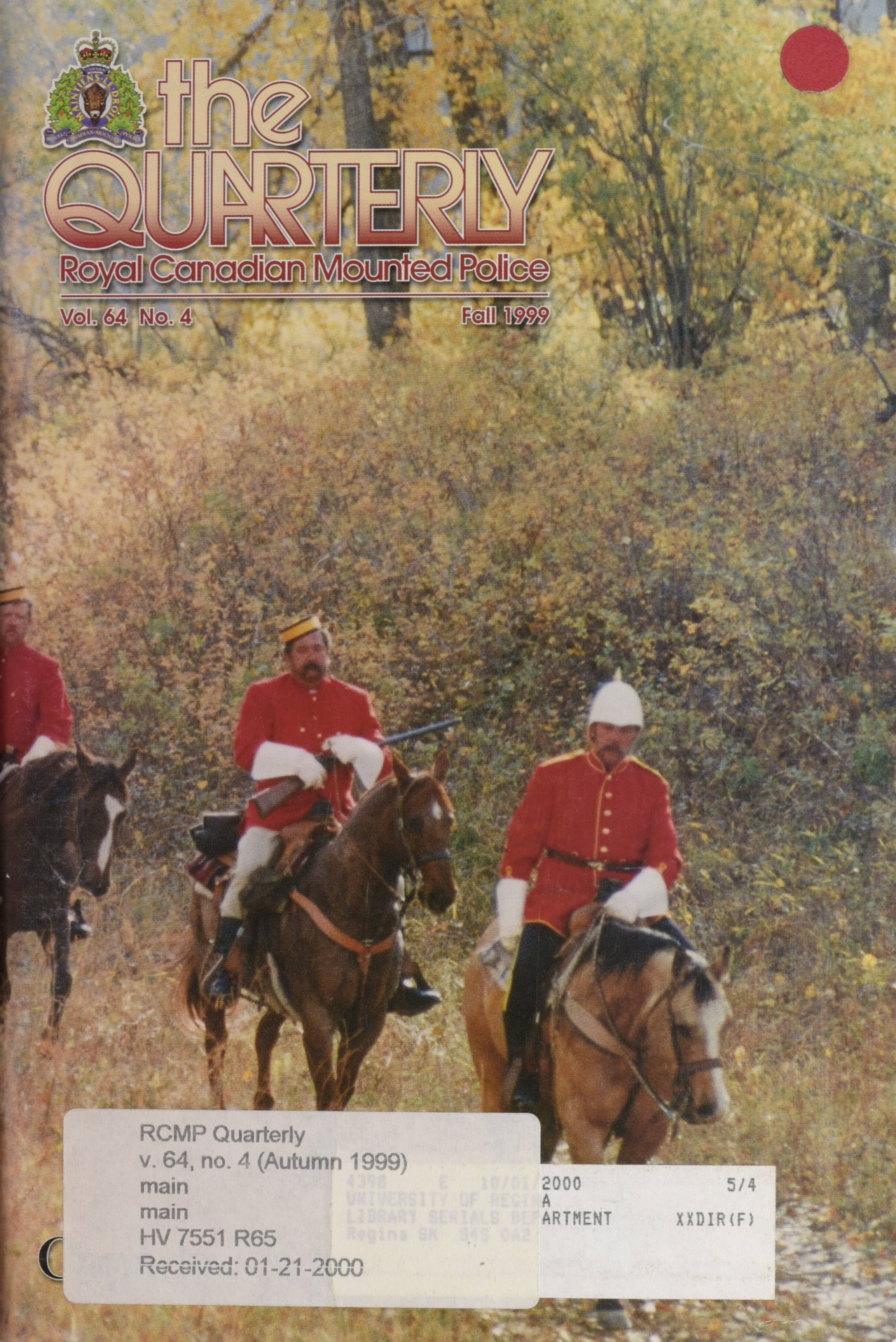
the QUARTERLY

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Vol. 64 No. 4 Fall 1999



RCMP Quarterly
v. 64, no. 4 (Autumn 1999)
main
main
HV 7551 R65
Received: 01-21-2000

2000 5/4
A
ARTMENT XXDIR(F)

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

OUR COVER: The original March West of 1874 combined all the elements of a great story – adventure, hardship, survival under adverse circumstances – and 125 years later, the same elements applied to the making of a television special about the historic trek. Cover photo by Bernie Succarov, "D" Division Forensic Ident. Unit, Winnipeg, Manitoba. See the article entitled, The March West Reenactment by Christiane Evans, on p.10.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE	*Managing Editor*	C/Supt. A. Thouin
	Editor	Mrs. C.B. Evans
EDITORIAL STAFF	*Circulation Manager*	Mr. I. Scullion
	Volunteer	Ex-Sgt. W.J.H. Poole
ASSOCIATE EDITORS	***Atlantic Region***	
	"B" Division	Mrs. H. Cleary-Escott
	"H" Division	Sgt. B.P. MacDougald
	"J" Division	Sgt. E.W. Munden
	"L" Division	Cst. M.L. Butler
	Central Region	
	"A" Division	Miss M. Courage
	"C" Division	Mrs. D. Clément
	"O" Division	Sgt. J. Bellerose
	North West Region	
	"D" Division	Sgt. S. Saunders
	"F" Division	Ms. H. Russell
	"G" Division	Cpl. C.C. Evans
	"K" Division	Mrs. B. Wells-Taylor
	"Depot" Division	Mrs. S.-A. Taylor
	"V" Division	Cpl. G. MacDonald
	Pacific Region	
	"E" Division	Sgt. P. Farnell
	"M" Division	Sgt. M. Stewart
	National Headquarters	Ms. L. Holmes
	Canadian Police College	Insp. J.J. Gaudet

The ***RCMP Quarterly*** (ISSN:0824-9415) is published by the Public Affairs and Information Directorate of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police every winter, spring, summer and fall. The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the RCMP. Cover design and contents are copyrighted and no part of this publication may be reproduced without written consent. **Publication Mail Agreement Number 1452959.**

Subscription rates are ten dollars ($10) per year or two dollars and fifty cents ($2.50) per issue. (Canadian subscribers must add G.S.T.) **Pre-paid subscriptions will be limited to two years.** Please make cheques or money orders payable to **"RCMP Quarterly"**. Subject to the *Interest and Administrative Charges Regulation*, an administration charge of $15 will be levied for dishonoured cheques (returned by a financial institution). Subscriptions support all publishing costs and advertising is neither accepted nor permitted.

DO NOT REMOVE THIS PAGE
ASSOCIATION MESSAGE

The Quarterly welcomes manuscripts, letters, photographs and news on RCMP-related subjects in either official language. Texts should be saved in WordPerfect format accompanied by hard copy. Submissions will also be accepted as hard copy only, typed double-spaced on one side of the page. Any material accepted is subject to revision and editing at our discretion. Whereas we take all reasonable care to safeguard submissions we accept no responsibility for loss or damage of unsolicited material. Address all correspondence to: The Editor, ***RCMP Quarterly***, RCMP Headquarters, L.H. Nicholson Building, 1200 Vanier Parkway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0R2.

Fax: (613) 993-4353
Subscriptions — Telephone: (613) 993-3738
Internet — http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/html/quarterl.htm

The RCMP Quarterly est également publié en français sous le titre ***la Trimestrielle de la GRC***.

Translation: RCMP Translation Services
Printed by Kromar Printing Limited, Winnipeg, Manitoba

the QUARTERLY
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Volume 64 No. 4 **FALL 1999**

2 COMMISSIONER'S HOLIDAY GREETING

3 A NEW MILLENNIUM AND A NEW *QUARTERLY*

5 EDITOR'S NOTES

8 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

10 THE MARCH WEST REENACTMENT
By Christiane Evans

18 THE GIFT
By ex-Sgt. W.J.H. Poole

25 NORTHERN MANITOBA POLICE PLANE PATROL
By ex-S/Sgt. Jerry W. Anderson

28 THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN HANDS
By Janet Farrell

30 LAST VOYAGE
Quarterly Editorial Staff

32 Y2K PARTNERSHIP
By Brigitte Audet

34 DETACHMENT MAN (PART II)
By W.T. Thompson

40 WHO MURDERED AENEAS DEWAR?
By Layton Park

44 HORSES OF A DIFFERENT COLOUR
By ex-Sgt. W.J.H. Poole

48 THE SWISSAIR DISASTER: A YEAR LATER ...
By D.L. Tencer and C.B. Evans

55 RICHARDSON'S V.C.
By Cpl. J. Paul Richards

61 BOOK REVIEWS

64 UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

65 DIVISIONAL DISPATCHES

104 OBITUARIES

IBC OLD STAFF
By Cpl. Stephen Grant

Commissioner's Holiday Greeting

Our celebrations for this holiday season have a special tone since they're the last of the 20th century. It's the closing point not only for the past 12 months but for the past 100 years too.

We've had a lot to commemorate in 1999. I know I'll never forget saddling up to open the 125th anniversary reenactment of the March West. Marking the 25th anniversary of police women in the Force, and hearing female members' concerns and hopes for the future has been a special privilege this year. I've been proud to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the RCMP's peacekeeping role, and to commend members for the incredible contributions they have made to the well-being of the human family in war-torn countries. Our thoughts are with those who are overseas now, and their families, during this holiday season when they are far apart.

The year brought some sad moments too. At the Police Memorial in September, we marked the passing of three of our members. I was gratified to see how many came out to show the RCMP's respect for their contribution and support for their families.

Next year, the RCMP will play a major supporting role in Relay 2000 — a 16,100 km cross-country trek of the Trans-Canada Trail. Employees will be ensuring the safety of participants as they cross our great country bringing waters from all three oceans to the National Capital Region to inaugurate a Millennium fountain in Jacques Cartier Park. I encourage serving employees and Veterans to participate as water carriers in this event and help Canada mark the Millennium.

The year 1999 was exciting and productive in forging even stronger links between the Force and the RCMP Veterans' Association. I was honoured with the opportunity to address the 75th Annual General Meeting of the Association in Ottawa, last June. From this meeting flowed meaningful discussions, which have resulted in an enhanced partnership with important consequences for the *RCMP Quarterly*.

Looking forward ro the challenges of the new Millennium, we approached the Veterans Association for their advice on supporting and enhancing the *Quarterly* magazine. The discussions were most positive and I am pleased to announce that the publication of the *Quarterly* will now be in the hands of the Veterans' Association. We will continue to cooperate with the new *Quarterly* staff in contributing material of interest to both employees and Veterans, but the Association will now be the publisher.

I look forward to the new magazine which will continue the tradition of the *Quarterly* with enhanced content. I will be continuing my subscription and I encourage all readers to do the same.

The year 2000 will no doubt be as interesting and rewarding as for all of us as the years preceding. The best way for us to meet our challenges is for each one of us to "do the right thing" — *maintiens le droit* — in all our activities, and work together as a team.

My warmest holiday wishes to you and your family. Here's to a happy and healthy New Year!

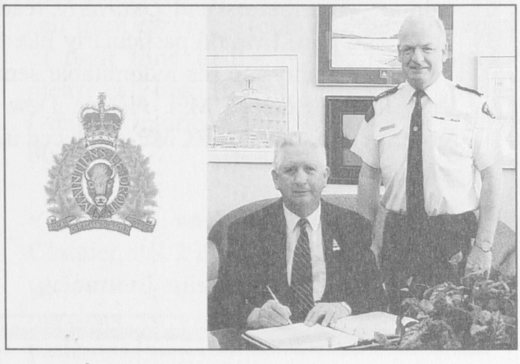
Commissioner J.P.R. Murray

A New Millennium and a New *Quarterly*

The Quarterly has been in existence for 66 years, almost half the total history of the RCMP. By now, you have probably heard that the RCMP will no longer continue to publish *the Quarterly*. Recently, Commissioner Murray provided the RCMP Veterans' Association with an opportunity to take over the publishing of the magazine, to ensure that this tradition will continue. Like the RCMP and *the Quarterly*, the RCMP Veterans' Association also has a proud history, and has been in existence for more than 75 years. We are honoured that the RCMP has offered us the chance to carry on this historic publication.

To allow the Veterans' Association to carry out this challenge, we will have to ensure that this venture is financially viable, especially now that RCMP will no longer be subsidizing this publication. We will have to cover all the production costs associated with this magazine, and as such, we will be increasing the annual subscription by $5, starting with the Winter 2000 issue. Subscription rates will be $15 per year, or $3.75 per issue. At $15 dollars (plus applicable taxes [GST, PST, HST] for Canadian subscribers), the price of *the Quarterly* still remains well below the average cost of any other high quality publication. However, the RCMP Veterans Association shall honour all existing subscriptions to the *Quarterly* for the periods for which payment has already been made. We will also be selling selected advertising space subject to approval of the new *Quarterly* Editorial Board. Please use the *Subscriptions Application* (change of address) form printed on the last page of this edition. **Make your cheque or money order payable to *the Quarterly*** and **send it to the RCMP Veterans' Association**, Attn: *the Quarterly*, 1200 Vanier Parkway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0R2. For more information please call us at: (613) 993-3738 or Fax us at: (613) 993-4353.

The RCMP Veterans' Association is seeking the continued support of all *Quarterly* subscribers, as well as the full collaboration of the network of Associate Editors put in place with the cooperation of Commanding Officers across Canada, for stories about current RCMP employees and events.



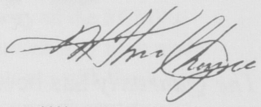
Commissioner Philip Murray and William F. McCheyne, Dominion President, RCMP Veterans' Association.

Everyone's continued cooperation will ensure that the Veterans' Association can continue to produce a magazine that provides information of interest, to both serving and former employees.

To help us do a good job, and to make sure that we are going in the right direction, send us your letters and suggestions, especially about format and content. We want to make *the Quarterly* your magazine — one that you will be proud to give to friends and family members. Send us your stories, cartoons, and anecdotes about your time spent in the Force, or about special people and interesting cases. *The Quarterly* has been your magazine for the last 66 years and will remain your magazine in the new millennium. We challenge you to assist us in making it a success, as we continue to record a very unique aspect of the Force, its history, stories and traditions.

This is an exciting new venture for the RCMP Veterans' Association and we look forward to the many challenges that lie ahead of us. We plan to make this an interesting and informative magazine for all employees (past and present), as well as friends, relatives and supporters of the Force. We are counting on your support and invite you to join us in helping to make the new *Quarterly* a success.

Sincerely,



William F. McCheyne
Dominion President
RCMP Veterans' Association

Dear *Quarterly* Readers:

"I could not believe that one could have so much fun in a job and get paid for it too!" This is how I felt when I started working as *Quarterly* assistant editor. Now 12 years later, and having worked as Editor for six years, I still feel the same. I have met people from all walks of life — some of whom have been larger than life. I have read hundreds of stories — some of which were of epic proportions. I have accomplished so many things and participated in so many events that working at the *Quarterly* has been an incredible learning experience. I feel honoured to have had a chance to contribute to the RCMP culture, history and tradition — and ultimately to our Canadian heritage.

However difficult it may be, we must all embrace change after a while and move on to other opportunities. I would like to wish all the best of luck to my replacement, Ms. Jennifer Miriguay, and to thank the various associate and former editors, contributors and *Quarterly* readers for their continued support through thick and thin. I would particularly like to acknowledge Mr. Ivan Scullion for his insight, support and his indomitable sense of humour. I would also like to thank Ms. Janice Burrow, Mrs. Hélène Dew and ex-Sgt. Bill Poole, without whose contribution, this last RCMP-produced issue of the *Quarterly* would not have been possible.

Christiane Evans
Quarterly Editor

Editor's Notes

RNWMP SURVIVING MEMBER(S) The Spring 1999 edition of the *Quarterly* carried a story (inside back cover) on the passing of the last known surviving member of the RNWMP. But we have now learned that Reg. No. 8740, ex-Cst. Ernest Henry James Gibson served with the RNWMP from September 11, 1919, until Feb. 1, 1920, when it became the RCMP, and continued to serve until April 5, 1921. Mr. Gibson presently resides in Comox, B.C. Should anyone have knowledge of other former RNWMP members who are still with us, we would be pleased to hear from you.

BLUE/WHITE PENNON (PENNANT) An interesting question has been raised, and the answer may be known to some of our readers. Old photographs and View-Master Reels on the RCMP (dated 1956) show mounted members carrying lances with blue/white or gold (yellow) pennons. Today, and for some time now, our pennons are red/white. When, where and why were the other colours used. Glenn Wright, RCMP Historian, advised that his research revealed that blue and yellow (or gold) pennon was apparently used around 1948; its significance is not known. Other knowledgeable sources were unable to shed any light. Can you help? This bit of Force history could be the subject of an article.

SQUADS 1940-41 REUNION Members of "N", "O", "P" and "Q" (1940/41) Squads who trained at "Depot" are invited to meet June 2-5, 2000, during the RCMP Veterans' Association Annual Meeting, hosted by the Regina Division, at Regina. Registration forms may be obtained from Ron Ostrum, AGM Secretary, RCMP Centennial Museum, P.O. Box 8500, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3J7. Those planning to attend are asked to please contact: W.L. Jewett, 2643 Misener Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario, L5K 1M9. Tel.: (905) 822-2878.

TROOP 7 (1952) REUNION Members and ex-members who were part of this Troop that trained at "N" Division are invited to attend a reunion at "Depot" to be held during the RCMP Veterans Association AGM at Regina, June 2-4, 2000. Those interested in attending are invited to contact Murray Robins, 347 Taylor Street, P.O. Box 280, Wiarton, Ontario N0H 2T0, or call him at: (519) 534-5968 or Al Merrithew at: (204) 322-5726.

LOOKING FOR ...

✓ **Horseman** A former police woman currently involved in raising horses would like to correspond with an RCMP serving member or veteran who has served with the Musical Ride. Please write to: LauraLee Bushey, 2156 Panton Rd.,Vergennes, VT 05491, or E-mail: **LauraLeeB@webtv.net**

✓ **Pen-pal** A member of the Royal Air Force police wishes to correspond with an RCMP member or veteran for purposes of exchanging information, opinions and police enforcement experiences. Anyone interested is asked to write to: Cpl. Michael Clark, Royal Air Force Police, RAF St. Mawgan, Cornwall, England, TR8 4HP. Tel.: (01637) 872201 (ext. 7405).

✓ **Inuit art** A reader of the Quarterly would like to contact members who served in the Arctic, particularly pre-1970s, and who may have collected and now wish to sell Inuit carvings, tools or other souvenirs of their time in the North. If interested, please call Ingo Hessel, 14 Bayside Private, Ottawa, Ontario, K1V 9R3. Tel.: (613) 739-8000.

✓ **RCMP uniform patch** Mrs. Gail Cloutier, RR 2 Box 856, Holland MA 01521 (**gcloutier@mindspring.com**) would like to purchase or swap for an RCMP uniform patch.

✓ **RCMP uniform items** A retired British Police Inspector N.W. Miller, and a great admirer of the RCMP, would like to purchase a brown leather hat band with buckle and a pair of brown leather gauntlets to complete his collection which includes the RCMP ceremonial uniform. Anyone able to assist is asked to please contact him at: 8 The Roman Way, West Denton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 5AB, England.

FOR SALE

✓ **RCMP Centennial Rifle** A retired member of the Force wishes to sell his RCMP Centennial rifle complete with packing box and sleeve, Serial # MP2018. The rifle has never been fired. If interested, Al Moore may be reached at **noraud@telusplanet.net**

✓ **RCMP prints** Offered for sale are two framed RCMP prints, 203/1200 "Tales of the Force" by Arnold Friberg, and 93/500 "The Patrol" by C. Bowes. Anyone interested is asked to contact Gail Loftus, Awards Coordinator and Professional Standards, Metropolitan Toronto Police, 40 College Street, Ontario M5G 2J3. Tel.: (416)808-7096; Fax: (416)808-8041.

✓ **Costume jewellery** A full line of 22 karat gold-plated costume jewellery — consisting of drop and stud earings, charms, pendants, tie tacks, cufflinks and brooches (also available in rhodium) — is now available from RCMP Canteens, in Ottawa and Regina. Manufactured by Global Rewards, 1808 Woodhaven Heights, Orléans, Ontario K1E 2W2, tel.: (613) 830-9297, fax: (613) 830-0648. Every purchase supports RCMP Community Policing programs.

MAPLE LEAF LEGACY PROJECT This millennium project, started in April 1997, in London, aims to compile a photographic archive of all of Canada's war graves of the 20th century (one Mounted Police grave has been located in northern Russia) and to make them available to anyone, free of charge, via an Internet web site. Anyone interested in helping out with this worthwhile undertaking, should contact the Project Director, Steve Douglas, c/o 22 Southdown Road, Tadley, Hampshire, RG26 4BT England or via E-mail: **sdouglas2001@hotmail.com.** For more information on this project, please check out their Web site at: **www.mllp.demon.co.uk**

MESA VETERANS' REUNION

The next annual RCMP Mesa Veterans' Reunion Dinner Dance will take place in the Royal Hall of Mesa Regal Park in Mesa, Arizona, on Friday, February 25, 2000. The cost will be US $20 per person. Registration will be limited to 200 persons, so make your reservations early. A mixed golf tournament is scheduled for Saturday, February 26 — fee of US $50 includes green fees, a golf cart and a steak BBQ. Non-golfers may register for the barbecue at a cost of US $15. If you are interested in registering for these events, please contact **Steve Onderko at (602) 396-2213 (phone or FAX) after Nov. 4, 1999, or e-mail at steve.onderko@usa.net. For further information, contact Arne Bergh at (602) 786-3895, or e-mail at docarne@ix.netcom.com.**

FLORIDA VETERANS' REUNION

The next annual RCMP Veterans' Florida Reunion will be held Thursday, March 2, 2000, at Fort DeSoto Municipal Park in Terra Verde, Florida.

For further information contact Dave Sear at (727) 367-5222 after January 1, 2000.

QUARTERLY DISPLAY BOXES

Now, for a limited time only, you can order the *RCMP Quarterly* Display boxes. They are of quality cardboard construction with a dark blue covering. The spine is emblazoned in gold foil with the RCMP crest and the words "the Quarterly" and "la Trimestrielle." The product is endorsed by the Mounted Police Foundation. Each order comes with two (2) boxes and stickers on which you may identify the issues. Each box will hold eight (8) issues. Send cheque or money order to: Todd Gray, 11 Jupiter Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario KIK OP9, or via E-mail: tsgray_98@yahoo.com, or on ROSS @ TSGRAY. Tel: (613) 746-3830. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

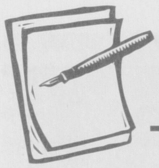
COUNTERFEIT ALERT A new series of counterfeit Canadian $50.00 notes appeared in June, 1999. Unique characteristics associated with this deceptive inkjet note (planchette placement, faceplate and backplate numbers, etc.) can be found at the RCMP Web site at: **www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/html.counter.htm**. For more information, please contact Cpl. Michael Duncan, Economic Crime Branch, Federal Services Directorate at (613) 991-0762 or on ROSS at MDUNCAN.

ERRATUM A sharp-eyed reader caught what we missed. In the story "The Dawn of "V" Division," (See Spring 1999 issue of the *Quarterly*) one of the photographs was reversed; consequently, medals appear incorrectly on the right breast instead of the left. Our oversight. We thank Mr. J.W. Duggan of Vancouver for drawing this to our attention.

Property Crime Down

Community involvement is being credited with reducing property crimes in Ridge Meadows, British Columbia. "We have over 5,000 people in this community helping us," Insp. Gary House said of the Ridge Meadows area, where he has 91 officers fighting crime. In 1997, the Ridge Meadows area experienced a 26% reduction in residential break-ins, a 20% decrease in commercial break-ins, a 30% reduction in auto-theft and a 22% decrease in theft from vehicles. "We feel that we have addressed crime in the community as a team by having formed a lot of partnerships with the community," House said.

RCMP Media Summary



Letters to the editor...

✉ POLICE SERVICES AFFECTED

Dear Editor,

(...) I would like to comment on the "Depot" submission (Winter 1999 issue) that said: "The halt in training did not affect policing services across Canada, since there was a surplus of RCMP officers." I work at "Depot" and maybe I am out of the loop, but I hear several Divisions constantly crying for more members. Maybe a request for comments by readers of the *Quarterly* would clarify this matter. I'm sure lots of research was done prior to the decision, but this does not explain the mixed messages heard throughout the Force. Much has been accomplished during the shut down by members of "Depot" staff, but we are here to facilitate and turn out a high quality product to serve the public in an operational capacity. Are we short of members or not? Are we providing the best service possible? Are our members safe? Let's ask the readers.

Cpl. Scott Warren
"Depot" FTU

✉ THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED

Dear Editor,

Several years ago, you were kind enough to print my request for donations of back copies of the *RCMP Quarterly*. The response was terrific. Now my academic home, the University of Lethbridge, has in its library a complete set of the *Quarterly* going back to 1933. In addition, the University of Northern British Columbia has received a substantial collection, and the University of Victoria has been able to fill the gaps in its holdings. Donations to other university libraries are under consideration. This has all been due to the generosity of your readers. Indeed, the offers of donations were far more numerous than I could handle but all were greatly appreciated. By way of saying thanks to you and, in spirit, to the readers of the *Quarterly*, I am sending along a copy of a little book of mine recently published by the Lethbridge Historical Society entitled "Tales of a Mounted Police Officer: Superintendent R. Burton Deane of Lethbridge NWMP Division, 1888-1902." I hope that you will find it both revealing and enjoyable. This book may be purchased through the Lethbridge Historical Society, P.O. Box 974, Lethbridge, AB, T1K 4R2 for $8.25 plus $3.00 postage and handling.

William M. Baker
Professor of History
E-mail: w.m.baker@home.com.

(See Book Review by Glenn Wright, RCMP Historian, in this issue — Editor)

✉ MORE TO THE STORY

Dear Editor,

I read with much interest the article in the Summer 1999 issue of the *Quarterly* by Supt. Bruce Northrup (retired) entitled, "The Mounties Always Get Their Hijacker." I would like to add some follow-up (...) The hijacker was turned over to Chuck Robinson, U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Washington by the RCMP on October 19, 1971, and transported to Seattle. Some days later, I dispatched two deputy U.S. Marshals from Anchorage, Alaska, to Seattle to take the highjacker into custody and return him to Alaska for trial.

Although Western Airline initially refused to fly them, they finally agreed if the prisoner was shackled with a belly chain, leg irons and handcuffs. Upon arrival in Anchorage, the news media was at the airport in force to film and try to make contact with the hijacker. However, I had other ideas. I contacted the Air Traffic Control Tower at Anchorage International Airport with instructions for the Alaska Airlines pilot to lower the rear ladder on his Boeing 727 and tell the deputy marshals to deplane onto the tarmac where vehicles would be waiting. This we did and I have never seen an angrier group of news people in my life!

Supt. Northrup was quite correct about flight attendant Nancy Davis being on her first flight as a flight attendant. Although she had been around aviation all her life — her dad was a senior pilot for Western Airline — nothing could have prepared her for the hijacking ordeal (...) I had a wonderful working relationship with many members of the RCMP when I was with the Alaska State Police, stationed at Tok and Fairbanks, Alaska, but that is a story for another time.

Robert D. Olson, Sr.
Retired U.S. Marshal, District of Alaska

✉ A BIG INFLUENCE ON A YOUNG BOY

Dear Editor,

In the spring of 1967, Reg. No. 19944, Cst. Douglas Howard Egan, who was stationed at Wakaw, Saskatchewan, visited my school. I was 11 years old at that time, in grade five. I was mesmerised by both his uniform and what he had to say. He did not talk down to us but, rather, shared his experiences and opinions. My desire to join the RCMP was born there and then. It is only recently that I discovered the identity of the constable: C/Supt. Egan retired from the Force in February 1993 and now lives in Regina. I wonder if he realizes how instrumental he was in my career choice, and in the lives of my fellow students?

All this to say that we — members of the RCMP — carry a lot of weight wearing Canada's finest uniform(...) The first contact with the police that anyone has with the police should be a positive one. But for many people today, this initial contact derives from a traumatic situation, either as a witness, victim or suspect. Undoubtedly, police officers today have much less time for these important contacts, but we should never loose sight of the fact that a simple positive contact with youth may affect the rest of their lives (...) Regardless of the circumstances, professional conduct coupled with a pleasant demeanour can make a lasting and worthwhile impression.

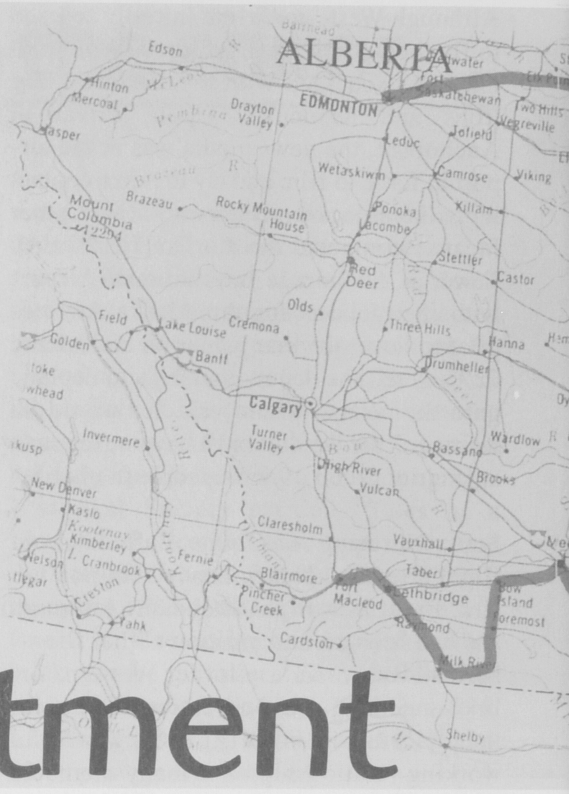
Thank you, Doug, for having done just that. Thank you for helping me find a challenge that, each day, provides both enjoyment and satisfaction. And the same goes to all members who devote some time in visiting schools, taking a moment to chat or just simply to smile at people — that may well be their first police contact ... and may have a larger impact than you ever thought possible!

Cst. Ross Tylor
Montréal, Quebec

PROMOTIONS AND RETIREMENTS

Because of technical difficulties in obtaining and collating up-to-date information, we were unable to publish Promotions and Retirements in this issue. They will be reinstated starting with the next issue of the Quarterly, undertaken by the RCMP Veterans' Association. — Editor

The March West Reenactment

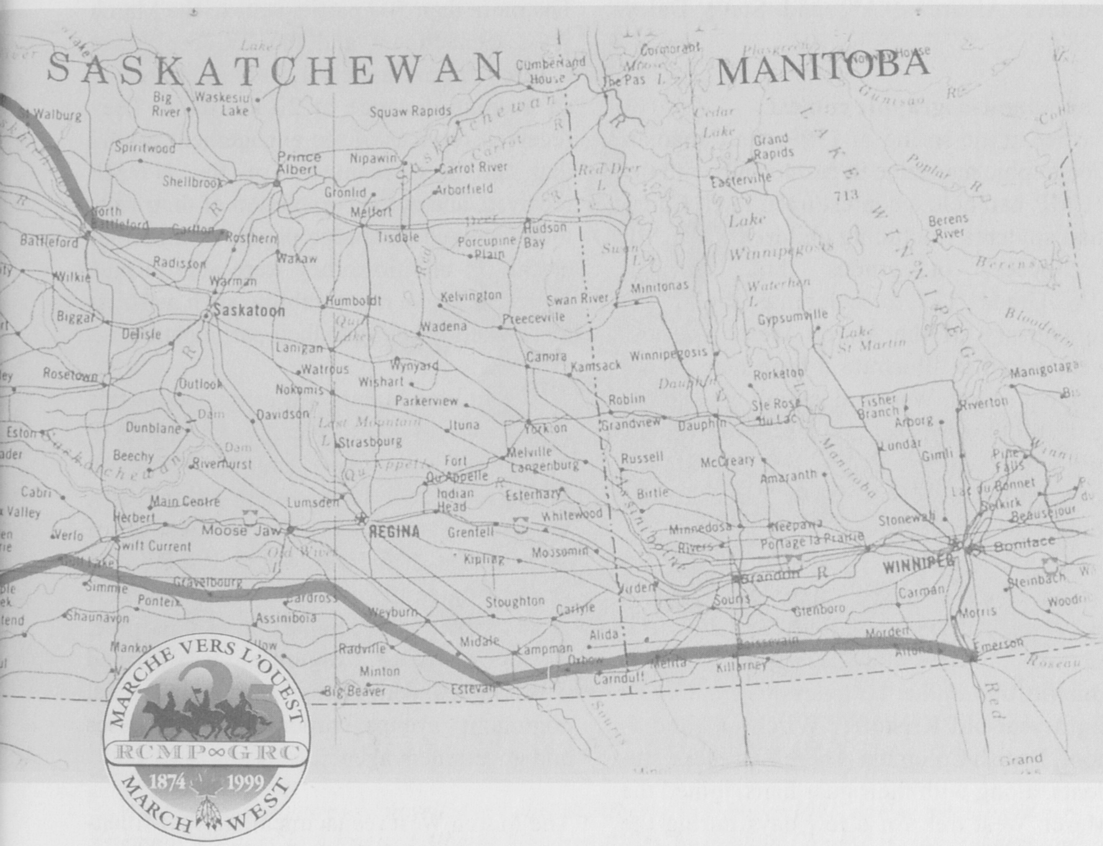


by Christiane Evans, *Quarterly* Editor

In the spring and summer 1999, an adventurous undertaking began to unfold as an extension of the RCMP 125 celebrations that had been held the previous year: the reenactment of the Great March West of 1874, undertaken by the North-West Mounted Police (NWMP). Approximately three years before, someone had the idea of having 25 members in period dress, accompanied by Red River Carts and wagons, retrace the original route of the NWMP from Fort Dufferin, Manitoba, to Fort Whoop-Up and Fort Edmonton, Alberta — a trek of approximately 1,500 kilometres. The concept quickly caught the interest of several RCMP employees as well as members of the community and the March West Steering Committee was born.

As this Committee grew, so did the original concept. The reenactment would give the RCMP the opportunity to celebrate with Canadians and share a significant piece of Canadian history, as well as history of the RCMP. "D" (Manitoba), "K" (Alberta) and "F" (Saskatchewan) Divisions, with the assistance of RCMP Headquarters personnel in Ottawa, united their efforts to organize the March West reenactment which officially departed from Fort Dufferin on May 8, 1999, to closely follow the original trek through southern Manitoba, southern Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. There was also an uninterrupted complete trek ending at Fort Macleod, Alberta, which started on July 2, 1999. The north trek began in the Battleford area in early July, and ended at Fort Edmonton on July 26, 1999.

For logistical reasons and for the safety of the horses and riders, the reenactment did not follow the exact original route. Rider participation interest was received from as far as England and Germany, and from many political and media figures in Canada.



A chance to join the March West

Every RCMP employee was invited to take part in this adventure, and a partnership was established with Tourism Saskatchewan to forward registration packages which contained detailed information concerning participation, fees, etc. to interested individuals. A team of core riders, made up of serving and retired RCMP employees, and community members, helped maintain order on the daily trek of the March West reenactment between May 8 and July 25, 1999. Serving members selected as core riders were considered "on duty" for the purposes of the March West, acting on assignment for a community/aboriginal policing project, thanks to an agreement reached between the March West Committee and Commanding Officers of "D," "F" and "K" Divisions which allowed these serving members to be considered "on duty."

The March West Committee, with the financial assistance from the RCMP Benefit Trust Fund, offered all adventurous regular and civilian members of the RCMP the opportunity to win a trip to join the March West reenactment for the final three days of the trek in Fort Saskatchewan, July 21-25, 1999. To enter, applicants had to send their name, Division and telephone number along with the answers to three trivia questions about the original March West. From all the entries received at RCMP HQ by June 4, one entry from each Division was drawn on June 7 and winners were notified by June 11.

The questions were tough, but more than 70 people rose to the challenge and correctly answered the questions. From all the correct entries, the following 15 grand prize winners were drawn at random by Division: Jim Macdonald ("B"), Micheline Brousseau-Labbé ("Depot"), Luana Dugas-Cooper ("H"), Tom Love ("F"), Leanne Butler ("L"), Carol Clarke ("O"), Keith Allen ("H"), Gary Hollender ("K"), Ross Tylor ("C"), Daniel Delorey ("J"), Ewen Booth ("D"), David Kermociev ("E"), Warren Ashton ("G"),

Gustavo Alvarez ("A") and Steve Daley ("M").

Canadian Geographic contest

Earlier in the spring of 1999, the Canadian Geographic magazine in partnership with the RCMP, had held a contest open to all Canadian students (including children of RCMP employees) in grades three through OAC/Grade 12, to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the March West. Students were asked to illustrate a base map of the original March West and submit an original text of 500 words or less describing what it might have been like to be part of this momentous journey — more than 700 submissions were received.

Grand prize winners included 15-year-old Jenilee Roesch, of Red Deer, Alberta, 13 year-olds Doreen Ezeife of Windsor, Ontario, and Catherine Jones of Toronto, and eight-year-old Kristoffer Wirch of Vanderhoof, British Columbia. These four lucky students, along with their guardians, joined the March West trek for a few days during the summer. Fifty students won $100 each while 25 students received a copy of *Red Coats on the Prairies*.

"Learning history from a text book is one thing. These children took the facts and interpreted them in a very unique way," said Bill Beahen, RCMP Historian, who was impressed by the students' unique interpretations about this important part of our history.

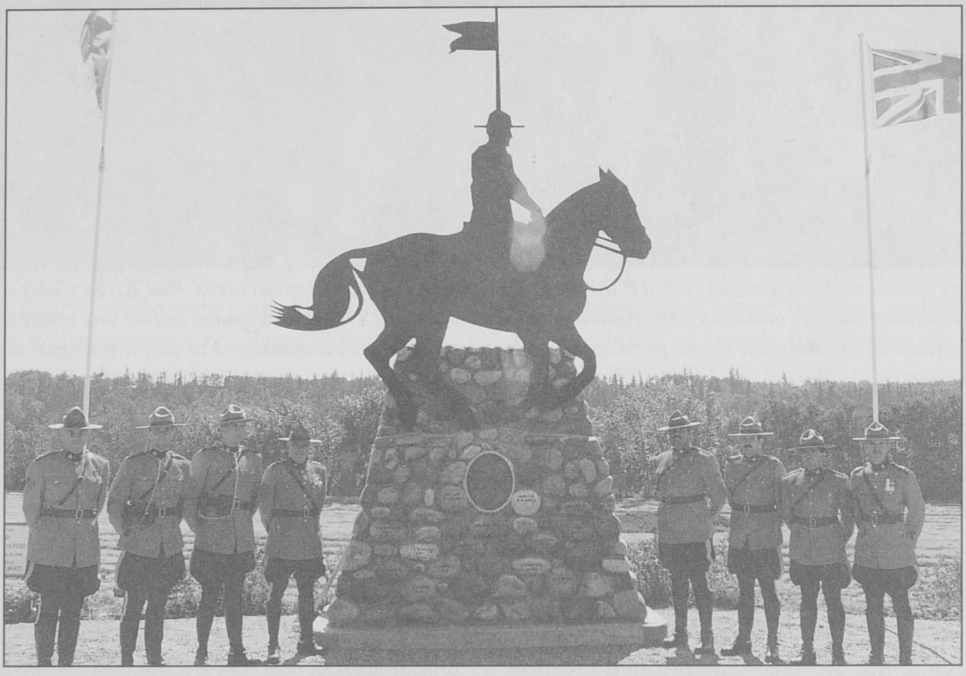
The more than 500 participants to the March West reenactment and the 25 core riders covered approximately 1,500 kilometres — an average distance of 20 km daily. They received replicas of the engagement papers that the first members of the NWMP received, and at the completion of their ride, they received discharge papers of a similar nature. In addition, they were able to purchase exclusive memorabilia, such as shirts and jackets attesting to their participation.

A $1.8 million budget was estimated for this event and no monies came from RCMP budgets. Funding was addressed through registration fees, sponsorship, donations, donations-in-kind and merchandising of March West memorabilia. Funds were also raised through these initiatives and the energetic Marketing & Sponsorship Committee. The March West Committee also formed partnerships with numerous communities, community groups, corporations, businesses and government agencies.

The March West reenactment, now a Millennium project of the Federal Government, spurred a groundswell of interest from communities along the route as well as outside interests. A two-hour documentary was filmed around Lethbridge, Alberta, for the History Television. A Web site was established to allow for interaction from around the world with March West participants and a mobile interpretative centre was formed to provide the historical knowledge aspect of

The Manitoba launch of the March West reenactment was held February 5, 1999, in the Rotunda Room at the Legislative Building in Winnipeg, complete with RCMP members in period dress and some in Review Order. Special guests included representatives from our corporate sponsors (Xerox Canada and Manitoba Hydro) several grade six classes from Winnipeg and rural Manitoba, and Dr. and Mrs. James Mitchell — grandson of Reg. No. 50, S/M J.B. James Mitchell who was an original member of the March West of 1874. After the formal portion of the program, March West Coordinator Cst. Tom Lowden and some of the kids went outside the Legislative Building to see the ox and cart, and several horses and riders.

By Sgt. Steve Saunders



MONUMENTAL MOUNTIES

A memorial sculpture was unveiled at Lobstick, Alberta, in October 1998, during a colourful ceremony attended by a troop of Alberta Mounted Rifles, by the Fort Victoria wagon trekkers and RCMP members (L-R): Sgt. Wayne Carol, Cst. Matt Maja, Cst. Ryan Smart, A/Commr. Don McDermid, Cpl. Bruce Schaaff, Cst. Colin Locke, Cst. Bruce Thornton, C/Supt. Gerry Simmonds. The sculpture, created by Victoria Home Guard member and professional sculptor Mervin Bielish, is a 20-foot, 2,500 lb steel silhouette of the RCMP horse and rider, atop a foundation of river rock, hand-selected from an island in the North Saskatchewan River. Twenty rocks feature engraved names of the NWMP members who travelled the Victoria Trail in 1874, during the original March West, on their way to Fort Edmonton.

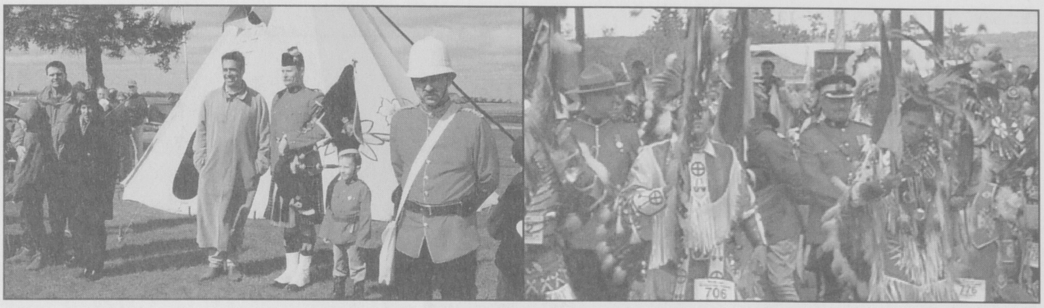
By Cpl. Bruce Scharff
Photo by Cpl. Colin White

the trek. Books such as *Red Coats on the Prairies* (by William Beahen, RCMP Historian, and Stan Horrall, former RCMP Historian) and *RCMP: The March West, NWMP- RCMP 1873-1999* (a stunning table top book) were also published along with many other publications on the history of the March West.

