



Class of 65 Newsletter

Edition 50-June 2012



Disclaimer: This Newsletter is produced for members of the RMC Class of 1965 and is based solely on inputs from members of the Class of 65. It is not an official publication of the Royal Military College nor does it purport to represent the views or opinions of all members of the Class of 65. Articles will be entered in the official language in which they are received. Regrettably the Editorial staff still lacks the linguistic skills to produce a bilingual version.

Editor's Corner

We are going to press a little early this month partly because I am going to be away for most of June getting thrashed at golf by my younger brothers and swilling consoling beer in rural Manitoba, but mainly because of the breaking news on this year's Class Teaching Award.

This issue also honours several classmates who have been awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal. **Gord Forbes (Navy)** has provided an amusing look at the bewildering world of military acronyms. Carrying on from the last edition, we have included the two profiles provided by **Hugh Spence** of classmates who have made significant contributions to the RMC Foundation.

Before getting to that important stuff, the Ottawa contingent got together for a convivial lunch at the HMCS Bytown Naval Officers' Mess on 14 May. A good crowd was in attendance - **Adams, Archer, Braham, Bury, Cale, Carruthers, Clarkson, Diamond, Emond, Forbes (Navy), Hilton, Humphreys, Jensen, Pellerin, and Spence** from in town, and visiting from out of town, **GAS Brown** from Brussels, **Steve Arnold** and **Bob Walker** from Kingston, and **Roger Wright** from Seattle.

2012 Class Teaching Award

The following message has been received from Captain Kristin Topping:

*Au nom du principal, la classe de 1965 et le Comité du Prix d'excellence en enseignement, je suis heureuse d'annoncer le gagnant du Prix d'excellence en enseignement pour cette année: **Dr. Yahia Antar** du Département de génie électrique et génie informatique. Félicitations*

On behalf of the Principal, the Class of 1965 and the Teaching Excellence Award Committee, I am pleased to announce this year's winner of the Teaching Excellence Award: Dr. Yahia Antar from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Congratulations!

The following is Dr. Antar's biography:



Mr. Yahia Antar, PhD a reçu un BSc (avec spécialisation) de l'université Alexandria en 1966, et la MSc et le PhD de l'université du Manitoba en 1971 et 1975 respectivement. Tous ses diplômes portent sur le génie électrique.

En 1977, il s'est vu octroyé une bourse de séjour gouvernementale au Centre de recherche sur les communications Canada, où il travailla avec la Direction des sciences de l'espace sur les antennes de communication pour systèmes satellites. En mai 1979, il est devenu membre de la Division de génie électrique du Conseil national de recherches Canada à Ottawa où il travailla sur des applications de radar polarisées pour la détection à distance de précipitations, la propagation d'ondes radio, la diffusion électromagnétique et les enquêtes scientifiques sur les sections efficaces en radar. C'est en novembre 1987 qu'il est devenu membre du corps enseignant du Collège militaire royal du Canada à Kingston, avec le Département de génie électrique et de génie informatique, où il est professeur titulaire depuis 1990. Il est l'auteur ou le co-auteur de près de 200 articles publiés dans des revues avec arbitrage, plusieurs chapitres de livres, environ 350 articles dans des comptes-rendus de conférences avec arbitrage; il est le détenteur de plusieurs brevets, il a présidé à plusieurs conférences nationales et internationales et a donné plusieurs exposés à titre de conférencier invité. Il a supervisé ou co-supervisé plus de 80 étudiants aux études supérieures ayant rédigé un mémoire de thèse au PhD ou à la MSc au Collège militaire royal du Canada ou à l'université Queen's, dont plusieurs ont obtenus la Médaille d'or du Gouverneur-général du Canada, le prix pour la thèse de PhD remarquable de la Division des sciences appliquées ainsi que plusieurs prix du meilleur article à des symposia internationaux. Il a servit à titre de président du Comité national Canadien

de l'Union Radio-Scientifique internationale (CND, URSI 1999-2008), Président de la commission nationale B (URSI B, 1993-1999), a tenu un poste de professeur associé à l'université du Manitoba, et a tenu une nomination conjointe à l'université Queen's à Kingston. Il sert également à titre de Directeur associé de l'Institut de recherche pour la défense et la sécurité (IRDS) à Kingston depuis novembre 2008

Mr. Antar, Ph.D est membre associé de IEEE (*Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers*), membre associé de l'Institut Canadien des ingénieurs, membre associé de l'*Electromagnetic Academy*, il a servit à titre d'éditeur associé (articles spécialisés) de la revue *IEEE Antennas and Propagation Magazine*, il a servit à titre d'éditeur associé de la revue *IEEE Antennas and Wireless Propagation Letters* (IEEE AWPL), et a servit à titre de membre du comité éditorial du *RFMiCAE Journal*. Il a servit au Comité de sélection des bourses du CRSNG, au Comité de révision de bourses stratégiques du Programme de bourses de nouveaux chercheurs de l'Ontario et au Comité de révision du *National Science Foundation*.

