He is a recipient of the coveted Canadian Graduate Scholarship from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

He joined the unit in 2005, deploying to Afghanistan in 2010 as a psychological operations analyst. His high level of performance in this role earned him a Task Force Commander's Commendation.



L-R: LCol Kevin Maclean, LCC, Governor General's Foot Guards, Cpl Sebastien She-Ming Lau-Chapdelaine, HCol Bryan Brulotte

Musical Notes from the Band

LCol Fran Chilton-Mackay, OMM, MSM, CD

As usual the band had an extremely busy fall providing music support for the Brigade, the Army, the Canadian Army Forces, Rideau Hall and the community. By the time Christmas rolls around we will have completed 34 engagements, and 84 for the year. Not bad for a part time band. This is only due to the incredible commitment of all of the band members who put the Regiment and band before themselves. I am indeed very proud of them all. Letters and emails of praise flow in after almost every performance we do. Continued support from the Regiment to enable us to fulfill our commitments is also very much appreciated.

The full band performed this fall for the Army Run, PPCLI 100th Anniversary Freedom of the City Parade, CAF Small Arms Competition Awards Ceremony, two local unit Changes of Command, the Sens Home Opener, our own Association Dinner, the RCD Leliefontien Parade in Petawawa, Remembrance Day, Santa Claus Parades in Prescott and Ottawa and with the Central Band at our annual Remembrance Week Concert at the Aviation Museum. Dinner bands were provided for the 42nd Fd Regiment and the Vimy Dinner. Our small ensembles, namely the Fanfare Team, Flute

Quartet, Brass Quintet, Jazz Combo and the Celtic Ensemble provided a variety of music throughout the fall for over a dozen requested engagements, including the Army Run Main Stage, Canadian Firefighters AGM, Rideau Hall, Earncliffe and the Remembrance church service at St. Bart's. Kudos as well to MCpl Tammy Shaw who was chosen as the Army vocal representative for the beautiful tri-service trio who performed the anthem a capella style at the CAF Appreciation Night Senators Game. It was a beautiful rendition of the anthem and amazingly the entire crowd listened rather than singing along. Now on the circuit, she was recruited for a recent 67's CAF Appreciation game as well. Finally we continue to be asked to provide Last Post support to Beechwood Cemetery and I thank our trumpeters, Cpls Mandel, Bellman and Gregory for finding time to do this when asked.

On the social side we welcomed four junior musicians into the band within a span of four weeks, two on the same day!! Congratulations to Sgt Rob McKinnon and Josée on the arrival of Sacha; Cpl Angela Beare and Cameron on the arrival of Benjamin; Sgt Marianne Vincent and Justin on the arrival of Isabelle and CSgt Julie Cook and Mike on the arrival of Emily. Moms, Dads, babies and a sister are all doing well.

This fall we are sadly saying farewell to Sgt Brigitte Labelle who is finding it hard to cope with the demanding band schedule while juggling new motherhood and her other obligations. She has been a very welcome addition to the band over the past three years and will be missed. We wish her well. This fall we welcomed several Ceremonial Guard band members who started to parade with the Regimental Band. Welcome to Cpl Tomas Allen (percussion), Cpl Emily Bellman (Trumpet), Cpl Patrick Cauthers (French Horn) and Cpl Gabriel Porter (Tuba, and daughter of retired band members Capt Terry Porter and Cpl Isabelle Porter, sister to Cpl Emma Porter).

I would be remiss if I did not mention the incredible and heroic contribution that two of our musicians, MCpl Bianca Toledo and Cpl Gabriel Porter, made to the National Sentry Programme.

They filled last minute vacancies and within the space of a few days of intense drill and training had their first sentry shift at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier just one day before the tragic events of October 22nd. They were also present on October 22nd and for the first sentry post following the incident on Friday October 24th. We are indeed very proud of their contributions and steadfast resolve to see their job through.

The band wishes everyone all the best of the holiday season. We hope to see you out at the GGFG Christmas Carol Service on Sat December 13th at St. Bart's Church when the Brass Group will lead those in attendance in song.

Finally, please mark Sunday February 8th on your calendars. The band will put on a concert at the Canadian War Museum at 2 pm. Concert is free with museum admission. Museum admission is free to serving and retired military.

Merry Christmas to all.



Sandy Elliot, Wilf Clouthier, HLCol Mike Ward, Henry Stevens and LCol Kevin Maclean at the award of the "Légion d'Honneur" ceremony held at the Canadian War Museum on November 8th



Memorials and Tributes

Estelle Lane

SPICER, Erik John, C.M., C.D

Parliamentary Librarian Emeritus died in Ottawa on September 27, 2014. Erik was member of the Governor General's Foot Guards in Ottawa, retiring in 1962 with the rank of Major. Erik was a passionate proponent of the modern research library, and received numerous honours from home and abroad for his accomplishments and contributions to the field and his service to Canada, including appointment as a Member of the Order of Canada (1994). He was a life member of the Canadian Library Association (Pres. 1979-80) and Ontario Library Association (Pres. 1962-63) and a Life Member of the Foot Guards Association

CRAIG, James Clarence, CD

"Jim" died peacefully at Elisabeth Bruyere on November 18, 2014. He served with the Governor General's Foot Guards Corps of Drums and the Foot Guards Association Bugle Band in the 1960's.

Magee, James Gordon (Fibber) C58648

Peacefully at the Queensway-Carleton Hospital, Ottawa on Friday November 28, 2014 at the age of 95. Fibber served with 21 CAR (GGFG) and was a Life Member of the Foot Guards Association.

GGFG SENTRY FUND



Donations to 30 Nov 2014	<u>\$57,806</u>
Interest earned	\$1302
Less expenses	37
Available for good works	\$1265

The capital (donations) will not be spent. Only the income will be made available for regimental projects.

Cash donations are preferred, but gifts in kind will be welcomed.

Cheques payable to the Sentry Fund can be mailed to:
GGFG Regimental Association,
Box 1212, Postal Station B
Ottawa, ON K1P 5R3

Sentry Fund trustees: John Brockway, Roy Longbottom
and Larry Lomas.
Tel: (In Confidence) 613 720-3847.

NEXT ISSUE....

**Submissions for the next edition
of the GUARDS STAR are due
February 24, 2015**