



# THE RIFLEMAN

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada

2019

*The Year in Review*





# QOR East Coaster



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Rifleman,

2020 is going to be a year to remember with the most memorable part being Covid-19 and the overall effects it has on all of us. Without a doubt, we have seen the world in turmoil. By the time you read this message we will be in the back half of the year. Everywhere we go there are social distancing rules posted and enforced, your friends are going around with masks, and you don't recognize any of them. Never before were we afraid to go outdoors, shake hands, hug neighbors, or kiss our own family. Now it is, "stay away," "don't touch me," and a lot of people — including me — are going up the wall.

I thought I should let you know how we are doing. Although things are getting bad, I am very happy to report that we are fine and there is no need to worry. However, please be careful because people are going crazy from being in lockdown! Actually, I've just been talking about this with the microwave and the toaster while drinking my coffee. I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she puts a different spin on everything. Certainly not to the fridge as he is acting cold and distant. In the end, the iron calmed me down as she said everything will be fine, no situation is too pressing, it will iron itself out. The Hoover was very unsympathetic ... told me to just "suck it up," but the fan was more optimistic and hoped it would all soon blow over! The toilet looked a bit flushed when I asked its opinion and didn't say anything, but the doorknob told me to get a grip. The front door said I was unhinged and so the curtains told me to pull myself together. I don't intend to let Covid-19 get to me, get to me, get to me.

Covid-19 has become part of our everyday lingo and has affected everyone, everywhere around the world. We can't even have luncheons, gatherings, meetings, or celebrations. There are work-at-home-offices everywhere, and even when

this is over, these work-at-home-offices will likely continue. My flying days will be over when I go to the airport and they announce that today you are flying on a pilotless flight. I'm done. Time will tell.

We are now making a concerted effort to having *The Rifleman* by e-format and only time will tell whether this is the way to go. It will give each Branch an opportunity to put their own spin on things happening in their own region and it will give each of you the opportunity to give your input. Executive members are putting it all into this issue and it is up to each of you to contribute your articles, your stories, your memories, your input, and it goes without saying that "united we stand and divided we fall." With this issue some Branches are publishing the Active Member names with the hope of informing other members of just who is around the Association. We hope that by doing this we will give the opportunity to allow for a reconnection of former buddies that you probably have lost contact with over the years. We also hope that it will encourage you as a member to reach out to a buddy not on the list and encourage him to come on board with us. We are not getting any younger and members are what give us the desire to continue on as an Association. Your support in this area would be appreciated and if your dues are owed, they would be appreciated.

Fellow Rifleman, I hope that you have an enjoyable summer in your 6-foot bubble reading through your copy, and that in your spare, idle time, you reach out and contact a fellow Rifleman that you haven't spoken to for a while.

It has been a pleasure communicating with each of you.

*Once a Queen's Own, Always a Queen's Own.*

Take care. Stay safe.

**Wayne Thomas,  
President, QOR-MN**





**PETER J.  
PETIPAS:  
HONOURARY  
LIFE MEMBER**

**MCpl (ret'd) Peter J. Petipas** of Whitbourne, Newfoundland, at 89, still reflects on his military career as if it was yesterday. His first stint in the Canadian Armed Forces was

as a member of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. After a short stint back in civilian life, rejoined The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada with part of his three-year stint and ended up in the Korean War for nearly two years.

Peter, like so many, speaks very little about the Korean War, often referred to as the "Forgotten War," with reflections on wondering how he did get through it. The Korean War, which began June 25, 1950 and continued through July 27, 1953, was the result of an attempted takeover of South Korea by the Democratic People's Republic of (North) Korea, supported by the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union. South Korea was supported by a United Nations force led by the U.S. and including Canada and other Commonwealth countries.

According to Veterans Affairs Canada more than 26,000 Canadians served in Korea and, of those, 516 lost their lives and 1,558 were wounded. Canada entered the war in February 1951, and during the next two years saw heavy action in conflicts such as Kayong, Hill 355, and Battle of the Hook, named for a crescent-shaped ridge of tactical importance to the Commonwealth because it dominated the approaches to two vital Imjin River crossings.

In a 2013 interview Major General (ret'd) Herb Pitts said without the help of the Canadians he had no doubt the Korean city of Seoul would have been occupied by the invaders. Pitts served in Korea as an infantry platoon commander and mortar platoon officer where he gained significant combat experience while supporting the Royal Canadian

Regiment. Pitts said, "Even after all these years the Korean people are grateful to Canada for its role in protecting their country. It's like the Dutch and their gratitude towards the soldiers who liberated Holland during the Second World War." The fact the Canadian government waited 60 years to declare "The Year of the Korean War Veteran" means there are few veterans left to celebrate. Korea was long dubbed the "Forgotten War" because it fell between the Second World War and Vietnam War and, in Canada at least, there was little acknowledgement of the sacrifices made by returning soldiers about those who were killed.

It is indeed an honour for The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, MN-NL Association, to have such a distinguished veteran, Peter J. Petipas, as an Honorary Life Member.



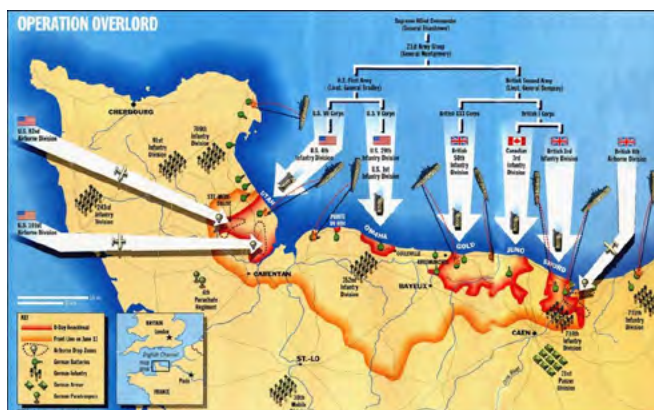
## ALLIED LANDINGS IN NORMANDY (D-DAY)

Canada was a full partner in the success of the Allied landings in Normandy (D-Day). Of the nearly 150,000 Allied troops who landed or parachuted into the invasion area, 14,000 were Canadians. On June 6, 1944 they assaulted a beachfront code-named "Juno," while Canadian paratroopers landed just east of the assault beaches.

### D-DAY QUICK FACTS

- Until the very last minute, the place of invasion — Normandy — was the most heavily guarded secret on the planet.
- Even the units conducting the initial assaults did not know the locations of their landings.
- Surprise was crucial since Germany had 55 divisions in France; the Allies could transport no more than 8 divisions on D-Day morning.
- It is estimated that nearly 2 million soldiers, sailors, and airmen were involved in Operation OVERLORD, including U.S., British, and Canadians who were scheduled to fight after men on the ground secured a Normandy bridge-head.
- 195,000 naval personnel manned 6,939 naval vessels (including 1,200 warships and 15 hospital ships).
- About 17 million maps supported the mission.
- Training maps used fake names.
- The United States shipped 7 million tons of supplies (that translates into 14 billion pounds of material).

Canadian troops landing at Bernières-sur-Mer on June 6, 1944. (NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA, PA-137013)



Map of the Normandy invasion with allied forces. Of the nearly 150,000 Allied troops who landed or parachuted into the invasion area, 14,000 were Canadians. Image: Originally published in Time Magazine.

- Of those supplies, ammunition accounted for 448,000 tons.
- Air-support operations — often overlooked in the success of D-Day — sustained significant losses: Between the 1<sup>st</sup> of April and the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 1944, the Allies flew 14,000 missions losing 12,000 airmen and 2,000 aircraft.
- 127 more planes were lost on D-Day.
- By the end of the Normandy campaign, 28,000 airmen were dead.
- Instead of two days, it took Germany's 2<sup>nd</sup> Waffen SS Division two weeks to reach the front. Allied air power, Eisenhower's spies and French Resistance contacts all contributed to that result.
- There are 9,386 graves in the American cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer. Each grave faces west, towards America.
- 307 of those graves contain the remains of "unknown" soldiers.
- 1,557 names are listed on The Walls of the Missing in the American War Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten for those who were never found.
- 4,868 British dead are buried in the Bayeux Cemetery.
- 1,837 British names are listed at Bayeux for those who were never found.
- There were 946 Canadian casualties in the Normandy campaign.
- 21,500 German dead are buried at La Cambe.



