



Canadian Guards Regimental Association

newsletter

Dear Fellow Guardsmen .

Winter 2007

FIRST WORDS

It was my duty, at the recent Annual General Meeting (AGM), to read the "Roll of Honour" - the names of those members of the Regimental Family who had passed away since the 2006 AGM. Roger Corrigan was one of those names. The following message was sent out on the Guardsnet by Gerry Wharton, immediate Past-President, on 08 October.

" It is my sad duty to advise you that I have just received a telephone call from Marty Lane of the GGFG who reported that Roger Corrigan had just passed away. As you all know, although Roger never served in the Canadian Guards (his son Wayne was in the 1st Battalion and Roger was GGFG) he was our Secretary-Treasurer for many (9 ½) years. I have often said that without Roger we would not have an Association. He held it together during our darkest period when our membership was at 200 or less. During his time we moved it up over 400 and now we are over 600. When I was President, I relied on Roger for advice and had absolute trust in his integrity and dedication. He will be sadly missed - but never forgotten."

I too worked with Roger for most of the time he was Secretary-Treasurer. He was unfailing in his dedication and devotion to his 'adopted' Regiment. He will indeed be sorely missed. Rest in peace Roger, you have earned it.

IN MEMORIAM

We send our sincere condolences and sympathy to the family, friends and comrades of the following members of the Regimental Family whose passing has been noted since our last newsletter.

Charles Adams (Band), H. N. Blair, Roger Corrigan, Richard Hope, David Hallworth, Karl Heinz Luebcke, Glen L. MacKenzie, Douglas Arthur Murray, Bill Reid (RCAPC) and David Slaven.

*"death, the undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns"
(from "Hamlet" by Wm. Shakespeare)*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The AGM was held at the “Fox and Feather” pub in downtown Ottawa on Saturday, 13 October with 20 members present, including representatives from Pembroke and Brighton. The opening ceremonies, reading of minutes and other necessities of Robert’s Rules, were quickly dispatched.

There were 42 names on the Roll of Honour - Piper Jack Coghill’s playing of “The lament” was particularly mournful this day, given the roster being remembered. The President’s message was brief and cogent and the meeting began with a review of the suggested format for the 50th Anniversary of the first Guard Mount. It was evident that we needed to adopt the KISS principle and coordinate with the Ceremonial Guard, whose CO, Major Brian Hines, has already offered support for the event, whatever shape it took. There was no decision on the where, when or how, but it was decided that this event would be open to everyone, not just those who may have been part of the original (or subsequent) Ceremonial Guard (CG). Ideas from members in BC and Picton, along with members present, were discussed, but, given that the Ceremonial Guard itself is in a state of flux, it was understood that no detailed planning could be undertaken until their situation was clarified. Al Johnston continues to be our contact with the CG and Gerry Wharton and Henry Campbell will liaise regarding Museum/Petawawa involvement.

Various reports were read into the minutes, some of which will be reprinted in full later on in the newsletter. Briefly:

The Museum is in good hands in Petawawa and ready for the departure of the ‘snowbirds’. The artifact labels are ready to be placed; ‘story-line’ panels require revision, two more plexi-glass cases need to be built and some painting all await the crew’s return next Spring. Reaction to the brochure has been positive. The museum finances are in good shape, with approximately \$26,000 in hand.

Membership is up to 618 “current” and another 10 still on the books. The complete stats are attached.

The Website is popular, attracting some 600 “visits” per day. On 11 Sep 07, some 1,000 ‘page views’ were noted. Comments and albums are most visited.

The Guardsnet continues to grow with 405 now on net all over the world.

The Newsletter circulation is over 570 copies per issue (Spring, Summer & Winter) and has received many nice comments, especially regarding the colour content of recent editions.

The President concluded the meeting by suggesting that we must start to think about “ How do we fade gracefully into the sunset?” The By-Laws are quite specific in that any funds held by the Association at the time of its demise should be “ passed on to a ‘similar’ organization” and that “there should be no benefit to members”. But what organization? When? What’s our ‘sunset’ number?

These and other questions must start to be considered, now that our Association is ageing, even though - astoundingly - our membership is increasing!

With the thanks of the President, the meeting adjourned about noon.