

# WASURERU-NAI

“Never Forget”

Volume 8, Number 1

April 2006

## NEWSLETTER OF THE HONG KONG VETERANS' COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION

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### ***President Report - Carol Hadley***

I retired at the end of February and spent the month of March in the sunny climes of Texas. It was wonderful!! – the golf, social events and of course the great shopping at the outlet malls. I hope the winter passed as easy for all of you as the weather seemed mild across the country.

Congratulations to Ontario Region who has completed the “Ten Lessons” in French translation and distributed the copies to many school divisions across Canada. This will bring recognition to the HKVCA as educators will be contacting their local Regions for resources.

A new book that is suggested as a resource for the French translated curriculum is “*Prisonnier de guerre au Japon*” (1941-1945) By Bernard Castonguay - written in French, this has been rated the best book in French on the Battle of Hong Kong and the ensuing years as prisoners of war. Contact Ontario

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Region or the website if you need copies or more information.

To promote the association in the community or in the schools, an appeal could be made to your members for their assistance in telling the events. Also in creating a display of pictures it will serve as a visual enhancement for the people and students.

Soon on the website there will be a complete listing of items that are available for purchase to assist anyone looking for a gift or information on the Battle of Hong Kong. We are always looking for new ideas to promote the association – if you have any suggestions please forward them to any of our Executive. Ron McGuire in Ottawa has been pursuing some ideas that have already been submitted but there is always room for more.

With the warm weather approaching there will be outside festivals and events in your community that may be used to advertise the efforts of our association. If a display is possible to create that would be the obvious visual attraction. But a banner with the association name on a table with books, member pins and application forms (which all regions have) – and people to volunteer to man the table – would open the avenue for new members and an interest in our endeavours. Funds submitted for Charitable receipt could be use for this venue – check with your treasurer for assistance. For us ‘Year of the Veteran’ is every year.

It is wonderful to see the activity generated by the website. As it continues to grow we have a greater appreciation of the work and efforts that Linda May and Jim Trick

put into this valuable resource. There are more veteran stories uploaded, articles from members, pictures, etc – it continues to evolve. The Executive use the website to hold meetings, communication as well as research. So “hats off” to Linda and Jim for a great job.

Committees in AB/SK, Alberta/Saskatchewan, Region are busy planning our next Convention in 2007. Soon information will be shared on the events and we hope that everyone will consider attending. Mark you calendar for August 2007.

Congratulations to Murray Doull on his marriage to Lucy on March 11, 2006 – we extend best wishes to you both.

To those who have suffered ill health – we hope for relief for you. For those who have suffered loss – we share your grief and wish you peace.

With spring-like weather outside it shouldn’t be long before we can spend more time in the sun and rejuvenate for our work ahead.

In closing, I will share this wonderful Irish blessing:

*May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home.*

*May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam.*

*May peace and plenty bless your world with joy that long endures.*

*May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours.*

God bless!

### ***HKVA President Report – Phil Doddridge***

Once again I have to apologize for being late with my comments for the

newsletter. Why am I always late? Is it because I am too busy with other things, or because I neglect and procrastinate? A little bit of each.

#### LANCE ROSS

So much has been said, so many words have been written about our old friend Lance that I am afraid that what I might say at this time will sound repetitive if not a bit insincere. I hope that I will be forgiven for using this newsletter to express my thoughts.

I feel a deep personal loss on his passing, because I have known him in good times and in bad, going back close to seventy years.

I was in his platoon in D company of the Royal Rifles, I was with him in our first encounter with the enemy and with our last encounter with the enemy.

I profited from his wisdom in the prison camps, and marveled at his ability to figure out how to approach and solve a problem.

Since 1945, I have had the pleasure of associating with him on many occasions, and was always impressed with his gentle nature and his wisdom.

His record as a soldier is well known. All who knew him, not only his army friends, but everyone with whom he associated, held him in highest regard. He will be missed by many people.

