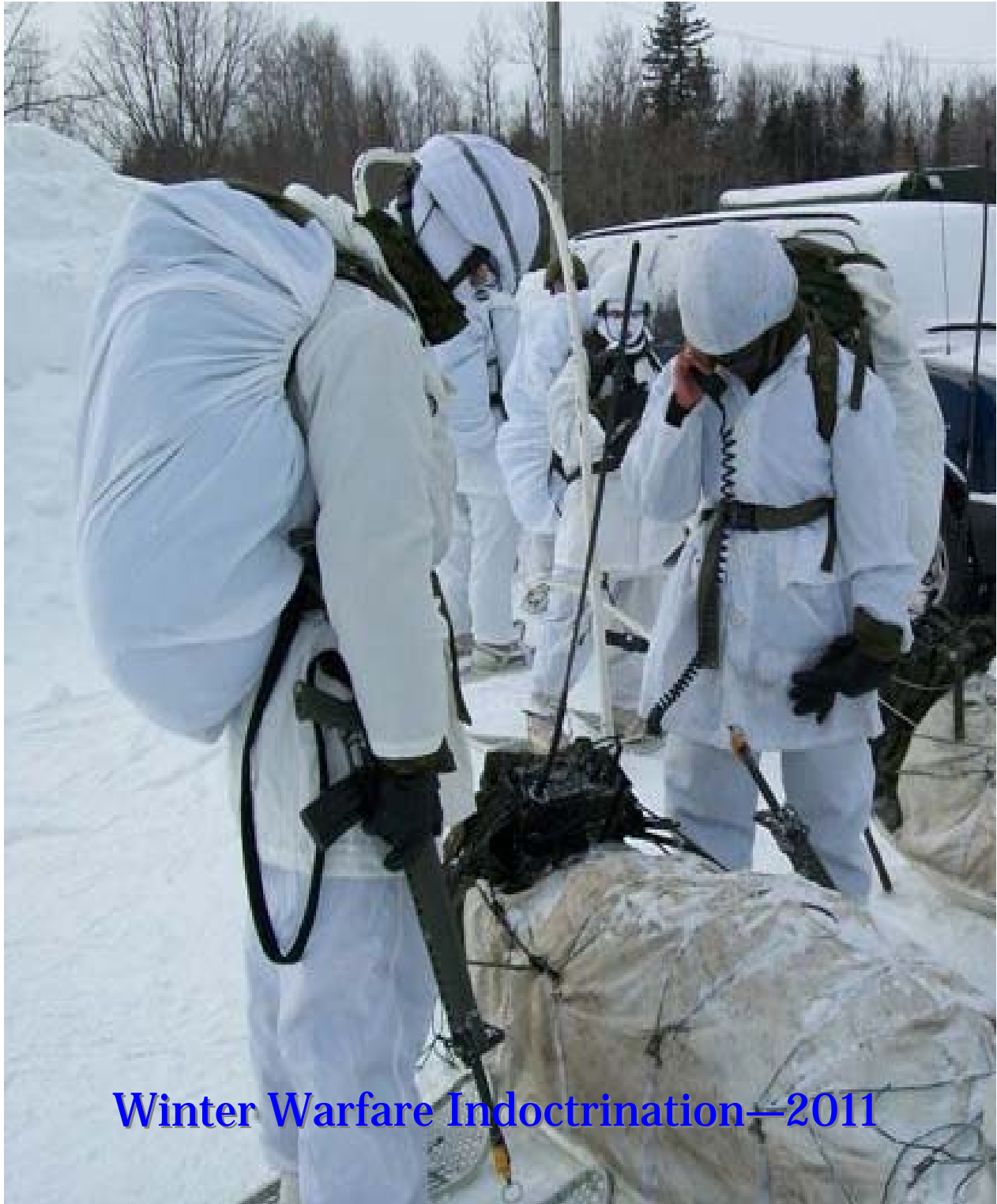




THE COMMUNICATOR

The Journal of the future 32 Signal Regiment



Winter Warfare Indoctrination—2011

32 Signal Regiment

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Commanding Officer

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Adjutant 709

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Adjutant 700

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RSM 709

WO Steven Graham, CD
SSM 700

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Honorary Colonel
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Honorary Lieutenant Colonel
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The Communicator

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This is a limited domestic publication produced with the permission of the CO for the purpose of recording the activities within the Regiment and the Regimental family. It is intended to provide a wide variety of material relating to military communications and military affairs, both at home and abroad. Comments or submissions can be sent to

editor709@yahoo.ca

*From the Editor's Desk*

Training season has drawn to an end at the Unit level. Now our Members have left or are preparing to summer training either as Candidates or Instructors.

Since the last issue of the *Communicator* much has occurred in the way of training. Our Members (709 & 700) have distinguished themselves at the Unit and Brigade levels.

You will note on page 10 that Captain Alfred Lai, CD, has won the 32 CBG Soldier of the Year Award (Officer level).

Our 709 First Aid Team took the gold award in the 32 CBG First Aid Competition.

Also, we have promoted a lieutenant to captain from within the Unit for the first time in three years. Congratulations to Captain Mike Tu. Captain Lai was the last officer so promoted.

The Band has been very busy and our now off to a good start in 2011.

We are featuring 700 Comm Sqn in this issue as they conduct winter warfare training and also work with the community in recognition of Earth Day.

Progress is continuing in our transition within the Brigade and within 709 & 700 as we work toward evolution into 32 Signal Regiment.

I am completing this issue as I prepare to depart for Ireland for three weeks as I celebrate my 25th Anniversary of Ordination and my wife and I share our 25th wedding anniversary. Sorry, no tag-a-longs allowed.

