



Journal of 32 Signal Regiment

eCommunicator

Volume 15, Number 1

www.torontosignals.ca

Command Team

Commanding Officer's Message



by **LCol Daniel Bergeron, CD**

In my first column of this magnificent newsletter, I would like to start by thanking Jack Lee and those who helped put this edition together. It was readily evident to me coming from outside of the unit, that there is a lot of pride in the Regiment from both the

servicing and the retired members. A unit rich in history, customs and traditions such as our Regiment is a gem within the C&E Branch, well postured to help take on a leadership role as the RCCS rediscovers some of its heritage that became a casualty of unification. Some of the comments made to me by senior members of the Branch during the change of command parade lauded our Regimental parade format with officers promenading, the Regimental march, and of course, our Toronto Signals Band and its mascot. These customs and tradition have been kept alive by those

who have served before us and continue to keep the flame alive by handing the torch to the younger generation. This newsletter is a way to help record our history and we must continue to support it by submitting articles, photographs and anecdotes.

In the couple of months that I have been part of the Regimental family, I have met many serving and retired members, but of course, not everyone yet. It is something that I will endeavour to do in the coming months, to meet both the members and their families,

continued on page 4

Inside this issue

Command Team	1
From the Regiment	8
Cadets	15
Associations	17
Community Events	20
Obituaries	24

From the Regimental Sergeant Major



by **CWO Marcel Mallia, CD**

It's with great pleasure that I put pen to paper, sort of, and speak to you about the Regiment. First I would like to thank CWO Rob Carter, the past RSM, for the great job he was able to do while at 32 Sigs. He was bestowed the great honour of being the first RSM of the Regiment, and we are very appreciative of the foundation he, and his

staff, were able to create. My promise to him, and now to you, is that I will ensure, we will continue to build on those blocks set back in 2011.

The Regiment has had a very busy year, from June 2014 to May 2015, I believe there might have been only a couple of weekends someone from

the Regiment was not involved in an Exercise, Course, Professional Development, or just getting work done to be able to complete the items mentioned.

continued on page 5

32 Signal Regiment

LCol Daniel Bergeron, CD
Commanding Officer

CWO Marcel Mallia, CD
Regimental Sergeant Major

HCol Jim Leech, CM
Honorary Colonel

HLCol Alex Moseanu,
SBStJ, GCSJ(J), KGCStG, MOC, ORCB, CD, AdeC
Honorary Lt. Colonel

The eCommunicator

Capt Roger Caron, CD
Sgt Richard Lacroix, CD
Editors

LCol. (Ret'd) Jack Lee, CD
Unit Historian

Table of Contents

Cover Page	1
CO's Message	1
RSM's Message	1
From the Editor's Desk	2
HCol Leech's Message	6
Padre	7
Features	
Letters to the Editor	3
Regimental Photo	8
Change of Command	9
Regimental Jr Ball	11
Awards and Promotions	13
Presentations	14
Cadets	15
Associations	17
The Ron Jordan Story	19
Events and Notices	20
Hamilton Signal Association	21
Obituaries	24
Warriors' Day	26

From the Editor's Desk

Welcome to the Spring 2015 edition of the eCommunicator. First and foremost, let me start by apologizing for the later than normal delivery of the eCommunicator publication. Unfortunately, both personal and work commitments have led to your regular editor, Roger, to have his hands full with very little time to spare and dedicate to extra-curricular activities. I am sure that once the dust settles, Roger will be back in full force for the next edition.

Although I have recently been posted out from 32 Signal to 4 Cdn Div HQ Logistics Branch, I still expect to hang my hat at "the Sigs" where you have been my home for the past 24 years. Wishing all of you the best for the summer and hope to see you again at Warriors' Day and Unit activities starting in the Fall.

Sgt Richard Lacroix, CD

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Comments or submissions can be sent to:

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<http://www.29thdivisionassociation.com/>
<http://www.rcsigs.ca/>



Letters to the Editor

Thanks I was able to read all the info . A lot of work went into getting this publication together Compliments!!!!

Have a great New Year!!!!

Wib Back

Hey Jack - The communicator is wonderful - WOW its right up there with the best. CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE. On a side note - I notice the announcement re SHE fund application still uses my name as HCol - it should have Jim Leech's name. Ok I won't bother you any more - Cheers and once again Happy holiday.

Wow well Done jack and all of you dedicated folks who put so much time into this - I trust a hard copy goes to CO Brigade, and Army - also Hon Col Council - I think it's perhaps the best of all the Reg news letters - Congratulations all.

Sally Horsfall

Received with many thanks. What a Photographer, what a "Communicator" ... great edition!!

Mr. Bill Gordon

Jack: on another matter regarding The Communicator: I read the whole issue and did not find any problems, which I may have mentioned to you. In fact this is a super issue. One question: we did not mention of Jim Curtis.

Gary Knopf

Sirs, Ma'am,

This is an outstanding newsletter. It has been a long-time since I have seen a CAF newsletter of this quality.

Cheers,

*Joseph Frey
Lieutenant (Navy)/Lieutenant de vaisseau Public Affairs
Officer/Officier des affaires publiques
National Defence Public Affairs Office - Ontario Defense
nationale bureau des affaires publique - Ontario
Toronto, Canada*

Hello Jack

Received the latest edition of the The Communicator - Fall 2013 Issue. Congratulations to all, so well done. I had the pleasure of being in Kingston and attending many of the festivities of Reunion 2013. It was an super event and Her Royal Highness was impressive. Thanks so much for the coverage and those pictures are superb. Like myself a lot of folks could not get close at all the activities and your photos were amazing. Once again thank you to those who put it all together. The 96 year old serving HCol was the most memorable for me. I should be so lucky to engage that longevity.

*Wesley Barnaby Maj Retd
Army of the West
Vancouver, BC*

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<http://www.torontosignals.ca/>

continued from Commanding Officer's Message

who are so important to the members of a Reserve unit. The support that families continue to provide the members of the unit is crucial.

As members of our unit all have challenges of balancing their studies, full-time and/or part-time work, and yes, yard work and chores in the home, having spouses that often must do more than their fair share tending to family issues; something that the serving members often take for granted but so very much appreciated. Sadly, I was already reminded on several occasions with the passing of family members that we must never take our loved ones for granted. On behalf of the Regiment, I wish to recognize the passing of Captain Brian Luscombe's mother and father, and his close aunt, all within the span four months; Warrant-Officer Mark Witkowski, who lost grandmother during the past month; our Honorary Colonel Leech's sister-in-law Anne who passed away in April; Warrant-Officer Mario Battista who lost his uncle earlier this year. May the deceased rest in peace and may the families who are left behind find strength in the solidarity of their Regimental family who are behind them.

In terms of unit business, I attended my first Regimental Association Council meeting on the 2nd of May. This was a good meeting where I presented a requirement for more funds to help with our Regimental identity. As alluded to in preceding paragraphs, we have a long history that begins in 1908, five years after the Canadian Signalling Corps was established by Major Bruce Carruthers. Since that time, our Regiment has seen numerous changes including name changes. 32 Signal Regiment stood up formerly in 2011 with the amalgamation of 700 Communication Squadron and 709 Communication Regiment. We must never forget the roots that have grown strongly in Borden and in Toronto, but we must also take pride in the new unit that has been created with this unification. We must think as one unit, and to do that, we must identify ourselves as members of 32 Signal Regiment. To help with this process, I have asked the Regimental Association Council to look at raising funds to purchase 32 Sig Regt CADPAT rank badges that will replace our beloved RCCS rank badges. In this manner, everyone will wear our unit identify on their chest no matter what occupation they may be in. In the same vein, during the last CO's OGP, Captain Stu Briggs, after consulting with Regimental reps and the RSM, presented several options to formerly name the Borden and Toronto Squadrons as well as the Logistics support organization and I am pleased to report that a decision has been reached. The formal announcement will be made during the Stand-Down Bar-B-Que on 7 June 2015.

