



ANAVETS

Issue 4/03

Dominion Command Newsletter, Ottawa, Ontario

December 2003

Special Points:

- Season Greetings
- Changes To Vets Legislations
- Time for a Change
- Cadet Medal Recipients
- 60th Anniversary of D-Day
- A Soldier's Soldier

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SEASON GREETINGS TO ALL ANAVETS MEMBERS FROM DOMINION COMMAND!



President Bob Cassels along with all members of the Dominion Executive, the Dominion Office staff of Deanna Fimrite and Jack Arseneault, would like to take this opportunity to wish your and your family the very best of the coming holiday season. May this holiday season be filled with peace and contentment for all. We hope that you find what you seek, and that this season is filled with warmth for you.



**Merry Christmas and Happy New! Joyeux Noël et heureuse année !
 Frohe Weihnachten und ein glückliches neues Jahr
 Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo
 Feliz Navidad y prospero Año Nuevo
 Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
 Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun Sing Dan Fai Lok
 Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan Sheng Dan Kuai Le**

May the Love, Peace, and Joy of Christmas be yours always

Well, that time of year is once again upon us. It's time for hustling and bustling and getting ready for the greatest holiday of all...



**May the richness of tradition
 And love of family
 Fill your holiday celebrations.**



Legislative and Regulatory Amendments Address the Most Urgent Needs of Canada's Veterans



Members of ANAVETS and the Legion met with Veterans Affairs to conclude the latest round of talks which resulted in new improved benefits for veterans and their families. Of particular interest for many of our readers is the Veterans Independence Program (VIP) for spouses for life who qualify and the fact that is being restored to 1990. President Bob Cassels said that he was most pleased that the efforts of the veterans' organizations was being rewarded. All were most pleased for the widows.

Pictured left to right: Legion Service Bureau Director Pierre Allard, Legion President Allan Parks, VAC Deputy Minister Jack Stagg, VAC Minister Rey Pagtakhan, ANAVETS' President Bob Cassels, ANAVETS' Dominion Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault, and the Legion's Dominion Secretary Duane Daly.

Ottawa – Legislative and regulatory amendments addressing the most urgent needs of Canada's Veterans as identified by the national Veterans' organizations have received approval.

Bill C-50, an Act to amend the statute law in respect of benefits for Veterans and the children of deceased Veterans, received Royal Assent, enhancing compensation for Prisoners of War, providing education assistance to children of deceased Veterans and clarifying the service requirements under the War Veterans Allowance Act for members of the Canadian Forces.

Her Excellency the Governor General of Canada, also approved a regulatory health amendment that will allow Veterans Affairs Canada to enhance the health care benefits and services available to War Veterans.

"These legislative and regulatory changes address the most urgent needs of our wartime aging Veterans as well as those of their survivors," said the Honourable Dr. Rey D. Pagtakhan, Minister of Veterans Affairs. "Our War Veterans are experiencing deteriorating health and increasingly complex health care needs. By providing additional services and benefits we are evolving to meet their changing needs while recognizing that all those who serve Canada deserve the best support this country can offer."

Bill C-50:

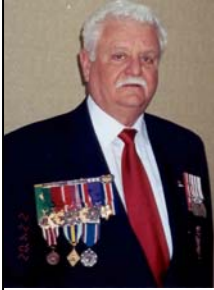
- amends the *Pension Act* to enhance Prisoners of War (POW) compensation for Veterans who were incarcerated for more than 910 days and to provide compensation for the first time to POWs who were incarcerated between 30 and 88 days;
 - amends the *Children of Deceased Veterans Education Assistance Act* to re-establish the Education Assistance Program providing children of deceased Veterans with assistance for post-secondary studies; and
 - amends the *War Veterans Allowance Act* to clarify the definition of a "former member of His Majesty's forces who served during the First World War or Second World War" to mean someone who enlisted, served and was discharged from such service.
- Amendments to the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* allow Veterans Affairs Canada to:
- provide health care programs based on need to War Veterans and civilian pensioners with a disability assessed between 48% and 77%;
 - provide the Veterans Independence Program (VIP) and related health care benefits to Overseas Service Veterans (OSV) living at home while on a wait list for a priority access bed;
 - provide access to long-term care, including health care benefits once admitted, to Allied Veterans with at least 10 years post-war residence in Canada; and
 - provide VIP services and related treatment benefits to Veterans who are in receipt of POW compensation and are totally disabled.

Those Veterans, Canadian Forces members, or survivors who feel they may be eligible for any of these services or programs are asked to call 1-800-387-0930.

To support these programs, funding reallocation decisions were done in consultation with national Veterans' organizations and will not affect priority programs.

A backgrounder on these legislative and regulatory changes is available on the Veterans Affairs Canada Web site.

[Backgrounder](#)— See Attachments [Question and Answers](#)—See Attachments



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all the members of ANAVETS:

As we approach the end of 2003, it is hard to believe that ANAVETS has reached such a great milestone: *Canada's oldest Veterans' Association is one hundred and sixty-four (164) years old!*

I would ask that all of you take the time to read the write-up from Jack Arseneault on *'Rejuvenation'*. We are presently at a crossroad and with the help of all members, I am sure we will make the right decision to keep this great Association alive. You will also read about the outcome of the meetings that we have had with Veterans Affairs Canada over the past two years, improving benefits for veterans, their spouses and dependants, including those who

are serving in Canada's military today and in the future. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we must be able to accept change and work with change to improve how we operate as an Association.

In closing, on behalf of the Dominion Officers and myself, I would like to wish all the members a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Bob Cassels



Membership — ANAVETS # 1 Priority

Congratulations are in order for so many of you who have increased your membership in 2003. Well done! The year's returns are coming in and overall, the results are better than expected. Alberta is up 41 and Ontario is up 59 members. Manitoba is down 178, Saskatchewan is down 91, and Quebec is down 9. We haven't yet received the final reports in from Nova Scotia or British Columbia, however, we understand that NS will be up a few and BC may be down. Overall, the decrease is less than expected and can be attributed to your hard work. Keep it up! It is a selling job and we are not the only organization out there trying to encourage potential members to join. Remember to remind of the following:

By joining ANAVETS you will be able to **make a meaningful difference** in your new unit, community, province and country. It is a win-win situation. You win because within The Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada, you will have the opportunity to make new friends in a national organization stretching from coast to coast, become involved with your community, and to develop and share your leadership talent. ANAVETS will win because we will be enriched by your enthusiasm, energy and new ideas that you bring to us.

Social Activities - Most of the ANAVETS' units have recreational facilities and may have licensed lounges. Members can enjoy a wide variety of social events such as dances, barbecues, entertainment and a host of other special events.

