



Memorial Wall site selected!

Of Special Interest

BC Region Spring Luncheons - Victoria is Saturday, June 7th, 2008 and Vancouver will be on Saturday, June 21st, 2008.

Manitoba Region - Lunches on the 2nd Thursday of every month at St. James Legion, noon – accessible. VJ DAY – August 17, 2008 at All Saints Church HKVA Reunion Dinner – October 25, 2008 at Holiday Inn Airport West Regular HKVCA meeting September 20, 1 p.m. Ladies Tea & Tidbits, September 13, 1 p.m.

Quebec Region Reunion - August 14-17, 2008.

Atlantic Region Reunion - in Florenceville September 5,6,7, 2008.

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More great news!! The Memorial Wall Committee is pleased to announce that after considerable study they have selected an attractive site in downtown Ottawa for the Memorial Wall. We have chosen a park on the northwest corner of King Edward Street and Sussex Drive, just west of the Rideau River and approx. midway between the Parliament Buildings and the Prime Minister's residence.

We feel that this site will give the Memorial Wall a high profile for the many visitors to our nation's capital while also providing a peaceful and serene setting for viewing by family and friends. The site is readily accessible with parking and shelter across the street.

Work is now underway to draw up an agreement with the National Capital Commission (NCC) that will permit us to build our Memorial Wall on the site. We will keep you apprised of the progress we make in construction as the project progresses.

We are very close to reaching our financial goal (as of May 13, over \$95,000) with some disappointments from corporations that we thought would be interested but also some great donations from others and of course our wonderful members – they all count.

Thank you all for your support and prayers, I am sure this force will guarantee success.
- Memorial Wall Committee

Last Post

Bernard Alfred Jesse, H6335, WG, died March 23, 2008

John Stroud, B76772, RR died April 9, 2008

Carl Adams, E30677, RRC died January 4th

Soren Paulson, H6918, WG, died May 14, 2008

Robert C Stager, H4028, R.C.A.P.C., May 18, 2008

Ferdinand W. Poitras, H 6359, WG passed away May 28, 2008

HKVCA

Anne St. Germaine, widow of Thomas Edward St. Germaine, WG, H41600 died – date unknown
Clifford McDavid's son died April 10, 2008.

Doris Davidson, widow of RRC Earl E. Davidson, died April 24th, 2008.

Pat Maltman, widow of Bill Maltman, WG H6852 and the daughter of Frances Cauldwell, WG, H 6003, both men HK veterans died May 27, 2008

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to all the families and friends as we share in your grief.

We will remember them.

HKVCA President

- Derrill Henderson

My report this issue will be very brief.

The majority of my time has been spent as a working member of the Memorial Wall project team, and Project Leader Carol Hadley will update you on the status of the Wall.

I do wish to inform all that VAC has now implemented a major revision to the Veterans Independence Program. “This expansion will ensure that

widows who need help the most, and can least afford it, will have the help they need to remain independent in their homes". (Minister Thompson as quoted in Salute). If any of our widows wish to/need to avail themselves of this benefit, please have them contact the regional VAC office. Should they experience any difficulties, please have them contact me directly.

God, time, and the Royal Canadian Legion permitting, I shall be representing our association at the 42nd Dominion Convention here in Ottawa.

Have a great summer.

HKVA President

- Phil Doddridge

Greetings once again from down east. We have survived another winter, and, like the other hibernators, we are starting to look around, and make plans for the summer.

We vets are fewer this spring, having lost some of our comrades over the past few months. That is to be expected, however, and the grim reaper catches up with all of us eventually.

Morbidity aside, it causes me to reflect on the actuarial study that was made on surviving Hong Kong Veterans in 2004. The actuarial forecast for August 2008 is 75 remaining vets. Our present numbers hover around 110, so unless something dreadful happens, we should surpass the forecast number by August. We are continuing to beat the odds!

MANEGE MILITAIRE

On April 4, a tragic fire in Quebec City gutted the Manège Militaire, known to the English population as "The Drill Hall" and sometimes "The Drill Shed".