As the training year is rapidly winding down, I would like to acknowledge the nine plus years that Lieutenant-Colonel

Greg Stasyna was in command of this unit. He has given heart and soul to the Regiment and has left a strong legacy and solid foundation for the future. On behalf of the Regiment, many thanks for the hard work and devotion that you gave to the men and women who serve at 32 Signal Regiment. Although Chief Warrant Officer Robert Carter has passed on the Regimental Sergeant Major responsibilities to Chief Warrant Officer Marcel Mallia, he fortunately will be staying with in Regiment for a while longer.

To conclude, I would like to wish those completing career courses during the summer the best of luck, and to the instructors, my sincere gratitude for stepping up and making yourselves available. I would like to also encourage every serving member to make your best effort to participate in EX STALWART GUARDIAN 2015, as this year is a pivotal for the Militia in their role at force generating a capability in support of Canadian Armed Forces readiness.

Velox Versutus Vigilans

Lieutenant-Colonel D.J.W. Bergeron, Commanding Officer

Canadian Army Rank Appointment Insignias



continued from **Regimental Sergeant Major**

Let's not mention that the Unit has gone and changed both, the RSM and CO, in that period of time, so busy is a word used repeatedly here at 32 Sigs.

Now as we wind down the Training Year 2014/15, we are in the midst of deploying our equipment and personnel to the Training Centres across Canada for our summer courses. Currently we have both, students and instructors, in Petawawa, Meaford, Kingston, Ottawa, and more taskings coming our way daily. Many times the Operations Officer has expressed the desire to NOT check his e-mail, fearing more last minute tasks will arrive. It's inevitable, they always do. No one has yet mentioned the Pan AM games to us, but if I were a betting man..... Enough said I imagine, I still do remember what we endured during the G20 meetings of 2010.

On a different note, I would like to mention to all that were here, and those who were not able to make it to the Change of Commanding Officer back in March 2015, we, 32 Signal Regiment, was the first, and to this day, the only unit in Canada, to have had the Royal Canadian Signal banner on Parade. I want to extend my gratitude to the all that made it possible; it was certainly a memorable event to be at, let alone the RSM of the parade.

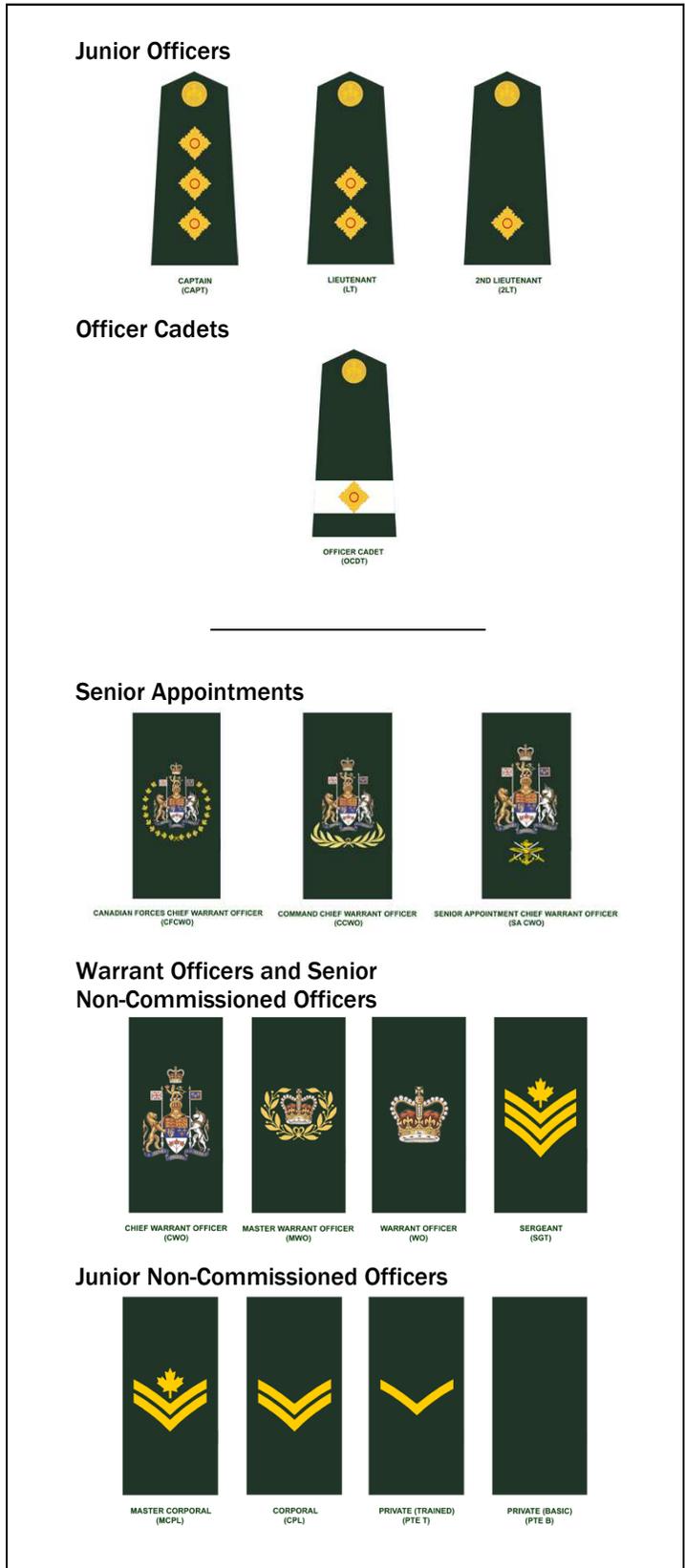
With that, just want to give you somewhat of a timeline the Regiment will be following for the remainder of 2015. First we will be holding a Professional Development weekend for our Leadership taking place end of May, followed by our, sort of, stand-down beginning of June. Sort of is always a relative term, especially when we say stand-down, because followed that, we begin the summer training. This year again we are Tasked to host, out of Borden, the basic Communication Course for Soldier who have completed their recruit course and are earmarked to be Signallers. Once that is completed, all of us will deploy to Petawawa for the last two weeks in August for Stalwart Guardian 15, this being the culmination of all the Brigade Training that has occurred over the last year.

Upon our return to the unit, we'll begin the cleaning and re-issuing kit to our Squadrons so it can all begin again for the cycle known as Training Year 2015/16, beginning with Stand-up Parade/Trg the weekend following the Labour Day weekend.

Please keep in touch, and hope to see you all soon.

V.V.V.

M. (Marcel) Mallia
 Chief Warrant Officer/Adjutant-chef
 Regimental Sergeant-Major | Sergent-Major Régimentaire



Command Team

Honorary Colonel

HCol Leech, CM



by HCol Jim Leech

One Year Into It

It was one year ago that I was “sworn in” as the new Honorary Colonel of 32 Signal Regiment, succeeding HCol Sally Horsfall-Eaton who had been an “Honorary” for over 18 years. The year has sped by quickly so I thought this would be a good time to take stock of what I have experienced.

First a few facts that you may not know (or were afraid to ask):

1. *What are the Honoraries’ (we have both an Honorary Colonel and an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel) duties/responsibilities?* The Honorary Aide-Memoir out lines, 18 duties! The most important responsibilities are:

- a. Fostering esprit de corps
- b. Developing strong community support for the unit
- c. Liaising with unit charities and associations
- d. Liaising with Commanding Officer and other area Honoraries
- e. Attending ceremonial parades and unit functions
- f. Help provide continuity within the unit, and
- g. Provide advice on unit succession

Importantly, the HCol is an **advisory role** and does not carry a command function.