Communities poured their hearts out, particularly the small communities where they had never seen anything of this magnitude before. Local talents, especially children, performed during special events held in communities along the way. There was a real variety of events — all presented with a western flair. People from aboriginal communities held powwows, smoke ceremonies and reenactments of treaty signings along the way too. French and Ukrainian dancers also got into the spirit of the occasion.

The making of a movie

Making a movie about the March West was almost as hard as the Great March itself. GAPC Entertainment Inc., the team that produced the film, originally wanted to develop a 13-part series about the RCMP to recognize



Many riders wore historical NWMP uniforms. The reenactment also involved Red River Carts and horse-drawn wagons and many Aboriginal riders in traditional dress participated in this and many special events along the way. Other participants not in uniform were encouraged to don traditional early settler dress.

its 125th anniversary. Each part of the series was slated to look at a different aspect of the RCMP from past to present, spanning its 125-year history.

But History Television was looking for a program that would focus on a highly dramatic story in the RCMP's history. "Television specials have more impact and gain more interest from viewers," explained Norm Bolen, Vice President of programming for History Television. So the GAPC team went back to the drawing board and when they approached the RCMP Historical and Special Projects Branch about developing a television special, this is when they heard about the March West reenactment being planned for the spring and summer of 1999. The rare gem of a story was uncovered.

"The March West of 1874 is a story very few Canadians know about. The more I read about it, the more I asked myself why I never took this in Canadian history when I went to school," emphasized Marcel Clément, executive producer of the *Great March*. An agreement was reached between the RCMP, GAPC and History Television on the topic for the two-hour television documentary. But the challenges they faced to bring the story to the public were only beginning.

The agencies that supported the project include the Canadian Television Fund, the Bell Broadcast — New Media Fund, and the Millennium Bureau of Canada. Because the financing for the project was slow, the GAPC production team was beginning to get nervous. "We were originally going to shoot in August, but because of the delays in funding, we ended up shooting in October," said Clément. The team arrived in Lethbridge on October 8, 1998, and had only four days to prepare for the location shoot — before winter started. "It was a logistical nightmare from the beginning. We had to hit the ground running," said *Great March* producer Hoda Elatawi.

The shoot was to take place in the Grassy Lake area, just 45 minutes outside Lethbridge. Although the RCMP supplied GAPC with period uniforms, there was no one to wear them. With four days to go before the shoot, they had to get volunteers to play all the roles for the film, put everyone in uniform, and get them all organized. A whirlwind casting call was held and more than 100 locals from Lethbridge showed up — some with horses and carts, and even wagons. These volunteers, along with a crew of RCMP volunteers and extras helped bring the names and voices of the past to life on screen. Roll credits went to Cpl. Jerry McCarty, who played Colonel French and acted as technical advisor and wrangler on the set; Sgt. Wayne Carroll, who played one of the rank and file and acted as an advisor on the set; ex-Sgt. Bryan Smith, who played one of the rank and file and supplied some of the horses used in filming the documentary; S/Sgt. Jay Wiebe, who played Metis guide Pierre Léveillé; Cst. Tyrone Potts, who played one of the rank and file, and Cst. Don

Vincent, who acted as a coordinator on the set.

By all accounts, from the original story idea, to the funding problems, and finally to the logistical nightmare of shooting the film in Alberta in October, this was a television special that may never have been filmed. But like the members of the North-West Mounted Police on the original March West of 1874, the GAPC production team overcame hardship and adversity to retell one of the greatest stories in Canadian history.

Ending the March West with a roar

The reenactment planning committee benefitted from 125-year hindsight as they worked through the logistics of moving several hundred horses and riders across three provinces in relative comfort and safety. There were no brackish streams or parched prairie grasses to nourish thee four- and two-legged travellers, no unmapped vistas to demoralize or disorient wagon masters and trail bosses, no endless, vacant tracts of land to deprive the marchers of human company for days on end. Instead, catered breakfasts, portable comfort stations, cellular telephones and laptop computers made up some of the more convenient aspects of the 1999 version of the March West. Advance scouts in automobiles checked out every turn in the road ahead of time, and teams of volunteers set up camp for saddle-weary riders at the end of the day. As for human company, members of the communities along the way welcomed the cavalcade as it rode into their towns by staging shows, rodeos, parades and dances.

The amazing March West reenactment ended with a roar of applause from thousands of excited onlookers, as the 250-member troop of horse and wagon riders pulled into Fort Saskatchewan on Friday, July 23, 1999, lead by Commr. Philip Murray and the CO, "K" Division, A/Commr. Don McDermid. It was the culmination of nearly three months of one of the most astounding historic rides ever undertaken in Canada. On Sunday July 25, nearly 50 horses and wagon riders rode

The intent was to plan this event as part of the RCMP's 125th anniversary celebrations, where core riders would interact with Canadians along the route to strengthen relationships with communities with a focus on aboriginal people and youth.

Wedding on the March

Cst. Sue Downs, a March West core rider from Selkirk Detachment, Manitoba, and Sgt. Steve Saunders, Media Liaison at "D" Division HQ, tied the knot March West-style on Saturday May 22, 1999. The couple had originally planned their wedding date before either knew about the March West re-enactment. "When word came that Sue was selected to be a core rider on the March, it meant that she would be passing through Carnduff, just southeast of Saskatchewan, on our wedding day," explains Saunders.

Instead of rescheduling the blissful event, the couple decided to incorporate their wedding into the historic trek. As a result, the theme for the entire wedding was centred around the original March West of 1874. From the parchment invitations, to the period uniform for the groom the period wedding dress worn by the bride, all details replicated 1874 Canadiana. The bride was picked up and taken to the church by a local man from Carnduff with a mule team and a buckboard. The reception dinner was typical of a trail wedding, complete with stew and bannock.

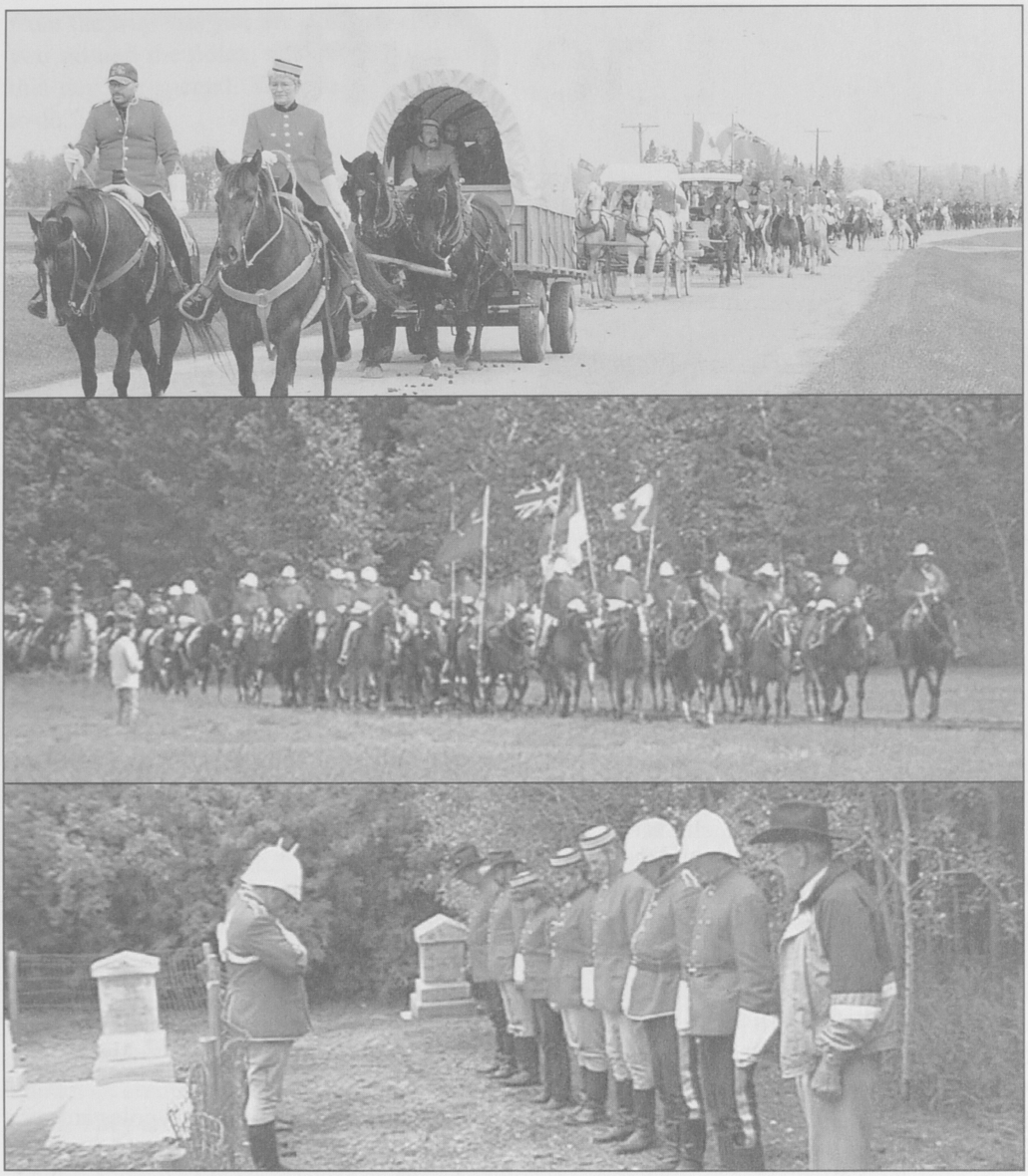
By Erica McKim

through Fort Edmonton to a thunderous welcome by spectators at the final official ceremony. Cst. Grant Little of Edmonton, was the only rider who completed the entire 1,500 kilometres.

The list of individuals and communities to thank for their support, donations and long hours of volunteer help to make the historic event happen, is too long to print. So thank you to the members of the organizing committees and communications teams in Ottawa and in the various Divisions who were involved in the March West Reenactment, to the sponsors and fund-raisers who breathed life into the initiative, and everyone who rolled up their sleeves and pitched in wherever they were needed.

Photo by Chris Brososky, courtesy of the "Canadian Geographic" magazine

Canadian Geographic contest winners, with their parents (L-R): Brittany and Jennilee Roesch, Glenys Wirch, Allen Zaparniuk (wagon master), Caroline Jeffery, Albert Roesch, Christie and Doreen Ezeife, Kristoffer Wirch and Catherine Jones. Hélène Gervais (far right) coordinator for the Canadian Geographic magazine, accompanied the winners. Participants travelled by horseback and wagon, camping under the stars and making memories of a lifetime — a great opportunity to relive a part of history and help educate Canadian students about their heritage.



The arrival of the March West riders kicked off a series of events and celebrations at Fort Saskatchewan during the weekend, including the Musical Ride, a Regimental Ball, a memorial service at the RCMP plot in the cemetery, the dedication of the Old Fort and an official flag-raising ceremony to recognize the original riders.

Photos courtesy of various March West Communications Team members

The March West Reenactment came to a successful end after nearly three years of dreaming, planning, and execution. This article was compiled with the cooperation of various members of the March West Communications team, in Ottawa, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Long after the March West Re-enactment becomes a part of history, their daily dispatches and photos will bring the memories alive. The March West reenactment was a piece of history where everyone had an opportunity to get involved, and people from all over the world came out to show their support of Canada's national police force. ❖

The Gift

By ex-Sgt. W.J.H. Poole

Cst. Mike Lane wanted to do something special to celebrate the 125th anniversary (1998) of the RCMP. The concept he developed included the First Nations people of the Semiahmoo Peninsula and the citizens of White Rock, British Columbia. Most important, it needed the participation of the internationally acclaimed Master Carver Robert Davidson. The concept was imaginative; bringing it to reality, a major challenge. In this account of that happening (taking place in the year 2014), the future looks back at the past. — Editor

As the warm sun crept up into the blue Pacific Ocean sky, chasing away the patches of morning fog that lingered over Semiahmoo (half-moon) Bay and the City of White Rock, 45 km southwest of Vancouver, a young mother and her two sons walked along East Beach.

"Mom," cried out the younger boy, "look at those two totem poles up there. Let's go up and see them."

"All right," replied the mother "we might learn something."

"Wait Mom," said the older boy, "there go three Mounties walking toward the totem poles, and they're wearing their red coats."

The mother and her boys turned and walked up toward the totem poles. The three RCMP officers approached the walkway leading to the plaza on which the poles stood. They stopped a short distance away from the poles, came to attention, and then smartly saluted.

The mother and her sons hesitated, thinking that perhaps they were intruding. One of the Mounties noticed them, smiled and said, "Good morning, Madam. Good morning, boys."

"We don't mean to intrude, officer," said the mother. "We are tourists from Regina and the three of us were rather fascinated by these two totem poles. Somehow, they are not quite like other totem poles that we have seen. Why are they on this beach?"

"Are they very old?" asked the youngest boy.

"You are asking very good questions," replied the Mountie. "May I introduce myself and my fellow officers. I am Cpl. Gibbs, and this is Cst. Hunter, and Cst. Pointer."

"I am Mrs. Armstrong," responded the mother, "and these are my two sons, Robert and Dean."

All three Mounties solemnly shook hands with the young boys and their mother.

"You asked, Dean, if the totem poles are very old," said Cpl. Gibbs. "They are 15 years old today. They were erected here on April 25, 1999. Later on today there will be a short ceremony to celebrate this anniversary. I hope that you will have the time to attend. You would be most welcome."

At this point Cst. Hunter spoke up. "I think you might like to know, that the red cedar trees from which the totem poles were carved were a thousand years old."

"Man," said Dean, "that's really old."

"We really shouldn't hold you up with a lot of questions," said Mrs. Armstrong. "I judge

from the way that you are dressed, and how you saluted the poles, that these poles and this day are special. You must have much to do."

Cpl. Gibbs smiled. "Well, most of the things that had to be done are done. We're here this morning for a last check. We saluted these totem poles because they are special: special to the RCMP, special to the First Nations people, and certainly special to the citizens of White Rock and area. If you have the time, why don't you sit down here on the granite benches and, if you like, we will tell you the story of why these poles are special."

"Yes," said Mrs. Armstrong, "we would very much like to learn why these particular poles are unusual. We have seen other totem poles in our travels, but somehow these two poles seem different; you can almost feel it. And this place, it seems somehow, well, serene."

"Let me start off the story, then," said Cpl. Gibbs. "Constables Hunter and Pointer will, I'm sure, want to join in."

"You said that you have seen other totem poles, Mrs. Armstrong. Carving totem poles goes back more than 5,000 years. You probably have seen on display in and around various public and private buildings what is known as commissioned commercial totem poles. They are regarded as items of art with little or no spiritual significance. These two commemorative totem poles have deep spiritual significance which may account for the feeling of serenity you mentioned."

"How tall are they?" asked Dean.

"They are 4.5 metres or 15 feet tall," replied Cst. Hunter.

"Why are they made out of cedar?" inquired Robert.

"First Nations people believe that cedar has great healing properties, both spiritual and physical, " answered Cst. Pointer.

On April 25, 1999, two commemorative totem poles commissioned by White Rock Detachment were raised in a spiritual ceremony on the shores of Semiahmoo Bay.

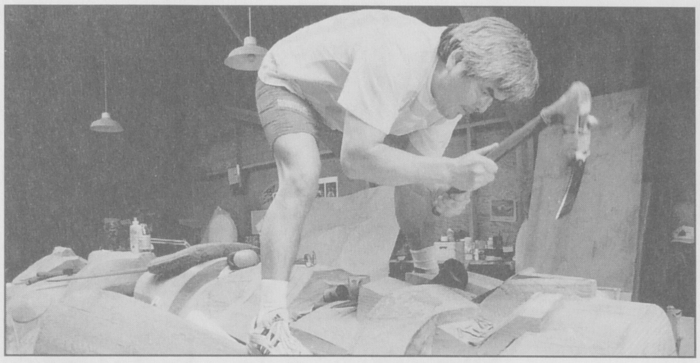
"Could you tell us something about this location? It is obviously lovingly well-cared for: the granite benches, the bronze leaves, and the inscriptions, all must be part of your story," said Mrs. Armstrong.

"We call this area "Lion's Lookout Park," said Cst. Hunter. "This small park measuring 60 by 60 feet and extending to the waterfront is known as Totem Plaza. There are eight granite benches; more than 200 bronze leaves border the site and many are inscribed with the names of departed loved ones. What we have here, is not only the spiritual imagery of the First Nations people, but also that of the residents of the peninsula, a blending of two cultures on the shores of Semiahmoo Bay, the ancestral home of the Semiahmoo, a Straits Salish First Nation."

"Why and how did all this get started?" asked Robert.

"Good question, son," smiled Cpl. Gibbs. "You go right to the heart of the matter which is a good way to do business. Cst. Hunter can best answer your question."

"Well, Robert," said Cst. Hunter, "it started with a birthday — the 125th anniversary of



Mr. Robert Davidson, master carver, at work.

Courtesy of Leah Beddow, "Now Community" newspaper

the RCMP. Of course, when the Mounties were first formed on August 30, 1873, they were called the North West Mounted Police (NWMP). Their name was changed on June 24, 1904, to the Royal Northwest Mounted Police (RNWMP). When we absorbed Canada's first federal police force, the Dominion Police, on February 1, 1920, we became the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) across the whole of Canada. To help celebrate our 125th anniversary, the Commissioner asked every RCMP Detachment and office across Canada to try to organize a significant event in their town or area.

Now, Robert, at the White Rock Detachment, there was a Cst. Mike Lane who had been serving in the RCMP for 25 years, and for many years had lived at White Rock. He gave a lot of thought as to what kind of celebration might be appropriate for the Semiahmoo Peninsula. He came up with the idea of doing something not just focussed on the RCMP, but something that would include the First Nations people of the area as well as the citizens of White Rock. That something was the idea of a totem pole erected on the beach at White Rock. He discussed it with his wife, Dianne, who was most supportive, and with his Detachment Commander. That was in June 1997."

"Well," said Cst. Hunter, "Cst. Lane's next challenge was to 'get his man' — the man he wanted to carve the totem pole. This was no ordinary man; this person was Master Carver and artist, Robert Davidson, a descendant of the Haida people, as I am. Mr. Davidson is a world famous artist. His works are on display from Asia to Europe, from the United States to the United Kingdom. Important galleries and museums in Canada show his work. His talents are truly extraordinary. Fortunately for Cst. Lane — and for all of us — Mr. Davidson, who was also residing on the peninsula, liked Mike's concept. He particularly warmed to the suggestion that a commemorative totem pole or poles could be used as a means to foster a better understanding between the First Nations people and the RCMP. You see, at times, their relationship had been quite strained. Mr. Davidson agreed to take on the commission. A simple handshake between Mr. Davidson and Cst. Lane sealed the agreement. Mike, representing the RCMP, would raise the necessary funds. The project was costed out at between $180,000 and $200,000."

At this point, Cst. Pointer picked up the story.

"The bay out there is called Semiahmoo Bay. The ground we stand on is part of the Semiahmoo Peninsula. This is the traditional homeland of the Semiahmoo — a Straits Salish Nation. As the project that Mr. Davidson began calling *The Gift* got underway, a few problems arose.

The two commemorative poles we see here — which represent many months of work — were carved by Mr. Davidson, assisted by his two Semiahmoo apprentices, his son Ben, and two other carvers. The '*Gyaana*'(Haida) pole was designed by

Robert Davidson discussing design with Susan Point.

Courtesy of Leah Beddow, "Now Community" newspaper

Mr. Davidson. But Susan Point, an accomplished and well-known artist, created the design for the 'Ka'Kan' (*Salish*) pole. Susan Point is Coast Salish while Mr. Davidson is Haida. These two people were from different First Nations with different languages, customs and religions, but they worked as a team.

The finished poles were to be stood up on the ancestral land of the Semiahmoo. But these poles would stand as simple commercial poles, unless the Semiahmoo were willing — within the spiritual traditions of their people — to "bring the poles home. And the Semiahmoo were not eager to do so."

"Why not?" asked Dean.

"For a couple of good reasons," answered Cst. Hunter. "The Semiahmoo were concerned that to do so would be incompatible with their spiritual beliefs and would not show the proper respect for the history of the First Nations. But when they learned that the site on which the poles would stand was to have spiritual significance, they agreed. You see, it had been decided that a small park would be created which would have granite benches and a pathway, leading to the poles, bordered by bronzed leaves. Both the benches and leaves would bear inscriptions to departed loved ones. The Semiahmoo felt that the location could be considered a spiritual site, be blessed, and both poles raised as "House" poles, in keeping with their traditions. Unlike other First Nations people who raise totem poles for many reasons, the Semiahmoo do not. The most important pole is the House (house post) or Welcoming pole because of its spiritual connection with their ancestors and family."

"Because they felt so strongly about the project, Cst. and Mrs. Lane went to the bank and took out a personal loan of many thousands of dollars to ensure that the required funds would be available to honour the original agreement with Robert Davidson," continued Cst. Pointer. "They then set out on a major fund-raising campaign. Eventually, all the monies required to complete the project were obtained through generous donations by sponsors and through individual contributions. All monies came from the people of the Semiahmoo Peninsula. A number of business firms were big-time contributors."

"This was a community effort," said Cpl. Gibbs. "No one person could have handled a project of this grandeur; it took team work. People helped in anyway they could: Gabrielle Durning was the events coordinator, a demanding and time-consuming job, and one which she handled with great skill and diplomacy. S/Sgt. Jim Fisher, White Rock Detachment Commander, gave of his time and experience; other members of the Detachment pitched in, too. Mr. Davidson received invaluable assistance from his son, Ben, Leonard and Leslie Wells, Reg Davidson and John Livingston, in the carving of the two poles. There were many, many other residents who helped; to name them all could take most of the morning.

"Boys," continued Cpl. Gibbs, pointing to the two commemorative totem poles, "these

Cst. Lane and Gabrielle Durning wearing ceremonial blankets.

Courtesy of Brian Giebelhaus, "Peace Arch News"

poles are referred to as *The Gift* by the people of this area. It was Mr. Davidson who first began to speak of the totem poles as a gift. He said the gift consisted of three gifts: one was from the RCMP, another was from himself, and the third was a financial gift from the people of White Rock.

But I also liked the way in which Rick Clough and Sharon Simpson, two prominent business people of White Rock and early major financial sponsors of the project, explained *The Gift*. They said that it was not a gift from Robert Davidson to the RCMP, or a gift from the RCMP to the community, but that it was a gift given on many levels. First, the RCMP came up with a concept that was not just a self-serving idea focussing solely on the Force. Instead, it was a concept that included the First Nations people and the entire community. The RCMP then accepted responsibility for raising the required funds to provide the means to turn the concept into reality. Second, Mr. Davidson gave of his time and extraordinary talents to carve the totem poles, and undertook to teach the art of his craft to two apprentices from the Semiahmoo First Nation. This was Mr. Davidson's gift to the band. And then there were the people of the community who gave the gift of their donations, many in memory of departed loved ones.

The Semiahmoo band Elders, Chiefs and members opened up their hearts and *stood up* on behalf of the RCMP and the City of White Rock, accepting them as a *kinship group* thereby permitting the two totem poles to be raised on traditional Semiahmoo land within the spiritual belief and traditions of their culture."

"Cst. Hunter," asked Dean, "were the Semiahmoo dressed in a lot of feathers when they had the ceremony because, in Saskatchewan, that is what they wear on special occasions?"

"The raising of the poles on that day, 15 years ago, was a very spiritual ceremony, Dean," answered Cst. Hunter. "From the photographs taken at that time and from what I have been told, that the Semiahmoo were dressed in traditional ceremonial blankets. Each one of the many different aboriginal bands across Canada have their own culture and their own ceremonial dress. The Semiahmoo use ceremonial blankets; wrapping a person in such a blanket is a sign of respect and good will, and it symbolizes warmth and protection."

"Would you gentlemen have the time to tell us a little about the ceremony that took place back in April 1999?" asked Mrs. Armstrong.

"Certainly, Mrs. Armstrong," replied Cst. Pointer. "I have had it described to me so often that I think I am able to provide you and the boys with a reasonably accurate account of what took place. To begin, for once it wasn't raining. Indeed, it was a lovely, sunny day. Many townspeople, First Nation Elders and Chiefs, dignitaries and speakers were present. First, Rev. Bruce Rushton — a volunteer RCMP Chaplain — and Grand Chief Bernard Charles — also called Pa'kawachton (this name is very old, more than seven generations), the traditional name of his grandfather — did the opening prayers. Grand Chief Charles provided leadership to the Band in matters of religious and traditional practices. He also holds a law degree from the University of British Columbia.

A Gabrielle Durning who had worked closely with Cst. Mike Lane during the evo-

lution of this project, did the introduction, followed by a First Nations Speaker who was very knowledgable about ceremonial traditions and spiritual values which form an important part of the pole raising ceremony. For example, there was the cleansing of the poles and site, and the blessing of the site because it is a spiritual site. The carvers played an important role, too. They, in accordance with the Haida belief, breathed life into the poles before they were stood up. And the raising of the poles was accompanied by chanting, drums and raising songs. As one of the poles was a Haida (*Gyanna*) pole, to be raised on the ancestral lands of the Semiahmoo, a formal welcome, expressed in song, was required.

I must not forget to mention the *Witnesses* — one was my uncle — who are First Nations persons charged with remembering what they see and hear; they must be able to orally pass on this information to others. It is part of the oral traditions of our culture."

"If I may," said Cpl. Gibbs, "I would like to mention that the Mayor of White Rock — at that time a Mr. Staub — was also present and spoke at the ceremony. One of the important points he made was that these proud sentinels, as he called them, would be here on this shoreline for years to come.

Another speaker that day was S/Sgt. Fisher, Detachment Commander and also a long-time resident of White Rock. He provided a brief but interesting history of the RCMP, in the context of the 125th anniversary. He was followed by Insp. John Grant, who was always interested in improving working relations between the aboriginal people and the RCMP. At one point in his career, he was the Officer in Charge of the Aboriginal Police branch located at RCMP Headquarters in Ottawa.

Insp. Grant acknowledged that relationships between the Force and the First Nations people in Canada had sometimes been perverse. There were times when the Mounted Police had been required to enforce laws that by 1999 standards were perhaps legally correct but morally flawed — laws that impacted on the First Nations people of Canada. The enforcement of these laws sometimes resulted in the suppression of ceremonies, the seizing or destruction of regalia, and with respect to the residential school system, at times, assisting in the apprehension of children. As a representative of the RCMP on this special occasion, Insp. Grant wished to apologize for these past mistakes. Mounted Police history is a collection of events, most of which can be pointed to with pride, but some were regrettable. Although we can learn from past mistakes, we cannot change them. We can change only the future."

"Cpl. Gibbs," said Mrs. Armstrong, "I am a criminal defence lawyer in and for the province of Saskatchewan. Many of my clients are First Nations people. In my dealings with members of the Force in the context of trials, I have always found the RCMP to be competent, ethical witnesses, more concerned with justice than with the letter of the law. Also, we should not forget that over the 125 years of Force history, aboriginal leaders have often praised the Mounted Police for their good works in helping their people. But, then, on the other hand, to paraphrase I.F. Stone, an American journalist, *we*

Mr. Davidson in ceremonial blanket.
Courtesy of Brian Giebelhaus, "Peace Arch News"

who nobly set out to be our brother's keeper sometimes end up becoming his jailer. Nevertheless, I liked what Insp. Grant did and what he said that day. I wish I could have met him."

After Mrs. Armstrong finished speaking, Cpl. Gibbs was silent for a moment, seemingly deep in thought; finally, he spoke. "Thank you, Mrs. Armstrong, for what you said about RCMP witnesses. Your other comments carry great import and are most thought-provoking."

The group moved closer to the totem poles.

Cpl. Gibbs spoke. "We must understand that these two totem poles, one Haida (*Gyanna*) and the other Salish (*Ka'Kan*), are living things endowed with Spirit, as you and I are. And that we are all equally important in the eyes of our Creator. Therefore, reverence for the Creator and respect for the living Spirit of the tree was shown by holding the ceremony of raising the House or Welcoming Pole. The raising of this particular pole is of great spiritual and personal importance to the Straits Salish people, signifying as it does the protection and love of the Creator."

Cst. Hunter pointed to one of the poles. "This," he said, "is the Gyanna pole. In the Haida tradition, totem poles are historical documents. Haida live on the Queen Charlotte Islands. Mr. Davidson, who carved both poles, is of Haida ancestry, but his carving shed had been located on Semiahmoo Band land for 12 years at the time of the ceremony."

"And look here," said Cst. Hunter pointing to the bottom of the Gyanna pole, "this is the *Watchman* who watches over a village to keep it and its people safe. On this pole, the Watchman character represents the RCMP at the community level. He wears a high hat with rings around it which symbolize high rank. And up here is the regal and powerful Eagle representing the First Nations people. Up at the very top, between the ears of the Eagle, we have a face which represents the Moon. The Moon is an important part of the universe to Haida people."

"Allow me to explain the pole of my people, the Ka'Kan pole which was designed by Susan Point," said Cst. Pointer. "At the top we have the Eagle. The wings of the Eagle become the hair of the Guardian figure, blending all of the Eagle's powers with that of the man. The Guardian figure relates to the role of the RCMP. The Guardian is holding a Fisher, a mythical creature with the ability to carry power in positive or negative forms."

Cpl. Gibbs glanced at his watch. "I'm sorry, but it is time we left. There is one more task to take care of before this afternoon's ceremony. We do hope that your plans will allow you to join us. In any case, it has been a pleasure meeting you, and thank you for your sincere interest in *The Gift*."

"The pleasure was ours, I assure you. The boys and I have learned a great deal this morning. Thank you gentlemen, for taking the time to talk to us," replied Mrs. Armstrong.

"Yes, thank you," echoed Robert and Dean.

Mrs. Armstrong and her sons watched the disappearing red tunics. They then sat down on a granite bench. All three looked at the two totem poles, feeling the quiet spirituality of the moment. And from somewhere, Mrs. Armstrong seemed to hear a voice whispering: *Today, tomorrow and for generations to come these proud sentinels will stand on our shoreline providing a place of peace and comfort to those who seek it.*

The "Quarterly" is indebted to the generous collaboration of the following in the preparation of this piece, and for the wealth of information they provided: "NOW" Community Newspaper, White Rock, Marilyn Graziano, Editor; Sharon Charles, Counsellor, Semiahmoo First Nation; Cst. Mike Lane, RCMP White Rock Detachment. — Editor. ❖

Northern Manitoba Police Plane Patrol

By ex-S/Sgt. Jerry W. Anderson, Winnipeg, Manitoba

For the past 35 years, this incident has been discussed, but never put down in writing until now. It depicts some of the problems encountered in policing northern settlements during that time, before the existence of landing strips at nearly all locations. The author felt this event should be documented as a permanent record of policing three decades ago in remote northern areas. — Editor

On April 29, 1964, the Winnipeg-based RCMP Beaver CF-MPM departed early from Norway House Detachment, Manitoba, for Gods Lake Narrows, some 150 miles northeast. MPM was typically used to fly Norway House members into several isolated inland settlements to conduct investigations. Aboard the flight was pilot Sgt. Gordy Carter, Sgt. J.H. Biensch, Cst. Jerry Anderson, Magistrate Dulas McIvor and Northern Affairs Dentist Allan Osborn. After court was conducted at Gods Lake in midmorning, MPM was flown to Garden Hill on Island Lake for court, with Dr. Osborn attending to patients at each settlement. By mid-afternoon, the group was ready to fly back to Norway House.

En route, a frantic call for help was received over the radio from the Gods Lake Narrows Nursing Station. A male resident, well known to members in the area, had just assaulted his wife and daughter. The two assault victims were found to have numerous, non-life threatening injuries: a broken arm, broken teeth, bruises and lacerations. The nurse was very concerned that the aggressor would come to the nursing station and cause further problems. Circumstances dictated that MPM change course for Gods Lake.

It was now 14:30. MPM was on wheel skis and the weather was clear. If the aggressor could be quickly located and arrested, MPM and its passengers would still be able to continue their flight to Norway House. Upon landing at Gods Narrows, Sgt. Biensch and Cst. Anderson proceeded on foot across the Narrows ice to the aggressor's home, where

RCMP Beaver CF-MPM on the morning of April 30, after being pulled out onto the lake.

Sgt. Carter (sitting), Sgt. Biensch (standing, R) and Dulas McIvor around the fire that was kept going through the night.

they found him, intoxicated and belligerent, on a bush trail behind the house. He was arrested, handcuffed, and then taken to where MPM was parked on the ice already prepared for take off.

After completing a radio weather check, Sgt. Carter advised we could proceed to Norway House. The now semi-intoxicated culprit had been placed in the rear jump seat. Sgt. Biensch sat in the co-pilot seat, Cst. Anderson was seated on the left rear side, Dr. Osborn occupied mid seat and Dulas McIvor was in the right rear seat. This seating arrangement proved to be crucial during the flight.

After about an hour and a half of good weather, the airplane was suddenly engulfed in heavy fog. After a few minutes, Sgt. Carter (now flying on instruments) turned the plane around to fly back into clear weather and decided to land on the east end of Molson Lake to wait out the bad weather system. At approximately 20:00, MPM landed on lake ice. By 2:30, the fog had lifted, revealing a bright clear sky full of stars. The group took off for Norway House, some 50 miles to the southwest.

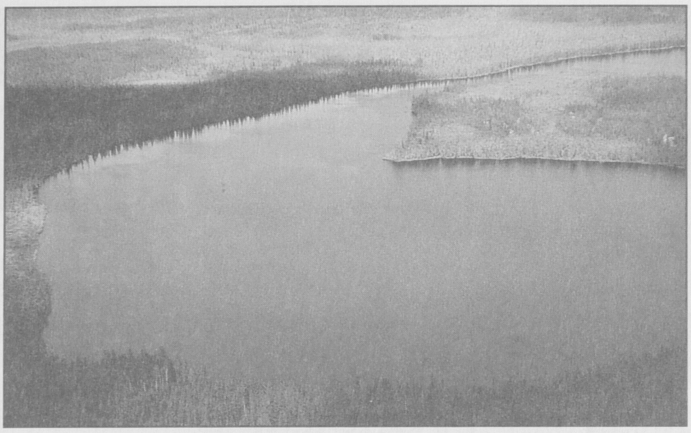
Within 20 minutes, the airplane was again flying in thick fog, and attempts to locate Norway House proved futile. The fog ceiling was so heavy that it obliterated all lights from the town, as the passengers desperately searched for them. Later, it was learned that Norway House hospital night staff thought they heard a plane, but felt that was impossible, attributing the noise to being a bombardier. Planes simply did not fly at night in the North.

MPM now headed east, unable to fly out of this heavy fog weather front. After about an hour, Sgt. Carter explained that there was insufficient fuel to fly to the closest location: The Pas, Manitoba. He was now flying south in an attempt to reach the top of Lake Winnipeg, where he would try to land on the large ice surface. The thick fog continued. It was like being blindfolded in total darkness while trying to find your way out of an unending tunnel. By now everyone realized the gravity of the situation and the atmosphere in the cabin became rather tense.

Sgt. Carter advised the group of the gravity of the situation: "We are now low on fuel and cannot make Lake Winnipeg. We are due east of Norway House. I'm burning off all fuel until there is 10 minutes left in wing tip tanks. I'll then cut the engine to stall speed, letting the tail settle in bush first as I crash land. I have turned on the ELT (Emergency Transmit Locater). Emergency rations, axe, saw and signal flares are in the rear tail storage compartment. Some of us will probably be killed or seriously injured. We should all shake hands now, and say goodbye. It has been great knowing and working with you."

At this point there was no panic — just a quiet acceptance of what was about to happen. Everyone shook hands and said their goodbyes. MPM flew for about three more minutes. Everyone was silent.

As Cst. Anderson and Dr. Osborn looked intently out of the left rear window, they suddenly saw a small opening in the ceiling and tapped Sgt. Carter on the shoulder to get his attention. He immediately put the plane into a steep left dive down through the ceiling hole. MPM was by now flying at treetop level, below the cloud ceiling, when a small lake appeared dead ahead. As Sgt. Carter headed for the lake, he told Sgt. Biensch to



Two months after the ordeal, Sgt. Carter and Cst. Anderson returned to the scene to simulate the landing approach. The sharp point of land jutting out into the lake is where the plane nearly hit the trees on the first landing attempt.

hit the right wing light. When the light came on, they saw nothing but nothing but bush coming at the plane as the pilot was trying to land the airplane.

Sgt. Carter abruptly pulled the aircraft up and then turned it into a steep dive coming in from the opposite direction, yelling this was our last chance as there wasn't enough fuel for another attempt. MPM was right at tree-top level and the passengers were in crash positions: heads down, knees up and braced for a crash.

The plane suddenly hit lake ice, bounced high in the air and came back down where the skis then caught a rut in the ice, sending the aircraft into a sideways slide. The plane then began spinning in huge lazy circles across the ice until it came to an abrupt stop against the bank on the lake shore. The right wing tip had run up into the shoreline trees with the plane resting at a steep angle.

The six occupants were badly shaken, but otherwise uninjured. Happy to be alive, they jumped out of the aircraft and began dancing around on the ice — even the prisoner got into the group hug. A roaring fire was soon started in the bush and emergency rations were heated and devoured. MPM was pulled out onto the ice to await daylight.

At dawn, help was summoned over the plane's radio and an aircraft engineer and gas was flown in from Norway House. Once MPM was thoroughly checked, pronounced fit and refuelled, this air patrol was finally completed by noon on April 30.

Sgt. Carter stayed in Norway House that night where a celebration of life took place. He had planned to be home in Winnipeg that night to watch the 7th game in the final Stanley Cup series on television, but that quickly became a non-issue. Besides, neither television nor radio was available then at Norway House, and reflecting on the events of past 24 hours became the priority.

The fact that everyone survived the experience was a combination of luck, pilot skill and experience. Sgt. Carter was an exceptional pilot with a multitude of previous flying experience in the high arctic. He had captained an RCMP single Otter in the North that included a few spectacular rescues that have already been recorded in RCMP archives. His wonderful personality and abilities as a pilot are well known to many retired members who have had the privilege to fly with him. Sgt. Carter eventually retired from the Force to become a senior captain and flying instructor for large passenger jet aircraft with a major United States airline.

Fortunately, the patrol came to a safe conclusion. Ironically, the prisoner on that flight was killed several years later while operating a snowmobile near Gods Lake Narrows, Manitoba. ❖

The Man With the Golden Hands

By Janet Farrell, Burlington, Ontario

My husband, Al, and I have been very fortunate to have had the chance to travel to the Ukraine, on four different occasions, as Canadian Executive Services Organization (CESO) Volunteer Advisors. With a background in senior hospital management, my name happened to be at the top of CESO's list to provide organizational development for the Dzherelo Children's Rehabilitation Centre in Lviv. CESO sends experts who are highly experienced in their professions or industry to developing nations as advisors and trainers to various clients.

The Dzherelo Children's Rehabilitation Centre, opened two years after the country gained its independence in 1991, is one of the first of its kind in the Ukraine. It provides education and therapeutic intervention for children with cerebral palsy and other neurological disabilities. It is new and innovative because, up to now, children with disabilities in the Ukraine were considered "sick." Therefore, they were not allowed to go to school like other children and lived socially isolated lives while staying at home with their mothers.

Fortunately, CESO has a spousal program in which a spouse is encouraged to travel with the Volunteer Advisor and become involved in some meaningful activity that may be of assistance to the host country and of interest to the spouse. Al certainly did not need convincing: in fact, I knew that he would need to do something. His nature is such that he would not enjoy hanging around the hotel for a month — one can only walk the interesting streets of Lviv for so long. But what could he do? His many years of experience in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have left him with many skills. Although these skills do not directly relate to working with disabled children, we approached the staff at the Centre to see how he could become involved. This story is about Al's contribution to disabled children in the Ukraine, and is one that needs to be told.

When we suggested to the director that both Al and the Centre could benefit if they could put him to work as a *volunteer*, this alone was a significant proposal. Voluntarism, for the most part, is unheard of in the Ukraine. The reason being that the communist doctrine employed all people and everyone got a pay cheque, however small — but a pay cheque nonetheless!

The director suggested that Al might ride in the van which transports the children back and forth from their homes to the Centre every day. Since most of the children are quite disabled, this meant that he had to physically carry the children on and off the bus. Soon, the children who love to go to school were "high-fiving" him when he met them each morning.

Assisting with collecting the children was a worthwhile activity, but what about the rest of the day? Perhaps he could organize the closet in which donated items from facilities abroad: wheelchair parts, walking aids and teaching materials, are stored. The problem with this donated material is that it often arrives in bits and pieces that do not always match or function properly.

You can imagine Al's surprise when he entered the closet and found that it was actually a large room measuring approximately seven by ten metres. This disheveled room

was so disorganized that it was impossible to find anything. What an assignment! It was like turning Al loose in the garage. By the end of the month, he had transformed this "closet" in an organized room; walls were lined with new hooks and shelves, and similar objects were grouped for easy access.

But something else happened when Al noticed that many of the children could not fit properly in their chairs or desks. Unfortunately, these children have not received therapy at an early age and, as a result, they have severe contractors and deformities of their limbs. One child, who did not have strength in his legs, was having trouble sitting at his desk to the extent that he kept sliding down low in his seat and could not pull himself up. Jumping at the chance of being creative and working with his hands, Al used an old broom handle to fashion a grip on the top of the boy's desk. It worked like a miracle. Al was a hero.

After this, Al believed that he could really make a contribution to the lives of these children. When we returned to Canada after that initial trip, he became involved as a volunteer at Participation House in Binbrook, Ontario — a facility that provides housing and care for disabled adults. Working with the occupational therapy department, Al learned how to adapt wheelchairs to make them more comfortable and, also, how to increase the ability of the people in the wheelchairs to function from their wheelchairs more independently.

With his newly acquired skills, Al's future role in Ukraine became formalized. On the second assignment to the Ukraine, Al was no longer a spouse but a Volunteer Advisor with his very own CESO assignment. Since neither of us speaks Ukrainian, our work is done through the services of an interpreter. Unfortunately for Al, I seemed to occupy most of the interpreter's time. Al was left to struggle in communicating with the children by using only sign language. It's amazing how even without verbal language, effective communication and bonding can still take place.

Al got to know the children well and took great pleasure and satisfaction from the immediate improvements that he could see. The greatest reward was knowing that now these children were more comfortable, were able to function with a greater degree of independence and, therefore, enjoy an improved quality of life.

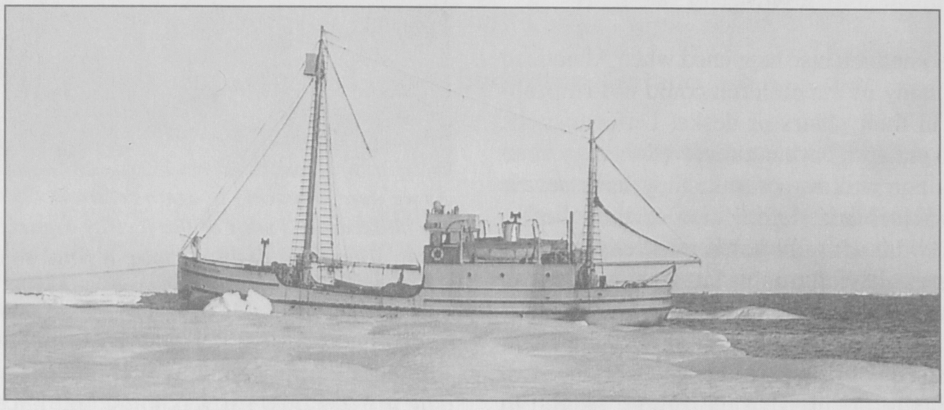
As we were preparing to again return to Canada, the children and staff of the facility organized a party, where the children sang a final song to their Canadian "Mountie" friend — the one they call the man with the golden hands!