Mr. Antar Ph.D. s'est vu octroyé une Chaire de recherche du Canada de niveau 1 en génie électromagnétique en mai 2002, laquelle fut renouvelée en 2009. En 2003, il se voit décerné le Prix d'excellence en recherche John Scott Cowan du Collège militaire royal du Canada. Il fut élu au Conseil d'administration de l'Union Radio-Scientifique internationale (URSI) à titre de Vice-président en août 2008 et il fut élu au Conseil administratif du *IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society* en décembre 2009. Mr. Antar, PhD fut appointé membre du Conseil de défense consultatif des sciences.

Dr. Yahia Antar received the B.Sc. (Hons.) degree in 1966 from Alexandria University, and the MSc and PhD degrees from the University of Manitoba, in 1971 and 1975, respectively, all in electrical engineering.

In 1977, he was awarded a Government of Canada Visiting Fellowship at the Communications Research Centre in Ottawa where he worked with the Space Technology Directorate on communications antennas for satellite systems. In May 1979, he joined the Division of Electrical Engineering, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, where he worked on polarization radar

applications in remote sensing of precipitation, radio wave propagation, electromagnetic scattering and radar cross section investigations. In November 1987, he joined the staff of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, where he has held the position of professor since 1990. He has authored or co-authored close to 200 journal papers, many chapters in books, about 350 refereed conference papers, holds several patents, chaired several national and international conferences and given plenary talks at many conferences. He has supervised or co-supervised over 80 PhD and MSc theses at the Royal Military College and at Queen's University, of which several have received the Governor General of Canada Gold Medal, the outstanding PhD thesis of the Division of Applied Science as well as many best paper awards in major international symposia. He served as the Chairman of the Canadian National Commission for Radio Science (CNC, URSI, 1999-2008), Commission B National Chair (URSI B, 1993-1999), held adjunct appointment at the University of Manitoba, and, has a cross appointment at Queen's University in Kingston. He also serves, since November 2008, as Associate Director of the Defence and Security Research Institute (DSRI).

Dr. Antar is a Fellow of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers), a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada (FEIC), a Fellow of the Electromagnetic Academy, serves as an Associate Editor (Features) of the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Magazine, served as Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Wireless Propagation Letters (IEEE AWPL), and was a member of the Editorial Board of the RFMiCAE Journal. He served on NSERC grants selection and strategic grants committees, Ontario Early Research Awards (ERA) panels, and on review panels for the National Science Foundation.

In May 2002, Dr. Antar was awarded a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Electromagnetic Engineering which has been renewed in 2009. In 2003 he was awarded the Royal Military College of Canada's John Scott Cowan Prize for Excellence in Research. He was elected to the Board of the Council of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI) as Vice President in August 2008, and to the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society Administration Committee in December 2009. On 31 January 2011, Dr Antar was appointed

Member of the Canadian Defence Science Advisory Board (DSAB).

Note: The lecture associated with the award is tentatively being planned for the end of November 2012. It is hoped that the Class will be well represented at the event.

The Queen's Jubilee Medal

Several classmates were recently honoured with the award of the Queen's Jubilee medal. They are shown below receiving their medals from LGen (Ret'd) Richard Evraire, President of the Conference of Defence Associations. Congratulations to all! (Photos courtesy of Gordon Metcalfe, Treasurer, CDA)