On behalf of the Hong Kong Veterans' Association I extend sincere sympathy to Dale and Randy, and to Mitzi and Alan, who cared for him in his last time on earth as no one else could have done. He was indeed fortunate to have had such a daughter and son-in-law.

A memorial service was held for him in Ottawa, and his ashes will be interred next summer at his home in the Gaspé.

We will remember him.

#### SURVIVORS

On checking with Derrill and Vince, I discover that our numbers have dwindled to 151. By my calculations, those of us who are still alive are part of 7.6% of what is left of "C" Force. Derrill sent me some actuarial figures a while back, showing predictions of numbers of survivors year by year. So far the projected figures have proven fairly accurate. I don't usually dwell on facts like these, but it is something to think about nevertheless.

#### CANADA VETERANS HALL OF VALOUR

Bob Barter and I will again be going to Ottawa on May 13 to attend induction ceremonies. Last year we were there to witness the induction of John Osborn and Lance Ross.

This year our dog, Gander, is to be inducted. Ron McGuire, who has all things related to Hong Kong Veterans close to his heart, tells me that he is trying to get at least one Hong Kong Veteran inducted each year.

Flash Clayton will read the citation of another candidate, Cpl. F.C Cameron.

#### HONOURS AND AWARDS

While we are on the subject of honours and awards, Mike Babin has alerted me to an award given by VAC.

The following is a quote from a page titled, "What's New" on the Veterans Affairs Canada web site:

"Since serving in uniform, many of Canada's Veterans have continued to provide outstanding service to their country, their communities, and their fellow Veterans. To formally recognize those contributions, the Governor General has authorized the creation of the *Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation*.

"The Commendation will be awarded annually to those exceptional Veterans who have contributed in an exemplary manner to the care and well-being of Veterans; and/or to the remembrance of the contributions, sacrifices and achievements of Veterans.

"The Commendation is intended primarily for Veterans, but in rare circumstances may be awarded to non-Veterans. The Commendation may also be awarded posthumously." End of quote.

The names of two Hong Kong Veterans appear on the lists of recipients: John Stroud in 2002, and Bill Mayne in 2003.

Should we be submitting names of HK Veterans for consideration?

That's all! I have run out of time and ideas, so I'll sign off for this time. Good health and good fortune to everyone. Be good to each other and may God Bless. Philip.

---

#### ***Treasurer's Report "Dues and Views" - Barry Mitchell***

I would like to take this opportunity to put forward a few comments on the year that has just passed, or the "Year of the Veteran". Other business got in the way of providing me the space for putting forward my thoughts on this matter that was, and is, so very special to all of us.

From my vantage point, the designation by the federal government of a full year to honour our veterans was most effective as it focused the public's attention on these most deserving Canadian men and women.

Our organization certainly felt the impact of Veterans Affairs Canada putting its considerable resources into our convention in Ottawa. Our attendance swelled as a result of the generous funding

provided to the veterans and caregivers to enable them to come to the nation's capital to celebrate the end of WWII. While long overdue, the recognition of the Hong Kong veterans by government at this event in terms of dollars, manpower, dignitaries, and overall energy, was greatly appreciated by the veterans and in fact by all those associated with our proud organization.

Appropriately, there was of course lots of celebrating at the convention but we also got a little bit of work done too. For example, most of the Regional Treasurers of the HKVCA got together briefly to review some of the common challenges facing our association as far as finances are concerned.

We discovered that we were not taking full advantage of our designation as a charity by regularly providing those who donate to the Commemorative Association with a tax deductible receipt. It was agreed that we should all let our membership know that we are registered as a charity with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and this permits us to issue tax receipts for straight donations. As a guideline and to keep the paperwork reasonable, we are asking our membership people to limit the issue of tax receipts to gifts of \$20.00 or more, **exclusive of annual dues**. The cost of maintaining our organization is on the increase and our most important function—keeping in touch with you through newsletters, etc.—grows on a regular basis.