Member Participation Sports - ANAVETS has sporting events such as darts, curling, cribbage, shuffleboard and golf, with competitions at the local & provincial levels.

Community Service - You can serve your community by assisting with the many ANAVETS programs in support of youth, veterans, seniors, the disabled and others. ANAVETS supports Canada's youth through the teaching of sportsmanship and high ideals by sponsoring such sporting activities as minor and midget baseball and hockey. We further support the country's youth academic development through our bursary and scholarship awards programs.

Leadership - ANAVETS is always in search of new members who can take on a leadership challenge. If this is where your interest lies you can become involved by serving on the local unit executive. You may even wish to go to higher levels such as provincial or national. One day, you could be President of one of the largest community service organizations in Canada. Always remember: **The voice of a single person may not be heard, but the voice of thousands of members in the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada is heeded.**

In Memoriam



**WE SHALL
NOT FORGET**

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of the following members of ANAVETS:

Pauline Schofield (2003)

Life Member of L.A. Victoria Unit #12

Evelyn Shannon (17 August 2003)

Member & volunteer extraordinaire—East Vancouver Unit #68

Harold Carruthers (2003)

Past Provincial President Nova Scotia

ANAVETS' Membership Revoked for Life

This is to inform all ANAVETS' members that the membership of C. William Murray's has been revoked for life by Dartmouth Unit 349. This was effective 10 November 2003.

*******IMPORTANT NOTICE*******

DOMINION COMMAND OFFICE HOURS OVER HOLIDAY SEASON

The Dominion Command Office will close for Holidays and stocktaking at 1200 hours on 24 December and re-open for business again on 5 January 2004. Any urgent requirements will need to be submitted prior to 0800 hours 24 December. Thank you and have a great holiday season with your family and friends.

Deanna Fimrite and Jack Arseneault



2004 Pocket Calendars now in stock!!

**Pocket Calendar \$ 2.25
Yearly insert only \$1.90
Get yours while supplies last!!**

Just a Common Soldier

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast
And he sat around ANAVETS telling stories of the past,
Of a war that he fought in and the deeds that he had done
In his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, everyone.

And tho' sometimes to his neighbours, his tales became a joke,
All ANAVETS' buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer, for old Bill has passed away
And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He will not be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,
For he lived an ordinary quiet and uneventful life,
Held a job and raised a family, quietly going his own way;
And the world won't note his passing tho' a soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing and proclaim that were great,
Papers tell their life stories, from the time they were young,
But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land
A guy who breaks his promises and cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary fellow who in time of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country and offers up his life?

A politician's stipend and style in which he lives
Are sometimes disproportionate to the service that he gives,
While the ordinary soldier, who offers up his all,
Is paid off with a medal, and perhaps a pension small.

It's so easy to forget them, for it was so long ago
That the Old Bills of our country went to battle, but we know,
It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys!

Should you find yourself in danger with your enemies at hand,
Would you want a politician with his shifting stand?
Or would you prefer a soldier who has sworn to defend
His home, his kin and country and would fight until the end?

He was but a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin
But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.
For when countries are in conflict then we find the soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start!

If we cannot do him honour while he's here to hear the praise
Then at least let's give homage at the ending of his days.
Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say:

A. Lawrence Vaincourt (WW II Air Force veteran) wrote this poem in 1985 for his newspaper column and it was reprinted in his 1991 book RHYMES AND REFLECTIONS. Insertion of word ANAVETS in the above poem was by Editor.



TIME FOR CHANGE

In 2004, ANAVETS will be 164 years old. We can be proud that we were Canada's first veterans' association and remain its oldest Association promoting the well-being of our country's veterans, serving personnel, their families and their communities. For an organization to survive as long as ANAVETS has, it has had to undergo many transitions and adapt to changes both within and outside our Association. We started with only the Army veterans; we later added the Navy and then the Air Force to become the reputable and credible "Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada Association" or ANAVETS for short. We have developed values, traditions and rituals that have sustained us and resulted in a unity of purpose and cohesion of all members from coast to coast.

Some of the changes that took place over the past 164 years were no doubt subtle, incremental in nature and implemented without much emotion or fanfare. Other changes I am sure came about after much emotional debate, foot-slogging and took place only after the members were convinced by their leaders that it was necessary for survival or in the best interests of the Association. While we want to respect the past and remember the lessons learned from it, we do not want to remain stuck in the past and become irrelevant today or in the future.

Everywhere today you see change taking place.....people at all levels are worried about not reacting to our changing society and its environment and becoming another Eaton's. Thus, we see political parties advertising that it is time for a change and winning acceptance from the voters at the poles; the Canadian Forces are going through a major "transformation" or change process to address today's security environment; and the new Canadian War Museum is being built on the architectural theme of "Regeneration" ("Nature may be ravished by human acts of war, but inevitably it hybridizes, regenerates and prevails).

The declining membership numbers over the past decade together with the change in make-up of our members and the potential members have moved your Dominion leadership to realize that it is "**Time for Change**" also within ANAVETS. They have begun a program of "**Rejuvenation**" of our Association and are looking to leadership and members at all levels to assist in making it a success. We need your help to sustain ANAVETS for another 164 years.

One of the major changes that is being contemplated is to change our uniform appearance to become more distinctive and unique. A new tie has been designed and will be "field" tested in the new year by your Dominion Board of Directors. It is a striped tie that reflects our make-up and will have the dark navy blue of the Navy, the burgundy red of the Army, and the sky-blue of the Air Force. The intent is to have a tie that matches both our blazer and our headdress. A newly designed headdress.....a wedge cap, will also be "field" tested along with the tie. The wedge cap will be dark navy blue in colour with gold (yellow) trim. Samples are being make up now by William Scully and should be "field" tested by the Board members in the new year also. As one person who saw the mock up said; "it

looks handsome". If accepted, it is a uniform that will demonstrate our distinctiveness and uniqueness and will illustrate that ANAVETS is rejuvenating itself once again.

Another one of our important symbols that has come under consideration for change is our crest. There are many of you out there who have expressed the opinion that it too outdated and not relevant to the today's Canada. While it clearly shows our roots, there are those who argue that there is nothing Canadian about it. Many new comers not from the British Isles may be turned away because they may think ANAVETS is a British veteran's organization. Some believe that the noun "Dominion" is a deterrent. It has been suggested that we need to re-design our crest to better reflect that today's Canada and it population make up. Perhaps a red maple should be prominent. Perhaps the crown should be updated. There are two styles of Royal Crowns: one with indented arches and one without. Queen Elizabeth II chose the indented arches when she ascended to the throne in 1952. For the past 41 years, ANAVETS chose to remain with the crown without the indented arches. It is traditional to have the crown in any crest reflect the monarch of the day's crown. Should we now change? To date, there has been no re-design work on the crest. The Board of Directors would like to hear back from you ,the members, what you think about updating the crest. If any of you out there are artists, you may even want to submit a suggestion or two. We would welcome it! Perhaps if there is interest, a contest could be held.