Built in 1887, the Drill Hall was declared a national historic site in 1986, and was one of the most historic buildings in the old city. It was home to "Les Voltigeurs de Québec", the oldest French speaking regiment in the Canadian Army.

It was important to the Royal Rifles also, because the Royal Rifles considered it their

headquarters in Quebec, and they drilled there as a peacetime force after the war.

In 1991, two huge bronze plaques concerning the Royal Rifles were unveiled at the Manège Militaire. I had the pleasure of attending along with other Hong Kong Veterans. The plaques, of course, were in the building at the time of the fire and as of this writing I do not know whether they were salvaged. Let us hope.

W.LEBOUTILLIER AVENUE

The City of Ottawa recently named a street for a Hong Kong Veteran, Captain William Leboutillier, who was an officer in the Royal Rifles. Capt. Leboutillier, incidentally, was the recruiting officer who persuaded me to join the army in July, 1940 and was at one time second in command of "D" Company.

Apparently it is the policy of the City of Ottawa (and others, no doubt) to present a replica of the street sign to the family of the person for whom the street is named. As it happens, there are no living relatives of Leboutillier in Ottawa. It was received on behalf of the Royal Rifles by Eric Maloney, a HK Vet. living there.

Well, through the vigilance and good offices of Darrell, the sign, a massive thing, solid aluminum, one quarter inch thick, three feet long and a foot wide, is now in the possession of the Chaleur Bay Military Museum in New Richmond. Again, as of this writing, the path leading from the British Heritage Site to the Museum has been named W. Leboutillier Avenue and the sign is being erected on the path.

On behalf of the Museum I have written a letter of appreciation and thanks to Ottawa and will send them a photo of the sign when the installation is completed.

Just a bit of news that might be of interest to you.

A BIT OF HISTORY

When looking through past issues of the newsletter, "Banjo(sic) Gossip", that I used to do for the Quebec-Maritimes Branch, I came across this excerpt that might be of interest by way of reminiscing. It was written for the June, 1996 newsletter and I'll reproduce it here.

Quote:

"COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION

Under the leadership of Derrill Henderson and Lora Wachtendorf, an elaborate and comprehensive organization has been set up, involving local participation in all parts of Canada. When this idea was first conceived, I for one, had no idea that it would take off with such vigour, and that our sons and daughters would show such interest and confront the problem in such an enthusiastic, and, indeed, such a professional way. Derrill reports about 300 members with a potential for many more. Please do your part in encouraging sons and daughters of Hong Kong Veterans to join. If we hope that the efforts of the Hong Kong Veterans do not become just another footnote in the history of Canada, we should give whatever help we can to this dedicated group, working so hard on our behalf."

End of quote.

May I say that my prayers have been answered?

That will be all for this time. Be good to each other and may God bless. Philip.

Inductees - The Canadian Veterans Hall Of Valour – 2008



Ron McGuire at the exhibit table he prepared for the 2008 CVHofV Induction Lunch. Since 2005 he has publicized our Veterans and some of their many stories.

On 24 May 2008 Ron had the privilege to induct WGs, Harry and his older brother Ronald Atkinson, MM into the CVHofV. Harry's daughter, Lori Smith Atkinson and her husband Doug, and Ron's son Lynn and wife Ruth attended. After reading the statements I prepared, Lori and Ron came up to the podium to accept their Father's Induction Portfolios.



left to right: Ruth and Lynn Atkinson, Ron McGuire, Lori Atkinson-Smith and Doug Smith, after the Induction of Ronald and Harold Atkinson, MM

Paul MacDonell, read the statement for his Father, George Stuart MacDonell, RRC [George was recommended for the Military Medal and received a Mention in Despatches]. Paul included a touching poem he wrote, all of which was most appreciated by George and his family who attended; Paul's wife Jessica, son Tyler and George's daughter, Susan Charleton and his cousin, David Hay and his wife, Beverly. George came to the podium to accept his portfolio.



from left to right: George MacDonell's cousin David Hay, his wife Beverly Hay, George, his son Paul, daughter-in-law Jessica, grandson Tyler MacDonell and daughter Susan Charlton

Next year the induction of George Peterson, WG and Major John Anthony Gibson Reid, MBE of the RCAMC, Brigade HQ will take place on Saturday, 23 May 2009. If you are interested in attending, please contact Bob Campbell at [613] 745-3323. You can make reservations, which may be held until 20 April, 2009, when payment of \$60.00 per person is due.