## QUICK FACTS ON THE ARMISTICE & REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Armistice was an agreement signed by representatives of France, Great Britain, and Germany. It was an agreement to end fighting as a prelude to peace negotiations. The Treaty of Versailles signed six months later would act as the peace treaty between the nations. Although “armistice” is used as a term to describe any agreement to end fighting in wars, Remembrance Day was first observed in 1919 throughout the British Commonwealth, including Canada. It was originally called “Armistice Day” to commemorate the Armistice agreement that ended the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m. — on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

The Armistice began on November 11, 1918 at 11 a.m. (Central European Time). The Armistice itself was agreed 6 hours earlier at 5 a.m., with the first term of it being that fighting would end at 11 a.m. The signing of the Armistice took place in Ferdinand Foch’s railway carriage in the Forest of Compiègne, about 37 miles (60 kilometres) north of Paris. This location was chosen as it was remote and discreet. Ferdinand Foch, a French military commander, was one of the people who signed the Armistice agreement.

From 1921 to 1930, Armistice Day was held on the Monday of the week in which November 11 fell. In 1931, Alan Neill, Member of Parliament for Comox-Alberni, introduced a bill to observe Armistice Day only on November 11. Passed by the House of Commons, the bill also changed the name to “Remem-

brance Day.” The first Remembrance Day was observed on November 11, 1931. Every year on November 11, Canadians pause in a moment of silence to honour and remember the men

and women who have served and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict and peace. We remember the more than 2,300,000 Canadians who have served throughout our nation’s history and the more than 118,000 who made the ultimate sacrifice.

In 1940, another armistice was signed in the same railway carriage in the Forest of Compiègne. This time it was Germany forcing France to sign an agreement to end fighting against them in the Second World War; this was essentially a French surrender. To add to the deliberate humiliation further, Adolf Hitler sat in the same seat that Ferdinand Foch sat in back in 1918. The carriage was taken and exhibited in Germany but was destroyed in 1945.

The poppy is the symbol of Remembrance Day. Replica poppies are sold by the Royal Canadian Legion to provide assistance to veterans.

The Armistice was designed to end the fighting of the Great War, and the terms of it would make it impossible for Germany to restart the war — at least in the short term. They were ordered to give up 2,500 heavy guns, 2,500 field guns, 25,000 machine guns, 1,700 aeroplanes, and all submarines they possessed (they were originally asked to give up more submarines than they had!). They were



*Armistice, November 1918. Senior German and Allied commanders and politicians sign the Armistice ending the war in a railway car near Compiègne, France, early on the morning of 11 November 1918. Field Marshal Ferdinand Foch, the Allied supreme commander (centre), stands to accept the German surrender. In 1940, during the Second World War, Adolf Hitler demanded France’s surrender in the same railway car. (“THE SIGNING OF THE ARMISTICE” BY MAURICE PILLARD VERNEUIL, BEAVERBROOK COLLECTION OF WAR ART, CWM 19830483-001)*



also asked to give up several warships and disarm all the ones that they were allowed to keep. If Germany broke any of the terms of the Armistice, such as not evacuating areas they were ordered to evacuate, not handing over weapons or prisoners of war in the timescales given or causing damage to any individual or their property, fighting would begin again with 48 hours' notice.

Germany was ordered to provide information about the location of mines or traps they had placed and reveal what other things they had deliberately destroyed or caused damage to (such as polluting or poisoning springs or wells).

By signing the Armistice and the Treaty of Versailles, Germany was made to accept the blame for the First World War and would have to pay reparations for the damage caused; estimated to total about £22 billion (\$35 billion, €27 billion) in current money. It was only in 2010 that Germany paid off its war debt, with a final payment of £59 million (\$95 million, €71 million).

Whereas Germany viewed the terms of the Armistice and the Treaty of Versailles signed the following year as too harsh, the French saw it as too lenient.

Remembrance Day is a federal statutory holiday in Canada. It is also a statutory holiday in three territories (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut), and in six provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador). The national ceremony is held at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. The governor general of Canada presides

over the ceremony. It is also attended by the prime minister, government officials, representatives of veterans' organizations, diplomatic representatives, dignitaries, veterans as well as the general public.

In advance of the ceremony, long columns of veterans, Canadian Armed Forces members, RCMP officers, and cadets march to the memorial led by a pipe band and a color guard. At the end, they march away to officially close the ceremony.

Some of the 54 Commonwealth member states, such as Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia, observe the tradition of Remembrance Day on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Other nations observe a solemn day but at different dates. For example, ANZAC Day is observed in New Zealand on April 25. In South Africa, Poppy Day is marked on the Sunday that falls closest to November 11. Many nations that are not members of the Commonwealth also observe Remembrance Day on November 11, including France, Belgium, and Poland.

Armistice Day, Remembrance Day or Veterans Day is commemorated in many countries involved in the First World War on November 11 every year or on the Sunday nearest to it (or, as is becoming more common, on both days). Several countries remember the people lost during the First World War and other wars by holding a two-minute silence at 11 a.m. on that day. In the United Kingdom, Remembrance Day ceremonies have been televised every year since 1946, although the first live broadcast was in 1937.

The United States used to commemorate Armistice Day. However, in 1954 they changed the name to Veterans Day.

Front page of the Ottawa Citizen on November 11, 1918.



## REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

**Jacques (Jack) De Winter**, a QORA MN member, tells us of his contribution to the cause:

*Five years ago, for Remembrance Day, I made up 158 crosses with the names of the Afghanistan fallen on them, plus one each for WWI, WWII, Korean War, peacekeepers, and Vietnam veterans, for a total of 163 crosses. This was actually a labor of love, and I enjoyed the whole process.*

*Since I made these crosses five years ago, they needed some sprucing up. So at one of our “veterans coffee hour” (VCH), after last Remembrance Day at Branch 234 in Guelph, Ontario, I approached a regular at our VCH, a trustee at Guelph’s Catholic school board, and asked him if any of the high schools in Guelph might be interested in ‘refurbishing’ these crosses.*

*I received an almost instant reply from three folks, the school board director, the trustee who is a regular at our VCH, and the “shop teacher” from St. James Catholic High School in Guelph. They were all thrilled to be able to do something to give back to veterans, at no cost to the Branch.*

*I delivered them to the school in late 2018, and on January 18, 2019, they were all returned to our Branch with a fresh coat of paint, new labels with the rank, name, and date of KIA on them, and a better system to plant them in the ground on pre-Remembrance Day.*

*This was an event planned well ahead, complete with a cake, refreshments, and many one-on-ones with veterans and students, plus a tour of our Branch, all this during our veterans coffee hour. In attendance was the school board’s Director Tamara Nugent, St. James High School’s Vice Principal Sandra Cummings, Trustee Joe Tersigni, and shop teacher Frank Huarte. I’m certain that we have established a bond with these students that will not soon be forgotten.*

*The crosses bear the names of all the Afghanistan fallen, plus five others. These crosses are placed in front of our Legion hall, beside the sidewalk to the front door, and in front of the garden, which is also in front of our Branch. They are easily viewed from the roadway by the public, and make quite a statement, which is our intent.*

**Jacques (Jack) De Winter**



Students from St. James Catholic High School in Guelph hold some of the 168 crosses they refurbished. Seated, from left to right: Frank Huarte, teacher; Jacques De Winter, who made the crosses; Roy Fagel, Branch President.

## THANK YOU TO ALL VETERANS

*I am Canadian and my father served in the Korean War as a special forces gunny. He left six children at home and my mom because the army paid well. He survived the Canoe River train wreck and saved the lives of fellow would-be soldiers before even attending boot camp. He returned from his tour and went on to have five more children of which I am the youngest. He rarely spoke about his time overseas because I think that he preferred to forget than reminisce. I respected him for that, however now that I am an adult, and my father has passed away, I am interested to know more about his time overseas. I am hoping that there is some type of a portal that I can access to find my father, his regiment and any other information that I can. Can anyone assist me in this search?*

*Any information will be greatly appreciated. Thank you all.*

**NOTE:** We owe it to all to ensure our past is protected for future generations to get first-hand knowledge of just what took place during the battles fought. If you see a request like the one above and if you can assist, please do so. Likewise, if you have a story to tell, pass it on and share your own first-hand experiences with us.





