



Communicator - Spring 2016

Journal of 32 Signal Regiment eCommunicator

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32 Signal Regiment is Host to the 2016 Toronto Garrison Officers' Ball - pg 20



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Change of HLCOL - pg 14



From the Editor's Desk

Spring is finally upon us. If this past winter's weather is an indication of the climate to be expected for this summer — we are most likely in for a treat. I usually resort to conventional winter sports during the winter season but I have to admit, for the first time ever, I was roller blading on the Lakeshore trail this past January — a real treat for that time of the year considering that back on January 12, 1999 Toronto called in the Army to battle the winter storm.

As can be evidenced by the abundance of contributions to this edition of the eCommunicator, the past 6 months have been filled with rewarding activities.

Enjoy the reading and I hope to see you all in August as we recognize our past and current veterans at the 95th Annual Warriors' Day Parade.

From myself and the contributors to the eCommunicator — have a wonderful and safe summer.

Sgt Richard Lacroix, CD

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- <http://www.torontosignals.ca/>
- <http://www.hamiltonsignals.com/>
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About the eCommunicator

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Command Team

Commanding Officer's Message



Six months have already gone by since our last edition of the Communicator; and a busy period it has been! From a very well attended Levee on New Year's day, our annual winter indoctrination in Borden (lacking the prime ingredient, snow), a change of appointment of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel between Alex Moseanu and Ken Lloyd all in a month where we were tasked in support of OP PROVISION, the Canadian Forces support to the Government of Canada's initiative to resettle 25,000 Syrian Refugees in Canada by the end of February 2016. With no reprieve, we needed to provide Signal support to EX TRILLIUM RESPONSE in early February for a period of two weeks in Northern Ontario. EX TRILLIUM RESPONSE tasking started as OP PROVISION ended, so our tasked personnel continued full-time work with a change of scope and scenery. While planning and executing the January and February events, we were at the final stages of planning for the 2016 Toronto Garrison Officer's Ball (TGOB) for which the Regimental family came together to put on one of the best in memory. Attended by roughly 1,100 guests, our Vice Chief of Defence Staff and senior Signaller, Lieutenant-General G.R. Thibault, who was our Guest of Honour. The first time a unit of the C&E Branch had ever planned the TGOB, the C&E Branch was well represented. Leading the way was our Branch Colonel-Commandant, Brigadier-General (retired) Bill Richard, former C&E Branch Leader, Major-General (retired) Dave Neasmith, DG-Cyber, Brigadier-General Frances Allen, Major-General (retired) John Leech, Brigadier-General (retired) Kevin O'Keefe, other Ontario based Signal Officers, our very own Honorary Colonel, Jim Leech, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Ken Lloyd, former Honorary Colonel Sally Horsefall-Eaton, RSM Mallia, and many of our own serving and retired officers with their significant others were on hand to help make this event the best it could be. Although each member of our Regiment can pat themselves on their backs for a job well-done, we certainly owe a huge debt of gratitude to our senior planner, Captain Ric Rangel-Bron! After a year of planning, coordination, coaching, and patience, Ric went on a well-deserved vacation with his wife to Iceland to help unwind. Thank you Ric, on behalf of us all!

On the heels of the Garrison Ball was EX STEADFAST VALIDATION, our annual Brigade

exercise in preparation to our Summer Concentration. Held at CTC Meaford, the exercise reminded us why we wear Jimmy on our cap badge; the Messenger of the Gods needed to work magic to get communications up across the Brigade units. There is, after all, a reason why Jimmy exists, even more important today, where creativity and teamwork are needed to make up for the challenges of today. A 4 Division G6 led EX TRILLIUM MERCURY held at the end of April provided participants with opportunities to refresh their skills in Signal Planning using the Land Command Support System (LCSS) capabilities, reconnaissance, and Command Post layout/sighting. This was well received as we are entering the Summer Reserve Training period where some of these skills will be required. Adapting to LCSS is not easy. Old methods using maps and talc, paper and pen to issue traces and orders have been replaced with digital tools on computers. Although most of us are used to computers, the LCSS has only begun to be institutionalized at military schools and opportunities for hands-on are scarce as systems are currently used only in the field. It is my intent to utilize every opportunity available to provide our officers and soldiers a chance to become skilled with our critical systems.

Looking ahead to the Summer period, we are going to say good bye to a few of our unit members who will be departing starting in July: both Warrant Officer Carmine Corrado and Mark Witkowski are posted to Kingston. On behalf of the Regiment I would like to thank both Warrant Officers for their dedication and hard work and wish them the best of luck in their new jobs. As mentioned above, Alex Moseanu has handed over the responsibility of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel to Ken Lloyd. To Alex, a profound thank-you for the years you have dedicated to the Regiment. To Ken, welcome back to a unit that you are very well acquainted with. We are happy to have you and the Vintage Signals team as part of our family. Lieutenant-Colonel Greg Stasyna handed over the unit to me last year; however, it is not until the spring of this year that he formerly retired from the Canadian Armed Forces after a distinguished career of 32+ years. Greg – on behalf of the Regimental Family, a big thank-you for the many years of devotion you have given to our unit.

Coming to 32 Signal Regiment this summer is Warrant Officer Richard Finn from CFJSR in Kingston. On behalf of our Regiment, welcome to you and your family. I am sure you will find your time with us both challenging and rewarding.

This summer, our Regiment will be tasked with training all Ontario-based Signallers. First with our normal contribution during the Reserve Summer Training (RST) but also during the two week summer concentration that would have been held in Petawawa, will now be held at CFB Borden in August. This exercise will be known as EX STALWART MERCURY and will see the graduates of Development Period (DP) 1 and DP 2 Signallers being confirmed on this Signal exercise that will see movement in tactical bounds from CFB Borden to CTC Meaford using civilian properties. This exercise will also see our officers conducting reces and doing battle procedure in order to move their detachments and sections, maintaining continuous communications to Meaford.

Looking ahead to December 2016, the date of our next issue of the Communicator, a few events on our calendar where members of the Regiment and in many cases, our Regimental family, should keep note. First, starting in June, the annual Retired Officers Annual Dinner (ROAD) will be held at the Vimy Officer's Mess in Kingston on Friday, 03 June. This year, the ROAD is special as it will see the Depart with Dignity of our VCDS, who will be retiring this summer. After a long and distinguished career, and only the 3rd officer originating from the C&E Branch to have ever been promoted to his current rank, Lieutenant-General Guy Thibault will say his goodbyes to our Branch Family. I encourage as many officers, serving and retired, to make the trip to Kingston for this occasion. Also in June, we will see the Annual Ceremonial Reviews for the Muskoka Pioneers (1st), 709 Cadet Corps (6th) and 142nd Mimico Sqn (11th). Our unit stand-down and Bar-B-Que will be held on the 18th of June at CFB Borden. In July, our Division Commander, Brigadier-General Thomas will hand over command to Brigadier-General Cadden on the 6th. On the 20th of August, our Regiment intends to take part in the Annual Warrior's Day Parade as we do each year, however our EX STALWART WARRIOR will consume the majority of our available personnel. We will return from our summer training period on Saturday 17 September with our Annual Administrative review. C&E Professional Development week in Kingston will be held between 18-22 October, with EX NOBLE SKYWAVE, an annual international HF exercise being conducted, the WOs and Sgts Mess Dinner and Officers Mess Dinner held on the 20th of October. 6 November will be our Annual Remembrance Day parade in Toronto and 11 November in Bracebridge. Finally, our annual Regimental Holiday Dinner will be held on the 10th of December.

To conclude, I would like to thank Jack Lee for his work in putting the Communicator the importance it deserves, and wish everyone a safe and rewarding summer period.

LCol Dan Bergeron, CD
Commanding Officer
32 Signal Regiment

Command Team

Regimental Sergeant-Major

How do you explain when things don't go as we assume?

Or better, how do you explain when others are able to achieve things that seem to defy all of the assumptions? For example: Why is Apple so innovative? Year after year, after year, they're more innovative than all their competition. And yet, they're just a computer company. They're just like everyone else. They have the same access to the same talent, the same agencies, the same consultants, the same media. Then why is it

that they seem to have something different? Why is it that Martin Luther King led the Civil Rights Movement? He wasn't the only man who suffered in pre-civil rights America, and he certainly wasn't the only great orator of the day. Why him? And why is it that the Wright brothers were able to figure out controlled, powered man flight when there were certainly other teams who were better qualified, better funded -- and they didn't achieve powered man flight, and the Wright



brothers beat them to it. There's something else at play here.