Capt. (Rt'd) Fred Butler-Caughie, CD

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simcoeenvttech.com/download/Jimmy-and-Associates.htm



Hon Col Sally Horsfall

As Chair of the Regimental Advisory Council, I would like to thank those of you who gave so generously at Christmas to the SHE Fund -- the invested balance is growing and in the next few years we hope to have established a substantial endowment. This spring it is with great pleasure we are able to provide three \$1,000 bursaries. The lucky and deserving winners are: **Cpl Andrew Dargel** and **Pte Felisha Khan** from 709 and **Pte Luc Kennedy** from 700.

This winter saw nine of our soldiers training for, on active duty away, or returning from deployments. Lt Peters, WO Corrado, Sgt Major, MCpl Mawbey-Puglia, MCpl Lloyd, and Cpl Semionou in Kandahar, MCpl Spessot and Cpl Gleesen in Resolute and Lt Clarke in Jamaica. What a great group of Signallers. I hope they all know they are in our thoughts and our prayers.

As another training year comes to a close, a special thanks is due to our leaders of the New 32 Signal Regiment (709 & 700) -- their commitment to our troops and concern for quality training is what guarantees the Regiment's success.

Thanks also to the editors, publishers, photographers and writers of The Communicator. As well a fond farewell and best wishes to Col Julian Chapman leaving as Commander of 32 Brigade to become Brig-Gen and accept an appointment as Deputy Commander Land Force Centre area.

I offer a special welcome to the new Commander of 32 Brigade, Col Jay Claggett. We look forward to working with him.

Best wishes to all for a healthy and happy summer.

Major Greg Stasyna CO 32 Signal Regiment



Since my last message to you in December, there has been more movement towards the transformation of Army Reserve Signals into their composition as full Regiments. For 709 Comm Regt and 700 Sqn we are taking slow steps toward the new 32 Signal Regiment as the next chapter in our mutual histories. As part of this I have ac-

cepted the nomination to continue as CO to commence in October. This will be my fourth extension at 709 and commencement of a fourth year at 700 Comm Sqn after taking over from Major Leblanc in 2008.

There will be some new changes at the Brigade level in the upcoming months. This includes a new Brigade Commander. Colonel Julian Chapman, the outgoing Brigade Commander has been promoted to Brigadier General and will become the Deputy Commander of Land Forces Central Area. His successor will be Colonel Jay Claggett.

This summer also will see changes in our trades training. A new trade specification for Signals has been implemented. It is called Army Communication Information Systems Specialist (ACISS). As of Jan 2011 all three Signals sub trades will be amalgamated to a single parent trade. Within the parent trade there are three technologist sub-occupations available from the rank of Cpl to Sgts which include new names such as Communication Systems Technologist (CST), Information Systems Technologist (IST) and Line Systems Technologist (LST). There is also a fourth capping sub-occupation, Communication & Information Systems Technology Manager (CISTM) that this is geared for WO and MWOs. Needless to say, this is a complete overhaul of the trade which is a further element of our Signals transformation. You may remember that in 2009, that the Basic Signal Officer Course (BSOC) was also overhauled.

I would like to also acknowledge our soldiers who are on deployment both on international operations such as Afghanistan and Jamaica and domestic operations including our combat support to Arctic operations. We continue to support and promote our Regimental Associations including The Toronto Signals Band, Hong Kong Ex Servicemen's Association, 709 Cadet Corps, Dutch War Veterans, American Post along with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

At this time I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Honorary Colonels Sally Horsfall, and Jack Lee for the continued and undying support of the Regiment. Without the efforts of the volunteers within our Regimental Family, our soul becomes very bear. On a final note, I would like to acknowledge the continued hard efforts of our rank and file soldiers within the 709 and 700.

Spiritus Manet



**From RSM 709
WO Rob Carter**

We have again come to the end of the training year and will be having the "Stand Down" BBQ on the 13th of June. Like most sports this would indicate the start of the off season. But there is no real "off season", today's reserve is a 12 month endeavour.

First we have those that will finish their BMQ and BMQ (Land). Others that will embark on the new ACCIS trade courses, we wish them well being guinea pigs on the first new reserve trade courses. We have others who will be on tasking to support CFCSE in Kingston, RST in Meaford and attending the Maple Defender in Wainwright.

We await the return of WO Corrado, Sgt Major, MCpl's MP and Lloyd from Afghanistan in the summer and say good luck and safe trip to Cpl Semionov and Major Kiss who will be starting their tour in Afghanistan that same timeframe.

For those who remain, it is our job the keep the unit moving during the summer. The training cell will be working on next years training and the headquarters staff will continue to work with 700 to be ready for the eventual stand up of 32 Signal Regt.

Unlike the Maple Leafs, the unit won some silverware during the training year. I would like to congratulate the winning First Aid team and the PSP Soccer Champions. It was also the year the junior ranks finally won the annual dart tournament.

In closing I would like to thank all the soldiers for their hard work and determination during the training year. May the summer be a positive and safe for all. Make sure to get plenty of rest when you can, next training year will be here before you know it.

SPIRITUS MANET"

MWO Carter CD



**"Flying Solo"
by Padre
Lt Flavia Beriault**

When September 2010 came, I was excited and nervous all at once. The reason being that I would be the one and only Chaplain at our unit. I had been a student Chaplain with Padre Fred Butler-Caughie for two years and all of a sudden I was alone! I found myself "flying solo." There was much that I had learned with Padre Fred and there was much more that I have learned since September of last year. Each new parade night is a new experience; more on-the-job education. I know that this will be the case in the next year or so. I am very excited about my position and am looking forward to all of the adventures and challenges that lie ahead. I know that God helps me all of the time and only with Him can I be as strong as I am. I am very grateful to God for allowing me to spend time with the Regiment – it is a great blessing! I pray to God to always bless the members, family and friends of the Regiment. I especially pray for the members of our Regiment who are away on tour – that God may keep them safe from harm and bring them home just as they left, if not stronger.

Here is a prayer that I hope the members, family and friends of the Regiment will enjoy.
A CONVERSATION WITH GOD . . .

An American soldier became aware while fighting that God was there. Here is the talk he had with God...