The Winnipeg Grenadier Hong Kong Trust Fund

The following is a history of the above fund as recounted by Lawrence Stebbe H6415 to Colleen Stebbe.

A generous donation by the Women's Auxiliary of the Winnipeg Grenadiers Hong Kong POWs provided the seed money that initiated the start-up of the Winnipeg Grenadiers Hong Kong Trust Fund. The money came from fund raising efforts by the Women's Auxiliary during the war years and was used to purchase cigarettes and ship them to the POWs in Hong Kong. The shipment was refused by the Japanese government and returned to Canada. The cigarettes were returned to the cigarette companies, and the money was refunded to the Women's Auxiliary. In early January 1974, Mrs. Norris, widow of Maj. John A. Norris, and one of the last surviving members of the Women's Auxiliary, approached two Hong Kong Veterans, Mr. Neil Bardal and Mr. Lawrence Stebbe, in the hope of arranging for transfer of the custodianship of these funds. The mandate for the transfer required that the funds continue to be recognized as separate and distinct from the Hong Kong Veterans Association and that the objective of the fund remain the same as that of the Women's Auxiliary, i.e., that the funds be used expressly for special needs requests of Winnipeg Grenadier Hong Kong Veterans, as approved by a committee.

The first meeting of The Winnipeg Grenadiers Hong Kong Trust Fund was held on January 25, 1974. In attendance were Mrs. J. Norris (elected Chairperson), Mr. L. Stebbe (elected Secretary) and Mr. N. Bardal (elected Treasurer). The Committee voted to amend the mandate of the fund and directed the Trust Fund be used to assist direct descendants of The Winnipeg Grenadiers Hong Kong Veterans with post-secondary education costs, specifically, the cost of first year university attendance in the province of Manitoba. A Scholarship Trust Account was established to receive the funds from the Women's Auxiliary. These funds totaled approximately \$9,000.

Arrangements were subsequently made with the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg to receive financial awards on behalf of approved recipients. Over the next couple of years, two additional members replaced Mrs. Norris on the

Trust Fund Committee - Mr. Art Lousier and Mr. Ray Sellers.

The Trust Fund was registered as a Charity in the early 1980's. Current members of the Trust Fund Committee are Lawrence Stebbe, Donna Remillard and Colleen Stebbe. While the mandate of providing financial assistance for post-secondary education to *direct descendants* of The Winnipeg Grenadiers Hong Kong Veterans has remained unchanged, the Committee has, over time, expanded its definition to include recognized universities and colleges across Canada and the United States.

The Winnipeg Grenadiers Hong Kong Trust Fund has helped more than 140 of the Veterans' children and grandchildren in their pursuit of higher learning. It has been, and continues to be, a fitting testament to the vision of the Women's Auxiliary, with its initial and generous sponsorship of the fund, and to the on-going generosity of numerous donors over the years. On behalf of all who have been helped, thank you, and we look forward to your continued support.

For inquiries on grant qualification and application, or to make a tax-deductible donation, please contact Donna Remillard, telephone (204) 885-5436 or email, sellers@mts.net.

Apple for the Teacher Manitoba Education Committee Report – Carol Hadley, Chair

Our Region attended the Heritage Days Symposium held at the University of Winnipeg in May where about 400 students (ages 9 – 15), parents and teachers viewed all the displays, receiving information about our Association and participated in a scavenger hunt where the students had to answer questions from the displays to win a prize. Several students took information to do their project on the Battle of Hong Kong for next year.