About three and a half years ago, I made a discovery. And this discovery profoundly changed my view on how I thought the world worked, and it even profoundly changed the way in which I operate in it. As it turns out, there's a pattern. As it turns out, all the great inspiring leaders and organizations in the world whether it's Apple or Martin Luther King or the Wright brothers, they all think, act and communicate the exact same way. And it's the complete opposite to everyone else. All I did was codify it, and it's probably the world's simplest idea. I call it the golden circle. Why? How? What? This little idea explains why some organizations and some leaders are able to inspire where others aren't. Let me define the terms really quickly. Every single person, every single organization on the planet knows what they do, 100 percent. Some know how they do it, whether you call it your differentiated value proposition or your proprietary process or your USP. But very, very few people or organizations know why they do what they do. And by "why" I don't mean "to make a profit/difference" That's a result. It's always a result. By "why," I mean: What's your purpose? What's your cause? What's your belief? Why does your organization exist? Why do you get out of bed in the morning? And why should anyone care? As a result, the way we think, we act, the way we communicate is from the outside in, it's obvious. We go from the clearest thing to the fuzziest thing. But the inspired leaders and the inspired organizations -- regardless of their size, regardless of their trade -- all think, act and communicate from the inside out.

Let me give you an example. I use Apple because they're easy to understand and everybody gets it. If Apple were like everyone else, a marketing message from them might sound like this: "We make great computers. They're beautifully designed, simple to use and user friendly. Want to buy one?" "Meh." That's how most of us communicate. That's how most marketing and sales are done, that's how we communicate interpersonally. We say what we do, we say how we're different or better and we expect some sort of a behaviour, a purchase, a vote, something like that. Here's new law firm: We have the best lawyers with the biggest clients, we always perform for our clients. Here's new car: It gets great gas mileage, it has leather seats. Buy our car. But it's uninspiring.

Here's how Apple actually communicates. "Everything we do, we believe in challenging the status quo. We believe in thinking differently. The way we challenge the status quo is by making our products beautifully designed, simple to use and user friendly. We just happen to make great computers. Want to buy one?" Totally different, right? You're ready to buy a computer from me. I just reversed the order of the information. What it proves to us is that people don't buy what you do; people buy why you do it.

Dr. King believed that there are two types of laws in this world: those that are made by a higher authority and those that are made by men. And not until all the laws that are made by men are consistent with the laws made by the higher authority will we live in a just world. It just so happened that the Civil Rights Movement was the perfect thing to help him bring his cause to life. We followed, not for him, but for ourselves. By the way, he gave the "I have a dream" speech, not the "I have a plan" speech.

Listen to politicians now, with their comprehensive 12-point plans. They're not inspiring anybody. Because there are leaders and there are those who lead. Leaders hold a position of power or authority, but those who lead inspire us. Whether they're individuals or organizations, we follow those who lead, not because we have to, but because we want to. We follow those who lead, not for them, but for ourselves. And it's those who start with "why" that has the ability to inspire those around them or find others who inspire them.

Thank you for allowing me, as your RSM, to attempt to inspire you to the next level, the greatest prize for me has been to be the spokesman for our NCM's, and would love the opportunity to expand on the aforementioned 12-point plan from an Army's perspective Thank you very much, and please have a great safe summer.

Chief Warrant Officer Marcelo Mallia, CD
Regimental Sergeant-Major, 32 Signal Regiment



Command Team

Honorary Colonel Jim Leech, CM

The first half of 2016 has gone by in a flash – a function of being busy I guess!

Considerable time and energy was expended by many of our Regiment and Regimental family towards the planning and execution of an extremely successful Toronto Garrison Officers Ball. This was no small undertaking – it was the first time one of the Brigade’s smaller Regiments had been tasked with responsibility for the Ball. I want to thank Captain Ric Rangel-Bron who was our organizational lead.

Our first decision was to choose a charity to support – an organization that could also bring fundraising capability within the business community to help defray the cost of the event. It was natural that we chose the Vimy Foundation who were celebrating the 99th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. The collaboration between 32 Sigs and Vimy was very effective.



Attendees at previous Balls had complained about the venue being too small. So we decided to move it to the much larger venue of the Allstream Centre, symbolically situated on the site of Toronto’s first garrison.

Almost everyone from our Regimental Family played a role in making the event “special”: the Signals band greeting our guests with fanfares; the Vintage Signals team displays (thanks HLCol Lloyd); communication equipment displays from Cold War and peacekeeping; our officers hosting VIPs; Regimental family members purchasing

tables and hosting younger officers.

In the end, we hosted approximately 1,200 military and business leaders at the Ball. I was pleased that both VCDS LGen Guy Thibault and BGen



(ret’d) Bill Richard, our Colonel Commandant, were able to attend. Many other General Officers (former Signallers) also attended in support (Leech, O’Keefe, Allan and Neasmith). Some notable community leaders in attendance included Margaret Atwood, Ken Rotman, Raj Kothari, Kelly Leitch, LGen Richard Rohmer, HCol (Ret’d) Sally Horsfall Eaton and John Eaton, HCol Blake Goldring).



The two most memorable moments for me were the young high school student who talked about her moving experiences studying at Vimy Ridge and the revival of the tradition of parading to the Regimental marches (although organizing ourselves for the marches resembled organizing for the D-Day invasion – total disarray!).

So, we can declare victory over the TGOB and hold our heads up with pride having set a new bar to which subsequent organizers must aspire.

I was also able to attend the Regimental Junior Ranks Ball this year. It was a fun evening at the renovated RCMI and I enjoyed connecting with many of our soldiers and their partners - it's amazing how good everyone looks when they aren't covered in camo!

This past April seems to have been my month for Vimy. Shortly after the Ball, my wife (Deb Barrett) and I registered to attend the 100th anniversary events at Vimy Ridge next year. The following week I attended a Trench Ceremony at Camp Borden and was briefed on the 100 year

anniversary celebrations planned for Camp Borden this year – did you know that in the past 100 years, Camp Borden has trained over 2 million Canadian soldiers? While I was at Camp Borden, I also visited our Squadron (unfortunately most were out training) as well as the Base Museum (an unknown jewel of a museum – be sure to visit it).

I have resolved to read, from cover to cover, Semaphore to Satellite, the story of Canadian Military communications. I have leafed through the book, but never read it in any comprehensive way. As well, I have dragged out all my old books on WW I so that my memory is refreshed by the time I get to Vimy Ridge next year.

By the time this newsletter hits your monitor, our soldiers will be well into plans for summer exercises. I hope to visit our deployed troops during Stalwart. We wish all a productive and safe training season – do us proud as always.

VVV

HCol Jim Leech

Command Team

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Ken Lloyd, CD



Welcome to 'The Communicator'. As you see from the photo we are still busy showing and sharing the Canadian Signals Heritage to exhibitions, Cadet groups, museums and schools. Recently, our "Vintage Signals Team" displayed the history of signalling at the 32 Brigade Garrison Ball which was organized by our Regiment and the Vimy Foundation. The Vintage Signal Team display was provided by the Hamilton Signals Association, the Friends of HMCS HAIDA, Veterans Affairs, Carefree Hobbies and the Visit Flanders Trade Office in New York. The vehicles were loaned by the Oshawa museum and the trench wall by 32 Brigade. The Vintage Signals displays are rarely put on by just one group and we always try to bring in more and more groups who fit into our theme of Vintage Signals. In June we will be supporting Borden Squadron for the anniversary celebrations of Base Borden. We expect to be profiling our Memorial Line Truck and 10 other signals

related vintage vehicles. We are going to celebrate the School of Signals that in 1920 was established in building S34 in Borden. It stayed there until 1938 when the building was handed over to the Royal Army Service Corps. In 2017 we have been asked by 'EF Education First' to provide our signals history presentations at two locations in Arras, France as part of the education programme for the VIMY Memorial celebrations. We expect to be partnering with the "Shorncliffe Trust" in the UK. This is where the Canadian Expeditionary Forces trained before going to France. There will be more to follow on these opportunities to share the heritage of Canadian Signals.



In the last edition of "the Communicator" we mentioned three main areas of focus:

1. Assistance to Serving members.

We have begun our "Employment Mentoring Programme" by joining with 32 Brigade's initiative lead by Tom Quigley. Tom has gathered together a number of human resource managers from local companies who volunteer their time to coach and guide serving members in applying for work. This includes resume writing and practice interviews, culminating in a Jobs Fair that takes place

in Fort York Armoury. This photo is of the EMP members who attended the Jobs Fair at Fort York. Several members of our unit are participating in the programme and have already attended their first Jobs Fair, good luck to all! For those serving members who know more clearly what type of employment they are looking for please let me know and I can send you selected positions from the jobs.gc.ca website.



A group of supporters have gathered together to try and collate a social calendar for our Unit. The aim is to bring together all our different events into a single document that will help to coordinate the busy social life of our Regiment and Associations. Our challenge has been in choosing a calendar that is accessible and secure both on a federal and public system.

2. Serving our Associate members. At the recent Garrison Ball we invited and honoured one of our few WW11 despatch riders, Hugh Pattison. Hugh has co-sponsored the names of 1st Division Signal Line crews to be entered into the Memorial Book to be carried in the Memorial Line Truck. This picture shows Hugh, his daughter and Sgt. Haygarth enjoying the Signals display. It is Hugh who provided so many experiences that now thrill the students at the exhibitions. Hugh is always sought by the schools and he has been interviewed by the school children of St. Dominics in Oakville and a short history on his life was published as part of book which was presented to him. We have helped in Hugh receiving the Chevalier of the Legion of Honour as well as attending the D-Day and Dutch celebrations.