The HKVCA is now well established in almost every Province with a membership of about 1,200. This number, however, includes veterans and widows who don't pay dues but are BY FAR the most generous group when it comes to making donations. So while the number of Regular (dues-paying) members is slowly increasing, our

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fund raising is lagging with a diminishing number of donations coming our way. Thus we ask everyone to keep the Commemorative Association in mind when considering which charities you are going to support and now you know you will receive a tax-deduction receipt at the time of your donation.

Thanks to the Treasurers and Membership people in the Regions across the country who volunteer their time to collect dues, pay bills and assist in various executive duties. I receive excellent reports each month from most of you and appreciate your co-operation in national initiatives. I am confident we can continue to meet our financial challenges in putting forward a variety of meaningful programs.

\* \* \* \*

### *In Memoriam*

**Robert J McNaughton**, E-30284, RRC, died March 17, 2006,

**Leandre Leblanc**, E-30617, RRC, died March 20, 2006.

**Lancelot Ross**, E-1144, RRC died March 29, 2006.

**Bert Worthington** – a long time Associate HKVA member in Ontario passed away on April 10th.

**Harold Heath**, RRC E-29840, died April 13, 2006

HKVCA

**Carolynne Anne Rees**, wife of Doug Rees (RR) died January 3, 2006.

**Lo Cyr**, widow of Roger Cyr (RRC)

**Maude Crawford**, widow of Dr. John N. Crawford, died February 7, 2006 – she was 99 years young.

**Iva Stodgell**, widow of George Roy Stodgell, H6352, died March 14, 2006.

*Our thoughts and prayers are extended to all the families and friends as we share in your grief.*

*We will remember them.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### *Request from Lori Smith*

I am trying to help Nancy Hamer Strahl, the teacher that took high school kids to Hong Kong last November. She is compiling a book of the stories of the veterans that the high school kids adopted as a school project. She needs help with obtaining some pictures of veterans that will be highlighted in the book of stories. She's hoping for pictures in of the veteran in uniform- prior to the war, and after. 'Sort of a before and after.' The after picture could even be a more recent one. She believes these pictures will help make her book more interesting and help bring their story alive.

If you are able to help out- please email the pictures to [HamerStrahl\\_Nancy@durham.edu.on.ca](mailto:HamerStrahl_Nancy@durham.edu.on.ca) Or contact her at –

Nancy Hamer Strahl  
Port Perry High School  
160 Rosa St.  
Port Perry, On L9L 1A7  
School 905 985 7337  
Fax 905 985 8323

List of names-

1. Lloyd Roblee
2. Bill Mac Whirter
3. Sergeant Charles Watson  
Lawrence Stebbe
4. Major Stanley Martin Banfill
5. Richard Keays
6. Harold Allen
7. John Doiron
8. Lieutenant Francis Gaven  
Power

9. Sergeant Robert Leslie Russell
10. Major John Reid
11. Emile Bernard
12. Meirion Price
13. S. Stoddard
14. T. Blackwood
15. Lieutenant Arthur Beresford Scott
16. Kay Christie
17. Jim Flemming
18. Jack Lyons
19. Franklin Lyster
20. Frank Christensen
21. Andrew Muir Moir
22. Alfred Mawson
23. Charles Matthews
24. Morris Delaney

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### ***How Membership Works***

Legally, HKVCA is classed as a Corporation, and there are formal rules about membership that we must follow.

When you pay your membership fee at the Region level, you gain the right to vote on Corporation matters, but each member is only allowed one vote.

In some cases we've found that duplicate memberships have been approved. This is usually due to the fact that the individual wants to keep track of activities in more than one Region and so joins multiple Regions.

We need your help to eliminate these duplicate memberships. Please only pay dues to your Region of choice. If you wish to receive newsletters from another region, simply contact that Region and indicate your wishes. You will be placed on that Region's mailing list. A nominal charge for this service may be requested.