## LANIER W. PHILLIPS

**Lanier Phillips**, a black U.S. Navy serviceman who has credited his 1942 rescue off Newfoundland as transforming his life and igniting a passion for civil rights, died in

March 2012 at the age of 88. Phillips passed away at a military retirement home in Gulfport, Mississippi in March 2012.

Phillips was just 18 when the U.S. Navy warships *Pollux* and *Truxtun* went aground at a cove on Newfoundland's Burin Peninsula, between the towns of St. Lawrence and Lawn.

"They changed my way of thinking and it erased all of the hatred within me," Phillips told CBC News, when he came to Newfoundland to take part in a ceremony marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Pollux*–*Truxtun* disaster in February 2012.

"Because of that tragedy, I joined up with Dr. [Martin Luther] King. I just had to join up with Dr. King and that's because of the change they did for me in St. Lawrence." To view a video on Lanier Phillips, go to [https://youtu.be/V\\_fVeYf8AWQ](https://youtu.be/V_fVeYf8AWQ). You can also listen to his audio recordings and/or read about him at <https://www.mun.ca/mha/polluxtruxtun/lanier-phillips/>.

## VIOLA DESMOND: COURAGE AND DIGNITY

**Viola Desmond** was a successful black businesswoman who was jailed, convicted and fined for defiantly refusing to leave a whites-only area of a movie theatre in 1946. Her court case was an inspiration for the pursuit of **racial equality across Canada**. Viola's story is part of the permanent collection at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

Ms. Desmond has often been compared to Rosa Parks, the American civil rights heroine who refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955.

To view a video on Viola Desmond, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ie0xWYRSX7Y>.

Learn more at [https://www.bankofcanada.ca/banknotes/vertical10/?page\\_moved=2](https://www.bankofcanada.ca/banknotes/vertical10/?page_moved=2).



## "FEU DE JOIE"

During earlier times in France, huge bonfires were lit to celebrate joyous occasions. These were called "fire of joy" or, in French, *feu de joie*. After gunpowder was introduced, random volleys were fired from cannons or muskets during these celebrations. These proceedings have been modified over the years into the present ceremonial synchronized ripple of fire from rifles resting on the right shoulder pointing into the air, with each soldier firing in succession along the ranks to make a continuous sound.

For circa 1957–1964 images, view **Jack Glenn's Collection** online at <https://www.photos.qor-east.com/JackGlenn%27sCollection1.htm>.

## PHOTO COLLECTION – NEW ADDITIONS

If you haven't visited our collection of photos lately, you'll be pleased to know we have **Herb Pitt's celebration of Life**, we also have **Jack Glenn's Collection** and **John Metcalfe** added his collection.

You can pick and choose from the site's index <https://www.photos.qor-east.com/>. You can also review past copies of the **East Coaster**. You can also get there by clicking the **Photo Gallery**.

Our site is as secure as your banking site. We have an "S" added to the http due to the fact we have a security certificate installed. If you see no "S" the site is considered unsafe. So, you can be sure our site is safe and secure. Be careful on other sites that don't have https.



## MN-NL ACTIVE MEMBERS — OUR ASSOCIATION'S STRENGTH

An Association is only as strong as its membership, and although we are not afforded the benefit of having social gatherings once or twice a year, we do have the opportunity to communicate with one another via the internet regularly.

We are attempting to do just that with this issue of the *e-Rifleman* and each Branch contributing varying pieces of information. Outside of that, we would like to see inter-branch exchange of newsletters or interesting articles go out to all on a regular basis.

One of the things that we are doing in this publication, against some people's views, is to publish a list of our active members, by name only, with the view that some Rifleman out there would want to contact one of our Rifleman and we would be

Ross Allen  
Graham Badcock  
Donald Baker  
George F. Chaisson  
Eddie Chase  
Jacque DeWinter  
Raymond Freake  
Joe Hanlon

Leonard Hart  
Ronald Harvey  
Kevin Hollahan  
Hugh Irwin  
Arthur E. Jackman  
Graham Jones  
Gerald Kelly  
John T. Lacasse

the in-between contact connection. If the other Branches would follow this same format it would afford all of us the benefit of possibly finding a lost contact.

Equally, you may know someone that is not on either Branch list and could possibly persuade them to get on board and join the Association. We do not feel that this is any breach of information any more than it is to publish the names of Riflemen that are in the Last Post section and this could again be communicated to all very easily.

Hopefully you will give it a try and keep the Regimental spirit alive and stronger in all areas.

For information, contact **Wayne Thomas**.

There is no rank in the Association and whether you're retired or released, *Once a Queen's Own, Always a Queen's Own*.

Kenneth Marshall  
Tom Martin  
John Metcalfe  
Kenneth R. Moore  
Ed Perry  
Wayne Reid  
John Shapter  
Jim Sheppard

Irving M. Sulzle  
Wayne Thomas  
Bush Thornhill  
Ben Turpin  
Walter Wells  
Reginald Woodland  
Joe Yvonne

---

## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR LOST OR DESERVING MEDALS?

Veterans who retired or were honourably discharged are encouraged to wear their medals on formal civilian clothes for special events. <https://www.gg.ca/sites/default/files/wearingguide.pdf>

Often veterans have not bothered to seek out their rightful medals that they so admirably earned during their service to Canada.

Over the years I have assisted a number of veterans in applying for service medals that have not been presented to them for one reason or another.

Some of the stories I heard have inspired me to seek out veterans that need assistance and to work with them in following through the system.

If you feel there are medals or commendations which were not presented to you, or that you have lost, had stolen or were destroyed, please contact

me and I will do the follow up for you.

My enjoyment from this project is to see that you get everything you are entitled to with the final say coming through the Directorate of Honors & Recognition (DH & R).

It would be a pleasure to assist you and I look forward to hearing from you. Contact Wayne Thomas ([waynethomas@qor-east.com](mailto:waynethomas@qor-east.com)).

## FREE EMAIL WITH QOR-EAST

In place of Hotmail, Gmail and such. This is exclusive to QOR registered members only. As a member you are entitled to a free email account. All you need do is insert the name you wish to use in front of @qor-east.com. E-mail the webmaster Ben Turpin ([ben@qor-east.com](mailto:ben@qor-east.com)) and include the name you wish to use in front of \_\_\_\_\_@qor-east.com. **TR**

## QOR Association Salutes Kathleen & Ben Turpin

**THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF  
CANADA,  
MN-NL BRANCH  
THANKS KATHLEEN & BEN.  
OUR ASSOCIATION SALUTES  
YOU WITH PRIDE.**

If there are two people who eat, drink and sleep The Queen's Own Rifles Association, they are Ben & Kathleen Turpin.

When there is a job to be done, it gets done, with pride and perfection, and our association is the benefactor.

On behalf of all our members, we sincerely appreciate your time and effort. Thanks.

*And others think so too!*

**Ben & Kathleen,**

Without a doubt you are one of a kind. When Brenda & I were in Newfoundland in 2008 you welcomed us with open arms and the reception we received was second to none!! Your contribution to the MN-NL Association along with the whole QOR Association has been exceptional. You are true friends and your excellent contribution hasn't gone unnoticed. You would assist in QOR matters whenever asked too. Thanks to Ben & Kathleen for your never-ending support. Great Friends!!!

**Brian Budden,  
President, Toronto Branch, QORA**



**TOP RIGHT:** If there are two people who eat, drink and sleep The Queen's Own Rifles Association, they are Ben & Kathleen Turpin. **RIGHT:** Kathleen and Ben Turpin doing work for the Branch.





**TOP:** "The Three Amigos." From left to right: John Metcalfe – Membership; Wayne Thomas – President; Ben Turpin – Vice President, Webmaster, Treasurer and all other assignments.

**MIDDLE:** Ben, Amanda and Kathleen.

**BOTTOM:** Ben at the Gander Heritage Memorial Park.



### **Ben Turpin,**

For years now, the National Association has enjoyed an accurate and up-to-date membership list. This has helped National and the four Branches communicate more effectively with their members. This would not have happened without the support and guidance of Ben Turpin.

