



Class of 65 Newsletter

Edition 55-Dec 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

Another year is coming to an end and the Class of 65 continues to thrive. This edition recognizes the significant contributions of two of our classmates that are major reasons why our class is at the head of the line for supporting the old alma mater.

I had hoped that the influx of newly-found classmates as reported last month might have prompted a corresponding influx of articles but such has not been the case. Remember, nothing is too trivial to report - what have you been doing since 1965? Has anything interesting happened to you, or been caused by you? Have you been anywhere interesting?

Terry Hogan has answered the call and provides an account of a recent trip he and his wife, Nancy, took to China.

Charlie Emond reports on the recent Gala Leadership dinner held at CMR and **Bill Leach** has provided a summary of upcoming activities at the Canadian War Museum.

Before we get there, and to the news of our two classmates referred to above, **Laurent Lord** sent the following extract from a British newspaper, written at the time of Remembrance Day that I think will strike a chord with all Canadians:

"Until the deaths of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan , probably almost no one outside their home country had been aware that Canadian troops are deployed in the region.

And as always, Canada will bury its dead, just as the rest of the world as always, will forget its sacrifice, just as it always forgets nearly everything Canada ever does. It seems that Canada's historic mission is to come to the selfless aid both of its friends and of complete strangers, and then, once the crisis is over, to be well and truly ignored.

Canada is the perpetual wallflower that stands on the edge of the hall, waiting for someone to come and ask her for a dance. A fire breaks out, she risks life and limb to rescue her fellow dance-goers, and suffers serious injuries. But when the hall is repaired and the dancing resumes, there is Canada, the wallflower still, while those she once helped glamorously cavort across the floor blithely neglecting her yet again.

That is the price Canada pays for sharing the North American continent with the United States, and for being a selfless friend of Britain in two global conflicts.

For much of the 20th century, Canada was torn in two different directions. It seemed to be a part of the old world, yet had an address in the new one, and that divided identity ensured that it never fully got the gratitude it deserved.

Yet it's purely voluntary contribution to the cause of freedom in two world wars was perhaps the greatest of any democracy. Almost 10% of Canada's entire population of seven million people served in the armed forces during the First World War, and nearly 60,000 died. The great Allied victories of 1918 were spearheaded by Canadian troops, perhaps the most capable soldiers in the entire British order of battle.

Canada was repaid for its enormous sacrifice by downright neglect, its unique contribution to victory being absorbed into the popular memory as somehow or other the work of the 'British.'

The Second World War provided a re-run. The Canadian navy began the war with a half dozen vessels, and ended up policing nearly half of the Atlantic against U-boat attack. More than 120 Canadian warships participated in the

Normandy landings, during which 15,000 Canadian soldiers went ashore on D-Day alone.

Canada finished the war with the third-largest navy and the fourth largest air force in the world. The world thanked Canada with the same sublime indifference as it had the previous time.

Moreover, Canada is every bit as querulously alert to the achievements of its sons and daughters as the rest of the world is completely unaware of them. The Canadians proudly say of themselves - and are unheard by anyone else - that 1% of the world's population has provided 10% of the world's peacekeeping forces.

Canadian soldiers in the past half century have been the greatest peacekeepers on Earth - in 39 missions on UN mandates, and six on non-UN peacekeeping duties, from Vietnam to East Timor, from Sinai to Bosnia.

Yet the only foreign engagement that has entered the popular non-Canadian imagination was the sorry affair in Somalia, in which out-of-control paratroopers murdered two Somali infiltrators. Their regiment was then disbanded in disgrace - a uniquely Canadian act of self-abasement for which, naturally, the Canadians received no international credit.

So who today in the United States knows about the stoic and selfless friendship its northern neighbor has given it in Afghanistan ?

Rather like Cyrano de Bergerac , Canada repeatedly does honorable things for honorable motives, but instead of being thanked for it, it remains something of a figure of fun. It is the Canadian way, for which Canadians should be proud, yet such honour comes at a high cost. This past year more grieving Canadian families knew that cost all too tragically well.

