



NORMANDY NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 No 2

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Canadian Battle of Normandy Foundation

Autumn 2001

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL CHARLES H. BELZILE

You will have heard of the successful Tour 2001 for our Bursary recipients, conducted by Dr Marc Milner of the University of New Brunswick and LCol David Patterson in the Spring 2001. The emphasis this year was on the Great War, prior to returning to Normandy, via Dieppe, where we traditionally finish our Study Tours in early June. This particular group brought us to 84 graduates, representing all ten provinces of Canada and 23 of Canada's universities. I am sure I speak for all of you in congratulating all the organisers of the Tour such as Professor Copp and his Wilfrid Laurier University colleagues for yet another successful tour. We hope the future will continue to provide such well qualified candidates...maybe to encourage us to conduct two Tours each year ?

M. Maurice Perraton, the city Courseulles-sur-Mer representative responsible for the maintenance of the Bold Tank Memorial, had a meeting with me during a recent trip to Canada. I assured him that our Board of Directors had agreed to help the city of Courseulles-sur-Mer with *OPÉRATION SAUVEGARDE*. This operation is intended to effect major and necessary repairs to a First Hussars tank, lost at sea on D Day. The tank was brought to the beach in 1970

and, with the prompting of Canadian veteran Mr. Léo Gariépy, inaugurated as a Memorial to the Canadians who landed on those beaches on D Day. An assessment of its state, conducted by French experts, indicates that there are serious structural problems to the old tank which must be remedied. The Foundation is proud and happy to help. Just a reminder to our members that all Canadian memorials in France and their state are of concern to us.

I would like also to report to you about a new initiative launched by the Foundation. Since the inception of the Foundation in 1992, we have enjoyed significant success in achieving our aims. However I felt that it would be prudent to pause and reflect on where we have been and to chart our way forward, taking under consideration the current and future needs of our membership. A Strategic Planning Committee was struck to come to grips with how we should move ahead to face our challenges with vigour and a solid plan of action. This Committee, headed by one of our Directors, Duncan Phillips, has consulted widely and met several times over the last few months and is now prepared to make its recommendations to the Board of Directors at their 22 November meeting. I want to reassure you that

there will not be any deviation from our past direction.

One point related to the last - I am informed by our Treasurer and Registrar that we have lost track of many of our members and that, consequently, our numbers are dwindling. I would ask all of you to help us track down our lost souls and to help us rebuild our strength with new members. That is the only way we can continue to tell young Canadians what their elders have done for our freedom. I cannot think of a more fitting way to both express our grief for the recent horrific events which have hit our neighbours, allies and friends to our south, and to remind ourselves that we must continue to show determination in order to ensure that the hardships of the past must not be allowed to happen again.

On a final note I would like, on your behalf, to welcome three new members to our Board of Directors. We are proud to welcome Mrs Shelagh Whitaker, a noted historian and author, Dr Marc Milner of the University of New Brunswick, also a well known historian and frequent director of our Student Tours, as well as Major-General Tom de Faye of General Motors Defense. Glad to have you with us.

Charles H. Belzile

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*Normandy Veteran

LOST TRAILS

Recent correspondence addressed to the following has been returned to us. If anyone can give us a current address for any of the following, we would be grateful.

1st BN North Nova Scotia Highlanders Association
 Amicale du Régiment de la Chaudière (Charny QC)
 Maj James R. Barker (Ottawa ON)
 Capt. William Bonnar (Montreal QC)
 Mr. John Calderwood (Burnaby BC)
 Maj Paul Davies CD (Shilo MB)
 Lcol Norm R. Donogh (Winnipeg MB)
 Mgen John J. Dunn (Montreal QC)
 Lcol J.A. English CD (Newport RI USA)
 Mr. Charles G. Hunter (Embrun ON)
 The Hon. Duncan J. Jessiman (Winnipeg MB)
 Ms. Mary Anne MacArthur (Orangeville ON)
 BGen Donald I. F. Mackay CD (Ottawa ON)
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 Mrs. Sybil Middleton (London ON)
 Ms. Beatrice M. Milne (Burlington ON)
 Dr. Francis C. Nelson (Guelph ON)
 Mr. John Oosterbroek (Peterborough ON)
 Major Robert G. Nash CD (Winnipeg MB)
 Mr. John Parker (Victoria BC)
 M. Étienne Poirier (Ottawa ON).
 Mr. Gordon H. Saunders (Peterborough ON)
 Lcol Vincent O. Walsh (Oakville ON)

LAST POST

We regret to announce the passing of the following members of the Foundation:

Mr. Jack Arber, Brampton ON
 M. René Bourbonnais, Montréal QC
 Capt. Harry H. Carter, Ottawa ON
 Mr. Don N. Chapman, Amherst NS
 LCol John A.D. Craig, OBE, CD, Toronto ON
 Capt. Ralph Gault, Long Sault ON
 BGen Patrick V.B. Grieve, CD, Sharbot Lake ON
 Mr. Stephen L. MacKinnon, Hamilton ON
 Mr. Alfred T. Walker, Thunder Bay ON

CONFIRMATION OF DATE/LOCATION OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Foundation will be held on Thursday, 22 November 2001, at the Army Officers Mess, 149 Somerset Street West, Ottawa, commencing at 1030 hrs.