2. *How are the Honoraries chosen?* They are appointed by the Minister of National Defence upon recommendation of the Chief of the Defence Staff. Practically speaking, the Regiment initiates the process a year in advance by identifying potential candidates and sending recommendations to higher command. This process is currently underway given the pending retirement of HCol Alex Moseanu. We expect the Minister will announce his replacement by year end.
3. *How long do Honoraries serve?* Honoraries are appointed for a three year term. If they wish to continue their service, they need to be reappointed at the end of each term. The norm is two terms so I will have to start that reappointment process sometime during the twelve months. HCol Sally Horsfall-Eaton’s 18 years of service is unusual; 7 years were as HLCol and then, given the amalgamation of the predecessor Squadrons to form 32 Signal Regiment, it was felt that continuity was important.
4. *Are Honoraries paid?* No, it is strictly a voluntary position.

So, what have I been up to since my appointment in April last year?

My year started with the mandatory visit to the Stores at Denison Armouries to get my uniforms which now take up an entire closet in our guest room. Of course shortly after being issued my tunics, they were recalled to change the rank insignia back to “pips and crowns”! Shortly after receiving my uniforms, there was a series of events (Mess Dinner and Ceremonial Parade) associated with Sally’s hand over and retirement. This was a great opportunity for my wife and me to meet many in the Regimental family as well as the Regiment, Band and Cadet Corps turned out at their finest. Following those ceremonies, we met to review the applications for SHE Bursaries, narrowing the list to six recommendations. Subsequently, at my first 32 Signal Regiment Advisory Council meeting we approved those bursaries, granted funds to Regimental activities (Mess, Band and Cadet Corps) and received SITREPS from our CO and Regimental associations. This was all a steep learning curve for me.

One follow up from the Regiment Advisory Council was a change in Treasurer from Joe Plut to Renny deGroot-MacKinnon. It was more complicated than you can imagine as we had to transition and sort out the banking and investment formalities.

During the summer I was able to visit our signallers participating on Exercise Stalwart Guardian, the annual summer military concentration held this year in Welland. Alex, the Padre and I spent a day with our soldiers in the field and were impressed with their professional hi-tech capabilities.

Towards the end of the year there was another series of events: 4 Division meeting of all Honoraries;

continued from HCol Leech

Remembrance Day Church Parade; Mess dinner and parade for the hand over from CWO Rob Carter to CWO Marcel Mallia; Regimental Christmas lunch; and New Year's levy – incidentally, we were one of the few units at Fort York Armoury that had a good turnout for our levy.

Over the past few months I have spent considerable time on:

◆ Dinner and change of command parade for our Commanding Officer (LCol Greg Stasyna to LCol Dan Bergeron). On your behalf, I welcome Dan to this new post and wish him good fortune. He is taking over a well run Regiment and has the

opportunity to build upon Greg's success.

◆ Working with Capt Ric Rangel-Bron on planning for the 2016 Toronto Garrison Officers' Ball.

The Garrison Ball is going to be a major undertaking for the Regimental Advisory Council, supported by the Regiment. It is the first time that a unit of our size has been tasked to sponsor the Ball. We are fortunate to have Ric on our team as he has considerable experience in event planning. Nevertheless, the RAC, including me, will have to be fully engaged on this file for the next twelve months as we

want it to be innovative and a huge success. I want to thank Sally and John Catto for their early financial and moral support. Our job will be to put together a captivating programme, negotiate strong sponsor support and sell tickets – it will take all hands on deck! So if you want to lend a hand, please contact Ric – he has lots of tasks to delegate.

My second year will likely be even busier; although hopefully we will not have three senior retirements! I hope to spend some more time connecting with our soldiers on a more personal basis.

Padre's Corner

by Capt Audrey Brown

There's a wonderful scene in an old movie where a guardian angel played by Audrey Hepburn, explains to a pilot who has just died, his new role. Just as he was inspired when he needed it most, she tells him, it is now his turn to provide "the divine breath to others." As she puts it, "They hear you inside their own minds as if it were their thoughts."

I have always liked this notion that we are surrounded by a wisdom that is constantly around us, just beyond the thin veil of our sentient being, yet one that is accessible to us. Some call it intuition, a sixth sense, the voices of the ancestors, or simply the collective wisdom contained in our DNA. This continuation of knowledge and memory is what we seek when we carry on traditions. Our habits, styles, uniforms, names, and the 'way of doing things', begun by others, connects us to them, in our everyday life. From this, we gain inspiration, and the ability to do more than we could have ever imagined we could.

When we stand against whatever has come our way, it is helpful to know that someone has experienced the same circumstance. In that moment when we come face to face with a reality that we do not want to encounter, it is good to sense our connection, not just with those who surround us in another time and space, but those who are around us, as well.

There is always someone who has been through what you are going through, made the mistakes you've made, experienced the same pain, wondered the same things. Someone who has thought the world had ended, and has known it to go on, and on...to greater things. You are not the only one!!! When we isolate ourselves, when we are afraid to tell someone our struggles, our pains, our fears, even our greatest secrets, we miss our chance to connect into the great energy, wisdom and support that surrounds us.

"Right now, there are people all over the world who are just like you. They're lonely. They're missing

somebody. They're in love with someone they probably shouldn't be in love with. They have secrets you wouldn't believe. They wish and they dream and they hope, and they look out the window whenever they're in the car or on a bus or a train and they watch people on the streets and wonder what they've been through. They wonder if there are people out there like them. They're like you, and you could tell them everything and they would understand. And right now, they're sitting here reading these words, and I'm writing this for you so you don't feel alone anymore." (source unknown)

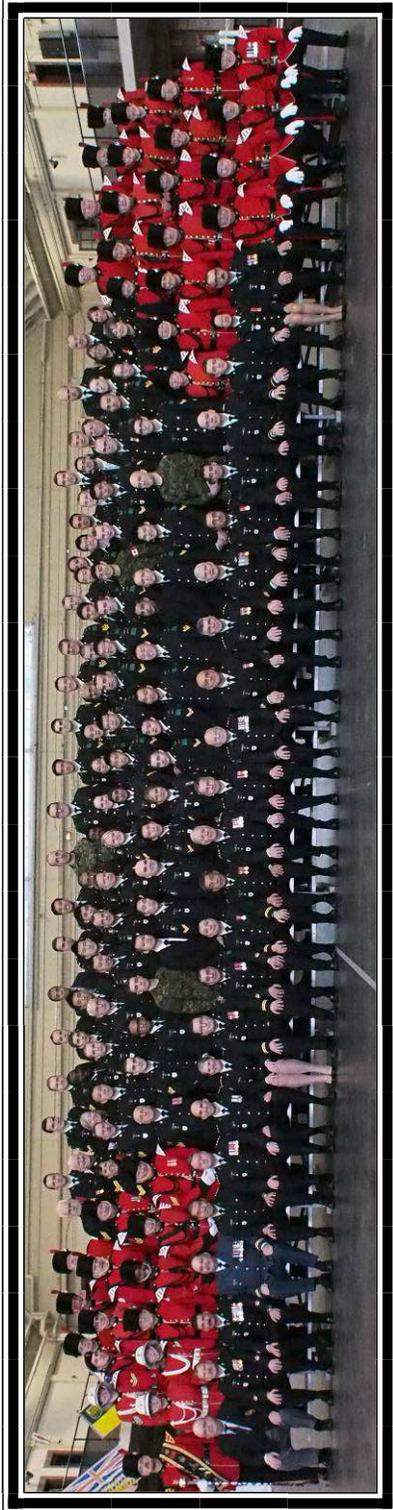


We are never alone. We stand in the footsteps of those who have gone on before us, and when we understand this, we stand firm. "Every heart that has beat strong and cheerfully has left a hopeful impulse behind it in the world, and bettered the tradition of mankind."