Lest we forget."

The following tributes to two of our classmates were taken from edition 47/12 of e-veritas.

2012 RETP Scholarships

6604 Capt(N) (ret) James Carruthers, Class of '65 -pictured (below) with the Commandant, was personally on hand to make individual presentations of \$5,000 each to four 2012 RETP recipients. The James Carruthers RETP scholarships are valued at \$20,000 and handed out annually to help RETP Cadets with their financial needs.



Capt John Bart Award Winners Donate Prize to Charity

Article by 26851 OCdt (I) Ali Mansour

It was in 2000 that John Bart and his wife Mary were attending a Reunion

Weekend and watched the Cadets during the obstacle course competition. During that event he "witnessed many standout examples of teamwork and individual leadership." An RMC graduate himself, John decided it would be appropriate to recognize those qualities early in a Cadet's time at the College.

Through the Royal Military Colleges Foundation he 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.

This year the John Bart Award recipients, on behalf of the graduating class of 2016, donated a total of \$2500 in contributions to the KCCU Christmas Caring Program. For over 20 years The Christmas Caring Program has, to date, assisted over 800 community members and their families.

The donation was made in the spirit of giving during the holiday season, and is symbolic to the core value of duty we all must uphold. As future Officers of the Canadian Forces, the John Bart Leadership Award recipients recognized our obligation to give back to the community.

THE HOGANS VACATION IN CHINA

By 6183 Terry Hogan



Since retiring Nancy and I have visited The Blue Mosque, the Pyramids, Machu Picchu and now we have added The Great Wall. In October of this year we ventured on a 21 day tour of China. This trip was booked through the China Spree tour company (as recommended

by Roger Chiasson in Edition 42 of the Newsletter). The China Spree folks lived up to Roger's reviews ... they were wonderful. This was an extremely well organized tour and the hotel accommodations were first rate. Our tour group consisted of an English speaking guide and 11 couples, 5 Canadian and 6 American and, fortunately, we all got along quite well which was important considering the amount of time we spent together.

Our trip started in Beijing where over a three day period we visited Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City, the Olympic Bird's Nest Stadium and the Great Wall along with various other points of interest. From Beijing we flew to Xi'an and visited the Terra Cotta Warriors which have silently guarded the tomb of China's first emperor for over 2,200 years. The warriors are displayed in a magnificent modern facility. Other attractions in Xi'an included the Wild Goose Pagoda, a Tang Dynasty landmark, and the Great Mosque which was founded in 742 and is the focus of more than 30,000 Chinese Muslim Hui.

From Xi'an we flew to Guilin where we took a long hike up some 1,100 steps to see Long Sheng's spectacular Dragon Spine Rice Terraces. Over the centuries the Zhuang and Yao minorities have sculpted 2,000 foot peaks with remarkable step-like terraces for growing rice. This has created a landscape of utility and immense beauty. Our second day in Guilin involved a 40 mile cruise on the Li River where we witnessed some magnificent scenery of soaring karst pinnacles and mist shrouded peaks.

Our next stop was Hong Kong where we made the requisite visit to Victoria Peak and marvelled at this bustling city. From Hong Kong we flew to Chongqing which was General Stillwell's HQ during WWII. After viewing Giant Pandas at the local Zoo we boarded a cruise ship for a three night cruise on the Yangzte River enroute to the Three Gorges Dam. After passing through two of the gorges we made a side trip up the Shennong River on a smaller craft to witness the Lesser Three Gorges. We then transferred to traditional "peapod" boats, manned by natives who took us for a brief trip up the Daning River. Our cruise ended at the Three Gorges dam after transiting the five stage shiplocks, the world's largest. The Chinese are very proud of this dam and hydroelectric plant and have built extensive

viewing areas for the 8,000+ daily visitors.