The C&E Branch through General Richardson has asked for our assistance in identifying the graves of Signallers. Over the Christmas holidays the Vintage Signals Team joined with members of the 'North Wall Riders' in their Christmas Vigil in the Burlington Field of Honour. Participants included Mr. Sweet MP and the Hamilton Chief of Police who placed red

candles on each of the headstones and read out the name of each interred veteran. A notation was made of each of the Signallers who are yet to be recorded in the C&E record and are yet to be researched.

Other activities have focused on recreating the Memorial Signal Troop to immortalise the role of Signals Heritage in Canada. The Line truck is well on its way to be ready for the June season and this is



through the generosity of donations and the hard work of the Hamilton Signals Association with Frank vonRosensteil and Sue Sertpolat both ex 709 Sigs. We estimate that the rebuild now means the truck has at least a 20 year life extension as a memorial.

We are now purchasing the parts to create a CRTTZ truck. We have the pod and are aiming to base it on the trucks on Operation Scalpel. A down payment has also been made on a CP pod as they are quite difficult to find in an unaltered state. So far, neither the CRTTZ nor the Command Post have any sponsors so this is a wonderful opportunity for any organisation to become part of Canada's Signals Heritage. The pictures show Frank and the arrival of the CRTTZ and the next picture is Op Scalpel.

3. Serving our Youth. The visits and exhibitions continue apace with more requests being received in the Toronto District School Board area. Here are a few pictures of some of the locations we have visited



since the last edition. Branch 11 of the Royal Canadian Legion on the Danforth has an active programme which we support. This is usually in cooperation with the Queen's York Rangers Cadets who parade at the Legion. The museums where we have presented our displays include the Royal Canadian Regiment where Hal Buller was able to repair their Morse Code display



and also teach a young visitor the intricacies of the heliograph. At the Ruthven we were part of their WW1 displays and at the Haldimand Museum we presented at their celebration to the Brock Rifles and their role in WWI. Our Cadet programme with 1626 has expanded and we have been able to introduce signals competitions to see who has the fastest communication speed using magneto phones, laying line; semaphore or heliograph. A wonderful time for everyone.

It's been a busy introduction back to the Regiment and I can see it getting busier. If you want to know more about what we are doing please give me a call on 905-825-9898 or drop me a line at kenlloyd mediator@gmail.com.



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Padre's Corner

by Padre Captain Audrey Brown

Perhaps you are familiar with this adage. "Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad" (Miles Kingston). This phrase is on my favourites, because it sums up two very basic facts. We can know things, but we must gain wisdom. You can imagine my delight when I came upon this addendum. "Philosophy is wondering if that makes ketchup a smoothie. Common Sense is knowing that Ketchup isn't a ("bleeping") Smoothie."

One of the things that I like about the 'system' of the CF is that it seeks to make the best use of those four types of thought processes, with the intention of placing each of us in the position to match each of our skills, to gain the most effective outcome.

Knowledge is what we learn. The things we can recite by heart, know by rote, information that be conveyed and used, tested. The CF has perhaps mastered the art of knowledge, with PD's, tests, repetition. If they need you to know something, they teach it to you, again and again, and test you on it even more often. Knowledge is the most accessible to all of us. We may differ in what types of knowledge come easily to us, but we can all hone and seek out knowledge.

Wisdom is a little bit different, wisdom is applied knowledge, not something that can be taught - and in my opinion seems only ever to be learned the hard way. If you have become wise about something, it is usually because you have been through some 'stuff'. Wisdom is what is

offered to you be living.

Philosophy is of course my favourite. I suspect I have by inclination and vocation, spent more than my fair share of time 'wondering if indeed ketchup is a smoothie.' Perhaps it is why I admire the difference between that and the "knowing ketchup isn't a smoothie" of common sense. Lots of people in CF have common sense. Most days I suspect I have none. I greatly admire those who can with seemingly little effort remember how to hold a weapon, tie a rope, set something up, while I'm still catching up from step 1 (no doubt because I was distracted by some profound thought on the nature of the weapon, or rope etc.).

Perhaps the point is, we all need to be at the table, on the assembled team, working and planning together, for we offer different perspectives. More than that, we all need to understand ourselves and what we have to offer, without comparing ourselves or our shortcomings to others. 'Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.' (source unknown)

Be yourself, everybody else is already taken.

Blessed Be, Padre Brown.



Junior Ranks Mess Committee

Junior Ranks Mercury Ball 2016

by Cpl Jacky Mao

On Saturday April 16, 2016, The 32 Signal Regiment Junior Ranks Mess Committee concluded another successful formal. The annual premier event was held at the RCMI hosting over 100 guests in attendance. As mentioned during the formal, mess functions are integral to military life and serve a vital role in fostering morale and building esprit de corps among members of the unit. The event was well received and it would not have been possible without the efforts of the

planning committee and the support from key members of the regiment. To re-live the memories from the 2016 JR's formal, please visit the link below. Photos were taken by Cpl Hong Lin.

<https://flic.kr/s/aHskyvDze1>

Events hosted at venues such as the RCMI are expensive. As many of the JRs in our unit are students, the committee's main focus is to raise funds to make ticket prices affordable. Not only to

help subsidize ticket costs for the JRs but for all our guests as well. However it's always a challenge to find the ideal price point for ticket sales and be able to afford a prestigious venue.

With that said, we will need your help. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, this will be an excellent opportunity for you and your company to expose your brand and benefit through our large community reach. We would greatly appreciate any donation from your establishment at your discretion. In return for your generosity, we will display your logo on our event banners recognizing the contribution of your company.



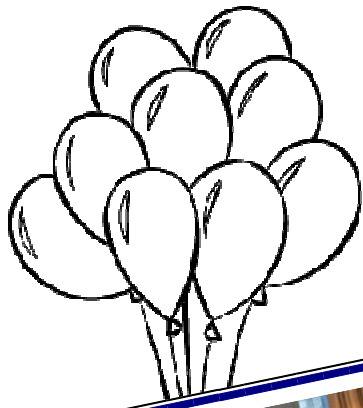
To conclude, the JR's are working hard planning next year's event. We look forward to hosting you again next year.

Cpl Mao as the President of the Mess Committee
Cpl Nguyen, The Vice President of the Mess Committee

Cpl Zhou, our Treasurer

Cpl Anja, our Secretary

Sig MacCauley, Borden Sqn Liaison



From the Regiment Awards and Promotions

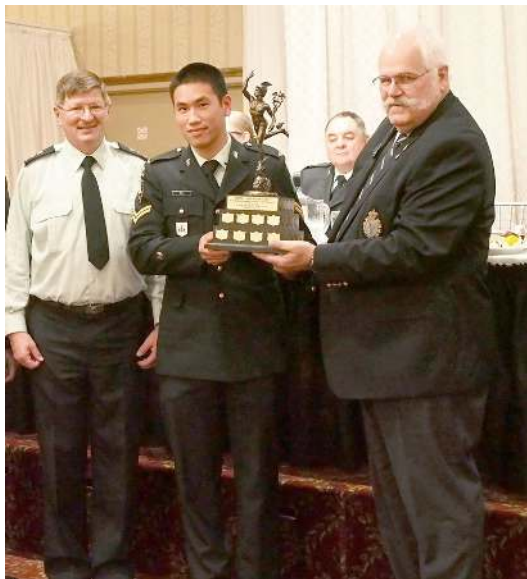
Canadian Forces' Decoration



MCpl McMillan, CD



MCpl Vachenko, CD



Corporal H.Y. Sea
2 Squadron's nomination for the J&A Trophy.

Cpl Sea is a steady member of the Squadron who parades regularly. This year he has competed in the Brigade's Canadian Patrol Competition program, as well as the Niagara Marathon and numerous other support exercises. He has maintained excellent physical fitness, and has performed to the highest standard at his level of rank and training. It's an appropriate award for Cpl Sea.



Capt Roger Caron
Commanding Officer's Award



Capt Said Shaath



2Lt James Kelly, CIC



Lt Michael Petres
Commissioning Scroll

Cpl Connor J.W. Murphy

32 Signal Regiment, 1 Sqn Borden is proud to nominate Cpl Connor J.W. Murphy, ACISS. His dedication to the troop has been exemplary as a Class B soldier who has taken on Det Commander Role, participated in EX STALWART GUARDIAN and associated work up training exercises for it. As a Class B soldier, he is not compensated for the evenings and weekends he comes in to work at the Sqn to maintain his skill set and support training exercises. As Det Comd he has taken this role seriously ensuring his personnel under his command are trained and practice their skill sets. He has been observed as taking responsibility for his detachment vehicle and associate kit.

From the Regiment

HLCol Moseanu Departing with Dignity

by HLCol Alex Moseanu, Adc CD

What memorable events in one day!!!



Troops, Cadets and the Band were absolutely magnificent. The signing over appointment ceremony was done in a dignified manner.