Ben took the idea of having a centrally controlled membership list and made it happen. Each branch maintains its own Branch list on a central platform which Ben then put on iCloud. Ben took the time to instruct and educate all involved on how to access iCloud and to update and maintain the spreadsheets. This was no small task when dealing with computer illiterates like myself.

Accurate membership lists, including email addresses, will be even more important in the future. Electronic communication, starting with the e-Rifleman later this year, will become more frequent. This would not have been possible without Ben Turpin taking the time to lay the foundation.

Thanks, Ben, for all your help and support. It is very much appreciated and will be even more so in the future.

**Bob Dunk,**  
**Immediate Past President,**  
**National QOR Association**



### **Ben & Kathleen,**

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to personally say a great big "Thank You" to both of you. With your busy schedule and rigorous to do list, it never interferes in giving immediate attention to any and all things pertaining to The Queen's Own.

Thanks for your time and commitment to doing the things that you do. Our Association, at the local and national levels, are the benefactors of your driving force for perfection.

**TOP:** Ben Turpin at the mic during an event in Gander.

**SECOND FROM TOP:** Ben and Kathleen are seated at the far end of the head table.

**THIRD:** General (ret'd) Rick Hillier with Branch members.

**BOTTOM:** Members of the QOR Association marching.

On behalf of all Riflemen, Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

**Tom Martin,  
President, Vancouver Island Branch, QORA**

**Ben & Kathleen,**

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Words alone cannot express the sincere gratitude that I and our membership owe to the both of you. Working with you for the benefit of our Association is a pleasure.

I know full well you take great pride in the professional way you do and present things and more often than not with uncertainty as to whether the effort is all worth it in the end.

Ben your philosophy of "it matters not who gets the credit for the things that have to be done as long as the things that have to be done get done," hold true to the end and best describes the true Ben Turpin.

Forever going above and beyond for the long-term benefit of the QOR Association and its members. Thanks again to both you and Kathleen.

**Wayne Thomas,  
President, MN-NL QORA**

**Ben Turpin,**

It is without any doubt, I can say on behalf of the QOR Calgary Branch, that Ben is truly one of a kind.

He has contributed many hours to the QOR MN-NL Branch as well as to the National Association of the QOR.

Ben's many suggestions to me / us to make things easier for the cause and all of us, is very much appreciated.

Thank you Ben for being that person and also Thank You to your beautiful wife Kathleen.

On behalf of the Calgary Branch!

Take care

**Louise Hodder,  
Secretary, QOR Calgary Branch**





This page features a collection of photos, many of which were taken during the unveiling of new QOR memorials in 2015. The matching memorials marked the Regiment's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being garrisoned in Newfoundland, at Botwood and Gander, in 1940. Riflemen wearing uniforms from the QOR's past were at the unveiling, along with veterans and members of the QOR Association's Newfoundland & Maritimes Branch. **TR**





---

## QOR National Association Report

---

*by WO (ret'd) Bob Dunk, CD*  
*Immediate Past President*



**F**or many years, the Association has organized group tours of Northwest Europe, visiting Commonwealth War Grave Cemeteries and battlefields important to The Queen's Own Rifles from both the First and Second World Wars.

This year, we changed things up and went to Italy to visit some of the battlefields and cemeteries to commemorate the actions of the First Canadian Division. Many historical sites were also visited, which made for a splendid two-week tour.

We flew to Venice for a short stay then on to Florence, which included a side trip to Pisa. We headed back to the Adriatic coast on our way to Ortona and stopped at Coriano Ridge, Gradara and Montecchio Commonwealth War Cemeteries. Small services were held at each cemetery as some of our travellers had family and friends buried there.

We stayed just south of Ortona in Lanciano; this gave us a few days to retrace the steps of the First Canadian Division, which culminated in a guided tour of Ortona and a visit to the Moro River Canadian War Cemetery. One of the highlights of our stay in Lanciano was a magnificent lunch served in a restaurant/cave in the medieval village of Pretoro where our group picture was taken.

From Ortona, we travelled across Italy to Naples with stops at Pontecorvo, Liri Valley, Melfa River and the Monte Cassino cemetery.

Our first day in Naples included a tour of the Amalfi coast by bus and boat followed by a visit to Pompeii. We then spent the next day leisurely on the Island of Capri.

From Naples we travelled north to Rome with a stop to tour the Anzio beachhead and the Anzio Commonwealth War Cemetery. Rome included visits to the Vatican, the Pantheon, the Trevi Fountain, Piazza Venezia and, of course, the Colosseum. An interesting stop was the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Rome, which is tucked along the old Roman wall near the Pyramid of Cestius.

And the trip would not have been complete without a bomb scare as we were checking into Leonardo da Vinci International Airport for our flight home.

Our next Association tour is scheduled for late September 2021. Stops will include Budapest, Bratislava, Vienna, Munich (just in time for Oktoberfest), Zurich and more. Details will be made available in the fall of 2020.

Back to business, a new slate of officers was elected at the National AGM in Toronto in November. The new executive is as follows:

**President:** Ron Craig

**Immediate Past President:** Bob Dunk

---

**ABOVE:** Group picture taken in Pretoro, Italy.



**First Vice President:** Dave Lavery  
**Second Vice President:** Tom Martin  
**Secretary:** Vacant  
**Treasurer:** Garry Muir  
**Directors:**

- Wayne Thomas (Newfoundland & Maritimes)
- Brian Budden (Toronto)
- Gil Chenier (Calgary)
- Tom Martin (Vancouver Island)

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support and encouragement I have received in the years I spent as Association President. It was very much appreciated. **TR**

---

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT:** A 400-year-old olive tree near a German HQ, damaged by shrapnel and nursed back to health. Moro River where the 48<sup>th</sup> crossed. The bridge in the distance is where the Hasty P's crossed the Moro River. Bob Dunk, Dave Lavery & Brian Budden at Fontana del Pantheon. Monte Cassino Commonwealth War Cemetery.



---

## QOR Association's Toronto Branch Report

---

by CWO (ret'd) Brian Budden, President



**G**reetings and welcome to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association (Toronto Branch) that covers all the Ontario & Quebec area.

We held the Toronto Association Annual Meeting this past April. This is where I was nominated and elected President for the third term. If you remember I was President back in 1995 till 1999. After that I still continued to serve on the Executive over the years. I would like to thank my predecessor Ron Craig for his dedication and service as President over the last three years. He was nominated and is currently the new National President.

I would also like to thank our past National President Bob Dunk for all his leadership and dedication to the Association over the years.

The strength of the Association is the result of a dedicated Board of Management and Directors. This year, as in previous years, the majority of the Directors and Executive members stayed on in their positions and accepted the nomination. I want to thank the Directors and Executive members who have supported me this year in office with their hard work and dedication.

### LIST OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

**President:** Brian Budden

**First Vice President:** Harry Rollo

**Second Vice President:** Dave Lavery

**Secretary:** June Parris

**Treasurer:** Brenda Butt

**Membership:** Ann Ward

**Health & Welfare:** Brian Budden/Harry Rollo

#### Directors:

- Neil Arsenault
- Peter Berkhout
- Bob Dunk
- Clay Downs
- Andy MacNaughton
- Norm McCracken
- Mike Holland
- James Atcheson
- Rob Chan
- Josie Mulvihill
- Jerry Senetchko
- Earl Gardner
- Tim Richardson
- Linda DiFelice – Band
- MCpl Josh Chavarie – Junior Ranks

### ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

As in previous years, we participated in a number of activities and events, including:

- D-Day ceremonies at Moss Park Armoury & Toronto City Hall
- 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

---

*ABOVE: Jerry Senetchko and City of Toronto Mayor John Tory with a D-Day landing print.*





**LEFT:** Jerry Senetchko with D-Day Landing Print and the D-Day proclamation from the City of Toronto.

**BELOW:** Westlake Brothers Souvenir – QORA (Toronto Branch) Honorary Members.

- Korean Veterans Association Memorial in Brampton
- Westlake Brothers Souvenir visit to Toronto
- 98<sup>th</sup> Warriors Day Parade at CNE (Canadian National Exhibition)
- March to the Cross of Sacrifice at St. Paul's Church for the annual QOR Remembrance Church Parade
- Remembrance Day ceremony at St. Paul's Church
- QOR Soldiers Christmas Dinner
- Quarterly pub nights
- Stand down BBQ with Regiment at MPA
- Stand to pizza with Regiment at MPA
- QOR regimental exercises — supplying coffee, drinks and donuts for troops
- Other events of interest that support and benefit the Association and Regiment.