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

From the Regiment

32 Signal Regiment



32 Signal Regiment (Christmas 2014)



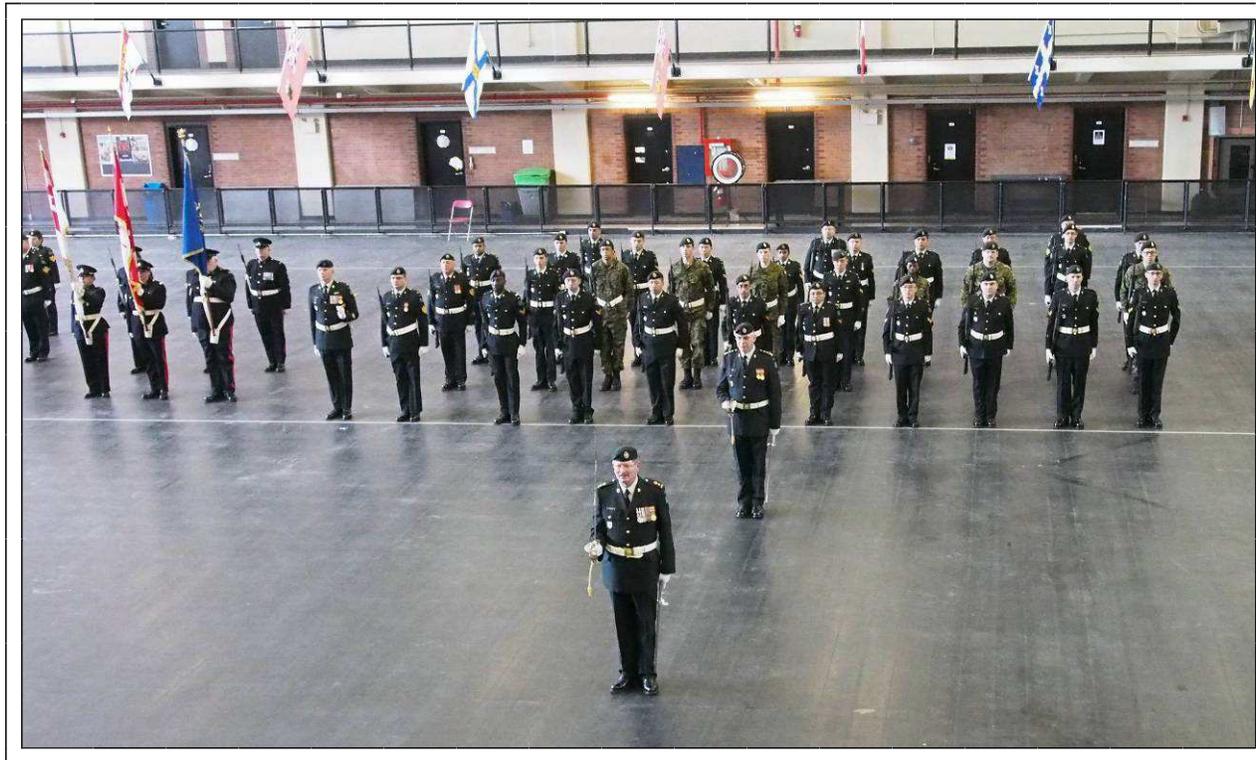
From the Regiment

Change of Command from LCol Stasyna to LCol Bergeron



From the Regiment

continued from **Change of Command**



From the Regiment

2015 Jr Ranks Regimental Ball



Cpl Percival, Pte Nguyen, Cpl Mao, Cpl Cheung, MCpl Song

Junior Ranks Mess Committee:

President - Cpl Michael Percival

Vice President - Cpl Jacky Mao

Secretary - Cpl Kevin Cheung

Treasurer - Pte Huy Nguyen



From the Regiment

continued from 2015 Jr Ranks Regimental Ball



From the Regiment Awards and Promotions



Sergeant Richard Lacroix, CD



Sergeant David Spessot, CD

For 22 years of service, CD1, presented to
Sergeant Richard Lacroix, CD and Sergeant David Spessot, CD.



Corporal Aziz



From the rank of Private to the rank of Corporal
Corporal Aziz (left) and Cpl Hong (bellow)



Corporal Hong

From the Regiment Presentations



CFLC - Presented to 32 Signal Regiment by Queens Park for Canadian Forces Liaison Council.



CO's Commendation presented to Lt. Neville.

Ontario Government Award for Paramedic Bravery



The Ontario Award for Paramedic Bravery is a new award created to honour paramedics who have performed an act of exceptional courage.

Citation Reads:
While Commander Ric Rangel-Bron was leading a group from the Royal

Canadian Air Cadets on a trip in France, he spotted flames coming from the chimney and roof of a nearby house. He called for the bus to stop and, accompanied by two of his peers, ran into the burning house three times to save the endangered individuals inside. Rangel-Bron's quick action and persistence ensured that everyone safely evacuated the house.



CO's Award presented to Capt Ric Rangel-Bron.

S.H.E. Recipients

We are proud to announce and congratulate the following recipients of the SHE fund for 2015.

- Kolin Ao
- Steward Landon Drake
- Laen Hanson
- Chase Jonathon Stubbings and
- Jie Zhu



Jimmy & Associate's Trophy presented to Sgt Rogala (left) and Cpl Hamel (right).

Cadets

709 Signals Cadet Corps

by Capt Steven Morgan,
CO 709 Cadets



Another successful training year is drawing to a close for the 709 Toronto Signals Army Cadet Corps. Our training has been conducted on a weekly basis at St. Thomas Aquinas school on Wednesday nights from 1845 to 2130 hrs, with select training nights also held at Fort York Armoury. The cadets, who number 80, range in age from 12 to 18 and are distributed among five training levels.

The Corps has been very active this year participating in many activities new to the Corps. On January 24th the cadets travelled to Snow Valley Resort just West of Barrie to spend the morning snowshoeing, and after a hearty lunch they got to try a run on the amazing snow tubing hills before returning home.

One of the highlights of the training year was the shooting and sports day held at Fort York Armoury on February 14th. Each of the cadets had the chance to practice their marksmanship skills on the Daisy air rifle, and enjoyed a fun afternoon of physical activity playing team sports. Senior Cadets also had the opportunity to test their shooting skills on the SAT (small arms trainer) shooting at an array of reactive targets.

On March 2nd the corps spent the night rock climbing at True North Climbing Centre in Downview Park where the cadets tested their climbing abilities on the many challenging rock faces as their fellow cadets belayed them.

On March 15th thirty four cadets and four staff departed for Camp Pendleton Virginia by bus travelling overnight and arriving the next morning. The cadets spent the next 5 days visiting the various military establishments in the area including Oceana Naval Air Station, and Naval Station Norfolk. One of the many highlights of the visit was having the opportunity to tour the USS George HW Bush, the largest nuclear aircraft carrier in the US fleet. Some, including myself, had the rare opportunity to have our picture

taken in the Captains chair. Departing Virginia on the 20th the cadets traveled to Washington DC where they spent the day visiting the various museums and attractions surrounding the National Mall. After dinner the cadets boarded the bus and departed for Toronto at 2200 and arriving back to Denison Armouries on the 21st at 0830 hrs.

On Sunday, March 22, Master Cadets along with the Silver and Gold Stars (30 in total) participated in the Regiments Change of Command Parade from LCol Greg Stasyna to LCol Daniel Bergeron alongside the soldiers of the 32 Signal Regiment. We would like extend our thanks to LCol Greg Stasyna for his support of the Corps over the years of his command, and we wish him well in his future postings.

April 17-19 the Corps practiced and honed their navigation skill at CFB Borden spending the weekend moving within the training areas using various navigation techniques and tools, including map and compass as well as GPS. After a long day of training the cadets were treated to hot dogs and marshmallows over the campfire before turning in for the night at MP bivouac site Saturday night.

continued on page 16

Virginia Beach March Break Trip

by Cadet CWO Shawna Mae
Fresco, RSM, 709 Cadet Corps

709 Toronto Signals Army
Cadet Corps Virginia Beach
March Break Trip 2015

Thirty-four cadets and four Officers from 709 Toronto Signals Cadet Corps spent their March Break on an exciting and one-of-a-kind trip to Virginia Beach and Washington, D.C.