Originally, ANAVETS was formed by war veterans for veterans and the original members were all veterans. The membership has become increasingly dependent on those who have not served in uniform. Are leaders at all levels adapting quickly enough to sustain the Association for many years or will we fail to learn the lessons of Eaton's and become extinct? Let's hears from you. Your leaders need to receive your feedback. We have an important convention coming up in Saskatoon in September of 2004 and many decisions impacting on our future will be made. Many of you readers may not be able to attend the convention, but you have an opportunity to express yourself on the way ahead for ANAVETS. Drop us a note at 6 Beechwood Ave, Suite #2, Ottawa, ON, K1L 8B4 or email us at anavets@storm.ca.

If ANAVETS is to survive as a viable national organization, strong leadership at all levels is required. Those who want to be successful will find a way, those that don't, will find an excuse. The changes necessary for long-time viability may be seen as too drastic or too controversial to be considered. The executive of Eaton's probably resisted change on the same basis. ANAVETS cannot afford to make the same mistake.

ANAVETS Dominion leadership is showing it is willing to take steps to rejuvenate, energize, rekindle, revitalize, restore, regenerate or transform ANAVETS to meet today's challenges. But we need help, your suggestions, comments and ideas to help guide us in this daunting task. With rejuvenation leadership and coherent management, we will build upon our proud heritage in pursuit of clear strategic objectives.

VETERANS GAINING A MEASURE OF RESPECT



Ontario Issues "Veterans" Licence Plate

The new veteran licence plate is available to those who have honourably served in:

- wartime as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, or allied forces, or in the Merchant Navy or Ferry Command;
- served for a minimum of three years (may still be serving) in the Canadian Armed Forces; or performed NATO service or served in a peacekeeping mission as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, a UN peacekeeping force or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

HOW TO ORDER

First, applicants can obtain an "Application for Veteran Plate Eligibility Certification" form from any Drivers and Vehicles Licence Issuing Office, listed in the blue pages of your local phonebook. The form is available here (in [english](#) and [french](#)). The form is also available on the [Ministry of Transportation's Web site \(www.mto.gov.on.ca\)](http://www.mto.gov.on.ca).

Second, to verify their service, applicants are asked to complete this form and attach photocopies of their:

- "Canadian Forces Certificate of Service" (or equivalent for Merchant Navy or allies), if retired; or
- "Canadian Forces Identification Card," plus personal service record, if still serving.

Send the completed form with a \$5.00 cheque payable to the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Provincial Command, to cover administrative costs, plus photocopied service information, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

The Royal Canadian Legion
Ontario Provincial Command
89 Industrial Parkway North
Aurora, Ontario L4G 4C4

The Legion will need up to three weeks to verify the information and return an approved form.

COST

Ontario values veterans' contribution, dedication and commitment to serving and protecting our country. To honour their contribution, veterans can exchange their current plates or obtain the new veteran licence plate at no charge, once their service has been verified by the Legion. Sample veteran plates reading "000 VET," for display or gift purposes only (i.e., prohibited from being attached to a vehicle), are also available at no charge to veterans whose service has been verified by the Legion.

For more information, visit www.mto.gov.on.ca

Provincial Governments Starting to Issue Veterans' Licence Plates

Nova Scotia was the first province to issue a veterans' licence plate and we displayed it in a previous newsletter. Now we have Ontario and New Brunswick (see attached article) issuing a veterans plate. I understand that PEI and NFLD & Lab also have veteran plates. Hopefully, we shall see all provinces following suit in the very near future. I trust all Provincial Commands are in touch with their provincial Motor Vehicle Branches to urge their Provincial Government to do so. The exchange of plates is usually free except for the \$5.00 fee the Legion is charging to certify you as a veteran.

Christmas Songs for Shrinks

Schizophrenia: Do You Hear What I Hear?

Multiple Personality: We Three Queens Disoriented Are.

Narcissism: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing About Me!

Dementia: I Think I'll Be Home for Christmas.

Paranoia: Santa Claus is Coming to Town to Get Me.

Mania: Deck the Halls and Walls and House and Lawn and Streets and Stores and Office and Town.

Depression: Silent Anhedonia, Holy Anhedonia, All is Flat, All is Lonely.

Personality Disorder: You Better Watch Out, I'm Going to Cry, I'm Going to Pout, then *maybe* I'll tell you why!

Obsessive Compulsive: Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell Swing, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell Rock

Suicidal: Thoughts of Roasting on an Open Fire

Passive Aggressive: On the First Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me (then took away).

NOTES OF INTEREST FOR VETERANS

Distinguished Canadians to be Recognized

Ottawa – The Honourable Dr. Rey D. Pagtakhan, Minister of Veterans Affairs, announced 30 Oct 03 the names of those who will receive the *Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation*. This presentation will take place during ceremonies to be held in their honour in the coming months.

"It will be my distinct honour to present on behalf of a grateful nation the *Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation* to outstanding citizens for their dedicated service and remarkable achievements on behalf of Veterans," said Minister Pagtakhan. The Commendation is awarded to individuals who have contributed to the care and well-being of Veterans and to the remembrance of their contributions, sacrifices and achievements. It is intended primarily for Veterans, but in rare circumstances may also be awarded to non-Veterans. The *Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation* consists of a bar, typically worn below official decorations on a Veteran's blazer, a lapel pin for civilian wear and a certificate.

The following individuals will receive the 2003-2004 Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation during ceremonies to be held across the country in the coming weeks.

BARRY, Robert - Winnipeg, Manitoba *ANAVETS**
BELLAVANCE, Gil - Battleford, Saskatchewan
BENNETT, Blanche - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
BENNETT, Murray - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
BONNIER, Marilyn - Springdale, Newfoundland
BRADLEY, James - Windsor, Ontario
BROWN, Dave - Ottawa, Ontario
BUCCI, Eldred - Plaster Rock, New Brunswick
BURROWS, Sydney - Comox, British Columbia
BUZZELL, Norman - Peterborough, Ontario
CHIASSON, Daniel - Sydney River, N. S. *ANAVETS**
COCKRELL, Lionel (Jack) - Victoria, British Columbia
CONEY, Barbara - Drumheller, Alberta
COURTENAY, Vince - Ottawa, Ontario
COUSINEAU, Jean-Louis - Pointe-Claire, Quebec
CURRIE, Burns - Richmond Corner, New Brunswick
DOUCET, Ronald - Saint John, New Brunswick
EAMES, Howard - Victoria, British Columbia
ECKENSVILLER, Lawrence - New Liskeard, Ontario
FERGUSON, Harold - Victoria, British Columbia
FLEURY, Allan - Victoria, British Columbia
FOLEY, Margaret - Toronto, Ontario
JARDINE, Murdoch - Winnipeg, Manitoba
KIRWIN, Leo - Salford, Ontario
KLAGES, Lois - Victoria, British Columbia
LANG, Louis - Montreal, Quebec
LAUGHLIN, T. Errol - Summerside, PEI