## OTHER NEWS

We also have some great news to share with you. The efforts of members of our Executive who have reached out to the Junior Ranks Mess have been very successful as the goal was to get every member of the Regiment and former members to join the Association. We started by asking members of the Junior Ranks to become directors in the Association. I am pleased to report that because of the work of Association Members and guidance from these new Directors, we are on the path to have

every member of the Junior Ranks join the Toronto Association. You will have already received e-mails from the Association informing you of Association events, and you will continue to receive updates about Association events and activities.

With the assistance of Executive member Peter Berkhout there is a new QORA (Toronto Branch) website [www.qoraa.ca](http://www.qoraa.ca) and we have a [Facebook page](#) as well.

This year will mark the first time that *The Rifleman* journal will be electronic.

To access our social media, go to [www.facebook.com/qortorontoassociation](http://www.facebook.com/qortorontoassociation)

Another initiative that the Association is assisting the Regiment with is the recruiting drive. You may have family or friends that are seeking who have what it takes.

Go to [www.queensownrifles.com](http://www.queensownrifles.com)

## 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL QOR ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

On Friday, July 12, 2019 we held our annual golf tournament at the Cardinal Golf Course, in Newmarket, Ontario, just north of Toronto. This is a superb 18-hole golf course, and it was the first time we held our tournament at this course!



**RIGHT:** QOR Association march in the 2019 Warriors Day Parade, Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto.

**BELOW:** Brian Budden, Jerry Senetchko and Rob Chan receiving The Goodyear Remembrance Trophy.

We had 130 golfers show up; it was a great event as this year we had sponsorships for the holes. It was one of the most successful tournaments of all times.

We thank all the companies that sponsored the holes.

A special thank you goes to Association member Mark Ross on the donation of the 55" Samsung TV as one of the main prizes.

Commanding Officer LCol Frank Lamie along with RSM CWO Donovan O'Halloran presented the audience with a breakdown of the Regimental taskings, recruitment and major events for the upcoming year.

As usual, David Lavery did a fantastic job of organizing the golf tournament and securing prizes. Members of the Association worked hard on various events and ensured the golf tournament was one of the greatest so far. And we thank all the golfers who show up each year to support the Toronto Association.

## 98<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WARRIORS DAY PARADE

At this year's parade the QOR Association placed second in The Goodyear Remembrance Trophy (marching formation with 16 or more). Remember we were first in military association marching units.



I would like to express my sincere congratulations to Executive member Jerry Senetchko for his hard work in putting the marching unit together. Well done to those that participated on the marching unit. Number one next year.

## VETERANS, MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND REGIMENT

In addition, throughout the year we look after our Veterans and members of the Association and Regiment. For example, when a QOR Veteran or member of the Association or Regiment is hospitalized or needs assistance, we make every effort to help out and visit them in the hospital or long-term care facility or home.

**Health & Welfare:** We visit and send appropriate items such as flowers (planter) or fruit basket and a get well card to members; this also goes the same for members that pass away we send flowers (planter) or donation and sympathy card.

**Members of the Regiment that serve overseas or taskings:** We assist and send over packages or have a gift card when returning home from Our Rifleman Fund.

**Support to QOR Regimental Band & 2881 QOR Army Cadets:** Assist and support the QOR Regimental Band at concerts/functions. This also goes for our 2881 QOR Army Cadets at their Annual Review and fundraiser events.





## PRESENTATIONS OF THE RIFLEMAN OF THE YEAR AND PAUL AND BEVERLY HUGHES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

At this year's Soldiers Christmas Dinner, on December 4, 2019 we presented two important awards.

Rifleman of the Year is presented to an Association member who has shown that he or she has gone above and beyond in service to the Association and support of the Regiment and Regimental Family.

This year's recipient was James Atcheson, Toronto Association Executive Member. James has displayed outstanding commitment and dedication to the Association and Regimental Family, and is a most worthy recipient of Rifleman of the Year!

The recipient of this year's Colonel Paul and Beverly Hughes Award for Excellence was Brian Budden. He was committed to excellence as President of our Toronto Branch. His support of the Association and promotion of the Association within the Regimental Family has been outstanding. This award recognizes his accomplishments and his commitment to excellence that continues to the history of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. He was very instrumental in the success of the Toronto Branch.

## MEMBERSHIP

In recent years, our membership has decreased. In order to continue to carry out the important work we do in support of our Veterans and current serving members of the QOR, we need your support

**LEFT:** Dave Lavery presenting the Colonel Paul & Beverly Hughes Award for Excellence to Brian Budden.

**BELOW:** Andy MacNaughton receiving the QORA Rifleman of the Year Award on behalf of James Atcheson.

by renewing your membership. We also welcome back any members who want to volunteer in some capacity.

It is our goal to make sure our Association remains one of the most active military associations in Canada. By renewing your membership, you help us carry out our role in the Regimental Family. If you have let your membership lapse, please use this opportunity to rejoin the QOR Toronto Association, and become part of the QOR Regimental Family — continuing a 104-year tradition of service to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association.

Greetings to Members of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association (Toronto Branch). I want to provide some information about our Association membership.

Your membership for 2020 will be renewed when we receive \$25.00, which is due on January 31, 2020. We appreciate your support, and by renewing your membership, you help us carry out our role in the Regimental Family.

If you are receiving this newsletter, it means you are a member and have renewed your membership or you have let your membership lapse.

Why not take this opportunity to renew!!

Our Membership Chairperson is Ann Ward — [qora.membership@gmail.com](mailto:qora.membership@gmail.com)



**RIGHT:** Brian Budden presenting Museum Curator John Stephens with a plaque from L'Association Fort de La Crèche, Wimereux, France.

Please, take the time to fill out the membership form and send us your dues for 2020 to help us maintain our important role in the Regimental Family.

**To pay by cheque or money order:**

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association  
(Toronto Branch)  
1235 Trafalgar Road  
P.O. Box 84024  
Oakville, Ontario.  
L6H 3J0

**To pay by e-mail: You can do an e-transfer.** The address is [qora-tor-treasurer@rogers.com](mailto:qora-tor-treasurer@rogers.com) and password would be *rifles*.

Again, thank you for renewing your membership. It is our goal to make sure our Association remains one of the most active military associations in Canada.

By sending your dues, you are part of a 104-year tradition of service to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association.

Also, if you know of a former member or anyone that would be interested in becoming a member, please don't hesitate and contact us.

And, if you have let your membership lapse, please use this opportunity to rejoin the QOR Toronto Association, and become part of the QOR Regimental Family!



Need another reason to belong to one of the most active military associations in Canada?

Remember, **"Once in The Queen's Own, always in The Queen's Own."** By renewing or re-joining the QOR Association, you are a part of this extraordinary record of service. Over 100 Years of Service since 1916. This year marks the **160<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of this fine Regiment.

In closing, if you happen to meet up with a former member of the Regiment tell them about the QOR Association and bring back the ties they had when they served.