There are more than 200 persons on our mailing list (almost 40% of the total!) who have not made a donation in at least three years. We need to keep our expenses within our income. One of our largest annual expenses is the production and distribution of printed materials.

While we hate to do it, we may have no choice but to delete the names of our delinquent subscribers from the mailing list prior to mailing out the next issue of the Normandy Newsletter.

If your annual membership fee is past due, but you still believe in the aims of the Foundation and wish to help - please send us your cheque as soon as possible. If you are not sure if you have contributed recently, check the address label on this newsletter. If there is an 'X' in brackets beside your name, we have not received your contribution since 1998. We would appreciate hearing from you soon.

We thank you for your support in the past. We hope that it will continue because your support of the Foundation is very important.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As our President noted in the SITREP sent to all members at the end of July, our Scholarship Trust Fund continues to grow and I am about to invest another \$60,000 in government bonds.

At the same time, I must report that

our membership is declining – at the same time as our costs in all areas are increasing.

One of our problems is that a number of our members only renew their memberships or make a donation once in two, three or even

four years. It is essential that, if we are to continue to grow, all of us have to help the Foundation each and every year, as our costs never seem to take a holiday! Please be a “regular”.

(continued p. 4)

For the third year in succession, the "SITREP" has been a useful way of giving members an update on our activities and, for those who receive an accompanying letter, a reminder that a cheque for annual membership would be appreciated.

Thanks to all of you who have responded so quickly to the request. I try to get receipts out to you within two weeks of receiving your letters, but I was snowed under by your response when I returned from my holidays at the end of August and it was late September before the last receipts were made out. Please accept my apologies.

Some members had suggested printing the names of paid-up members in each of the spring and fall newsletters, to be a gentle reminder to those who had not yet paid that their cheques would be appreciated. We tried this with the spring newsletter, but it came out so late that the list was badly outdated and raised more questions than it answered. In future, I will print a reminder in the spring newsletter and, for those who have not responded by the time the summer SITREP goes out, repeat the reminder in a letter enclosed with the SITREP.

IF YOU WISH TO PRE-PAY
YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR

NEXT YEAR (AS SOME MEMBERS ALREADY HAVE), PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR CHEQUE "PRE-PAYMENT FOR 2002", SO I CAN CORRECTLY CREDIT YOUR ACCOUNT.

Please check your receipts when they arrive – and if you have been waiting more than a month for a receipt, please contact me. I would like to correct any mistakes as quickly as possible, so that you face no delays in submitting your income tax returns.

Thanks very much for all your help. I really appreciate your letters and am very proud to be able to work in the Foundation with you.

Harry Needham

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN



"Always loved. Never forgotten."

Let us, too, remember them and those who have loved them.



"Au revoir. R.I.P."

THE CANADIAN BATTLE OF NORMANDY FOUNDATION WEB SITE

www.battleofnormandyfoundation.ca

Major K.R.T. Seeley, CD, Web Master

In mid April, and under the sponsorship of Hamilton Southam, the Foundation decided to establish a new bilingual CBNF website. Up to this point the CBNF website, in English only, was hosted and maintained by the University of Calgary where it had originally been designed.

The first requirement was to select and register a domain name and contract with an Internet Service Provider (ISP) to host the site. The domain name selected was "canadianbattleofnormandyfoundation.ca" and Magma Communications Limited was selected as the ISP. Following this activity, a CBNF editorial group was formed to vet and review all material submitted for

inclusion on the new site. Later, the services of Manon Charpentier of Nomis Translation Services was contracted to do the French translation.

With a domain name and ISP in place, a major overhaul of the existing website took place. This involved updating, reformatting, and restructuring of the site to make it bilingual and to facilitate ease of 'surfing' through the site. New graphics, revised menu buttons, and new pages were created in English. The latter to provide for a site search capability, and publishing the CBNF Newsletter on line with a Newsletter archive section of previous issues. A section was also created to display a series of

photographs of the 2001 and future Normandy study tours. Following this, all graphics, menu buttons, and web pages were formatted and translated into French.

The new site was published on the web mid-July and a link established from the old site for those accessing the site through the University of Calgary. This link will remain until the end of November.

Future additions to the site will see a section devoted to a photographic tour of the Memorial Garden and a tour of the various battlefields. Abridged versions of Student Journals from the 2001 and future tours will be added to the section on Study Tour Journals as they become available.



Please use this form when you forward your cheque/money order for your dues or donations

Membership: Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	New <input type="checkbox"/>														
Newsletter: English <input type="checkbox"/>	Français <input type="checkbox"/>		Date: _____ (day) (month) (year)												
NAME _____															
ADDRESS _____															
CITY _____ PROV _____ CODE _____															
New Members: Military service (if any); honours, awards, etc. _____															
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Regular Member (\$25)</td> <td style="width: 20%;">_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate (institutions/corporations)(\$100)</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donation</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;"> Charitable receipts will be issued #13974 1177 RR0001 </td> </tr> </table>						Regular Member (\$25)	_____	Associate (institutions/corporations)(\$100)	_____	Donation	_____	Total	_____	Charitable receipts will be issued #13974 1177 RR0001	
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I direct that this donation is to be capitalized by the Foundation for a period of not less than ten (10) years in order to establish a sound base for the bursary program.															
Signature _____ (This required for income tax purposes when working with Trust Funds)															



CBNF study tour visiting US cemetery near Bayeux



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CANADA**