On our most recent visit to the Ukraine, again the therapists at Dzherelo Centre had a long list of children's chairs that required adjustment. But there was something new. The director had been able to hire a man so that Al could teach him his skills. Therefore, long after this CESO project ceases to exist, the children of Ukraine will still benefit from the visits from their Canadian friends.

The above story is but one chapter in a book entitled, "Ukraine! What on Earth am I Doing Here!" written by Janet Farrell, as she and her husband, Reg. No. 21049, ex-Sgt. Al Farrell, travelled and worked in the Ukraine. The book balances adventurous encounters, the difficulty and frustration of working in this environment, and many humbling and rewarding experiences. At $15 per copy, the book may be obtained from: Janet Farrell, 2112 Berwick Drive, Burlington, Ontario L7M 4B3; telephone: (905) 319-1573. Profits realized through the sale of this book will be returned to assist in the operation of the Dzherelo Children's Rehabilitation Centre. — Editor. ❖

Last Voyage

By Quarterly Editorial Staff



RCMP Schooner St. Roch moored to ice in Canadian High Arctic.

While most of us eventually drift into obscurity, a few sail into history — like Reg. No. 14583, ex-Cst. J.M. Diplock[1], who served on the *St. Roch*, during its history-making return voyage through the Northwest Passage, (see article, "Celebrating the *St. Roch*", Vol. 52, No. 3, Summer 1993, *the Quarterly*). For Cst. Diplock, the epic voyage had such a profound effect on him that for the rest of his life, he remembered every detail of the event as vividly as if it had just happened yesterday.

In 1938, at the tender age of 15, he ran away from home, in search of adventure, and joined the Merchant Marine. When he turned 18, feeling the need for a career shift, he applied to the RCMP, and was engaged into the Force in Toronto on June 8, 1943. He was enamoured with the idea of trekking through the Arctic, and he saw in the RCMP the ideal way to make his dream come true.

The RCMP had authorized an expedition by *St. Roch* to sail through Northwest Passage to demonstrate Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic Archipelago. The sturdy duck-bottomed vessel left Vancouver Harbour on June 23, 1940. This monumental task was successfully accomplished when it arrived in Halifax Harbour 28 month later, on October 11, 1942. When Diplock learned that a return voyage was planned, he knew it was his destiny to take part in this dauntless challenge.

Primed for the adventure of his young life, he eagerly signed on as part of the crew. When the day came to weigh anchor, he stuffed his gear into his duffel bag, kissed his young wife Ginny goodbye, and announced he would be gone "up North for a little while." Diplock did not divulge many details about his assignment to her, in fact, it wasn't until months later, while out enjoying a film with her mother at a movie theatre that she discovered the true nature and significance of her husband's mission. The lights dimmed, and a newsreel appeared on the screen, showing a hero's welcome for the *St. Roch* and her crew at Vancouver. Ginny recalls leaping from her seat in the crowded theatre, and shouting excitedly, "There he is Mom! There he is! It's Jimmy!"

[1]James Milne Diplock passed away on February 10, 1995, at St. Catharines, Ontario. See Obituary in Summer 1995 issue of the *Quarterly*.

St. Roch Sails Into the Millennium

After four years of planning, the RCMP coastal patrol vessel *Nadon* will be setting off from Vancouver on July 1, 2000, following the path of the St. Roch. Classified as a catamaran, the *Nadon* has an average speed of 25 knots and a top speed of 40 knots. A cycling crew of four RCMP regular members will staff the boat at any one time. With the overwhelming number of applicants, according to Cpl. Ken Burton, *St. Roch II* Project Manager, the decision still has not been made regarding the crew.

The *Nadon* will travel up along the B.C. and Alaska coast, into the Arctic Ocean, and make its first major stop at Diomede Island in Siberia, where participants will re-enact the fisticuffs that took place when Henry Larsen, captain of the *St. Roch*, was arrested for an unauthorized port visit. The *Nadon* will complete the Northwest passage during August 2000 — welcoming Nunavut into Confederation along the way — then travel down the Atlantic Coast, up along the St-Lawrence river and the U.S. eastern seaboard to Havana, Cuba. The crew will meet RCMP peacekeepers stationed at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, then travel up the western seaboard and arrive in Vancouver on January 1, 2001. If all goes according to plan, the *Nadon* will be the first vessel to circumnavigate North America in one season.

The *Nadon* will hopefully take part in some exciting scientific discoveries along the way with five to eight scientists attending from the Institute of Ocean Science. With the cutting-edge sonar technology on board, they hope to be able to find the *Sir John Franklin* — in particular, the engines that powered the boat — and the true cause of the tragedy. They also hope to perform the first continental baseline study monitoring the Arctic, Pacific and Atlantic Oceans for coastal erosion, salinity, tides, currents and temperature, including monitoring the effects of global warming.

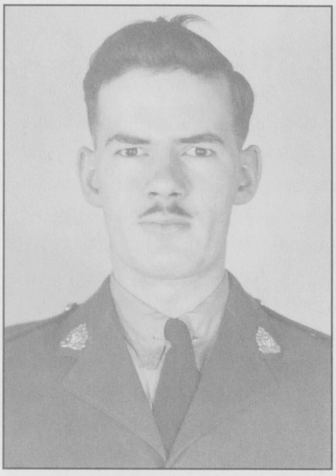
Cpl. Burton stresses that no money will be diverted from any RCMP operational budget to fund the project's five million dollar price tag. The trip is being paid by a variety of sources, including the Canadian Government, Corporate Canada and by marketing the project as intellectual property to interested authors and filmmakers. Through small fundraisers, the RCMP has also been helping to raise funds across the country. Surrey Detachment raised $4,000 with events like theme barbecues.

Money raised by the project will also go towards maintaining the actual *St. Roch* artifact which was awarded by Parks Canada to the Vancouver Maritime Museum in 1995. The upkeep over the past 33 years has not been enough and the *St. Roch* is one of the few RCMP artifacts that never benefitted from RCMP funding, said Cpl. Burton. One of the main goals of the *St. Roch II* project is to create an endowment fund for the *St. Roch*'s restoration and preservation. Interested parties can keep up-to-date at the Internet site **www.stroch.org.** Live digital feed of sound and images will be available for daily downloads from the site during the *Nadon*'s voyage.

The *St. Roch*, laden with provisions to last three years, set sail out of Halifax Harbour July 22, 1944. For Diplock the voyage was one continuous adventure and if there **were** any dangers or hardships experienced during the 86 days at sea, he neglected to mention them during his numerous recollections of his renowned odyssey.

When asked later if he had any reservations in the face of the brutal hardships and dangers experienced during the expedition, he replied, "What the heck are you scared of when your 19 years old?" One thing was certain however, he saw enough icebergs to last him the rest of his life. He was often noted to exclaim, "We saw more icebergs than ice cubes at a big party."

During the course of the return voyage, the crew discovered numerous items of interest and importance, including, old grave sites and rusted tins of provisions left behind by previous expeditions nearly 100 years earlier. Diplock went into elaborate and exhaustive detail describing parties with Americans on



Cst. J.M. Diplock

the west coast, yet glossed over the fact that he barely survived a hurricane that raged for two full days, crouched in a corner, with only some canned food to sustain him. He was even more reticent concerning his close brush with death at the paws of an angry, wounded polar bear. The incident occurred about half way through the voyage, when a large bear was shot for food. Thinking the beast dead, he was in the process of securing a heavy link chain around it's leg to haul it aboard ship, when the dazed and wounded creature suddenly erupted to life. When a huge white paw, "about the size of a dinner plate," with two-inch long razor sharp claws suddenly swished past his head, Diplock realized it was still very much alive and spoiling for revenge. He let out a loud holler and dashed to the ship to get a rifle. Later that evening, the crew gave thanks, then sat down to a feed of bear burgers.

Diplock's `"excellent adventure" came to a conclusion on October 16, 1944, when the *St. Roch* dropped anchor in Vancouver Harbour. It was a proud day for the young RCMP constable, and the rest of the crew of that historic voyage when they were later presented the rarely-awarded, prestigious Polar Medal, for exploration of the Arctic.

Diplock and his wife, Ginny, went on to be the proud parents of five daughters and three sons. During his 39-year career in law enforcement he served on a total of five police forces, including the OPP., retiring with the rank of sergeant from the Niagara Regional Police in 1982. He passed away on February 10, 1995, and his obituary appeared in the Summer 1995 issue of *the Quarterly*. ❖

Y2K Partnership

By Brigitte Audet

When the RCMP enters the new millennium on January 1, it will do so with the confidence that back-up plans are in place to deal with whatever eventualities the Year 2000 transitional period may bring.

In addition, the RCMP Veterans Association has offered its help to all Divisions. Members of the association will volunteer to look in on the families of members who may be busy working or even deployed to another part of the country if there are disruptions associated with the transition to Year 2000.

Much uncertainty has stemmed from how computer-based systems and technology throughout the world will interpret the "00" programmed for Year 2000. The concern is computers could misread the date as the year 1900, or as an indication to shut down.

"We have every indication to believe there will be no major problems in Canada," said Dave Morreau, Director of the RCMP's Year 2000 Project Office, at Headquarters, in Ottawa.

All RCMP mission critical computer-based

systems were ready by June 30, 1999. Work on a few minor embedded systems still remains, but will be completed before Year 2000. Contingency and communication plans are in place in every Detachment, Division and at Headquarters. The federal government and critical infrastructure organizations, such as the hydro and banking industries have made announcements indicating their systems are ready.

As well, the RCMP amended its policy restricting leave for members during the Year 2000 transitional period. Regular members and those civilian members and public servants deemed essential for mission critical functions are now required to be available to report for their regular scheduled shifts from December 29, 1999, to January 14, 2000 inclusive. That's significantly shorter than the original leave restriction which was from December 27, 1999, to March 15, 2000.

"Year 2000 is an unknown — that means there are no guarantees. We hope for and expect the best case scenario, but we still have to be prudent and plan well," Morreau said.

The Veteran's Association wants to add an extra bit of reassurance by offering to help out, said Bill McCheyne, Association President.

"Most of our people feel maybe they could be called to help out, in some way or another," McCheyne said.

The RCMP Veterans Association has 6,000 members in 30 chapters across the country. It's an extensive network of names and numbers of former RCMP members who maintain regular contact with each other, and thus an excellent resource, McCheyne said. In February of 1999, he asked Commissioner Philip Murray if the Vets could be of assistance and offered their help.

"I gather a lot of our members will be at home during that time (the transition to Year 2000) and a lot of them would be available to volunteer."

The idea also came about in "J" Division, New Brunswick. Members were concerned that if they were called out to assist the public for prolonged periods of time due to Year 2000 related glitches, they would be worried about their own families, said Sgt. Doug Anthony, who is "J" Division's Year 2000 Planning Coordinator.

"The solution was found amongst our Veterans, who meet at Headquarters monthly. As we looked at the large group of experienced police men and women, it was evident that they could be trusted to check on our families, thus easing the minds of our members while they were out in the field assisting the public," Anthony stated. "Our Veteran's group, who remain very active with the RCMP, were more than willing to assist their fellow members."

One of the most positive gains for the RCMP through all of this Year 2000 planning is all of the partnerships which were created or strengthened, Anthony said.

"It is through Year 2000 that we have learned, one of our best partners and resource, the Veterans, is right here under our noses."

To date, the Veterans Association has not received any formal requests for such assistance from any of the Divisions, said McCheyne who is based in British Columbia. The Association's Executive Director, Ron Sparks who is based in Ottawa, also confirmed they had received no requests.

"It may still be a little early yet," Sparks said in October. "We may not get any until the last minute or we may not get any at all, but we are available to help."

The Veterans Association regularly works with the RCMP in such capacities as providing extra manpower for security at special events.

"Year 2000 is a unique situation," Sparks said, adding this would be the first time the Vets would be involved in this type of "peace of mind" assistance by looking in on members' families. The RCMP Veterans would be doing this, if asked, on a voluntary basis. ❖

Detachment Man (Part II)

By W.T. (Bill Thompson)

The following is the second part of Bill Thompson's memoir, "Detachment Man." Part I appeared in the Summer 1999 issue of the Quarterly. — Editor

Northern Exposure

My wife and I arrived in Snow Lake, Manitoba, on a beautiful sunny summer day after a long and arduous trip. At first glance, the town site was less than impressive. The whole cleared area was a mass of two-foot-high stumps. Apparently the trees had been cleared during the winter while two feet of snow lay on the ground. The member I was to replace led us to the hotel where we would stay until our furniture arrived. The town stretched out around us — one short block. On one side of the street, there was the post office, the hotel with the ever-present beer parlour and attached pool hall, a store, a vacant lot, a cafe and a hardware store. Across the street, there was the Administration Building, a one-storey frame building containing the District Administrator's office, the RCMP Detachment office and our living quarters down the hall in the back. Next came a large vacant area, a Royal Bank building and the Hudson's Bay store. This one block comprised the entire visible town. We very quickly learned that the uptown area was only a small part of the settlement and that the main housing area stretched along the lake below the business section.

Arrangements were made to meet in the morning for the Detachment handover. Suddenly we were alone. We sat on the bed and looked at each other in disbelief. What had we done to deserve this? My wife at this time was in the late stages of pregnancy and was not one bit pleased with what she had seen. If there had been any transport out of town, I'm sure she would have been on it. I'm quite sure I'd have been with her — maybe even two steps ahead!

The next day there was a quick review of the Detachment files and a few words of advice on the local situation. Then my predecessor was off to his new posting and I was all alone.

What followed were busy days for me, getting acquainted with my new domain. For my wife, however, it was a period of acute loneliness and boredom. Still, it was a chance to become accustomed to the uneven tempo of "uptown," where the generally sluggish pace of commerce was punctuated by two major highlights — pay day and "fresh fruit and vegetable day." It's hard to say which caused the most excitement.

The big day finally arrived and our furniture was at the door, sturdily crated to withstand the rigours of the trip. As we stared at the truck heaped with furniture and contemplated the work ahead of us, we got our first hint of northern hospitality. The truck had barely stopped when people started to arrive bearing hammers, crowbars and willing arms. The first to arrive was Bill, carrying a case of beer. He took up position on a crate of furniture in our soon-to-be kitchen and directed operations. With Bill contributing advice and instructions and dispensing an occasional reward of cold beer, our furniture was quickly unpacked and placed. In no time at all we were settled and on a first-name basis with a good number of our new neighbours.

Shortly after that, we again experienced the quiet kindness of the settlement. I was required to make a trip up our lake, through a portage and up another lake to check on a suspected case of rabies among some sleigh dogs. Two young bank employees who had the afternoon off joined me for the trip. At this time, I was very much a greenhorn at operating a canoe and my two companions were as new to the North as I was. Under normal circumstances, the trip would have taken three or four hours but, as the old saying goes — whatever can go wrong will go wrong. We had problems on the portage (both ways), we got lost looking for the trapper's cabin and the outboard motor malfunctioned. Well after dark, back in town, word soon got around that the new Mountie and his two green companions had not yet returned home.

My wife told me later that the next few hours were strange indeed. As darkness came, women, singly and in small groups, kept dropping in for coffee, a chat and to exchange recipes. What with the continual coffee making, the small talk and the visitors' perfectly calm, cool manner, Marian didn't really notice the passing of time. In the meantime, the men had quietly gone about organizing a search party.

We met the searchers a short distance from home and had to endure a barrage of good-natured ribbing shouted across the water as we wearily paddled down the lake.

As we washed up a small mountain of cups and saucers later that night, my wife and I shared our feelings about the day's events. We were both deeply touched by the thoughtfulness of people who would quietly distract a very pregnant lady while undertaking a search for her tenderfoot husband.

Another episode left a deep impression on my wife and me. Our first son was born in mid-September that year. He was a normal healthy baby and, as doting parents, we could find only one fault —the kid couldn't tell night from day. He developed into a great daytime sleeper but expected midnight to 2:00 to be playtime. This went on and on, until one beautiful spring night, when we decided to have a showdown. Little Donnie was fed, played with, freshly diapered and placed in his crib. We vowed that he could either sleep or cry. It was his choice. We would not rush in to comfort him no matter how loud he hollered. Donnie made his decision. He would cry.

We were laying in bed, stiff and silent, hoping that he would give up and let us all sleep; but the wailing went on and on and still we lay staring at the ceiling. Suddenly we heard footsteps creeping down the hallway and into our living quarters. The light went on in Don's room and we could hear one male voice saying, "There, there baby," while two other voices carried on a tirade against parents who would leave a little baby alone. By this time we had arrived in Don's room to find one old prospector holding a now smiling baby on his shoulder, while two other hardened old bushmen discussed our right to be parents.

The three old boys had been enjoying the air on the hotel steps across from our quarters when the squalling of our dear Don disrupted the quiet. They stood it as long as they could. Convinced we had gone out and left the child alone, they had taken matters into their own hands. Much later, as we sat at the kitchen table over a pot of coffee, we explained we really weren't rotten parents. And, once again, Donnie got to stay up until 2:00. Despite

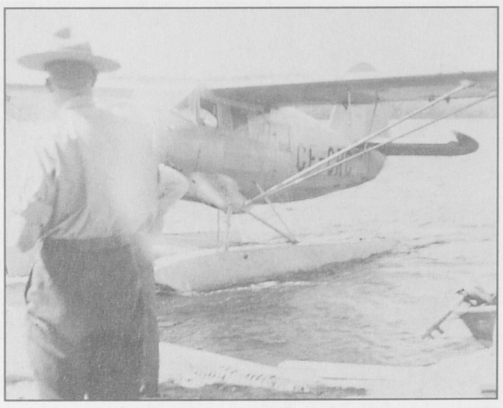
Nineteen-foot freighter canoe: the heavy transportation vehicle for a Mountie in the 50s.

some mild embarrassment, we had learned a lesson. The care and concern shown for one small child by these three hard-bitten old bachelors always reminded me that each person you meet is likely to have a streak of human goodness hidden somewhere.

Lost Gold

The gold bricks produced by the mining and smelting operation in Snow Lake were routinely transported to market by bush plane. By today's standards, the entire exercise was remarkably short on sophistication and security. The journey would begin when the bricks were tossed on the back of a 1940s vintage flatbed truck and driven along the dusty trail from the mine to the local float plane dock. Three times a week we were blessed with the arrival of the mail plane and the gold bricks would leave town on the return flight south.

On one bright summer day in 1952, this operation was proceeding as usual. The three bars of solid gold had arrived, pilot Eddie Dyck had signed for them, and the mine truck had left. The mail bags, however, were late arriving from the post office. Eddie decided he had time to walk to the local cafe for coffee and pie. Leaving the gold sitting on the dock and trusting that nothing untoward would happen, he headed for the cafe. On his return, Eddie found Cecil Smith, the local forestry warden, and me probing the waters beside the dock with long poles. We explained that there had been an accident and, as a result, the gold was now resting at the bottom of the lake!



The mail plane featured in the lost gold caper (Snow Lake, 1952).

Eddie was frantic. Decades later, I can still picture his antics during the next half hour: Eddie grabbing a pole and poking the lake; Eddie clutching a net and dragging it along the bottom; Eddie sweating profusely; Eddie pulling his hair, pacing back and forth and mumbling under his breath and, finally, Eddie diving into the lake to rescue the precious bars he had signed for.

Watching this drama unfold, Cecil and I could no longer contain ourselves and burst out laughing. A confused and downcast Eddie Dyck emerged from the lake to stare at us in disbelief. Could we really be so heartless? He needn't have worried. The gold was quickly recovered — from the back of the aeroplane where we had put it.

Soaking wet and clearly annoyed, Eddie was soon on his way, headed south with his pricey cargo left intact. We knew it would be a while before he would see the humour in the situation.

Move Over, James Herriot

The Mounted Police in isolated areas were expected, by some curious divine right, to be adept at many things. Besides our main job of maintaining the right, we were expected to act for all other branches of the Government. My best illustration of this was the year of the rabies outbreak.

During my time in the bush, dog teams were still commonly used and the snowmobile had not yet made its appearance. Rabies was causing a lot of public unrest and the Government had decided that all dogs in the area had to be inoculated. Who would do this? Another quick and easy decision was made: just let the RCMP Detachment do it. Since I was the sole member of the Detachment, I got the job. There were two slight problems; one, I had never inoculated anything or anybody in my life, and two, the dogs were scattered far and wide in isolated trappers' cabins, fish camps and settlements over thousands of square miles.

The first problem was quickly solved when a provincial veterinarian flew into town with a

supply of hypodermic needles and vials of serum. A small, quiet house pet was rounded up and I was given a quick demonstration of the injection technique, and the assurance that the whole thing would be a snap. Less than one hour later, I was standing by the frozen lake, holding boxes of serum and a collection of hypodermic needles, and watching the plane carry off on his appointed rounds my only connection to veterinary medicine.

For the rest of that winter, at home or in some wilderness cabin, the serum and needles were never far from my side. Whenever I came across a dog, whether a pet, a sled dog or a hunting dog, I always moved quickly to inject the serum. To my surprise, the big, often menacing sled dogs gave little or no trouble. However, they were seldomly handled by strangers and when approached they tended to be either vicious or scared. In the beginning we were trying to get them into some building so the work could be done out of the extreme cold, but most sled dogs had never been inside a building. When we attempted to take them in, they became petrified with fear. From then on, all sled dogs were inoculated outside in the snow and cold with periodic breaks to thaw out the partly frozen hands of the human participants.

Breaking Trail

My first trip into the northern Manitoba wilds surrounding the community of The Pas still stands out bright and clear in my mind. A band of Indians had been passing an isolated trapper's cabin and, in the time-honoured tradition of the North, had stopped in the cabin to boil up a pot of tea. Cabin doors in these seldom-travelled parts were never locked and weary wayfarers were welcome to stop and use the cabins as an escape from the storm, a source of much needed food or merely a spot to stop and rest. The only thing asked in return was that the cabins be left as they were found so that others could use them.

There was no sign of life around the camp, but this didn't give the visitors any cause for alarm as trappers were often out on their trap lines for several days at a time. The travellers

On patrol in the wilds of northern Manitoba. Camping out with trail guides no longer forms a routine part of the life of an RCMP constable.

got a fire going in the stove and put the kettle on to boil. Suddenly there was a gasp from one of the group. There was the trapper, dead and stiff in his bunk. In short order, the "smoke telegraph" swung into action and word of the dead trapper reached my Detachment.

The trapper's cabin was some 25 miles back in the bush; the only way there was by dog sled through bush trail and frozen lakes. A check of the area told me that the man for me to put my greenhorn trust in was Gaspar, a Native guide and owner of the best dog team in the district. Arrangements were made to leave at daybreak the next morning.

Although the trail to the cabin was nothing more than blaze marks cut into trees at intervals to point the way, the trip to the cabin went surprisingly quickly. We were travelling light, the dogs were fresh and full of run and the guide and I were in good shape. We were able to take turns riding in the sled and running behind. The temperature — -25° F — was no real problem as the running kept us warm. Still, we did have to watch each other's faces closely. At those temperatures, frost bite happens quickly.

When we reached the cabin, we lit the fire and boiled up the ever-welcome pot of tea. With the dead trapper in the background, we packed away a hearty lunch and had a bit of rest before undertaking the return trip. A

search of the cabin failed to turn up anything unusual. From all appearances, the man had passed away from natural causes.

It came time to load the body into the sled and start our long trip back, so that I could have the body properly examined by medical experts. There was only one problem: the man had died with one arm outstretched to the side and it was frozen solid in that position.

Gaspar pointed out with gloomy certainty that the outstretched limb would be the cause of many problems on the narrow bush trail. I pointed out just as adamantly, that this was my first experience in bringing in a body for examination under such circumstances, and by God, that body would arrive for the doctor's examination in the very same condition that I had found it.

Little more was said and we started back. We were getting tired, the dogs were getting snarly and the temperature was dropping steadily as night approached. And just as Gaspar had predicted, the outstretched arm became a major source of problems on the narrow trail. It seemed to catch up on every bush or tree we passed, frequently upsetting the sled, which had to be labouriously reloaded. After each upset, my guide would look at me with barely concealed disgust. However, he never said a word.

There was another difficulty on the return trip. Because the body took up all the room on the sled, we both had to run or walk behind the dogs. For the first time in my life, I was using snowshoes, and I was having trouble keeping up. We had reached a stretch of relatively easy going across a small frozen lake, when the dogs suddenly took off at full speed and I was left far behind. I plodded on doggedly and, when I finally caught up with my partner in a small clearing on the other side of the lake, he had built a fire and was casually boiling up a pot of tea. The body was lying in the sled with both arms folded sedately across the chest. I looked at the sled, at the axe standing nearby, and at the dog musher.

"Dogs ran away an' hit 'at tree damn hard," was all Gaspar said.

To this day I can't be sure, but I suspect that once the dogs had mysteriously "run away" and were out of sight, my practical guide had arranged his sled load so that it could make the trip back through the narrow trail. No doubt the bush-wise guide could see that if he listened to me, the trip back would be unnecessarily long, slow and cold. Even so, it was long after dark when Gaspar and I arrived back at the Detachment. As we parted under the flashing of the northern lights, all I got from him was a knowing smile. I needn't have worried. The medical autopsy clearly showed that death was from natural causes and the broken arm was recorded simply as a "hazard of the trail."

Lady of the Lake

The isolation of our north country has always attracted more than its fair share of colourful characters. People moved into this, the last real frontier, for a variety of reasons. Some had problems and some saw the north as an escape from an unhappy love life or family problems. Many came in search of peace and serenity, or in pursuit of treasure in the form of precious metals or furs. For whatever reason, they came and lived out their lives — often in contentment, sometimes, I suspect, in quiet desperation.

One of those who lived with minimal human contact was of more than passing interest to me. I will refer to this strong-willed old lady as the "Lady of the Lake," since that's the way I have always thought of her. The rumour mill had it that she was a member of a fine old family from the East who had left a sheltered life to end up alone on a small island in the middle of a Northern Manitoba lake. Allegedly, somewhere in her past there had been the classic tragic love affair based on any one of several reasons: her intended had been killed during the First World War, had run off with her younger and more beautiful sister, or had died of a lingering disease. I never did learn the whole truth but all the theories behind her curious choice of lifestyle involved tragedy and romance.

In later years, she had taken up with a prospector and together they had located their Eldorado. They had found precious metal on the lonely island and had lived on the mining claim for years trying to raise the money to develop the mine or waiting to sell the property to an interested mining company. The years passed, and the pair apparently became paranoid about protecting their treasure, convinced that somehow others would steal their mine. When the old prospector died, the Lady of the Lake was left alone to guard the hoped-for riches.

When I arrived on the scene, the lady had not left her island home for many years. Since one of a Mountie's many chores in isolated areas was to ensure as far as possible the well-being of people scattered in the bush, it was inevitable that we would meet. My first trip to her island was by canoe with the local forestry warden, Cecil Smith.

When I first met the Lady of the Lake, she was approximately seventy years of age. A tall, rather stout, erect figure, she was wearing what I would come to know as her standard outfit — a man's bib overalls and woolen shirt. Her face was deeply tanned from many years spent outdoors and, except for a few lines around the eyes, was remarkably free of wrinkles. The eyes were unusually sharp and alert, I assume because of the years spent living alone. She was well spoken but had a somewhat unusual line of chatter. Cecil and I agreed that the old girl was, as the English would say, a bit "dotty."

On all our visits to the island, winter or summer, she met us at her dock with a very old, extremely rusty, high-powered rifle in her hands. On good days, we were invited into her rundown log cabin for lunch, which usually consisted of tinned meat on home-made bread, a thick slice of cake and tea. The real surprise came with the table setting: fine bone china, linen placemats and napkins, and heavy old sterling silver flatware. How these relics of a former lifestyle had survived all those years in the bush, I will never know.

One day, the community was in a great stir. The word was out that the Lady of the Lake was leaving her island and coming into town. For many people, the old lady and her isolated lifestyle was merely the stuff of local legend. Some considered the whole story nothing more than myth, so her arrival was awaited with a combination of excitement and skepticism. Apparently her eyesight had been failing for some time and she had arranged an appointment to see the optometrist during one of his monthly visits. On the appointed day, much to the disappointment of the town folk who had arranged to be present, the recluse did not materialize.

The appointment was advanced a month and again the town waited. It was a frosty winter day when the Bombardier pulled up in front of the optometrist's temporary office in the hotel. A good crowd of locals just happened to be in the vicinity. Finally, out stepped the Lady of the Lake neatly dressed in a brand new man's blue serge suit, complete with a vest. The mystery of the cancelled appointment had been cleared up. The mail order suit had not arrived in time, and there was no way our lady would make her long awaited appearance unless she was properly dressed.

Some time after I had left the area and moved onto another Detachment, cecil Smith telephoned me with news of our good lady. Age and sickness had overtaken her and she had

The "Lady of the Lake" cabin located on a small island in an isolated northern Manitoba lake. A young Bill Thompson stands guard.

Photos courtesy of the Thompson family

been moved to a hospital. Cecil had gone to the island with the police to do an inventory and protect her property. "Do you remember that old rifle she carried whenever she came to meet us?" he asked. "Well, I picked it up for a quick look and then set the butt down gently on the floor. The darn thing went off with a roar and blew a hole in the ceiling!"

I would later learn that this lady had gained considerable fame as one of the first female prospectors in Manitoba and had discovered several notable ore deposits.

In almost a quarter of a century of service with the RCMP, much of it in the role of "Detachment Man," I had the opportunity to live and learn in many western communities. Long past the time when the Red Coats were charged with bringing law and order to Canada's vast and lawless Northwestern frontier, I joined a police force that, by the mid-1940s, was increasingly focused on provincial policing, organized crime, narcotics and commercial fraud. For the Detachment men stationed in small, often remote communities however, the Mountie's role remained curiously unchanged. Whiskey trading and Native uprisings may have faded into history, but the durable Mountie — whether in red coat or more prosaic working gear — continued a long tradition as Canada's most visible symbol of law and order.

While generations of historians have chronicled the big picture — the changing mandate and fortunes of Canada's internationally recognized police force — I have purposely focused on the small picture. Far from the drama and darker aspects of police work, these reminiscences are offered as a reminder of the basic decency, humanity and quiet humour that flavour the dealings between Mounties and the communities they serve. ❖

Who Murdered Aeneas Dewar?

by Layton Park, Kelowna, British Columbia

Enoch (Aeneas) Dewar was well known in the Cherryville area. If there ever was such a thing as a kind tax collector, it was Aeneas. There was no reason for anyone to murder him, yet now he lay dead. The question that begged an answer was: who could do such a thing and why?

Gold!

Outside of hollering "FIRE" in a crowded room, no other word can heat the blood and stir excitement in even the quietest of men. Unlike fire, gold fever can sweep an entire nation, then leap the oceans of the world to ignite a spark of adventure in the hearts of men half a world away. Such was the case with Aeneas Dewar, the genial old Scotsman who had left the comforts of the Isle for adventure in California to search for gold. And just as the excitement of the gold rush of '49 began to play out, the echo of gold reverberated again in the saloons of California.

When Aeneas Dewar heard the call again in 1858, he packed up and headed for the wild Fraser River in the British colony of New Caledonia. Thousands of other men also left

the California gold fields to seek their fortunes in the wilds of what is now British Columbia. Many travelled by steam boat from San Francisco to Vancouver; others walked the old fur brigade trail up the west coast and through the Okanagan Valley.

Aeneas Dewar took up a claim in the Yale district. The big strike, however, continued to elude him and eventually he retired from mining. He settled on a ranch east of Vernon, in an area known as the White Valley.

Needing to supplement his income, in July 1882, Aeneas Dewar became a part-time agent for Thos Lambly, the government officer of Okanagan and Spallumcheen. Known for being honest and also well liked, Aeneas' job was to be an easy one. All it required was to go to Cherry Creek and collect the fifty dollar-a-year head tax from the Chinese miners working there. Cherry Creek was two days' ride through a densely wooded area east of Vernon.

The miners who worked in the area had widely varying stories about the amount of gold they were finding. Some miners had found a few large nuggets, but for the most part they described the gold as light stuff which took a yeast powder box full to make an ounce. The Chinese were especially secretive about their finds as they feared being robbed. And they had good reason for their fears. The white community did not welcome the Chinese; it was common, even in the newspapers of the day, to refer to them as "Chinks." Articles accused them of stealing, and so-called respectable people of the day labelled them as heathen, semi-barbarous, filthy people. When unable to afford paying for a mining license they were fined. Using the search for licenses as an excuse, white miners often raided Chinese homes and took anything of value that they found.

There is little history of the early Chinese people as few records were kept, and much of those have been lost. There was also confusion over identity, as the Chinese gave their family name first and their given name last. As a result, to Caucasians Wong Sing would be Mr. Sing rather than Mr. Wong.

Most of the miners in the Cherry Creek area at this time were Chinese. As in most gold producing areas, the early prospectors, always on the lookout for easy diggings and better pay dirt, had mined the area, and then moved on to greener pastures. Some miners remained digging for harder-to-get gold, but as these mines also played out these miners moved on, following the prospectors. The gold fields now considered almost useless were left to the "Yellow Scourge."

Although the unproductive terrain yielded little profit, the Chinese miners tried to save money either to bring family members to Canada or to return to China. They were hard working, thrifty and more efficient than white miners. Several men often lived together, both for economic reasons and for protection. They built slab and log shacks ten by twenty feet or smaller, piling firewood against the walls for insulation. Inside, newspapers plugged cracks to cut down drafts and a wood stove in the centre of the room heated the cabin.

Many died of various causes: falling rocks, mud slides, mine tunnel cave-ins; others died in fires, by drowning, froze to death, were killed by wild animals, were murdered, starved to death, or were buried alive in their cabins by avalanches. Despite the harsh conditions and injustice the Chinese had to deal with, they were known as peaceful individuals.

One of the few exceptions happened on May 14, 1881, when the Chinese labourers on the railroad from Yale to 17-mile Camp went on strike and began a riot. Apparently 2% of their wages were deducted as a commission for Lee Chuck, the contractor of a Chinese firm which recruited men from China.

Into this environment walked a Chinese man known only as Smart Alec. (As many white miners had trouble pronouncing some of the Chinese names, some Chinese

were given nicknames such as Big Mouth Jack, Joe Duck or simply Charlie.) Like most of his peers, Smart Alec had probably walked to the Okanagan carrying his belongings on a pole over his shoulder. To one end of the pole would be tied a bundle containing blanket, clothing and other personal items; on the other end a pack of provisions and cooking utensils. He had settled in a small cabin on his claim beside Cherry Creek.

Several days after Aeneas Dewar's expected return date from Cherry Creek, Thos Lambly became concerned and contacted John Merrit, Richard Rowat, Price Ellison, and others to organize a search party to go and look for him. Aeneas's horse was found wandering the trail beside Cherry Creek, with the saddle hanging under its belly as if it had suddenly turned and thrown the rider. The first thought was that Aeneas had possibly been tossed into the swift water and his body swept away. On closer examination, however, the men discovered the cinch was too tight to have permitted the saddle to slip around the horse. Obviously, the saddle had been purposely placed this way by someone unfamiliar with horses and tack to mislead whoever found the horse.

The search party began to look around the mining camp, questioning the Chinese miners. They found that Aeneas had visited all the cabins; many of the miners had receipts showing they had paid the tax. The last cabin was Smart Alec's. The door was locked and his sluice box had not been cleaned out. Miners normally cleaned out their sluice boxes every day to get all the gold out; otherwise, someone else would clean them out at night. Apparently Smart Alec was also missing, which aroused immediate suspicion.

When the search party forced open the door, they were met by an offensive odour rising from the floor. Merrit checked the exterior perimeter of the cabin and found fresh diggings. This is where they discovered the body of Aeneas Dewar.

The body was taken back to Mr. Lambly, who held a coroner's inquest. Dewar's skull had been split with an axe from the top of the head to the nape of the neck. It appeared he had been struck from behind while he was seated.

Did Smart Alec murder Aeneas, then bury him below the floor of his own cabin?

The closest law enforcement officers were the British Columbia Provincial Police stationed several days away at Fort Kamloops. As the local community leaders were convinced that Smart Alec was the culprit, they decided to hunt down the missing man. Price Ellison was furnished with a warrant; volunteers offered to pursue Smart Alec and the government was contacted to send expense money. There were only three ways to leave the area: east through the Monoshee mountain passes to the Arrow Lakes, then south to the U.S.; west to the Okanagan Valley, then south through Kelowna to the U.S.; north to Sicamous, where a train could be caught to the coast.

What had been the motive for the murder? To avoid paying the fifty-dollar tax? To rob Aeneas of the tax money he had already collected, which was also missing? Did Smart Alec simply go mad from the frustration of living under the unjust laws of this new land, and kill the tax collector who represented it?

One of the Chinese miners told a member of the search party about a disagreement between Smart Alec and some of the other Chinese miners over the location of his claim. The matter had been taken before a court of other Chinese miners, who had sided with the men opposing Smart Alec. The searchers concluded that Smart Alec had been ostracized by his own people; they suspected that he knew that Aeneas Dewar would also side with the court of Chinese miners and force him off his claim. Perhaps in a fit of rage and feeling he had nothing to lose, he struck Aeneas from behind, hurriedly buried the body, and taking the money, fled

for the United States. Price Ellison believing that Smart Alec was headed for Washington territory, donned a disguise, dying his hair and beard black, and set out after him. After a 75-day search of Chinese communities as far as Spokane Falls, Ellison returned to Vernon without the slightest clue as to Smart Alec's whereabouts.

A year later, on March 15, 1883, John Robson, the provincial secretary, offered a $1,000 reward for the capture of Smart Alec. But he was never found.

Four years later Fred Barnes, of Enderby, with Albert March and Charles Pooler were on their way to Priests' Valley, near Vernon, to get some supplies after trapping in the Monashee and Whatshan districts during the previous winter. When they got to the Cherry Creek flat, they decided to stop for a rest, light a fire and make some tea. Close by was a big fallen tree with a lot of old limbs heaped against it. When they pulled out some dry branches for the fire, they found bones: they were remains of a man, all but the head.

They searched the area but could not find the missing head. There was no gun, knife or coins, or any sign of shoe leather although all the bones of the feet were there. They felt that if the man had been white that there would be something to establish the fact — if not a bit of metal, at least the heel of a shoe. They further concluded that if it was an Aboriginal that there would have been a knife or a sheath. There were several small brass buttons and the fragile remains of some decayed cloth. The brass buttons were similar to those the Chinese wore on the cotton smocks of the day.

"This must be what's left of Smart Alec," Fred Barnes surmised. The hunters informed the government agent at Priests' Valley. They suspected that the Chinese miners had feared that if Smart Alec had been caught and brought to trial that it would only have hardened the prejudice against them. Therefore they may have removed all signs of identification, then led him to the flat and beheaded him according to their custom. That would explain his disappearance, and the disappearance of the money.

Several years later, Frank Shiffer surveyed the area and reported finding bones 100 yards north of the trail through Lot 236, where it entered a meadow. The bones also seemed to be those of a Chinese man, as they included a jumper made with loops of tape instead of buttonholes. Evidence further showed that the man had taken strychnine and let the bottle fall between his knees. The ghost of Smart Alec rose before the surveyors; they concluded that when Smart Alec had come to the realization of what he had done, the shame he would face when caught was more than he could face, so he took his own life.

Who Murdered Aeneas Dewar?

Did Smart Alec actually kill Aeneas and escape? Was he executed by his own peers? Did he, grief-stricken, take his own life?

Is it possible that Smart Alec was also a victim and at whose door the crime was laid by the real culprits who did away with both the tax man and the lone miner?

The true facts of this case will probably never be known. What is known is that the society of the time was somewhat responsible for creating conditions that left men lonely, depressed, oppressed and without hope. Society made laws that discriminated against certain groups of people. This story serves to remind us that we, as a society, must not create conditions and laws that could breed the criminals of the future.

The author wishes to acknowledge the help received from the Vernon Archives, the Provincial Archives, and Lily Chow, author of "Sojourners in the North." — Editor. ❖

Horses of a Different Colour

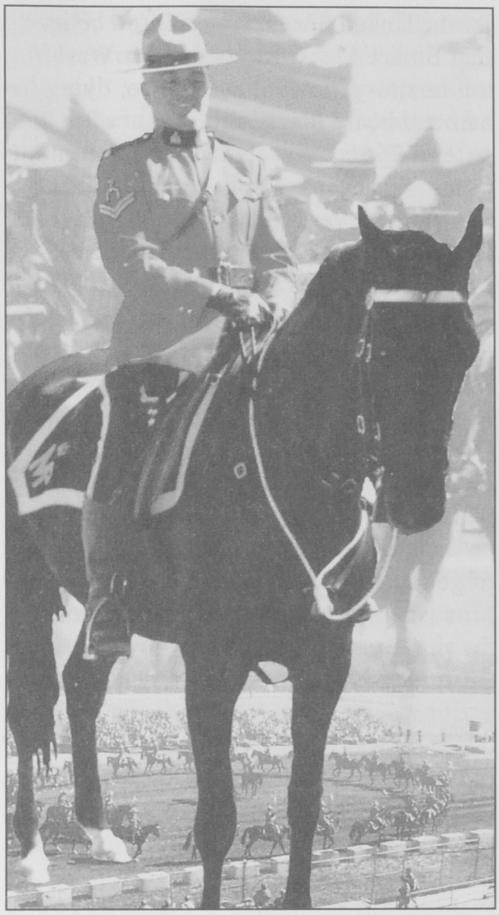
By ex-Sgt. W.J.H. Poole

In the early days in Western Canada, horses were the primary means of getting around. They also played a major part in the history of the RCMP. The horse strength in the Force in 1887 was 921; of this number, 634 were saddle horses. With the introduction of the automobile, the horse was no longer required as a means of transportation and today, RCMP horses are used only for ceremonial occasions and in the Musical Ride.

The change in today's 'horseflesh' is analogous to the change in the automobile. Automobiles have evolved from the old Ford Model-T to sleek, aerodynamic, supercharged vehicles and now the RCMP's horse breeding program produces horses fit for royalty. Informed horse buyers have become aware of this fact and that RCMP horses that become surplus to requirements or do not meet the exacting standards set for horses of the Musical Ride — and yet are outstanding animals — are turned over to the Mounted Police Foundation (MPF) for sale to the general public at biannual auctions held at the RCMP stables at Rockcliffe, Ontario.