Remember, **"ONCE IN THE QUEEN'S OWN ALWAYS IN THE QUEEN'S OWN."**

***In Pace Paratus — In Peace Prepared***

**HOW TO CONTACT OR JOIN US**

If you'd like to contact the Toronto Branch, send an email to President **Brian Budden** at [brianbudden@rogers.com](mailto:brianbudden@rogers.com) or email the **QOR Association (Toronto Branch)** at [qorassociationtoronto@gmail.com](mailto:qorassociationtoronto@gmail.com). **TR**

**ONTARIO ACTIVE MEMBERS LIST**

Aaron, Bernard  
Anglin, John  
Arsenault, Neil  
Ashdown, Clifford  
Atcheson, James  
August, James  
Bakshi, Tazin

Barnard, Willian  
Bandura, Nicholas  
Berkhout, Peter  
Berkhout, Lammy  
Bleeker, Francis  
Blom, Larry  
Boone, Tyler

Buchan, Brian J  
Budden, Brian  
Buligan, Serge R  
Burton, Gregory  
Butt, Brenda  
Campbell, Robert  
Celerio, Julian

Chambers, John  
Champion, C Allan  
Chan, Robert  
Chang, Martin  
Charity, Richard  
Chisholm, Michael  
Clarkson, Dave



Cosolo, Carlo  
 Crozier, Douglas  
 Dalziel, Don  
 Diamond, Devon  
 Diebel, Larry  
 DiFelice, Linda  
 Donald, John C  
 Donaldson, James  
 Downes, Clay  
 Dunk, Robert J  
 Duval, Marcel  
 Feltis, Victor  
 Ferguson, Scott  
 Fisher, Desiree  
 Fletcher, Murray  
 Fotheringham, John  
 Foulds, Tom  
 Galea, George  
 Gardner, Earl S.  
 Genua, Mario  
 Goldring, Blake  
 Gomes, Giuseppe  
 Grieve, Rob  
 Gross, Ronald  
 Grout, H.E.S.  
 Hadley, Linda  
 Haire, Fred  
 Hannan, Timothy  
 Harewood, Justin  
 Harris, Don  
 Harrison, Lee  
 Hartery, Aiden  
 Hermant, Adam  
 Heyes, T. Christopher  
 High, Joshua  
 Hill, Ronald  
 Hinds, Christopher  
 Hinds, Norman  
 Holland, Michael  
 Howie, John B  
 Hughes, Edward  
 Hurst, Chase  
 Jauernig, Michael  
 Jewell, Ron  
 Jiang, Brian

Kaplun, Kirill  
 Karaakas, Arwa  
 Karapostolakis, George  
 Karogerakis, Alex  
 Kelly, Shaun C.  
 Kim, Inasio  
 Kindersley, Rupert  
 Kirsh, Andrew  
 Kiss, Allan  
 Kubik, Terri  
 Kurelo, Rick  
 Kurish, Michael  
 Kusi-Appiah, Mark  
 Lamb, Bill  
 Lau, Steven  
 Lavery, Leeann  
 Leader, Darnel  
 Leduc, Bruce  
 Lee, Sean  
 Leibel, Samuel  
 Lepad, Nicholas  
 Leung, Anderson  
 Llewellyn-Thomas, Roland  
 Loggia, Joe  
 Lutz, James  
 Luu, Jonathan  
 MacKenzie, MGen Lewis  
 Macnaughton, Andrew  
 Magee, Jennifer  
 Markell, Eugene  
 Marsala, Joseph  
 Marsaw, Thorold  
 Marsh, David  
 Martin, Donald  
 McClements, Clayton  
 McCabe, Harry  
 McCracken, Bob  
 McCracken, Norm  
 McEachern, Bruce  
 Miazga-Grzybek, Jeremy  
 Midgley, Thomas  
 Muir, William  
 Mikula, Monica A  
 Motala, Mohammed  
 Mulvihill, Josie

Mulvihill, Ed  
 Munnings, JP  
 Near, Michael  
 Norman, Glenn  
 Nortes, Pedro  
 Ogle, Ernest  
 Owen, David  
 Parris, Cecil  
 Parris, June  
 Parson, Charles  
 Peers, Donald  
 Pelz, Curtis J.  
 Pember, Sandra  
 Perera, Keith  
 Persaud, Seerat  
 Power, John  
 Pryer, Donald  
 Reed, Alan  
 Reid, Fergus S.  
 Richardson, Tim  
 Robinson, Justin  
 Rollo, Harry  
 Rooney, Ivor  
 Ross, Mark  
 Roy, Alan  
 Roy, Phillip  
 Runowski, Glen  
 Ruzin, Svetlana  
 Schneider, Eric  
 Schoenig, Ralph  
 Schultz, Anthony  
 Scotland, Alexander  
 Scott, Helen

Senetchko, Jerry  
 Sharpe, John  
 Shen, William Qin  
 Shuter, Robert J  
 Simudson, Peter  
 Singh, Randy  
 Steinhauser, A.  
 Stephens, John  
 Strethem, Jonathan  
 Styles, Garry R.  
 Sweeney, Gloria  
 Szepes, Peter  
 Tachauer, Phil  
 Tanaka, Thomas  
 Tang, Robert  
 Taylor, Nathaniel  
 Taylor, Neal  
 Thiers-Gomez, Chistopher  
 Thommee, Piotr  
 Thomson, Garry  
 Thorn, Justin  
 Trachuk, James  
 Tremblay, Paul  
 Tuju, Max  
 Vant Erve, William  
 Vulkov, Nikolai  
 Wagman, Joel  
 Wakefield, Richard  
 Wanke, Spencer D.  
 Ward, Ann  
 Waters, Ryan  
 Zhou, Altman



---

## QOR Association's Calgary Branch Report

---

**T**he Calgary Branch of the QOR Association welcomed a new Executive for 2020:

- Gilles Pharand, Treasurer
- Donna Piche, Vice-President
- Joan Daoust, Planning Committee
- Arlene Albrecht, Planning Committee
- Louise Hodder, Secretary
- Gil Chenier, President
- Lynda Peterson, Scribe (absent)

The Branch held its Christmas luncheon on December 6, 2019 at the Carriage House in Calgary.

We had a food drive as well as cash donations for the Veterans Association Food Bank of Calgary. We invited Marie Blackburn, founder of the food bank, along with her assistant, Mike Nelson, to our luncheon!

IN MEMORIAM: Gene Tiefenbach.



---

*TOP: A photograph of the Calgary Branch's new Executive. Absent from the photo was Lynda Peterson.*

*RIGHT: Marie Blackburn, founder of the Veterans Association Food Bank of Calgary, receives a cheque from Gil Chenier, President of the Calgary QORA.*

---



This page features a collection of photos that were taken during the Christmas luncheon on December 6, 2019. The event took place at the Carriage House in Calgary and was well attended by members of the Calgary Branch of The Queen's Own Rifles Association. **TR**





## CALGARY BRANCH ACTIVE MEMBERS LIST

Aucoin Lucy Mrs  
 Albrecht Arlene Mrs  
 Armstrong Jack  
 Ashton Barry & Carol  
 Barker Ernie  
 Battram Arnie & Peggy  
 Bedford Doug  
 Bowes Jerry  
 Brown Winston  
 Carrigan George & Terry  
 Carsted George & Helen  
 Cassidy Terry & Judy  
 Catellier John  
 Chenier Gil  
 Collins Joe  
 Dancy John & Mary  
 Daoust Joan Mrs  
 Demeules Ray & Dale  
 Drummond Harry  
 Elsdon William

Eckenswiller Pat & Jeannine  
 Ethell Don & Linda  
 Forrestall Edmond & Patricia  
 Fraser Barry & Elizabeth  
 Glenn Jack & Pat  
 Hiestad Ross  
 Hodder Louise  
 Hughes Paul & Bev  
 Hurst Gary & Norma  
 Jackson Gary & Donna  
 Jackman Ed & Susan  
 Kolbe Pete  
 Kozlik Stefan  
 Kelloway Chester  
 Kumick Doug & Marlaina  
 Long (Major) Shirley (Dan Long)  
 MacCarl Tom & Mary  
 Mascaro Marion Mrs  
 Mesher Kitch & Lisa  
 Moynahan Ken & Erica

Peterson Lynda Mrs  
 Pharand Gilles  
 Pharand Marilyn  
 Piche Donna Mrs  
 Pickering Elwood & Lisa  
 Pitcher Max & Helen  
 Point Lou & Sharon  
 Polowick Al & Valerie  
 Purfield Eric  
 Rowe Frank & Deena  
 Sawatske John & Audrey  
 Shock Robert & Connie  
 Smith Deanna Mrs  
 Szabo Lois Mrs  
 Titus Bob & Shirley  
 Turner Bill  
 Viau John & Georgina  
 Walker Mac & Donna  
 Walker Norm & Kathy  
 Weinberger Frank & Sheryn





QUEENS OWN RIFLES VICTORIA

# the West-Coaster

**THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF  
CANADA VANCOUVER ISLAND  
BRANCH  
SERVING VANCOUVER ISLAND -  
LOWER MAINLAND – INTERIOR BC.  
AND POINTS BEYOND**

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT:**

By now you are all aware of the cancellation of the 160<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. With the coronavirus epidemic still front and center, it is very unlikely that we will be rescheduling this event. We can only hope that all members follow the instructions given and you all take care, stay safe, stay home and wash your hands.