Look, God, I have never spoken to you, but now, I want to say, "How do you do?". You see, God, they told me you didn't exist, and like a fool, I believed all of this. Last night from a shell-whole I saw your sky. I figured right then they had told me a lie. Had I taken the time to see the things you made, I'd have known they weren't calling a spade a spade.

I wonder, God, if you'd shake my hand, somehow I feel that you will understand. Funny, I had to come to this hellish place before I had the time to see your face.

Well I guess there isn't much more to say, but I'm glad, God, I met you today. I guess the zero hour will soon be here. But I'm not afraid since I know you're near. The signal! Well, God, I'll have to go. I like you lots- that I want you to know -.

Look, now, this will be a horrible fight. Who knows, I may come to your home tonight. Though I wasn't friendly with you before, I wonder, God, if you'd wait at your door. Look, I'm crying, me shedding tears!... I wish I had known you these many years. Well, I will have to go now, God goodbye. Strange, since I met you, I'm not afraid to die.

*On D-day this poem was found clutched in the hands of a dying American soldier on Normandy beach, France. June 6, 1944. War World II.



History of 700 (Borden) Communication Squadron

700 (Borden) Communication Squadron was originally formed in November 1962 as a Troop under Capt Grace Hyde. The troop was a detachment of 14th Ordnance Battalion, Queen's York Rangers (1st Americans), Grey and Simcoe Foresters and 709 (Toronto) Signal Regiment.

The parent unit was 402 Ordnance Battalion. In 1966, the unit was transferred to the Grey and Simcoe Foresters. A year later it was transferred to the Queen's York Rangers as "B" Squadron with HQ in Newmarket under Capt Grace Hyde. In 1969, the unit became a troop of the newly formed 709 (Toronto) Signal Regiment. In 1973, the first male recruit, Pte Arnold Musson was enrolled in the unit. Finally, on 1 April 1974, 700 (Borden) Communication Squadron was officially formed with 2 Officers and 23 other ranks under command of Capt Grace Hyde. The Unit's main mandate was to provide augmentation to Canadian Forces Communication Command and Mobile Command, a tasking that is still done today. Members of the Squadron served on class B and C with 706 Borden, 702 Petawawa, 707 North Bay, CFCCHQ, Comm Sqn Lahr, Comm Sqn Baden, CFB Kingston and Canadian Contingent United Nations Emergency Force (CCUNEF) among others.

Captain Hyde relinquished her position as Commanding Officer to Captain Masse late Apr 1974. It was the first time in Canadian Military history that a female Commanding Officer had turned over command to another female Commanding Officer.

MWO J.H. Woodward, MMM, CD became the first Squadron Sergeant Major in April 1974. He

to the unit. Each year 700 (Borden) Communications Squadron holds the Woodward Rodeo, a rally-like competition involving driving skills, map reading and driving knowledge.

In 1981, WO D.M. Bean was the first unit member to be presented with the Canadian Forces Communication Command Commander's Commendation.

700 (Borden) Communications Squadron has succeeded in winning the annual Ontario region efficiency competition known as the Clark Trophy six (6) times. (1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1987 and 1998). In 1987 the unit won the GENET Trophy as runner-up in the national competition of all reserve units.

After being co-located for a quarter century, 700 and 706 (Regular Force Communication Squadrons) were amalgamated into one unit on 29 Oct 1993. This amalgamation was based on the Total Force concept. It brought more flexibility to the unit and provided more expertise and employment opportunities for the reservists. The new unit retained the 706 Communication Squadron title as it was the senior Squadron.

Effective 1 June 1994, 706 Communication Squadron joined with the Base Information Services Section of the Comptroller Branch and the B Tel O Section of Base Maintenance to form the Base Information Services Organization (BISO), a new Branch at CFB Borden. This amalgamation helped manning efforts to support the base, while providing much needed IS training to members of the Squadron.

On 15 July 1994, the Squadron became a field unit of the newly formed Defence Information Services Organization (DISO).

Effective 27 June 1997, as a result of devolution of Regular Force BISO members to the Base Commander, 700(Borden) Communication Squadron stood up as an independent unit once again, with Capt D.P. Cook appointed Acting Commanding Officer. LCol W.E. Gunson was appointed Commanding Officer in August 1997 and served until retirement in April 1998. In April 1998, Maj D.P. Cook, CD was appointed Commanding Officer until 1 Sep 2002 when he was replaced by Maj J.P. LeBlanc, CD who served until retirement in Oct 2005. Maj A.J. Foster, CD was appointed Commanding Officer afterwards and served to 2007, until he was accepted in the regular forces. In 2007 Maj B.L. McGee took over as Commanding Officer and served approximately a one year term to 2008. Maj J.P. LeBlanc

came out retirement in 2008 and took another one year term as Commanding Officer from which he was granted a second and final retirement date. In 2008 Maj G.J. Stasyna was appointed as Commanding of 700 Comm Sqn to present, and also commands 709 Comm Regt. Maj G.J. Stasyna also commanded 705 Comm Sqn for a period during this time frame.

As of 2010, 70 Comm Gp has been devolved and Signals Elements have been returned to the Army from which they came from. 700 Comm Sqn is now an integral part of 32 CBG and through the transformation process will eventually be part of 32 Signals Regt along with 709 Comm Regt.

The Honorary Lieutenant Colonel for the Squadron was HLCol G. Knopf who served from 1985 to 2010. A Depart with Dignity celebration was held for him at the Officer's Mess at CFB Borden and he was presented with his CD4. The Honorary Colonel position remains vacant while staffing of paperwork is on going to appoint a new one.