I then marched past the Regiment at the end of the parade and bade farewell with the band playing. I realized what an honour I had been awarded to serve beside these men and women. What an end to my 41 years of my military exploits.



First, Change of Honoraries Parade and then a dinner for both myself and the "new boy", HLCol Ken Lloyd CD.

The parade went smoothly, the reviewing officer being none other than BGen William S. (Bill) Richard, the Colonel Commandant of the Communications and Electronics Branch. The



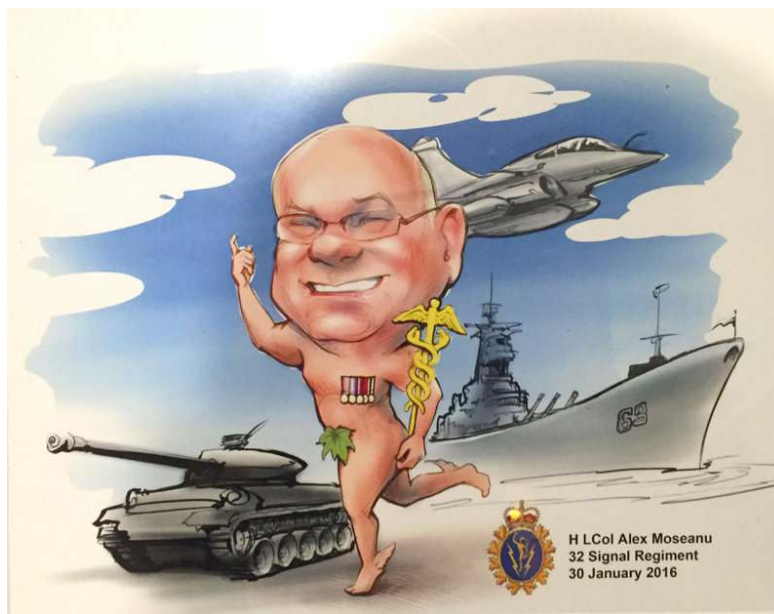
But wait ... the Dinner was next, and what a dinner it was! Surprise, surprise. Not only BGen Richard was there, but the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, The Honourable



Elizabeth Dowdswell came to "my party" and even had a few kind words for me ... WOW what a send-off! At the end of the dinner and speeches I presented the Regiment with a "Sword of Honour" to the Officers Mess and a trophy to the soldiers.



I wish to thank the Commanding Officer Daniel Bergeron, Officers and Soldiers of 32 Signal Regiment for the outstanding effort, Bravo Zulu. I also be remiss if I did not thank all the members of the Regimental family for putting up with me all these years.



Now I truly am a retired "Grizzled Old Veteran" — LOL.

SPIRITUS MANET

From the Regiment

Logistics Branch



4th Cdn Div HQs, 4 CDSB Petawawa Tech Svc and Outlying Unit Logisticians in Toronto Celebrate the 48th

By Sgt Richard Lacroix | 4 Cdn Div HQ | February 01, 2016

February 1st 2016 marked the 48th Logistics Branch anniversary. The event began with opening addresses from our youngest Logistician, Pte JaeHo Kim, of Pers Svcs 4 CDSB Petawawa Det Toronto and the senior Logistician of the day, Maj Paul Anderson, G4 Ops of 4 Cdn Div JTFC HQ's in Toronto. Both spoke about our history, heritage and most important, our Motto "SERVITIUM NULLI SECUNDUS" of the Logistics Branch and what it meant to be a Logistician.



CWO Demetruk, WO Battista and Maj Anderson

Following the traditional cake cutting ceremony, approximately 70 personnel gathered to share in the festive celebration and were served with cake, assorted sandwiches, coffee or tea hosted at the Denison Armoury WOs' & Sgts' Mess. The gathering was well represented from members of 4 CDSB Toronto, 32 CBG, 4 Cdn Div HQ and outlying Units.

This year's event was marked with the awarding of the Supply Occupation Coin to WO Mario Battista by Maj Paul Anderson on behalf of the Supply Trade Co-Advisor, LCol Andre Mathieu and Occ CWO, CWO Brad Curtis. WO Battista received the coin for his leadership, professionalism and dedication to the Supply Trade, while a member of the 4 Canadian Division HQ and his parent unit, 32 Signal Regiment.



Maj Paul Anderson and Pte JaeHo Kim



"SERVITIUM NULLI SECUNDUS"

The complete Logistics Branch Newsletter is available online.
<http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/caf-community-branches-logistics/newsletter.page>

From the Regiment Christmas Lunch





From the Regiment

New Years Levee



Toronto Garrison Officers' Ball

by HLCol Ken Lloyd, CD MA | 32 Signals Regiment | 2nd April 2016

In support of the Vimy Foundation, presented by BELL and hosted by 32 Signal Regiment



"He is, he really is!" Faces peered closer to the Perspex case, "Where?"

A cluster of Officers and Ladies from The Governor General's Horse Guard's scanned the small metal soldiers in the trench model to find the latrine scene where a model WW1 soldier stood urinating into a thunderbox, nearby, a model Lancer fed his horse. The trench display was part of the exhibits brought together by the 'Vintage Signals Team' letting guests experience the history of Canadian Signals from the Boer War to modern satellites.



meal and supporting a worthy cause.

The funds raised at the ball will help to finance the new education centre being built at the Vimy Memorial in France. In the background to this, Captain Ric Rangel-Bron staffed the project under the guidance of Honorary Colonel Leech and the CO, LCol Bergeron. It involved monthly meetings and almost weekly updates on arrangements; guest lists; sponsorship offers and the myriad of issues bringing the corporate world and the military world with their separate cultures together.



of HMCS HAIDA whose volunteers demonstrated their heliographs, Aldis lights and trench switchboards to the guests. We were fortunate to have a drummer from the Toronto Signals Band who beat out the calls of old and the giveaway collector cards on the history of Signals drumming ran out even before the dinner began. More contemporary Signals history was provided by a marvellous "Queen Mary" Command Post APC and a WW11 Radio truck from the "ONTARs" while our own 32 Sigs Regiment provided examples of modern phones and a giant green "Beach Ball" which brought many questions of the Signallers in attendance as well as convivial

The support of our volunteers was exemplary. Coming together under the umbrella of the "Vintage Signals Team", 32 Brigade provided their trench wall; Veterans Affairs their Vimy Dugout with artefact display; Carefree Models the model trench; and the City of Flanders their WW1 display especially brought down from the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. These were brought alive by the Hamilton Signals Association and the Friends



speculation as the evening drew to a close on the "Ball's" ability to bounce if pushed. The guys from Borden Sqn built a complete trench system in one day and tore it down before the morning dawn, a brilliant effort.

The involvement of 32 Signal Regiment in the Garrison Ball has created an opportunity for us to join in a learning experience about our First World War legacy, as symbolized by the victory at Vimy in 1917. It gives encouragement in our continuing development of our local education programmes to build awareness in our community of the sacrifices that were made to create our nation and our identity. By telling the stories of daring and bravery of the first formed Signals Corps in the Commonwealth and its role in the First World War we acknowledge the development of our identity as Canadian Signallers.





Cadets

709 Signals Army Cadet Corps

by Capt Steven Morgan

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, with select training nights also held at Fort York Armoury. The cadets, who number 85, range in age from 12 to 18 and are distributed among five training levels. The Corps reached an all time high of 100 cadets on parade and we hope to exceed that amount in the new training year, which starts on September 14th.

In January/February, 10 senior Cadets and 3 Officers had the opportunity to join the Regiment on their two weekends of winter warfare training. The second weekend was spent in the field in Borden where we deployed 3 tent groups within the course lines and the cadets did an excellent job employing what they learned during the pre-training at FYA. Warrant Officer Mario Battista insured the cadets were well supplied and their needs looked after. This opportunity has given these young men and women a better idea of what training CAF members undertake as well as promoting interest in the Regiment.

On May 6-8 the Corps practiced and honed their navigation skill at Tiffin Conservation spending the weekend moving within the park using various navigation techniques and tools, including map and compass as well as GPS. After a long day of training on Saturday, the cadets were treated to hot dogs and marshmallows over the campfire before turning in for the night to the sounds of the coyotes howling in the distance.

On June 10-12 the Corps will depart from Denison Armoury for the final FTX of the year travelling to Peace Keeper Park, near London, where the cadets will spend the weekend abseiling (repelling) from both tower and rock face, canoeing and trying their hand at archery.