LINDEN, Robert - Ottawa, Ontario
MACLEOD, Ken - Langley, British Columbia
MARTINAK, Henry - Windsor, Ontario
METCALFE, Robert - Ottawa, Ontario
MICHAUD, Eugene - Aylmer, Quebec
MILNE, Terrence - Victoria, British Columbia
MORGAN, Basil - New Westminster, British Columbia
MUNRO, David - Victoria, British Columbia
MURRAY, Larry - Ottawa, Ontario
ORTON, George - Regina, Saskatchewan
PASH, Gerald - Victoria, British Columbia
PAWSON, Gary - Burnaby, British Columbia
PHILLIPS, Roland - Chase, British Columbia
RASMUSSEN, Alf - Ottawa, Ontario
RAYMENT, Hugh - Vernon, British Columbia
RIOUX, Andre - Québec, Quebec
ROBERTSON, Shirley - Halifax, Nova Scotia
ROLFE, Charles - Kinburn, Ontario
ROY, Cecil - Yarmouth, Nova Scotia
SAUNDERS, William - St.John's, Newfoundland
SHANKS, Douglas - Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
SLOAN, Hallie - Ottawa, Ontario
SPÉNARD, Robert - Ottawa, Ontario
THOMPSON, Donald - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
VAN TASSEL, Norman - Winnipeg, MB *ANAVETS**
VENNAT, Pierre - Montreal, Quebec
WALLACE, Sid - Calgary, Alberta *ANAVETS**
WATERS, Thomas - Prospect Bay, Nova Scotia
WATSON, David - Calgary, Alberta
WEBB, Garth - Burlington, Ontario
WELLS, Herbert - St.John's, Newfoundland
WILCOX, Jack - Kars, Ontario
WOOD, Thomas - Mar, Ontario
WORTHINGTON, Peter - Toronto, Ontario
WRIGHT, Frank - Vernon, British Columbia

Congratulations to all, and in particular, the ANAVETS' members.

60th Anniversary of D-Day Landings

The Minister of Veterans Affairs has created an Advisory Committee to Assist in the commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of D-Day Landings on 6 June 2004. The committee consists of Richard Rohmer (Chairman), Charles Belzile (Battle of Normandy Foundation & RCL), Jan deVries (NCVA), Jack Arseneault (ANAVETS), and Doug Clorey from VAC as secretary. Deputy Minister Jack Staggs is an ex-officio member. **You will find attached a one page newsletter on the 60th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings and Battle of Normandy for your information.**

2003 CADET MEDAL OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

Cadet Names	Cadet Corp	City	Training Centre
Shane Walsh	RCSCC 157	Burgeo, NL	HMCS Acadia
Mireille Chartier	RCSCC 49	Winnipeg, MB	HMCS Acadia
Jacinta Reddigan	166 Fort Townsend	St. John's, NL	HMCS Acadia
Jacklyn Hillier	290 Sir Humphrey Gilbert	Fortune, NL	HMCS Acadia
Robert Fearnley	RCACS 103	North Vancouver, BC	CSTC Penhold
Stephen Job	RCACC 440	Oakville, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Amber Mahabir	RCACC 2881	North York, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Amber Lea Brunekreeft	RCACS 153	Courtland, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Craig Wilson	RCACS 828	Delta, BC	CSTC Blackdown
Michael Rossi	RCACS 80	Waterloo, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Sara Milolajewski	RCACC 2332	Ottawa, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Cedrick Michaud	RCACS 126	Niagara Falls, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Kyle Heaney	RCACC 21	Ayr, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Cadet Maik	RCSCC		CSTC Blackdown
Samuel Savage	RCACS 155	Sault Ste. Marie, ON	CSTC Blackdown
Justin Yaassoub	RCACC 2551	Edmonton, AB	CSTC Whitehorse
Angela Pushka	RCSCC 263	Victoria, BC	HMCS Quadra
Holly Nelson	RCSCC 355	Calgary, AB	HMCS Quadra
Clark Northey	RCSCC 118	Prince Albert, SK	HMCS Quadra
Daria Grave	RCSCC 22	Calgary, AB	HMCS Quadra
Maksym Opushyev	RCSCC 102	New Westminster, BC	HMCS Quadra
Candace Thorpe	RCSCC 152	St. Albert, AB	HMCS Quadra
Fiona So	RCSCC 186	Mississauga, ON	HMCS Ontario
Wendy Nind	RCSCC 94	Kitchener, ON	HMCS Ontario
Francis Montagnese	RCSCC 221	Newmarket, ON	HMCS Ontario
Meghan McOustra	RCSCC 279	Kendel, ON	HMCS Ontario
Jonathan Neima	RCACS 177	Winnipeg, MB	HMCS Ontario
Alexander Milne	RCSCC 27	Edmonton, AB	HMCS Qu'Appelle
John Ray Falzetta	RCSCC 302	Terrace Bay, ON	HMCS Qu'Appelle
Bryan Kennedy	RCACC 613	Fonthill, ON	CSTC Connaught
Richard Law	RCACC 2784	Ottawa, ON	CSTC Connaught
Michael (Mina) Yacob	RCACC 2332	Ottawa, ON	CSTC Connaught
Alex St. Pierre	RCACS 313	Ste-Anne, NB	CSTC Greenwood
Rose Cass	RCACC 2803	Fort McMurray, AB	CSTC Vernon
Jesse Gerard	RCACC 2302	Weyburn, SK	CSTC Vernon
Curtis Gutjahr	RCACC 2812	Surrey, BC	CSTC Vernon
Alex Avram	RCACC 2893	Port Coquitlam, BC	CSTC Vernon
Jennifer Klimchuk	RCACC 1838	Maple Ridge, BC	CSTC Vernon
Andrew Elgin	RCACS 819	Delta, BC	CSTC Cold Lake
Justin Lightbourne	RCACS 330	Toronto, ON	RGS(C) Mountain View
Pierre-Luc Faucher	Esc 544	Ste-Croix, QC	CSTC Bagotville
Philippe Dagenais	CCMRC 313	Montreal (Ville St-Laurent), QC	NCSM Québec
Marjorie Picard	CCMRC 150	Rimouski, QC	NCSM Québec
William Walsh	CCMRC 206	Notre-Dame des Prairies, QC	NCSM Québec
Joel Robidoux	CCMRC 247	Maricourt, QC	NCSM Québec
Kathy Bouillon	CCMRC 240	Repentigny, QC	NCSM Québec
Ouellet Marie-Pier	Esc 776	Pintendre, QC	CSTC Mont St-Sacrement
Élodie Santos	Esc 96	Montreal, QC	CSTC Valcartier
Sarah Imhoff	CC 2686	Pointe-au-Père, QC	CSTC Valcartier
Serge Létourneau	CC 2646	Jonquière, QC	CSTC Valcartier
Sébastien Dussereault	CC 2526	St-Tite, QC	CSTC Valcartier
Sabrina Marceau	CC 1479	Albanel, QC	CSTC Valcartier
Sene Amy Dupuis	CC 977	Montreal, QC	CSTC Cap-Chat
Élodie Roberge	CC 2802	Québec, QC	CSTC Cap-Chat
Pascal Paradis	CC 2646	Jonquière, QC	CSTC Cap-Chat
Kathleen Heaney	RCACC 1231	Kensington, PE	CSTC Argonaut
Jeremy Moore	RCACC 2558	Placentia, NL	CSTC Argonaut
Natasha Walsh	RCACC 2978	Southern Harbour, NL	CSTC Argonaut
Andrea Canning	RCACC 2515	St. John's, NL	CSTC Argonaut
Martin Merkuratsuk	RCACC 3023	Doyles, NL	CSTC Argonaut
Colin Corcoran	RCACC 2863	River Head, NL	CSTC Argonaut