COMMANDING OFFICERS

Captain Margaret D Graves, CD 1962 – 1967
 Captain Grace Hyde, CD 1967 – 1974
 Captain Donna E Masse 1974 – 1978
 Captain Patricia Cooper, CD 1978 – 1981
 Maj W.E. Gunson, CD 1981 – 1988
 Maj Patrick Almond, CD 1988 – 1993
 Maj J.G.A. Corriveau CD 1993-1994 (Total Force)
 Maj A Gavel, CD 1995 – 1995 (Total Force)
 Maj R.A. Harvey, CD 1995 – 1997 (Total Force)
 Captain D.P. Cook, CD 1997(A/CO)
 LCOL W.E. Gunson, CD 1997 – 1998
 Maj. D.P. Cook, CD 1998 – 2002
 Maj J.P. LeBlanc, CD 2002 – 2005
 Maj A.J. Foster, CD 2005 – 2007
 Maj B.L. McGee, CD 2007 – 2008
 Maj J.P. LeBlanc, CD 2008 – 2009
 Maj G.J. Stasyna, CD 2008 - Present

SQUADRON SERGEANT MAJOR

MWO W Woodward, MMM CD 1974 – 1980
 WO D Bean, CD 1980 – 1981
 MWO L Fontaine, CD 1981 – 1986
 MWO F Taylor, CD 1986 – 1986
 MWO P.D. Larsen, CD 1986 – 2001
 MWO G.F. Bernier, CD2 2001 – 2006

MWO M. Mallia, CD 2006 – 2009
 WO Spencer, CD 2009 – 2010
 WO Graham, CD 2010 - present

Transformation 70 Comm Gp to LFCA/32 CBG
 2010



Signaller's from 700 and 709 spent a few weeks in the high arctic in support of the AOA course. "Not much to see here but white" was a comment made by MCpl Ian Simpson Signals Detachment Commander on the AOA crse. Weather conditions were extreme, living in these conditions requires more than the will to survive. Adequate training, a positive attitude and the equipment, supplies, food and clothing as well as personnel all brought in by air transport made this training possible.

Signaller's who supported the AOA training course were:

MCpl I.S. Simpson – 700 Comm Sqn;
 MCpl D.H. Spessot – 709 Comm Regt;
 Cpl D.T. Taylor – 700 Comm Sqn;
 Cpl J.M.J. Gleeson – 709 Comm Regt; and
 Cpl C.G. Charette – 763 Comm Regt.



Day one of the AOA course in Resolute Bay, Canada



Plane arrives with soldiers and kit for the AOA course



Soldiers from 709 and 700 combined forces to form



Signallers and kit dropped off for 20 day course duration.



Alpha Platoon during Winter Warfare training exercise at CFB Borden.



Camp being setup with the limited amenities available. If you didn't bring it, your not going to get have it!



Exercise Control Staff – WO Morin, Lt Caron

(Photo: Top right corner)
MCpl Ian Simpson – what a fine day to be in the Arctic as he looks onward at the vast empty space ahead, behind and side to side...

Continued on page 8.....

.....continued from page 7



Support staff participant—Sgt Clarke



Sgt Dolan—Platoon Warrant

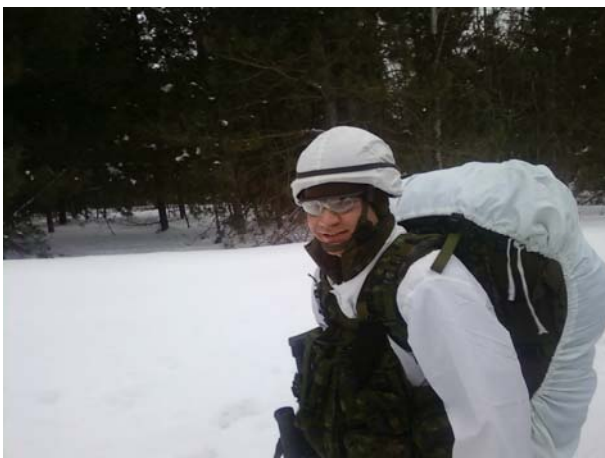


Pte Hodgson— Exercise participant



Platoon on the march

Supporting staff awaiting troops



MCpl Spessot— Section Commander



700 (Borden) Communication Squadron – ECO Challenge 2011 Community Support Event – Sunday 1 May 2011 – Earth Day Tree Planting Activity.



The South Simcoe Streams Network with in partnership with the Town of Innisfil, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Nottawasaga Futures, local interest groups including 1st Alcona Scouts and Guides, 1st Stroud Scouts and Community, and seven (7) Soldiers from 700 Comm Sqn and two family members, out for the day planting & mulching a variety of seedlings, potted plants and large native trees. Over 1000 trees were planted for the purpose of creating a buffer zone along a local stream bank of Banks Creek in Innisfil who’s surrounding area is heavily farmed causing phosphorous leaching in the cold water habitat.



South Simcoe Streams Network staff and 700 Communication Squadron members at the BBQ. Work was successfully completed and reward of accomplishment was invigorating. Participants from 700 Comm Sqn included from left to right: Pte Coppin, Pte Thomas, Pte Chartrand, Pte Roy, Pte Dos Santos, Cpl LeMesurier, Lt Caron, Kahlie Power and Faith Holland.



An introduction by Liaison Staff of South Simcoe Streams Network showing over 50 participants how to plant tree shrubs, explain their purpose and provide some general safety tips. Volunteers planting from 09:00 to 14:30 hrs.



Liaison Coordinator for South Simcoe Streams Silvia Pedrazzi on the left accepting a Squadron Coin from Lt Roger Caron for her dedication to maintaining a healthy environment. 700 (Borden) Communication has participated in environmental projects since 1996 which has evolved into the annual ECO Challenge in support of Earth Day.





**Jimmy & Associates
Major A. Moseanu CD**



Another long and dreary winter has gone by. With Christmas and new Years behind us we now look forward to Victoria day and hopefully a great summer.

According to our Commanding Officer Major Greg Stasyna many events are to take place this summer including the Stand to of 32 Signals Regiment that includes 709 and 700 units.

The J&A members attended our AGM on May 1st 2011 where the present executive have been returned and therefore , I will be your President for another two years.