In addition to the mandated training, here are some of the highlights from this year:

- On October 31, we supported RCL Branches 66 and 75 with their Poppy Campaign;



- We participated in the Regiment's Remembrance Parade day at the York Cemetery Cenotaph on November 7th;
- For the first time, 6 Cadets participated in the Prospect Cemetery Remembrance Day Sunrise ceremony on Nov 11th;
- On Sunday November 15th, 8 senior Cadets were invited to the RCMI to chaperone the members' children during the Santa Claus Parade. They received the rare privilege to enjoy a tour of the facility and sample the fine food the RCMI provides to their guests;
- For the first time ever we hosted a FYA Garrison Senior Army Cadet Mess Dinner on Friday December 4, which took place on the Parade Square with cadets from 709 Sigs, 337 QYR, 2736 Royals, and 32 Army with over 115 Silver Stars and above in attendance. I am proud to say that 54 of those cadets were Signals Cadets! Our guest speaker was OCdt Kyle Ryan, 4th year student at RMC;
- On January 6, the cadets started the new year off at a night of bowling. It was a fun night for everyone;
- On January 9th, we fielded 2 shooting teams for the Annual Tartan Shoot at MPA;
- On January 30th, 15 senior cadets participated in the change of Honorary Colonel Parade;
- On February 28th, 8 Cadets formed a colour party for a Black History Month awards ceremony at BME Church at Eglinton and Dufferin where 5 supporters of the Corps, including both CWO Carter and CWO Mallia received awards from the community and Toronto Police Services for a job well done;
- On February 29th, the Corps spent the night rock climbing at True North Climbing located in Downsview Park;

- On March 5 we fielded two shooting teams for our zone 11 shoot where the senior team placed second overall and one of our female cadets took 3rd place junior; and
- On Saturday March 19th the Corps boarded 2 busses for CFB Borden to visit the MP Detachment and tour the Army and Air Museums as part of their CF familiarization.

This year, our annual review will be held at Fort York Armoury on Monday, June 6th 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 2016 Annual Review will be LCol Daniel Bergeron CD, 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 Signal Regiment and the Regimental Family for their ongoing support.

Have a wonderful safe summer!

Captain Steven Morgan
Commanding Officer
709 Toronto Signals RCACC

Remember When?

2605 Cadet Corps — circa 2000



Associations

Regimental Advisory Council



At the April 30, 2016 annual general meeting of the Regimental Advisory Council the previous year's financial statements, reports from affiliated Toronto Signals family organizations, the status of the Toronto Garrison Officers Ball and a SITREP of the Regiment from the Commanding Officer was presented.

The Council approved the following disbursements for 2016:

SHE Fund Bursaries to serving soldiers	\$7,500
Flag Party uniforms, replacement	\$9,000
32 Signal Regimental Fund	\$6,000
Toronto Signals Band	\$4,000
709 Signals Cadet Corps	\$2,000
2250 Muskoka Pioneers Cadets Corps	\$1,000
142 Air Cadet Squadron	\$2,000
Vimy Educational Trip	\$6,000
Vintage Signals Team	\$5,000
Total Disbursements	\$42,500

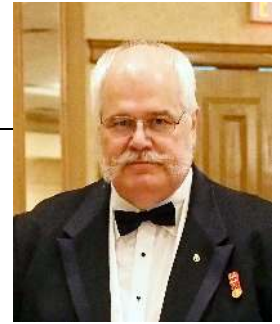


Associations

Jimmy and Associates

by Hal Buller, CD

Hello, my name is Hal Buller. I am the president of Jimmy and Associates (J&A). J&A is an alumni association for ex military communicators, and their friends and families, based in and around the Toronto area.



I had the privilege recently of attending the 3rd annual VE day celebration hosted by Councillor James Pasternak, and organized by Jonathan Horchata Delgado. It was held on Monday 09 May. It started with a wreath laying at the cenotaph in front of old city hall, followed by a tribute service at Nathan Phillips Square in front of city hall. Also in attendance was our own WW II vet, Len Pelletier. Lynda and I got to spend some time with Len as we sat with him waiting for his transit ride home. I took the opportunity to ask him what his recollections were from his service 70 years ago. It was an ideal case of the association allowing members to share experiences, and to enjoy each other's company.

Just prior to the City of Toronto event, we held the association AGM. There was no election this year, so we got to concentrate and cover off the normal annual business of the association. We were fortunate to have the CO attend and participate by giving us a slimmed down version of the presentation he made to the Regimental Advisory Council (RAC) meeting earlier that morning. All of the minutes will be available from the secretary (see web page).

<http://torontosignals.ca/32SigJimmyAndAssociates.shtml>

The next significant event on the horizon is the annual reunion picnic/BBQ scheduled for Sat 16 Jul.

The last time I wrote an article for the news letter, I announced the kick off of a fundraising campaign to procure new uniforms for the flag party. Fortunately for us amateur fundraisers, the RAC and our Honouraries, stepped up as benefactors and topped the fund up with enough money to go ahead with the procurement. The final product is close to being delivered. I, for one, am excited and eager to put this new uniform on display soon.

We have the annual Toronto Garrison Ball behind us now. Many people participated under the leadership of Ric Rangel-Bron. After all of the agonizing and headaches, it went off well and stands as something that we can be proud of. A large portion of the success of the ball can be attributed to the displays put on by the volunteers of the Vintage Signals Team (VST). It is a real pleasure to see how the Toronto and Hamilton associations are banding together to help preserve and display our heritage.

The VST has a busy schedule coming up this summer, and more volunteer participants are always appreciated.

I also made an effort to go to Kingston to attend the AGM of The Signallers Club back in April. I took the floor and updated everyone about J&A, VST, and the Garrison Ball.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/182297238812898/>

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

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1028884437202045.1073741948.179446022145895&type=3>

<http://garrisonball.ca/>

<http://www.the-sigs-club.ca/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/126810574024743/?fref=nf>



Wreath laying ceremony, VE day anniversary, Old City Hall Cenotaph, Toronto

Len Pelletier, front row, four from the left. Hal Buller, rear row, two from the left.

Toronto Signals Band

by Eleonore Edwards | Public Relations, Toronto Signals Band

The Toronto Signals band had a very quiet spring. We had only one parade and that was the Beaches Easter Parade. As the Band marched down the street the crowds were cheering for us, but the biggest hit of course was Angus, the mascot for the Toronto Signals Band. Angus is a St. Bernard mix and he just loves the attention. He was a furry hit with the kids.



The social committee has been busy organizing A Weekend to Remember Event. This year marks the 90th Anniversary for the Toronto Signals Band. This event will take place Friday September 23 to Sunday September 25, 2016 at the Courtyard By Marriott Hotel in Brampton. The weekend event will include a Meet and Greet on Friday night, Dinner/Dance with open bar on Saturday and a Farewell Breakfast on Sunday. For further information or to RSVP to this amazing event please e-mail us at torsigns90@gmail.com

Some of the members of the Toronto Signals band are getting a little mature in age and we need new members. Whether you can play an instrument or not you are more than welcome to join this amazing band. We are always looking for new members so help spread the word. The Toronto Signals Band meets on Monday nights at Fort York Armouries from 1930 to 2230.

Associations

Hamilton Signals Association

Maj. Gen. Berthold Schenk, Count von Stauffenberg

By HLCol Ken Lloyd, CD



"I could not understand why my father would want to kill the Führer"

Opposite me sat General Berthold Count von Stauffenberg. We were in The Kamerardenschaft of Backnang in the Black Forest region of Germany. My wife and I had been invited to Backnang to take part in the 25th Anniversary of the Town Twinning between Backnang and Chelmsford in England.



"I was a young keen 10-year-old boy and disappointed to have missed joining that year's intake of the Jungvolk, the junior branch of the Hitler Youth. My dearest wish was to march through Bamberg carrying a Nazi banner at the head of a youth parade. Fortunately my mother who, unknown to me, shared my father's anti-Nazi views, prevented this."

General Berthold's father, was Claus Schenk, Count von Stauffenberg who attempted to kill Hitler with a briefcase bomb he carried into the conference room at Hitler's Wolfschanze ("Wolf's Lair"), in East Prussia. The assassination attempt failed.

The day after the attempt, General Berthold's mother told her family that their father had tried to assassinate Hitler and had been executed. "Our world split apart at a stroke," said General Berthold. "When I asked in perplexity why my father had wanted to kill the führer, my mother answered that he had believed that he had to do it for Germany's sake."

“That night, the Gestapo arrested my Mother and Uncle Nux and took them to Berlin. My family were arrested as part of the Sippenhaft (“kin detention”) decree, under which not only the conspirators but their entire family, children and the elderly included, were to be arrested and punished.” In 1944 the von Stauffenbergs were transported to a Nazi children’s home near Nordhausen, in central Germany. As the war drew to an end Hitler had insisted that the very name “Stauffenberg” be wiped from history. It was planned to move them to Buchenwald concentration camp.

The Stauffenberg children departed for Buchenwald on Easter, 1945, traveling in an army truck to the Nordhausen railway station to board a train for the camp. They were on the outskirts of Nordhausen



when an Allied air raid hit the town. “It destroyed the whole quarter around the station, including the station itself,” General Berthold remembered. “The Nazis had no option but to take us back to Bad Sachsa, much to our relief.”. After the war General Bernhold happily had a reunification with his mother who had been sent to Ravensbruck concentration camp.

“Not everyone thought Churchill made wise decisions. I watched the remains of the Vlasov Army—a force of Russian people who had fought with the Germans against the Russians who my father had helped raise being herded onto trains and forced back to Stalin”.