ANAVETS' Member-at-large Gerry Wharton of Ottawa presents Cadet Medals of Merit to cadets Bryan Kennedy, Richard Law, Michael (Mina) Yacob at the Connaught Ranges west of Ottawa. See particulars of cadets on opposite page.

Wanted: The Lost Colour Archives



Being made to coincide with the 60th Anniversary of D-Day on 6 June 2004, CBC TV is going to broadcast a three-part series telling the compelling story of Canada during the Second World War through the exclusive use of newly discovered colour footage of Canadians at war and at home. Can you help? See attachment for many more details.



Let's Remember....Not Everyone Gets Home for the Holidays

Your Canadian Forces

Maintain Our Freedom
Even Over
the Holidays



Many of our sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, husbands, wives, cousins, and friends will not be getting home for Christmas this year because they are part of a proud Canadian tradition of contributing to world peace all around the world. If you know of an affected family, please try to show those you care and understand their loneliness as everyone else celebrates over the festive season. Maybe you could invite them over for some Christmas cheer.....they would appreciate it! You can also let those overseas know that they are not alone and that you are thinking about them this Holiday Season. Canadian sailors, soldiers and air force personnel deployed on operations need all the seasonal cheer they can get, and notes and postcards from home are very important to their morale. Because of the current world situation, the Canadian Forces Postal Service has had to tighten its rules. From now on, the CF Postal Service will not accept envelopes and parcels. Please use postcards to send greetings to any general address such as "Any Soldier", "Any Peacekeeper", or "Any Sailor". See attachments for list of overseas mailing addresses. If you are on the internet you can write them an e-mail by logging onto http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/community/messageboard/index_e.asp

60th Anniversary of D-Day & Battle of Normandy—6 June 2004

Plans are well under way for the “Return to Normandy” to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. The Minister of VAC’s Advisory Committee (ANAVETS’ rep is Jack Arseneault), together with the Canada’s Remember Division of VAC, have been hard at work planning the ceremonies surrounding this significant event. See the newsletter in the attachments which provides more detail. **The tentative schedule of events for Normandy is also listed in the attachments.** The schedule will help you if you are travelling on your own and want to attend any of the ceremonies.

Besides the ceremonies in Normandy, Veterans Affairs will be facilitating major commemorative ceremonies in each Provincial capital and in our nation’s capital of Ottawa on 6 June 2004. Therefore, it should be possible for you to participate in a ceremony somewhere in Canada. ANAVETS Units should begin now to start planning their participation in the D-Day ceremonies. If you have heard of any plans in your area, contact the nearest VAC office and ask for some information. VAC has the lead.

I am on the Ottawa organizing committee and I can tell you that it will be quite something to attend and of which to be proud. The emphasis will be on honouring those still alive while not forgetting our fallen comrades. We intend to have a ceremony of Remembrance at the War Memorial, we will have a motorcade and a parade with Second World War equipment, and a huge reception. We will have uniforms and re-actors of the era.

The average age of the veterans will be over 80 years. There won’t be many to receive an invitation, let alone accept it. What a marvellous and final opportunity to recognize their contribution to the country for which they laid their on the line.

**Be a participant or a contributor....
you can make a difference.!**

ANAVETS 2004 Convention Call

The Dominion Convention, the supreme governing body of the Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada Association, shall meet for the 47th time during 12-15 September, 2004 in Saskatoon, SK. at the Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, 612 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon, Sask., S7K 3G9. The phone number is (306) 652-6770 and the fax is (306) 244-1739. The Host Command is Saskatchewan. Delegates and guests are responsible for making their own/spouses reservations. The Guest room reservation form and other important information will be coming out in the near future.

GENERAL ITINERARY

Saturday 11 September 2004

0900 – Pre-Convention Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday 12 September 2004

0900 – Committee Meetings
1400 - Parade & Wreath Laying at Cenotaph
Late Afternoon – Formal Opening of the Convention
Evening - Free

Monday 13 September – Wednesday 15 September

0900 – Plenary Sessions

Thursday 16 September – Post Convention BOD’s Meeting

Notes:

Tuesday Afternoon – Sports Afternoon
1700 for 1800 Wednesday – Convention Banquet

Important:

Input from members of ANAVETS is absolutely crucial to the process reflectively raising issues to the attention of Dominion Command. This should be done through the resolution process in accordance with ANAVETS procedures as set out in the By-Laws. Let Dominion Command and all delegates know what you want by submitting resolutions!

WE ALL CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Hope for the future may be constrained by the past but it is liberated by optimism. The optimism that drives the future is found in the people who, while observant of the lessons of the past, refuse to become mired in it. The organization's success depends upon each person doing his or her share with their commitment and expertise.

Senior Citizens

Senior citizens are constantly being criticized for every conceivable deficiency of the modern world, real or imaginary. We know we take responsibility for all we have done and do not blame others.

HOWEVER, upon reflection, we would like to point out that it was NOT the senior citizens who took:

The melody out of music,
 The pride out of appearance,
 The courtesy out of driving,
 The romance out of love,
 The commitment out of marriage,
 The responsibility out of parenthood,
 The togetherness out of the family,
 The learning out of education,
 The service out of patriotism,
 The Golden Rule from rulers,
 The nativity scene out of cities,
 The civility out of behaviour,
 The refinement out of language,
 The dedication out of employment,
 The prudence out of spending,
 The ambition out of achievement, or,
 God out of government and school.