The group travelled by bus to Camp Pendleton in Virginia Beach, where cadets slept in Marine Corps barracks and ate at the various mess halls on the base.

The first day included a trip to the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center, where cadets had the chance to explore the interactive activities, watched a film about sharks in 3D, and had the change to pet stingrays.

The highlight of day two was an exciting

tour of the USS George H.W. Bush aircraft carrier, among the largest and most powerful ships ever built. The cadets were treated to a tour of the Bridge, flight deck and hangar. Some cadets even had the rare opportunity to have their picture taken in the CO's chair. To wind down the day, the cadets visited downtown Norfolk and spent a fun evening bowling at one of the two alleys on the base.

continued on page 16

continued from 709 Signals Cadet Corps

On May 22 -24 the corps departed from FYA for the final FTX of the year travelling on foot to the Island Ferry Docks where they set up their bivouac upon reaching Snake Island. They had the opportunity to canoe within the various canals and participated in various team sports over the two days spent there before returning to FYA Sunday afternoon.

This year, our Annual Review will be held at Fort York Armoury on Monday, June 1st at 1900 hrs. Cadets will demonstrate what they have learned throughout the training year on the parade square and awards will be presented to top performing cadets. The Reviewing Officer for the 2015 Annual Review will be LCol Greg Stasyna CD, former Commanding Officer of 32 Signal Regiment. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Our training year comes to an end in June, and many cadets will spend two to six weeks of their summer on training courses at Cadet Summer Training Centres in Blackdown and Connaught. Cadets will attend Drill and Ceremonial, Expedition Instructor, Marksmanship Instructor, Basic Expedition, Sports and Fitness Instructor, Basic Sports and Fitness and General Training courses. Training will resume in September, when our cadets will return with many new skills and experiences.

Please visit and like our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/709army>

and website

<http://www.709cadets.ca/>

to learn more about our Corps
and find out about upcoming events.

On behalf of the Cadets, Officers and Staff of the 709 Toronto Signals Cadet Corps, I would like to thank 32 Signals Regiment and the Regimental Family for their ongoing support. In particular, I would like recognize Cpl Guy Hamel CD, serving member of the Regiment, for his assistance over the past year. Cpl Hamel was the directing staff for the Red Star Level and provided opportunities to the Cadets to learn more about the Signals Regiment.

Have a wonderful safe summer!

Captain Steven Morgan
Commanding Officer
709 Toronto Signals RCACC

continued from Virginia Beach March Break Trip

On day three, the cadets toured a Navy F/A-18 Fighter Jet Wing, where Lt. Jack Keilty provided the cadets with a great tour and the opportunity to see inside the cockpit of the impressive F/A-18 Hornet. The afternoon was spent touring Virginia Beach, and even though the ocean was cold a few cadets dared to dip their toes in the ocean. After dinner in the mess, the cadets enjoyed a movie in the barracks.

Day four found the cadets touring the USS Oak Hill, a Navy Amphibious Carrier, at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek. The cadets had a chance to explore the area where they load and unload assault vehicles. The group spent the afternoon learning how to control and navigate large naval ships by using the hands-on ship handling simulator at Naval Station Norfolk. Some cadets "Captained" the craft for a "chicken run" and attempted to slolem through six approaching naval destroyers. Some paint was taken off some of the vessels! After dinner at the Norfolk mess, cadets visited the Naval Exchange where you can buy

everything from shoe polish to 50 inch televisions. Mostly we bought t-shirts and souvenirs.

The final day of this exciting trip was spent in Washington, D.C., where the cadets visited all of the remarkable sites of the National Mall, including the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial, and had fun touring the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. Cadets enjoyed their last American meal, 'Chinese food', before boarding the bus to head home.

After a long overnight 12 hour bus ride back to Toronto, everyone made it home safe and sound, full of stories and memories to share about this unforgettable trip.

Cadet CWO Shawna Mae Fresco, RSM
709 Toronto Signals Army Cadet Corps

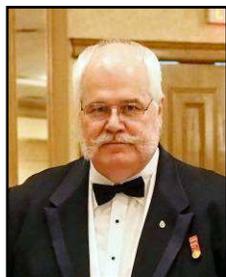
Associations

Regimental Advisory Council



Regimental Advisory Council meeting of May 2nd 2015.

Jimmy and Associates



Jimmy and Associates Report

The Annual General Meeting and Elections of Jimmy and Associates was held in

the 32 Signal Officers Mess on April 26, 2015. The new slate of officers for 2015-2017 are:

President – Hal Buller
Vice-President – Jack Lee
Secretary – Steve Cheney

Treasurer – David Spessot
Membership/Communication – Rose Kelly
Immediate Past President – David Douglas

Support for the Regimental cadets will be expanded to now include the new 32 Signal Cadet Corps and the Muskoka Pioneers as well as the 709 Cadet Corps to recognise outstanding cadets for the year.

Jimmy and Associates will also continue to contribute to the Communications and Electronic Branch Museum in Kingston for maintenance of their display cases.

The Flag Party has asked for funding of new uniforms, as the present supply has been exhausted and are need of serious repair – the executive will be looking at ways and means to rectify this issue, as it would be appropriate to have ‘scarlets’ in time for the for the 2016 Toronto Officers Garrison Ball. Any suggestion of funding would be most appreciated.

The ‘J and A’ annual BBQ has been set for Saturday August 8, at Lou Lombardi’s estate in Claremont so, please mark your calendar for this outstanding event of Regimental fellowship.

continued on page 18

Toronto Signals Band

The Toronto Signals band is off to a great start this year performing in their first parade of the season, the Beaches Easter Parade, on Sunday April 5th. Before heading off to the parade, the Ding-a-Lings decided to get into the spirit of things by dressing up in bunny ears and cute cotton tails. Mother Nature did not seem to notice that it was spring yet with it cold temperatures and lovely white stuff falling from the sky. Of

course, the Band was prepared with long johns and gloves so not even the weather will stop the band from performing.

On a sad/happy note, one of our Drummers, Josh’s “pere” was dying and the Band videoed a rehearsal of “A Bridge Too Far” and it was sent to Wawa so the grandfather was able to see it the day before he died.

continued on page 18



continued from Jimmy and Associates

We will again be awarding deserving soldiers from the Toronto and Borden squadrons with the prestigious Jimmy and Associates trophy to be presented to those who have shown outstanding Devotion and Dedication to the Regiment for the year – the criterion will be sent out to the Officers shortly, with the presentations to be made at the Regimental Christmas luncheon in December.

Reports and updates were given by the Hamilton Signal Association, the Hong

Kong Veterans Association and the 29 U.S. Infantry Division Association.

The Regimental Sitrep was presented to J and A members by Major Alfred Lai so that the members present were briefed on the Regiments progress and action plans, well-done Major Lai.

Further to that, Captain Ric Rangel-Bron gave an overview and progress report with regards to the Toronto Garrison Officer's Ball that is being hosted by our Regiment – all members

of 'J and A' are now up-to-speed with respect to this important undertaking.

Our membership sits at 100 and is growing yet we need to expand our 'family' to include more of our active soldiers from the various squadrons. For those not members please consider joining us.

The AGM ended with our Social – wine and cheese and regimental fellowship.

continued from Toronto Signals Band

We re-recorded the tune in full uniform on Easter so that the song will be played at the visitation and funeral event.

The outgoing CO LCol Greg Stasyna came to visit the band on Monday April 20th to receive his parting gifts, a band jacket and a once in a life time academy winning performance by our cymbal's players Crash and Smash. Crash and Smash started off by marching in and halting with twelve-step hands in every possible position salute. They then performed a skit/song about Greg's life/duties with the

Signals Reserve unit in addition to his gizmo duties with the band.

The band will be off for more fun and games during the July long weekend to Erie Pennsylvania to perform in the July 4th parade.