We have registered to attend the SAG teachers conference at the end of November where we will have our display and do a couple of workshops for teachers giving them information on the Battle of Hong Kong and encouraging them to use

it in the classroom. Last year we had 24 teachers go through our workshop.

We have obtained lists of museums in Manitoba and will approach them to have our displays and Association information available at a mutual convenience. We hope this will generate new members also by going into rural areas where they may not know of our existence.

Mitchell's Money Matters

- Barry Mitchell, Treasurer

May 31st total

\$101,175 for the Memorial Wall.

Well-done folks! We have reached our goal (at least for the first step in fund raising) and I know there is more on the way. We don't really have a current estimate on what our costs are going to be so I encourage you to continue to promote our project and raise even more through the generosity of our friends and neighbours. Now that we have chosen a site, we can start the next phase of conducting whatever studies are necessary and then obtaining quotes on material and construction.

We're moving right along thanks to all your efforts across Canada.

Across the Nation

BC Banter

- Linda Stewart

Hi everybody:

BC is enjoying wonderful weather. I hope yours is just as nice. It's my pleasure to report on events happening in our region.

We've held an election. We extend our appreciation to Jim Trick, Chair of the Elections Committee, and committee members – Ralph McDiarmid, Grayson Laite and Anne Trick.

All positions were filled by acclamation. Regional Director: Linda Stewart; Treasurer/Membership Chair: Murray Doull; and Secretary: Bev Campbell. Murray and I are thrilled to have Bev joining our team. Here is Bev's biography.

“My name is Bev Campbell and I have been nominated to run for the position of Regional Secretary. I would be more than pleased to accept this nomination. This would be an opportunity to learn even more about the Hong Kong Veterans and the HKVCA.

My parents are Gerry (RCCS) and Ev Gerrard who reside in Victoria.

I have worked in the secretarial field for many years. I will be retiring this year and would look forward to giving time to this position. My husband and I attended the Convention in Calgary last year and learned so much from all that were there. I reside in Maple Ridge and am married with two daughters and have 2 grandchildren (a third on the way) and enjoy my time with them. Thank you.”

I wish to thank Murray for allowing his name to stand. He's been the Secretary-Treasurer and Membership Chair for BC since 2001 and has served as the National 1st Vice President since 2005. He currently is on the 'C' Force Memorial Wall Committee. Murray's parents are Bill (RRC) and Claire Doull.

We will be participating in a BC Day event on August 4th, 2008 at the Burnaby Village Museum. This event will say “thank you” to our veterans on the 150th birthday of our province. We will be setting up a 'C' Force display and sharing information about the role Canadians played in Hong Kong. For more details, please go to the Teachers' Zone on our website or contact Murray, Bev or me.

Before I send my report, I send it to Murray, and now Bev, for their comments. I was asked to add: “On behalf of all the members in BC, I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to Linda Stewart for her continued commitment to our region and national. Linda has been our dedicated Director since 2001. Linda's unfaltering unselfishness, honesty and dedication to the Hong Kong veterans and their widows and families provide inspiration to all of us. With Linda at the helm we will continue to move forward to meet our goals.” – Murray.

This from Bev – “I just wanted to thank you for the very warm welcome you both have given

me. I agree with Murray. Linda - you and Murray give so much of your time to the Association and so willingly. I have not ever been involved with people so committed to what they believe in. It will be a pleasure to work with you both.”

Thank you, Murray and Bev. You just made my Mom and Dad up in Heaven smile. My parents were Cliff (WG) and Jean Carpenter. Anything I've done is to honour them.

God bless you and keep you all, until we meet again. -----

AB/SK Action

No report at this time.

Manitoba Moments

Our General Meetings are held at St James Legion in Winnipeg and the dates are noted on the calendar on the website (in case anyone wishes to attend).

Vince Lopata, 2nd Deputy Director, has been replying to requests for information on members of 'C' Force. He has compiled a wealth of information located on our website in the 'C' Force Web folder. At our last meeting, May 3rd, he made a PowerPoint presentation using several maps to indicate the movement of the Winnipeg Grenadier companies during the Battle. This was very interesting to the attendees to see the many changes of location that were made in such short periods of time.