Want to know who to talk to about membership issues? Visit our website:

<http://www.hkvca.ca/contacts.htm>

WEBSITE: [www.hkvca.ca](http://www.hkvca.ca)

Oh, have you paid your 2006 dues yet? Why not take a moment and fill in the form at: [www.hkvca.ca/membershipform.htm](http://www.hkvca.ca/membershipform.htm) - make sure you circle your Region of choice, and mail it off to your Region membership rep along with your cheque. Thank you.

Jim Trick, National Membership Chair and Secretary HKVCA  
<http://www.hkvca.ca>

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### ***REGION REPORTS***

#### **From British Columbia ....**

- Linda Stewart

Greetings once again from "we sure hope we see the sun soon" British Columbia. It's been a long cloudy winter. But we all know that Spring is here because we have the dates set for our annual Spring Luncheons. May 27<sup>th</sup> in Victoria and June 10<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver. Murray Doull will be sending out the details in a letter to our BC members very soon. So please mark those dates on your calendars. We hope to see as many of you as possible. It's always so wonderful to re-unite.

Our veterans in BC continue to receive recognition and honours. March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 was the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the District of Saanich (next door to Victoria). A part of their Centennial celebration included the publishing of a book called 100 years, 100 stories. One of the stories was entitled "A Voice for Veterans – Lionel Speller". You may view the complete article on our website. Look in the "Latest Additions" section.

The youth of Canada have been showing such interest and respect to our veterans.

Recently, one of our veterans, John Lowe, participated in a student interview recounting his experiences as a HK veteran. Emily, a student

from a secondary school in Burnaby, really appreciated the time John spent with her on the telephone interview. Emily said, "I did the interview, and it was great. I thought it would take me about only half an hour or so, but really it was over an hour long. Mr. Lowe was very, very nice and easy to speak with. I learned an awful lot from the conversation."

Gerry Gerrard was honoured to be one of the veterans invited to spend time with our new Governor General, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean when she visited Victoria on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Here is the story in Gerry's own words from an e-mail he sent to me:

--- "Just another event in the life of a HK vet. I was asked to attend at the cenotaph with 5 other Vets for the Governor General's visit, which I did. The Premier was first to arrive and shook our hands and thanked us for coming. Then the Governor General arrived, talked to each of us and asked me where I served, and said she was glad to meet me. The driveway from the cenotaph to the Legislative Building was lined with children and Her Honour made her way along them. Our escort named Daphne led us at a discreet distance behind. Suddenly the children all started to cheer, I wasn't sure why then Daphne said "well they sure like you" and next thing I'm walking along the line shaking hands with all these kids, I turned to Daphne and said "and I don't even play hockey". We were later taken to the main floor of the Legislature and seated right behind the Ministers for the ceremony. It was a pleasant experience."

Speaking of Governors, there was an event that occurred in Victoria almost a year ago that I have not yet mentioned in our national newsletter. Of course, local residents will already know this story so I hope they won't mind while I

share it with the rest of you. Victoria had outgrown its old "Memorial Arena" which was built just after the end of the Second World War. It contained a plaque dedicated to the memory of those who fought and died in that war. A new arena was built on the old site and named the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre. Funding for the construction of the memorial in the new arena was the responsibility of the veterans of the region. The British Columbia branches of the Hong Kong Veterans of Canada and the HKVCA both sent donations for the memorial and have their names engraved on the plaques. Larry and Anne Stebbe were at the new memorial on April 16, 2005 where the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, made some remarks at the dedication ceremony.

Pat Maltman visited Victoria on February 18<sup>th</sup> and we visited with Lionel and Ida at Broadmead Lodge. Then we had lunch with Gerry & Ev Gerrard and Larry & Anne Stebbe over at Gerry & Ev's house. Ev put out a delicious lunch and we had a happy afternoon. We shared a few pictures from Hong Kong and had some great laughs over some fishing stories.