The same thing holds true for our monthly luncheon meetings and, until the all clear whistle is blown, this cancellation will apply.

I would also like to point out the importance of communicating with each other and bringing forward any and everything that might be of concern or interest to fellow Riflemen. You are encouraged to pass on things of interest to an Executive member who, in turn, will ensure it gets in the pipeline.

VP Joe [no not Biden] Rozon and his 2IC Sandy are doing an excellent job with the membership and the payment of dues as well as keeping your Executive up to date on the financial well-being of



our Association. My suggestion to those that have not paid their dues for this year, you should contact Sandy before she contacts you.

We also have Ron Cullen on board as 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. He will begin to take an active part on the Executive, and this will become evident as we move forward. We are hoping it will be in the field of seeking out Riflemen that are not presently members of the Association.

Likewise, if you know of any ex Riflemen that are not part of the Association, you should pass their name on to the Executive so that we are able to contact them. We have to encourage new members to come on board with us.

Secretary Janice Mercer ([qorbcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:qorbcsecretary@gmail.com)) continues to inform members of items of importance and passes on to the available ad-

---

**ABOVE:** A photo of the Vancouver Island Executive (from left to right): Dale Ratzlaff, Wayne Thomas, Bill Brayshaw, Janice Marshall, Tom Martin, Sandy Rozon, Joe Rozon.

dressess we have recorded. It is important that any changes you make to your information on file, that you notify her to adjust the records. Your cooperation in this area would be greatly appreciated.

There has not been a lot of activity in the area of the Kit Shop or the Museum and we intend to work towards addressing this when things get back to normal, if there is such a thing.

Mike continues to look at upgrades to our web page and to bring about improvements that we trust membership will enjoy. You are invited to visit the page and, if you have suggestions or ideas that you feel will benefit the Association, please pass them on for consideration.

We also intend to pass along items of interest and with everyone staying at home now, why not get that box of military memorabilia of old pictures or whatever stories or news articles you have and pass them on so we can pass them on.

Your Directors – Hryhoryshen, Ratzlaff, Brayshaw, Thomas — the behind the scenes crew, along with Bisson in the Kit Shop and Cromwell & Scrafton in the Museum.

Thanking you for your continued support.

*Take care, Stay Safe & Stay home.*

**IPP Tom Martin, President**

## EXECUTIVE

**President:** Tom Martin

**VP:** Joe Rozon

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP:** Ron Cullen

**Secretary:** Janice Mercer

**Treasurer/Membership:** Sandy Rozon

**Directors:**

- Gord Hryhoryshen
- Dale Ratzlaff
- Wayne Thomas

**Kit Shop:** Ken Bisson

**Museum:** Rene Cromwell & Bob Scrafton

**Nanaimo Rep:** Bill Brayshaw

## QOR 159<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY DINNER & DANCE

On the evening of Saturday, April 27, 2019, 101 members of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada As-

**BELOW:** Photos taken during the QOR's 159<sup>th</sup> birthday dinner and dance, which took place on April 27, 2019 in Langford. Cutting of the birthday cake was done by Hazel Widenmaier and Tom Martin.







**THIS PAGE:** Photos taken during the QOR's 159<sup>th</sup> birthday dinner and dance. When not dancing, partygoers took some fun pictures with the different costume props provided.

sociation Vancouver Island Branch along with their wives met at the Royal Canadian Legion #91 Prince Edward Branch to celebrate the 159<sup>th</sup> birthday of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

The evening began at 6:00 p.m. with cocktails and reminiscing with friends and comrades, lots of laughter and many stories were told. A Welcome to all by President Tom Martin was followed by, words of remembrance by Vice President Joe Rozon, and grace by Shannon Hryhoryshen. All were then invited to go to the buffet dinner as their table numbers were called.

A delicious meal, catered by the Langford Legion, consisted of roast beef, chicken, salads, potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetable, buns, butter, tea and coffee. Dessert was birthday cake.

Festivities included a 50/50 draw, Kit Shop, archived book sale from the General Herb Pitts Collection. Many fun pictures were taken different costume choices, of funny hats, glasses, boas and more.

Many danced to the music supplied by the versatile DJ service Touch of Class. All present appeared to enjoy themselves and what a wonderful way to celebrate the 159<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Regiment.

## OKTOBERFEST DINNER

A good time was had by all when the Vancouver Island Branch of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association held its yearly Oktoberfest celebration at Legion Branch #91 in Langford on Saturday evening November 8, 2019. Cocktails were from 5:30 p.m. and dinner was served at 6:00 p.m.

President Tom Martin and VP Joe Rozon welcomed all members and guests.

In all, 96 members, spouses, and friends attended. All seemed to be enjoying themselves.

The event was catered by the Legion volunteers who prepared a marvellous meal of bratwurst, wiener schnitzel, red cabbage sauerkraut, potatoes



**ABOVE:** President Tom Martin and VP Joe Rozon welcomed all Members and Guests to the Oktoberfest Dinner.

**LEFT:** The 2019 Oktoberfest dinner had a wonderful turnout.

**BELOW:** The 101-year-old veteran John Hillman was inspired by a fellow Burma Star recipient to walk 101 laps.

**BOTTOM:** Representing the QOR Association President Tom Martin, VP Joe Rozon, Directors Wayne Thomas and Dale Ratzlaff.

## VETERAN WALKS TO RAISE FUNDS DURING COVID

John Hillman of Carlton House Seniors Home in Oak Bay, now a part of Greater Victoria, was inspired by his comrade-in-arms, **Captain Tom Moore of England**, both bearers of the Burma Star. The proud wearer of four World War II Campaign medals including the Burma Star, John felt a special kinship with Moore when he spotted that medal on him!

John, at **101 years old** decided that he would walk 101 laps around Carlton House courtyard to raise funds for the Save the Children Canada's Emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund.

Coincidentally, Save the Children is celebrating its 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary this year as well! Donations will help children and their families be able to afford food, health care, and the basic necessities of life in Canada.

Enter The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Vancouver Island Branch and the urge to support this very worthwhile cause was felt. A hasty meeting







**ABOVE:** President Tom Martin presents a cheque for \$1001 to John Hillman, who collected a total of \$166,551 for the Save the Children Canada's Emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund.

**TOP RIGHT:** Joan, on Joe's right, created this quilt. It is absolutely beautiful.

**RIGHT:** Joe is presented with the Quilt of Valor.



of the Executive yielded support and the call went out to Membership for financial contributions and with **19** positive responses we raised our goal of **\$1001.00** in donations.

John completed his 101<sup>st</sup> lap on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May and his fundraising goal was surpassed with a total of **\$166,551** in funds raised.

Although John's fundraiser page is closed, you can still visit it to learn more about this incredible veteran at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/john-hillman-101-laps-for-101000/>.

## JOSEPH ROZON HONOURED WITH A QUILT OF VALOR

While our Vice President Joe Rozon and his wife Sandy were in Arizona in February and March 2020, Joe was honoured to be a recipient of a Quilt of Valor from the American Quilt of Valor Association that was sewn by the Apache Junction Countryside Quilters.

He was nominated to receive it by two American friends he had made when he and Sandy were visiting Arizona three years before.

These two friends had been quite devious in getting information about Joe's service in the military, they asked him questions and he never had a clue what they were up to. They were veterans themselves. Gary Moline was a helicopter pilot in the United States Army. He flew American Huey 369s, which were used for troop extractions and were commonly known as "dust off" and used for medical extractions in the Vietnam War. Bob Montgomery was in the American Navy, and had been on some exercises with the Canadian Navy. The questions they asked were presented as curiosity questions comparing notes on the differences between the Canadian military and the American military.

**RIGHT:** Joe thanking everyone for the honour they've bestowed on him. He will treasure this beautiful quilt forever.

At the quilt presentation event on 1 March 2020, Joe was taken by surprise at the presentation as they had managed to get Sandy on board to get him to the event by telling him they were going to support his friend Gary (one of the fellows who nominated him) who would be receiving the Quilt of Valour, not so, Gary had been presented with one five years before.