Our Colour Party, with Juliet Lafortune and George Peterson, has and will be attending many ceremonies and parades with other military groups in Winnipeg over the next couple of months.

The Hong Kong Veteran's flag flies at the Winnipeg Cenotaph for the months of August and December.

Arrangements have begun for our observance of VJ day on August 17, 2008 at All Saints Church, 1 p.m. Invitations will be sent out to our members, other military groups as well as the Chinese community to share this special day with us.

Four times a year, we hold an event called "Tea & Tidbits" which is a luncheon for our lady members where we visit and talk about the experiences that our

widows and wives of the HK vets experienced – the next one, September 13, and we expect 15 – 20 ladies to participate.

Bonnie Wiebe is our Communications person and she keeps in touch with our widows and veterans to see that all is well with them. Recently she has been following the Ontario initiative in asking for next of kin to call if we cannot contact our senior member.

George Peterson spoke to students in Sisler High School and donated a copy of 'Slaves of the Rising Sun' and "Hell on Earth". He mentioned that Ron McGuire had contacted him that he will be inducted into the Hall of Valour in Ottawa next year. On May 13, Larry Stebbe attended the VAC Prairie Advisory meeting in Saskatoon and George will be in Seattle at a Korean veterans conference.

Lynn Atkinson went to Ottawa to attend the induction of his father, Ronald Atkinson, to the Canadian Veterans Hall of Valour.

Manitoba Region has held several meetings to discuss ways to increase membership in the Association. Several items were identified as possibilities to promote the association to the public and to bring awareness of our existence. Communication of our events to the public will be covered with articles placed in the free community media; investigation into other modes of recognition like flags, golf shirts, license plates; and to approach museums throughout the province to have our displays with membership information available.

On a sad note, Juliet informed us that she would be having 2 operations this summer – we wish her well and a quick recovery.

We have been saddened by the passing of Pat Maltman, widow of Bill Maltman, WG H6852 and the daughter of Frances Cauldwell, WG, H6003, both men HK veterans as well as 2 of our HK veterans, Soren W. Paulson, H-6918, WG and Ferdinand Poitras, H-6359, WG. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and friends as we share their grief.

We send our best wishes to Bob and Myrtle Lytle, Marilyn

Paulson and all those who are facing health challenges – our prayers are with you.

To all our members who have celebrated special days, we wish you the best of health, luck and happiness and we like to hear from you often. We sincerely hope you enjoy a wonderful summer and travel safely.

Ontario Offerings

- Mike Babin

Whenever a Hong Kong Veteran passes away we are the poorer for it. We lost several Veterans in Ontario since our last newsletter, including Carl Adams, Gerald Doucette and John Stroud. All of these men were heroes, and we are proud to remember them.

Let me add a few words about John Stroud. He was always a controversial figure in the eyes of his peers. But there is no question that John fought constantly and diligently for the betterment of the treatment of all Hong Kong Veterans by our government. He was single-minded in this pursuit and not inclined to take no for an answer. He also served for many years as President of the Ontario HKVA. On behalf of all of our members I want to recognize John's contributions and express our thanks.

As the number of Veterans declines it's up to us - their children and grandchildren - to ensure that they and their exploits are not forgotten. The Memorial Wall in Ottawa will be perhaps the most visible and enduring memorial to them. We are also in the midst of creating a presentation that any of our members can use to tell the Hong Kong story to students. We have agreed to donate a copy of all the available books, papers and videos about the Hong Kong story to the recently opened Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library at the University of Toronto. Our education programs include an essay contest for high school students and an excellent resource centre on the HKVCA web site for teachers and researchers. And we have many other programs under way or planned.

I am appealing to you - in particular to the children and grandchildren of Hong Kong Veterans - to help ensure that we are able to continue our educational programs. This is not a request for donations of money, but rather an

appeal to donate your time as volunteers.