John Adams



Philip Bury



Jim Carruthers



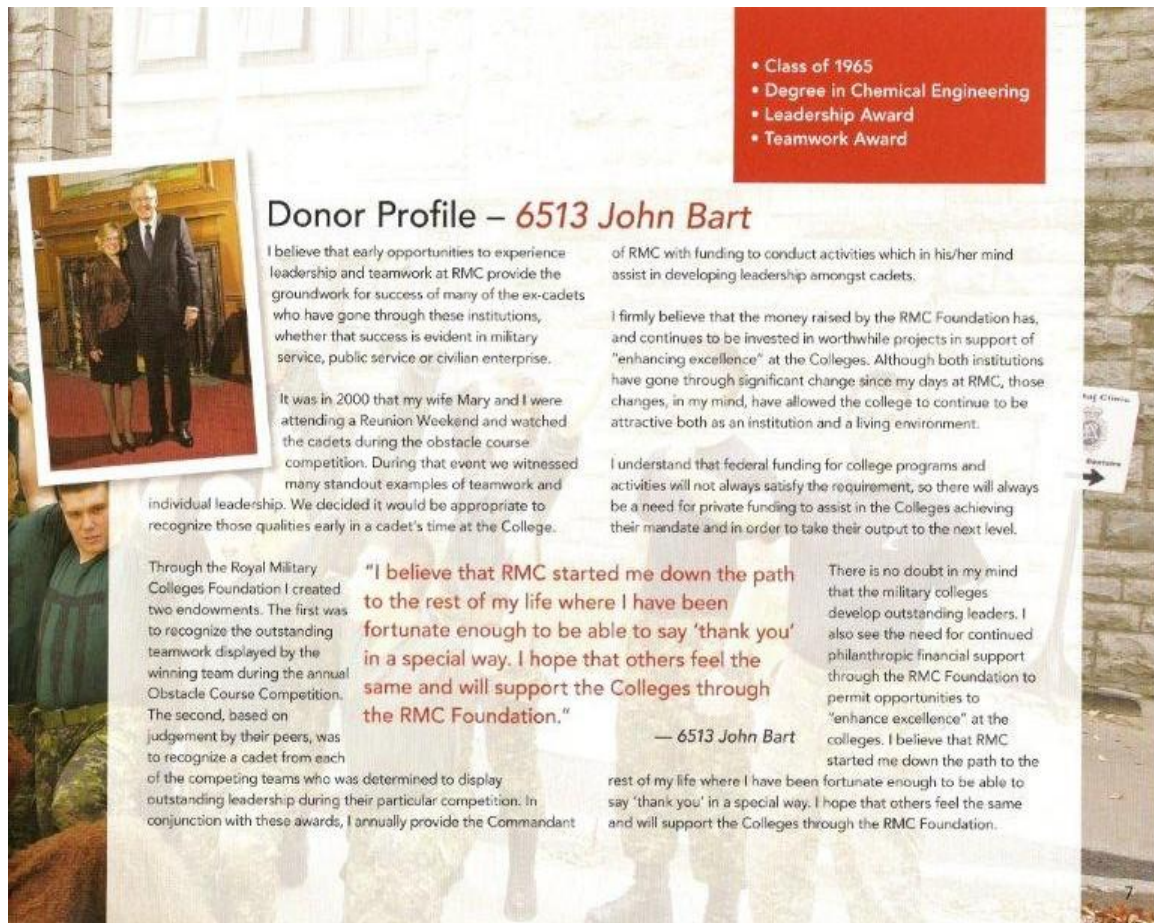
John Cowan



Alain Pellerin

RMC Foundation Donors

The following are the profiles of two members of the Class of '65 that have made significant contributions to the RMC Foundation. With apologies for the poor resolution, but improvement is beyond the editorial staff's meagre technical competence.



• Class of 1965
• Degree in Chemical Engineering
• Leadership Award
• Teamwork Award

Donor Profile – 6513 John Bart

I believe that early opportunities to experience leadership and teamwork at RMC provide the groundwork for success of many of the ex-cadets who have gone through these institutions, whether that success is evident in military service, public service or civilian enterprise.

It was in 2000 that my wife Mary and I were attending a Reunion Weekend and watched the cadets during the obstacle course competition. During that event we witnessed many standout examples of teamwork and individual leadership. We decided it would be appropriate to recognize those qualities early in a cadet's time at the College.

Through the Royal Military Colleges Foundation I created two endowments. The first was to recognize the outstanding teamwork displayed by the winning team during the annual Obstacle Course Competition. The second, based on judgement by their peers, was to recognize a cadet from each of the competing teams who was determined to display outstanding leadership during their particular competition. In conjunction with these awards, I annually provide the Commandant of RMC with funding to conduct activities which in his/her mind assist in developing leadership amongst cadets.

I firmly believe that the money raised by the RMC Foundation has, and continues to be invested in worthwhile projects in support of "enhancing excellence" at the Colleges. Although both institutions have gone through significant change since my days at RMC, those changes, in my mind, have allowed the college to continue to be attractive both as an institution and a living environment.

I understand that federal funding for college programs and activities will not always satisfy the requirement, so there will always be a need for private funding to assist in the Colleges achieving their mandate and in order to take their output to the next level.

There is no doubt in my mind that the military colleges develop outstanding leaders. I also see the need for continued philanthropic financial support through the RMC Foundation to permit opportunities to "enhance excellence" at the colleges. I believe that RMC started me down the path to the rest of my life where I have been fortunate enough to be able to say 'thank you' in a special way. I hope that others feel the same and will support the Colleges through the RMC Foundation.