Shanghai was our final stop and was the most impressive of all the cities we visited. It is a city of contrasts. On one side of the river is the Bund, a stretch of 26 buildings built during the days of the British Concession. These buildings are of various architectural styles including Gothic, Baroque, Romanesque and Renaissance and have been lovingly restored. In contrast, the Pudong on the other side of the river is ultra modern with immense skyscrapers. Traditional Chinese architecture, however, has not been lost as was evident with a visit to the Old Shanghai Bazaar. Shanghai's wonderful new museum was also included in our tour. We also took a bus trip to Suzhou to visit a silk factory and a classical Chinese garden which has been designated as an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Included was a trip to Tongli, a pretty little town complete with canals, arched stone bridges and cobbled lanes. This "Venice of the East" even has gondolas plying the canals. Our departure from Shanghai involved a trip from the hotel to the airport via a Maglev train, a 300 kph, 8 minute trip... what an impressive way to end our visit to China.

We were not sure what to expect in China but it left us in no doubt that China is a country of contrasts and a country in transition. Residential, commercial and infrastructure construction was evident everywhere we travelled. Expensive looking apartment buildings and high end cars are commonplace but so are slum-like dwellings, motor scooters and rickshaws. Smog was present throughout our trip which is the result of China's industrial output and its lack of environmental concern. Chairman Mao is still revered as was shown by the thousands of people we saw lined up to pay their respects at his mausoleum. We see civil rights as being a major concern in China but that didn't seem to be an issue with any of the locals with whom we had contact. As China becomes the world's leading economy let's hope it solves its internal problems and becomes a responsible member of the world community.

I will end by echoing Roger's comment that if you are contemplating a visit to China you won't go wrong by using China Spree as your tour operator.

Diefenbunker Tour

By 6364 Mike Braham

I think I have mentioned previously that I volunteer as a guide at the Diefenbunker, just outside Ottawa in the village of Carp. Back in October, three of the Gatineau Five (**Braham, Carruthers & Spence**) and their wives plus **Rick and Marilyn Archer** came out for a tour of the facility followed by dinner at a local pub. A couple of pictures from the event are below. Anyone else wishing a tour of the bunker, an interesting Cold War relic, is welcome to drop me a line and we'll arrange something.



Sailors All



Hugh Spence sent this along. You will probably recognize him and a couple of other familiar faces - **Derek Carrier** and **Tony Goode**. The other two are not classmates and in fact are not even RMC grads, however both of them - Peter Cairns and Dusty Miller made admiral!

De quoi être fiers! Le dîner gala Leadership du 60e anniversaire du CMRSJ

Par 6496 Charles Emond



Deux membres de la classe d'entrée du CMR de 1960, Jean-Gilles Caron et Charles Émond ont assisté au dîner gala célébrant le 60e anniversaire de l'ouverture du Collège militaire royal (CMR) de Saint-Jean le 20 Novembre 2012. Nous étions accompagnés par nos élégantes et charmantes conjointes, respectivement, Micheline et Lucie, ainsi que le fils de Jean-Gilles, Jean-Philippe, Président de Artifex, maintenant Société Arte5, producteur de l'obélisque commémoratif, initiative de la classe de 1960.

Le dîner était vraiment un évènement de quoi être fiers. Sous la présidence du ministre de la Défense nationale, M. Peter MacKay, de M. Geoffrey E. Molson, le petit-neveu du Sénateur Hartland Molson, ancien du RMC et pilote de chasse lors de la bataille de la Grande-Bretagne durant la deuxième guerre mondiale, le récemment nommé chef de l'état-major des Forces canadiennes, le général Tom Lawson, les sénateurs Joe Day et le Lgén à la retraite Roméo Dallaire, l'épouse du premier Commandant du CMR, Mme Peggy Lahaie, entre autres. Bien qu'il ait été incapable d'être présent, le gouverneur général a offert par le biais d'une assez longue vidéo son appréciation de la contribution éloquente du CMR à la défense nationale et aux objectifs nationaux. Il y avait près de 500 participants, certains venants d'aussi loin que de Calgary.