And we certainly are NOT the ones who eliminated patience and tolerance from personal relationships and interactions with others!!

And, we do understand the meaning of patriotism, and remember those who have fought and died for our country. Just look at the Seniors with tears in their eyes and pride in their hearts as they stand at attention during Remembrance Ceremonies.!

YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!

I'm the life of the party..... even if it lasts

until 8 p.m.

I'm very good at opening childproof caps... with a hammer.

I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I am going.

I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.

I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a thing you're saying.

I'm very good at telling stories; over and over and over and over...

I'm aware that other people's grandchildren are not nearly as cute as mine.

I'm so cared for -- long term care, eye care, private care, dental care.

I'm not really grouchy,

I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds, lawyers, loud music, unruly kids, Toyota commercials, barking dogs, politicians and a few other things I can't seem to remember right now. I'm sure everything I can't find is in a safe secure place, somewhere.

I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my left leg.

I'm having trouble remembering simple words like.....

I'm beginning to realizing that aging is not for wimps.

I'm sure they are making adults much younger these days, and when did they let kids become policemen?

I'm wondering, if you're only as old as you feel, how could I be alive at 150? And, how can my kids be older than I feel sometimes?

I'm a walking storeroom of facts.....

I've just lost the key to the storeroom door.

Yes, I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I think I am having the time of my life!

Command and Unit News — “Making a Difference”

Thank you once again to those who have shared their news with the Association. See attached the clippings that we have received about the wonderful things you great people are doing out there to “make a difference” and to make your communities a better place to live. Thank you also to those many units who sent us their latest copy of their newsletter. It is so great to for us at Dominion Command to have an understanding at what is going on out in the “field” at our units. A huge thank you from Deanna and me.

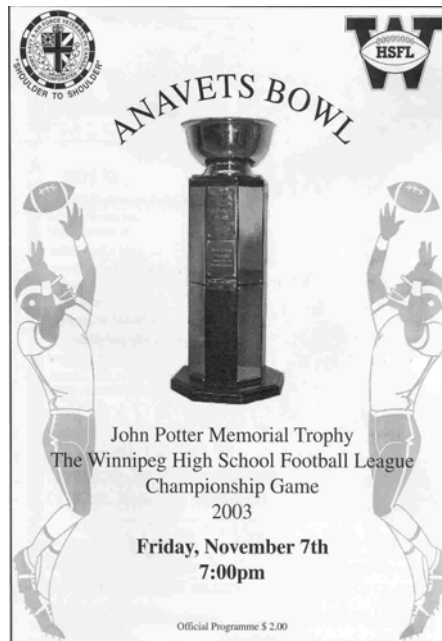
Since we have a scanner and computer it would be appreciated if you send in copies of the original photos. It makes for much better reproduction. Many did, thanks!

Our people do so much to make a difference. Please let us know of their outstanding work so we can share it with the whole Association. They deserve recognition.

See the newspaper articles attached that came in from various units. It is great to see such stories and of what and how the ANAVETS’ Association is doing for veterans, Canadians and communities across Canada. Well done to you all! Bravo Zulu!



Taking part in the City of Ottawa and Veterans Affairs Canada Candlelight Ceremony was from Left to Right: Korean Ambassador, ANAVETS Honorary Dominion President John Hardy, Mayor Chiarelli, and Dominion Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault.



Congratulations to all ANAVETS members in Manitoba and NW Ontario Command ! What a wonderful way to support the youth and their community by sponsoring the championship game of the Winnipeg High School Football League Championship Game in the “ANAVETS Bowl”. It is a win-win situation. The youth win because they have a worthwhile goal to work for and we win because of the satisfaction we get in helping the youth. We also win because we receive some positive publicity.



Group meet to celebrate the long hard fought benefits for Canada’s veterans. Pictured L to R: Legionnaires Pierre Allard, Duane Daly, Allan Parks, VAC Minister Pagtakhan, VAC DM Jack Stagg, ANAVETS’ President Bob Cassels and Jack Arseneault.

Keep your pictures coming and let us see what you are doing!



11 November 2003 Remembrance Ceremonies

5,000 crowd Victory Square Park ceremony William Boei

Vancouver Sun; The Ottawa Citizen; Canadian Press *Wednesday, November 12, 2003*

Dan Lee wanted to serve his country, and he wouldn't take no for an answer. Sixty-three years after Canada first rejected him, he is still serving. On Tuesday, proudly wearing his war and community service medals, Lee was one of the white-gloved veterans handing wreaths to officials and dignitaries to lay at the cenotaph during Remembrance Day ceremonies in Vancouver's refurbished Victory Square Park.

An estimated 5,000 people -- easily more than last year -- crowded into the park and spilled over on to Hastings, Hamilton and Cambie streets for the ceremonies.



Dan Lee Photo credits: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun

LEST WE FORGET, YOUNG OR OLD: Cadets from the Captain Rankin Navy League were part of a large crowd at Victory Square Park.

CREDIT: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun



Lee, who will turn 83 later this month, was born in Vancouver in 1920, but was prevented from voting or becoming a Canadian citizen by the Exclusion Act of 1923, which effectively halted Chinese immigration to Canada and limited the rights of both immigrant Chinese and aboriginal people. That didn't stop him from volunteering after the Second World War began. "I tried to join up in 1940 but they wouldn't take me because I was classified as an alien," he explained on Tuesday. Lee is not bitter, but some hurt still shines through as he politely describes what he went through as "discrimination." The Exclusion Act wasn't repealed until 1947, but Chinese who volunteered for the armed forces were granted citizenship starting in 1942. Lee joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and served the rest of the war as an aircraft engine mechanic. He was stationed in Canada and England and although his role kept him out of combat, he takes pride in having performed a crucial service -- keeping the planes flying that boosted morale on the front lines by delivering the mail from home. It was 1943 and mail for members of the armed forces came by sea. But allied shipping across the Atlantic was being decimated by German U-boats. "They had a disastrous time on the Atlantic and they couldn't get the mail over," Lee recalls. The Canadian government asked the air force to form a special squadron to fly the mail to units in England, the Middle East and Italy, "and I was chose to be a part of it," Lee says, adding, "It's just as important as munitions."