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— 6513 John Bart

- Government nominee to the Arbitration Board that settled disputed parts of the contract for the faculty at the military colleges
- Member of the Wither's Study Group
- Principal of RMC from 1999 to 2008 and Principal Emeritus
- Member of Foundation Board of Directors
- Chair of the Defence Science Advisory Board
- Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Princess of Wales Own Regiment

Donor Profile – H24263 John Cowan

I am not an ex-cadet! However, I am an honorary member of the Class of 1965 and I have had significant affiliation with the Colleges.

There is no doubt in my mind that the RMC Foundation aids significantly to "enhance excellence" at the Colleges. I, more than anyone, can attest to the lack of public funding to take cadets and students to the next level of development as Officers and leaders. In many cases the funding is barely enough to deliver their mission. I firmly believe that the Colleges are the centre-point for developing the culture and ethos of the CF and I can assure you that, while not having much say in the culture in the other 100+ universities across Canada, we do at the military colleges and it is critical to setting the values and the tone for the officer corps.


My financial contributions have come in two forms, first in support of many academic programs such as a prize for

excellence in research, contributions to a new library and bursaries for both aboriginal RETP students and graduate students. Secondly I have given in the unrestricted category, allowing the RMC Foundation to utilize this donation in the form best determined by them.

"There is no bigger impact on Canada for a dollar of payback than putting into an important nation-building institution like the two Colleges."

— H24263 John Cowan

I would encourage all to contribute in the manner that you can. Those of us who have been fortunate in our lives need to pay back. I have seen remarkable progress in all four components of the Colleges, progress made through hard work, dialogue and negotiation. I also know that a portion of this progress has come as a result of philanthropic giving by ex-cadets and others who fully realize the value of the Colleges in developing the leaders of the future. The sum of the accomplishments of ex-cadets and other RMC graduates in other aspects of Canadian life is hugely disproportionate to our output.



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Acronyms, Abbreviations and Rude Names

By Gord (Ya gotta love the Navy) Forbes



Gord & Denee I guess we all came to appreciate acronyms and abbreviations early. After all we attended **RMC**, not Queens University or the University of Saskatchewan. And we quickly got immersed in them from our cadet ranks, **CWC**, **D/CFL**, to our course titles, **GenSci** or **MechEng**. And no doubt, as we went through life, no matter what our calling, be it military, government or business, we were inundated by more and more of them. Also, we probably all concocted rude names for one group or another. And such is the life that I remember - a life filled with acronyms, abbreviations (did anyone notice that

there is no generally accepted abbreviation for "abbreviation") and rude names.

Now, I was in the Navy and so the following list may have a bit of a Navy flavour. We had our own language of such devices, from ranks (**CPO** - Chief Petty Officer, **SLT** - Sub-Lieutenant or just plain **Subby**), to ship types (**DDE** - Destroyer Escort, **CG** - Guided Missile Cruiser), to names for other of our brethren in the military such as:

- **UNTD** - pronounced untidy - for University Naval Training Division
- **Crabfat** - don't ask where it came from - referring to our Air Force friends, particularly those on the Maritime Patrol community
- **GRUNT** - for our Army brothers in arms - standing for General Recruit Unfit for Naval Training.

As a weapons specialist, I was known as a **TOAD**, a shortcut for Torpedo, Ordnance, Anti-Submarine Detection, the four old specialties that combined to form the weapons trade. And when I was the Weapons Officer in **HMCS** (Her Majesty's Canadian Ship) Saskatchewan, our own **Richard Archer** was my **WORM** (Weapons Officer's Running Mate).

We even gave fancy acronyms for our commands - **MARCOM** for Maritime Command or **CORTRON 5** for the Fifth Escort Squadron (later changed to **DESRON 5** for the Fifth Destroyer Squadron).

And then I went on exchange with the US Navy (I guess I should say the United States Navy, but I think you all know what I am talking about). Suddenly, I was bombard with a language I knew nothing about. A whole new world of acronyms and abbreviations arrived. After a few days of being confused, I asked someone the meaning a certain acronym, I was directed to the **DICNAVAB** - the Dictionary of Naval Abbreviations. All of a sudden, it was all as clear as mud. Over the next two years I almost learned to understand this new language. (Unfortunately, it didn't do me a damned bit of good when I returned to Canada and immediately had to undergo my language exam. Apparently, the Canadian Government doesn't give you credit for being fluent in US Navalese.) While in the US, I worked for a Rear-Admiral (**RADM**) who probably had the longest abbreviation of any position I