The RCMP Horse Breeding Program

The RCMP Remount Detachment near Pakenham, Ontario, is located 60 km west of Ottawa, in a picturesque setting in the Ottawa Valley. The 140 hectares (345 acres) is commonly referred to as "the farm." Since 1968, it has been home to the RCMP horse breeding program. Prior to 1968, the RCMP's horse-breeding program was carried out at the RCMP ranch at Fort Walsh, located in the historic Cypress Hills in southwest Saskatchewan. ***(Actually, the first attempt by the Mounted Police to create a horse breeding farm dates back to 1878, in Pincher Creek, Alberta. See "Old-timers' Column" page 329, Vol. 15 No. 4, April 1950. — Editor)***



Cpl. Bill Stewart on James. *Courtesy of RCMP, Public Affairs and Information Directorate*

The image of an RCMP member mounted on a black horse is recognized internationally as a Canadian symbol. It was A/Commr. S.T. Wood who, in 1937, while attending the coronation of King George VI, was taken with the appearance of the scarlet-tunicked Life Guards of the Household Calvary riding black horses. Upon becoming Commissioner (1938-1957), he ordered that the RCMP should purchase only pure black horses. The paucity of such animals forced the RCMP to begin its own breeding program and in 1942, the ranch at Fort Walsh was acquired for this purpose.

The initial breeding program called for horses with stamina. To this end, grade mares of a

draught or half-draught cross were bred to Thoroughbred stallions, the latter to provide the required spirit. The product of this union would then be reintroduced into the breeding program until, sometime in the future, a horse of the desired size, colour, conformation and temperament would be produced.

Over time, there were adjustments to the program, such as the introduction of Clydesdale mares in the brood band, the use of Trakehner and then a Hanoverian stallion. *James* is the result of combining Hanoverian and Thoroughbred bloodlines. The former are sturdy, calmer horses; the latter provide the speed and spirit which are of particular importance for horses used in the Musical Ride.

The goals of the RCMP horse breeding program are intended to meet the following needs:

- ✓ to introduce, at age six, six quality-trained horses into the Musical Ride program;
- ✓ to accommodate the sortition and sale of horses which are surplus to, or inappropriate for, RCMP requirements;
- ✓ to provide replacements of coach horses for the State Landau and school horses for the Equitation Training program;
- ✓ to furnish replacement horses for riding staff, and horses for demonstration purposes.

Mr. Bruce Parr is the Manager of "the farm." As a civilian member of the Force, he was transferred from Fort Walsh to the new Remount Detachment at Pakenham, in 1968. He is supported by one other civilian member and three Public Service employees. The farm's facilities include stables, paddocks, indoor riding school, pastures with running water and shelter. At the time of this writing, there were 22 brood mares, 14 foals and one stallion at the Detachment.

Each year all foals — which start arriving in early April — are given names starting with the same letter of the alphabet. The letter "A" was used in 1961, followed by consecutive letters in subsequent years. Assigning a regimental number, and naming the foals, is C/M Parr's responsibility.

In the beginning, the horses of the Mounted Police were identified by means of a fused "MP" on the right shoulder. This has been the registered brand of the Force since 1887. Branding gave way to a tattooed regimental number on the inside of the upper lip. This was replaced by the insertion of a passive, micro computer chip just under the neck skin of the horse. This chip can be read with a hand held scanner, and expedites matters when crossing international borders.

All young RCMP horses are referred to as "remounts" which is a military term. A remount's training begins at three years of age and continues until he is five and-a-half years old. In the last summer of training, before joining their older colleagues on the Musical Ride, the program ensures that each remount is equally competent in all three phases of training: schoolwork, cross-country and jumping.

The finished product is expected to accept all sorts of physical and mental demands: the strict precision of the Musical Ride, the strain associated with travelling to national and international shows, the loading and unloading into and out of trucks, trains or aircraft, standing at attention during long ceremonies and parades, tolerating the din and blare of nearby brass bands, as well as unexpected noises and movements. Witness the time when in 1981, *Burmese*, carrying Queen Elizabeth in a parade, remained calm when a man fired five blank revolver shots at the monarch at close range. Producing horses of this calibre is accomplished by instilling confidence and obedience throughout the intensive two-and-a-half years of training.

James

"If he were a person, he'd be Sean Connery," said S/Sgt. Ken Maclean, RCMP Public Affairs and Information Directorate. "*James* is jet black, stands 16.3 hands, was born in April 1991 at the RCMP horse breeding farm at Pakenham, Ontario, and is of Thoroughbred and Hanoverian bloodlines."

On October 27, 1998, *James* was presented by Commissioner Murray to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, at a private ceremony held at Buckingham Palace. The Queen is the RCMP's honorary Commissioner, and the gift

of *James* marked the Force's 125th anniversary. *James*' trainer, Cpl. (now S/M) Bill Stewart of Ottawa, put the seven-year-old gelding through his paces, while the Queen questioned Commissioner Murray about *James*.

James represents the colour, size, conformation and temperament wanted for horses of the Musical Ride and sought through the RCMP horse breeding program. *James* follows in the hoofprints of previous RCMP horses presented to Her Majesty, to wit: *Burmese* in 1969, who now lies buried on the grounds of Windsor Castle, and *Centennial* in 1977, who, at age 27 years, continues to enjoy the good life in the royal stables. *Centennial* is a great-great grandson of the famous race horse *Man O'War*, and is related to *Burmese*. Given that *James* is a somebody, and also as its contribution to the RCMP 125th anniversary, Air Canada gave *James* a free flight to London, and did the same for *James'* retinue — four RCMP members. On October 22, 1998, a very cool *James* boarded the Air Canada aircraft: no fuss, no muss, and never once en route did he complain about the food or the service. In London, accommodation for RCMP personnel was provided by Canada's High Commission and Buckingham Palace. Some of the other minor costs were covered by Public Works Canada. Commissioner Murray, en route home from an Interpol conference, stopped off in London to make the presentation.

James, renamed *Saint James* by Prince Charles, was given his original name by ten-year-old Darren Krewski of Ottawa, as a result of his winning an essay contest naming the newest RCMP foal. Darren wanted the horse to be named after his late grandfather, Reg. No. 11023, S/Sgt. William (Bill) Thomas James, who joined the RCMP in 1931 and retired in 1959, at Ottawa. Serving member, Reg. No. 26486, Cst. Richard (Dick) Robinson, is a nephew of S/Sgt. Bill James, and is currently serving at Cranbrook, in "E" Division, British Columbia.

Because of his warm acceptance by Queen Elizabeth, his quiet yet bold and inquisitive nature, his eye pleasing conformation and his reliability and versatility, *James*, provides further evidence of the success of the RCMP horse breeding program at Pakenham. As did his predecessors, *James* served with the Musical Ride and was graded "most reliable." But even with this form of conditioning to crowds and noise, *James* was given a further six months of training by Cpl. Stewart before being presented to Her Majesty.

MPF Horse Auction

The value of RCMP bred horses — which are fit for a Queen — is becoming known worldwide, as evidenced at the most recent horse auction held at the RCMP stables, at Rockcliffe, in September 1999. The word is out that the purchase of RCMP bred horses is a valuable investment. The third RCMP/MPF biannual horse auction brought in more than $300,000. These monies will be ploughed back into the RCMP's horse breeding program.

"Saturday, September 18, 1999, was a win/win day for all concerned: the RCMP, the Mounted Police Foundation (MPF), the successful bidders, and the sold horses going to caring and loving new owners," said S/Sgt. Ken Maclean, coordinator of the horse auction.

The horses — all RCMP bred — varied in age and level of training. Some had served in the world-famous RCMP Musical Ride. *Jake*, an eight-year-old black gelding who had been with the Musical Ride, and is a half-brother to *Saint James*, commanded the highest bid at $37,500. Seventeen horses were sold; five going to new owners in the United States. The average bid was $17,600 per horse — $10,000 higher than the average price at the last auction in 1997. RCMP members and their families are not permitted to bid on the horses.

For the most part, horses presented for bid were either smaller than 16 hands or larger than 17 hands. Horses used in the RCMP Musical Ride are close to 16.5 hands, and are all pure black; several of the horses put up for sale at the auction were not pure black. The next RCMP/MPF horse auction is scheduled to take place in the fall of 2001.

The Mounted Police Foundation (MPF)

Based in Ottawa, the MPF was incorporated in June 1994. Its Board of Directors, made up of nine volunteers from various professions, assists the RCMP Commissioner in safeguarding the commercial use of the RCMP image. Beginning January 1, 2000, the MPF will directly assume responsibility for the licensing program. The program had been managed by Walt Disney (Canada) Ltd., under a five-year contract with the MPF. This contract will be completed on December 31, 1999.

"We, at MPF, have learned much about licensing from working with Disney Canada over the past five years," said Marc Desjardins, General Manager of MPF, "and the MPF has gained the experience and knowledge it needs to directly manage and assume all aspects of the licensing program itself."

Funds generated through the RCMP product licensing program will continue to be used to further the work of RCMP policing, public relations, the RCMP horse breeding program, and the Musical Ride. The MPF also organizes the biannual public auction at which horses, not required by the RCMP, are turned over to the MPF for sale.

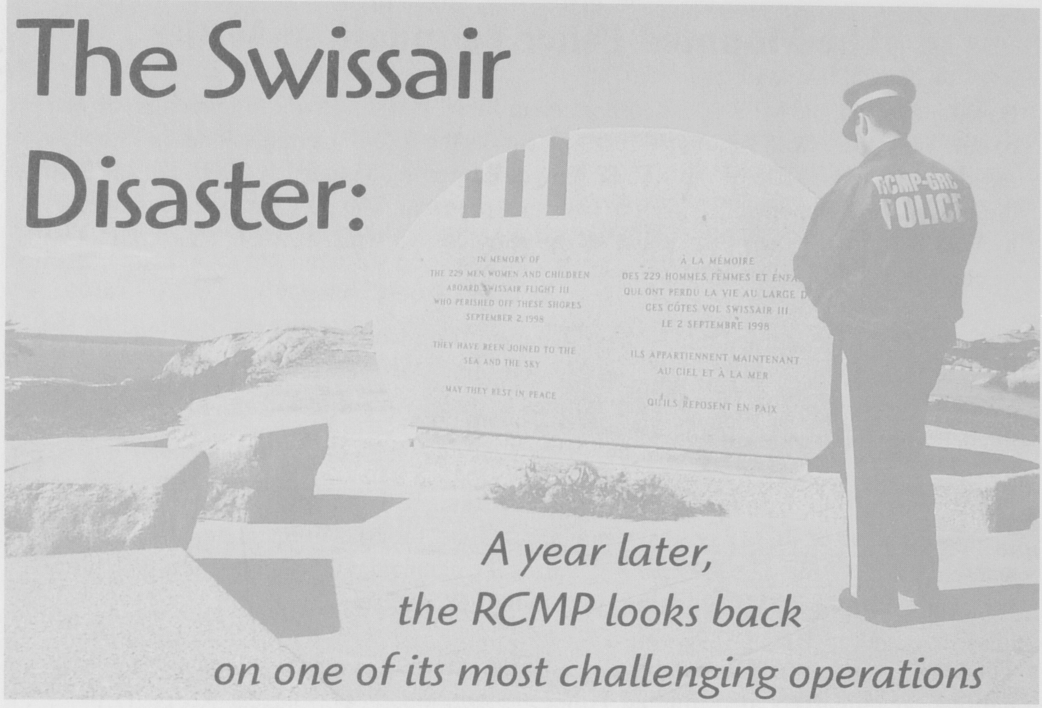
The MPF is a registered, charitable organization. Donations may be made through MPF's national headquarters at: Mounted Police Foundation, 214 Montréal Road, Suite 100, Ottawa, Ontario, K1L 8L8. Tax receipts will be issued.

(Photo 1, L-R): Commissioner Murray, Sgt. Gerry Mayo on Jake, Mr. R. Pearl, Jake's new owner, at the September 1999 RCMP Horse Auction, at Rockcliffe. (Photo 2): Fred Coates of Nicholasville, Kentucky, new owner of McLeod, displaying the Certificate of Authenticity signed by Commissioner Murray. (Photo 3, L-R): Sgt. M. Robblee, Stable Manager John Phillips showing Lincoln.

Photos courtesy of MPF

The "Quarterly" would like to express its appreciation to the undermentioned for their kind cooperation and assistance in the preparation of this article: S/Sgt. Ken Maclean, Marc Desjardins, Bruce Parr, and Janice Burrows, former "Quarterly" production assistant. — Editor ❖

The Swissair Disaster:



A year later, the RCMP looks back on one of its most challenging operations

By D.L. Tencer and C.B. Evans

On September 2, 1998, Swissair Flight 111 took off from New York's JFK Airport at 20:18 Eastern Time, bound for Geneva. Fifty-six minutes after takeoff, as the eight-year-old MD-11 jet approached Canadian airspace, the cockpit began to fill with smoke. Pilot Urs Zimmerman and co-pilot Stephan Loew scrambled to keep the aircraft aloft. They issued a distress call — "Pan! Pan! Pan!" — to an air traffic controller in Moncton, New Brunswick. The call meant the situation was urgent, but they still had control of the plane. The pilots requested permission to make an emergency landing in Boston, Massachussets, and steered the plane in that direction, but air traffic controllers told them Halifax was closer, only 67 km away. The pilots steered toward their new destination. Five minutes after the crew reported smoke, they took the plane down from its cruising altitude of 33,000 feet and dumped 208 tonnes of fuel over Margaret's Bay. The jet fuel sprayed out the plane's wingtips. Five minutes later, the crew declared an emergency. Moments later, the aircraft's transponder, which automatically transmits its identity and altitude, stopped functioning. At 22:30 Atlantic Time, at about 8,000 feet, the plane, carrying 215 passengers and 14 crew members, disappeared from radar screens.

It was one of those nights at the "H" Division Operational Communications Centre (OCC) in Halifax where nothing major was going on other than fielding calls about disturbances, minor accidents and motor vehicle checks from members on the road. But just after 22:30, they answered a call from the Rescue Co-ordination Centre that would alter the routine for days to come. Normally a calm, collected person despite the emergency nature of many of his calls, the dispatcher couldn't keep the rising panic from his voice as he alerted the OCC that a plane, reporting smoke in the cockpit, had disappeared from radar.

Telecoms quickly asked the RCMP Detachments near the co-ordinates of the plane's distress call — Chester and Tantallon — to check for signs of a passenger plane in trouble. Strangely, no 911 calls had come in reporting anything unusual in the area where the plane had disappeared prior to the dispatcher's call. For a full 15 minutes, no other word came in. Then the floodgates opened — and hundreds of calls continued to pour in for days.

Once word began to spread, officials from John F. Kennedy Airport phoned, and calls from the FBI, the Prime Minister's Office, U.S. law enforcement agencies and dozens of reporters and journalists all seeking details. In the next 48 hours, calls from the families of the victims began to pour in.

"It was bedlam, but everybody played their part," recalls OCC Operator Debbie Wilson. One team member "went scurrying for the contingency plan for air crashes, but found it was written for the land side. This crash wasn't on land. The plane was missing at sea."

Indeed it was. Flight 111 had crashed from the fog into the dark of the Atlantic Ocean, into water 50 m deep and 15° C — cold, but not icy. The passengers and crew were about 50 km — seven to 10 minutes — away from the Halifax airport when they went down. The force of the impact sprayed debris over two kilometres, about seven nautical miles from the coastal community of Peggy's Cove, a town that would soon be known around the world.

September 2, 1998, was a particularly stormy night. Sheets of rain pounded the Halifax area. At 23:30, Cst. Dave Crouse who was on duty at Tantallon Detachment that night, telephoned S/Sgt. Keith McGuire at home, in Halifax, to break the news that a plane had crashed somewhere off Peggy's Cove.

S/Sgt. McGuire immediately called Insp. Wayne Pilgrim, OIC, Halifax Detachment; Sgt. Gord Barnett of the Major Crime Unit, Sgt. Alphonse (Phonse) MacNeil, Tantallon OPS NCO; members of the Tantallon General Investigation Section (GIS), and all personnel not currently on shift in Tantallon Detachment, including two Public Service Employees. By 2:00, S/Sgt. McGuire and his team arrived at Peggy's Cove where they decided to set up shop based on information from Telecoms and the public. S/Sgt. McGuire took command of the site at Peggy's Cove when Insp. Pilgrim went onboard the HMCS *Preserver*."

As site commander, S/Sgt. McGuire was responsible for co-ordinating the onshore ground search and rescue activities, the helicopter and agency small boat traffic, logistics, media relations, community relations, family relations, crowd control and site security, personnel deployment, scheduling and feeding, and more. The site management team included representatives from the Canadian Coast Guard, the Transportation Safety Board, National Defence, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Red Cross disaster relief, the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO), the Halifax Regional Fire Department, the Employee Assistance Program, Ground Search & Rescue, and RCMP and Public Service support personnel.

The first search-and-rescue volunteers to arrive in Peggy's Cove had only to look about them to realize the magnitude of the job that lay ahead. Within 90 minutes of the crash, the ocean around Peggy's Cove and neighbouring St. Margaret's Bay was flooded by navy warships, military aircraft, Coast Guard and RCMP patrol boats. The searchers' nostrils burned with jet fuel, and their hearts thumped with anticipation of rescuing wounded passengers. But it was not to be. No one survived.

At first, searchers thought that with so many people on board they would be dealing with various stages of injuries. All they saw were all these body parts and their focus changed.

The searchers would spend two months scouring the 280 km of shoreline and 365 islands surrounding the crash site for what remained of Swissair's passengers, crew and plane.

In the first 24 hours, most of the debris was isolated to the crash site and hadn't begun drifting to shore. "That time gave us the opportunity to put a management system in place," said Cst. Everett Densmore, "H" Division's Ground Search and Rescue Coordinator.

The RCMP provided all direction for the search-and-rescue effort. By the morning of September 4, the initial team of some 60 volunteers had grown to 300 registered EMO volunteers and 300 military personnel. One of the reasons for the operation's success was the rapport that developed between the search teams and the Land Forces Atlantic Area personnel. "Captain Doug Holland [the military liaison officer] was constantly translating acronyms and terminology for us," said Cst. Densmore. "It kept the lines of communication open and helped everything run very smoothly." Cst. Dave Pike worked as liaison officer with the military. Cst. John Berry was the incident commander with the volunteers.

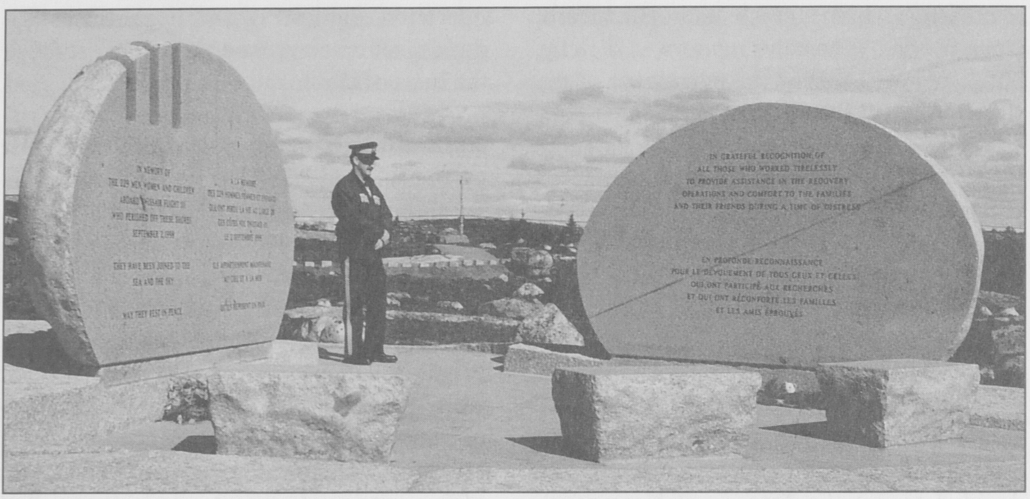
Through this operation, some 1,400 trained volunteers scoured the southern shores of the province eight to ten times. The searches were not conducted at random, but depended on a number of factors. "Every time the weather changed, we had to consider our next move," Cst. Densmore recalled. "That time of year meant not only changes to air and water temperature, winds and weather, but also to the currents. We had to take into account all kinds of conditions. Instinct became part of it."

In the first nine days, volunteers collected 2,000 kg of human remains and 5,000 kg of debris. While collecting human remains was very difficult for many volunteers, the personal effects were far more traumatic. The determination to preserve the victims' personal effects seemed to be instinctive. A crew member from a Canadian Coast Guard ship, the *Mary Hichens,* found a child's sneaker in the water. Ship commander Captain James Dockrill said, "The man was holding the child's shoe and he wouldn't hand it over until an officer guaranteed that the shoe would go home. This was the way people had to deal with things. It was very emotional."

"I think the work of the volunteers was greatly underappreciated," said Cst. Densmore. "These people worked side by side with paid workers without complaining. In fact, the greatest challenge was making sure the volunteers were properly equipped. A lot of these people were used to working with nothing and it sometimes took them a long time for them to tell us they needed something."

The residents of Peggy's Cove and surrounding communities were also very supportive, pitching in to support the hundreds of volunteers who had come to help and were far from home. "Finding places for these people to sleep was really one of our greatest challenges," Cst. Densmore said. The command centre had 60 beds and sometimes had to accommodate up to 200 volunteers. A number of the volunteers were from the Halifax Regional Municipality area, but many others were from other parts of the province. As well, two busloads of volunteers were brought in from New Brunswick. Residents of Peggy's Cove and surrounding areas responded to the challenge by opening their homes to 80% of the volunteers, giving them a place to sleep off their daily toil.

Nova Scotians are no strangers to disaster. The province's history is filled with Nova Scotians responding to disasters: the sinking of the *Titanic* in 1912, the Halifax explosion in 1917. In April 1873, only about 20 km from where the jet crashed, fishing boats rushed to the site of the wreck of the *S.S. Atlantic,* a forerunner of the ill-fated *Titanic.* It's a story eerily similar to the Swissair flight, even to the hopeless struggle to find survivors.



Cst. Brad Reid, Tantallon Detachment, with newly erected commemorative plaques erected overlooking Margaret's Bay, at Peggy's Cove.

Photos obtained from Karen Rockwell

Two days after the crash, family members began arriving at Peggy's Cove in groups of 90 to a bus every hour and a half. In total, more than 1,500 people in a two-day period would came to see the place near where they lost friends and loved ones. RCMP Media Relations and Employee Assistance personnel formed partnerships with the Red Cross and chaplains to deal with the families. By September 5, S/Sgt. McGuire and his team decided to erect military tents where the families could be briefed. They also cordoned off an area of the rocky shore near the lighthouse for the families. There, away from the camera lenses and microphones, grieving families and friends could pick up pebbles, fill small vials with sea water, throw flowers in the ocean, or simply stand in silence, gazing out at the sea.

Several weeks later, residents and officials collected the hundreds of roses, carnations and black-eyed Susans left at the base of the Peggy's Cove lighthouse and put them on a small ocean-going vessel. "We didn't want to just toss them aside," said Cst. Brad Reid. "We wanted to do something more significant... in a manner that everyone would probably accept as fitting." The flowers were released into the ocean, to float over the wreck of Swissair Flight 111.

The search effort at Peggy's Cove had a strong emotional impact on all those involved. At a memorial service held on September 9, 1998, American Claire Mortimer, who lost her father John, and stepmother Hilda in the crash, had special words for the fishers, firefighters and paramedics who searched for the remains of strangers in the dark waters. "I especially want to thank the people of these local communities who got out of bed on that terrible night of September 2 — those of you who, without thinking, put on your boots and grabbed flashlights and got in your boats and went out into the night to search for our loved ones. Your grace, your generosity and your compassion mean so much to us. Your sacrifices have not gone unnoticed. Your outpouring of help will never be forgotten."

The police investigation into the crash of Flight 111 began almost immediately after the tragedy struck. Insp. Pat McCloskey was watching the CTV National News at 23:00 on September 2. The newscast had just begun when there was a noticeable change in the planned script. "I remember Lloyd Robertson looking down and reading a very short news item: 'There has been a report of

a passenger plane crash near Blandford, Nova Scotia...' The news report was sketchy, but somehow I sensed the magnitude of the situation," said Insp. McCloskey.

Insp. McCloskey immediately contacted C/Supt. Steve Duncan, OIC, Criminal Operations, and they agreed to meet at Headquarters as soon as possible. Less than an hour had passed since the crash and already the OCC was overwhelmed with calls from as far away as Japan and Australia. No amount of additional personnel in the OCC would help as all the phone lines were in use. C/Supt. Duncan and Insp. McCloskey decided to get the Divisional Emergency Operations Centre (DEOC) up and running without further delay.

The DEOC — a self-contained facility within the "H" Division HQ building — houses computer work stations, phone lines, fax, photocopier, and features work rooms, sleeping quarters, food storage and separate climate control equipment. The DEOC had been built for the G7 summit held in Halifax in June 1995, but had seen limited use since. "It's an expensive piece of real estate that can sit idle at times," admitted Insp. McCloskey, "but the crash of Flight 111 showed how essential its existence really is."

That night, the RCMP opened telephone lines, contacted area hospitals, contacted members to set up roadblocks at Peggy's Cove and opened lines of communication with the Military, the Canadian Coast Guard, the EMO, the Chief Medical Examiner and the airlines. Around 6:00 on September 3, a request was made to have Division stores open to obtain exhibit tags, bags and contamination suits. The investigation into the crash of Flight 111 was underway.

C/Supt. Duncan assigned Insp. Wayne Pilgrim to act as scene commander, and Insp. McCloskey to coordinate the operation with Nova Scotia's chief medical examiner. C/Supt. Duncan assumed responsibility as officer in charge of the operation right away and began to assign duties, set up command posts and establish the lines of command.

According to C/Supt. Duncan, the best move he made in the investigation was accepting an offer from the New York Ports Authority to send one of its members to Peggy's Cove for a week to track down cargo manifests and gave unlimited advice based on his experience with the TWA Flight 800 crash. C/Supt. Duncan said that working with other agencies, like the transportation safety board (TSB), Coast Guard, National Defence and provincial coroners' office was a learning experience. And though balancing the protocols of each was sometimes difficult, he says their co-operation was absolutely essential. "While each agency had different mandates and different methods of doing business, we were all interdependent," he said. "There was a harmony, a cadence, that seemed to go through the entire investigation."

Insp. Andy Lathem, a member of the team investigating the crash, adds that it became obvious very early into the investigation that it didn't matter whether someone was from the RCMP, TSB or DND. "We became homogenized into the Swissair investigation team. It was the collective work of everyone that brought the investigation to the level it is at today."

The RCMP's primary role was to assist the TSB in their investigation and to ensure that the integrity of the exhibits and the victims' remains was maintained. On September 3, when TSB staff arrived on the scene, a well-organized personnel and logistical support system was already in place. Three investigators from RCMP HQ in Ottawa, who arrived the same day, were able to offer advice based on their experience with the Air India investigation.

The recovery efforts spanned several phases and involved the participation of the Canadian Armed Forces, United States Navy, RCMP, Ground Search and Rescue person-

nel and local fishers. One phase of this recovery effort involved the use of a salvage barge staffed by over 100 RCMP members divided into teams augmented by members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Coast Guard, TSB and local fire fighters, and supported by other government departments and civilian personnel. This effort, planned and coordinated under the supervision of Insp. Lathem and Sgt. Barnett, involved recovering debris from the ocean floor by means of a crane mounted on an offshore exploration ship, placing it on the deck of a barge moored alongside, manual sorting by team personnel, and finally transferring the debris to the jetty at CFB Shearwater.

In order to lessen communication and data-sharing problems, a centralized location was established in Hangar A, at CFB Shearwater, for the aircraft recovery and reconstruction investigation. The location, adjacent to the temporary morgue at Hangar B, provided the space required to examine, document and catalogue thousands of plane parts and items of personal property. Throughout this process, forensic identification specialists and teams of investigators photographed more than 22,000 items. These are now stored on CD ROM for further analysis. In addition, many thousands of exhibits were recorded by investigators and data entry personnel on a computer program created for this purpose by Cpl. Shelley Emmerson, "H" Division IMS. The team conducting the investigation is led by TSB staff and composed of RCMP, National Transportation Safety Board (USA), Swissair and Boeing investigators and experts.

Within a few days of the crash, family members of the victims came to Hangar A to see the personal effects. Special tents and display areas were erected in order to better display these items, most of which were fragmented and soaked in jet fuel. RCMP members were on hand, in bio-hazard suits and rubber gloves, to show family members the exhibits. "It had the air of a mausoleum really; it was emotionally overwhelming," says Insp. Lathem. In the midst of this emotional experience, the family members recognized the RCMP's difficult job. "So many families came up to us and expressed sympathy for the job the RCMP had to do. Imagine — expressing sympathy for us."

The violence of the September 2 crash meant that investigators had to rely on human-tissue analysis and DNA identification as never before. As head of DNA operations for the RCMP, Dr. Ron Fourney was in charge of constructing family trees and analysing personal effects for biological clues to the identities of the 229 victims. The task was complicated and time-consuming. Although he never met the relatives of the victims, he felt as if he had worked with them "10 hours a day" for weeks. DNA specialists analysed everything from toothbrushes to hairbrushes, shavers, clothing and even baby soothers. By December, all 229 persons on board Flight 111 had been identified from approximately 1,500 DNA samples at labs in Regina, Ottawa, Vancouver and Halifax.

DNA analysis helped after the crash of TWA Flight 800 off Long Island, New York, in 1996, but experts used only 300 to 400 DNA samples. It took 14 months to identify the victims of that crash, but technological advances sharply shortened the time needed to identify the Swissair victims. The RCMP wrote a software program to sort out the thousands of possible relationships among Swissair victims, who hailed from 12 different countries. "[This case] will undoubtedly be used as a landmark," said Dr. Fourney, adding that forensics experts everywhere were interested in the case.

On May 14, 1999, RCMP Commissioner J.P.R. Murray made a very special presentation in Halifax to more than 4,000 employees of the RCMP who participated either directly or indirectly in the Swissair investigation, both on the front lines and in Detachments, laboratories and offices across the country. This was the first time that a Commissioner's Commendation was presented to a group of employees rather

than an individual. It was a reflection of the collaborative spirit that existed throughout the investigation. The commendation will be proudly displayed at the front entrance of "H" Division Headquarters in Halifax.

Remembering Swissair Victims

On September 1, 1999, a ceremony was held to commemorate the 229 people killed in the crash of Swissair Flight 111. The villages along the coast were turned upside down again when hundreds of family members swarmed the rocks to remember their dead. The satellite trucks and cell phones returned to cover the memorial services and the mass burial of passengers whose bodies were so broken and mangled by the crash that they could not be identified. The influx was bound to be unsettling for the people who live along this haunted shore.

A monument was unveiled dedicated to the victims and the people who tried to rescue them. The Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the Swiss Confederation attended the ceremony and shook the hands of the families who lost loved ones in this tragedy.

The crash and its aftermath will have terrible effects that could take years to manifest. This memorial was to help some people recover from the tragedy. Spiritual leaders and grief counsellors spoke of closure, expecting the ceremonies and official gatherings to put a final seal on the disaster. For the rescuers who had tried in vain to find survivors could not really fathom how damaged everything was, the experience had been traumatic. Therapists and counsellors have had to help guide these volunteer search and rescue workers through the unexpected grief of finding bodies instead of survivors after the crash.

Near the end of this ceremony held at Whalesback, overlooking Margaret's Bay, Insp. Andy Arsenault stepped to the microphone and sang, "Love will be our legacy. When dreams get tossed, we'll share the cost and lay the roses on the rocks." As he sang before an estimated 650 people, Robert Conrad, one of the first fishers at the scene of the crash laid a rose against the monument — a granite boulder split in two and bearing the dedication to the crash victims and the Nova Scotians who worked in the recovery effort. Mr. Conrad was followed by representatives from the Canadian Coast Guard, the Canadian Military and families of the victims.

We wish to thank the following sources for contributing material to this article: "Pony Express" (Brenda Zanin, Nicolas Lévesque, Joanna Kerr), Stephanie Richardson, and last, but not least, Kim Gildner. ❖

Golden Quill Award

The RCMP is a co-winner of the Golden Quill Award, recognizing excellence in communication. As a member of the Nova Scotia team, the RCMP and others, were recognized for their communication response to Swiss Air Flight 111. The team was recignized by the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) for Crisi Communication in the Government, associations, and not-for-profit division. Of 1,639 entries received from 17 countries, the Communication Team was one of only 129 communicators to win gold in the 1999 Golden Quill Award.

Richardson's V.C.

By Cpl. J. Paul Richards
"A" Division War Crimes Section

Of all the chapters of the RCMP's 125 years of history, the enigmatic and ultimately tragic story of Arthur Richardson's Victoria Cross for bravery in 1900, is probably one of the lesser known. This is perhaps because Richardson earned the Victoria Cross while serving in a different unit during the South African war, a campaign far removed from Canadian history and the evolution of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. It is a story in which the pressure of fame associated with bravery proved as personally disastrous as the shame associated with cowardice, and Richardson's own human weakness led him to his own destruction.

The Victoria Cross (V.C.) is described as "the premier gallantry award in the world. It was instituted by Queen Victoria on February 3, 1856, to reward officers and men alike for gallant service in the Crimean campaign against the Russians. The medal could be awarded only to those officers or men who served the Queen in the presence of the enemy, and shall have then performed some single act of valour, or devotion to their country. Neither rank nor long service, nor wounds, nor any other circumstance or condition whatsoever, save the merit of conspicuous bravery shall be held to establish sufficient claim to the honour."[1] The Victoria Cross medal is a bronze cross patee with raised edges, 38 mm across, made from the cannons captured from the Russians during the Crimean War. A Royal Crown adorns the centre of the cross, surmounted by a lion guardant. Below is a scroll bearing the inscription: FOR VALOUR. The ribbon is also 38 mm wide and is crimson in colour.

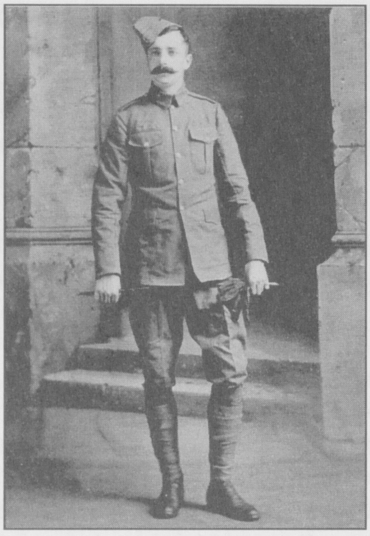
Courtesy Canadian War Museum

Recipients of the Victoria Cross medal are allowed to use the post nominal letters "V.C." Since 1993, Canada established a Canadian Victorian Cross, which is styled exactly the same as the original V.C., except for the Latin inscription on the scroll: PRO VALORE.[2] It is one of the foremost symbols of bravery in the world.

Arthur Herbert Lindsay Richardson, nicknamed "Tappy," emigrated to Canada from his birthplace of Liverpool, England, in 1873. His service file indicates that he had been a dentist in England. On arriving in Canada, he took a job as a ranch hand in Stoney Mountain, Manitoba. His letter of recommendation from the owner of the ranch, dated May 3, 1894, accompanying his application for the North West Mounted Police (NWMP), described him of "excellent character" and suggested to the NWMP Commissioner that Richardson was a "sober, industrious and painstaking individual." The letter also noted that Richardson was person-

[1]Surgeon Commander Francis John Blatherwick, *1000 Brave Canadians*, Unitrade Press, Toronto, Ontario, 1991, p. 14
[2]Surgeon Commander F.J. Blatherwick, *Canadian Orders, Decorations and Medals*, Unitrade Press, Toronto, Ontario, 1994, pp. 41–42

ally known to former Commissioner A.G. Irvine. On May 7, 1894, Reg. No. 3058, Cst. A.H.L. Richardson, was engaged for the initial period of five years and was posted to Battleford, Saskatchewan, for general patrol and police duties. His initial success in the NWMP resulted in his re-engagement on May 7, 1899, for a period of three years, at the rank of corporal.



Courtesy Lord Strathcona's Horse Museum

In 1900, Lord Strathcona provided the funds to raise and equip a regiment of cavalry for service in South Africa, based in Calgary, Alberta. Sound horsemen adapted to harsh climates were recruited among the ranks of the NWMP and from the ranches of western Canada. Command of the regiment was offered to Supt. Samuel Steele, who had achieved prominence in the NWMP during the Yukon Gold Rush, as well as during the North West Rebellion of 1885. Supt. Steele took his leave from the NWMP and became Colonel Sam Steele of the Lord Strathcona's Horse Cavalry Regiment (Royal Canadians).

As the war in South Africa broke out, the opportunity to enlist with the Army came and Richardson took it. When recruitment began, men like Richardson who had proved their abilities as police officers in the NWMP on the Prairies, jumped at the opportunity to serve in the South African War. Most, like Richardson, took their leave from the Force and were instantly recruited into the Strathconas as preparations for war began. Final preparations were completed on February 25, 1900, and on March 18, 537 officers and men as well as 599 horses sailed from Halifax, Nova Scotia, for Cape Town, South Africa — with Sgt. Richardson among them. The combination of NWMP and Prairie cowboys was the perfect match for the new style of warfare they would encounter half a world away.

The origins of the South African War (or "Boer War" as it was popularly called) were found in the dispute between the Dutch-descent Boer farmers and the English workers and settlers in the Transvaal and Orange Free States of South Africa. The Gold Rush of 1886 in this area, much like the one in the Yukon in the same period, brought many immigrants seeking fortunes and wanting to settle in the area. The Boers were concerned that they would be overwhelmed by the influx of people into the area, and they denied voting rights to the *uitlanders* or "outsiders" in an attempt to ensure that the strictly religious Boer way of life was preserved. Combined with heavy taxation of non-Boers, the British Government sought to intervene where business interests were concerned, and the wealth of the new-found gold fields created pressure on the British Government to act against the Boers.[3] Tension spilled over to violence, and war began in earnest between the British and Boer farmers in 1899.

In Canada, the war created political tension for the government of Wilfred Laurier, as many English-Canadians saw a Canadian military commitment as an Imperial necessity, while French-Canadians generally viewed any Imperial or colonial behaviour with suspicion. Laurier was able to overcome these difficulties by supporting the merits of voting and human rights. Many, like Richardson, who were in the service of the Queen, felt it their duty to go to war in South Africa.

[3]Brereton Greenhous, *We Stand On Guard*, Ovale Publications, Montréal, Quebec, 1992, p. 55

The war on the South African veldt turned out to be a brutal one, and the Boers were experienced horsemen and hunters in the harsh climate. British troops encountered many setbacks early on, as the Boers used previously unknown tactics such as firing from cover and other strategies unconventional for the time. The small units of Boer cavalry were called *commandos* — from which the term was adopted to its present-day use — and they proved to be highly effective in defeating conventional armies. As the war carried on into 1900, Canada continued to contribute troops, and a special need emerged for highly trained Canadians, skilled in horsemanship and fighting in a harsh climate, to meet the Boer cavalry on equal terms. In short, men of the NWMP like Arthur Richardson were the perfect choice to carry out this difficult assignment.

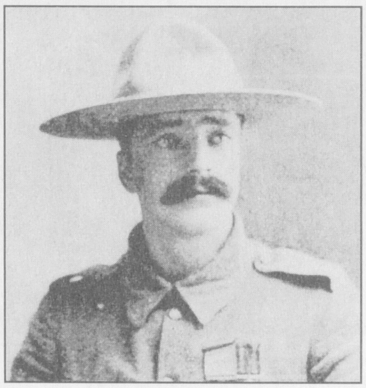
When Steele and the men of the Strathcona's arrived in Cape Town on April 10, 1900, they faced immediate difficulty because 120 of their horses had died en route to South Africa. It was apparent to Steele that the Regiment needed horses acclimatized to the harsh conditions and that the men equally needed further training on the veldt to match their Boer opponents. Local horses were purchased and Steele soon found the Strathconas were ready to fight the commandos. The Strathconas soon earned a reputation as equals amongst both their own troops and the enemy, and they were soon serving as lead scouts for the Imperial troops, engaging the enemy first and often with consequent casualties.

Sgt. Richardson was separated from the Strathconas while recovering from a broken leg. As he was leading a section of recruits up to join the Regiment, on July 5, 1900, at Wolve Spruit north of Standerton, the section was surprised by an ambush of 80 Boers. Having learned the tactic of withdrawal to safe ground to entrap the ambushers, the riders began to withdraw under fire in good order. One of Sgt. Richardson's colleagues, Cpl. McArthur was wounded by Boer rifle fire twice; his horse had been shot and killed instantly. It appeared as if Cpl. McArthur was going to be captured as the Boers raced down toward the wounded cavalryman's position. Sgt. Richardson rode back to the position under heavy fire from the Boers, using his skill as a horseman to ride to the wounded man, pick him up and lay him across his saddle.

Courtesy Lord Strathcona's Horse Museum

Although Sgt. Richardson's own horse was shot as well and many of the Boer bullets were beginning to find their mark, he returned safely to his own lines with Cpl. McArthur, sporting numerous bullet holes in his uniform as testament to the shower of bullets he faced. Richardson's horse, exhausted by the effort and wounds, died shortly after returning to safety.

Sgt. Richardson's efforts were exemplary of fighting spirit and horsemanship of a rare



Courtesy Canadian War Museum

degree. When the events of July 5 were reported back to Headquarters, Sgt. Richardson was recommended for the Victoria Cross for the bravery displayed that day, and was subsequently awarded the V.C. This was the first time that the V.C. had been awarded to a member of a Canadian unit.

The citation for his medal read as follows;

On the 5th of July, 1900, at Wolve Spruit about fifteen miles north of Standerton, a party of Lord Strathcona's Corps, only 38 in number, came into contact, and was engaged at close quarters, with a force of 80 of the enemy. When the order to retire had been given, Sergeant Richardson rode back under heavy cross-fire and picked up a trooper whose horse had been shot and who was wounded in two places and rode with him out of fire. At the time that this act of gallantry was performed, Serjeant Richardson was within 300 yards of the enemy, and was himself riding a wounded horse.[4]

Sgt. Richardson returned home to Canada after receiving his discharge from the Strathconas on March 15, 1901. In Colonel Steele's report to the Commissioner on the activities of members of the Force in South Africa, he noted that Richardson "*was awarded the VC for gallantry in the field. He is in every way a credit to the North West Mounted Police.*" Richardson also attended the 1902 Coronation celebration of King Edward VII, where he received a Coronation medal to add to his V.C. and his South Africa Service Medal.

Courtesy Lord Strathcona's Horse Museum

The fame of Richardson's V.C., however, also seemed to mark the beginning of his difficulties. On his return to the Force, his service in the Strathconas was combined with his prior service in the NWMP. On May 7, 1902, he was re-engaged as a sergeant for another period of three years; by now he had both a wife and child to support. Richardson began asking that his V.C. and prior service allow him to obtain a Queen's Commission in the Mounted Police. He went so far as to personally write the Commissioner and his Member of Parliament on the matter, stating he had been promised a commission by a senior non-commissioned officer for the sum of $500. Richardson was told that his continued efforts within the Force would be recognized and that although a commission was possible, no commission was automatically forthcoming with a V.C.

Another difficulty that emerged was one of debt. As early as his trip back from South Africa, Richardson was borrowing large sums of money and not repaying. Solicitors representing borrowers began writing the Force with demand letters, and Richardson seemed little inclined to pay back what he had borrowed. This did did seem to interfere with his career, and Richardson was promoted to sergeant major in Battleford, in 1903. A year later, he was recommended for the commission he had demanded three years earlier, and things appeared to be going well despite the difficulties with money. On May 7, 1905, S/M Richardson was re-engaged again for another three years, but his health suddenly began to cause him trouble. A seemingly endless array of health problems emerged and he was eventually given leave to "*take in the mountain air*" at Banff with his wife. However, he found financial difficulties again, in that the Force paid his meals and lodging, but would not pay for the medical treatment.