Our congratulations go out to Murray and Lucy Doull who just recently got married. As soon as they returned home from their honeymoon they got busy with other family members planning a very large banquet and party in Chilliwack for his parent's 60th anniversary. Happy 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary to Bill and Claire Doull (married on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1946). Congratulations!

It's so wonderful to share these times together. Again, I remind you in BC to mark your calendars for our Spring Luncheons. We look forward to seeing you all there.

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## **From Alberta-Saskatchewan ...**

### **Gail Richoz**

*Editor in conversation with Ed Shayler:* The region is holding elections for the positions of Regional Director and Treasurer in 2006. They will then hold elections for Secretary and the 2 Regional Deputy Directors in 2007. This will offset the Executive for continuity of operation.

Welcome to the new Membership Chair, Mae Bolger, John Doiron's daughter. Welcome also to Donna MacPherson, the AB/SK newsletter editor and daughter of Ed Shayler.

The region holds luncheons on a regular basis, so if anyone wishes to attend please contact Ralph McLean or Ed Shayler for the date and location.

As the host for the next National Convention this region has begun planning and forming committees, with Chairperson, Patti Stebbe at the helm. Many exciting ideas are in the works and the committees hope that everyone will begin plans to attend. The dates to mark on the calendar are **August 15 to 19, 2007**

## **From Manitoba ....**

### **- Juliet Lafortune**

Hello to one and all

Well since the last National Newsletter there really hasn't been much happening here in Winnipeg. Winter seems to slow things down and now spring is here we will be starting with all the Parades. Our first one is May 14th a Legion Parade.

We will be having our elections here this spring and so far the only position that is in the running is for 1st Deputy Director. Last fall we were fortunate to have Bev Rowden come on board as our Communications person and she has

proved to be a great asset to us. The calls that are made to our members give the much-added touch that is needed here.

We have been holding our Tea and Tidbits - these have been successful in getting the widows, wives and other family and friends together to share stories and memories and see old friends.

Bill Bell Sr. and George Peterson both celebrated their birthdays and are both doing not to badly. We wish them all the best.

We give our condolences to Mitzi Ross and family on the passing of Lance Ross. I was very fortunate to know him and he always made me feel very special. He enjoyed a good laugh. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

On that note please keep us informed on how you are all doing as you are all important to us across Canada and where ever else this goes.

Bye for now, take care.

## **From Ontario ....**

### **- Mike Babin**

This is my first report as Regional Director for Ontario, and I'd like to devote some of it to thanking the members of the Ontario executive team who did not run for re-election for their contributions to our accomplishments since the last election two years ago:

**Pat Turcotte.** As the Regional Director, Pat provided both strong leadership for our activities and tender concern for the region's Veterans and widows. Perhaps her most significant achievement was the introduction of "Canada in Hong Kong 1941-1945, The Forgotten Heroes" - a set of lesson plans to be used in schools across Canada to teach high school students about the Battle for Hong Kong and the internment and treatment of the POWs. Pat recently had the

document translated into French to broaden its audience. As the number of Veterans dwindles each year it becomes so much more important to spread the Hong Kong story, and these lesson plans are an excellent vehicle for doing that. Although Pat decided not to run for re-election, she is staying very active in the HKVCA with her continued focus on encouraging schools to adopt the lesson plans.

**Sandi Cameron.** We finished last year in excellent financial shape, thanks in no small part to Sandi's role as Treasurer, and her diligence in maintaining our books and watching our financial p's and q's. She was also a major contributor to the hugely successful National Convention in Ottawa last summer.

**Lori Smith.** Although Lori has relinquished her position of Secretary, she continues as Ontario's Membership Chair. Keeping our list of several hundred members up to date is no small feat, but Lori stays right on top of the task.

**Sylvia Mason.** As one of our Deputy Directors, Sylvia willingly and capably took on several special projects throughout her term, most recently developing the bilingual flyer referred to below.

Without the willing volunteerism these HKVCA members displayed over their terms our organization simply could not have run. We owe them our gratitude.