Since the war, he has remained active with the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada, working on veterans' housing issues and volunteering for Chinatown community work. He is a fixture at Remembrance Day ceremonies. Asked why, Lee answers simply, "I had friends in the service and some got killed overseas in action." More than 30 military, veterans, cadet and other groups marched in uniform to join the ceremonies. Many Second World War veterans were there, including Canada's only surviving Victoria Cross holder, Ernest (Smokey) Smith, who, from his wheelchair, laid a wreath at the cenotaph. Others remembered those who died in the Korean War, during Canadian peacekeeping missions around the world and most recently in Afghanistan. In all, more than 110,000 Canadians are estimated to have died while serving in the armed forces or the merchant navy.

Major Reverend Jim Short, senior chaplain to the 39 Brigade Group, delivered the familiar Remembrance Day prayer, including the poignant line, "On this eleventh day of the eleventh month at the eleventh hour, we remember our brothers and sisters who died in the wars that Canada has participated in." His prayer concluded: "We focus our hearts, our hands and our minds on the purposeful pursuit of peace." A commemorative fly-by of vintage planes was staged by members of the Recreational Aircraft Association, the Western Warbirds and the 407 Maritime Patrol Squadron.

Other Remembrance Day ceremonies were held throughout Greater Vancouver, including ones at the Stanley Park, Grandview Park and Memorial Park South cenotaphs.

Across Canada, tens of thousands gathered to remember those who died in war and peace-keeping missions. In Ottawa alone, a crowd of 15,000, larger than usual, joined national ceremonies that had "Remember Korea" as their official theme, and the recent deaths of six Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan as a fresh reminder of the tragedy of war. President Cassels was wreath bearer for the Speaker of the House of Commons and the Honorary Dominion President John Hardy assisted by Secretary-Treasurer laid the wreath on behalf of ANAVETS.

In Ottawa, military historian and former Canadian War Museum director Jack Granatstein said he thinks more and more Canadians are marking Remembrance Day. "Afghanistan feeds into it. It's a reason, but not the main reason,"

11 November 2003 Remembrance Ceremonies

Granatstein said. "I think Remembrance Day has been getting bigger each year for almost a decade. There were the 50th anniversaries of D-Day and VE-Day, the unknown soldier being returned here and the decision to build a new war museum. And we've been bleeding on peacekeeping missions for more than 50 years." Symbolizing the Afghanistan connection was this year's Silver Cross mother, Charlotte Smith, from Tatamagouche, N.S., whose son Nathan died along with his Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry comrades, Marc Leger, Ainsworth Dyer and Richard Green, killed by an American bomb in 2002. Smith laid her poppy and maple leaf wreath on behalf of all mothers who've lost a child in the Canadian Forces, joined by Governor-General Adrienne Clarkson, Prime Minister Jean Chretien, dozens of Ottawa-based diplomats, and veterans' organizations.

But the real celebrities were the creaky ranks of old soldiers in their berets and medals, most of them Second World War veterans. On a gloomy Ottawa day, they marched in through a snow squall and an hour later marched out in a cold steady rain while thousands standing 20-deep along Elgin Street gave them a sustained and spontaneous applause. Among those looking on was Paul Metivier, 103, one of 10 surviving Canadian First World War veterans and a regular at veterans' ceremonies.



The Peace Tower's bell tolled the hour of 11 as the mournful, piped Lament broke the minute of silence and jet fighters ducked beneath a low cloud cover to fly over the ceremony.

While Remembrance Day is known for tunes of glory rather than rhetoric, the closest this year's event came to sloganeering came in a pre-dawn assault on the war memorial. Vandals used black spray paint to imprint anti-war messages on the base of the memorial. By the time light broke they had been pressure-hosed off.

An invocation did remind the huge crowd that "conflict and strife seem to dominate the earth." And Rabbi Reuven Bulka warned that "forces of hatred defeated a generation ago are again threatening a global conflagration. "It is not enough to admire our veterans," he said, "we need to join the battle each in our own way. ... We are all targets; we must all be soldiers."

In a pre-ceremony message, Chretien urged Canadians to pray "for our soldiers today so far from home -- away from their families and friends -- who are fighting the war on terrorism.

"The stories of bravery are many and chart the course of world history: from Europe to Asia to the Middle East. And this year we particularly remember the two soldiers who lost their lives and those who were wounded in Afghanistan. Where there is a fight for freedom, equality, and justice, you will find Canadians ready to do their part."



In Kabul, Afghanistan, where 1,900 Canadians are serving, force commander Lieutenant-General Rick Hillier unveiled a permanent memorial and plaque dedicated to Sergeant Robert Short and Corporal Robbie Beerenfenger, killed when their vehicle struck what is believed to be a mine last month.

"I couldn't think of a more fitting tribute," he told hundreds of troops.

"We're here because a great friend and one of our closest allies was attacked, and some 3,000 innocent people died -- 3,000 families devastated forever," he said, recalling the 9/11 attacks in 2001.

"We're here because we were attacked that day. Twenty-seven Canadians, I believe was the total who died. It's sad that that has not been reflected around the country."



Remembrance day services this year in Prince Albert were honoured with three guests from C.F.B. Wainwright, Alberta. Two members from the P.P.L.C.I. (Princess Patricia's Canadian light Infantry) and a M.P. (Military Police). Sgt. F.J. LaVallee was the Parade Marshall for the Anavets and Legion Veterans that marched on Parade that day - he also laid a wreath on behalf of the W.W.1 Veterans. Sgt. LaVallee is the son of the Floyd LaVallee President of Prince Albert Unit 222 . Pictured L to R: Sgt's K.T. Lockie, T. Charette, & F.J. LaVallee.

Sgt LaVallee also brought his oldest son Aaron - whom three weeks prior to the services underwent brain surgery for a tumor The operation was a success and once arriving home to Wainwright will start radiation treatment on the remaining portion that was inoperable. Our prayers go out to Aaron and his family for a successful recovery.

Happy Holidays

Please send us your pictures of activities over the holiday season. Many of you will probably live the scenes below



Decorating the tree with the kids or grandchildren



Attending School or Church Concerts



Making Gingerbread Houses



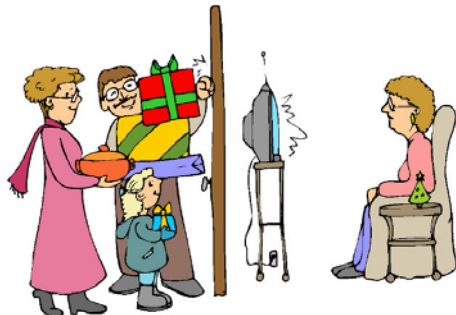
Taking the kids to see Santa



Carolling



Eating the big holiday meal and then falling asleep!



Visiting the grandparents with gifts of joys!



"Fleas Navidog"

Dressing up your animals or at least giving them presents

A Soldier's Soldier

Last month was Veteran's Week in Canada and throughout the country, Remembrance ceremonies were held to remember Canada's Fallen who gave the ultimate in sacrifice. We remember too those who also laid their lives on the line, but were fortunate enough to return from their duty. I believe Canada does a first-rate job of remembrance of our military and the public's interest seems to be growing.