All of the work of the HKVCA is currently being done by a very small group of our members. This is not a sustainable situation. We need more hands to make sure that what our fathers and grandfathers did for all Canadians and us is not forgotten.

I urge you to contact me at msbabin@gmail.com or 416 732-5720 to find out more or to volunteer your help. A variety of tasks is available, all of which you'll find to be rewarding and challenging.

Finally, I would like to announce the results of our recent HKVCA elections in Ontario. Two of the open positions were filled by acclamation: myself as Regional Director and Mark Purcell as Treasurer. We are both gratified by your confidence in us, and are pleased to continue in our roles. I would like to thank Denise McLachlan for serving as our Secretary for the last 18 months; she did a great job! Unfortunately, no one was willing to stand for Secretary or for either of the Deputy Regional Director positions. As a result, these three posts remain vacant. I will be approaching members directly to attempt to fill these important positions. This situation underscores my appeal for more of you to become involved in the important work of running our association.

Because of the acclamation of the Regional Director and Secretary, it is not necessary for us to carry out a voting procedure, and so you will not be receiving ballots.

Hopefully the rather dismal weather we endured in the spring in Ontario is behind us, and we have a terrific summer in store. I wish you and your families all the best for the summer season!

West Central Report

- by Leon Sokalski

On a beautiful Spring day, my wife Joyce and I took the opportunity to go and spend a lunch with Ken Pifher on his 87th birthday on April 24th in Grimsby, Ontario.

Ken making a wish and blowing out the candles on his delicious iced "birthday" carrot cake topped off our luncheon.

After our pleasant lunch, Ken invited us back to his home to proudly show us his antique collection and cabinet craftsmanship hobby. We could easily see that Ken keeps himself very busy sorting and updating his collmorabilia, and even stuffed animecton of art, furniture, meals, favouring pussycats and kittens, many size and shapes.

His showing us the extent of his amazing workshop containing many old and up-dated tools topped off the tour. This was all very entertaining, impressive, and above all, a lot of fun for Joyce and I. We were pleasantly surprised, and are looking forward to our next visit.

North East Ontario Report

- by Ron McGuire

I am happy to report that all our members in this area are well. Mavis Martin [widow of John Martin, RRC] and Edward Terry Jr. [son of Captain Edward L. Terry, WG] were two of the fortunate ones to spend the winter in Florida and warm weather.

Susan and Ken Ewing RRC made their bi-annual visit to their daughter in Australia but came home safely in late April to find as much snow as when they left in January. Ken will not have the large garden he planted in the past. They plan to travel over the summer and will take the train to New Brunswick, where they were both raised.

Eric Maloney is doing "as well as can be expected at my age", and I visit him as often as I can and phone him regularly.

Because Eric appreciated the Canada Veterans Hall of Valour inducting his comrades and Lt. Samuel Ebsary, the uncle of his late wife Betty he also made a significant donation to the Hall's building fund. His generosity was acknowledged when the CVHofV named their third annual golf tournament after Eric and Betty. The "Betty and Eric Maloney Veterans Memorial Charity Golf Tournament" will be held Thursday, 31 July, 2008 at the GlenMar Golf & Country Club, about 15 minutes west of Ottawa. Call Bob Campbell at 613 745-3323, before June 27.

My eleventh annual Remembrance Month exhibit for the Nepean Museum was a tribute to the Battle of Vimy Ridge on its 90th anniversary. The exhibit was also dedicated to the over one hundred McGuires who fought in the 1st World War; nineteen lost their lives. I was related to at least three of these men who paid the supreme sacrifice. They all served with the 38th Battalion, fought at Vimy, where one was KIA, The two survivors went on to die in other battles.

As I always do with my exhibits, I had a case dedicated to "C" Force. It focused on the fact many members like CSM John Osborn, VC, and S/Sgt. Charles Clark, DCM had served in the 1st WW as did the fathers of others. I also had my HK wreath beside the display.