At the AGM we also decided to continue to support the C&E museum by donating another \$400.00 as well as a \$500.00 donation towards a purchase of sports equipment for the unit.

On Monday the 2nd May we watched the Regiment at the final CO's parade for this training season. The unit was reviewed by H L Col Jack Lee. Of course the Band performed flawlessly.

The next regimental event will be the soldiers BBQ at Fort York on Monday the 13th June .

This summer we will again avail ourselves of the generosity of Lou Lombardi's country estate, and will have our Annual J&A BBQ. The date has been set for the 16th July 2011. Everyone is invited, that means members of the Regiment and veterans included (bring a guest/friend).

This years J&A Xmas will take place on the 04 December 2011, make sure you mark this in your calendar.

I hear that our sister organization the Hamilton Signals Association is thriving and expanding under the guidance of major Ken Lloyd (former CO of 709 and 705). Mr Bill Catlender also informed us the Toronto Dutch Canadian Legion is

doing well.

Finally, I would like to remind ALL Regimental members that they are eligible to join our military and veteran family at Jimmy and Associates for a small fee of \$20.00 per year. Join NOW and be part of the Signals heritage!!!

Keep our regimental soldiers in Afghanistan in your thoughts and prayers.

The latest news of the world.....Osama bin Laden is dead....thank God/*inch Allah*

SPIRITUS MANET

Major (retd) Alex Moseanu,
President , Jimmy and Associates

VVV



**32 Brigade
Soldier of the
year—2011**

Major Greg Stasyna,
CO 700 Communication Squadron
Commends Captain Alfred Lai CD, DCO of 700 Communication Squadron for his victory in receiving the 32 CBG Soldier of the Year award in the commissioned officer category.



Jimmy & Associates Christmas Party 05 December 2010



Rose Kelly, John & Yolande Spiteri



Bob Blenkhorn, Bill Catlander & Don McKinlay



WO's & Sgt's Mess
Decorated for the occasion



Len & Evie Pelletier

John Spiteri, Alex Moseanu
& Dave Douglas



Gary Ben, John Speirs & David Spessot



Signals Band Report— John O’Leary

“ 85 ” Yes, 2011 marks the 85th year of continuous entertainment and service to our Regiment and the people of Ontario. Celebrations are planned for a Gala Event in the fall with more information to come through the year. Anyone who was at the 75th anniversary celebration will know to not miss this.

Our “fancy drill” program was well received in 2010 but can always be better. The Band has had a busy winter getting ready for the 2011 season. On every other Sunday, you will find the Band stepping out on the Armoury floor. There are some exciting changes for the veterans and lots to learn for our new members. The 2011 Field Show contains a new percussion feature and a thrilling finale. Under the guidance of Music Director, Barry Bell the musicality of the Band continues to get better every year.

The first appearance for 2011 is the perennial Easter Parade in the Beach. This event has run for over 40 years and SIGs has been there throughout. We have become such a fixture that the parade website includes a picture of the Band on parade. In May, we’re off to Woodstock to assist in their Victoria Day Celebrations.



On June 4, the Band is proud to participate in the annual Cadet Inspection. The oldest and youngest members of the Toronto Signals family, together, in a display of pomp and ceremony.

The Band will also be in Stoney Creek celebrating the 1813 route of the American invaders... but all in good fun. The Yanks are clearly not holding this against us as the Band has caught the eye of the organizers of the Norfolk Virginia International Tattoo. We are pursuing an invitation to participate in their 2013 event. This is a thrilling opportunity for a week-long venture of “Canada’s Marching Ambassadors” to a southern state. Planning is in the early stages but there is lots to do and plenty of time to learn a part if you want to come along. The Band is always looking for good people to join the fun.



Bravo Troop Training at the FAT Fire Arms Training Simulator



Bravo troop taking aim, also training on the FAT Fire Arms Training Simulator (above)

Bravo Troop training on the FAT Fire Arms Trainer Simulator (above right)

Highlights Bravo Troop members including the brand new recruits as well (right)



Christmas Dinner Photo—Fort York Armoury 2010



709 Comm Regt goes for gold in the 32 CBG First Aid Competition

On behalf of the 709 Communications Regiment First Aid Team, I am proud to inform you that we have just completed the 32 CBG First Aid Competition on 12-Mar-11 coming in first place in all of 32 brigade!

The team was awarded each with a 32 CBG gold medal as well as the "Lieutenant-Colonel Ian M.R. Sinclair" trophy. The trophy is currently in my possession and will be brought in on Monday evening's pde night, 14-Mar-11, to be presented and handed over to the unit.

Team mbrs that participated in the competition were:

MCpl Ghosh
Cpl Lo
Cpl Lopez
Cpl Ngo
Cpl Szczesniak.

Team mbrs that trained hard with the team but was unable to make it to the competition were:

MCpl Jothirajah
MCpl Pham
MCpl Chan (our team coach from 25 Fd Amb)
Pte Song Pte Huang

The team would also like to thank the unit for providing us with mbrs and funding for all the trg dates between November to now in order for us to prep for this competition.

Lo KCK
Cpl
Team Captain, 709 First Aid Team
Section 2IC, E Section
A Tp



709 RCACC—Captain Andrew Milligan, CD

This past year has been marked by the very best enrolment and retention performance for the 709 Army Cadet Corps. The strategy by the former Commanding Officer (Capt. Rick Leswick) to move the corps out of Fort York Armoury into the Dufferin & Eglinton community has paid off handsomely. Saturday parades at Fairbank Middle School are now home to sixty five cadets. Our corps comprises of a 60/40 split in male/female cadets and almost 60% of our total strength is under 14 yrs. This bodes well for the younger cadets who can fully engage and benefit from the merits of the new Army Cadet Training program over the next several years.

The new Army Cadet Program Update (CPU) initiative from DCadets (Ottawa) has broadened the scope of training opportunities available to corps to implement. Our corps staff is committed to providing challenging components of the CPU which has proven to be an outstanding success. Our weekly training turnout is above 80% and we also had record attendance for our three adventure training exercises. I am proud to say that forty cadets braved the cold and survived our winter field exercise last January.

