



NORMANDY NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL CHARLES H. BELZILE

A quick review of my report to you in the Autumn 2001 issue, makes me realize that I could use a full page just to inform you of the progress achieved by the Foundation since then. I will try and use somewhat short notes to update you all on the same issues.

-Study tours. The selection for Tour 2002 has taken place and at the time of reading twelve deserving students should be in Europe, under the leadership of Professor Geoff Hayes of the University of Waterloo,

-Operation SAUVEGARDE is progressing well. Although most of the costs of the refurbishment were born by French authorities and the City of Courseulles, the RCAC Association and your Foundation have made modest donations toward the project. At time of reading, the BOLD Tank Memorial in Courseulles-sur-Mer, Normandy should be back on its pad, much rejuvenated.

-Strategic Planning Committee. At our Board of Director meetings of 22 November 2001 and 21 March 2002, a new Committee Structure was adopted with the following persons as Chairs:

- Trust Fund Committee
Chair President
- Membership Committee
Chair LCol David Patterson
- Communications Committee
Chair **No appointment yet**
- Education Committee
Co-Chairs Dr Wise and Prof Copp

-Memorial Committee

Chair VAdm Mainguy

-Fundraising Committee

Chair Dr Alec Douglas

-Strategic Planning Committee

Chair Col Duncan Phillips

Volunteer(s) for the Communications Committee would be welcome.

- Membership and Lost Trails are still a concern.

Now for some good news. With your continuing generosity and some careful investing of our Trust Fund we have now reached a net worth of \$800,000. We have not yet reached our target of a million dollars in our Trust Fund but we are getting there. Only when we reach that target... and we will, will our Bursary Programme be self-sufficient. We, of course, would also like to be able to continue developing our Memorial Garden and participate in additional commemorative projects in and around Canadian Battlefields sites. That will also require resources. More on the subject of finances can be seen in our Treasurer's Report.

I must, unfortunately, conclude on a sad note. On April 12, George Blackburn, a long time Director of the Foundation and noted author on World War II in Normandy and North-West Europe, lost his beloved wife Grace to a long battle with heart and circulatory problems. On behalf of all our members, I wish to express to George and his family our most sincere condolences.

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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
 1st BN SD&G Highlanders (Cornwall ON)
 Amicale du Régiment de la Chaudière (Charny QC)
 Mr. William Balon (Toronto ON)
 Capt. William Bonnar (Montreal QC)
 Mr. John Calderwood (Burnaby BC)
 Mrs. A. B. Conron (London ON)
 Maj Paul Davies CD (Shilo MB)
 Lcol Norm R. Donogh (Winnipeg MB)
 Mgen John J. Dunn (Montreal QC)
 Mr. Charles G. Hunter (Embrun ON)
 Maj Andrew R. Johnston (London ON)
 BGen Donald I. F. Mackay CD (Ottawa ON)
 Mrs. Sybil Middleton (London ON)
 Dr. Francis C. Nelson (Guelph ON)
 Major Robert G. Nash CD (Winnipeg MB)
 Mr. John Parker (Victoria BC)
 M. Étienne Poirier (Ottawa ON).
 Mr. Gordon H. Saunders (Peterborough ON)
 Mr. Donald T. Southam (Hazelwood MO, USA)

LAST POST

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

Col Ben Dunkelman DSO (Toronto ON)
 Maj Gordon P. Eligh (Kingston ON)
 Col James D. Galloway OBE, KStJ, CD (Burlington ON)
 Col Guy de Merlis (Nepean ON)
 Mrs. Beatrice M. Milne (Burlington ON)
 LCol Vincent O. Walsh DSO, ED (Oakville ON)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Thanks to the many members who generously made special gifts, over and above their regular dues and donations, to help build our Scholarship Trust Fund. As of early April, more than \$27,000 in special gifts have been received. From an initial \$200,000 in 1993, the Fund now exceeds \$675,000. We are steadily approaching our objective of \$1,000,000 which will be required to make our scholarship program financially independent for the foreseeable future.

Our "net worth", which does not include our expenditures on the Memorial Garden at Caen, is now over \$800,000.

I am pleased to report that, thanks to the efforts of LCol Dave Patterson & Dr. Terry Copp, costs of this year's study tour are significantly lower, as students will be housed at the Université de Caen while they are in Normandy. While the rooms may be pretty standard university accommodation, our guides at Le Mémorial tell us that the food in the university dining rooms is unusually good – and very inex-

pensive. At its March meeting, the Board agreed to a proposal by LCol Patterson to pass on some of the savings to the tour participants, who are expected to cover part of the costs of the tour, while the Foundation picks up the lion's share. I can tell you that none of the students selected for this year's tour has been dismayed by being asked to pay \$300 less than they might have! We thought that, considering how the costs of a university education keep spiraling up and up and up, it was only fair to share our cost savings with the students.

One of our members suggested to me that we modify our address labels to tell members the status of their subscriptions. On the bottom line of the label, at the right, you will find two numbers in brackets, e.g., "(02)". This represents the last year for which your membership has been paid. If the number on your label is "(01)" or earlier, your membership payment is overdue. Please note that special gifts this year to the Scholarship Trust Fund have been treated as exactly that – special gifts – and are NOT payments of membership

dues. Preparing the labels involves a bit more work for me, but I think it is well worth the effort in helping you keep track of the status of your membership.

Several members have recently asked me for information regarding our bursaries, to pass on to children and/or grandchildren. The information is sent to every Canadian University history department in the late fall of the year and the deadline for applications is the last day in February. Participants are selected through a competitive process by our Education Committee in March and are required to submit the payments for their parts of the tour costs by mid-April. Since the tour leaves in May, this schedule leaves us no room whatever for accepting late submissions.

Thanks for all your notes, letters and phone calls. It is always a pleasure to talk to you. I will be 'off the net' for the last two weeks in June, most of which will be spent participating in a conference in Cape Breton. I hope you have a pleasant summer.



"Dutiful, happy and generous."



"Sleep on, beloved. Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved"



"In lonely hours of thinking you are always near. We who loved you miss you as it dawns another year."



Canadian cemetery, Beny-sur-Mer, 6 June 2001



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

Membership: Renewal New
 Newsletter: English Français



Date: _____ (day) _____ (month) _____ (year)

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ PROV _____ CODE _____

New Members: Military service (if any); honours, awards, etc.

Regular Member (\$25)	_____
Associate (institutions/ corporations)(\$100)	_____
Donation	_____
Total	_____

Charitable receipts will be issued
#13974 1177 RR0001

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)



"To our beloved son...."



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