What an honour to be given this beautiful quilt. There is quite a ceremony involved with receiving one of these lovely quilts. The goal is to wrap every

veteran with the comfort and healing of a quilt. The quilt makers believe that as they sew, their love, caring and gratitude flows from their hearts through their hands and into the developing quilt, thus the recipient of their quilt is forever in their hearts. So, on behalf of the Quilts of Valor Foundation and the Apache Junction Countryside Quilters, we thank you for your sacrifice and service, and serving your Country when called upon. **TR**



## THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA VANCOUVER ISLAND BRANCH — ACTIVE MEMBERS

Brian Agar	Ron Cullen	Russell Kierstead	Dale Ratzlaff
Cyril Barnes	Mike Cuvelier	James (Jim) King	Don Rollman
Harry Barnes	Douglas Dicy	Ralph King	John Jr. Ronayne
Gary Bear	Joe Dumas	Melvyn Kube	Joe Rozon
Larry Beaton	Bob Drinkwater	Lorne Lamont	Bob Scrafton
Jim Bell	Bob Ducharme	George Lavallee	Bill Sears
Ernie Berrow	David (Moe) Dulmage	Jim Lloyd	Jim Sharpe
Ken Bisson	Don Ethell	Dennis Lyon	John Shavchook
Ken Bock	Wes Everitt	Henry MacKeigan	Bill Sherman
Bill Brayshaw	Cyril Fotheringham	Stan MacMillan	Willard Simmons
Pat Bryson	Denis Froment	Bill Maitland	Don Smith
John Brunelle	Marc Gagne	James Martin	Garnet States
Ray Bunner	Leuan Gilmore	Tom Martin	Rene Taillefer
Peter Busby	Grant Guillet	Bob McCutcheon	Richard Talbot
Paul Cassidy	Howie Hambleton	Pat McEachern	Wayne Thomas
Ron Craven	Gordon Hardy	Ivan McPhee	Al Thompson
Ray Chenier	John Hart	Harold Miller	George Tesla
Bill Churchill	Gordon Healey	Jim Miller	Kevin Walsh
Bill Collins	John Healey	Ken Nutt	Morris Wasylyk
Wade Cornick	Wally Hein	Dave O'Brien	Joe Webb
Ken Cotton	Jim Hicke	Peter Okopski	Charlie Wendt
Keith Coughlin	Ray Honig	Gilles Pharand	Ed Widenmaier
Chuck Cowell	Adrian Hovestad	Brian Preston	Malcolm (Willy ) Wilson
Dick Cowling	James Hunter	Clem Poff	Terry Woodworth
Rennie Cromwell	Gord Hyhoryshen	Peter Radostits	Micky Zwack
Don Cruikshank	Lawrence Johnson	Hedley (Don) Randal	



## THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA VANCOUVER ISLAND BRANCH — ACTIVE MEMBERS

Madeline Andrews	Sandra Dehnke	Viann McDonald	Lori Stones
Faye Ball	Ursula Fowler	Janice Mercer	Ruth Titus
Betty Barbon	Carol Hendrie	Crista Pinkerton	Linda Vasseur
Shannon Barry	Shirley Hensrud	Annette Pope	Cassy Veysey
Rachel Butler	Winnifred Koal	Myrna Ratz	Theresa Whelan
Pauline Campbell	Rita Kowalchuk	Brenda Robinson	Angie Wooley
Eleanor Cornet	Marlene Lefever	Yvonne Saretsky	
Betty Davis	Sandra Ligget	Hilary Shanta	

### LAST POST

*The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Members, Non-Members, Honourary, and Members' Spouses – Partners who have passed away.*

### MEMBERS

Ball Ted	Dehnke Wayne	MacKenzie Keith Douglas	Schultz Jim
Bamford Derek	Denslow Don	las	Schultz Larry
Barton Harold	Ducheneau Jim	McCorkell Frank	Scott Ed
Barry Byron	Dunlop Charles	McDonell John	Smith George
Bastin Norman	Fisher Bill	McDonald Bruce	Spurr Winston
Bell Jerry	Ford J. Patrick	McDonald Don	Stang Rene
Bernickey Don	Fortin Amy	"Moose"	Steel Art
Bray Orval	Francis Ken	McIver Robert	Stones Dave
Bright Ross	French Emery	McMillan Al	Stever Al
Brimblcombe Ernie	Gailbraith Jack	Mercer Fred	Stewart Edward
Bruce Roy	Gofenko George	Mitchell Peter	Taylor Howie
Budgell Bob	Granger Gord	Nixon Doug	Tassell Van Norm
Budgell Wally	Grant Ernie	Mulligan W. John	Thompson Morley
Burns Doug	Hendrie Doug	Noseworthy Bill	Titus Ed
Campbell Ron	Hensrud Darrell	O'Brien Mike	Vasseur John
Campbell Bernie	Hudson Jim	Pinkerton John	Waldron John
Carleton Bill	Johnson Ken	Pitts Herbert "Herb"	Welby Mike
Carroll Jim	Keleman Max	Purchase Fred "Pop"	Werry "Awful" Ron
Carson John	Kinnersley Ron	Quaiffe Jim	Westfall "Punch" William
Carter Lyle	Koal Paul	Randle Don	White Jack
Charron Ray	Lale Terry	Ratz Wally	Whitfield Bob
Church Art	Ling Edward B	Rhodes "Dusty" Neil	Widenmaier Don
Clark L. Robert	Lloy Harry	Robinson "Robbie"	Willbond Billy
Connelly B. John	Lovett Gerry	Neville	Woolley Vernon "Jim"
Cracknell Bob	Luxford David	Saretsky Art	
Daniels Bob	LeFever Art	Shantz Ian	

## ***NON-MEMBERS***

Allen Lyle "Wop"	Faulkner Stan	Norris Robert "Bob"	Sperling Bob
Boser Merv	Graham Hugh	O'Conner Ken	Thomas Johnny "JJ"
Arkinstall Cy	Hearn John	Orton Dave	Stamp Butch
Aylesworth Roy	Henderson Larry	Paquette Joe	Vardy Ernest "Ernie"
Barnes Todd	Hurst George	Perry Chuck	Venn Gerald "Jerry"
Connelly Dennis	Jack James	Pope Nick	Wagler Vern
"Duke"	Johnston Bob	Lauzon George	Williams – Freeman
Creighton D.M (Don)	Miller Mike	O'Brien Thomas "Tom"	Harry
deBruijne Jac	Mole Rod	O'Brien Pat	Waller Herbert Roger
Dicy Wayne	McLean Bob	Park Charlie	"Butch"
Ede George	McQuarrie "Mac"	Pilon Jules "Rick"	
Euteneier H.H.	Morin Joe	Smith Gerald Roy	

## ***MEMBERS' SPOUSES – PARTNERS***

Faye Ball (Ted Ball)	Hillary Everitt (Wes Everitt)	Rose Porter (Joe Webb)
Sylvia Bunt (Alan Bunt)	Lynne Hart (John Hart )	Betty Purchase (Fred-Pop)
Lynda Churchill (Bill Churchill)	Blanche Hie (Gordie Hie)	Lynn Schultz (Jim Schultz)
Myrna Drinkwater (Harold Drinkwater)	Loretta Jean Kolbe (Peter Kolbe)	Jennie Spurr (Winston Spurr)
	Barbara McDonald (Moose)	

## ***HONOURARY MEMBERS & SPECIAL MENTIONS***

Roberta (Bobbie) Carroll

Anne Marshall

Sarah Scott

Special mention to Mia Larsen - tailor







## Last Post



In addition to those Riflemen noted elsewhere in this issue, the following members of the Regiment passed away since the last issue of *The Rifleman*:

Barnard, Fred – D-Day

Bracey, Albert – WW2

Callaghan, Gord

Cresswell, John

Derrington, Don – WW2

Descotes, Ray

Dunphy, Murray James – WW2

French, Robert

Hurst, Gary

Jenkyn, Gord

Larsen, Willy

LeDoux, Philip

McEachern, Leigh

Midgley, Tom

O'Brien, Clifford

Payne, Irwin – WW2

Pryer, Don

Rooney, Ivor – D-Day

Roy, Phillip

Stanfield, William Lambert –  
WW2

Sypulski, Frank – Korea

Thomas, Damian

Vant Erve, Will

Vasseur, John

Weber, Ignatz Kenneth

