

VETERAN'S AFFAIRS CANADA

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For local Legion branches consult the phone book. Each Legion Branch has a service officer who will have more specific names and numbers for you to contact.

REMEMBER - "GUARDS HELP PROGRAMME" - MEANS ALL OF US!

AGM REPORTS

Nominating Committee: The Vice-President's Committee proposed the re-election of all the current Board Members and nominated Percy Price to be elected to the Board. The nominees were duly elected, there being no nominations from the floor. Your Board of Directors, in alphabetical order, are: John Barclay (VP and newsletter); Henry Campbell (Pet rep); Terry Dexter (Atlantic rep); Ian Douglas (President); Ambrose Dwyer (Petawawa rep); JAS Hayley (Guardsnet); Gerry Heffernan (Webmaster); Al Johnston (Sec/Treas); Bill MacIver (Membership); Howie Pierce (Director); Percy Price (Guards Help) and Gerry Wharton (PP & Museum).

Financial Report: The Secretary-Treasurer reports that as of 31 August 2007, the assets of the Association consisted of: cash in the bank - \$9,304.75; investments (variable rate GICs) - \$15,000.00; kit shop (flags) - \$ 1,245.79; for a total of \$25,550.54. Note: the fiscal year is 1 Sep to 31 Aug.

The following two 'Museum' accounts are administered by NPF at CFB Petawawa and are not included in the Association "Financial" report.

As of 31 Aug, 2007, the "Cdn Gds Museum Acct" balance - \$ 17,507.24. The "Guards Museum Trust Acct", (held in the Canadian Forces Central Fund) is \$ 9,837.39. The total of the two accounts is \$ \$27,344.63.

David G. DeClerq was re-appointed "Auditor" for the current Fiscal Year.

Petawawa/Pembroke Branch: The annual dinner and AGM was held at RCL Branch 517 in Petawawa on 17 November. The dinner attracted over 70 people who all thoroughly enjoyed a delicious meal of turkey, with all the trimmings, before settling into the AGM part of the festivities around 7 pm.

Branch President Ambrose Dwyer's opening remarks included a "thank you" for all those involved with putting on the dinner/meeting, and stating that the Branch, despite an aging population, was still doing well. This was followed by a discussion on the various plans for 2009 "reunions" in Ottawa - 50th Anniversary of first Guard Mount, and the Atlantic Branch plan for their 2009 gathering in Newfoundland from Junior Warrington. This would be the first one held on "the Rock". (*More about that in the Atlantic Report*)

Henry Campbell advised that membership stood at 104 current members (2006 & 2007) and noted that a few paid-up memberships were coming at the conclusion of the AGM. The meeting was then turned over to Percy Price and the election of officers commenced. The new slate is: President - Ambrose Dwyer; Vice-President - Norm McBride (new); Secretary - Jean Campbell; Treasurer - Jean Clark; Membership - Henry Campbell and Kit Shop - Ambrose Dwyer. (The kit shop has just a few items such as hats and decals.)

"My Fellow Guardsmen. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and holidays. Our busiest days are now behind us and we are all looking forward to 2008 and the activities coming up in 2009. May you all have a Merry Christmas with family and friends." Ambrose Dwyer

Atlantic Branch: The 54th Atlantic Reunion was held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 93, in Oromocto, New Brunswick from 12 to 14 October. It really started on 11 October when we began decorating the Legion and regulars "Grave Digger" Gordon Allen Ross (PEI), "Sugar Bear" Wilfred Knight (NB) and "the Limey Chappie" Frederick Roy Chapman (ONT) arrived early to help and get the party started off right.

On Friday over 120 people showed up to register (taking the heat off Saturday) and a light lunch was ordered up - a 'first' that went over well. By the time registration was completed late Saturday morning, we had 160 members and wives on hand. The AGM began about 1400 and, again another 'first', wine and cheese was provided for the ladies in the lower lounge. The current executive was re-elected (by acclamation) for another year . It was confirmed that the 2008 Reunion would be in Port Hawkesbury, NS, hosted by Rick and Mary George and their committee. We are pleased to announce that, (another 'first'), the 2009 Reunion will be held in Clarinville, Newfoundland and will be hosted by Bernie and Sue Skehen and their committee. At the end of the AGM the "President's Raffle" was ably handled by Don Gendron, who displayed his "new hair due" at the same time keeping control of the rather unruly crowd while he read out the winners' names.

Jimmy Joe Eason, former 2nd Bn piper, led us in to dinner and at the conclusion of the meal, the President read a letter from Colonel Gregg, who was unable to attend this years' event. Three "Bill Matheson Awards" went to Joe and Rhoda Skerry, Dan and Wilma Murphy and Bob and Kathy Christenson for their outstanding contributions to the continued success of the Atlantic Branch.

Robie Woodward was auctioneer for several items, noting that " it was easier than auctioning cattle 'cause nothing was moving around."

Sunday we had our usual fond farewell with about 130 members and wives for breakfast and "Ta Ta's". Breakfast was accompanied by the music of the 50s, 60s and 70s, compliments of "Sugar Bear" Knight. " It would be safe to say that everyone at this year's Reunion had a great time. I know I did." Terry Dexter.

CORRESPONDENTS

Thanks to:

Finn Neilsen: for the article from the Toronto Telegram, dated June 1954. I can't reprint it here but hopefully we can publish on the website. I must say that the author, one Judith Robinson, sure had her nose out of joint regarding the "Britishness' of The Regiment. I wonder what she'd say if she knew us now?

Frank A. Johnson: In the same vein, Frank has sent us two articles from the Hamilton Spectator - one from June 1970 and the other from October 1989. They are both quite different from the Judith Robinson rant. The first described the final Trooping of the Colours parade, for then Governor General Roland Michener, on Parliament Hill in June 1970. The second was a piece whose basic sentiment was " what a sad thing for a Regiment to die and what a great thing it is that they have Regimental Association that refuses to let it die!" (*see on website*)