Lynn and Bill MacWhirter, RRC were among those I met for the first time at the Ottawa Reunion in 2005. We became friends and they invited me to visit them in Gaspé, which I did in September 2006. One of the many highlights was visiting the Bay Chaleur Military Museum. Thanks to Phil Doddridge, I was able to spent time there with him, Bob Barter and the late Arnold Ross. The Museum has excellent displays including several, through Phil's efforts, concerning "C" Force and lads from the area who were with the RRC.



I have been assisting Sue Beard, who has been engaged by the Ontario Region to do a visual presentation on "C" Force for use by our members. After much e-mailing and telephone conversations it was nice to finally meet Sue at the CVHofV Induction.

I continue to assist Nathan Greenfield with his book on "C" Force. He tells me he is on schedule with his research and still plans publication by mid 2010.

Connie joins me in wishing everyone good health and safe travel.

Northern Ontario Report

by Jackie Le Drew

Hi to everyone from all of us living in God's Country (Northern Ontario).

Don't know where the time goes but it seems like we were all chatting a short time ago, but in reality it has been a few months... Missed a few on my list this time but will catch them next time!

Gladys Brazel is heading to Quebec to celebrate her "85th Birthday" with relatives and friends. Congratulations Gladys!

Marcine James has just come back with family from a great trip to Hawaii. She had a great time!

James Mitchell just celebrated his "90th birthday" and is now living at the Falconbridge Extencicare in Sudbury.

George Hallada will be celebrating his "90th Birthday" in July. He still enjoys his game of golf and just planted his tomato plants. Way to go George!!! He had his daughter put together a scrapbook of all his pictures, clippings, mementos and stories he had been saving since 1945. Hopefully we will be privileged to see it some day in the Veterans Museum.

We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer. Jackie Le Drew - Northern Ontario Area Rep - (705) 855-0705 or chelmsfordvacuum@sympatico.ca P.O. Box 2213, Chelmsford, Ontario P0M 1L0

Membership Report

- by Lori Atkinson-Smith

Ontario members- if you are receiving your newsletter by hard copy post and wish to receive it over the Internet, please advise Lori Atkinson-Smith at lori1952@niagara.com.

Please keep us advised of any address changes and email address updates. Otherwise we loose contact with you. Your assistance in tracking down four members we have lost connections with:

1. Veteran: Austin or Eric Bately or Batley- last known address in Essex ON.
2. Widow: Ruth Horswell- last known address Barrie ON
3. Widow: Mary Walker- last known address Mississauga ON

4. Widow: Elizabeth Firlotte- last known address Galt ON

The Ontario membership in HKVCA has all but 7 members renewed for the year 2008. Please remember, membership runs the same as the calendar year January to December. To save time and taxing the memory- you can pay for more than 1 year of membership at a time.

We also have a few new members who have joined up in 2008. Welcome to you.

To All members get the word out to your friends and relatives about this wonderful and important association that endeavours to get the history textbooks written of the forgotten bravery and sacrifice of almost 2000 Canadians in the Second World War.

Quebec Quotes

- Lucette Mailloux-Muir

Greetings All from the cloudy, rainy and cool Townships.

Finally summer is here, we think, with its colour, smells and the birds with their best voices.

Quebec Region is fast at work getting ready for our upcoming reunion. Kits were mailed to all our members and many friends of the Hong Kong Family. If you have not received an invitation and would like to attend our reunion, just send a message to lucette.mailloux.m@videotron.ca

(with subject reunion) or call at 450-375-7439 and it will be a pleasure to send you a kit. Check your calendar as time is fast approaching to make your room reservations before the cut off date. All room reservations received to date are confirmed as requested. Surprises and good food are also on the menu.

Last Post

QC region has no deaths to report at this time. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all families and friends of Hong Kong Veterans and Widows of other regions deceased since our last newsletter and mentioned in this newsletter

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM!