ever heard of - he was **COMCRUDESGRU 2/DESDEVGRU** - Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group 2/Destroyer Development Group. If you doubt me, I have the plaque with the full title presented to me when I left the group. And so it was back to Canada, but this time to **NDHQ** - National Defence Headquarters. Again, another new language to master. I worked in **DMRS** - the Directorate of Maritime Requirements, Sea (the "Sea" always seemed a bit redundant to me, but what do I know). There, among other things, I worked on the **SOR** (Statement of Requirements) for the **CPF** (Canadian Patrol Frigate). I was also a delegate to some **NATO** (North Atlantic Treaty Organization - sort of like the Warsaw Pact for the good guys) working groups in the **NNAG** (NATO Naval Armaments Group) which was part was of the **CNAD** (Conference of National Armaments Directors). There we had regular meetings in Brussels where we could bat around various national acronyms and abbreviations at a great rate.

At NDHQ, our esteemed **Jim Carruthers** was busy pioneering the concept of distributed computer architecture as the heart of shipboard command and control systems. His concept was called **SHINPADS** (Ship's Integrated Processing and Display System). There were two offshoots from this concept: **SHINMACS** (Ship's Integrated Machinery Control System); and **SHINCOMS** (Ship's Integrated Communications System). One afternoon (it was probably a Friday and possibly after lunch at the mess) a couple of us decided that Jim's concept didn't go far enough, and that there were other opportunities for integrated systems. So we set about devising other possibilities. Those that showed the most promise included **SHINBARS** (Ship's Integrated Booze and Recreation System), **SHINSUCS** (Ship's Integrated Supply Control System) and my personal favourite **SHINSPLINTS** (Ship's Integrated Special Purpose Lighting in Non-Tactical Situations) which was usually envisioned to comprise mood lighting for Wardroom parties.

In the early eighties, I was magically transformed into a **MARE CS** (Maritime Engineer, Combat Systems), and soon found myself in **PMO TRUMP** (Project Management Office, Tribal Class Update and Modernization Project). **TRUMP** was not the original name of this project. It had started life as the Tribal Class Update Project until someone realized that if there

were ever a problem with this project, the government could be facing a tempest in a **TCUP**.

My next stop was in civvy street working for a defence contractor. For some years, I worked on the **MCDV** (Maritime Coastal Defence Vessel) project. One of the joys of this type of position was that we could introduce our own acronyms as we designed and built the vessels. This confirmed my feeling that there was no central authority arbitrating such things. I then became a consultant in such places as the **MHP** (Maritime Helicopter Project) and **DMASP** (Director Material Acquisition Support Programs). Along the way I became a **PMP** (Project Management Professional). And for my swan song in the working world, I became **PM MWAV ISSP** (Project Manager, Minor Warships and Auxiliary Vessels In-Service Support Project).

I am now **Ret'd** (retired) and enjoying **GOLF** (grand old loafing game) as often as I can. But I still try to keep up to date on world affairs, like who will be the next **POTUS** (President of the United States), and maybe sometime in the future I will find myself voting for **POTC** (pronounced Potsee) - what Steven Harper would like to become.

*Editor's Note: Although I might have the actual title wrong, it conveys the meaning of my favourite acronym which was introduced at the time the CF (Canadian Forces) was looking to increase the employment of women. The organization charged with leading the charge was **SCREW** - Special Committee on the Requirements for the Employment of Women.*

Closing Notes

It's very satisfying to produce such a feel good edition and to end on a humorous note. Well done to all those honourees mentioned here and who may have been missed. Should any others of you be recipients of the Jubilee medal through some activity please don't be shy - let us know, and if possible send a photo.

We had a nice note from **Mike Houghton** who, judging from the picture below is enjoying life in typical Houghton fashion.

Thoroughly enjoyed the articles by Bob, Ben and Jinx. I thought my travels were extensive, but after reading these three stories I was exhausted and had to take a long nap!!! For my own part, I have been appointed to the RMCC Foundation Board of Directors, working with Jim in the art of giving out money to worthwhile endeavours. An excellent group of dedicated people who have the Colleges and enhancing the Margin of Excellence firmly in mind. Many of us from CMR will remember fellow Board member, Dennis Apedaile, who was two years ahead of us. His last two college numbers are the same as mine and I can't wait until he gets fired, destroyed as a blind, or simply retired from old age!!! Along with two other Boards, I keep busy travelling as much as possible (just returned from six weeks on the island of Sint Maarten, and planning with my partner Nancy our next trip to Northern Italy and a corresponding Adriatic cruise). Picture attached is not Daniel Craig, but what the heck. Life is good!!



In closing, this month's "droll-et" is:

'If you see a bomb technician running, try to keep up to him.'

- Infantry Journal-