I'd also like to introduce the newest member of Ontario's executive team: Mark Purcell, our new Treasurer. He's the grandson of Leonard Corrigan (WG), and Pat Turcotte's nephew. Welcome, Mark! I'm particularly pleased to have Mark on board as he is the first (to my knowledge) of the "3<sup>rd</sup> generation" to serve on an HKVCA executive. Hopefully Mark's

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willingness to get involved in the HKVCA will point the way for others of his age group, as the long-term future of our Association is dependent on his generation.

As I mentioned earlier, a major project for us has been the development and distribution of the lesson plans for high schools. We were able to secure substantial funding from VAC to translate our original English version into French and do a print run. In January Pat and Bernard Turcotte, Gordon Coyne and I held an "envelope stuffing festival" at Pat's house, as a result of which we mailed some 300 copies of the French version to schools and school boards across the country that have French-language history programs. Gordon is handling any orders that come in while Pat is vacationing in Arizona. We plan to follow up with these schools to encourage them to incorporate the lesson plans into their curricula.

We also created a bilingual flyer for use at teachers' conventions and other events to advertise our English and French lesson plans, George MacDonnell's book "*One Soldier's Story*" and the French-language book "*Bernard Castonguay - Prisonnier de Guerre au Japon*". The flyer includes an order form. Anyone who would like to obtain copies for use at local events is welcome to do so. Just contact me at [msbabin@sympatico.ca](mailto:msbabin@sympatico.ca).

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### **From Quebec .... Lucette Mailloux Muir**

Greetings from Quebec Region.

Since our last report Quebec Region has mailed out their newsletter "The Torch" in September and December 2005 and March 2006. The organizing committee for our upcoming Reunion has been fast

at work. Registration Kits have been mailed and the Reunion will be held in Granby, August 10-13, 2006. If you would be interested in fraternizing with Comrades and old or new friends, just send us a note or call and it will be a pleasure to send you a Registration Kit.

We have recently lost more of our Vets, as always it is very sad news to report, to report on one, Lancelot Ross. So much has been said about this great man and without repeating all, I will say that he will be greatly missed by his family, close friends, fishing and hunting buddies and specially his comrades. We will remember them!

That is it for this time. Have a nice safe summer and take care.

### **From the Atlantic ..... Neil Darragh**

*Editor: I received a short report via the phone from Neil Darragh. The Atlantic Region is busy with plans for their Executive meeting on April 29, 2006.*

Verna Pearson is doing a fine job with the memberships.

The Region has begun planning for the Reunion in the Fall. Anyone requiring information on this, please contact Neil or Verna.

Helen Wedge, National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President represents this region at the online meetings held monthly.

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### **Book Corner -Derrill Henderson**

Although Last year was officially the Year of Veteran, it is very evident by the press coverage that every year shall continue to focus on our veterans. Afghanistan is in the news daily. Young Canadian men continue to be placed in harm's way and suffer casualties and death. The stories of our HK veterans continues

to hold high interest by the general public and make excellent gifts, especially to the older generation. Perhaps you are seeking a birthday gift, or just a way of saying "thanks" to a special person - think of giving a book. They are always well received.

We still have available:

***The Royal Rifles of Canada in Hong Kong 1941-1945*** by Grant Garneau; \$50.00 postage included.

***Guest of Hirohito*** by Kenneth Cambon HK vet; \$20.00 plus postage.

***One Soldier's Story*** - by George MacDonell HK vet; \$20.00 plus postage.

Michael Palmer wrote a book in tribute to his grandfather. Although not in book format, we have copies printed on 81.2 X 11 paper and neatly bound. It contains many photographs and illustrations. The cost is \$38.50 plus \$7.50 postage

For our French members and those who can read the language, we have copies of Bernard Castonguay's book, "**Prisonnier de guerre au Japon (1941-1945)**". Perhaps the best book of the Hong Kong experience written in French, the book is largely in diary format, yet Bernard writes as he would speak with a friend, simple expression, elegantly presented. The book cost \$23.00 - postage included.