Another first for 709 Army cadets was the creation of an official shooting and orienteering team. Both teams qualified to advance at zone level competitions. The results were quite impressive considering the experience level of each team. I trust next year will prove to be even better once the cadets return from their summer training.

In closing, I would like to express my personal thanks to the staff, volunteers and partners for making the cadet corps a productive and satisfying experience. We should all take great pride in the contributions we make towards the success of our youth who will ultimately shape our future.



**90th ANNIVERSARY
WARRIORS' DAY PARADE
2011**

Sgt. Bob Thomas, Committee Chairman

Our parade has a long and storied past, rich in tradition. To set the stage, we would like to take you back 90 years to our very first parade. In June of 1921, Toronto's newspapers reported that Canada's newly-appointed Governor General, Lord Byng of Vimy, would officially open the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto on August 27th. They decided the day would be called "Warriors' Day."



When the day of the first Warriors' Day Parade arrived - bringing the biggest and busiest opening day in the 43-year history of the CNE - thousands of veterans appeared in the khaki uniforms which they had retained from their service years but the majority appeared in mufti. Medals and ribbons by the thousands were proudly worn. The ladies of the Great War Veterans Association sold poppy tags for ten cents and a larger flower for twenty-five cents. The funds were used to help the widows and orphans of soldiers.

The gathering throng of veterans at the staging area of Trinity Park quickly became a huge social occasion with the reunion of friends who had not seen each other for years. Some reunions brought tears of joy, while others brought sadness and remembrance of those who did not make it home.

Thousands of flag-waving spectators gathered along Queen Street and Dufferin Street to witness this incredible spectacle along a parade route much different from our modern day parades. Six years before the Princes' Gates were erected, this first parade would enter the CNE grounds through the Dufferin Gates.

Lord Byng took the salute as the 15,000 marchers proudly passed by the saluting dais. Lord Byng was well-known and loved by the troops, having led the Canadian Army to victory at Vimy Ridge in 1917. As the veterans caught sight of Lord Byng they cheered and proudly saluted. Twenty-four of Canada's Victoria Cross recipients marched in the parade that day as well as hundreds of nursing sisters who served at the front.

At the end of the parade, everyone gathered around the main bandstand in front of the Horticultural Building where Lord Byng addressed the huge number of spectators and veterans.

In his address, Lord Byng praised the excellence and history of the world-famous Exhibition and painted a contrast between the destruction of war and the celebration of excellence that the CNE brought to the betterment of civilization. He said Ontarians should be proud of this great annual event which made Toronto true to the meaning of its name - a place of meeting.

Following Lord Byng's address, a set of silk colours - hand-sewn by more than 100 women and ex-service men - were consecrated by the Padre of the First Division. The following June, these colours were placed on General Wolfe's monument inside Westminster Abbey in London, England where they remain to this day. The colours were placed there to commemorate ties formed between the Imperial and Canadian service men overseas.

To conclude the first Warriors' Day, a special performance arranged by the veterans in honour of Lord Byng took place at the C.N.E. Grandstand. The performance included a massed band concert, dances, a naval gun display, exhibitions of boxing by ex-service men, a Victoria Cross race, community singing, and an Empire tableau.

Today, 90 years after the first Warriors' Day Parade, we continue this proud tradition of honouring the serving members and veterans' of our Canadian and Allied Armed Forces. To celebrate the special occasion of our 90th Anniversary, we want to take pause and honour our council and volunteers who work tirelessly year in and year out to organize the parade. To that end, the following will take place.

1. To mark this year, a special logo has been designed and will be used everywhere possible to

brand our 90th Anniversary.

2. A special commemorative coin is in the works and will be issued to all members of council and to each volunteer. Coins will also be gifted to some of our special friends who help us make the Warriors' Day Parade a success.

3. A special publication covering the 90-year history of our parade is in the works. This publication will be self-funded and will be distributed to council members and our volunteers. Copies will be distributed to all libraries and schools in Ontario and military bases and units around the globe. A list is being prepared by our team to ensure the books are well-placed to mark and preserve our history.

4. On September 17th we will host a cocktail reception at the University of Toronto Hart House for all of our volunteers along with their guest and other invited dignitaries. Each volunteer will receive a specially designed "Certificate of Appreciation" signed by our Council President and their Committee Chair.

5. Leading up to this year's special parade, you can expect to receive regular updates. No doubt by now many of you are thinking, "How can I help the organizing team?" And, we do need your help to make sure that we fully recognize our volunteers and take full advantage to brand and market our parade. This includes:

"Committee chairs updating your list of volunteers. The information should include full name, address, contact phone number and email address if available. Please include former members of your team who may have spent some



8th Signals Band circa 1955

years helping you, but for health or other reasons are no longer able to be active. This information is absolutely critical.

"Flesh out any memorabilia covering our history and share it with our team. Jot down any memories of past parades and share them through comments on our website. If you don't use a computer, please see any member of our team and we will help you. We are also asking our Legion brothers and sisters to check their archives and share with us any information they might have covering past parades.

"Memory pages in the publication will be available where individuals, groups or organizations can honour relatives/friends/comrades at a reasonable cost.

Thanks for your continued support of the Warriors' Day Parade. We are looking forward to another great parade and a special time to celebrate our 90th Anniversary.

90th Anniversary Team

- Sgt. Bob Thomas, Chair
- LCol John Burns, CD, President
- Maj. Sandra Bullock, CD, Director
- John Hymers, Director
- Capt. Carlo Jeffery, CD, Treasurer
- Hon. LCol Jack Lee, CD, Past President

Right:

Governor General Lord Bing

Below:

8 Signal Regiment circa 1956





CO's Parade 07 March 2011



Colour Party



I wouldn't trust my career to these guys!