The conversation with General Berthold continued through the various events to celebrate the Twinning, including the official reception by the Mayor of Backnang. General Berthold became a soldier in the West German Bundeswehr and retired in 1994 as a Major General with 38 years of service. We chatted about shared memories of the Cold War, the continuing Russian threat and the never to be forgotten black mud of the Luneburg-Soltau training Area where the General commanded a German Armoured Regiment and I was an armoured infantry platoon commander. Mud is the same for every army!

The conversation with General Berthold



After the war General Berthold was educated in a public school in the United Kingdom. His ability to easily converse in a number of languages facilitated his selection for staff positions and later Military Attaché posts in Canada, London and within NATO.

The von Staffenberg family history goes back to the Holy Roman Empire and is closely associated with the ‘Swabian’ culture of the area around Backnang. The family is traced to 1644 and includes a number of bishops and prominent soldiers. The family still retains the hereditary title of Schenk which is placed before any other title. General Berthold explained that his family name should include *Schenk Graf von Stauffenberg*.

History and remembrance are important in Backnang and on the town’s Memorial to the Fallen are the names of their sons who were conscripted into the French Army by Napoleon for his invasion of Russia in 1812.

The ceremonies included a formal wreath laying by the Kamerardenschaft members and Signallers from 36 (Essex Yeomanry) Signal Regiment from Chelmsford, Essex. The annual twinning ceremony between the two Units began 25 years ago and has continued unbroken with many personal friendships developing between members.



Both the Essex Yeomanry and the Kamerardenschaft expressed an interest in forming a closer liaison with members in Canada. In particular, the Yeoman of Signals remembered the high frequency shot from the UK to Toronto and asked that I passed on best regards to LCol Jack Lee. If you wish to know more about this article or the event, please drop me a message at kenlloyd mediator@gmail.com

Rad Van

The plan for our Rad Van is based on the CUCV. Under the initial purchase of CUCV's 17 were acquired and configured as Rad Vans, many more were converted from cargo to Rad Vans. In the years that followed the CUCV proved superior to the 1976 5/4 SMP in every way and were needed for the UN missions; in Bosnia, Somalia and NATO Mission SFOR (Kosovo). They were also used during the First Gulf War. These trucks were in great demand since the CF was converting to an all diesel fleet.



We are hoping to get a truck with a pod that is still configured for the Chevrolet and has not been

converted for use on the LSVW. The Rad Van will require an M-1028 chassis due to the extra weight of the comms pod. Our estimated cost of this vehicle is from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

1/4 Ton M-38A1 Cnd Line/DR Jeep

We will be looking for one of 3 different contracts i.e. 1953 Ford M-38A1 Cdn, 1967 M-38A1 Cdn2 and 1970 M-38A1 Cdn3. Canada operated the M-38A1 from 1953 to 1988, a very long service life indeed.



This vehicle will most likely require a full ground-up restoration. Depending on the vehicle we find the cost of this project would be between \$10,000 to \$15,000.

For donations and inquiries

vintagesignals@gmail.com

- or -

kenlloyd mediator@gmail.com

First Canadian Army Signals in Britain – 1942-1944

by Capt Stewart Briggs

An old friend of mine was recently married in Germany, and the trip to the wedding became an opportunity for my girlfriend Alicya and I to enjoy a short vacation in Europe. For some reason, Alicya doesn't seem to mind visiting historical military sites with me, and so we devised a schedule that allowed us to see Normandy and Vimy together. However, before getting to those famous landmarks, we began our trip with a quick stop in London. This gave us the chance to visit one of the areas of Britain where the Canadian Army spent a large portion of its time, training for several years prior to D-Day - specifically the County of Surrey and the Town of Ashtead.

In 1940, when the 1st Canadian Division arrived in Britain they were staged at Aldershot, southwest of London. After the first winter, and after the chaos of the evacuation from Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain, most Canadian Army units were concentrated in Surrey, between London and the south coast. The Division Headquarters was established at Headley Court - an old mansion on the southern slopes of the Epsom Downs between Leatherhead and Redhill. As the war progressed and the Canadian contingent grew from a single Division into a Corps, and then into an Army, the facility at Headley Court continued to be the Canadian field headquarters until it was deployed to France in July 1944. Consequently, in 1942 when First Canadian Army was stood up as its own formation, the Signal Battalion that was formed to support it was positioned at Ashtead; only a ten minute drive away from Headley Court. The Commanding Officer of the First Canadian Army Signals was Lieutenant-Colonel F.A. Burgess - a militia officer from 2nd Divisional Signals in Toronto.

Alicya and I arrived in London early in the morning on October 2nd, and went straight to Waterloo Station. We took a short walk around the corner to the Union Jack Club - a hotel and club that specialize in hosting military personnel and veterans, and this is where we dropped off our baggage. Waterloo Station is close to the Thames and Westminster, so it was an ideal landmark for finding the London Eye ferris wheel. I am afraid of heights, but it was lots of fun seeing the city from above. By the time we got to the train for Ashtead, we had been able to buy a nice light lunch. Then it was less than an hour by train to get to where the First Canadian Army Signals had

spent two years training for D-Day.

When the Canadian Army mobilized for the Second World War, many of the existing militia units were large enough to be activated for service overseas, and so they continued as formed battalions to train for war. For Signals, it was necessary to group officers and soldiers together into new units. As a result, soldiers from 2nd Divisional Signals and "A" Corps HQ Signals (the existing militia signals units in Toronto) ended up serving in many different units overseas. At different times between 1940 and 1945, members of our Regiment would have trained all across Surrey in several different units, including First Canadian Army Signals from 1942.

I knew from the Corps history that Lieutenant-Colonel Burgess had been presented a Canadian Ensign flag by the community auxiliary in Ashtead, and that the soldiers of the battalion had all contributed to the construction of a Bishop's Chair for the church there. We were on a mission to visit Ashtead and see the chair! From the train station at Ashtead, we walked southeast towards Ashtead Park where Saint Giles' Church is located. On the way, we came across the Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall. At the end of the First World War unlike most other towns, the people of Ashtead had founded a peace memorial hall instead of a war memorial hall. I poked my head in and found that there was a group of seniors setting up some kind of a banquet. They were mostly finished, so I interrupted and told them that I was an army officer from Canada on my way to see the church. They immediately knew what I was talking about, because they had all obviously heard all about the Canadian Army in that region from the war, and a few of them were old enough to remember the Canadians themselves. One lady introduced herself as Chris, and offered to drive Alicya and me around the town - you can't plan these things!



With the Bishop's Chair at Saint Giles' Church -

Chris remembered the Canadians, and she remembered where many of them had been boarded in rooms among the family homes of the community. It's possible that she had seen a concert by the Toronto Signals Trumpet Band - because they went with the 2nd Canadian Infantry

Division to Britain as well. Chris drove us to Saint Giles' church and we got in to see the Bishop's Chair with the badge of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals engraved on it. Chris drove us around to her brother's house, where she remembers that Canadian Sergeants and Despatch Riders had been boarded. She drove us down to Dorking, where the army drove through on its way down to the coast. She drove us up to Box Hill – overlooking the South Downs and practically all the way to the coast, a perfect location for a radio node. She drove us along the county highway where she remembers trucks and trailers, jeeps and motorcycles, tanks and troops all lined up for miles and miles on exercises, and in preparation

for the invasion of France.

Finally, after more than an hour of fast driving and long conversation about the war and Surrey, Chris was able to drop Alicya and me back at the train station on time. We got on the train back to Waterloo station, picked up our baggage at the Union Jack Club, and made the next train on time to get south to Portsmouth. By now it was six in the evening, and we had been active non-stop. With a quick break at the ferry terminal in Portsmouth we were able to get some dinner, and organize ourselves for the overnight ferry to Ouistreham in Normandy. This was a rough retracing of the route of the Canadian landing force on D-Day, by landing ship from Portsmouth to Juno Beach. We got off the ferry at 6:30am on October 3rd.



Christine's brother's house on Park Lane. Canadian signallers were boarded in this and other houses all along the streets of Ashted from 1942 to 1944.



With Christine, who remembers the Canadian signallers in Ashted.

Alicya and I will never forget our hectic trip to Europe, and we will smile and laugh for years to come about the serendipity of our visit to Ashted with Christine who remembers the Canadians!

Working Buddies



Remembrance Day Ceremony - Oakville Ontario, 2015

Cpl Logan,
Sgt Crutchfeild,
Sgt Lloyd and
WO Lloyd.

All work together at
32 Brigade,
Downsview Ontario.

Picture from the
Remembrance Day
Ceremony, Oakville
Ontario,
11 November 2015.

Published in Snap'd
December 2015.

Signaller's Christmases in WW II

by Alan Rigby

Paul Ashley Morrison, was born and raised in Bear Island, west of Fredericton. He passed away in June 2005 at the age of 85. This is his personal experiences of Christmases during World War II.

Christmas 1940

The battery was moved to Brantford, Ont., shortly after Xmas of 1939. (Woodstock, N.B. - Woodstock, Ont.).