Initiative de la classe de 1960, les obélisques commémoratifs étaient bien en évidence, ornant les tables occupées par les invités d'honneur et d'autres tables d'importance. Chaque obélisque a une lumière intégrée dans sa base qui fait de l'Obélisque une pièce maîtresse particulièrement à propos pour cette occasion. Le créateur de l'obélisque original, un ancien du CMR, le sous-marinier navale et architecte de Montréal, le capitaine (N) Claude Beaubien était présent pour l'occasion et a eu la chance de rencontrer et de féliciter Jean-Gilles Caron et son fils Jean-Philippe sur leur pièce commémorative

remarquable.

Nous avons eu deux élèves-officiers à notre table; leur présence assurée en partie grâce à des dons d'anciens. Nous avons changé de siège pendant le dessert afin de donner à d'autres autour de la table l'occasion de parler avec ces élèves-officiers. L'un d'eux était francophone, natif d'un petit village du Québec. Il avait treize ans quand il a ciblé son entrée au CMR comme objectif; il est maintenant en première année. Il a confié à Lucie qu'il sentait le poids du défi d'avoir tellement à faire, juste pour garder la tête hors de l'eau. Le conseil de Lucie, ayant échangé avec de nombreux élèves-officiers au cours de ses 6 ans en tant qu'épouse de Commandant, était de ne pas hésiter à demander de l'aide auprès des enseignants et du personnel dirigeant dans les domaines où il se sentait en difficulté, que même si le chemin était difficile par dessein, tout le monde en position d'autorité voulait voir réussir tous ceux et celles ayant un potentiel de bon officier.

L'autre élève-officier à notre table était le fils d'un membre de l'Aviation et un musicien autodidacte (le sax et le guitare) qui participait dans le cadre de l'animation musicale de la soirée. Lui et une vingtaine d'autres élèves officiers étaient venus de Kingston. Avant que je puisse lui poser des questions sur les défis auxquels il était confronté, il me posa des questions sur les problèmes que j'avais rencontrés en tant que Commandant. Alors que nous avons discuté de quelques-uns des défis que les hauts dirigeants des FC font face, mon message pour lui était d'utiliser son expérience au Collège afin d'apprendre les rudiments du leadership, puisque les éléments de base du leadership ne changent pas tant que ça lorsque vous monter en grade, seulement les conséquences du succès ou de l'échec. Je ne pouvais m'empêcher, après avoir entendu qu'il était vraiment pas très intéressé par le sport, pour l'encourager à considérer qu'au moins une certaine forme de programme de conditionnement physique est indispensable s'il veut tirer le meilleur parti de la vie, surtout si il voulait vivre dans la voie rapide.

Alors qu'est-ce que cette merveilleuse soirée anniversaire nous a permis de vivre? Tout d'abord, ce fut l'occasion pour un grand nombre d'anciens élèves-officiers de nombreuses classes de rétablir des contacts et de se rappeler des éléments de leurs diverses expériences du Collège. C'était

aussi, pour plusieurs, l'occasion d'avoir une conversation avec des élèves-officiers d'aujourd'hui, à la fois d'offrir des conseils modestes au sujet de tirer le meilleur parti de cette opportunité exigeant, ainsi que de constater l'énergie et l'imagination de la génération présente d'élèves-officiers. Ce fut l'occasion d'entendre les dirigeants actuels du gouvernement et de l'armée sur le rôle actuel CMRSJ dans la formation de futurs leaders des Forces canadiennes et du Canada. Enfin, ce fut aussi l'occasion de contribuer financièrement aux deux Fondations des Collèges militaires, sans laquelle un grand nombre de non-essentiels, mais néanmoins importantes activités ne pourraient avoir lieu. Les contributions des anciens élèves-officiers, modestes comme significatives, donnent aux élèves-officiers actuels, non seulement des occasions comme ce dîner gala anniversaire de rencontrer des anciens de tous les horizons de la vie, mais pour financer un voyage intéressant, obtenir l'encadrement supérieur dans un sport ou une activité, de bénéficier de services améliorés et une foule d'autres formes de soutien pour les activités extra-scolaires que le financement public ne fournissent pas.