Lt Mike Tu promoted to Captain



Commendation to WO Morin





DM Sturino & Band President Issued Unit Coin



Best Soldier of the year—Cpl MacMillan

Cadet Sgt Sandra Gomes receives Gold Stars



**Cpl Yannick Scherrer
1er (1st) Battalion,
Royal 22e Regiment
(Van Doos)**

Sadly, Canada once again mourns the tragic loss of one of her Canadian Forces heroes on Sunday, 27 March 2011. Corporal Yannick Scherrer, a member of the 1st Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment (Van Doos), based in Quebec was lost due to an IED explosion whilst on dismounted patrol in the Panjwa'i District, south of Kandahar. Cpl Scherrer has been added to the list of brave Canadians who have fallen in the Afghan mission, bringing our national sacrifice of Canadian Forces personnel to 155. Additionally, a Canadian Diplomat, a Canadian journalist and two Canadian aid workers have been killed in Afghanistan.

Cpl Yannick Scherrer, served as part of Joint Task Force Afghanistan (JTF - Afg), which is the Canadian Forces (CF) contribution to the international effort in Afghanistan. Its operations focus on working with Afghan authorities to improve security, governance and economic development in Afghanistan. JTF-Afg comprises about 3,500 CF members. Most of them serve at Kandahar Airfield or Camp Nathan Smith, the home of the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar City. Members of JTF-Afg also work at various military headquarters and support bases in southwest Asia, and with civilian organizations in Afghanistan.

OTTAWA - The Honourable [Peter MacKay](#), Minister of National Defence, issued the following statement today on the death of Corporal Yannick Scherrer in Afghanistan.

"I would like to express my condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of Corporal Yannick Scherrer, who died as the result of an improvised explosive device strike while on patrol in Afghanistan. Corporal Scherrer served valiantly alongside his comrades as part of the United Nations mandated, NATO-led mission that is working with Afghans for a better and brighter future for Afghanistan. Corporal Scherrer was an extraordinary Canadian whose commitment and sacrifice for his country will always be remembered."

Regimental Ball 2011

The Regimental Ball was held at the Capitol Banquet Centre in Mississauga on 02 April 2011. It was a great success. Many thanks go out to the organizing committee: Cpl Lo, Cpl Persival.





From table to table it's all smiles. The food was good, the company even better and the brave moved on to the dance floor following dinner.

You will note that the photo to the right was taken at the Garrison Officers' Ball. 709 had a good representation at this Gala Event.

We shall remember them...**LCol Dan Russ OMM CD**

Lieutenant-Colonel Dan Russ served as a United Nations peacekeeper in three missions during a 40-year Canadian military career, including one where he came under fire for being mistaken for a soldier from another country.

It was while he was serving in the signals corps with the UN operation to the Congo. The Congo gained its independence from Belgium in 1960, but it fell into disarray and the UN maintained troops there until 1964 to help stabilize it and preserve its borders. Russ served there from 1960 until 1962.

“The natives there were upset with the Belgians because the Belgians had controlled the country and they actually thought the Canadians were Belgians,” said Russ’s son Dan, who is a master warrant officer in the reserves.

“So they attacked the Canadians all the time. One story my dad told me was when his position came under mortar fire and they took down the radio antennas. He and his team had to go out and put the antenna’s back up while they were taking mortar fire.”

Russ, who served in signals throughout his career, died at St. Joseph’s Hospital of kidney failure on Jan. 17. He was 70. He had been in hospital for two months fighting complications from diabetes. Russ survived his ordeal in the Congo, but 245 military personnel and five civilian staff were killed during the UN operation.

From 1964 to 1965, Russ served with the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in Egypt, which was created in 1956 to help maintain peace along the Egyptian-Israeli border following the Suez Crisis and the failed invasion of Egypt by Britain, France and Israel. It lasted until 1967 when Egypt demanded the UN leave and the Six-day War broke out. The death toll was 109 soldiers.



Between 1978 and 1979, Russ served with the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights between Israel and Syria. It came into effect after the 1973 Yom Kippur War and remains in place to this day. Forty-three UN personnel have been killed.

“He was very fair,” said Sergeant Allan Gorman of the 705 (Hamilton) Communications Squadron, who had known Russ for 22 years. Russ was deputy commander of the squadron between 1982 and 1988 and then served as commander until 1992. “He was a soldier’s soldier,” continued Gorman. “He always looked out for the troops as well as the officers.”

Born in Hamilton, Russ was one of three children by William, a signals corps soldier in the Second World War, and Myrtle, a housewife. He attended West Avenue School, St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School and Central High School before heading to Kingston at 16 to begin his career as a soldier apprentice. He met his wife Beverley on the St. Patrick playground when they were both 11. They married at 19.

Russ went to the School of Signals at Vimy Barracks and graduated in 1958 as an Operator Wireless and Line (OWL). He retired from the regular forces in 1982 as a captain and, after serving at 705 squadron, served as commanding officer of 709 (Toronto) Communications Regiment from Dec. 1992 until June, 1996. He was promoted to major in 1988 and Lieutenant Colonel when he took over the Toronto regiment.

Dan Russ, 48, said his father was inspired to join the military by his own father’s involvement in the army during the war. His career took him and his family to such army bases as Borden, Calgary, Ottawa, Trenton, Petawawa and Shilo, Manitoba. Russ coached boy’s hockey when the family was in Shilo and in the early 1970s became the chief hockey referee for Manitoba. The family settled back in Hamilton after his retirement.

Dan Russ said his daughter Cassandra, 16, joined the 705 squadron, becoming the fourth-generation of Russ’ in the military. He said she visited her grandfather in uniform in the hospital in December after her first weekend of training “and my

dad's eyes just popped out.

"He had a big smile on his face and he ended up saluting her," Russ recalled. "And she saluted back. He was very proud of his granddaughter joining the military."

Major Ken Lloyd, who retired last year as commander of the 705 squadron, got to know Russ after he relocated to Canada from Britain in 1992 to join Halton police as a constable. He said Russ had a pragmatic style to leadership and was the first to step forward if something needed to be done.