I began training as an artillery signaller at Toronto and Kingston. Learned old methods - Aldus Lamp, Heliograph, Semaphore and Morse Code. Also learned new methods - switchboards, radios, etc.

Christmas 1941

The Regiment spent most of this year on the south coast on an English country estate at a place called Crowhurst, just north of Hastings. Our role was to defend the coast in event of a German invasion.

My duty as signaller was to provide radio communications between the guns and the O.P. - picture the guns several miles inland. We waded out to a martello type tower at low speed and were marooned there until next low tide - climbed up inside the tower and took turns on sentry on the top exposed to the elements - awash at high tide - quite scary on guard in pitch black, wind roaring, surf splashing spray, straining to see any movement or hear strange sounds. You were directly responsible to raise the alarm in event of a raid. Had several weekend leaves in London where we explored the Tower, Wax Works, Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, Hyde Park, etc, etc and went dancing. We stayed at Service Clubs for 2 shilling 6 pence (about 60 cents).

Christmas 1942

All good things must come to an end. We had a new battery commander arrive and the first thing he did was move "lights out" from M.N. to 10 p.m., which did not allow us to attend a movie or go dancing. Pay day arrive about then and we drew our modest pay for the two weeks period - 2

pounds, about \$9 and nearly all the signal section hopped on a train and were AWOL for about a week.

On our return, we were tossed in the brig, charged and sentenced to 14 days C.B. My memories of Christmas dinner that year were dim but I do remember all of us saving our chocolate bars, gum, etc. and making small toys for the local children. We had a party and even had a small trees suitably trimmed - Canadian style. A snowstorm arrived about that time. We thought nothing of it but the English children were amazed - first they had seen. Children dress different there - boys in short pants, girls in skirts. No central heating, so always chilly with knees and hands chapped and reddened by the cold.

Christmas 1943

Moved to another country estate Lavenworth near Petworth where we were under canvas for the summer. More exercises. One exercise put me in hospital for a few days and I ended up in the Holding Unit. Couldn't get back to my regiment. Volunteered to go to Italy as reinforcements for 1st Division. We (about 50 men) were first reinforcements to reach Italy and there was no camp or administrative people to look after our needs. We landed in Naples, still smoking from recent military action. This was very picturesque with Isle of Capri on one side of bay and Mt. Vesuvius on other. Full kit - marched through Naples and up into mountains until dusk, bivouacked in a vineyard - no food or water, 1 blanket and it started to rain. A buddy and I found a wee shelter full of old hay and gratefully crawled in to sleep - not for long as we woke on fire. The hay was full of ticks. Spent rest of night scratching.

Next three weeks we were housed in an old schoolhouse, stone floors to sleep on, food and water made most of us sick so we marched up and down mountains to get us in shape for action. Rode up to front in a cattle car on the patched up Italian railroad. Spent Christmas at a staging camp in bell tents. Ours had a small brook running through as it rained and rained and the mud got deeper and deeper. We were wet, cold and very miserable with no place to dry out and get warm. Adding insult to injury, our Christmas dinner

consisted of onion soup, bully beef and hardtack. Right across the road (in plain sight) a group of East Indian muleskinners were enjoying a full Christmas dinner. We nearly rioted. Next day, on my way to the front where I was adopted by "C" Bty, 1st RCHA, I continued in my role as artillery signaller wireless operator for battery commander who stayed up with the Commander of the Inf Unit. We supported, the West Novies. Our role was to provide artillery fire where and when needed.

During the winter months we were obliged to stay in permanent positions as the entire countryside was a sea of mud, nothing could move. One popular story was that they dropped a box of ammo off a truck and they never found it.

Christmas 1944

Beginning at Ortona we had hard fighting all that year - the Hitler Line, Cassino, Gothic Line, Rimini Airport and others. I was extremely fortunate to survive as I was the only original member of our four men crew to get through untouched. During this period, our crew suffered 13 casualties and six of our vehicles were lost to enemy fire.

Life in Italy was not all blood and thunder. I managed to get away on a leave to Salerno where we visited Pompeii, ran into several lads from Woodstock from other Units in the Service Centre in Naples and was witness to an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. This was no severe earthquake but lots of smoke, flame and ashes raining down. We didn't see the sun for days. We swam in the Mediterranean and washed the ashes off. There was no transport in Italy as the Germans blew all bridges as they retreated. We did not fraternize with the Italian people very much either as they fought with the German Army before they decided to join up with us. Frankly, we did not trust them.

There were many beautiful buildings in the cities but out in the country where we were fighting the houses were pitifully small. The houses were pitifully small with walls of stone and dirt floored tile roofs. They took their dogs, hens, pigs, donkeys, cattle, etc., into their houses at night, not a very clean or healthy place to be. Lots of grapes, peaches etc, growing during the summer making lots of wine as the water was terrible.

At Christmas, the front had advanced north to Senio Canal where it was cold. The ice was nearly strong enough to carry a man in the canals while the fields were covered with shell ice. It was very noisy and drew fire as we were laying our lines of communication at night. We had a fine turkey (canned) dinner and pudding to finish off as a truce was arranged that day. Not a shot was fired by either side until mid afternoon when all of a sudden the Jerries opened up with a barrage. Our crew jumped in the jeep and raced back to our post with the infantry and as we arrived we were forced to take cover from heavy mortar fire. When it subsided we discovered our jeep had bit the dust.

The Canadians invented a secret weapon at this winter position when we were on the south side of the canal and the Germans were on the north side. They fastened a motorcycle inner tube to the crotch of an olive tree and lobbed grenades over the canal into the Jerries Lines. (Super Sling Shot).

Christmas 1945

Spring comes early in Italy. We moved across Italy to Leghorn where the Leaning Tower of Pisa is located and we organized a move across the sea to France, and then by convoy through France to Belgium. We regrouped in Belgium, moved north, then west through part of Germany and into Holland. Here we did our best to destroy all the rocket launching sites where the Germans sent them across the English Channel to England. We were nearby when the peace treaty was signed in a little schoolhouse near Amoursfort on May 7. We could not believe that the war was over. We had a leave in England on our way home. Arrived in Halifax August 6. I was discharged September 19th.

And THAT Christmas I spent at home.



Unidentified personnel of the Canadian Armoured Corps (C.A.C.) using wireless signal information to plot enemy movements in the Normandy beachhead, France, 6 June 1944.

Photographer: Ken Bell

DND/Library and Archives Canada

Last Post

BGen (ret'd) Don Banks, CMM CD



Don passed away peacefully while lovingly surrounded by his devoted wife and children on December 4, 2015 at the age of 75. Survived by his dearly beloved wife, Carolyn, daughter Sandra (Kim) and son Patrick (Trish). Don had a very distinguished career

in the Canadian Army, starting as an Apprentice Soldier and rising to the rank of Brigadier General in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals/ Communications Electronics Branch. He served with distinction and honour across Canada and overseas. He commanded at every rank level, and locally as Commanding Officer of the 1st Canadian Signal Regiment, Commandant of the School of Communications and Electronics and more recently as Base Commander of Canadian Forces Base Kingston. After promotion to Brigadier General in July 1990, he assumed command of the Canadian Forces Communication Command. In June 1993, he was inducted into the Order of Military Merit in the rank of Commander. After retirement, Don remained active in the local military and civilian community, serving as Colonel of the Regiment for 1st Canadian Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment; president of Signals Welfare Incorporated; as a member of the Board of Governors of the Corps of Commissionaires. He was also, for many years, a Director on the Board of the Military Communications and Electronics Museum, where he was one of the driving forces behind the production of the Corps/Branch history. He was appointed Colonel Commandant of the C&E Branch in February 2000 and was serving in that capacity during the visit of the Branch Colonel-in-Chief, HRH the Princess Royal, Princess Anne in 2003. Don will be missed by his many friends, both military and civilian as he had a positive effect on all those who had the great fortune to know him.

Major Richard Carl Leswick, CD



Rick died at Campbell House Hospice in Collingwood, ON, December 14, 2015 at the age of 61.

Rick was much loved by his parents, Frank and Olga Leswick, his wife Karina Dahlin, his extended family and many friends.

His grandparents were Ukrainian immigrants who struggled to build a life in Manitoba.

His kindness to those in need and his political engagement were anchored in the stories he heard about life on the prairies in the early 1900s.

Rick was a Private Investigator and a Teacher of law enforcement. He had a long commitment to the Canadian Armed Forces and served in a variety of roles. He loved music and read widely.

Raised in a family of railroaders, he maintained a fine garden-scale railroad in Etobicoke and in 2014 combined his interest in trains with his literary talent, publishing a book on the history of the railroad in his new home of Collingwood.

For Rick, the train represented a slower, more sociable era and with it he created a place for joy and camaraderie.

Rick did not have children of his own but devoted countless hours to his cadets, hoping to make them better, more complete young men and women. Many have said that Rick's gift was to make a person feel special and important. It was nothing for him to set aside a day to spend with a distant cousin or a neighbour's kid and he took great pleasure in the achievements of his younger relatives and godchildren.