We also have copies of the video, ***Slaves of the Rising Sun*** (\$15.00 plus postage), and we have recently received more **Monument badges**. The cost, like everything else these days, has increased. It is now \$72.00. Mounting one of these on the grave marker of a HK veteran is a lasting tribute to the veteran and the special role he played as a member of Canada's Armed Forces during WWII.

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All these may be ordered by sending a cheque to:

H.K.V.C.A.  
Suite 164.  
1 Stafford Road  
Nepean ON K2H 1B9

### ***Reminder:***

If you are a family member of someone that was killed in action, please remember to update the information on the CANADIAN VIRTUAL WAR MEMORIAL website. This serves as a lasting memorial to the person who served his country to the fullest. Here is the link - <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=collections/virtualmem>.

### ***A little humour -***

A little boy was waiting for his mother to come out of the store. As he waited, he was approached by a man who asked, "Son, can you tell me where the post office is?"

The little boy replied, "Sure, just go straight down the street two blocks and turn right."

The man thanked the boy kindly and said, "I'm the new preacher in town, and I'd like for you to come to church on Sunday. I'll show you how to get to Heaven." The little boy replied with a chuckle, "Awww, come on, you don't even know how to get to the post office."

\* \* \* \* \*

At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and said, "Johnny, what is the matter?" Little Johnny responded, "I have pain in my side."

I think I'm going to have a wife."

Jim and Mary were both patients in a mental hospital. One day while they were walking past the hospital swimming pool, Jim suddenly jumped into the deep end. He sunk to the bottom of the pool and stayed there. Mary promptly jumped in to save him. She swam to the bottom and pulled Jim out.

When the medical director became aware of Mary's heroic act he immediately ordered her to be discharged from the hospital, as he now considered her to be mentally stable.

When he went to tell Mary the news he said, "Mary, I have good news and bad news. The good news is you're being discharged because since you were able to jump in and save the life of another patient, I think you've regained your senses. The bad news is, Jim, the patient you saved, hung himself with his bathrobe belt in the bathroom. I am so sorry, but he's dead."

Mary replied, "He didn't hang himself, I put him there to dry."

\* \* \* \* \*

A man appeared before St. Peter at the pearly gates. "Have you ever done anything of particular merit?" St. Peter asked.

"Well, I can think of one thing," the man offered. "Once, on a trip to the Black Hills out in South Dakota, I came upon a gang of high-testosterone bikers, who were threatening a young woman. I directed them to leave her alone, but they wouldn't listen. So, I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed biker and smacked him on the head, kicked his bike over, ripped out his nose ring and threw it on the ground." I yelled, "Now, back off biker boy or you'll answer to me!" St. Peter was

impressed. "When did this happen?"  
"Just a couple minutes ago."

\* \* \* \* \*

An English professor wrote the words :

**A woman without her man is nothing"**

on the chalkboard and asked his students to punctuate it correctly.

All of the males in the class wrote:

**"A woman, without her man, is nothing."**

All the females in the class wrote:

**"A woman: without her, man is nothing."**

Punctuation is powerful.

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### ***Corporation Address:***

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### ***Executive Committee***

#### **President**

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#### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President**

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### ***Upcoming Events***

AT Region Executive meeting:  
April 29, 2006 and planning for a  
Reunion in the fall.

**Victoria Luncheon:** 27 May 06  
**Vancouver Luncheon:** 10 June 06  
**QC Region Reunion:** Grandby PQ  
August 10-13 '06

### ***Plan now!!***

**To attend the National Convention  
August 15 to 19, 2007 – Calgary**

Exciting events are being planned by  
Alberta/Saskatchewan Region  
Convention committees, who hope  
that many of the veterans, widows  
and regular members, will participate



in when attending the next  
Convention **August 15 to 19, 2007**

Book it on your calendar now  
and continue to look for updates.