The treatment seemed to do little for S/M Richardson, and on his return to Saskatchewan, he was continuously sick and miss-

[4]Blatherwick, *1000 Brave Canadians*, p. 19

ing duty, at times also caring for his wife who was noted to be sick as well. This resulted in serious problems: the lack of a sergeant major and regular inspections meant that constables went on patrol improperly prepared. Letters between Regina and the Officer Commanding of Battleford noted that, at times, members were going on patrol without firearms or proper ammunition.

Richardson began demanding a post as a Detachment Commander at the rank of sergeant major — namely at the new Detachment at Radisson, Saskatchewan — as a suitable post. As a result, Richardson was cited for insubordination because his letter had a *"demanding tone"* of his superiors and the Commissioner. He further lobbied for a Quartermaster post, as this would enable him to rest. However, Richardson had fallen out of favour with both his superiors and the Commissioner, and such a transfer was not recommended. He was considered unfit for his duties as sergeant major, and Regina was informed of this on January 9, 1907.

Finally, despite pressure from the Officer Commanding at Battleford, and the Commissioner's final consent for a transfer to a Quartermaster post in March 1907, Richardson purchased his discharge on November 12, 1907, for the sum of $50 to compensate for his last year. The sum was secured by a bank and Richardson, it seemed, had moved on by securing a post as town constable at Indian Head, in southern Saskatchewan.

On February 24, 1908, the mayor of Indian Head wrote to the Commissioner asking for help in the matter of their new town constable. It seemed that Richardson and his wife were living on the welfare rolls of the town and that the municipal officials felt he could not do his duties and that there were no duties *"in which he could be trusted."* This seemingly odd comment was clarified by the mayor when he stated that both Richardson and his wife were opium addicts, and sadly, they had become destitute.

There was little the Commissioner could do at this point. It was pointed out to the mayor of Indian Head that the Force had done all it could for Richardson. It seemed that Richardson expected special treatment upon his return to the Force and that he seemed unable to live up to the public expectations placed upon a recipient of the V.C. Letters from the Minister of the Interior addressed to the Commissioner similarly regarded the fate of Richardson as a national shame. Responding that the *"decoration was more than he could carry,"* the Force stated that it had done all it could do to help him, and noted his difficulties with debt and superiors. By 1909, Richardson had returned to Liverpool, where his wife died a year later.

This did not end the sad story of Richardson, which now took a bizarre twist. The Commissioner was contacted by the Chief Constable of Liverpool, shortly after Richardson's arrival in England. The Chief Constable asked for clarification on the events surrounding Richardson leaving the Force. The letter explained that Richardson was living on the city's welfare rolls, and that he had made representation to a Boer War veteran's committee for funds. Richardson had alleged in his submission that he had been improperly dismissed from the Force for pointing out incom-

DEATH OF "SHY V.C."

WORKED AS TRAMWAY GANGER AND CINEMA ATTENDANT.

A remarkable story is recalled by the death in Mill Road Hospital, Liverpool, of Sergt. Richardson, known as the "Shy V.C."

Richardson, who won the Victoria Cross at Wolverspruit, South Africa; in 1900, worked for sixteen years in Liverpool as a tramway ganger, cinema attendant, and at other menial jobs.

On account of straitened circumstances he lived in obscurity, and allowed his relatives and friends to believe him dead. In 1913 his mother received a message from a nurse in Montreal that he was dead. He never contradicted this. He allowed a man to pose in Scotland as himself, and even permitted this man to attend the King's Garden Party to V.C.s as Sergt. Richardson.

In 1924, however, so many stories were in circulation about him that he decided to reveal himself. Since then he has continued to live in obscurity.

As a youth he went to Canada, and served fifteen years in the North-West Mounted Police. When the South African War broke out, he joined Lord Strathcona's Horse.

Courtesy Lord Strathcona's Horse Museum

petence in a superior and that, if no funding was available, the committee could secure him a job in Canada based on his "*extensive knowledge of Indian languages.*" As the sitting member of the committee, the Chief Constable pointed out that he and other members of the board suspected Richardson of being untruthful on different occasions. The office of the Commissioner responded to the Chief Constable, stating the real circumstances under which Richardson had actually bought his discharge and that his assertion of knowing Indian languages was very doubtful.

Courtesy Lord Strathcona's Horse Museum

Richardson disappeared for some time after this, but not in name. Richardson's mother received a letter in 1913, allegedly from a nurse in Montréal who stated that Richardson had died. At the same time, another man living in Scotland assumed the identity of Richardson, using the V.C. as a way of promoting himself and even attended a garden party at Buckingham Palace for V.C. recipients. This man died in 1923 and was buried with full military honours. There were so many stories circulating about Richardson at this point that he revealed himself to the press and to his family, reuniting with his mother and brother in 1924.

Strangely, the media reports of the day stated that Richardson was actually aware of the imposter and may have personally known him, but that he chose to remain anonymous due to the burden of shame he carried over his drug habit and destitute lifestyle. He lived the rest of life in obscurity in Liverpool, where he died in 1932. Richardson's grave near Liverpool was destroyed by vandals twice, and as recently as 1995. Thanks to the efforts of an amateur historian, Mr. Sid Lindsay, the grave was moved to a safer location with special mention of his V.C. that resulted in the present marker.

S/M A.H.L. Richardson remains an enigma and little is known about his background, except that he was a dentist. Many nineteenth-century opium addicts were introduced to the drug after escalating from the drug laudanum, a common sedative used in medicine and dentistry. It is possible that Richardson began using the drug while in dentistry, prior to moving up to opium in later years with his wife. In examining his NWMP medical records, it appears that many of his medical complaints and reports of the medical officers to the Commissioner mirror the typical physical ailments and habits of opium addicts at that time, and remained either undetected or unreported. If the early years in Canada had proved noteworthy for S/M Richardson, the turning point of his V.C. in South Africa seemed to be his undoing. The Victoria Cross was a medal which cast a long shadow over the life of Arthur Richardson. It was the making, and undoing, of a pioneer of Lord Strathcona's Horse and the North West Mounted Police. ❖

Covet and Cop it

A man was shot 20 times as he fled from his girlfriend's Taiwanese flat when her husband unexpectedly returned home. It was police, not the irate husband, who shot the adulterer when they mistook the man for a wanted gunman. Amazingly, the man survived.

Reprinted from *POLICE LIFE*, September 1995

Book Reviews

TALES OF A MOUNTED POLICE OFFICER: SUPERINTENDENT R. BURTON DEANE OF THE LETHBRIDGE N.W.M.P. DIVISION, 1888–1902, William M. Baker (ed), Lethbridge Historical Society, Alberta (Occasional Paper No. 33, 1999), 80 pp., illus. Available from the Lethbridge Historical Society, P.O. Box 974, Lethbridge, AB T1J 4A2.

Richard Burton Deane (1848–1930) was appointed an inspector with the North-West Mounted Police (NWMP) on July 1, 1883, and retired with the rank of superintendent on September 30, 1914. He served at a number of divisional posts in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan, but he is most closely associated with Lethbridge and surrounding area. By all accounts, Deane was an excellent commanding officer, and was probably more efficient than most of his peers. He was also an excellent writer. Divisional annual reports from commanding officers are not supposed to be literature, but Deane crafted his official reports to a level unmatched by others.

Professor William Baker of the University of Lethbridge has been interested in R.B. Deane for many years. He has published several articles on aspects of Deane's career and in 1993, he published a selection of extracts from Deane's official reports in *Pioneer Policing in Southern Alberta: Deane of the Mounties, 1888–1914* (Calgary: Alberta Historical Society, 1993). *Tales of a Mounted Police Officer* is similar in nature. Professor Baker has compiled a number of "stories" drawn from Deane's autobiography, his official reports as commanding officer and from his unpublished writings on various aspects of his career relating specifically to Lethbridge and surrounding area in the period from 1888 to about 1902. Professor Baker creates a situation where Deane is seated in his London Club in November 1915, surrounded by a group of listeners, eager to hear his stories of Mounted Police life in southern Alberta. Deane does not disappoint as he relates stories and tales on a number of subjects, including the Lethbridge area in general, the liquor problem, rascals and rogues, First Nations, economic development, customs work, cattle rustling and so on.

Deane is a wonderful story-teller, leaving the reader with a colourful glimpse of Mounted Police life in southern Alberta during his tenure as commanding officer at Lethbridge. The extracts from Deane's writings have been carefully chosen and edited, and are illustrated with more than two dozen historical photographs and illustrations. Superintendent Deane's tales are a welcome addition to the literature and history of the North-West Mounted Police, and Professor Baker can be congratulated for his fine efforts to make R.B. Deane and his writings available to a wide and appreciative readership.

Reviewed By Glenn Wright
RCMP Historian

THE KELLY TRILOGY — POLICING THE FRINGE, by William Kelly (ISBN 1-894022-30-0); ***POLICING IN WARTIME***, by William Kelly (ISBN 1-894022-31-9); ***MY MOUNTIE AND ME***, by Nora Hickson Kelly (ISBN 1-894022-29-7); Centax Books Publishing Solutions/PW Group, 1150 Eighth Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4R 1C9. Telephone: (306) 525-2304; E-mail: centax@printwest.com. Co-published by RCMP Millennium Projects

The three books by Deputy Commissioner Kelly (retired) and Mrs. Kelly focus on the period of their lives with the RCMP from 1933 to 1952. Individually the books are particularly interesting studies of the earlier days of the Force and the methods of policing then in practice, or being developed. They also outline the social and political ways and mores of these earlier days and document some of the changes that were taking place within and outside the RCMP.

Policing the Fringe, A Young Mountie's Story
This is Bill Kelly's own story of arriving in Canada from Wales at the age of 17, and leaving his family's new home in New Brunswick to join the RCMP in the midst of the Canadian Depression. His account of the training in Regina and his descriptions of fellow recruits, NCOs and officers, brings the period and the characters to life. During his six years patrolling various Detachments in Northern Saskatchewan, Cst. Kelly used every means of transportation from democrat (buggy) to float planes, to a very early "snowmobile" that was being developed at this time.

When he relates his adventures and misadventures during those six years, Bill Kelly sketches the characters with clarity and genuine affection. This concern for people struggling to survive against the elements and the economic depression in the early days of Saskatchewan is a hallmark of the book. The reader is made very aware that crimes and criminals were unique in this period. On one occasion, after smashing an illegal still with the bootlegger's own axe, Cst. Kelly walks to his cabin with the perpetrator carrying the axe. They are going to the cabin to have the lunch prepared by the bootlegger's wife, before the constable takes him off to jail.

These years of policing in an isolated region with opportunity primarily for work and study, laid the groundwork for his long and successful career. The process of becoming not only a Mountie but becoming a Canadian, forms the seamless thread of this book, which is an excellent and informing account of an individual, the Force and the country during a difficult time.

Policing in Wartime, One Mountie's Story
This volume of the Trilogy covers Bill Kelly's RCMP service in Toronto and Western Ontario from 1939 to 1947. The RCMP moved him from Saskatchewan to CIB Toronto because his experience with criminal offences was needed in Ontario during impending war. Kelly was looking forward to continuing his singing training, begun in Saskatchewan, and had hopes of a professional singing career. Although he continued studying voice when possible, the war years were spent with the Black Market Squad, which was dedicated to stopping the trade in counterfeit gas rationing coupons, food stuffs and other rationed materials vitally needed for the war effort. This ranged from baker's buying black market sugar to an international gold exporting scheme set up to circumvent the foreign exchange controls.

These episodes are written with the clarity and eye for detail of the first book. It is difficult to find any degree of sympathy for the perpetrators as one did in the earlier book. It is, in fact, distressing to be told just how widespread the practice was of cheating on rationing and on other necessary war-time regulations. The author points out that this could not have been the case without dishonest officials administering the regulations and courts giving generally lenient punishments for offences. His view of the effect of the leniency of the courts, and the role of defence officials in getting their clients off regardless of the facts of the case, on the continuation of the offences, is persuasive. Even more persuasive are the three appendices supporting this argument, "Undercover Police Work", "The Rule of Silence" and "The Philosophy of The Royal Canadian Mounted Police."

As the author continued to advance in the RCMP, he stressed being in the right place at the right time as one of the reasons for his success as a law enforcement officer. He also worked long and hard hours and took on anything asked of him by his superiors. This resulted in great professional success and some personal problems. These are covered very well by the third book in this trilogy, written by Nora Hickson Kelly.

My Mountie and Me, A True Story
Mrs. Kelly also immigrated from England. She describes the early difficult years growing up in Saskatchewan, and the way she and her widowed mother maintained as much decorum and culture in their lives as possible. This developed a love of music and literature that seems to have sustained her throughout her life. These loves led to a natural career as a teacher — one of the few careers open to women in that time. Mrs. Kelly writes with passion of the days of trying to maintain a career and a strong sense of self, despite the male dominated teaching hierarchy. Clearly, this strong sense of self did survive, enabling her to maintain her own iden-

tity after her marriage to a constable in that symbol of male hierarchy of the day, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Mrs. Kelly's descriptions of the constant household moves, the varied living quarters and loneliness she endured are very vivid. Her solutions to her problems were also unique for the times. She continued her love and exploration of music and culture. Through her writings she was able to maintain her skills and to earn her own money with her writing. She even became an historian of her rival for her husband's time: the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. There are flashes of great humour in this book. Mrs. Kelly used this humour to describe a "musicale" she and her husband attended with the Maritime Section, in Nova Scotia, that will have the reader laughing out loud. The years of her story cover years of great change in society and in personal relationships. In so many ways, Mrs. Kelly was clearly "ahead of her time."

The book ends with the Bill Kelly's posting to England in 1952, where he was in charge of Visa Control operations for two years. A good salary, a comfortable home in Surrey and tea at Buckingham Palace were all now "perks" of the job. The contrast to those early days in Saskatchewan is always in the reader's mind and, probably, very much in the Kellys' minds as they contemplate travel to Stockholm, Paris and Athens. Readers will look forward to another book recounting these years.

Each book in this trilogy stands on its own merits. Taken together, the books mesh very well to give a complete picture of time and place in the history of the country and the Force.

Reviewed by Barbara K. Blackburn

TESTED METTLE, CANADA'S PEACEKEEPERS AT WAR, by Scott Taylor and Brian Nolan, printed by Esprit de Corps Books, 1066 Somerset Street West, Suite 204, Ottawa Ontario, K1Y 4T3

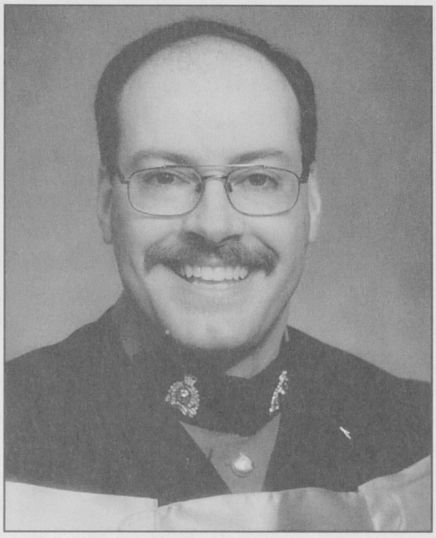
Have you ever wondered what Peacekeeping was really all about? What the sacrifices are, what is involved and how the decisions to send Canadian Peacekeepers abroad are made? Scott Taylor, publisher for *Esprit de Corps Magazine* and former Peacekeeper, and Brian Nolan, veteran journalist, have put together an incredible description and accounting of events that describe the Canadian military, of their on going involvement in Peacekeeping, of their encounters and the numerous individual acts of bravery that are swept under the carpet. They describe the political intricacies surrounding our missions in foreign theatres of operations and subsequent sanitizing of information before its release to the press.

The book leads us through deployments of our troops in Somalia, Croatia, Bosnia and Haiti. We learn of our political masters' zeal, more intent on their own agenda than the safety and desperate needs of our Peacekeepers. They describe the current state of our military and their equipment. The callous self serving decisions which are made by both politicians and the military executive management level, to cover other wrongful decisions, which impact directly on the immediate needs of our Peacekeepers abroad. They provide us with names, dates and the related events which Canadians were left with only "cleansed" information, often falling far short of facts. The subsequent effect is that some events did not "officially" occur. Therefore, this could have a significant impact on some of the medical benefit entitlements. Some may no longer apply even though our Peacekeepers were in fact involved in a particular conflict.

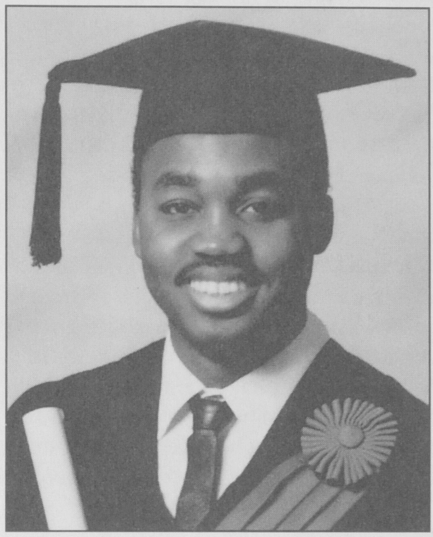
The honesties of these readings leave you on one hand, frustrated with a system seemingly bent on not supporting and or denying the existence of events, yet on the other hand give you a sense of pride in our Peacekeepers, their efforts, the dedication and perseverance, the honour and valour that essentially most of our peacekeepers portray. The lessons depicted would be well served if, as a result, our leaders would make appropriate changes as a result of "Lessons Learned." Ultimately,it should be remembered which is the most important: political agenda or the assurance of the health and safety of our peacekeepers when faced with deployment?

Reviewed by Cpl. Paul Woods, MSM
CIVPOL, Peacekeeping
Operations Support Unit

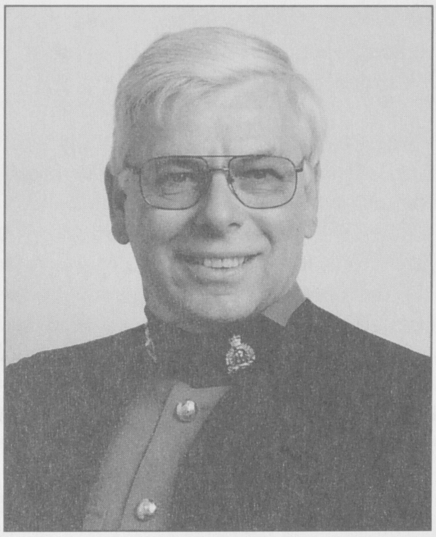
University Graduates



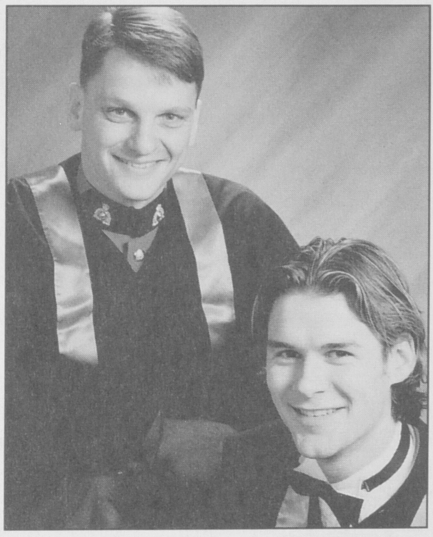
In May 1998, Reg. No. 38938, Cpl. J.D. Comfort, graduated from Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, with a BA of Science degree, with a concentration in Mathematics, Physics and Engineering. *Pridham's Studio*



On June 12, 1999, Reg. No. 42386, Cst. J.H. Jean graduated from York University with a BA in Economics. He had previously graduated from the University of Quebec in Montréal, with a Teaching degree and a Certificate in Economics.



On May 13, 1999, Reg. No. 42875, Cst. F. O'Brien graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Sociology and a Certificate in Criminology from Saint Mary's University, in Halifax.



On May 28, 1999, Reg. No. 36828, Cpl. D.T. Pooler graduated from the University of Regina with a Bachelor of Human Justice degree, along with his son, Stephen who graduated with a Bachelor of Science. *Prestige Portraits by Lifetouch*

DIVISIONAL DISPATCHES

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

MOUNTIES HONOURED FOR HEROICS Cpl. Louis-Paul Woods and three of his colleagues were heading back to base, following a patrol in rural Haiti on October 4, 1994. Rounding a bend, they found what can only be called a major road disaster. An overloaded truck had overturned on a downhill S-curve, spilling its cargo of 38 passengers, chickens, goats, charcoal and fuel. In the next few hours, Cpl. Wood and his colleagues took the actions that have been recognized by the Governor General. The Nepean resident, along with Cpl. Gilles Brunet of Orléans, ex-S/Sgt. James Charles Beaver of Halifax, and Cst. Joseph Hervé Alain Millette of Regina, received Meritorious Service Medals from Governor General Romeo LeBlanc.

RCMP Media Summary

25 YEARS OF POLICE WOMEN IN THE RCMP In 1974, the RCMP opened its doors to female members; 25 years later, there are more than 2,000 in the Force with eight in the officer ranks. To mark the 25th anniversary, all female regular members in Central Region ("A," "C" and "O" Divisions) and HQ were invited to attend "Change, Challenge and Celebration," a conference held in Cornwall from October 27-29, 1999. Keynote speakers included prominent Canadian women from within and outside of the Force. A regimental dinner and other events took place and a special 25th anniversary pin was to be made available to commemorate the event.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ASI On June 17, 1999, Solicitor General Lawrence McAulay announced additional funding for Canada's Anti-Smuggling Initiative (ASI) at $19.5 million per year for the next four years. Introduced in 1994, ASI is a joint initiative of the Solicitor General, RCMP, Justice Canada and Revenue Canada to combat smuggling of tobacco, liquor and firearms. The renewed funding ensures that law enforcement agencies can continue to investigate and prosecute organized criminals. Since its introduction, ASI has helped dismantle some of Canada's largest smuggling operation. More than $4.2 billion worth of contraband products have been seized by the RCMP and Revenue Canada and more than 17,000 smuggling-related charges have been laid resulting in fines of more than $113 million, and $118 million in evaded taxes and duties has been identified.

Federal Facts

PARTNERSHIP WITH TRANSPORT CANADA The *Canada Marine Act*, assented by Government in June 1998, provides a system for the Canadian marine infrastructure and services to be operated in a commercial manner. Transport Canada, responsible under the Act to appoint port enforcement officers, requested RCMP assistance in training those officers.

Sgt. Derren Lench of the Immigration and Federal Branch, helped in the preparation of a two-day class. He developed lectures on incident scene protection, exhibits and physical evidence, documentation and notebooks, search and seizure, demeanour in court and the role of the RCMP and other police agencies in assisting port enforcement officers.

The second day of the course was provided by the Department of Justice to explain the *Canada Marine Act* and its relevant sections. Courses were given between March and May 1999, in Toronto, Halifax, Vancouver, Montréal and Quebec City.

Federal Facts

$115 MILLION RENEWAL The RCMP will receive $115 million to renew the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) as announced by Solicitor General Lawrence MacAuley. This money is given specifically for CPIC and is not coming out of RCMP's existing budgets. CPIC is operated by the RCMP on behalf of all Canadian law enforcement agencies. Each year, CPIC handles more than 100 million queries from across Canada.

The renewal of CPIC is a National Police Service (NPS) initiative, managed by the RCMP, to assist Canadian law enforcement partners in making communities safer. NPS will ensure that the privacy of Canadians is given a very high priority in the renewed CPIC system. "This announcement is a first step in the building of the Canada Public Safety Information Network (CPSIN) which will benefit the entire law enforcement community", said Assistant Commissioner J.A.J. L'Abbé, Director of National Police Services.

Over the next four years, CPIC will be replaced with a modern computer system emphasizing reliability, added features and much improved information sharing with other law enforcement, provincial and federal databases. The present system uses obsolete technology, and some of the computer programs date back to the 1960s. Finding the parts and skills needed to keep the system running has become increasingly difficult.

"CPIC has been a national success story in law enforcement since its inception in 1972. It has become indispensable. But the CPIC technology is now obsolete. To maintain and improve public safety we will replace it with a modern tool that will serve Canadians well into the new millennium," said Mr. MacAulay.

The foundation of the new CPIC structure will be the existing information holdings and capabilities converted to modern technology and software available in the marketplace now. Improvements to be made in the extensive overhaul of CPIC include the ability to transmit digital fingerprints and mugshots and to transmit video/audio. Labour intensive data entry procedures will be reduced with the new system.

The new CPIC will continue to be linked with more than 400 criminal justice agencies nationally and internationally. The new system will allow information to be indexed and cross-referenced from the time of arrest, through prosecution, incarceration, parole and release at end of sentence. The courts will be able to enter decisions in the system. This will greatly improve the quality and quantity of cross-jurisdictional exchange of information.

The new system will be especially useful in helping solve cross-jurisdictional violent crimes, coordinating criminal intelligence on organized crime etc. With direct access, for example to the Canadian Firearms Registry, police officer safety will be increased with this more complete, modern and reliable system.

D/Commr. Zaccardelli (R), made a presentation to C/Supt. Rick Scott, seen here with his wife Sam, during his retirement luncheon last July. Supt. Scott was the Division Control Officer for the Year 2000 Project. He had 32 years of service. We wish him and his family all the best in their new endeavours!

VETERANS NEWS The Ottawa Division of the RCMP Veterans Association inducted the following Life Members: Reg. No. 15067, B.H.M. Armstrong; Reg. No. S/0080, D.A. Camm; Reg. No. 15794, D.A. Lehman; Reg. No. 18324, A.J. Peters; Reg. No. C/0273, A. Skok; Reg. No. C/0048, G.G. Stymiest. The Division also welcomed the following new members: Reg. No. 20267, J.W. Brennan; Reg. No. 27720, J.A.R. Charbonneau; Reg. No. 16081, H. Hoswitschka; Reg. No. 24448, G. Laviolette; Reg. No. 25447, W.G. McConnell; Reg. No. 16993, R.O. Walling; Reg. No. 23102, D.S. Cain; Reg. No. 23597, B. Campbell; Reg. No. 18386, C.W. Mears; Reg. No. 23171, B.D. Sells.

ATLANTIC REGION

"B" DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS — ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

REACHING YOUTH THROUGH SPORTS Last fall, a youth initiative was started by Cst. Fred Walker of the Roddickton Detachment, Northern Peninsula District, to help create awareness and mutual respect between police and youth in the community of Main Brook. The program, called "Sports Night with Cst. Walker" was held in the Mary Simms All Grade School Gym with the cooperation of Principal Ward Samson. The Sports Night program allowed students from grades 7-12 the opportunity to attend every Monday night to have fun and create mutual respect for their fellow students. Conditions were placed on the program for participants like, youth crime in the community would have to be at a minimum, no swearing, respect each other and good conduct in school.

As a result of the success of the program, and the support of District Commander S/Sgt. Dave Baker, funding was obtained for four lucky youths who will have the opportunity to go on a field trip to Corner Brook as a result of excellent attendance and participation.

RCMP SCHOLARSHIPS In June, Insp. Bernie House presented Mark Gillette with a $500 scholarship — raised by the members in Labrador who donated $2 every Friday for Jeans Day. S/Sgt. Gerry Locke presented the $500 Melanson and Richards Memorial Scholarship (in recognition of two former Stephenville RCMP members) to Alison Finn, of Stephenville, who will be attending Mount Saint Vincent University, in Halifax, to study Business Administration.

RECOGNITION IN DEER LAKE Five local organizations and the town of Deer Lake were recently recognized by the RCMP for their contributions to effective community policing. Certificates were presented by Cst. Jason Derry and Cpl. Paddy McNeil on behalf A/Commr. Larry Warren to: the Deer Lake Irving Big Stop for its contribution to the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics; to Pizza Delight for its contribution to last year's Halloween Pumpkin Patrol and bicycle rodeo; to the Deer Lake Motel for being a strong supporter and promoter of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, and for contributions to the Alternative Measures program; to Stan Layden of Pasadena, for donating more than $1,800 to the Deer Lake Search and Rescue as a result of a search conducted by the group for his son who drowned two years ago, and to David Parsons, of Parsons Funeral Home Limited, for his involvement in several fundraisers, such as the bicycle rodeo, for making presentations to schools on death, drugs and alcohol, and for making contributions to the Shriner's Club in Corner Brook, Special Olympics and the Power of Pennies campaign.

This was the first time that these awards were presented in Deer Lake. Several other businesses also contributed to community policing over the last year, and hopefully, this is a trend we will see continue over the years.

Community partnerships and sponsorships help ensure successful crime prevention and makes the detachment stronger because of improved communication between community leaders. "They are the pulse of the community. These are the people who know what's going on," said Cpl. McNeil. "They see us as being people first and police officers second."

REACHING CHILDREN — MAKING PROGRESS This program was designed in 1999 by Darlene Rose, Coordinator of Youth Services Canada, the P4 Youth "Connections" group, Cst. Raymond Jullien, Placentia/Whitbourne District, and RCMP Media Relations Liaison Helen Cleary-Escott. "Reaching Children — Making Progress" is very similar to Kids'n'Kops — an excellent program supported by Big Brothers/Sisters, but only offered in areas that have Big Brothers/Sisters (St. John's and Corner Brook).

The group came up with the name "Reaching Children — Making Progress" — the acronym is R.C.M.P. and the logo represents a Mountie and child on horseback. The program runs on donations and its objective is to show children that police officers are also people who like to have fun. The program can be held over a period of one to five days, depending on the number of activities, preferably outside of a classroom atmosphere. Fun and exciting activities should be planned and since the program's objective is to let children spend time with police officers, there should be as many RCMP members as possible involved. By the end of the program, the children should know every RCMP member in their community by their first name and feel comfortable talking with them.

For more information regarding this program, please contact Helen Cleary-Escott at (709) 772-7334, or Cst. Ray Jullien at (709) 227-2000.

SKATEBOARD PARK BECOMING BIG HIT The newly constructed skateboard park located behind Cabot Stadium in Bonavista, is getting plenty of use. The facility is the realization of almost a year's hard work and cooperation between a number of young people in the community, the Bonavista and area Crime Prevention Committee and the local RCMP Detachment. Sgt. Fred Hildebrand said the idea of a skateboard park started with complaints of young people on the road and on parking lots of public buildings.

"There were a couple of situations where there were almost some accidents," said Sgt. Hildebrand. "One of our members became involved with the young skateboarders and they formed a committee. From there, the local crime prevention committee became involved."

It was agreed that a skateboard facility would be the best thing for all concerned; the town council also recognized that young people needed a place for this type of activity and donated the land to help them out. The Crime Prevention Committee applied for and received funding from Human Resources Development Canada.

While there was much work done in the last several months on the facility, more money was needed to complete the project. The group decided to hold a TV auction which was a big success — raising about $8,000. With the extra money, the group was able to finish the skateboard facility. In fact, the group is now making plans for expansion and getting ready to construct a basketball and tennis court adjacent to the skateboard facility.

OFFICER NEEDS ASSISTANCE! Members of the RCMP and the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary joined forces to help out a fellow officer. A constable with the RNC has been diagnosed with a tumour and is presently receiving treatment in Montréal, causing a tremendous financial strain on his family. During July, members of the RNC and RCMP held a car wash at Toyota Plaza's parking lot. They washed cars for almost 12 hours raising very close to $10,000! The

team washed school buses, patrol cars and even Premier Brian Tobin came through leaving a rather large donation.

PREMIE PARTY On August 29, the Janeway Hospital hosted its 12th annual Premie Party for the second year at RCMP HQ. Parents and children were treated to lots of local entertainment and the party turned out to be a major success. Special thanks go to the following people for their help: Jean Slaney, Insp. Sam Landry, Sgt. George Noseworthy, Sgt. Pat Pendergast, Cpl. Jim Power and Cpl. John Vanderlans. Also, many thanks to our Vets, George Powell, Wayne Burry, Clyde Taylor, Tom Cleary and George Phillips. A special thanks goes to Sue Kavanagh who organizes this event every year.

PART OF LONGEST TRAIL IN THE WORLD There is a permanent path being built to bring us even closer to the true nature of our land, winding its way across our nation in the form of the Trans-Canada Trail. Managed by the Trans-Canada Trail Foundation, this nonprofit registered charitable organization is making this millennium vision a reality for all Canadians. The RCMP has been honoured by being asked by the Foundation and Participation Canada to join them as the leading partners in the Relay 2000 Project — a millennium project whereby water is taken from all three oceans and brought to the National Capital vie the Trans- Canada Trail by running, walking, bike, horseback, boat and snowmobile. This water will be placed in a huge fountain the size of a football field as a monument to the millennium by Canadians. The RCMP is required to provide advice on security and traffic safety where necessary, to provide officers in uniform for special occasions such as the launch, media releases and local events, and to assist with communications especially in areas where the remoteness eliminates the use of average cell phones.

The Trail will link thousands of communities along its path. It is being built on land which comes from existing trails wherever possible, abandoned railway lines, Federal and Provincial parks, alongside active railway lines and on private land holdings granting rights of way. As a shared-use Trail, it will accommodate five core activities: walking, cycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling (where practical or desired). To ensure that the Trail is planned and built according to local needs, Trans-Canada Trail Councils have been established in each Province and Territory, and are working with community groups to plan and coordinate the route, construction and maintenance of the Trail.

TOUGHEST COP ALIVE Even the Newfoundlander who recently won that title admits the handle is misleading. Earning the crown did not involve bullet catching, handcuff snapping or unarmed take downs. Actually, not one punch was thrown. A battle royal or extreme fighting contest, it was not. Put the stereotypes away, says Barry Pitcher, the 27-year-old tough cop winner who grew up in St. John's, Mount Pearl and Corner Brook. This was a legitimate athletic contest, similar in physical punishment to the Hawaiian Iron Man or a decathlon.

"When people see the title or event, they think it is in a cage with bare-knuckle fighting. It's the fittest cop. It's all fitness and cardiovascular strength, not girth and mass," he explains.

A sophomore RCMP officer in Alberton, P.E.I., Cst. Pitcher entered and won the Toughest Cop Alive competition at the Canadian Law Enforcement Games held in Ottawa last summer, by scoring 5,100 out of a possible 6,000 points, and placing first in at least two of the eight events. Congratulations!

PROTECTING YOURSELF More than 40 women from the town and surrounding communities took part in a self-defence course offered by the Bonavista-Trinity Crime Prevention Committee at Discovery Collegiate, in Bonavista. Although some of them enrolled in the seminar for various reasons, many echoed a local resident who

enjoys walking saying that she would "feel more comfortable knowing what to do if approached by a stranger."

Cst. Joanne White, who acts as a liaison between the police and the community, has served on the Crime Prevention Committee for the past four years. "We've put off a lot of seminars and most times it's hard to get full participation," Cst. White said. "This has been the one and only event where we actually had to turn people away. It's not that our crime rate has gone up, because it hasn't. But perhaps there's a perception by the female population that it has. And if so, this is something we should reflect on. And if women want to attend these types of sessions, well, that's reason enough to try to offer them as often as we can."

Bonavista Mayor Betty Fitzgerald, Chair of the town's Crime Prevention Committee, says although the committee is small in numbers, it's a vital and viable part of the community. "Our goal right now is to offer one major seminar each month. We've conducted workshops on family violence. We did a puppet show for the elementary schools and we're planning to offer some seminars on dating violence, and suicide preventions."

"The Crime Prevention Committee has started a partnership with other agencies," the mayor explains. "The RCMP has been our partner all along. Anytime we want their help, they're always available, especially Joanne."

COPS FOR CANCER During July, more than 100 RCMP employees and "friends" — which included firefighters, teachers, doctors, a pharmacist and a judge — shaved their heads at 16 different locations in "B" Division to raise more than $50,0000 for the Canadian Cancer Society — and that amount is still rising! Some people really went above and beyond the call of duty, like Cst. Karen Thorp, Carmanville Detachment, who collected $2,950 by herself, and Cpl. John Vanderlans, Special "I", who raised more than $1,200. We would also like to congratulate the Grand/Falls Windsor District for collecting more than $11,000. Cst. Russell Allan, Cst. Blaine Beaumaster and Elywin Burke HMP show off their bald heads — the three raised close to $1,000 for the Clarenville District.

YOU ROW LIKE A GIRL — GOOD FOR YOU! Of the RCMP HQ Ladies Rowing Team formed early in 1999, only two members had rowing experience. The rest had never been in a racing shell before. For what they lacked in experience, they sure made up in determination. Within weeks, they were running up to six miles a day, following a strict weight schedule in the gym and rowing twice a day. All their hard work paid off when they won a silver medal in Placentia, Gold in Harbour Grace, and bronze at the St. John's Regatta. Not bad for a bunch of first timers!

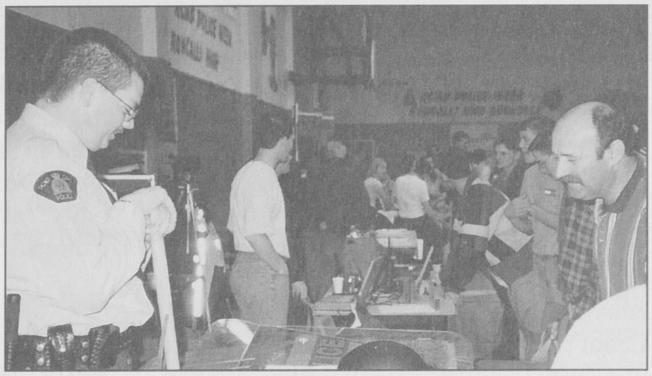
Winning the St. John's Regatta is the most sought after honour in the city. The RCMP HQ team competed in the Female General Workers Race, against four other teams, all with years more experience than them. The race was won by Canadian Forces/Sports Shop with a time of 5:57:38, RNC/Borealis

(L-R): Insp. Gus MacIntosh, Susan Duffett, St. John's Mount Pearl President of the Canadian Cancer Society, CCS Communications Officer Jacqueline Campbell, and CCS Executive Director Peter Dawe.

was second with a time of 6:00.62. The RCMP HQ came third with a time of 6:11.71.

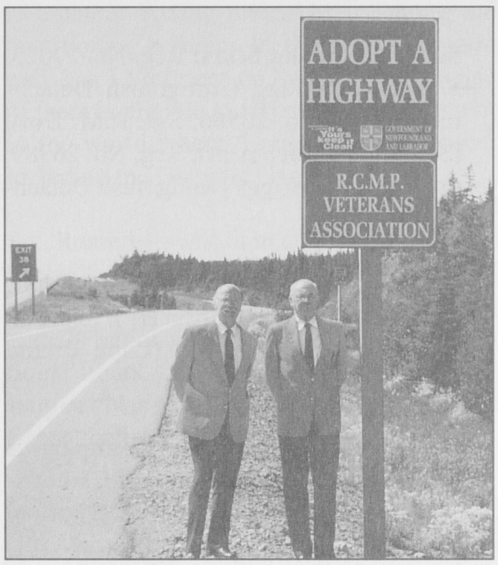
The RCMP HQ team was funded by Insp. Hank Nielson and the Informatics Branch. Without their support, the team could not have existed. We hope to have a Men's Rowing Team for next year if the funding is available. Congratulations to the RCMP HQ Team: Vickie Chalker, Gail Courtney, Beth Ryan, Denise Leonard, Pat Reid, Linda Goodyear, Chris MacNaughton, Ann Marie Kavanagh and Helen Cleary-Escott. As Gail Courtney's licence plate reads, "You row like a girl — good for you!"

OPEN HOUSE IN AVONDALE



Members of Holyrood Detachment, Avalon East District, hosted an open-house — the first of its kind in the district. Various enforcement and support units from "B" Division HQ in St. John's, including ERT, Bomb Disposal, Recruiting, Informatics, Drugs, ViCLAS, C&E, Commercial Crime and Crime Stoppers joined the Avalon East Highway Patrol, Conception Bay Central Crime Prevention, Avalon East Ground Search and Rescue, Youth Advisory and Holyrood Detachment in presenting many interesting displays during this event held at Roncalli High School.

RCMP VETS ADOPT A HIGHWAY



(L-R): Mack McGregor, Project Coordinator and Larry Power, vice-president of the Newfoundland Division. The RCMP Veterans Association has been given a section of the Trans-Canada Highway by the Department of Works Service and Transportation through the "Adopt a Highway" program. The RCMP Vets are now responsible for cleaning a section of highway every May and September — approx. 5 km — between Butter Pot Park and Witess Bay Line.

"H" Division
Headquarters — Halifax, Nova Scotia

MARRIAGE Reg. No. 39358, Cst. M.R. Hall to Elaine Elizabeth Wier, on April 13, 1999, at Parrsboro.

ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY Canso Detachment continues to champion the Eastern Communities Youth Association in the eastern Guysborough County area — a program which started as an RCMP 125 project established to address the concerns of local youth and the community. A full-time director has been hired to oversee the project, to look for long-term financing and to work on a detailed proposal to be submitted to the federal government. Financial assistance is currently being received from the Guysbor-

ough County Business Development Centre and the Town of Canso. A couple of full-time summer students were also hired to coordinate programs. The youth programming is being run out of one room at the Canso Academy and has been a huge success. Cst. P.R. Feltmate chairs the committee, and former chair, PSE Susan O'Handley, continues to serve on the committee.

By S. O'Handley

INAUGURAL REGIMENTAL DINNER Antigonish Detachment hosted the first ever Regimental Dinner held in the newly formed North East Nova District (previously Truro and Sydney Sub-Divisions). More than 100 people attended a very enjoyable evening and entertainment provided by General John Cabot Trail. Long service awards were also presented:

Silver Clasp and Stars: Reg. No. 27023, S/Sgt. R.G. Wagg (Antigonish Detachment); Reg. No. 26566, Sgt. R.M. Dove (Stellarton Detachment); Reg. No. 26389, ex- Cpl. D.G. Briggs (Antigonish Detachment)

Bronze Clasp and Star: Reg. No. 30683, Cpl. W.B. Smith (Stellarton HP); Reg. No. 31086, Cst. D.G. Madill (Cape Breton Detachment)

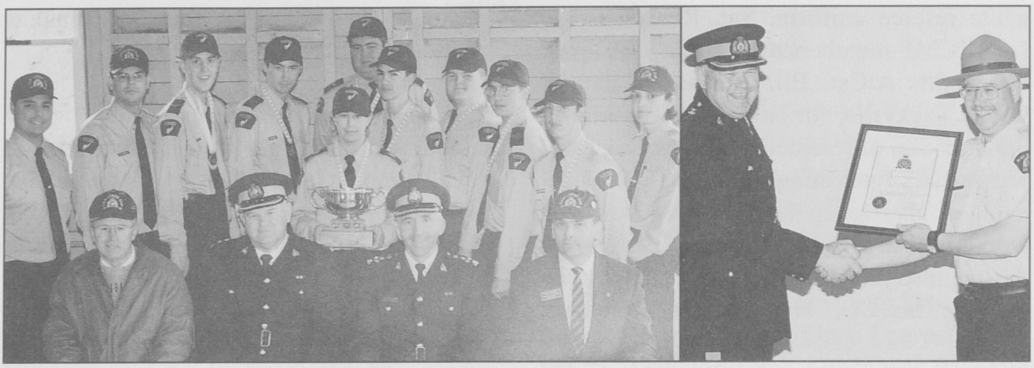
UNVEILING Last May, RCMP employees in Windsor welcomed the visit of Commissioner Phillip Murray, the CO, "H" Division, A/Commr. Dwight Bishop, the District Officer for South West Nova, Supt. Gary Stait, Mayor Maxine Whynott of Windsor, Mr. Gary Cochrane, Deputy Warden of the Municipality of the District of West Hants, Councillor Fred Horne, and RCMP volunteer coordinators for an afternoon meeting. Commr. Murray expressed gratitude to the volunteers and stressed the importance of their tremendous contribution to the community. A/Commr. Bishop also thanked the elected officials and the volunteers for their continued support in making our communities safer places in which to live. Commr. Murray unveiled a large sign at the Windsor Rural Detachment, which increases the visibility of the Detachment for passing motorists.