Next year will mark the 90th Anniversary for the Toronto Signals Band. We will be hosting a Weekend to Remember Event. It will take place 23 to 25 September 2016 at Courtyard By Marriott Hotel in Brampton. The weekend event will include Dinner/ Dance with open bar and a Farewell

Breakfast along with special pricing for rooms. For further information or to RSVP to this amazing event please e-mail us at torsigs90@gmail.com

Eleonore Edwards
Public Relations
Toronto Signals Band



Toronto Police Gala



November 2014

The Ron Jordan Story

THE YOUNG LIFE OF THE OLDEST MEMBER OF THE TORONTO SIGNALS BAND

I was born in Verdun, a suburb of Montreal, in 1923. Things were tough in those days. My father and mother were



born in England. My mother arrived in Montreal with her first husband and three young girls. Her husband was offered the Chief Engineer's job in a huge company. Only wealthy people owned cars in the early nineties.

Unfortunately, when her husband was driving his car, he was hit by a streetcar and killed. After paying for the funeral, and other things, my mother was poor. She met my father and they were soon married. He was the father of a grown daughter who was married before I was born. My sister Joan and I were the only children of both parents.

My mother was a lovely, kind person and loved all of her children. My father was a very honest person but had a miserable temper.

When I was around twelve years old, a man in my church was starting a bugle band, called, The Boys Brigade. I thought it was great to play in it, until I saw the Sea Cadets. They had a large band, so I applied and I became a member. A few years later, I saw the band of the Victoria Rifles. I thought, "I'd love to be in that band." One night, I went to a practice and asked if I could join. The band members howled with laughter. The Drum Major told them to stop the laughing. He said, "I want to

hear him play." I played the Last Post and a couple of other tunes. He said, "You are now a member." I marched with them until 1939. When the war started, the regiment went on active service. They were one of the first Canadian regiments to go to war. I then joined the band of the Royal Montreal Regiment. When they went on active service, I joined the band of the Sixth Duke of Connaught's Royal Canadian Hussars. I was with them until they were called for active duty.

When I turned eighteen; I tried to join the army. I was given a medical, but flunked them. I had an acute sinus problems, I was flatfooted, and only weighed 113 pounds. The minimum was 130 or 135. The medical officer said, "The weight that you would have to carry, would weigh more than you". All the people in the room had a good laugh. The officer then told me that I could never be called for duty. I felt awful.

Months later, a couple of friends came to my home and asked if I would go with them to join the air force. I went and was the only one to get in. They joined the navy.

When the officer asked me what I did in the reserves, I told him that I was a trumpet player. He said, "We need trumpet players. They are required to play the various calls, and, also, to march in bands." I said, "I expected to fly." He replied, "Bands are needed to assist in teaching people to march properly. Marching with bands saves time in the training. In addition, they are required to parade in cities and towns to raise money for the war effort. It is surprising how many war bonds are sold at each parade" I replied, "That is great, but I want to fly". He said, "On your application, that you have health problems. You mentioned that you are working for Fairchild Aircraft, and what you did there. There are no openings

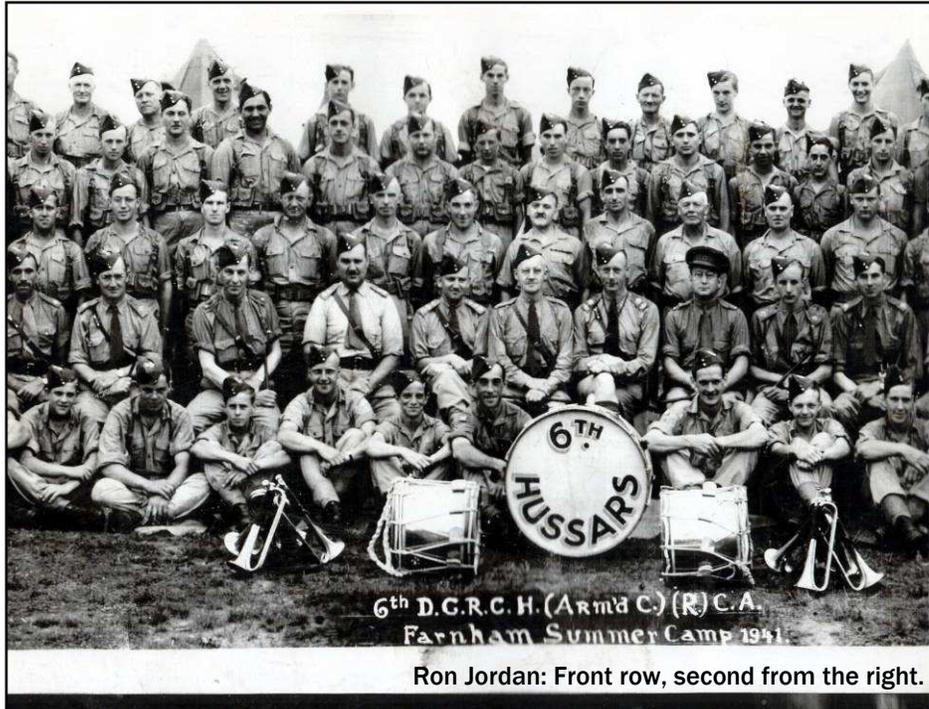
here. Start with the band work and maybe you will be able to re-muster later." So I joined as a bandsman. I went to the trumpet instructor's school. While there, the sergeant of the Manning Pool Band, heard me at a practice, and asked the leader to let me go to play in the band. I played there for a year or so. I met a girl in Toronto, and married her. I was asked to go to Dunville to teach the calls to the trumpeters. Marg and I moved to Dunville and lived off the station. We rented a small apartment in a house and paid five dollars a month for rent. We received an allowance for that and I had been sending half my pay to my parents, since I joined the air force. I moved twice after that to Ottawa, then to Pendelton Ontario.

The war ended, and we returned home. I had purchased a new bike, a nice suit, and a great tweed overcoat. When I asked my mother where my things were, she said, "We sold them all." I was stuck in a uniform until I could get some more clothing. My wife courses and came home from work, I had my supper then studied until two or three in the morning.

A few years later, I got a job in main Toronto post office next to union station. I worked for five years as a clerk in the air mail section. There was an airmail dispatcher at the airport post office. I got the job. I worked there for five years, and then transferred to the Information wicket in the main post office. After five years there I got a transfer to the Claims and Enquiries Division. I became a Supervisor. Shortly after, I received a call from Postal Headquarters in Ottawa. I was asked to fly to Ottawa as they wanted to make me an offer to go there as Correspondent Officer to the Postmaster General's office. I was also to do the trouble shooting for the PMG's office. I was always too busy to take coffee breaks, or lunch breaks. I took a

continued from **The Ron Jordan Story**

sandwich and ate it at my desk and kept on working. I started before my scheduled time, and left later than I should have. I took a three year French course. The first week of each month, I went to French school. Fortunately, it was held in my building.



I was in my office at seven a.m. and the French course started at nine. It finished at four, and I was back in my office, trying to keep from getting too many cases piling up. I had twenty eight years' service, so I took my pension and went into real estate.

I have been associated in the military most of my life. I started at age of fifteen in Montreal in the Victoria Rifles Bugle Band. Then I joined the Royal Montreal Regiment bugle band, The Duke of Connaughts Royal Canadian Hussars. I was in the R.C.A.F, on active service, from 1942 until 1945. After the war, I moved to Toronto and, after a few years there, I joined the Queen's Own Rifles Bugle Band. Eventually I transferred to the Signals Band. A job transfer to Ottawa prevented me to continue with the Band. I retired from the Government and for 17 years I sold real estate and was unable to come

back to the band, because of the hours I worked. However, when I retired from real estate, I came returned to the band. I stayed there until I was 87 or 88. I am now over 90 and I miss being in the band.