Sick Parade

After such a long and hard winter at this time we have news of some sick members, Madeleine Tupper widow of William G.J. Tupper of Quebec City is having a

few problems these days. Edwina Doddridge is still having her good and bad moments in and out of hospital. Pat Poirier of Montreal is having stability problems in his legs, and is in residence. Marcel Ouellet of Rimouski is still having his problems. Martienne Lalime widow of Jean Lalime of Boynton Beach Florida was in hospital and back home doing well. Cecile wife of Charles Thompson of St.Nicholas is dependent on oxygen except for a few hours a day.

Best Wishes to all. Take care, stay healthy and looking forward to seeing many of you next August.

Maritime Memories

Plans are in the works for the Reunion **in Florenceville - September 5, 6, 7, 2008.** Contact Neil Darrah for more information.

^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Our Membership

- Jim Trick, National Membership Rep

"Memberships are due for renewal on Jan 1 of each year. While the By-Law states that members in arrears by one month cease to be members, for reporting purposes those who remain in arrears as of 1 Dec of the year (11 months in arrears) will be removed from the members' list."

Region	R	V	W	Total
Al/Sask	78	16	13	107
Atl	89	3	7	99
BC	98	19	40	157
MB	189	24	62	275
ON	138	28	54	220
PQ	44	24	61	129
Total	636	114	237	987

Web Report

- Jim Trick, HKVCA Web Admin

The old warning about never taking anything for granted was proven true during the last week in May. Our website availability had been virtually 100% for over a year, but on May 27th that all changed. Our webs were "off the air" for over 24 hours due to the subversive efforts of some web bottom feeders. Anyway, we didn't lose anything critical and got up and running again on a new server.

So, what's new on our webs you ask?

- Continuous updates on the progress of the Memorial Wall project. You can read the Wall report elsewhere in this newsletter, but for those who have to be the first to know the latest, just visit our HKVCA home page.
- Last Post: as a service to our members and families we've started a "Last Post" section which provides information on Veteran deaths, along with obituaries if available. We endeavour to publish this information as quickly as possible to assist those who may wish to send condolences or make donations.
- Teachers' Zone: Pat Turcotte along with her education group has made many improvements to this valuable resource designed to assist anyone looking for the tools to teach others about the Battle of Hong Kong.

Remember to check the "Latest Additions and News" and the Events Calendar on our home page to keep up to date with HKVCA happenings.

Have a web question? Want to point out an error? Just email me (hkvca@shaw.ca) and I'll get back to you right away.

<http://www.hkvca.ca>

Barry's Emporium



Barry Mitchell manages the items that the HKVCA has for sale. Items like Honour Rolls, books, member pins, videos, sweatshirts, etc – you can see the colour of the items on our website:



We have recently made available Honour Rolls in colour, thanks to Lauren Heinrichs granddaughter of the late HK vet Fred Poitras). Here is the Winnipeg Grenadier Honour Roll in colour, ready for framing, cost \$20.00 + \$7.00 shipping. And for the first time, we created an Honour Roll for the Headquarters units that served 'C' Force - this is in colour also and suitable for framing, cost \$20.00 + \$7.00 shipping.

You may order these items at Barry's Emporium, **with cheques payable to HKVCA** PO Box 381, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2H6.

The Royal Rifles Honour Roll is also available in colour at \$10.00 (sorry no picture available) HKVCA-QC, 18 Barre, Granby, QC, J2H 2E6

There are other items available on our website, as previously mentioned, and we are investigating expanding our inventory, so if there is anything that you would like to see with our logo on, please forward your suggestion to our storekeeper or your local executive.

Humour

The police received a call from the convent about a strange object flying overhead. When the officer arrived, he spoke with the Mother Superior. "What kind of object was it," he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "But would you like me to ask Sister Theresa? She knows exactly what it was." "That's OK," said the officer. "I'll just list it as a nun-identified flying object."

A young man was seeing two women. He couldn't decide which to marry. So he visited a therapist. The therapist asked him to describe the women. The man said one was a great writer; the other made extraordinary baked goods. The therapist thought for a moment, and then said, "Ah-ha! You can't decide if you want to marry for batter or for verse."

May you always have love to share, health to spare, and friends that care.

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