By S/Sgt. T.K.V. Cleary

FAREWELL PARTY On June 4, 1999, colleagues and friends from the North East Nova District and Division HQ attended a retirement party held in honour of Supt. Larry Baker and his wife. Presentations were made on behalf of the District, the Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police Association, as well as the Warden and Councillors of the Municipality of Antigonish Co. Entertainment was provided by the No-Name Trio — comprised of Cpl. Eric Priddle, Cpl. Glen Rowselll and Cst. John Currie. We wish the Bakers all the best in their new endeavours in Manitoba!

VENTURERS CHALLENGE CUP During the weekend of April 23, 1999, 128 members and staff of the Police Venturers and the Spur and Stetson police youth groups from

Visiting dignitaries took time to pose with members of Windsor Rural Detachment, Windsor Municipal Detachment and community volunteers.



(Photo 1): Winners of the 1999 Challenge Cup, the Police Venturers Company from New Minas. (L-R) Sitting: Richard Dauphinée, Supt. Gary Stait, A/Commr. Dwight Bishop, Gene Winsor. Standing: Cst. Rod Peterson (advisor), Stephen Larkin (advisor), Police Venturers Chris Knock, Darryl McCann, Kim Greencorn, Steve Schofield, Tim Mungford, Brian Luczak, Jason Silver and Chris Greencorn, Cst. Niali Hébert (advisor). (Photo 2): Supt. Gary Stait presenting Commanding Officer's Award of Excellence to Cst. Bob Bailey, for his many years of work with the Police Venturers and the community.

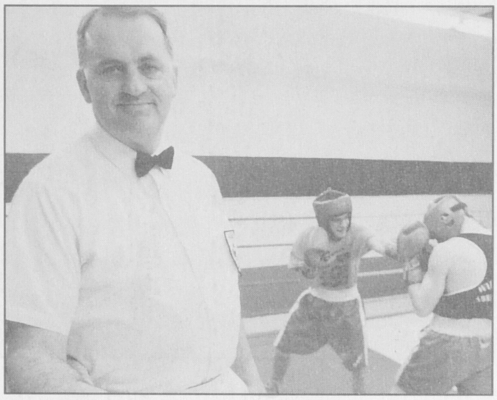
Nova Scotia and Sussex, New Brunswick, assembled at the Rotary Camp at Lake Mockingee, Hants Co., to compete in the annual Hants Police Venturers Challenge Cup. The competition included many events, such as a troop inspection, investigating a mock crime scene and collecting evidence, ground Search and Rescue exercises, a tug-of-war, learning the correct way to stop a vehicle and public speaking competitions. The group also attended a slide presentation by the Halifax Identification Section about their role in the Swiss Air Disaster.

During closing ceremonies on Sunday, A/Commr. Dwight Bishop, CO, "H" Division, Supt. Gary Stait, District Officer for South West Nova, Warden Richard Dauphinée, Hants West area, and Gene Winsor, Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 9, attended the Challenge Cup presentation. Awards of Merit were also presented to Police Venturers in each Company for sportsmanship, leadership and highest contribution to their Company.

By Cst. Bob Bailey

INTERNATIONAL 5A BOXING REFEREE Out of the six levels of referees in boxing, those at level 4 can referee national bouts and championships, and those at level 5B can referee matches on a continental level. Sgt. Ray Russell, officially earned his 5A title on January 1, 1999, and is now certified to referee Olympic boxing bouts, which in amateur boxing means he is among the best boxing referees in the world. Canada only has 12 referees on this list, and anyone of them is eligible to referee any tournament in the world where Canada is represented, including the Olympic Games.

Sgt. Russell — who is in charge of the Lower Sackville Highway Patrol and has 31 years of service with the RCMP — has refereed more than 20 national championships and international bouts. On a few occasions, he even sang our National Anthem dressed in his Red Serge, before stepping into the ring in his



Sgt. Ray Russell, at Gordon's Boxing Gym.

Photo by Ted Pritchard, courtesy of the "Halifax Chronicle Herald"

white referee uniform. Sgt. Russell is the first RCMP member to obtain the 5A level. He credits A/Cst. Bill Arsenault, also of Lower Sackville, for having steered him in the direction of refereeing and judging amateur boxing. Interestingly enough, Bill Asrsenault is also a top level referee who has worked at the Atlanta Olympics. Bill's wife, Alison, also judges amateur bouts. Not to be outdone, the CO, "H" Division, A/Commr. Bishop, also judges his share of amateur bouts.

Sgt. Russell has his sights as the highest honour of officiating amateur boxing: the next Olympic Games. However, he will have had the chance to sharpen his referee skills during the nine months he will have spent, this year, on a tour of duty with UNCIVPOL, in Bosnia.

AWARDS AND LONG SERVICE LUNCHEON ***More than 45 people attended the Awards and Long Service Luncheon for the North East Nova District held on April 8, 1999, at the Keddy Inn & Convention Centre in Truro, hosted by the CO, "H" Division, A/Commr. Dwight Bishop, and the District Officer, North East Nova. (L-R) Front row: Cst. E.S. Caughey (BCS), Cst. A. Hanlon (BCS), Cpl. K. Baldwin (BCS), Cpl. G. Downing (BCS), A/Commr. D. Bishop, Supt. L. Baker, Cpl. E. Gillis (BCS), Cpl. G. MacDonald (BCS), Cst. R. Singer (BCS), ex-Cst. C. McDonald (COCA), Cst. P. Calder (BCS). Back row: Cpl. C. Dyke (SCS), Cst. Richard Cashen (COC), Cst. D. Bourque (GGC & COC), Cst. E. Glinz (COCA), Cpl. K. Walker (BCS), Cst. R. Boutilier (BCS), Cst. G. MacDonald (BCS), A/Cst. I. Young (COCA).***

Legend: Silver Clasp and Stars (SCS); Bronze Clasp and Star (BCS); Governor General of Canada Commendation (GGC); Commanding Officer's Commendation (COC); Commanding Officer's Certificate of Appreciation (COCA)

ALCOTEST OPERATOR'S COURSE
Attending the training session for the approved screening device, Alcotest 7410, for impaired driving held at Shelburne Detachment (L-R) sitting: Cst. Janet Leblanc (proud mother of youngest "trainee" Taylor Sarah Holly), Cst. Mike O'Callaghan, Cst. Terry Burns and Cpl. Bob Forbes (instructor). Standing: Cst. Brian Wentzell and Cst. Mike Delaney (both of Barrington Detachment).

Photo by Sgt. Gord Crowe

VETERANS' NEWS The Nova Scotia Division welcomed B.M. Campbell, D. Cain, Reg. No. 28019, ex-Cst. R. Reid; Reg. No. 22330, ex-Sgt. C.A. Cantelope as new members.

OPERATION VIDEO IDENTIFICATION Through a new community-based program, Dalhousie Detachment and local home and school associations joined forces to ensure the safety and security of the community's children. Through "Operation Video Identification" — a new program offered by District 9 — children from kindergarten to Grade 5 will be fingerprinted and videotaped. The program aims to have the children's records available in case of emergency. For more information, please contact Cst. Simon Gallant, at (506) 684-5551 or via ROSS.

A GREAT INITIATIVE "J" Division and War Amps joined their efforts to educate children on safe play. Last April, Cst. Lori Colbourne, Oromocto Detachment, approached the War Amps Association to develop a program to educate children about safe play. As a result, the War Amps Association Playsafe/Drivesafe Program was used to put together a safety blitz in elementary schools of the entire southern region of New Brunswick. War Amps Child Amputees participated in the presentations because children often listen to their peers more than they do adults.

The War Amps Association reinforces the safety message that the RCMP tries to put forth in the communities. Cst. Colbourne would like to see similar safety programs across Canada and says that the War Amps are willing to travel across the country. For more information, please contact Cst. Lori Colbourne, Community Relations Officer, Oromocto Detachment at (506) 357-4302 or on ROSS at LCOLBOUR.

DRUG AWARENESS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT Substance misuse is a very complex problem, and one that many RCMP members and the Drug Awareness Program attempt to put a stop to every day. Our goal is to provide relevant information to as many young people as possible, so that when they are faced with the decision to use or not to use alcohol or other drugs, they can make the right decision. Drug use is a community problem and, therefore, the solution must come from the community itself.

The Bathurst Joint Forces Drug Unit, under the direction of S/Sgt. Gary Legresley and the "J" Division Drug Awareness Program Coordinator, Cpl. Michel Frenette, spent some time looking for an innovative way to provide drug awareness and education to youth in Bathurst. Having witnessed first-hand the devastating effects that drug misuse can have, and being strong supporters of a balanced approach to dealing with drug issues, they realized that the best way to deal with the situation was to find a medium that would create an impact on youth and reinforce positive, healthy lifestyle choices.

The idea to have an Inter-Provincial Drug Awareness Hockey Tournament in the Bathurst region was born in the fall of 1997. The targeted groups would be minor hockey teams (Atom to Bantam) from all over the province. In order to organize an event of such magnitude, they enlisted the help and input of many partners. For the first time, the RCMP Joint Forces Drug Unit in Bathurst, in partnership with the "J" Division Drug Awareness Program, the Bathurst Minor Hockey Association, the National Drug Awareness Program Coordinator, Members from District 9, the Bathurst City Police Crime Prevention Office, the Department of Health and Community Services, Addiction Services and local businesses, used a minor hockey tournament itself as a drug awareness venue.

More than 1,200 young people, aged nine to fourteen, played in the tournament during the week of November 23-29, 1998. The objective of the tournament was to create a positive and educational atmosphere directed at the prevention of youth drug and substance abuse. The impact created with this tourna-

ment was not limited to the players, since they were not the only ones exposed to the drug awareness message. This message also reached their parents, coaches, siblings and spectators.

There were drug awareness booths set up in the mezzanine area of the rink. Experienced individuals supervised the booths, which covered many topics, such as drug education, prevention and enforcement. Each booth had interactive activities aimed at promoting positive decision making. There were also pool and ping pong tables, arcade games, two race tracks, slap-shot and sega games set up as off-ice entertainment.

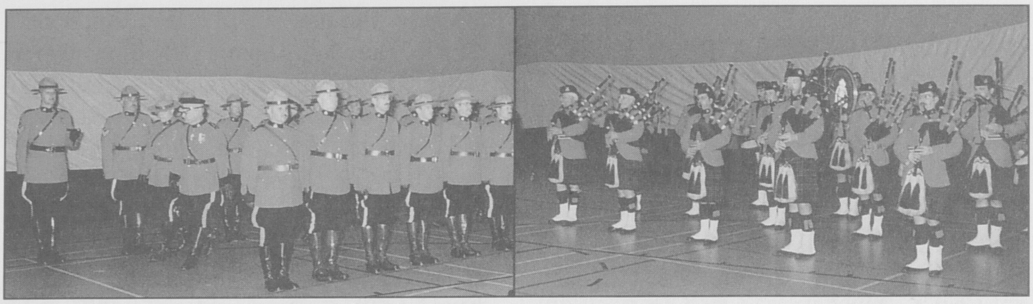
The race tracks at this venue were provided by the RCMP Racing Against Drugs Program. Launched in 1993, this program has been in place in the Atlantic Provinces since 1997 through sponsorship from Atlantic Ford and Mercury, Snap-on tools and Ultramar. The Racing Against Drugs Program is an interactive community drug education activity that is delivered in schools and other venues. The purpose is to combine learning with fun to promote positive decision-making with regard to drug use. It provides a great opportunity for different partners such a addiction counsellors, community health educators, the Department of Transportation and other interested groups to reach youth and adults in the same setting. For the past two years, the Racing Against Drugs program has been touring the Maritimes under the supervision of the Drug Awareness Coordinators in each of the Atlantic Divisions and has been quite successful.

The feedback received from everyone involved during and after the Inter-Provincial Drug Awareness Hockey Tournament was very supportive. Youth and adults were seen interacting at the various booths and everyone enjoyed being able to participate in activities during their off-ice time. One player was overheard saying that it was the best tournament he had ever attended, and some coaches were interested in using the same format for tournaments in their hometowns.

In order to receive feedback from each of the youths who attended the tournament, the Drug Awareness Program distributed questionnaires to all the teams. Every player who returned the questionnaire prior to the deadline was to have his or her name entered into a draw. The prize? A hockey stick signed by the whole Montréal Canadians team. S/Sgt. Pelletier, National Drug Awareness Coordinator, was able to help obtain this great prize. The feedback will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of a hockey tournament as a drug awareness venue and how to make improvements if this becomes an annual event. Many thanks to all the people who made this tournament such a great success, where everyone involved was a winner!

By Christina Somerville and Cpl. Michel Frenette

Recently, "J" Division held its annual Auxiliary Conference with 165 auxiliary members and a number of special guests in attendance, including (L-R) front row: Mr. Ron Godin, President, New Brunswick Crime Stoppers; Commr. J.P.R. Murray, New Brunswick Solicitor General Mr. James Lockyer, D/Commr. Terry Ryan, Atlantic Region; the CO "J" Division, A/Commr. Gary Leoppky; Insp. Barrie Harvie and Sgt. Doug Anthony. Auxiliaries received awards in recognition of their many hours and years of dedicated service and attended training sessions over the course of the weekend.



AWARDS PRESENTATION

On June 17, 1999, RCMP personnel from across the province gathered at Codiac Regional Detachment to attend an awards presentation ceremony graciously hosted by the OIC, Codiac Regional Police, Supt. J.J. Payne, at CFB Gagetown near Moncton. Special guests included members of SEC who were in Moncton for their scheduled meeting, including Commr. J.P.R. Murray, D/Commrs Terry Ryan, Roy Berlinquette and Brian Watt, A/Commrs Pat Cummins, Dawson Hovey and Dave Cleveland. Eleven-year-old Anne Stewart, a student at the Edith Cavell School, sang the National Anthem. Commr. Murray inspected the Marching Troop led by Sgt. Joe Rogers and the local Codiac Regional Pipes and Drums Band, then he presented the various long service awards. A/Commr. Gary Leoppky presented CO's Commendations and Letters of Appreciation to members and civilians for their assistance and their devotion in their respective communities.

CENTRAL REGION

"A" DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS — VANIER, ONTARIO

AWARDS PRESENTATION The following Headquarters and "A" Division employees were honoured during an awards presentation ceremony held in Ottawa, on April 22, 1999.

Gold Clasp and Stars: S/Sgt. Winston Fudge, A/Commr. Frank Richter

Silver Clasp and Stars: S/Sgt. Guy Beauregard, Sgt. Gary Coolen, S/Sgt. Thomas Duff, Cpl. Brian Grant, Cpl. Fintan Hickey, A/Commr. Dawson Hovey, Sgt. Daniel Jean, S/Sgt. Serge Laflamme, Cpl. Ray Leblanc, S/Sgt. Pierre Lemieux, Sgt. Raymond Douglas Lloyd, S/Sgt. David Macdonald, Sgt. John Mackinnon, Insp. Raymond Minkoff, S/Sgt. Brian Mousseau, Sgt. Gordon Reid, Sgt. William Shaw, Sgt. Richard Teed

Bronze Clasp and Star: Insp. William Adams, Cst. Glenn Arsenault, Cpl. Jacques Aubry, Sgt. Robert Béchard, Cpl. Jacques Bernard, Sgt. Jean-Claude Boily, Cpl. Robert Boyd, Cpl. James Camirand, Insp. Barry Clark, S/Sgt. Michel Cyr, Cpl. Jean Desjardins, Sgt. Michel Dessureault, Sgt. Robert Glinz, Sgt. Michel Guy, Insp. Ken Hansen, Insp. Gordon Keating, S/Sgt. Kevin Kenna, Sgt. Maurice Laferrière, Sgt. Louis Lahaie, Sgt. Pierre Lefebvre, Sgt. Clarence Lovenuk, S/Sgt. Gérard Malec, Sgt. Luc Maltais, Cst. Nelson McClinton, Supt. Jim Newman, Insp. John Nikita, Cpl. Patrick O'Brien, Sgt. Jim Sauer, Cpl. Earl Smith, Insp. Paolo Vani, Sgt. Edward Whittingham

Long Service Medal: Sgt. Claude April, Cst. André Beaulieu, Cpl. Daniel Buissières, S/Sgt. Stan Burke, Cpl. Yvan Caron, Cst. Mario Dionne, S/Sgt. André Drouin, Cst. Louis Frégault, Sgt. Augustin Godin, Cst. Sylvain Hotte, Cst. George Howe, Cst. Christine Ruth Korotash, Cpl. René Labonté, Cpl. Pierre Leblanc, Cst. Renaud Lemay, Cst. Benoît Loubier, Cpl. Serge Martel, Cst. William McDougall, Cst. Georges Monette, Cst. Claude Perreault, Sgt. Marc Proulx, Sgt. Claude Richard, Cpl. Charles Richer, Cst. Michel Robitaille, Sgt. Mario Roy, Cpl. Luc Sauvé, Insp. Bill Smith, Sgt. Michel Tessier,

Cst. John Toste, Cpl. Louis Upton, Insp. Kevin Vickers, Insp. Randy Wilson

30-Year Pin (C/M): Murray Hill, Brian Stanley

25-Year Pin (C/M): Hendrik Beute, Harvey Chatterton, Claire Couture, Léo Vaillant, Brenda Vaughan

RCMP Medallion and Pin (C/M): Trevor Alletson, Kevin Doelle, Rosalie Jackson, Paul Larivière, Carole Piché, Monique Rodier-Thibodeau

25-Year Plaque (PS): Karen Appleyard, Laurie Barclay, Dennis Blenkin, Donna Dowe, Patricia Lackie, Garry Lynott, Gail McIntyre, Francine Mougeot, Gloria Mulligan, Jeanne Thibodeau, Diane Tremblay, Danielle Viau, Thomas Wetzstein

Commissioner's Commendation: C.F. Brennan (OPP, Toronto), R. Campbell-Balagus (Ottawa PS), S. Duncan (London PS), D.M. Girard (OPP, Cornwall), C. Mercier (Durham RPS), Sgt. M.V. Shaver (RCMP)

CO'S Commendation: C/M Dan Ogle

National Merit Award: Cpl. Patrice Poitevin

"C" Division
Headquarters — Montréal, Quebec

AWARDS PRESENTATION The following persons were honoured during an awards presentation ceremony held in Montréal, on March 25, 1999.

Silver Clasp and Stars: Sgt. Gilles Fortin, Sgt. Jean-Pierre Girard, Cpl. Marcel Jacques

Bronze Clasp and Star: Cpl. Mario Arès, Cpl. Gilles Benoît, Sgt. Gilles Blanchet, Sgt. Régis Bonneau, Cpl. Pierre Brouillet, S/Sgt. Charles Castonguay, Cpl. Guy Champagne, Cst. Paul Cliche, Cst. Michel Cournoyer, Cst. Paul-Émile Desautels, Cpl. Richard Dion, Cst. Gaston Dumont, Insp. Pierre Fournier, Cpl. David Gendron, Cst. Guy Jacques, Sgt. Marc Lavoie, Sgt. Daniel Lemay, Cpl. André Paquette, Sgt. Yvon Poirier, Cpl. Jean-Claude Rivard, Cst. Andrew Szirti, Cpl. Jean-Claude Verreault

Long Service Award: Cst. Claude Aubry, Cst. Pierre Berthiaume, Sgt. Pierre Camiré, Sgt. Normand Charland, Cst. Régis Côté, Sgt. Jean-Guy Doucet, Insp. Richard Dupuis, Sgt. Yves Durepos, Cst. Bertrand Gagnon, Cpl. Mario Germain, Cst. Jacques Godbout, S/Sgt. Jean Labbé, Cpl. Mario Lague, Cst. Michel Laplante, Cst. Alain Lapointe, Cst. Robert Laprairie, Cst. Daniel Legault, Cpl. Daniel Lévesque, Cst. Céline Mailloux, Cst. Raymond Martin, Cpl. Gaétan Potvin, Cst. Michel Rheault, Cst. Suzan St-Pierre, Cpl. Marc Tardif

Retired Members: Sgt. Serge Corriveau, Sgt. Guy Quintal

RCMP Medallion and Pin: C/M Benoît St-Pierre

Plaque for 25 Years of Service: PSE Lionel Grégoire, PSE Thérèse Moreau

Commissioner's Commendation: Cpl. Pierre Lemieux

CO'S Commendation: Det. Denis Gagnon, Cpl. François Gallant

Director's Recommendation: PSE Bertha Longtin

Certificate of Appreciation: Cst. Jean Madore, Sgt. Martin Morin, Richard Picard, Cst. Jacques Potvin

Plaque of Appreciation: Me François Lacasse

St-John's Ambulance Certificate: Cpl. Laurent Léger

MARCH WEST As one of the 17 members picked by the RCMP Benefit Trust Fund to participate the last three days of the reenactment of the Force's original (1874) March West, I took annual leave July 21-24, to join the group near Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta. I met the other contestants in Edmonton, and took but a moment to spot the member who was there to pick us up: not only was the retired inspector dressed in period dress, but he happened to be 6"5!

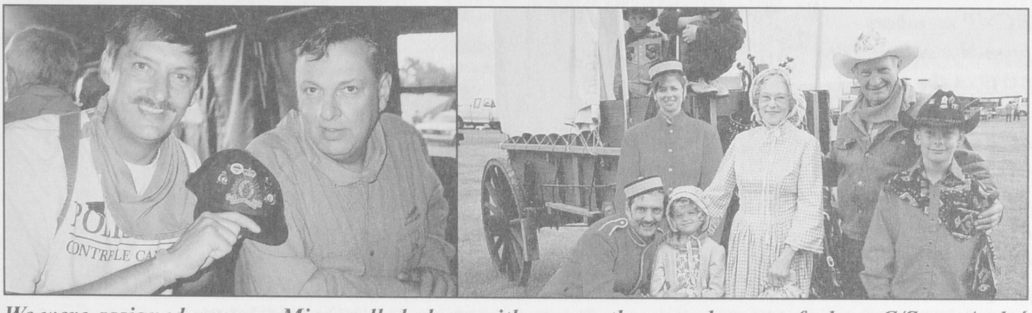
He drove us 50 miles east, to join the rest of the trekkers and to settle in our tent — where there was plenty of room but no floor, just grass among the gopher holes in the prairie. I had only brought a thin sleeping bag which took in moisture during the night. However, we were greeted in the morning with coffee and a good breakfast — mind you, that was at 5:30 when the bugle sounded, Reveille!

It was impressive to see 135 riders and just as many people riding in the wagons stretching far down the road. The military packed up all the tents, kitchens, showers — in fact the entire camp — only to move it all by truck to the next campsite. We certainly would not have had these conveniences under Insp. French.

On the second day, I made arrangements to ride Karen Calvert's horse "Bob." I slept much better that night in a tent which had a floor. I had also had a good shower (on a truck) even though I had only been in there for four minutes before the crusty old operator hollered, "Only one more minute!"

The following day, we would be pulling into the town of Fort Saskatchewan, where the NWMP had built the original fort in 1874. There was a surge of pride when the Union Jack was raised in the Fort, for the first time since it was officially closed 85 years ago. Here, as in every little town that the March West reenactment went through, hundreds of people waved from their front lawns, pickup trucks and porches. In the countryside, people even lined the road at every approach and crossroad to see the wagon train go by. A few times (as a joke), I leaned forward in the saddle to ask people if they had seen any whiskey traders, or if anyone had any spare chewing tobacco — stating that most of us had run out back in Saskatchewan. Was I ever surprised when a woman walked up to my horse and honestly offered me some!

As we arrived on the outskirts of town, Malcolm Mackenzie — one of the wagon drivers — was looking for someone to play the part of a "deserter." Those who know me should not be surprised to hear that in no time at all, I gave up my horse to wear a hangman's noose at the end of 16 feet of rope tied to a wagon, my hands tied, with a big sign on my

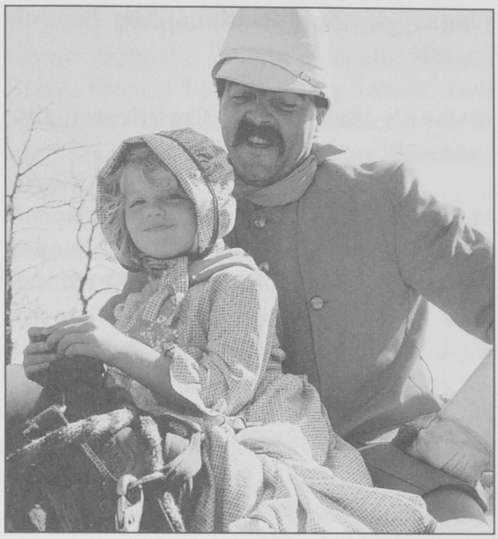


We were assigned wagons. Mine pulled along with seven other people, one of whom C/Supt. André Thouin (which many of you may remember as a sergeant, here in Montréal, not too long ago). Among the other riders, there was Cst. Carol Clarke accompanied by her four-year-old daughter, Mattison (Matt).

back printed with the word DESERTER! I really enjoyed acting the part, even pleading to the crowd for a lawyer. My best line was, "They are going to hang me in Fort Saskatchewan for deserting, and I didn't even have dessert." As I was pulled past the Commissioner and the CO, "K" Division, I requested them to intervene and then made a run for the hills as we approached some big trees at the edge of town. Later on that day, among some of the people who recognized me in the crowd, Commissioner Murray checked my neck for rope marks!

That night we slept in a hotel in Edmonton — with a shower, a floor and no early bugle call. We drove back to Fort Saskatchewan the next day and enjoyed the Musical Ride show along with 4,000 spectators. The March West ended with a banquet and a dance. The next day, I flew back to Montréal, via Ottawa, with the members of the Musical Ride. Although we were treated to the best Alberta hospitality you can imagine, I must admit that I really appreciate the modern conveniences of the 20th Century. An Airbus at going at 364 miles per hour is a tad better than 15 miles per day in a wagon train! It was a great experience and I wish you could have all been there with us!

By Cst. Ross Tylor



Born and raised in Quebec, Cst. Jacquelin Poitras is an excellent horseman who now works in Morinville Detachment, Alberta. He owns 16 horses in Alberta and only one requires the use of a bridle. On this occasion he rode his favourite, a 13-year-old gelding quarter horse, called "Smokey" (not an easy horse to handle) with just a rope around its neck. Cst. Poitras and "Smokey" helped our team as we climbed a steep hill by simply tying a rope from our wagon to the saddle horn. "Smokey" was not disturbed by the extra weight. Little Matt, dressed in a blue pioneer dress and bonnet specially made for this occasion, was convinced to ride on "Smokey" with Cst. Poitras. You can't imagine how much we had to hear her giggle every time "Smokey" would trot.

GLENGARRY HIGHLANDS GAMES

On June 31, 1999, RCMP members formed a colour party at the official opening ceremonies of the 52nd Glengarry Highlands Games, held in Maxville, Ontario. The colour party was made up of Cpl. Gilles Déziel (Public Relations), ex-Cst. Daryle McAndrew, Cst. Richard Pink — wearing the RCMP tartan — (Mirabel Airport) and ex-Cst. Guy De La Boursodière, accompanied by Musical Ride members, Cpl. Paul Benoît on "Lucky" and Cpl. Ken Kaip on "Elliot." Everyone had a great time; crowds were estimated at between 25,000 and 30,000 people.

"O" Division
Headquarters — London, Ontario

COKE FOUND AT PEARSON AIRPORT Last May, the RCMP and Canada Customs seized 28 kg of cocaine hidden in a cardboard box in the cargo section of a flight arriving from Antigua, intended to be smuggled out of the airport by cargo handlers. Bundles of the drug were wrapped in duct tape inside a gym bag, in a box that did not have any airline tags. Obviously, the cocaine was not intended to go through customs.

RCMP Media Summary

DRUGS IN THE MAIL Customs officers say the postal service has become a popular way to get drugs into Canada. Millions of dollars worth of drugs is intercepted each year entering Canada through the mail. Most of it flows through Toronto, which processes 55% of the international mail entering Canada. Most of it originates from the United States, the Caribbean, South America and Europe. Officials say in most cases, "it's friends sending stuff to others." Drugs found in packages are turned over to the RCMP for investigation.

RCMP Media Summary

POLICE MONITOR WEB SITES The Simon Wiesenthal Centre, in Toronto, has been compiling Internet addresses and about 100 examples of offensive Web pages on a CD-ROM, over the past three years. Last June, the Centre gave this electronic data bank of 1,400 Web sites to Canadian police, including the RCMP, the OPP and the Toronto Police, to help them monitor international hate groups and to be used as an investigative tool. The disk includes addresses of a wide range of groups, including the Ku Klux Klan, the Aryan Nation and groups based in Asia that promote national superiority.

RCMP Media Summary

ANNUAL ALS WALK Sault Ste. Marie Detachment, in partnership with the local Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Society, held its second annual ALS Walk on May 29, 1999, along the city's boardwalk on the Saint Mary's waterfront. ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a terminal illness affecting the body's neural system and muscle function. Sault Ste. Marie Detachment has adopted the theme "Let's Walk for Richard" in honour of Cst. Richard Forest who was diagnosed with ALS in 1996. Since then, he has lost the use of his arms and legs, but is still working. He and his wife were transferred to St-Jérome Detachment, Quebec, to be closer to medical facilities.

Last year, more than $10,500 was raised to help fund research as well as providing financial assistance to ALS patients for their medical and physical needs. The response from RCMP employees across Canada helped approximately $4,000 in the first annual walk. More than 100 individuals took part in the 5-km walk this year. All available Detachment personnel, including Sudbury Detachment, participated in either the organization of the event and/or the walk itself.

While the final tally is not yet known, it is estimated that this year's walk raised more than $6,000 — of which $1,300 in cash donations came mostly from RCMP employees. Many thanks to everyone who participated.

COMMUNICATION AID "LINK" An Ontario youth has gained the ability to speak for the first time, thanks to a new speech communication aid called "Link" which was donated to the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre by Hamilton/Niagara Detachment personnel. "Link" a new speech device that electronically repeats words or phrases after they are typed into a computer keyword, has the capability of accessing eight different electronic voices while controlling the pitch and volume of

verbal messages. "Imagine being a parent and hearing your child verbalize, for the first time, that they love you," said Insp. Dave Shewchuk.

Sarah, a student at the rehabilitation centre and school for physically challenged children, received the unit on May 28, 1999, during an official presentation by Csts Allen Rodgers and Colin Chisholm. Unable to speak since birth, Sarah was familiar enough with a computer to type in a message of welcome to the visiting Mounties. "When she heard her own thoughts verbalized, Sarah went ballistic," said Cst. Rodgers.

"Link" was purchased partly from the $5,000 that Hamilton/Niagara Detachment received for winning the CO's 1998 Award of Excellence for outstanding achievement in displaying the best combination of fiscal management, practices, production and teamwork. Insp. Shewchuk had asked his personnel how they wished to spend the reward money and overwhelmingly, they wanted to help young people in need. The remaining portion of the reward — $3,000 — was donated to the Hamilton Children's Hospital. "I'm extremely proud of them!" said Insp. Shewchuk.

By Heather Hamilton

FAST WATER, FAST FRIENDS For the 7th year in a row, "O" Division personnel joined with Aboriginal people and friends of the Pine Tree Native Centre on July 28, 1999, for a day of friendship and fun on the Grand River. "The true meaning behind the event is to build bridges between the Aboriginal community and law enforcement personnel, the police, judges, lawyers and social workers," said "O" Division organizer, Paulette Breau.

More than 300 participants were either paired in 150 canoes for the two-hour paddle from Bean Park, in Paris, to Brant Conservation Area in Brantford, while others chose to coast their way downstream, on large rafts, accompanied by tour guides. At the end of the day, hungry paddlers enjoyed a feast which was introduced with a prayer and accompanied by traditional aboriginal music. Many thanks to this year's sponsors: the Brantford City Police, the Ontario Police College and the Grand River Canoe Company and Grand Experiences who supplied the canoes and rafts.

By Heather Hamilton

NEW TORONTO AIRPORT DETACHMENT Now underway and expected to be ready this fall with full implementation in fiscal year 2000/2001, Insp. John Neily, OIC of the new RCMP Airport Detachment, is already welcoming the challenges ahead. The Detachment will occupy fifty-eight hundred square feet on the 3rd floor of the Toronto Lester B. Pearson International Airway Centre. In addition to the 46 new positions, the process will involve the integration of existing RCMP operations at Pearson Airport, including the current Drug Section, Immigration and Passport Section, Toronto Airport National Security Investigation Special Squad (TANSISS), as well as a drug dog and handler currently based at Milton Detachment.

An implementation team meets regularly to discuss the progress of construction, staffing requirements, the purchase of furniture and everything else, from paper clips to police cars. With more than 30 enforcement bodies present at Pearson, the RCMP will be working in close cooperation with its partners, particularly with the Peel Regional Police, the police service of jurisdiction.

By Heather Hamilton

WEB PAGE CHALLENGE In January 1998, Kitchener Detachment approached Doug Brown, of the Waterloo Board of Education, with the idea of starting a Web Page Challenge. This would provide the Kitchener Detachment with a unique Web Page that could be updated annually at a small cost, and would also give local students the opportunity to learn more about the role of

the RCMP, as a federal/provincial contract police force. Students would also receive credit for the time spent on the project, and would see their efforts displayed over the Internet for one year. Entries were judged by Doug Brown and Cpl. Paul Thompson and the entry from Cameron Heights Collegiate Institute was declared the winner. The total cost of the first year's Web Page Challenge was approximately $400.

In January 1999, Csts Rob Foster and Cpl. Paul Thompson widened the competition to include high schools in the local area, and Cameron Heights won again. All participants enjoyed the challenge and the learning experience of the Web Page Challenge. Kitchener Detachment's Web Page can be viewed at www.sympatico.ca/mp.kitchener

By Cpl. Paul Thompson

STOPPING LEAKS IN THE PIPELINE Last June, 42 candidates from Canada Customs, Cornwall Detachment, Ontario Provincial Police, Akwesasne Mohawk Police, POC Kingston, the Department of National Defence and the New York State Police attended a two-day seminar on Pipeline/Convoy/Proceeds, held at the NavCan Training Institute, in Cornwall, by Cornwall Detachment and Kingston Proceeds of Crime (POC) personnel.

"Cornwall is a high traffic channel between the U.S. and Canada. Contraband passing between Montréal and Quebec to Toronto usually goes through Cornwall," said Cst. Robert Lemay, coordinator from Kingston POC. Facilitators at the two-day training session included Cpl. Rob Ruiters, from Winnipeg, Cpl. Pat O'Brien, from Ottawa, and Cst. Michel Aubin, from Kingston. Participants learned to identify different concealment methods and locations in vehicles for smuggled goods which include liquor, tobacco, narcotics, money, weapons and illegal immigrants. The training session also helped to establish correct procedures on seizing and packaging currency, taking photographs, obtaining documentation and warned statements. Further training seminars are planned for the near future.

By Marcina Bismilla

U.S. CUSTOMS HONOUR MOUNTIES On April 23, 1999, some "O" Division members were awarded U.S. Citations — equivalent to a Commissioner's Commendation — during a special ceremony held at the U.S. Customs Service Office at Rainbow Bridge, New York, for their cooperation with U.S. officials in solving an illegal exporting operation that transcended North American borders. Recipients included S/Sgt. Ted Christie (London POC), Csts Robert Schofield, Rick Boyer and Roger Daviau (Kingston C&E), Capt. Bernard Derbach (CAF), U.S. Customs Senior Special Agents Vincent Inglio and William Puff (West Palm Beach, Florida) and Assistant Customs Attache Daniel Supnick (U.S. Embassy, Ottawa).

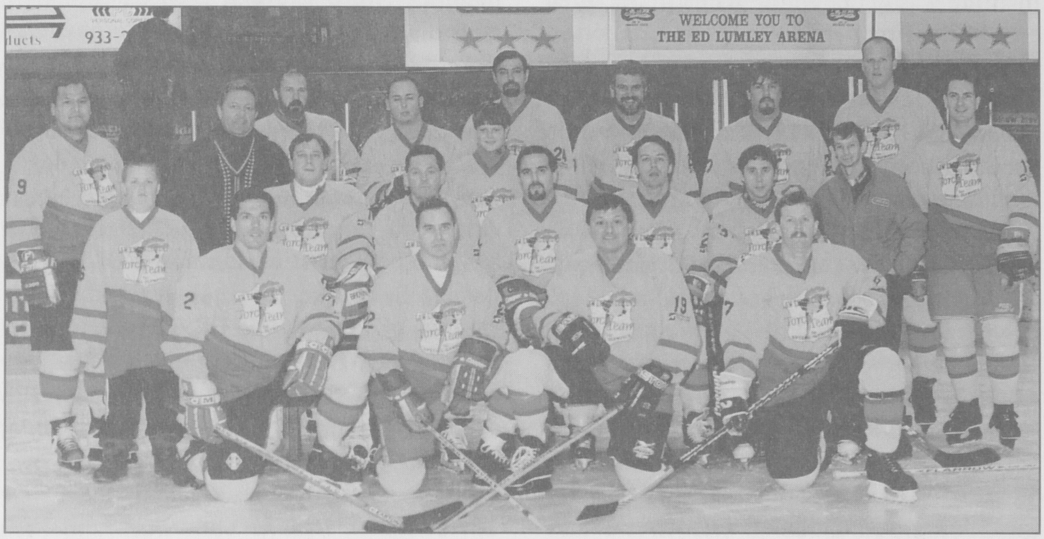
Both U.S. Customs Commissioner Raymond Kelly and the CO, "O" Division, A/Commr. Al Hutchinson praised the joint cooperation and proud law enforcement tradition that exists between our two nations. The praise comes two years after the investigation, prosecution and conviction of two men involved in a conspiracy to illegally export 45 Kiowa helicopters to Iraq, contrary to U.S. International Traffic Arms Regulations.

By Heather Hamilton

MOTHERS' DAY Mothers' Day was extra special for residents at two nursing homes in the Akwesasne Mohawk Community, when Csts Richard Duval, Pat Pyke, Cynthia Lord, Carson Oakes, from Cornwall Detachment, and two members of the Mohawk Police stopped by to visit and present flowers. The event was organized by Cst. Duval, who raised money by selling flowers to Detachment personnel and used the profits to buy more flowers for the nursing home mothers. A local flower shop provided the potted African violets at cost.

"It was a great heartwarming event," said Cst. Duval. Next year, he is planning to visit more nursing homes in Cornwall, and will be organizing more holiday events at the senior residences, including a Christmas concert. "We will have a choir of RCMP members singing with a school choir and hopefully, members of the OPP and the Mohawk Police will join us."

By Marcina Bismilla



HOCKEY CHALLENGE ***More than 3,000 fans attended the game when the NHL Old-timers Hockey Challenge Team won 11-8, against the Cornwall Area Law Enforcement Torch, at the Cornwall Civic Complex. More than $3,800 was raised for Ontario Special Olympics. The general public, players and organizers enjoyed a social get-together following the game. (L-R): Front row: George Levere Jr. (stick boy), Gino Bonville (OPP), Mike Lapensée (Alexandria Police), Doug Smoke, Al Bennett (RCMP). Middle row: Tyler Sunday (AMPS), Denis Moquin (Coach), Steve McDougald (OPP), Marc Bissonnette (CPS), Brock Bissonnette (water boy), Larry Frappier (CPS), Hector Chiasson (RCMP), Brian Moreau (RCMP), Bobby Ladouceur (Special Olympian), John Hatch (OPP). Back row: Steve Séguin (OPP), Jeff Davidson (Canada Customs), Pete Sauvé (CPS), Thom Racine (CPS), Darryl Holmes (OPP).***

Legend: Cornwall Police Service (CPS); Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS); Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)

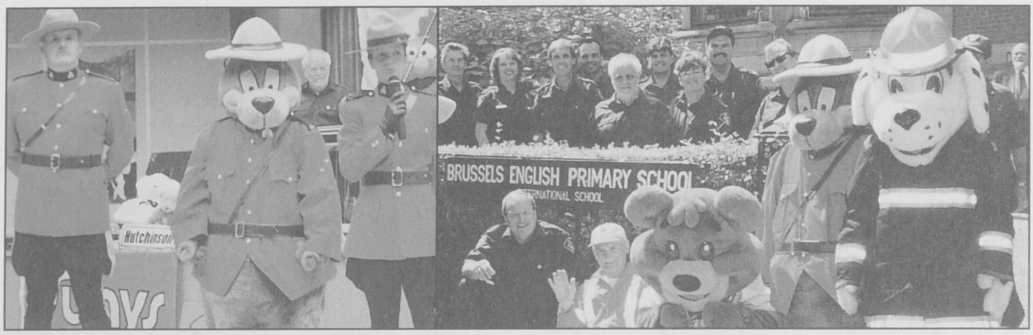
By Cpl. A.L. Bennett

Photo courtesy of the Cornwall Police Service Ident. Unit

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN ***A 9-km run took place last June, as part of the 13th annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Ontario Special Olympics. The Akwesasne Mohawk Police, Cornwall City Police, RCMP and students from the Mohawk Akwesasne school raised about $1,000 for a good cause. This was also an opportunity for the police to network with local youth in the name of a common cause.***

By Cpl. A.L. Bennett

Photo courtesy of Shannon L. Lazore



OPP BEAR HUG BAND ***In April 1997, while working as Drug Awareness Coordinator, Bowmanville Drug Section, Cst. Julie Meeks became involved in a partnership with the OPP to deliver drug awareness messages to school children through bluegrass renditions of popular children's songs performed by the OPP Bear Hug Band. Created by OPP Sgt. Gord Magee, the program is conducted with the assistance of Ontario Hydro various police forces including the RCMP, fire departments and music guilds. The program has since played in hundreds of Ontario schools and its popularity has generated requests from other provinces and other countries. Last May, Cst. Julie Meeks and Cpl. Gary Meeks accompanied the Bear Hug Band on a 10-day tour of Europe — the group's first international tour. The Band was well received by students, teachers and parents — and everyone was happy to see two Mounties in Red Serge.***

NORTH WEST REGION

"D" DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS — WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

MARRIAGES Reg. No. 45422, Cst. D.J. Inglis, to Debra Kowlessar, on April 24, 1999, at Winnipeg.

Reg. No. 45851, Cst. Jennifer "Annie" Padfield, of Prairie Mountain Detachment in Russell, to Cst. Trevor Pashe, of the Dakota Ojibway Police Service, at the Fellowship Chapel, Sioux Valley First Nation, Manitoba, on April 17, 1999.