Major Leswick was the Commanding Officer of 709 Signals Royal Canadian Army Cadets (formerly 2605) for many years. In June 2015 Rick handed command of 142 Air Cadet Squadron to Capt Ric Rangal-Bron.

Mr. T. Bruce Adams

It is with deep sympathy that we advise you of the passing of Alumni Member T. Bruce Adams. Bruce played swinging tenor while a member of the band. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Bruce was surrounded by his family, peacefully passed away on January 13, 2016. He loyally served in the RCN in WWII and worked as a chemical engineer at Lever Detergents for thirty plus years. He spoke fondly of the boys in the Signals, and his colleagues in the lab.

Clayton Everett Moss (1919-2016)



Clayton Everett Moss - 96, Truro, passed away peacefully Thursday, February 25, 2016, in the Veterans Unit of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto. Born in Tracadie, he was a son of the late Percy and Georgina (Elms) Moss.

Clayton was a war veteran who served overseas with Royal Canadian Engineers in the Second World War and was an adherent of Zion Baptist Church. Special thanks to the staff of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre for taking great care of our beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, great-great-grandfather and uncle as he entered his later years. Their exceptional care allowed his last years to be spent happily with dignity.

Clayton Moss was a former Commissionaire at Fort York Armoury for many years.

Capt (ret'd) Gerd Friedel Hallebach



From the earliest, 1960's onwards, Gerd served with the QYR Cadets in Aurora, 94 Newmarket Air Cadets, Ontario Regiment in Oshawa and of course 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment. He got a real kick out of working with young cadets in the cadet

system, especially out on exercises. He served as the Adjutant of 709 for a few years, circa 1980.

Harold Brister



It is with sadness that we report the passing of Alumni Member Harold Brister. Harold passed away on March 22 in Summerside, P.E.I.

Harold played in the band during the 80's and during that time served as Drum Major for 2 or 3 years.

Those wishing to send condolences to his wife and family can send them to his wife Beverley Brister, RR# 2, Kensington, P.E.I., COB 1MO.

Rest in Peace dear friend.

Martin James O'Leary



A loving husband, father and grandfather who lived a life graced by deep faith and abundant good humour, Martin James O'Leary died peacefully at the Houses of Providence in Scarborough, Ontario on April 17, 2016 in his 90th year. He was the beloved husband for 65

years of Noreen (nee Frechette) and loving father and role model to John (Lynne), Paul (Anna), Jim (Bev), Kathy Byles (Dan), Dan, Marty (deceased, 1986), Greg (Cathy) and Anne Marie Switzer (Ed). Martin was a proud grandfather to 19 wonderful children/adults: Matthew, Meghan, Brad, Aidan, Jennifer, Joe, Kevin, Michael, Sandra, David, Erin, Andrew, Mark, Sean, Martin, Samantha, Conor, Evin and Aveeva. Last year Martin became a great-grandfather (Sawyer) and was awaiting the arrival of a second great-grandchild in June. He had almost five dozen nieces and nephews and countless friends. He will be dearly missed by all who were fortunate enough to smile along with him.



We will remember them.

Events and Notices

Birth Announcement

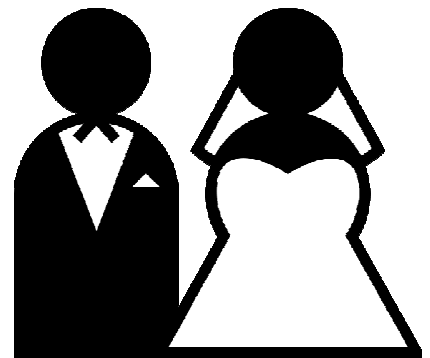
by Capt Said Shaath



Sami, the youngest boy, is 16 months old.

Rami, the oldest Son is 5 years old and Jasmine, the one and only daughter, is 4 years old.

Wedding Announcements



Capt Stew Briggs and Alicya Parrish

Toronto Signals Band
1926 - 2016

90th Anniversary Weekend

September 23rd - 25th, 2016

Courtyard Marriott - Brampton

90 Biscayne Crescent

(410 & Steeles), Brampton



Friday Night Meet & Greet

A chance to catch up with your friends from the past and present.

Meet old buddies you used to march with, share photographs and memorabilia and stories you can't forget (and some you may want to!!).

Saturday Night Dinner/Dance

A celebration of fine food, amazing entertainment and wonderful dancing.

Enjoy a great dinner, open bar, wine on each table, dancing to the renowned RHLI dance band. Dress is semi formal or business suit.

See pricing options on the attached form.

Sunday Morning Farewell Breakfast

Last chance to get together with your friends, old and new.

Enjoy a spectacular full breakfast and take this chance to make sure you have email addresses and phone numbers so you can stay in touch.

Activities for during the day Saturday are still being developed.



We'd like to know!!!

To gauge interest, your committee is asking what functions you are planning attend. Money is not due now.



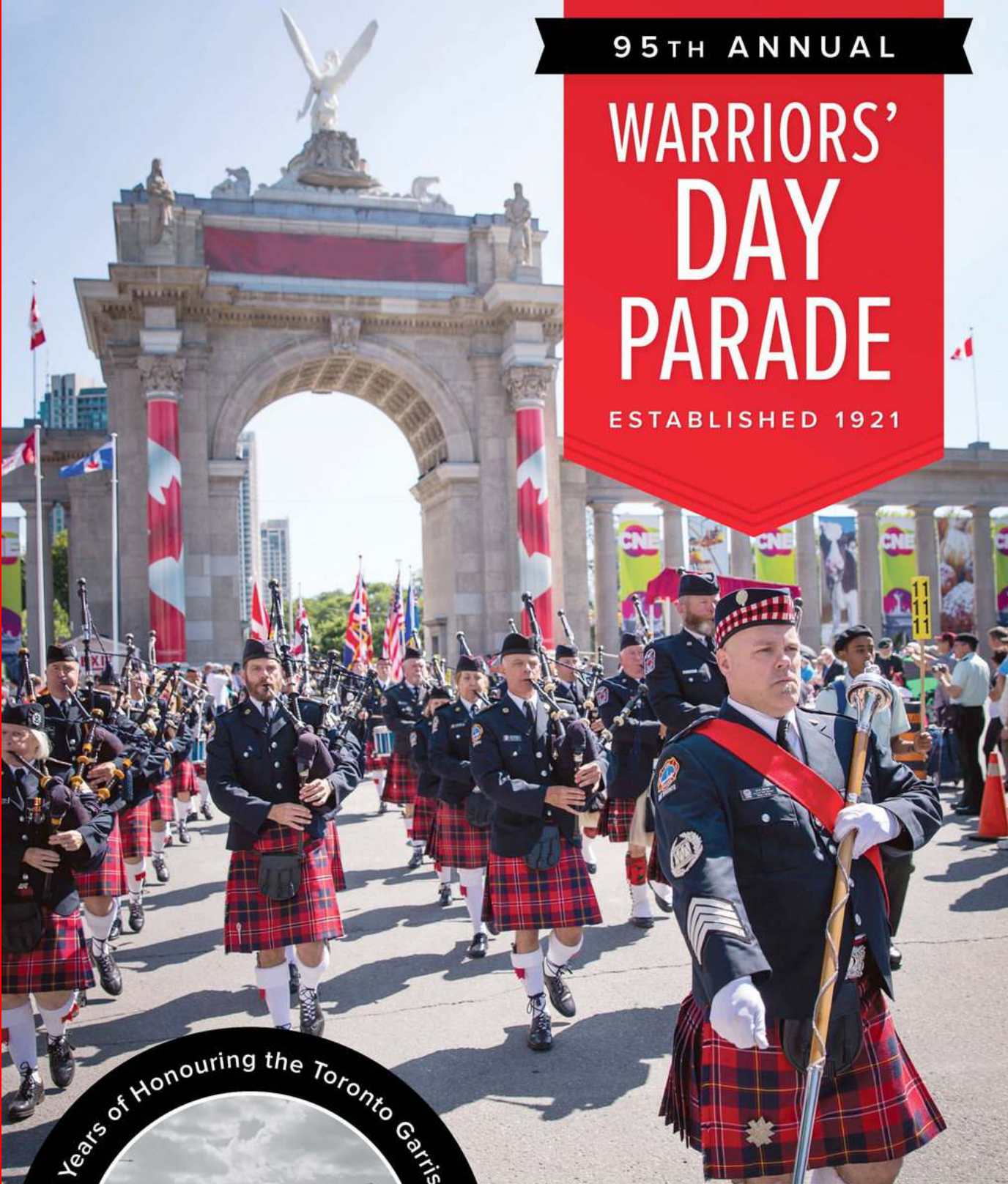
Come out and celebrate this milestone with members, alumni, family and friends

905 383-5933 laurich@rogers.com

95TH ANNUAL

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SAT. AUG. 20, 2016

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TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA – 10:30 AM

THEWARRIORSDAYPARADE.CA