Events and Notices

Jimmy and Associates 2015 Annual BBQ

Saturday, August the 8th, 14:00hrs at the home of Lou Lombardi.

Cost: \$10 per person for BBQ steak, plus cash bar, plus donation for new uniforms.

Details: Come and enjoy this peaceful urban location. Share your Regimental stories with friends. Bring your own eating utensils, plates, chairs and if you want a cold salad or desert.



Associations

Hamilton Signals Association

by Maj (ret'd) Ken Lloyd, CD
President, Signals Mobile Memorial Project

THE SIGNALS MOBILE MEMORIAL PROJECT: LINE TRUCK



Welcome,

On 25th April 2015 the Signals Mobile Memorial Project began.

The Mission is to spread the story of Canadian Signalers both past and present across our communities.

The Commemorative memorials are a Line truck for Line crew and a Rad Van for Rad Ops, These are the two most identifiable vehicles for signalers and their trades.



These trucks are presently being sourced and renovated to visit schools, retirement homes and exhibitions. They will join our Visual Signal Team who already has an established Signals education programme. The memorial trucks will bring the experience of laying line or operating Signal equipment to events and exhibitions and keep alive the names and stories of the men and women who used this equipment.

Through this project the story of Canadian Signals will be shared and retold to visitors who see the Brass memorial plaques immortalising the names of Line or Rad crew



members or read and hear from our Interpreters the stories preserved in the Memorial books inside each vehicle. Presently, we are renovating and specifically seeking equipment for the GMC Line truck. We are seeking the names and stories of Line crew and Rad Ops. We are seeking members to join our Team so that the trucks may visit across and beyond South Western Ontario.

If you wish to nominate the name and history of a Line Crew or Rad Op please send an email to kenlloyd.mediator@gmail.com or info@hamiltonsignals.com

There is a small maintenance fee for each accepted nomination of \$250. We also welcome and thank our donors who are making this project for sharing the signals experience a reality.

We would also like to thank the most recent donors to our project; HCol Jim Leech, Kristin Courtney from Medichair and Anne Louise Vick on behalf of the Line men of 1st Independent Sigs.

The Hamilton Signals Association is a registered charity.

Velux Versutus Vigilans

Maj (ret'd) Ken Lloyd, CD

President
Signals Mobile Memorial Project
Hamilton Signals Association
905-825-9898

continued from **Hamilton Signals Association**

SIGNALS HERITAGE DAY

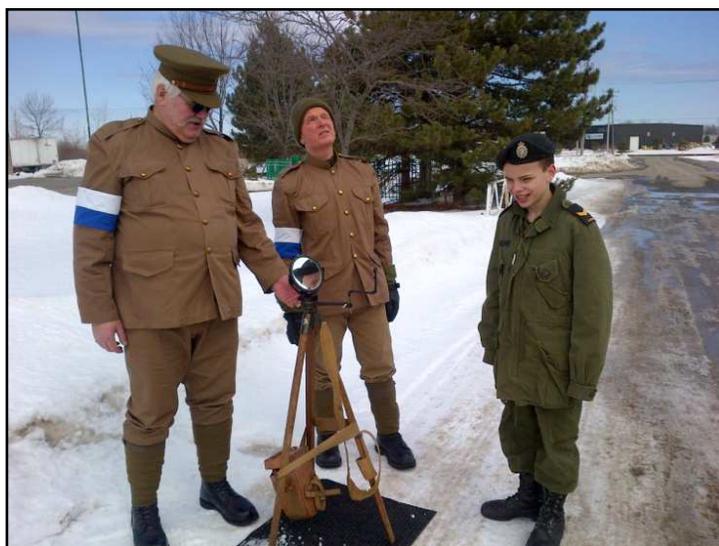
8th March 2015



How are you feeling?

"Cold, but really cool!" The young Cadet shivered in the snow and repeated "really cool". His Heliograph flashed its message across the icy car park, then spying an empty office its circle of light bounced off the windows and disappointingly failed to activate the light sensor alarm at which our cadet so hopefully aimed the heliograph. "Really cool".

The Visual Signals Team of the Hamilton Signals Association and the Friends of HMCS HAIDA spent the day with 1626 Army Cadet Corps in Beamsville, Ontario. The



aim was to share the proud heritage of Canadian Signalling before the advent of Radios and cellphones. After a presentation giving an overview of Signalling from the Battle of Marathon to Flanders Fields, the Cadets had individual group experience with heritage equipment.

Assisted by George Stal and Jim Friend Morse keys and magneto phones were popular as many tried their hands at laying and connecting telegraph line.

continued from **Hamilton Signals Association**



Semaphore and Morse flags were practiced under the careful tutelage of Ron Kirk and Andy Barber who shared their photographs for the presentation and recounted some of the thrills of signalling on a moving ship.

For those fascinated by the recent publicity about “The Enigma” mechanical cryptographic machine Ken Lloyd provided mini tutorials in the thrills of practicing the Caesar shift cipher code and the added complication of deciphering. The indoor training culminated in the groups moving outside to put into practice their new skills. Right on cue, the sun emerged from the clouds and it was perfect weather for the Heliographs. Rick Little and Hal Buller guided the teams who sent messages to the Aldis light and Semaphore teams for their reply. Confirmation was by land line manned by the Cadets.

In the shadow of a garage and out of the wind, The Friends of HMCS HAIDA drilled Cadets into the brisk sharp movements that are the pride of today’s Navy as they were before Radio.

Reminiscent of the Battle for Antwerp in 1914, the Cadets utilized Army and Navy Visual communications as part of our celebrations of Signals Heritage Day. The Cadet Corp officers Captains Stephan Bencur and Charlene McCullough were splendid hosts and generous in their thanks for the wonderful day we had the pleasure of sharing.

Maj (ret’d) Ken Lloyd, CD
 President: Friends of HMCS HAIDA and
 Hamilton Signals Association



Hamilton Signals Association
 4 Tyler Drive
 Stoney Creek, Ontario L8E 4W9
 Phone (905) 662-8021



Charity Registration # 827062308RR0001

In Memory and Obituaries

Ron MacFeeter

After a wonderful life lived Ron MacFeeters died on Sunday, December 7, 2014 of complications from a fall on November 19, two days before his 100th birthday. He died on the eighth anniversary of the death of his wife Diana.

He will be remembered for his wit, his memory, his love of learning and his maxims, including his greeting that he was 'all the better for seeing you'.

During WWII he joined the army Signal Corp and earned the rank of Lieutenant. A physical exam during embarkation leave in New York identified limited vision resulting in a return to Ottawa where he spent the rest of the war as a Signal Master at NDHQ.

After the war Ron worked with his father to perfect a recipe for Honey Butter which he manufactured at MacFeeters Creamery on Jarvis Street until 1971 when he sold the business and devoted more time to examining the stock market where he saw the Dow Jones grow from under 300 to heights of over 17,000.

Ron met Diana Hamilton at an RCYC dance and they were married in 1951. They had over 55 years together until her death in 2006.

Ron was the oldest surviving charter member of the Signals Officers Club.

Mr. Bruce Harmsworth

It is with deep sadness to announce the sudden passing of former Toronto Signals Band member Bruce Harmsworth. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.

Bruce was a Bass Drum player in the Toronto Signals Band. Prior to playing with the Sigs, he played Bass drum in the Hamilton Firefighters Drum Corps.



We will remember them.

General Ramsey Withers, CMM CD



It is with a saddened heart today that the Branch Leadership must inform you of the unexpected passing, on 24 December 2014, of General Ramsey M. Withers.

Commissioned as a Lieutenant in The Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, General Withers graduated from RMC in 1952 and his first posting was to 1 R 22eR in Korea. His first appointment as a General Officer was in 1970, as the founding Commander of Canadian Forces Northern Region. He subsequently commanded Canadian Forces Europe at the rank of Major-General and in 1977, on promotion to Lieutenant-General, returned to Canada as the Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff. In 1980, on promotion to General, he was appointed Canada's sixth Chief of the Defence Staff.