BIRTH To Reg. No. 40115, Cst. C.G. Fry and his wife, Mary, a daughter, Julia Katherine, on December 6, 1998, at Winnipeg.

LINK TO RIEL Hair reportedly clipped from Louis Riel's beard after he was hanged was to be returned to the Metis hero's family during a ceremony last April. The hair, a small collection of curly, reddish strands, is believed to have been taken from Riel as he lay waiting to be put into a casket and transported to Manitoba following his 1885 execution in Regina. Bill Mackay, curator of the RCMP Museum in Regina, said a lawyer recently came to him with the paper, part of an estate he was handling. Insp. Lennard Busch, of the RCMP's Aboriginal Policing Branch, brought the aging package to David Chartrand, President of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

RCMP Media Summary

ORGANIZED CRIME UNIT The RCMP in Manitoba and the provincial justice department banded together to tackle organized crime. The two partners signed an agreement in principle last April, to form a unit to help police officers crack down on outlaw bikers and street gangs. Justice Minister Vic Toews says its aim is to bring together policy makers and the RCMP. He says he plans to get municipal forces across the province involved in the partnership.

RCMP Media Summary

CARE TO CLAIM COCAINE? It's the largest lost-and-found case in Manitoba his-

tory. RCMP and Canada Customs officials were searching for the owners of $5.6 million worth of cocaine seized last May, at the Winnipeg International Airport. The Mounties admit it was their lucky day, as the drugs likely were destined for another location but may have been sent to the city by accident — possibly because of an airline mixup in the Caribbean. An official noticed two bags destined for Winnipeg were unusually heavy and decided to open them up. Inside, he found 56 one-kilogram bricks of cocaine, wrapped loosely in some old Caribbean newspapers and dirty rags.

RCMP Media Summary

HEROIC DISPLAY An RCMP officer's wild ride in the back of a fleeing pickup truck last August, came to a dramatic end when the officer smashed the rear window, reached through and turned off the ignition before apprehending the driver. Cst. Steve Sumner, recovered from cuts to his arms, shards of glass in his eyes and an injured back. But he has no doubt that it could have been much worse. "This was definitely something out of a movie," Cst. Sumner said. "It's definitely the most stressful thing I have ever been through." He and his partner, Cst. Rob Harkin, were on patrol one morning when they spotted a truck towing what turned out to be two stolen personal watercraft.

RCMP Media Summary

OCC OFFICIAL OPENING The official opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of the new "D" Division Operations Communications Centre (OCC) was held February 18, 1999, at Division HQ. The new OCC features state-of-the-art equipment and represents a blending of four OCCs into one: Brandon, Dauphin and Winnipeg which are currently being run out of the "D" Division HQ facilities, with Thompson scheduled to join in September 1999, after the Pan Am Games.

The opening was attended by the CO, "D" Division, A/Commr. Tom Eggleston, the Minister of Justice for the Province of Manitoba, The Hon. Vic Toews, and the OCC Manager, Ms. Cathy Deacon, as well as many off-duty OCC employees and a number of retired Telecoms operators. Coffee, cake and an open house for RCMP employees followed the official ceremony.

(L-R): Cathy Deacon, Mr. Vic Toews, A/Commr. Egglestone and Telecom Operator Lillian Arsenault.

HOCKEY HEROES NEVER FADE On March 18, members of the RCMP played against a group of NHL hockey legends at the Winnipeg arena. More than 10,000 fans attended and were treated to a highly entertaining evening, supplied by the likes of Guy Lafleur, Lanny McDonald and Senator Frank Mahovlich. Once again the Legends hung on to defeat the RCMP but the real winner was the RCMP Run For Cancer. The evening raised $20,000.

By Sgt. Larry Renkas

A/Commr. T.W. Egglestone presented a cheque representing the proceeds of the evening to Mr. Girard Yaskewich, President of the Manitoba Division of the Canadian Cancer Society.

(L-R) Front row: Cst. Joanne Keeping (Winnipeg Commercial Crime Section), Shauna Crognali (Portage Detachment/Victim Services), PSE Lorna Boschman (Portage Detachment), Cst. Laura Cadieux (Wasagaming Detachment), Cst. Debra Church (Portage Detachment), Cst. Nancy Kovall (Portage Detachment). Second row: Cst. Connie Villeneuve (Winnipeg Detachment), Melody Smith (Headingley Corrections Institution), Cst. Céline Masson (Steinbach Detachment), Cpl. Jody Berganaschi (Special "I"), Patti Yanchishyn (Headingley Corrections Institution), Cst. Helen Benson (Portage Detachment), Cst. Cindy Gork (Stonewall Detachment), Cst. Denise Keatley (Oakbank Detachment), Cst. Karen Roblin (Treherne Detachment).

SHE SHOOTS, SHE SCORES ... It took a few phone calls, an ice arena and a mascot, but they made it happen. On March 9, 1999, the first RCMP womens' hockey team made history when they played the "Lady Storm" team of the Long Plains First Nation, outside of Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. The game (a win of 8-0) was part of a fundraiser thought up and organized by Csts Helen Benson, Debra Church and Nancy Kovall, Portage Detachment. Besides Safety Bear, there were games and prizes for the kids and lots of entertainment for the spectators. The event was so well received that future bookings were being made before the laces were untied.

Although the team consisted of 11 players from different Detachments and towns, their love of hockey was common to all. They eagerly returned Kovall's call when she was scouting for players, and are now anxiously awaiting the next game, in the year 2000. Other Divisions who have a team are encouraged to call Nancy Kovall at (204) 857-4445.

By Cst. Joanne Keeping

VETERANS' NEWS The Winnipeg Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association welcomed the following new members: Reg. No. 22128, N. Collette; Reg. No. 24453, B.M. Crawford; Reg. No. 32339, D. Goddard; Reg. No. 27638, M.T. Horn. The Division also accepted applications for membership from: Reg. No. 36329, R.S. Brakefield-Moore; Reg. No. 28827, J.L. O'Ray; Reg. No. 22393, R.A. Urschatz; Reg. No. 30148, N.J. Griffith; Reg. No. 27756, D. King; Reg. No. 30270, N.R. Strain.

"DEPOT" DIVISION
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

BIRTH To Reg. No. 39736, Cpl. Mark Pharand and his wife, Reg. No. C/3887, C/M Dominique Proulx-Pharand, a son, Patrick Hector, on March 24, 1999, at Regina.

MINTO CUP/NICHOLSON CUP 1998 The winner of the 1998 Minto Cup is Reg. No. 46710, Cst. M.G. Galina, who was a member of Troop 15 (97/98). The Minto Cup is presented each year to the cadet in training who attains the highest pistol qualification score for the calendar year. Cst. Galina shot a score of 250/250-25x. She is presently posted to Charlottetown Detachment, in "L" Division, Prince Edward Island.

The winner of the 1998 Nicholson Cup is Reg. No. 46866, Cst. D.J. Klop who was a

member of Troop 25 (97/98). The Nicholson Cup is presented annually to the cadet in training who attains the highest rifle qualification score for the calendar year. Cst. Klop shot a score of 100/100-10x. He is presently posted at Grande Prairie Detachment, in "K" Division, Alberta.

By C/Supt. J.G. Harper Boucher

TRAIL BLAZER As he blazed a trail through the "Depot" gym, Cadet Ryan Leef, a recent graduate of troop 4, was on the verge of becoming the fastest timed cadet runner in RCMP history. He came through training running a total of 1,535 miles, averaging a mere 54.6 miles per week. As if that wasn't enough, he bolted through the 1.5 miles (Cooper's) run in a record 7:09 and toppled the 3-mile in a record 15:13. To top off his accomplishments, Cadet Leef executed 19 pull ups, benched well over his 137 lbs. with a bench of 196 lbs., and ran the PARE in 2:52 — an outstanding feat. Congratulations! Cst. Leef is currently posted to Watson Lake Detachment, Yukon.

By Fiona Vincent

TITANIC VISITOR Ms. Millvina Dean, the youngest survivor of the *Titanic* tragedy, visited Regina during the "Titanic Weekend" held at the Hotel Saskatchewan, to raise money for the Saskatchewan Hearing Impaired Services. At the time of the sinking, Ms. Dean was only nine months old and was travelling with her mother, father and two-year-old brother; her father perished in the tragedy. One of her conditions she had agreed to appear at the "Titanic Weekend" was that she would **NOT** have to see the movie (understandably); the other was that she would be able to visit the "Home of the Mounties" — which Cpl. Brar, as her personal escort for the weekend, was happy to oblige.

On May 27, 1999, Ms. Millvina Dean was greeted at the Regina Airport by (L-R) Cpl. Dale Sheehan and Cpl. Yarinder Brar.

Photo by Mrs. Carla Ferguson

At the age of 87, Ms. Dean is the youngest of all five remaining *Titanic* survivors and is the only one still able to travel. We were delighted to have her visit "Depot" and it seemed to have made a good impression on her too, as toward the end of her visit she was heard to say, "I'd like to take my Mountie home with me!"

By Mrs. Sherrill Taylor

TEACHING THEM WELL ***As part of their Community Service Program, members of Troop 5 (98/99) were paired up with grade-one students from Henry Jensen School. The Troop visited the school, forming a bond of friendship between the two groups. As such, the students were invited to view Troop 5's Peer performance on March 4, 1998. In a show of appreciation after the performance, the students presented each member of the Troop with a red rose and a thank you letter.***

By Mrs. Sherrill Taylor

Photo by Mr. Chris Caverly

LONG SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION — JUNE 9, 1999 *The Honourable J.E.N. Wiebe, Lieutenant-Governor of Saskatchewan, presented long service awards to "Depot" Division employees, during a ceremony held in the RCMP Chapel. (L-R) Front row: Supt. J.R.M. Castonguay (GCS), PSE B. Ross (PS25P), The Hon. J.E.N. Wiebe, Mrs. Wiebe, Sgt. R.T. Smart (BCS), Sgt. R.P. Gauthier (BCS), Sgt. G.P. Morin (LSM), PSE B. Koncz (PS35M). Middle row: Sgt. J.S. Larivière (LSM), Cpl. J.J.G. Tremblay (LSM), Cpl. R.W. Brossart (LSM), Cpl. R.X. Jerrett (BCS), Cpl. T.T. Tycholis (BCS). Back row: Cpl. J.G. Cunningham (LSM), Cpl. J.A.J. Maillet (LSM), Sgt. M.J. Seliske (SCS), Sgt. J.J.R. Stewart (BCS).*

Legend: Gold Clasp and Stars (GCS); Silver Clasp and Stars (SCS); Bronze Clasp and Star (BCS); Long Service Medal (LSM); PS 35-year Medallion (PS35M); PS 25-Year Plaque (PS25P)

DEPOT 125 YEARBOOK *With the assistance and collaboration of "Depot" employees and RCMP Veterans, the dynamic trio of Cpls Dale Sheehan, Garth Cunningham and Bill Chisholm produced a "Depot" yearbook to mark the 125th anniversary of the RCMP. This marvellous memento of a year in the life of "Depot" Division — highlighting events which took place throughout the year, and providing an excellent recounting of our history, both in text and pictorial format — was a tremendous success. The official launch of the "Depot" 125 Yearbook took place March 9, 1999, at the RCMP Centennial Museum. (L-R, Photo 1): Cpl. Garth Cunningham, Cpl. Dale Sheehan, Mr. Terry Zwarych of Friesen's (Yearbook Division), and Cpl. Bill Chisholm. (Photo 2): Supt. Gérald Doucet, chairperson of the "Depot" 125 Committee, presented copies of the yearbook to Mr. William MacKay, Director of the RCMP Centennial Museum and (Photo 3) to C/Supt. Harper Boucher, CO, "Depot" Division.*

By Ms. Donna Fisher

Photos by Mr. Chris Caverly

"F" Division
Headquarters — Regina, Saskatchewan

BIRTH To Reg. No. 45212, Cst. R.M. Deschenes and her husband, Gordon Meredith, a daughter, Hannah Carol, on September 10, 1998, at Regina.

SIGNING COMMUNITY POLICING FRAMEWORK The RCMP, the Saskatchewan Justice Department and 35 municipalities in northern Saskatchewan have agreed to work together to improve community policing. The Framework Agreement on Community Policing was signed at a special ceremony May 5, 1999 in La Ronge. Commissioner Philip Murray signed the agreement on behalf of the RCMP; Justice Minister John Nilson signed for the province. Three co-chairs of "New North" — the northern municipalities' umbrella group —

The RCMP co-signed a framework agreement on community policing jointly with the Saskatchewan Minister of Justice, John Nilson, and the three co-chairs of New North.

signed, as did more than 20 mayors and community representatives in attendance.

Under the agreement, Community Police Boards in the participating municipalities will be established by municipal councils to work with the RCMP. Together, the board and the RCMP Detachment for the area will outline policing goals on a yearly basis. These boards will also have input on the staffing attributes for members and will provide community orientation to RCMP members coming into the area.

Saskatchewan is the first province to sign such an agreement. The provincial government is assisting with funding for training of the community board members once they are recruited. Commissioner Murray praised the historic agreement. "The RCMP is committed to working with communities to address their specific policing needs," he said. "By participating in this agreement, we are demonstrating our willingness to join with northerners in community problem-solving."

(L-R): The Hon. John Nilson, Commissioner Philip Murray and Margaret Aubizhan, Mayor of Patunak.

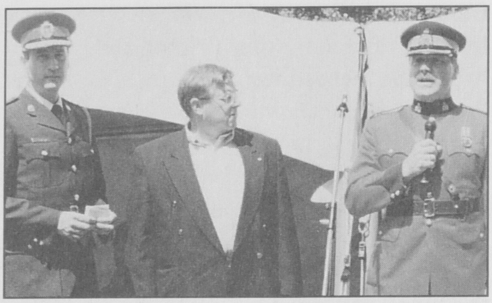
Photo courtesy of Gill Gracie

The framework commits the RCMP to encourage its members to participate in community life. It also requires the RCMP to report to the board and to the community on a regular basis.

Max Morin, co-chair of New North, spoke on behalf of the communities. "Northerners welcome this framework agreement as an important step in enhancing justice services in this region," he said. "We want to work with Saskatchewan Justice and the RCMP to ensure policing and justice policies are sensitive to the needs of our communities."

This agreement was the result of months of consultation and negotiation. Rhonda Daignault of New North, Maxine Hodgson from Saskatchewan Justice and Insps Chuck Orem and Tom Bennett were instrumental in developing the framework agreement.

JUSTICE STUDIES AWARD A new scholarship program for Aboriginal youth interested in careers in policing was announced June 21, 1999, in conjunction with National Aboriginal Awareness Day. Insp. Darrel Madill, along with Regina Police Chief Calvin Johnston, and Paul Martin of the Wicihitowin Foundation, described the creation of the Justice Studies Award. Two $1,000 scholarships will be available each year, one designated for Metis youth and one for First Nations youth. The Justice Studies Award will be based on the applicants community service, interest in justice and policing issues, academic performance and references. Students must be enrolled in a program of post-secondary education and/or training in Saskatchewan.



(L-R): Regina Police Chief Cal Johnston; Mr. Paul Martin, Wicihitowin Foundation; Insp. Darrell Madill.

The Award is the legacy of the very successful National Aboriginal Youth Conference hosted in May 1995, by the RCMP and the Regina City Police. After expenses, there was $18,000 left over. "I can't think of a better way to continue the legacy of the conference than this Award," said Insp. Darrel Madill. "It will help to facilitate the entry of Saskatchewan First Nations and Metis youth into the RCMP, the Regina City Police and other Sask. Police agencies."

And the left-over $18,000 became $40,000 thanks to contributions from Greystone Capital Management and Bosgoed Project Consultants Inc. The University of Regina is also a partner in the scholarship plan. The Wicihitowin Foundation will administer the scholarship fund and be its trustee. Application forms for the 1999 school year are being forwarded to Saskatchewan schools, First Nations and Metis locals, and to provincial training and education institutions.

COMPUTER DONATION HELPS COMMERCIAL CRIME UNIT The "F" Division Commercial Crime Section (CCS) received help from its friends in the business community when Trans Canada Pipeline — a member of the Regina Chamber of Commerce — donated two complete Apple Power Macintosh computer systems on June 30, 1999, to assist the CCS in dealing with Macintosh-based software.

With an increasing level of technical sophistication among commercial criminals, the RCMP must have up-to-date equipment. As budgets are always a consideration, outside contributions are welcomed. "Commercial crime is a major problem costing Canadian businesses more than a billion dollars a year," said Insp. Sid Bloxom, OIC, CCS in Regina. "This donation will assist us in our efforts to stop commercial criminals."

The Regina Chamber of Commerce decided to get involved in this project last May, after hearing a presentation by Insp. Bloxom which dealt with trends in economic crime and the critical shortage of up-to-date computer technology needed to counteract these trends. Chamber President, Jim Deane, along with representatives of Trans Canada Pipeline, officially made the donation. "Many corporation change their computers every few years," said Deane. "They often donate the equipment to local schools or charities, but I am pleased to see a member of the business community contributing to an organization (RCMP) dedicated to fighting commercial crime."

Deane and the Chamber of Commerce plan to ask all 850 local members to consider making similar donations of computer equipment to the RCMP. "The Chamber is com-

(L-R): Gord Hart, President of M/A Cad Works; Insp. Sid Bloxom, OIC, Regina CCS; Jim Deane, President, Regina Chamber of Commerce; Al Temple, Regina Manager Trans-Canada Pipeline.

mitted to work with the RCMP to provide creative solutions to battle crime against business," said Deane.

ORDERLY FARM PROTESTS More than 40 additional RCMP members were scheduled for duty on the August long weekend, because of a massive farm protest at numerous locations around Saskatchewan. More than 1,200 farmers took their tractors, combines and other vehicles to the highways on August 2, to bring attention to the low commodity prices facing producers. The organizers of the protest chose the holiday Monday because of the increased traffic on the roads. There were delays of up to 15 minutes on some roads, and up to two hours on busier highways. RCMP were on hand at all 20 targeted locations to ensure that the demonstration did not endanger public safety.

No collisions were reported and no one was arrested. Some members of the public did complain to officers on duty directing traffic and to OCC staff, but there were no formal complaints made and no charges laid. The demonstration went smoothly mainly due to advance preparation by both the organizers of the event and the RCMP. The two sides were in regular contact and the organizers kept local District Management Teams (DMT) up to date on the times and locations of the protest. This allowed DMTs to schedule staff and develop contingency plans for such things as emergency vehicle access and detours.

Farmers gather near Weyburn preparing to begin a protest on highways around the city.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENDATION In 1984, after molesting a victim and two siblings, the perpetrator who resided in the Pierceland area claiming to be a lay evangelical missionary, gaining the trust of the community and living off the hospitality of the local pastor and several families (one of them being that of one of the victims) abruptly disappeared from the area. The first case came to the attention of the RCMP in 1989 however, when the victim's family was reluctant to lodge a formal complaint.

In August 1993, when one of the same victims, now 21 years old, filed a complaint of sexual molestation at Saskatoon Detachment, Alberta, the case was assigned to Cst. Seidemann who had just been posted to Pierceland Detachment. His only lead were nine-year-old photographs of the suspect taken by the victim's family and a name which turned out to be an alias. Cst. Seidemann spent four-and-a-half years on the investigation which led him across the western provinces and Ontario at great personal expense. With the assistance of ViCLAS, the media and Crime Stoppers, the suspect was finally recognized from a newspaper photo and arrested in Calgary, Alberta, in April 1996.

The suspect had used more than 27 aliases and verification through Interpol revealed

On May 6, 1999, Commissioner J.P.R. Murray presented a Commissioner's Commendation to Reg. No. 36655, Cst. Andreas Seidemann, of Pierceland Detachment, for his tenacity, perseverance and professionalism throughout the course of a four-and-a-half year investigation of a multiple sexual child molester.

Commissioner Murray presented a Commissioner's Certificate of Appreciation to Crown Prosecutor Anthony B. Gerein, Saskatchewan Justice, who wrote in a letter of Commendation, "In the course of the year and-a-half during which I have worked on this file, I have seen first-hand Cst. Seidemann's efforts. I have also seen through my review of the material, his efforts before that and can confidently say I have never seen more of better work done."

another 28 aliases and criminal convictions during his 11 years of residence in Europe. Fifty witnesses, including 20 victims, testified during the hearing held in Pierceland, in October 1997. Cst. Seidemann's lengthy and difficult investigation not only led to the arrest and conviction of the child molester but also to the subsequent designation of the offender as a "dangerous offender".

By Gloria N. Nichol
Awards Coord.
North West Region Admin Services

"F" DIVISION LONG SERVICE AWARDS ***On May 20, 1999, The Hon. J.E.N. Wiebe, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, presented long service awards in the RCMP Chapel. (L-R) Front Row: G.N. Nichol, Awards Coordinator; Insp. L.W. Kjemhus (BCS), C/M K.H.J. Hummel (25P), C/Supt. J.G.H. Boucher, The Hon. J.E.N. Wiebe, Cpl. W.D. Axley (BCS), Cst. G.H. Shaw (BCS), C/M F.H. Martinson (MP20), L.C. Korol (COC). Back row: Sgt. I.N. Axness (SCS), Cpl. J.W. Loran (LSM), Sgt. K.C. Wood (SCS), Cpl. K.A. Martin (LSM), Cpl. R.W. Johnston (LSM), Insp. D.W. McFadyen (SCS), Cpl. L.M. Edwards (SCS), C/M B.A. Collinson (25P).***

Legend: Silver Clasp and Stars (SCS); Bronze Clasp and Star (BCS); Long Service Medal (LSM); 25-year Pin (25P); RCMP Medallion and Pin (MP20); Commanding Officer's Commendation (COC)

VETERANS' NEWS "F" Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association received applications for membership from Reg. No. 20402, J.K. Crosby, and Reg. No. 35706, D.D. Johnson. The Division also welcomed Reg. No. C/1312, K.C. Owens, Reg. No. 25417, L.K. McKenzie, and Reg. No. 0.580 (15707), A.K. Bergh, as new members.

"K" Division
Headquarters — Edmonton, Alberta

BIRTH To Reg. No. 41847, Cst. K. Picard and his wife, Angela, a daughter, Emily Tatiana, on June 22, 1999, at Calgary.

CALUM'S DREAM When four-year-old Calum Murphy, of Disbury, was tragically killed last spring during a softball game, his grieving mother contacted Sgt. Ron Platz at the local RCMP Detachment to ask if Calum — who had deeply admired the RCMP and had dreamed of becoming a police officer — could be named honorary constable. The

community and Didsbury Detachment personnel rallied to overcome this tragedy and to remember the young boy. Within hours, a certificate was created and framed by a local business and the RCMP inducted little Calum as Honorary Constable into their ranks. Cpl. Vaughn Christensen even took a police badge and, he and friend who works leather, mounted it onto a leather badge holder and stamped Calum's birth date as his official registration with the Detachment.

The package was delivered to Callum's mother house a few days before the funeral. The family was deeply touched because police officers had worked so hard to fulfill a little boy's dreams. Calum Murphy's constable issues were buried with him.

Courtesy of the "Didsbury Review"

SEAT BELT CHECK Rising waters played a role in cutting the cash flow of two possible criminals from British Columbia, when members from Hinton Detachment took the opportunity to conduct seat-belt checks, after a threatened bridge washout near Jasper National Park reduced the highway to one lane. The police found more than expected in one car: $110,000 more. When the two men seemed nervous and their stories did not quite add up, the police officers decided to do a search and found bundles of $20 bills. No charges were laid and the money will remain with the RCMP until the origin of the money can be determined.

RCMP Media Summary

EMERALD AWARD The 1999 Emerald Award ceremony was held last June, in Calgary, by the Alberta Foundation for Environmental Excellence to recognize organizations or individuals for their contribution to the environment. Cpl. Ken Chatel, of the Calgary Commercial Crime Section, won the award for individual commitment. Since 1982, he has demonstrated commitment in educating the public with respect to enforcement of endangered species legislation. Over the years, he has trained law enforcement officers both nationally and internationally for the reduction of purchases and importation of endangered species. Cpl. Chatel also prepared the enforcement manual on the *1996 Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act* which has been used by police officers across Canada.

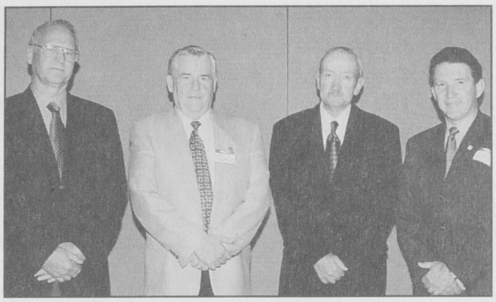
Cpl. Chatel also makes presentations to schools, conventions, science conferences and participates in training sessions aimed at U.S. and Canadian Customs, RCMP, and Fish and Wildlife officers. With more than one million dollars' worth of seizures in 1994 alone, Cpl. Chatel is the top police officer in Canada with respect to seizures related to the enforcement of endangered species legislation, and in prosecutions. Congratulations!

CRIME PREVENTION AWARD The Alberta Justice Crime Prevention awards were started in 1984, to recognize individuals or organizations for their outstanding contributions to their community. On May 8, 1999, Cst. Wayne Oakes, of the Stony Plain Community Policing/Victim Services Unit, received the newly created police category Alberta Justice Crime Prevention Award, for his outstanding work with local crime prevention programs.

The Stony Plain and District Crime Prevention Association nominated Cst. Oakes because of his involvement in programs like DARE, Rural Crime Watch and Bike Patrol. Since his appointment as Community Polic-

(L-R): S/Sgt. Ken Finlayson, Alberta Justice Minister Jon Havelok, Cst. Wayne Oakes, Stony Plain MLA Stan Woloshyn, and A/Commr. Don McDermid.

ing Coordinator in 1993, Cst. Oakes has made his mark in the town of Stony Plain. He is well known around the community and is constantly trying to get others involved. On his days off, he often volunteers his time to educate youth about the dangers of drugs and violence, or attends town meetings. Whether it's forming new crime prevention programs or improving old ones, Cst. Oakes has become a strong presence in the community's fight against crime.



(L-R): Reg. No. 20794, ex-S/Sgt. Rick Mainman (who assumed Bureau responsibilities on a full-time basis in July 1971), A/Commr. McDermid, Reg. No. 17316, ex-Sgt. Ralph Redford (who was the first member to perform the part-time duty responsibilities of the Provincial Bureau, while working as CIB reader in "K" Division HQ), and Richard Philippe, Criminal Intelligence Service Canada.

TRANSITION SOCIAL For the last 29 years, the RCMP has administered the Criminal Intelligence Service Alberta (CISA) Provincial Bureau. During that time, the Provincial Bureau acted as a broker of intelligence for all CISA member agencies, and provided strategic analytical services to the CISA membership and intelligence-related services to the Central Bureau CISC and other provincial Bureaux. Many supervisors managed the affairs of the Provincial Bureau in its 29 year history under RCMP administration, including Sgt. Cliff Kroeker, Sgt. Laurie Sianchuk, Sgt. Jim Dunn, Sgt. Jim Medley, Sgt. Al Rebeyka, Sgt. Paul Rainey and Sgt. Bob McDonald. At its peak, the Bureau had a staff of seven full-time employees.

In 1996, "K" Division underwent a restructuring phase and the CISA Provincial Bureau was amalgamated with the "K" Division Criminal Analysis Section — a positive development, in that all Alberta criminal intelligence was now directed to one location. Further enhancements were realized when the Edmonton Police Service and Revenue Canada Customs Border Services (Intelligence Division) provided resource personnel to the Provincial Bureau, which evolved into a true Joint Forces Operation.

In 1998, "K" Division and the Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat Police

Supt. Dwayne Gibbs, Edmonton Police Service (R), is the first Director of the newly established Provincial Bureau CISA. He addressed the gathering and committed the new Bureau and its personnel to pursue an aggressive agenda to assist in the fight against organized crime in Alberta. He introduced the staff of the new Bureau some of whom are seen (L-R): Gary Buss, Operations Coordinator; Sylvia Church, Research Analyst; Blake McEachern, Training Coordinator; Michelle Paltzat (Revenue Canada Customs secondment), crime analyst; Richard Philippe, Director CISC; C/M Kathy Post (RCMP), crime analyst; Cst. Albert Ku (Edmonton Police Service secondment), crime analyst; C/M Janice Jarema (RCMP), ACIIS II Coordinator; C/M Jane Webster (RCMP), crime analyst. Missing from photo: Charlene Kutash, Admin Assistant; Sherry Nelson (Edmonton PS secondment), Information management clerk; Liaison Officers S/Sgt. Dean Young (Calgary PS), Det. Bill Artym (Edmonton PS), Cpl. Dayle McKibbon (RCMP), Sgt. Ron Valin (Lethbridge PS) and Sgt. Les Phee (Medicine Hat PS).

A/Commr. McDermid presented plaques to the personnel employed in the last Bureau under RCMP administration (L-R): Cst. Albert Ku (Edmonton PS), PSE Janice Scott (RCMP), Michelle Paltzat (Revenue Canada Customs), Sgt. R.H. McDonald (RCMP, Bureau Manager), Richard Philippe, Director CISC; C/Ms Jane Webster, Janice Jarema and Kathy Post (RCMP). A/Commr. McDermid also presented certificates of appreciation to RCMP Division Criminal Analysis Section (DCAS) personnel who assisted in Bureau operations when the Provincial Bureau and DCAS were amalgamated.

Services, in partnership with Alberta Justice, developed a business plan intended to further enhance Alberta law enforcement efficiency in combatting organized crime in Alberta. That business plan also called for the establishment of a Provincial Bureau independent from the RCMP. The new Bureau, under the leadership of Supt. Dwayne Gibbs, of the Edmonton PS, opened for business last June, and is located in a leased property in downtown Edmonton. "K" Division provides three federal resources to the new Provincial Bureau.

On June 17, 1999, the CO, "K" Division, A/Commr. D.N. McDermid hosted a social/lunch buffet at "K" Division HQ, to commemorate the transition. The event was a good opportunity for representatives from the regular, associate and affiliate member agencies of CISA to renew old acquaintances, reinforce relationships and establish new contacts. Special guests included Mr. Paul C. Bourque, Alberta Deputy Minister of Justice; Mr. Rob Lougheed, MLA for Cloverbar-Fort Saskatchewan; Mr. Robert Dunster, Assistant Deputy Minister of Justice, and members of affiliate agencies of CISA, various law enforcement agencies and the RCMP.

A/Commr. McDermid pledged that the RCMP will continue to support the new Bureau, the provisions of the organized crime business plan and the initiatives of Criminal Intelligence Service Canada. He also acknowledged the contribution of the members of the Alberta Organized Crime Coordinating Committee and Implementation Committee, and thanked everyone who served in CISA operations over the years. He stressed that with the involvement of their newest partner, Alberta Justice, law enforcement agencies in Alberta will be better equipped to combat organized crime in Alberta.

By Sgt. R.H.(Bob) McDonald

CHINOOK COUNTRY POLICE SHAKER

Last May, Lethbridge, Taber and Coaldale Police Services hosted the 8th annual Chinook Country Police Shaker, in partnership with the RCMP's Lethbridge Sub-Division. More than 1,270 people partied to the music of the RCMP Country Rock Band (consisting of serving and retired members form "K" and "E" Divisions) and raised $15,000 for STARS (Shock Trauma Air Rescue Service) Air Ambulance, Special Olympics and

On June 22, 1999, a $7,500 cheque was presented to STARS representative Carolyn Matthews by co-chairs (L-R): Cst. Rod Tilson (Lethbridge Police) and Cpl. Rob Robinson, NCO i/c Lethbridge Immigration and Passport Section.

PARTY (Preventing Alcohol Related Trauma in Youth). Since its inception on 1992, this event has raised $200,000 for special Olympics and STARS Air Ambulance.

By Cpl. R.J. Robinson

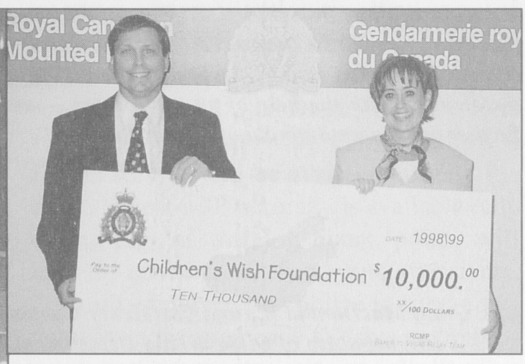
BAKER TO VEGAS RELAY What started as a personal goal (to get in shape) for Sgt. Michael Sekela, who was stationed at Cold Lake Detachment five years ago, has mushroomed into an annual trek for a running team consisting of 20 runners and five alternates compete in a 120-mile relay race through the desert, in the hottest recorded temperatures in North America. The original team consisted of the entire Cold Lake Detachment — from S/Sgt. Bob Wheadon to junior Cst. Barry Larocque (14 members in all, although three were left behind to cover the fort) — and everyone was just committed to getting in shape when they competed in the Jasper-Banff relay race in 1996. The original team is now supplemented with auxiliaries, military police and some members from other police forces (namely Edmonton, and Abbotsford).

How this team developed into annual travelling road show to the States was due to some unlikely circumstances, when during a relay race the Calgary City police team suggested that the team travel to Las Vegas to compete in the Baker-Las Vegas relay race. (The Calgary City police team was the only Canadian team participating in that race against 210 American teams.) Always looking for a challenge, most of the original Cold Lake team members accepted the challenge and participated in the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup, finishing 110 out of 210 teams. Everyone had a great time and were treated very well by their American counterparts.

The following year, the team attend the Baker to Vegas race and raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation. A shirt was designed and sold and the $6,000 profits were used to grant a wish for a terminally ill child. American colleagues were so enthused by the RCMP team's presence that four American civilians donated a van and worked voluntarily with our team. In fact, not only did they adopt our team, but they are now a part of the team.

This past year, the Hobbemma Minor Hockey organization donated a bus so that the Cold Lake team could travel together. Mr. Dale Drake, who had donated the fuel, and two other sponsors accompanied the team to Vegas. The race went really well and photographs taken of our team were published in several running magazines. The next race will be our fifth and we hope again to raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation.

By S/Sgt. Michael J. Sekela



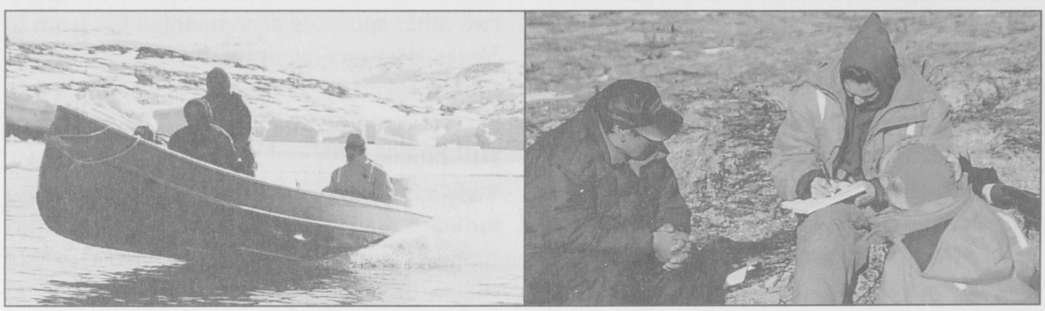
(Photo 1): S/Sgt. Michael Sekela running the final leg of the Baker to Vegas relay in Red Serge and (photo 2) presenting the money raised to the Children's Wish Foundation.

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE *Red Deer City Detachment has established a Partnership for Progress with the 400 students at Mountview School. Joint projects have included fundraising for the Food Bank, supervising annual Bike Rodeos and bilingual DARE presentations. (L-R): Cst. R. Townson, Cst. S. Godfrey, student Andrew Bromley, Mr. Tommy Banks, student Virginia Dennehy, Cst. R. Cervi and Cst. P. Taylor were among the more than 500 guests who attended the recent Striving for Excellence dinner.* *By Robert Lampard, M.D.*

"V" Division
Headquarters — Iqaluit, Nunavut Territory

JUSTICE IN PEOPLE'S HANDS One of the most significant features of the new Territory of Nunavut will be a justice system tailor-made for the Inuit, including a unique court system and a focus on traditional means of punishment, rather than sending people to jail. Police and corrections officials are planning to focus more on finding alternatives to jail for all but the most serious offenders. Instead of charging people for minor offences and sending them through the courts, community justice groups of elders and other volunteers will instead determine appropriate punishment, which could mean anything from facing up to the victim, to having to do community service. The idea is to put the justice system back into the hands of the people it is going to affect.

RCMP Media Summary



Members of Cape Dorset Detachment and the Nunavut GIS Unit investigated a sudden death at an outpost camp near Cape Dorset. Transport along the water highway was by freighter canoe. The interview rooms consisted of sitting on a rock in the middle of the Tundra. Cst. Lisa Ford (C), is seen here taking a statement with the help of an interpreter — while Cst. Pierre Caron is taking another statement further on. Extreme conditions, to say the least! *By Cpl. Harvey L. Seddon*

Photo by Cpl. Les Noble, Nunavut GIS

Cpl. Grant MacDonald (L) and Cst. Henry Coman (R), members of Qikiqtarjuaq Detachment, presented a plaque of appreciation to nurses Theresa Joseph and Liz Ballins, in appreciation of 20 years of service to Northerners — the majority of those years were dedicated to the people of Qikiqtarjuaq (formerly Broughton Island).

On May 29, 199, Kugluktuk Detachment personnel, Cpl. Gary Molloy and Cst. Mark Crowther, stood with newlyweds Cst. Herman Dukhedin-Lalla and Corina (Bushko) Dukhedin-Lalla. This was the first RCMP wedding held in Kugluktuk (formerly Coppermine), since the RNWMP was established there in 1919. In the background, is the former RCMP patrol vessel Jennings which serviced RCMP Detachments on the Mackenzie River, and patrolled the north Arctic coast from Aklavik in the 50s and early 60s. Today, the vessel continues to sail the Coronation Gulf under the direction of owner Captain Larry Whittaker, who is a TCE with Kugluktuk Detachment.

PACIFIC REGION

"E" DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS — VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

BIRTHS To Reg. No. 43145, Cst. G.D. Campbell and his wife, Faith, a daughter, Alysha Meredith, on June 29, 1998, at Kimberley.

To Reg. No. 41356, Cst. T.J.C. Chad and his wife, Kathleen, a daughter, Mary Breanne, on April 19, 1999, at New Westminster.

To Reg. No. 40297, Cst. G.M. Goodwin and his wife, Lisa, a daughter, Emma Barbara, on November 4, 1998, at Salmon Arm.

To Reg. No. 44974, Cst. A. Neuman and his wife, Denise, a son, Jacob Thomas, on January 16, 1999, at Kitimat.

To Reg. No. 38826, Cst. M.E. Saunderson and her husband, Shawn, a son, John Edward, on October 7, 1998, at Prince George.

SHUTTING DOWN DRUG OPERATION The night was going well for the undercover RCMP officers who had located a container filled with cocaine at the Vancouver docks. The team had managed to secretly crack open the box and replace 264 kilograms with fake cocaine. They were waiting for the owners to arrive, so they could learn their identity, and where the cocaine was headed. But as the clock approached 9:30 p.m., the entire terminal at the foot of Clark Drive plunged into darkness for three hours. When power was restored, the container had been cracked. The drugs, real and fake, were gone.

RCMP Media Summary

JUSTICE OF PEACE ON-CALL, ON-LINE Rural Mounties across BC are getting help with their jobs, especially in the middle of the night. Police in 24 communities will have access to a new justice-of-the-peace centre that will enable them to obtain search or arrest warrants and even allow arrested suspects to make their first court appearances 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Attorney-General Ujjal Dosanjh said on June 13, 1999. In communities that don't have a JP, the service will be available around the clock. Where a JP normally is available only during regular working hours, police will have the centre on weekends and after hours. Dosanjh explained that police in rural communities now often have to drive an hour or more to find the nearest on-call JP after hours, get the paperwork done, and then drive back. Under the new system, scheduled to be running by September, first appearances can be done by telephone through the

Vancouver-based centre, linking the police, the accused and, in some cases, a defence lawyer.

RCMP Media Summary

"E" DIVISION'S RESPONSE TO MIGRANT SMUGGLING The successful interception of a suspicious cargo vessel carrying 123 Chinese migrants was due entirely to the joint effort of the RCMP, National Defence, Coast Guard, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and Health Canada. The partnership results from an RCMP-initiated Migrant Symposium held in Victoria last March. As a result of strong multi-departmental communication and strategic thinking, the interception was successful. Migrant smuggling poses an ongoing challenge as evidenced by the recent rescue of almost hundreds more illegal migrants from their rusting ships.

RCMP Media Summary

MOUNTIES MARATHON FOR NICK On April 2, 1999, Castlegar Detachment personnel embarked on a non-stop marathon from Castlegar to Vancouver, a distance of 624 km. Each member was required to run/walk for one hour once every seven hours. The marathon, expected to take five days, was completed in 3.5 days (or 81.5 hours). The purpose of the marathon was to raise funds to help out 11-year-old Nick Beresford who was undergoing treatment for acute lymphocytic leukemia at the Vancouver Childrens' Hospital. It also served to raise the awareness level of this disease, as well as the Bruce Denison Bone Marrow Registry. Funds were obtained through donations from the community and through the sale of T-shirts, designed by one of Nick's classmates.

By Cpl. D. Woodhouse

At the Childrens' Hospital, Castlegar Detachment personnel met with Nick and presented him with a plaque commemorating the marathon, as well as best wishes from the Detachment and the community, and a $7,000 cheque to help the Beresford family with medical expenses.

RIDGE MEADOWS RCMP CHOIR For the 5th straight year, RCMP employees in the Lower Mainland have gotten together at Christmas time to sing carols at several retirement homes, as well as at functions for the terminally-ill and disabled children. Many thanks to the following participants: Insp. Larry Killaly, Sgt. Neil Duncan, Sgt. Jim Wakely, Cst. Greg Meszaros, Sgt. Ray Fawcett, Cpl. Brian Anderson, S/Sgt. Daryl Stone, Cst. Danielle Efford, Cst. Nicki Basra, Cst. Krista Doncaster, Cst. Bernie Smandych, Cst. Pete Morris, Cst. J.D. Fredette, Cpl. John Martone, Cst. Diana Schapp, Dorreen Anderson, Christie Haddrell and Mark Sheppard.

By Cst. D.J. Walsh

SNOWARAMA AT DAWSON CREEK Dawson Creek Detachment employees and their families, once again, helped out in the community's efforts to raise funds in support of the Children with Disabilities. For many years, the BC Snowmobile Federation — consisting of 135 individual clubs — has supported the BC Lions Society in its charitable work. Funds raised are funnelled directly into the Easter Seal Fund in BC to help finance Easter Seal Camps, Child Development Centres, and activities for disabled children.

RCMP personnel, joined by the BC Ambulance members, worked hard to obtain pledges for team members who would ride snowmobiles over the 50-mile trail on Bear Mountain, near Dawson Creek. Snowmobiles were borrowed from Chetwynd and Tumbler Ridge Detachments for those participating members who did not have one of their own. Locally, more than $11,000 was raised; province-wide, the total was $156,000.