L'initiative de la Classe de 1960 de concevoir, de produire et de financer ces 20 obélisques commémoratifs avait deux buts, soit ;

- De souligner la fierté que doivent avoir les générations d'élèves-officiers pour cette institution et tous ceux qui ont contribué à la réalisation de son mandat important, et deuxièmement,
- de prêter un aide financier aux deux Fondations qui œuvrent pour fournir une marge d'excellence aux activités parascolaires des élèves-officiers au-delà de ce que peut fournir l'appui public.

Bravo à tous ceux qui ont contribué à la réalisation de cette initiative de la Classe de 1960!

A Celebration we all can share in: CMRSJ's 60th Anniversary **By 6496 Charles Emond**

Two members of CMR's entry Class of 1960, Jean-Gilles Caron and Charles Emond attended the Gala dinner celebrating the 60th anniversary of the opening of Collège militaire royal (CMR) de Saint-Jean on 20 November 2012.

We were accompanied by our elegantly attired wives, respectively Micheline and Lucie, as well as Jean-Gilles's son Jean-Philippe, President of Artifex, now Society Arte5, producers of the Class inspired commemorative Obélisk.

The dinner was indeed a Gala affair. It was attended by the Minister of National Defence, Peter McKay, Geoffrey E. Molson, the grand-nephew of Hartland Molson, an RMC cadet and WW2 Battle of Britain fighter pilot, the recently appointed Chief of the Defence Staff, General Tom Lawson, Senators Joe Day and retired LGen Romeo Dallaire, the wife of CMRSJ's first Commandant, Mrs. Peggy Lahaie, among others. While unable to be present, the Governor General offered his eloquent appreciation of CMR's contribution to nation building and national defence via a video. There were close to 500 in attendance, some from as far away as Calgary based on my limited survey.

The Class of 1960 Initiative Obelisks were very much in evidence, gracing the tables occupied by the guests of honour and other selected tables. Each obelisk has a light embedded in its base which made the Obelisk a particularly eye-catching centre piece. The designer of the original CMR obelisk, a CMR alumnist, a Naval submariner and a Montreal architect, Captain (N) Claude Beaubien was present and had a chance to meet and congratulate Jean-Gilles Caron and his son Jean-Philippe on their remarkable commemorative piece.

We had two officer-cadets at our table; their presence funded in part through alumni donations. We changed the seating during dessert to give others at the table an opportunity to speak with the officer-cadets. One officer-cadet was a francophone from a small village in Québec. He was thirteen when he set his mind on coming to CMR and he was now in First year. He confided to Lucie that he was feeling the weight of the challenge of having to do so much just to keep his head above water. Her advice, having shared many such conversations with officer cadets during her 6 years as wife of the Commandant, was not to hesitate to seek out help from teachers and staff in those areas where he was struggling; that even though the path was purposefully tough, everyone in authority wanted those with good officer potential to succeed.

The other officer-cadet was an Air Force brat and a self-taught musician (sax and guitar), attending as part of our musical entertainment. He and about twenty others had come from Kingston to attend. Before I could ask him about the challenges he was facing, he was asking me about the issues that I had faced as Commandant. While we discussed a few of the leadership challenges that senior leaders in the CF face, my basic message to him was to use his College experience to learn the basics of leadership as these basics don't change that much as you rise in rank, only the consequences of success or failure. I could not help, after hearing that he was really not much interested in sports, to encourage him to consider that at least some form of fitness program was indispensable if he wanted to get the most out of life, especially if he wanted to live it in the fast lane.