After a very distinguished and notable military career, General Withers remained a strong supporter of the Communications and Electronics Branch, particularly as the Honorary Chairman of the Board of Governors of the History Book Project, Semaphore to Satellite.

Bob Carruthers

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Bob Carruthers. Bob was the Drum Major of Canada's Marching Ambassadors and The Leaside Lions Drum Corps. Bob passed away at the Georgian Bay General Hospital, Midland January 28, 2015.

Mr. Stan Mistak

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Alumni Member Stan Mistak. Stan was a Trumpet player who played in Western and Signals and he will be greatly missed by all his friends and comrades.

A service was held on Friday, January 30th at 10:15 am at St. Cashmere's Church, 156 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, Ontario.

In Memory and Obituaries

Cyril George Weston

Passed away on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 in his 95th year. Beloved husband of the late Nancy. Loving father of Susan, Sharon and her husband Kevin Barnes and Heather and her husband Len Janke. Devoted grandfather of Amanda (Danny), Stephen (Vanessa), Kyle, Kristofer and Lauren.

Gwen Broome



Passed away at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Barrie on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at the age of 82.

Loving wife of John "Jack" Broome for 60 years. Cherished mother of Susan (Ed) and Christopher (Teresa). Loving Nana to Michael (Kiki), Christyn (Costa), Nicole (Derek), Andrew, and Jordan. Great-Nana to Keigan, Mila, and Rylan.

Edwin Arthur Kift



A resident of Little Current. Died peacefully at Manitoulin Health Centre in Little Current on Thursday, April 23rd, 2015 at the age of 89.

Born to Florence Snelling and Arthur Kift, at Toronto on November 22nd, 1925.

Beloved husband of Judith Kift. Loved father of Ted of Little Current, Jason (Julie Venable) of North Bay, John of Toronto and David (Pat) Thrall of Dauphin Manitoba. Proud grandfather of Marissa-Lynn and Judith Diana. Dear brother of Marjorie (Jack predeceased) Van Esterik of Burlington.

Ed was a proud World War II veteran, a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 177 and a founding member of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Manitoulin.

Alumni Member Ed Kift. played a tenor horn during his time as a member of the 2nd Divisional Signals Band.

Mr. Robert Martyn Vick

Beloved husband of Anne-Louise (Johanson) died April 26, 2015 in his 82nd year.

He was the head of the Science Department at Cayuga Secondary School for many years and has been retired from teaching for 26 years.

Captain Frank Price



PRICE, Frank Osborne (P.Eng.) Passed away peacefully on Thursday, May 21st, 2015 at the aged of 89, he died surrounded by family after a long life and brief illness. Frank was born in Moncton, N.B., and the eldest of three children. Predeceased by his parents Lt. Col. Frank Leroy Price (OBE) and Maitland Elizabeth Price (nee Miller) and sister Elizabeth Moore (Donald).

He is survived by his wife, Patricia (nee Ryan).

A native of New Brunswick, Frank lived most of his life in southern Ontario. Frank was a member of the Canadian Parachute Corps in World War II and the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals thereafter. He graduated from the University of New Brunswick in 1947 in Electrical Engineering. He moved to Ontario and pursued a career that included Ontario Hydro, Inglis, GSW and an energy consulting business that he founded and led. Frank was a long-time member of the Oakville Golf Club. Later in life, art became his passion and he left a legacy of his work.

A celebration of Frank's life was held on Saturday, June 20th, 2015, at the Oakville Golf Club. Frank served under LCol Larry Enright and claimed to have been the author of the "Jimmy Toast" which survives to this day. He was a member of the Signal Officers Club. Sadly, another old timer from early 1950's, an officer of 8 Signal Regiment will be missed.

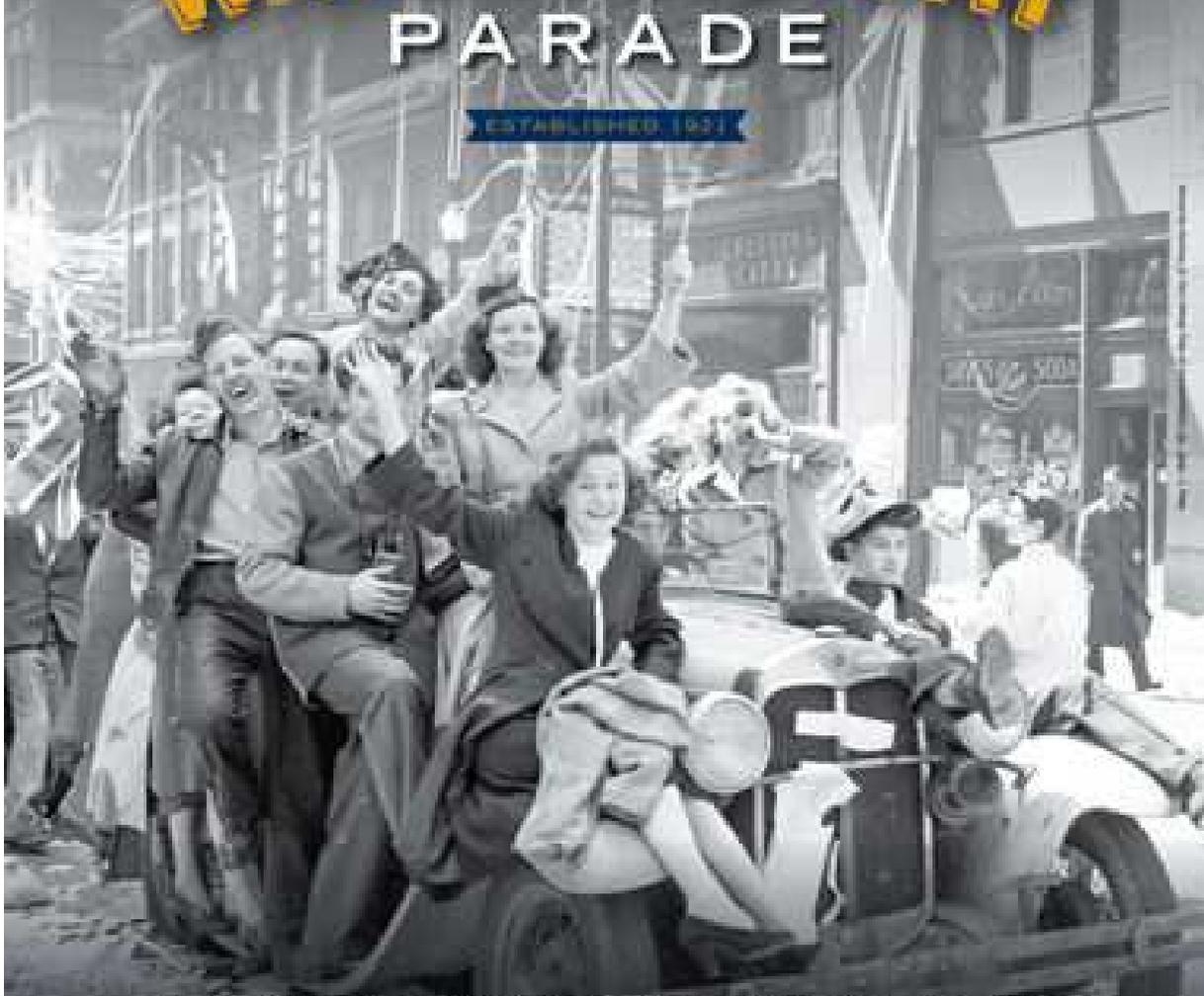


We will remember them.

94th ANNUAL

WARRIORS' DAY PARADE

ESTABLISHED 1931



SATURDAY AUGUST 22, 2015

thewarriorsdayparade.ca



The above message was prepared in 1945 and is the property of the City of Toronto.

Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of
Victory in World War II