By Cpl. Rob Roy

SNOWARAMA ***BC Ambulance personnel with the RCMP team: Cpl. Rob Roy, his son Petur, and his daughter Kristjana; Cst. Tammy Zubyck and her husband, Gord; Cst. Julie Rix and her husband, Steve Crowell who is an OCC dispatcher at the Dawson Creek Detachment; Cst. Olivia Arisman, and A/Cst. John Collins.***

REUNION Last may, past and present members of the Outer Gulf Islands Detachment (formerly Pender Island Detachment) were reunited, with those posted to the satellite offices on Mayne and Galiano Islands, to participate in a golf tournament followed by a pig roast BBQ held at the Legion. Pender Island Detachment was opened in a double wide trailer by lone member Terry Driscol in 1977 and moved to the current building in 1980, with Harry Danyluk as the one member NCO i/c. Currently, the Detachment polices approximately 20 islands with two members on Pender, one member on Galiano and one member on Mayne Island.

By Cst. A. Cowen

(L-R): Harry Danyluk, Hal Zech, Brian Brown, Georgie Neale, Don Clark, Monique Joubarne, Phil Boissenault, Dean Maxwell, Nancy Scott, Henry Proce, Terry Mclachlan, Andrew Cowan, Fraser Schouten, Paul West, Don Smawley, Ian Philip, Kevin Day.

TALKING ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS!

Recently, Officer Cadet Graham Burton (R), — who works as an RCMP Sergeant and was recently transferred to Port Alberni — was commissioned to the rank of second lieutenant, during a ceremony held at the 2822 Surrey Delta Cadet Corps in North Delta. Offering his congratulations is Major Thomas Buchenauer CD, who works as a Customs Inspector at Huntingdon Port of Entry, and is the Cadet Liaison Officer of the Royal Westminster Regiment.

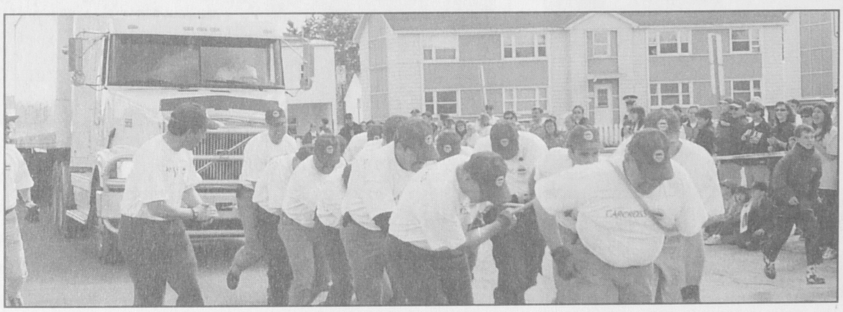
SINGING SANTAS *A hay wagon, decorated with Christmas lights, pulled by two Belgian horses, was lent to Prince George City Detachment "A" Watch personnel and their families, by the Prince George draft horse association. Six "singing" Santas went door-to-door asking for food donations, while carollers sang their hearts out. Public response was overwhelming and 14 large boxes of food were collected for the Salvation Army. Many thanks to all participants and to Csts John Bigras and Helena James (seen here) for organizing this successful event.*

OUR THREE SONS *Reg. No. 23748, Sgt. O. Brian Scott, who retired from the Force October 12, 1990, and now lives in Abbotsford, has three sons who all graduated from the Justice Institute, New Westminster, and are now all serving as police officers: Cst. Christopher J. Scott, with the Vancouver Police; Cst. Jason B. Scott, with the Delta Police Department; Cst. Jeffrey A. Scott, with the New Westminster Police Services. Sgt. Scott presented all three sons with their badges, in the presence of their mother, Mrs. Arlene Scott. An uncle, Reg. No. 32548, S/Sgt. Steve Scott, joined the RCMP in June 1975, and is presently serving in "H" Division, Nova Scotia. Their grandfather, Cecil W. Scott, is a retired member of the Saint John City Police Force, New Brunswick.*

"M" Division
Headquarters — Whitehorse, Yukon

TRACTOR-TRAILER CHALLENGE There was a flurry of activity during Police Week 1999 in all 12 RCMP rural Detachments across the Yukon, including Whitehorse City Detachment. There were the usual open houses, community BBQs, poster contests, sporting challenges, treasure hunts, bicycle rodeos, elders' teas and much, much more. In all my years of service, I had not seen such a concerted effort by an entire Division.

One event was actually organized after a friendly rivalry emerged during the early planning stages of Police Week. Insp. Reg. Reinhardt, OIC of Whitehorse Detachment, was spreading the belief that "M" Division ended at the borders of Whitehorse — effectively promoting the interests of his own Detachment and ignoring the rest of us "country mice" in rural Detachments. Friendly reminders did not seem to register and a challenge was issued: Insp. Reinhardt



The Rural Royals running toward their 45-second official score.

had to pick his best 15 members for a 120-yard tractor pull in front of "M" Division HQ. After attempting to get out of it by saying that Whitehorse Detachment was far too busy for this (perhaps there was some reluctance about the $100 entry fee to be donated to the Whitehorse Hospital?). Days later however, the news reached the local press and after numerous articles were featured across the Territory, Insp. Reinhardt broke down and asked Cpl. Frank Campbell to put a Whitehorse Detachment team together. However, not to be outdone, a Division HQ team also emerged — under the leadership of S/Sgt. Hubley.

The rural Detachments formed an awesome team named, "Rural Royals." Special T-shirts and ball caps were created to display the team name and each team member's home community. The team also made arrangements to hold the post event family BBQ behind Division HQ (thanks to Gerry & Phyllis Toner, of Watson Lake Foods, who sponsored all the steaks and fixings).

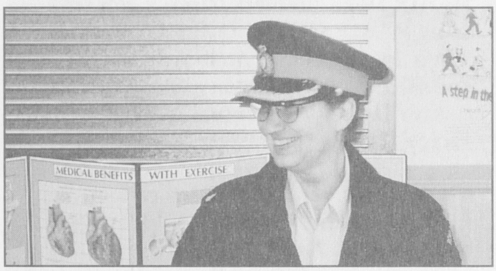
On May 6, 45 participants readied themselves for the 15:00 start. Final strategies were secretly discussed and vocal challenges could be heard from the various camps. After drawing straws, the teams competed in sequence: the City Team, followed by the Division HQ and then the highly-favoured Rural Royals. Needless to say that the competition was fierce: the Whitehorse team harnessed and jogged to the finish liner in 35 seconds and the Division HQ team crossed the finish line in 50 seconds. But when the Rural Royals confidently stepped to the restaged tractor-trailer, and started to pull with unified force, the tractor-trailer didn't move a single inch (oddly) despite the extraordinary horsepower that was unleashed. A scent of rubber and sweat was in the air and when the driver released the brakes, the team shot from the start position and broke into a full run down 4th Avenue. The pace was such that one of the team members flew off the rope and was thrown to the side; as a result, the driver nervously stepped on the brake. Although the team quickly

C/Supt. John Spice presenting the winner's plaque to Cpl. Frank Campbell and the victorious Whitehorse team.

regained full speed, they official score was 45 seconds. The matter is still under appeal pending an investigation. Failing that, there is always next year.

Everyone really enjoyed the family BBQ held after this big kick off event for Police Week 1999. Many thanks to Pacific North-West Moving of Whitehorse for providing the tractor-trailer, the operator and the winning plaque — and to our reputable, and impartial judge — C/Supt. John Spice, CO, "M" Division, for a job well done (ensuring that there was no foul play or that there was no unfair advantage given to any of the teams) — and to everyone who participated in this and the many other Police Week events that were organized throughout the Yukon.

By S/Sgt. D.D. Gibbons



When asked to comment about this photo, Cst. Shirley Telep, Haines Junction Detachment, divulged her lifelong career aspirations about becoming Commanding Officer of the whole Yukon Territory — where she was born and raised, and has been serving with the RCMP for the last 16 years. She figures that nobody could do it better than a home-grown Yukon gal!

On May 14, Dawson City Detachment added three students from the local Robert Service School to the establishment, as police officers for the day. (L-R): Brian Naef, Randy Taylor and Jennifer Touchie, were rewarded for winning the Police Week contest. They got the chance to go on patrol and to help out in the office, and then assisted as Dawson City Detachment employees held a hot dog barbecue for the entire school (254 students and teachers). *By Cpl. T.D. Bain*

OBITUARIES

Obituaries without full service histories are those of the members whose service files have been destroyed. Thus, the information is no longer available.

With respect to training locations, "Depot" Division (simply referred to as "Depot" in the text hereunder) has always been located at Regina, Saskatchewan, "N" Division, at Rockcliffe, Ontario, and "P" Division, Mynarski Park at Penhold Alberta, and RCMP Headquarters (simply referred to as RCMP HQ), at Ottawa, Ontario. Their locations will no longer be specified in the following text. The name "British Columbia Provincial Police" is also abbreviated to BCPP.

The following abbreviations reflect the historical name changes of the Force over the years:

–August 30, 1873 to June 23, 1904: North-West Mounted Police (NWMP);
–June 24, 1904 to January 31, 1920: Royal Northwest Mounted Police (RNWMP);
–February 1, 1920 to present: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

ASKEW Reg. No. 25048, ex-Cst. James Cole Askew, 51, died May 2, 1999, at Kamloops, B.C. He was born June 22, 1947, at Morden, Man., and joined the Force Aug. 19, 1966, at Brandon. Upon completion of training at "Depot" and "P" Divisions, Askew was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Williams Lake, Golden, Armstrong and North Vancouver, taking his discharge May 1, 1975.

BAKER Reg. No. 13121, ex-Cpl. Thomas Francis Baker, 84, died June 12, 1999, at Rosedale, B.C. He was born Sept. 24, 1914, at Calgary, Alta., and joined the Force Aug. 15, 1950, when the BCPP — which he joined in March 1942 — amalgamated with the RCMP. Baker also served in the RCMP Reserve (Nov. 30, 1938-Aug. 27, 1940) and served with the No. 1 Provost Company overseas. In August 1950, Baker was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Oliver, Prince Rupert, Ocean Falls, Trail, New Westminster and Burnaby, retiring Nov. 10, 1969. He was promoted to corporal May 1, 1953.

BENNETT Reg. No. S/466, ex-S/Cst.

Francis (Frank) Bennett, 80, died Aug. 6, 1999, at St. John's, Nfld. He was born Nov. 25, 1918, at Clattice Harbour, and joined the Force as a special constable April 16, 1949, at St. John's. Bennett was posted to "B" Division, Nfld., at St. John's, and retired Sept. 2, 1975.

BROWN Reg. No. 15954, ex-Sgt. John Romsdal Brown, 68, died June 21, 1999, at Langley, B.C. He was born March 4, 1931, at Winnipeg, Man., where he joined the Force Oct. 21, 1949. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Brown was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Vancouver, Squamish and Richmond, retiring Apr. 3, 1979. He was promoted to corporal May 1, 1966; sergeant Oct. 1, 1973.

CARROLL Reg. No. 22321, ex-Sgt. James Everett Carroll, 58, died May 23, 1999, at Sydney, N.S., where he was born Nov. 6, 1940. He joined the Force Jan. 26, 1962, at Halifax, and upon completion of training at "N" Division, he was posted to "J" Division, N.B., at Fredericton, Minto and Newcastle. In July 1979, Carroll was transferred to "H" Division, N.S., at Halifax, Baddeck and Glace Bay, retiring Jan. 23, 1989. He was promoted to corporal Feb. 1, 1973; sergeant July 26, 1985.

COOPER Reg. No. 13626, ex-Cst. James Cooper, 82, died June 27, 1999, at Waubaushene, Ont. He was born Feb. 4, 1917, at Toronto, where he joined the Force Aug. 30, 1940. Upon completion of training at "N" Division, Cooper was posted to "F" Division, Sask., at Swift Current. In August 1941, he was transferred to "N" Division where he served in the No. 1 Provost Company overseas.

DOIRON Reg. No. 26610, ex-Sgt. Renaud Philip Doiron, 51, died July 13, 1999, at Miramichi, N.B. He was born Sept. 2, 1947, at Saint John, and joined the Force Apr. 22, 1968, at Fredericton. Upon completion of training at "Depot" and "P" Divisions, Doiron was posted to "A" Division, Ont., at Ottawa. In Dec. 1969, Doiron was transferred to "B" Division, Nfld., at Holyrood and took his discharge Oct. 31, 1973. He reengaged into the Force Sept. 9, 1974, at Fredericton, and was posted to "J" Division, N.B., at Saint John, Minto, McAdam, Richibucto and Florenceville, retiring July 31, 1996. Doiron was promoted to corporal Apr. 1, 1982; sergeant Dec. 3, 1992.

DUGAL Reg. No. 12710, ex-Cst. Joseph Olida Jean Paul Dugal, 85, died May 8, 1999, at Ottawa, where he was born July 18, 1913, and joined the Force July 5, 1935. Upon completion of training at "N" Division, Dugal was posted to "D" Division, Man., at Winnipeg. On May 1, 1936, he was transferred to "C" Division, Que., at Montréal and Hemmingford. He took his discharge Sept. 26, 1938.

DURKSEN Reg. No. 42450 (S/2855), Cst. Robert Kenneth Durksen, 47, died Sept. 16, 1999, at Pincher Creek, Alta., where he was born May 29, 1952. On Sept. 5, 1984, Durksen joined the Force as a special constable at Lethbridge, Alta., and served in "K" Division, Alta., at Edmonton. He was promoted to constable July 19, 1990.

EXCELL Reg. No. 16417, ex-Sgt. Leslie Bennett Excell, 85, died June 15, 1999, at Victoria, B.C. He was born March 13, 1914, at Victoria and joined the Force Aug. 15, 1950, when the BCPP — where he had been serving since Dec. 10, 1941 — amalgamated with the RCMP. Excell was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Victoria, and retired Sept. 4, 1968. He was promoted to corporal May 1, 1955; sergeant May 1, 1959.

FENWICK Reg. No. 11988, ex-Sgt. Joseph Albert Roblin Fenwick, 88, died Sept. 13, 1999, at Moncton, N.B. He was born April 8, 1911, at Yorkton, Sask., and joined the Force June 27, 1933, at Regina. Upon completion of training at "Depot" Division, Fenwick was posted to "D" Division, Man., at Winnipeg. On June 1, 1934, he was transferred to "N"

Division, and on Oct. 1, 1935, to "J" Division, N.B., at Moncton, Port Elgin, Petitcodiac, Sussex, Albert, Newcastle, Fredericton, Saint John and St. Stephen, retiring Oct. 7, 1954. Fenwick was promoted to corporal Apr. 1, 1943; sergeant Nov. 1, 1947.

FORBES Reg. No. 0.0384 (11849), Supt. Henry Christopher Forbes, MBE, (retired) 89, died June 12, 1999, at Kelowna, B.C. He was born Nov. 19, 1909, at Lacombe, Alta., and joined the Force Nov. 16, 1932, at Edmonton. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Forbes was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Vancouver and was subsequently transferred to the following locations: Dec. 1934, to "K" Division, Alta., at Edmonton, Jasper, Fort Chipewyn, Fort McMurray, Breton, St. Paul and Wetaskiwin; Nov. 1, 1939, to "N" Division, with the No. 1 Provost Company overseas and attained the rank of Major. On Dec. 16, 1945, Forbes reengaged in the RCMP and was posted to the following locations: to "K" Division, at Edmonton and High River; Apr. 1, 1948, to "Depot" Div.; Dec. 1, 1951, to "F" Division, Sask., at Yorkton; Aug. 1, 1955, to "J" Division, N.B., at Fredericton; Feb. 1, 1957, to "O" Division, Ont., at London; Sept. 1, 1959, to "F" Division, at Swift Current; Jan. 1, 1962, to "Depot" Div.; Aug. 17, 1954, to "K" Division, at Edmonton, retiring June 12, 1968. Forbes was promoted to corporal Feb. 1, 1946; sergeant Nov. 1, 1946; sub-inspector Feb. 1, 1948; inspector Feb. 1, 1950; superintendent May 1, 1961. He was awarded the 1939-45 Star, the France-Germany Star, the Defence Medal, the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, the War Medal 1939-1945 and the Order of the British Empire (Investiture of Governor General July 17, 1947 — MBE).

On March 17, 1939, Forbes was awarded a Commissioner's Commendation for his perseverance and subsequent arrest of a suspect of a breaking, enter and theft at Shamrock Valley, Alberta.

FRASER Reg. No. 13143, ex-S/Sgt. John Roy Fraser, 83, died Aug. 8, 1999, at Gagetown, N.B. He was born June 7, 1916, at Westville, N.S., and joined the Force at Ottawa, Dec. 29, 1938. Upon completion of training at "Depot" and "N" Divisions, Fraser was posted to "O" Division, Ont., at Toronto, Guelph and Owen Sound, taking his discharge Dec. 28, 1943, to join the R.C.N.V.R. On Apr. 25, 1946, Fraser reengaged into the Force at Fredericton, and was posted to "J" Division, N.B., at St. Stephen, Saint John and Fredericton, retiring Oct. 17, 1960. He was promoted to corporal May 1, 1950; sergeant May 1, 1954; staff sergeant Nov. 1, 1956.

GILLIS Reg. No. 46294, Cst. Danielle Cecille Gillis, 25, died May 26, 1999, at Vancouver, B.C. She was born Dec. 18, 1973, at Moncton, N.B., and enrolled as an RCMP Cadet Apr. 21, 1997, at Halifax, N.S. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Gillis was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Schelt, where she was still serving at the time of her death.

GOODWIN Reg. No. 12931, ex-Cst. Bernard Harvey Goodwin, 83, died April 23, 1999, at Sackville, N.B., where he was born July 16, 1915. He joined the Force at Fredericton, Sept. 4, 1937, and upon completion of training at "Depot," he was posted to "F" Division, Sask., at Estevan and Regina. On May 1, 1940, Goodwin was transferred to "N" Division and on June 2, 1940, to "C" Division, Que., at Montréal and Lacolle, taking his discharge Sept. 3, 1942, to join the RCAF. Goodwin served in the RCMP Reserve (July 1, 1937-Sept. 4, 1937). His son, Reg. No. C/1878, ex-C/M Garry Goodwin also worked for the Force; his grandson, Reg. No. 40297, Greg Goodwin, is currently serving in "E" Division, B.C.

HALL Reg. No. 24821 (M/142) , ex-Cst. Stanley Arthur Hall, 65, died July 22, 1999, at Victoria, B.C., where he was born Jan. 9, 1934. He joined the Force as a special constable March 28, 1960, and worked at

Marine Division on the West Coast. Hall took his discharge March 31, 1960, and reengaged as a shipwright (M142), Apr. 1, 1960, serving at Esquimalt and taking his discharge March 31, 1970. He reengaged as a regular member Apr. 1, 1970 and retired Oct. 31, 1980. Hall was allegedly the last regular member of the Force to serve as a shipwright in Marine Division on the West Coast.

HANNAM Reg. No. 0.1164 (21750), C/Supt. Robert Allen Hannam (retired), 57, died July 28, 1999, at London, Ont. He was born Aug. 7, 1941, at Middleton, N.S., and joined the Force Feb. 15, 1961, at Halifax. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Hannam was posted to "B" Division, Nfld., at Corner Brook and St. Anthony. In Oct. 1963, he was transferred to "G" Division, N.W.T., at Inuvik, Herschel Island, Fort Good Hope, Grise Fiord, Frobisher Bay, Resolute Bay, Hay River, Whitehorse (Yukon) and "G" Div. HQ at Ottawa. In Sept. 1972, Hannam was posted to "A" Division, at Ottawa and retired Apr. 2, 1998. He was promoted to corporal Jan. 1, 1962; sergeant Apr. 1, 1974; staff sergeant April 1, 1978; inspector June 1, 1980; superintendent March 28, 1989; chief superintendent June 10, 1994.

HAY Reg. No. C/1337, ex-C/M William Cameron Hay, 74, died July 19, 1999, at Kanata, Ont. He was born March 20, 1925, at Toronto, and joined the Force May 7, 1973, at Ottawa, where he served until his retirement Dec. 11, 1981. Hay had also served in the Canadian Forces (1943–1945, 1949-1973). For his wartime service with the RCAF, he was awarded the 1939–45 Star, the France and Germany Star, the Defence Medal, the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, the War Medal 1939-1945.

HAYNES Reg. No. 18173, ex-Sgt. Barrington Hardy Haynes, 85, died July 21, 1999, at Victoria, B.C. He was born Jan. 8, 1914, at Fairview, and joined the Force April 29, 1953, at Chilliwack. He was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Chilliwack, Cultus Lake, MacBride and Prince George, retiring Apr. 22, 1971. Haynes was promoted to corporal May 1, 1957; sergeant Nov. 1, 1962. Prior to joining the RCMP, he had served in the BCPP (1935-1950) and had attained the rank of corporal.

HUNT Reg. No. 12740, ex-S/Sgt. Patrick George Hunt, 85, died July 27, 1999, at Winnipeg, Man. He was born March 17, 1914, at Moosomin, Sask., and joined the Force June 24, 1935, at Regina. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Hunt was posted to "F" Division, Sask., at Regina, Blaine Lake, Moose Jaw and Kipling. In January 1940, Hunt was transferred to "G" Division to serve at Coppermine, N.W.T. He was to proceed to Coppermine aboard the RCMP Schooner *St. Roch*, sailing June 18, 1940. Due to the illness of a crew member en route, Hunt was requested to stay on board and the ill crew member replaced him at Coppermine. Consequently, Hunt served on the *St. Roch* during its unplanned two-year voyage through the Northwest Passage to Halifax. On Nov. 20, 1942, he was transferred to "K" Division, Alta., at Edmonton and Westlock. In Jan. 1944, at the request of the Commissioner, Hunt again volunteered to serve on the *St. Roch* on its return trip to Vancouver by way of the Northwest Passage. Subsequently, Hunt was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Vancouver. On Aug. 1, 1947, he was transferred to "F" Division, Sask., at Prince Albert, Melville, Hudson Bay, Humboldt and Regina, and on Oct. 10, 1957, he was posted to "D" Division, Man., at Winnipeg, where he retired Jan. 29, 1961. Hunt was promoted to corporal July 1, 1944; sergeant Jan. 1, 1951; staff sergeant Nov. 1, 1957. He was awarded the Polar Medal (Silver) and Bar.

JACKSON Reg. No. 12335, ex-Sgt. Herbert Jackson, 88, died Sept. 16, 1999, at Largo, Florida. He was born Dec. 29, 1910, at Ottawa, Ont., where he joined the Force May 25, 1934. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Jackson was posted to "F"

Division, Sask., at Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Biggar, Conquest, Lanigan, Young, Kerrobert, Kindersley, Lucky Lake and Rosetown. On Oct. 2, 1942, he was transferred to "A" Division, Ont., and on Apr. 1, 1952, he was posted to RCMP HQ, retiring July 17, 1959. Jackson was promoted to corporal Nov. 1, 1945; sergeant May 1, 1951.

KWIATKOWSKI Reg. No. C/0647, ex-C/M Kazimerz Stanislaw Kwiatkowski, 64, died Aug. 2, 1999, at Abbotsford, B.C. He was born July 22, 1935, at Strathclair, Man., and joined the Force as a civilian member May 27, 1969, at Calgary. On Aug. 5, 1970, Kwiatkowski was transferred to "F" Division, Sask., at Yorkton. On May 1, 1975, he was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Vancouver and took his discharge July 15, 1984.

LATOUR Reg. No. 10241, ex-Sgt. George James Latour, 96, died June 13, 1999, at Ottawa, where he was born May 24, 1903, and joined the Force Jan. 22, 1927. He was posted to "A" Division, Ont., at Ottawa, and on July 1, 1932, he was transferred to "H" Division, N.S., returning to "A" Division Apr. 1, 1935. Latour was promoted to corporal Nov. 1, 1942; sergeant May 1, 1952.

LEEF Reg. No. 18197, ex-Sgt. Donald Gordon Stewart Leef, 65, died Sept. 9, 1999, at Ottawa, Ont. He was born June 3, 1934, at Toronto, where he joined the Force May 20, 1953. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Leef was posted to "A" Division, Ont., at Brockville, Ottawa and Timmins and was subsequently transferred to the following locations: Dec. 14, 1963, to HQ Division, at Ottawa and Hong Kong; Nov. 26, 1970, to "A" Division, at Ottawa, retiring Nov. 7, 1980. Leef was promoted to corporal May 1, 1964; sergeant May 1, 1966.

LEGACY Reg. No. 31326, ex-Sgt. Philip Allen Legacy, 44, died Sept. 16, 1999, at Fredericton, N.B. He was born March 24, 1955, at Saint John, and joined the Force Apr. 1, 1974, at Fredericton. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Legacy was posted to "J" Division, N.B., at Minto, Woodstock and Bathurst and was subsequently transferred to the following locations: Aug. 29, 1985, to "A" Division, at Ottawa; Nov. 1, 1985, to HQ Division; June 8, 1987, to "J" Division, at Moncton and Fredericton, retiring Apr. 1, 1999. Legacy was promoted to corporal June 8, 1988; sergeant Oct. 1, 1991.

LOCKER Reg. No. 17545, ex-S/Sgt. James Earl Locker, 66, died June 8, 1999, at Penticton, B.C. He was born March 11, 1933, at Lethbridge, Alta., and joined the Force Feb. 11, 1952, at Calgary. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Locker was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Chilliwack, Hope, Haney and Prince Rupert. On May 7, 1954, he was transferred to "G" Division, N.W.T., at Reliance and Fort Smith. On July 24, 1957, he was posted to "E" Division, at Vancouver and Penticton, where he took his discharge June 20, 1980. Locker was promoted to corporal Nov. 1, 1964; sergeant Nov. 1, 1967; staff sergeant Feb. 1, 1973.

LUHOWY Reg. No. 19471, ex-Sgt. Earl Nelson Luhowy, 64, died May 17, 1999, at Okanagan Falls, B.C. He was born March 20, 1935, at Olha, Man., and joined the Force June 5, 1956, at Winnipeg. Upon completion of training at "Depot" and "N" Divisions, Luhowy was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Vancouver. On Sept. 1, 1958, he was transferred to "G" Division, N.W.T., at Fort McPherson and Aklavik, then on Feb. 26, 1962, he was posted to "K" Division, Alta., at Edmonton, Peace River and Lethbridge, retiring July 7, 1979. Luhowy was promoted to corporal July 3, 1973; sergeant June 1, 1975.

MCGLYNN Reg. No. 11082, ex-S/Sgt. Gordon Stephen McGlynn, 88, died Sept. 4, 1999, at Vancouver, B.C. He was born Feb. 24, 1909, at Manchester, England, and joined the Force Oct. 20, 1931, at Regina.

Upon completion of training at "Depot," McGlynn was posted to "K" Division, Alta., at Lethbridge, Field, Calgary, Banff, Edmonton and Red Deer, retiring Oct. 19, 1959. He was promoted to corporal Apr. 1, 1943; sergeant Oct. 1, 1949; staff sergeant May 1, 1954.

McINTOSH Reg. No. 18613, ex-Cpl. John Allan McIntosh, 70, died Aug. 17, 1999, at Westlock, Alta. He was born Jan. 9, 1929, at Lucky Lake, Sask., and joined the Force Apr. 4, 1954, at Winnipeg. Upon completion of training at "Depot" and "N" Divisions, McIntosh was posted to "K" Division, Alta., at Vermilion, Redwater, Whitecourt, Faust and Westlock, retiring Oct. 27, 1978. He was promoted to corporal Nov. 1, 1966.

McCUTCHEON Reg. No. 14680, ex-Cst. Robert McCutcheon, 77, died Aug. 8, 1999, at Chilliwack, B.C. He was born August 18, 1921, at Schomberg, Ont., and joined the Force Apr. 6, 1946, at Toronto. Upon completion of training at "Depot" and "N" Divisions, McCutcheon was posted to "H" Division, N.S., at Halifax and Bridgewater. He was subsequently transferred to the following locations: June 27, 1948, to "G" Division, Yuk., at Whitehorse, Old Crow and Dawson; June 28, 1951, to "F" Division, Sask., at Regina, Melfort, Big River, Wakaw and Prince Albert; Apr. 1, 1959, to "Depot," and retired Nov. 8, 1963.

NASH Reg. No. 16225, ex-Sgt. Joseph Rudolph Nash, 83, died Aug. 14, 1999, at St. Mary's Bay, Nfld. He was born March 14, 1916, at Branch, Nfld., and joined the Force at Holyrood, Aug. 1, 1950, when the Newfoundland Constabulary — where he had been serving since 1938 — was absorbed by the RCMP. Nash was posted to "B" Division, Nfld., at Harbour Grace, Channel and Corner Brook, retiring Nov. 3, 1963. He was promoted to corporal Dec. 1, 1954; sergeant May 1, 1960.

NESBITT Reg. No. 12454, ex-S/Sgt. Ernest Howard Roy Nesbitt, 86, died Aug. 14, 1999, at Penticton, B.C. He was born Oct. 5, 1912, at Nepean, Ont., and joined the Force Nov. 13, 1934, at Ottawa. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Nesbitt was posted to "F" Division, Sask., at Loon Lake, North Battleford, Glaslyn, Maidstone and Biggar. In October 1952, he was transferred to "E" Division, B.C., at Chilliwack and Penticton, retiring June 5, 1964. Nesbitt was promoted to corporal Nov. 1, 1946; sergeant Nov. 1, 1952; staff sergeant Nov. 1, 1955.

On Oct. 2, 1953, Nesbitt was named a Serving Brother of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem for his serving as a First Aid instructor and for his outstanding work with the St. John Ambulance in Saskatchewan.

POTTS Reg. No. 43363, ex-S/Cst. Henry Potts, 61, died Sept. 4, 1999, at Fort MacLeod, Alta. He was born May 28, 1938, at Brocket, and joined the Force Jan. 10, 1978, at Lethbridge. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Potts was posted to "K" Division, Alta., at Pincher Creek and Fort MacLeod. He took his discharge July 5, 1995.

SARSIAT Reg. No. 16345, ex-S/Sgt. Earl George Sarsiat, 86, died July 28, 1999, at Victoria, B.C., where he was born Feb. 22, 1913. He joined the Force at Mission City, Aug. 15, 1950, when the BCPP — where he had been serving since Oct. 1937 — was amalgamated with the RCMP. Sarsiat was posted to "E" Division, B.C., at Mission City, Campbell River, Nanaimo and Prince George, retiring May 26, 1965. He was promoted to corporal Aug. 15, 1950; sergeant Dec. 1, 1954; staff-sergeant May 1, 1960.

STOKES Reg. No. 17813, ex-Cpl. Walter Alexander Stokes, 70, died Sept. 7, 1999, at Delta, B.C. He was born Sept. 4, 1929, at Niagara Falls, Ont., and joined the Force July 2, 1952, at Toronto. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Stokes was posted there and was subsequently transferred to the following locations: Sept. 24, 1953, to "D" Division, Man., at Winnipeg; June 20, 1956, to "E" Division, B.C., at Kamloops,

Penticton, Victoria and Vancouver; July 1968, to "F" Division, Sask., at Yorkton; July 1972, to "D" Division, at Dauphin; Aug. 1973, to "E" Division, at Vancouver, retiring Jan. 24, 1981. Stokes was promoted to corporal May 1, 1966.

STORY Reg. No. 13028, ex-Sgt. John Good Story, 77, died Sept. 16, 1999, at Waverly, N.S. He was born Oct. 24, 1921, at Scarborough, England, and joined the Force as a trumpeter Aug. 8, 1938, at Halifax. Story was posted to "Depot" where he served as Regimental Trumpeter and took Part I and II training. He was subsequently transferred to the following locations: Apr. 1, 1940, to "N" Division; March 26, 1941, to "Depot" Div.; Oct. 6, 1943, to "O" Division, Ont., at Toronto, Niagara Falls and Cornwall; March 1, 1945, to "A" Division, Ont., at Belleville, St. Regis, Pembroke and Ottawa; Aug. 1, 1954, to "B" Division, Nfld., at St. John's; May 7, 1958, to Marine Division at Halifax, retiring Jan. 18, 1966. Story was promoted to constable Nov. 1, 1942; corporal Nov. 1, 1951; sergeant Nov. 1, 1955; staff sergeant Nov. 1, 1960. His father, Reg. No. O.336 (#10183) Insp. J.C. Story, served in the Force from April 26, 1926 to January 31, 1954.

WALES Reg. No. S/15, ex-S/Cst. William James Wales, 86, died June 19, 1999, at Toronto, where he was born Aug. 31, 1912, where he joined the Force Oct. 26, 1942. He was posted to Halifax, N.S., and took his discharge June 6, 1945.

WAUGH Reg. No. 18070, ex-Sgt. Robert Waugh, 65, died July 25, 1999, at Winnipeg, Man. He was born Aug. 3, 1933, at Henribourg, Sask., and joined the Force Jan. 14, 1953, at Saskatoon. Upon completion of training at "Depot," Waugh was posted to "D" Division, Man., at Whitemouth, Dauphin and Swan River, retiring July 16, 1978. He was promoted to corporal May 1, 1966; sergeant Oct. 1, 1972.

WOODS Reg. No. 10446, ex-Cpl. Thomas John Woods, 95, died May 25, 1999, at Burlington, Ont. He was born June 4, 1903, in Ireland, and joined the Force June 5, 1928, at Regina. Upon completion of training at "N" Division, Woods was posted to "O" Division, Ont. He was promoted to lance corporal July 15, 1934, corporal Apr. 1, 1940, and retired Aug. 18, 1951. Woods had served for three years with the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Oldest Police Car in Service

After a busy Saturday day-shift on the Traffic Section in Red Deer, Alberta, I was on my way home after having dealt with upset violators and a less than cooperative impaired driver. Four blocks from the Detachment, I spotted a vehicle whose driver — known to have numerous impaired driving convictions — was back on the road, again. As I followed him, I hit the horn hoping that he would pull over to the curb.

Only, the horn was a little unique. An "a-roo-ga" horn... on my 1930 Ford Model "A" Roadster (two-door rag-top with rumble seat). After a couple of blasts on the horn and a wave to the roadside, all I got from the driver was a friendly wave.

The driver finally pulled up in front of his house. As he exited his car, I identified myself, to which the inebriated driver replied, "Yeah, I know I'm drunk, but what year is the car?"

By Cst. Roger Morrow

SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION
The Quarterly

If you wish to subscribe or donate a subscription as a gift, please complete this form, place in a stamped envelope with your payment and mail to the address below:

RCMP Veterans Association

Attn.: The Quarterly
1200 Vanier Parkway
Ottawa, Ontario Canada
K1A 0R2

DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE MAIL

AVIS D'ABONNEMENT
La Trimestrielle

Si on désire s'abonner ou donner un abonnement en guise de cadeau, remplir l'avis d'abonnement ci-dessous, le placer dans une enveloppe affranchie avec le paiement et poster le tout à l'adresse suivante:

L'Association des anciens de la GRC

À l'att. de la Trimestrielle
1200, prom. Vanier
Ottawa (Ontario) Canada
K1A 0R2

NE PAS ENVOYER D'ARGENT PAR LA POSTE

FOR - Surname POUR - Nom de famille	Initials - Initiales	Reg. No. (If applicable) - Matr. (s'il y a lieu)

Address (Street No., Apt.., Street Name, City, Prov., Country) - Adresse (Numéro de rue, apt., rue, ville, prov., pays)	Postal Code - Code postal

☐ New subscription / Nouvel abonnement ☐ Renewal / Renouvellement ☐ English / Anglais ☐ French / Français ☐ Pay Deduction / Retenues sur la solde ☐ Cheque/Money Order / Chèque/Mandat de poste

IF A GIFT - Donor's Name S'IL S'AGIT D'UN CADEAU - Nom du donneur	Initials - Initiales	Reg. No. (If applicable) - Matr. (s'il y a lieu)

Address (Street No., Apt.., Street Name, City, Prov., Country) - Adresse (Numéro de rue, apt., rue, ville, prov., pays)	Postal Code - Code postal

RCMP MEMBERS ONLY
RÉSERVÉ AUX MEMBRES DE LA GRC SEULEMENT

→ I authorize Payroll Deductions
J'autorise les retenues sur la solde

Signature

See Reverse for Change of Address - Voir au verso pour un changement d'addresse

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
The Quarterly

To avoid delays in receiving your issue of the Quarterly, please complete the Change of Address below, place in a stamped envelope and mail to:

RCMP Veterans' Association
Attn: The Quarterly
1200 Vanier Parkway
Ottawa, Ontario Canada
K1A 0R2

CHANGEMENT D'ADRESSE
La Trimestrielle

Pour éviter tout retard dans la réception des numéros de la Trimestrielle, veuillez remplir l'avis de changement d'adresse ci-dessous, le placer dans une enveloppe affranchie et la poster à l'adresse suivante:

Association des anciens de la GRC
A l'att. de la Trimestrielle
1200, prom. Vanier
Ottawa (Ontario) Canada
K1A 0R2

Surname - Nom de famille	Initials - Initiales	Reg. No. (If applicable) - Matr. (s'il y a lieu)

OLD Address (Street No., Apt.., Street Name) - **ANCIENNE** Adresse (Numéro de rue, apt., rue)

City - Ville	Province	Country - Pays	Postal Code - Code postal

NEW HOME ADDRESS - NOUVELLE ADRESSE DU DOMICILE

(Street No., Apt., Street Name) - (Numéro de rue, apt., rue)

City - Ville	Province	Country - Pays	Postal Code - Code postal

RCMP GRC 1953 (1998-07)

See Reverse for Subscription Application - Voir au verso pour l'Avis d'abonnement

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans' Association – Association des anciens de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Old Staff

The kid stomped out of his office madder than hell
Dressed down again for unpolished boots, or some other nonsense you could tell.

The old man is loosing it! The kid ranted and he raged
Maybe he'd see things more my way, if he was only half his age.

You know times have changed Sarg, so why can't he see
That things are different now, it's not like it used to be.

The way that I see it, he might as well be living on Mars
He'll never budge or change, not with those four stripes and all those stars.

I poured the kid a coffee, and asked him to sit down and stay
There's a reason that he rides you so, and maybe it's for that better way.

I've had a few of Staff's little talks myself over the years
That's why I can say to you, he's not just giving you the gears.

He's always been a tough one, and he likes to have his way
But now I want to tell you of a man, and maybe you'll leave here feeling different today.

For five and thirty years he's been doing the rounds
Out from Depot he cut his teeth and his knuckles in some rugged prairie towns.

Then on to GIS, to the Kootenays went old Lorne
He cracked a dozen murders there long before you were even born.

He was my trainer in Salmon Arm when I was a headstrong pup just like you
There's never been a better member, more dedicated, strong and true.

And along the road there's been ups and downs, the good times and the bad.
I've seen him scared, but never run, I've seen him bloody mad.

He's witnessed a hundred brutal deaths, and never shown what he feels.
You know it's the scars you cannot see, that never really heals.

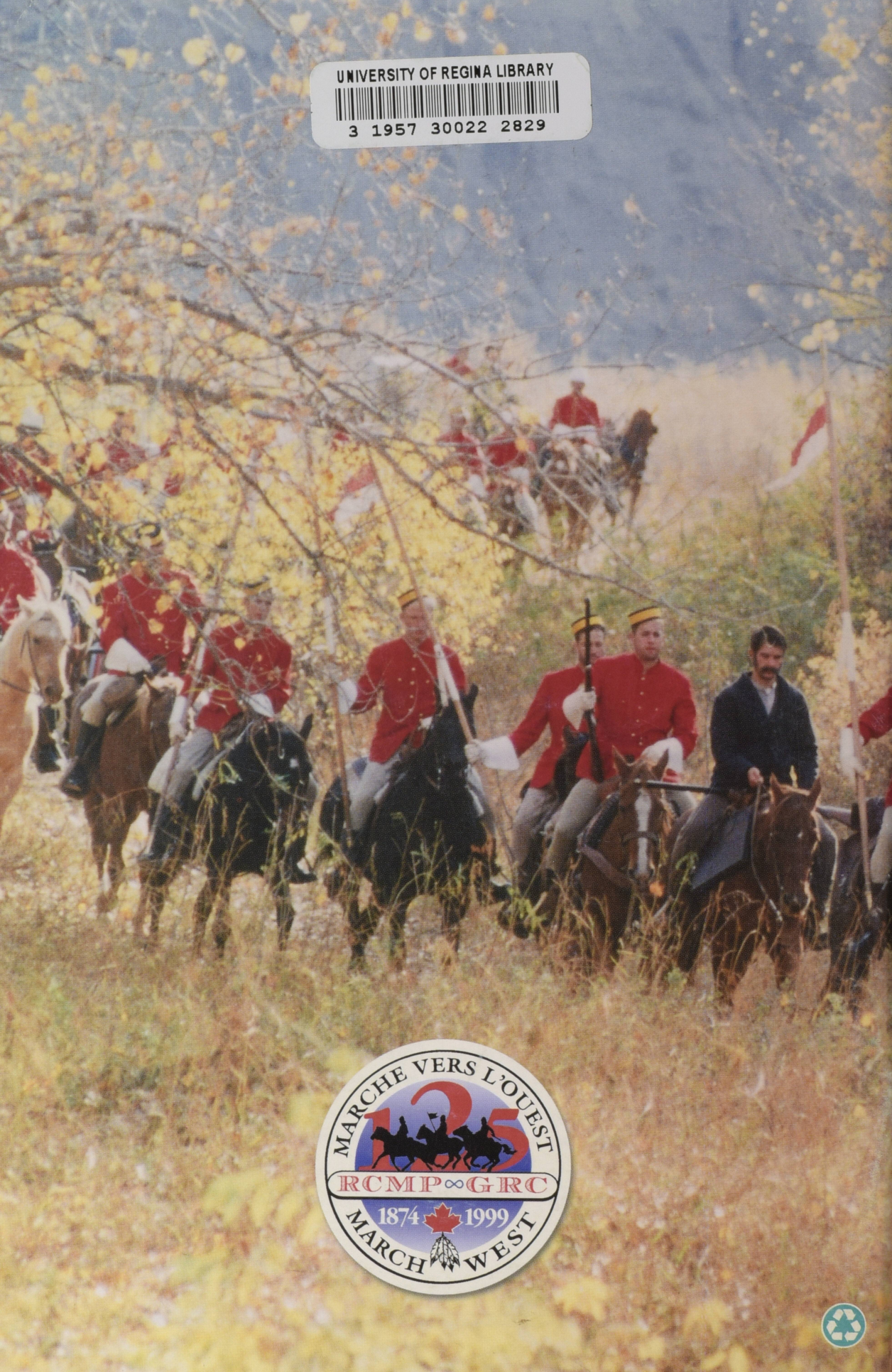
And that ponch that you guys laugh about, is made of a thousand sleepless nights,
Hurried suppers spent in greasy spoons, fatal accidents, bar room fights.

And what if on the weekends, he has a few too many beer
The kids never call no more, the wife left him just last year.

Through all the years, and all the fears, I've never seen him fall
But we'll never know just how it is when he's alone, and the demons come to call.

The Force is all he has, it's all he is, it's what he's living for
It's been his father and his mother, you are his children, and what's more

If he's tough on you son, it's because he wants you to be
A proud symbol of this great and vital land, a member of the RCMP.

Cpl. Stephen Grant
GRAND FALLS, NEW BRUNSWICK

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA LIBRARY
3 1957 30022 2829