So what did this wonderful anniversary evening achieve? Foremost, this was an opportunity for a large number of ex-cadets from many different classes to get-together and recollect elements of their shared College experience. It was also for many, an opportunity to have a conversation with current officer cadets, both to offer modest advice about making the best of this demanding opportunity, as well as sensing the mettle of today's generation of cadets. It was an opportunity to hear from the current leaders in government and the military about CMRSJ's current role in building future leaders for the Canadian Forces and for Canada. It was also an opportunity to contribute financially to the two Colleges Foundations, without which a wide range of non-essential, but nonetheless important activities could not take place. Contributions from ex-cadets, however modest, give current officer cadets, not only opportunities such as this Anniversary dinner to meet ex-cadets from all walks of life, but to undertake interesting travel, get superior coaching and benefit from enhanced facilities and a host of other support for extra-curricular activities that public funding will not provide.

The CMR Entry Class of 1960's initiative to conceive and finance the production of the 20 commemorative obelisks had two principal objectives:

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- To underscore the pride that generations of officer cadets should have for this institution and for those who contributed to it achieving its important mandate over the past 60 years, and
 - To lend a hand at raising funds for the two Colleges Foundations that continue to enable a range of activities and a margin of excellence in extra-curricular activities that public funding alone would not provide.

I would like to offer a very sincere "Thank You" to those who turned this initiative into a reality, one that the Entry Class of 1960 can be truly proud of.

Canada's Museums of History - A Look Ahead

By 6454 Bill Leach



In February of 2012, when I was first appointed Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Museum of Civilization Corporation, which includes the Canadian Museum of Civilization (soon to become the Canadian Museum of History) and the Canadian War Museum, I was honoured to be associated with two national institutions with such a proud history and vital mandate. Almost a year later, that feeling endures.

These are exiting times for Canada's Museums of history. In 2012 the Museums began commemorating a remarkable series of milestones in Canadian history. The War of 1812, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the First World War, Confederation—each of these unique formative events offers a different perspective on Canada past and present, and their anniversaries are an opportunity for the Museums to act as focal points for Canada-wide celebrations and explorations.

The 1812 exhibition at the War Museum has already been visited by over 110,000 visitors. Beginning in early 2013 until 2015, travelling versions of this exhibition will be touring to museums across Canada, allowing more Canadians to get a vivid sense of the war from the very different perspectives of the four central participants: Canadians, Americans, the

British and Native Americans.

For the centenary of the First World War, the Canadian War Museum will offer a once-in-a-lifetime program spanning 2014 to 2018. It will feature an extraordinary range of exhibitions, websites, social media features, publications and travelling exhibits.

On October 16, 2012, the government announced that the Museum of Civilization will become the Canadian Museum of History. Over the next five years, culminating in 2017 when Canada celebrates 150 years of confederation, almost half of the Museum of Civilization will be transformed. While the First Peoples Hall and the Grand Hall will continue to present the rich history of Canada's First Peoples, we will create a new 4,650 square metre (50,000 square feet) permanent hall to house Canada's national treasures and to feature exhibitions that preserve the experiences and memories of the Canadian people.

Our historians and researchers, in collaboration with scholars and content experts from across the country, will develop the new exhibition for the Canadian Museum of History. We have also asked Canadians to help guide this work by telling us which stories, themes and events they feel have been most important in shaping Canada's history.

We are honoured to have been given such opportunities to take to a new level our commitment to preserving and presenting Canada's shared history and identity, and we invite you to join us on this journey of discovery and celebration.

Closing Notes

As we close off another year of the Newsletter I think we can look back with some satisfaction at the obvious class cohesion that still exists over 40 years later. It has been interesting to learn of the different paths that classmates have taken since 1965 and to hear of the wide range of activities that most of us are engaged in.

Thanks to all of you who have shared those thoughts over the past year. I look forward to hearing from you and others in the coming year.

Janet and I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year/Joyeux Noel et une Bonne Nouvelle Annee.