He said he was also caring and helpful, even when he was having painful knee troubles. He said Russ helped look after the widow of a signals man from the First World War and recalled watching Russ helping her out of a car and his wife Beverley helping him to make sure he didn't fall over.

"You'd see her helping him while he was trying to help someone else," said Lloyd. "That's compassion. That's love. That's leadership."

Russ is survived by his wife Beverley, children Dan, Kelly and Teresa, grandchildren Ryan, Jordan, Kylie, Taylor, Deanna, Cassandra and Sabrina and other family members.

dnolan@thespec.com 905-526-3351

Charles Frederick Leggat

On Friday 11th February 2011, a gathering of family and friends and members of the many organizations that Charles belonged to, was held at the Boulevard Club, 1491 Lakeshore Boulevard, Toronto, Ontario, commencing at



5pm. Charles requested that this gathering should be a joyous affair to celebrate and reminisce on his life. Members of the Order of St. George are invited to attend this gathering. Neck Order/Breast Order with full medals to be worn in honour of Charles and his service to the UK, Canada and the Order.

LCol (Ret'd) D Wesley Hall, CD

LCol Wes Hall passed away this early Morning. He will be greatly missed by all his comrades in the Regiment.

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George Maurice Leyman

Veteran - Legion Branch No. 112 Passed away peacefully at Fairview Lodge on November 29, 2010 in his 81st year. Beloved husband of the late Olga Catalano. Loving step-father of Christine Catalano-Pustai, Joseph Catalano and the late Christopher Catalano. Proud grandfather of Justin, Joshua, Jessie and Amber Pustai. He will be greatly missed



by his brothers and sisters and their families in Belgium and his many friends. George was a proud Veteran who served with the Belgian Military in Germany, Belgium, Korea, the Congo and the Middle East. George was a proud lance carrier in the Toronto Signals Band for many years.

Daniel Joseph Maloney

Passed away December 9, 2010 after a courageous battle with cancer. Daniel is survived by his wife Mary, daughter Siobhan (Duncan) and son Bryce (Daniela). Beloved grandfather of Zoë, Connor, Tighe and Harper. He will be missed by his many friends in DCAT, Scout House and The Bridgemen Drum Corps.

Dan Maloney
1942 - 2010



"HYPE!, it's a
Bridgemen thing."

Dan Moloney who played baritone horn in both the Toronto Signals Band and in the 60's with Canada's Marching Ambassadors. Dan was a current member of The Preston Scout House Alumni Band and past member of The Bridgemen Drum Corps. He was also a long time member of the Drum Corps Alumni Chorus (DCAT)

and her husband Ken and Barry and his wife Debra. Adoring grandpa of Abigayle and Julian.

Published in the Toronto Star on April 26, 2011

His remains have been sent to Pine Hills Cemetary 625 Birchmount Rd, Toronto Tel: 416 267-8229 A Funeral Service was held in the Chapel at 2 p.m. on Wed 13 Apr 11. The service was conducted by Major Randy Hicks of the Salvation Army.

Wes was Commanding Officer of The Royal regiment of Canada from 1988 to 1992. After he retired, he joined the Cadet Instructor Cadre and commanded the 709 Communication Regt Cadet Corps and later, 2736 The Royal Regiment of Canada Cadet Corps. He also served as a Company Commander at Blackdown Cadet Summer Training Camp at CFB Borden. LCol Hall was a Trustee and Secretary of The Royal Regiment of Canada Foundation.

Florence Helena Day

DAY, Florence Helena - In loving memory of our mother, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend, who passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by the love of her family and care givers, on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, in her 87th year. Florence (Crowley), beloved mother of Wayne (Lynn), Noreen (Ken), Donna (Mike) and Gary. Predeceased by her loving husband Bob.



Predeceased by her sister Diane and brother Eric. Florence enjoyed sharing her time with friends and as a volunteer with the Oakville - Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, St. Jude's Anglican Church.

Robert and Flo were members and great supporters of Jimmy and Associates. They will be missed.

Kenneth Duff

Passed away peacefully on Monday, April 25, 2011 at the age of 72 years. Loving husband of Adele Duff for 51 years. Proud father of Capt. Alison Perry, CD and her husband

Edwin McChesney

MCCHESENEY, Edwin - (WWII Veteran) Passed peacefully, at the age of 87, Friday, March 5, 2010 at Scarborough General Hospital. Predeceased by his beloved wife Isabel. Dear father of Janette and loving grandfather to Britt and Curtis. Edwin will be remembered by his many friends especially for his love of dancing and his jokes.

Leonard Leo Janke

JANKE, Leonard Leo - Peacefully at Baycrest Hospital on Sunday, January 23, 2011 at the age of 80. Beloved husband of Jadwiga for 59 years. Loving father of Krystyna Howard (John), Leonard (Heather) and Jennifer Janke-Wasiuk (Andy). Cherished Dziadzia of Matthew, Kristofer, Lauren, Victoria, Alexandra and Andrew. Leo was a long-time employee of Ontario Hydro.



32 Signal Regiment

New Regimental Crest Search



As both 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment and 700 Communication Squadron merge, the old traditions of each unit along with



Squadron and Regimental histories must be maintained. We must also look at developing a new We must also look at developing a new Regimental identify. Currently both 709 and 700 have distinctive and authorized unit crests. When 32 Signal Regiment emerges a new crest must be developed that is indicative of the new unit.

It would be in our best interest to be proactive about this and call for design submissions to allow the new Regiment to be ready. To this end, everyone will be called on to submit a new Regimental crest design. The new design should encompass elements of our mutual heritage and be representative of both units.

Submissions are to be sent in pdf/jpg/tiff/ppt or any acceptable format to the Editor of the Communicator magazine. A short list of design submissions will be created by a joint committee and then be put on display at both the 700 and 709 Christmas Dinner's in December.