As the Holiday Season nears, we start to remember our families. We remember those in the military who are not able to join their families at this precious time of year. As a veteran of 37 years of military duty, I am going to suggest that perhaps we do not remember often enough our military wives. I know that for my wife, she sacrificed so much for her family, her husband and her country. We were posted 19 times after we married! She never complained, not even during our first posting to Germany, we only had hot water for 15 minutes each Friday evening at 1745 hours, whether we needed it or not!

In this article, I would like to pay tribute to and remember another important part of the military, the military spouse...."**A Soldier's Soldier**". I found an article which I thought sums up the their skills and dedication. It is from a book called "Hurry Up and Wait" by Dianne Collier. If you have not read the book and are looking for an insight into the life of military spouses, it is a super read. It is sad and funny all at the same time. It truly reflects what so many spouses and military families have gone and are going through. It was published in 1994. Here is the article:

The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines a soldier as "a member of an army" and a wife as "a married woman." It is almost impossible to find a definition of a military wife. We don't ever stay in one place long enough to be properly defined!

To many employers we are a group to avoid-they will just get us trained and we will leave to follow our husbands on their next posting.

To our relatives, we are a vagabond lot whose gypsy-like genes come from who knows where! Our families may have little or no concept of our day-to-day lives, and the extent of their sympathy is often: "Well, you knew that when you married him"

To the military, we are a necessary, perpetual virus, but great for social functions. (Happily, this attitude is finally changing.) many wives have concluded that the military's idea of a perfect army is one made up entirely of bachelors!

To each other, we are the ultimate support group-the only ones who can understand what we face day after day.

To our husbands, we are the layer of peanut butter that separates the jam (his military life) from the bread (his home life), and keeps the sandwich together (maintains the family atmosphere even in his absence.)

To our children we are the one stable, constant influence in their ever changing lives-their rock of stability.

A military wife is a soldier's soldier-she is there to serve and assist in any way she can, to make her husband's dedication to his job and his country as smooth-flowing as possible.

Many woman have trouble adjusting to life as a military wife, but there are just as many who look on this lifestyle as an adventure. They see themselves as positive partners for their mates, and the anchor of their families. They view each move as a challenge, and an opportunity to learn new skills. Did I say skills? Just take a look at what a soldier's soldier can do.

Jill of All Trades. She can wave her magic rolling pin and turn into a taxi driver, bicycle repair person, carpet shampooer, gourmet cook, furniture arranger or interior decorator. And she can make those curtains from the last PMQ fit the new one even though all the windows are different sizes!

Master's Degree in Responsibility. She can't wait six weeks or months for hubby to come home to decide what to do about Johnny's broken arm or the car muffler lounging on the ground beneath the car.

A Degree in the Science of Moving. She can make 'another move' into a positive, fun-filled experience for her and the kids despite statements like "I'm not moving, I'll run away!" and "Why can't Dad have a regular job?" And she can stifle her own tears while she wipes away those in her children's eyes.

Financial Wizard. She must be able to grow money on trees-or else find some way to stretch family finances to cover Joey's hockey registration (he needs new skates again this year), Sara's swimming meets ("You're going on a weekend trip already?") and husband's incidentals for that six-week course (a movie, beer, night out with the boys, a day on the golf course-you know, those diversions necessary to help him relieve the stress of being away from home). She will be expected to have enough left over after paying the bills and the emergency car repairs to "Buy something nice for yourself, honey!" (Don't we wish...)

Skill in Single Parenting. She must be willing to raise children almost single-handedly but be able to graciously relinquish some of this authority to **HE THAT VISITS ONCE IN A WHILE.**

A Soldier's Soldier (cont'd)

An Expert in the Social Graces. She'll be saying hello and goodbye time and time again to THE MAN WHO HAS HER HEART and trying not to cry each time. She'll also be saying goodbye to dear friends that she might never see again. And she'll have to be ready to take the first step in her new neighborhood to make friends.

An Independent Dependant. Even though the military considers her to be a 'dependant' (a label she strongly resents), she'll be on her own for half of most years. Bravery is a welcome ally when she's listening to the strange creaks and groans in each new home when she is trying to sleep-alone again!

Recipe for a Military Housewife

1 ½ cups of patience
 1 cup of courage
 ¾ cup tolerance
 Dash of adventure
 1 lb. ability

To the above ingredients, add 2 tablespoons elbow grease. Let set alone for 6 months. Marinate frequently with salty tears. Sprinkle ever so lightly with money. Knead dough until payday. Season with international spices. Bake for 20-25 years or until done. Serve with pride..... -author unknown

Some pictorial reminders of what it is like to be a "soldier's soldier" often left to fend for yourself while hubby is away:



Dad is always away
when it snows



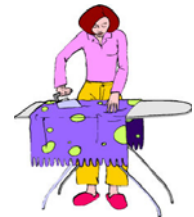
Car trouble!



Gardener



Mrs Fix-it!



Spring Cleaning



Broken toilet?



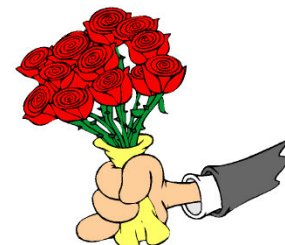
Super Mom



Housework...it never stops!



Entertain the kids



Let us remember our spouses at this time and their sacrifices for us! A huge "thank you" with hugs! Happy Holidays Honey!

Newsletter Editor
Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault

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ANAVETS

We're on the web!
www.anavets.ca

ANAVETS' WEB SITE — www.anavets.ca —

Visit us....

We continue to try to provide an informative and interesting site for ANAVETS members and potential members. To date, there has been over 11,000 hits on our web site. We have received inquiries from potential members thinking of joining ANAVETS. We send them information on how to contact the unit in their vicinity and a few, not near any of our units, have joined as Members-at-large. Other individuals, particularly from United States, England and Australia, contact us as a result of finding about on the web site to seek information about their veteran family members or to obtain information on a family member who served in the military. We do what we can to help them all.

Included in the site are news & views which contains a link to our newsletters, purpose, history, organization, membership with reasons why one should join ANAVETS, links to veteran related sites, a kitshop page complete with a listing of regalia store items and current prices, and a printable form for ordering regalia. Use it as a publicity tool by viewing it or sending potential customers to see who we are and what we are all about.

I want to continue to urge all Commands and Units to get on the net, create a web site and make maximum use of email. President Cassels has become a big user of email....so can you !

TIDBITS

Word has it from Veterans Affairs Canada that another Director-General is being added to the Public Affairs Branch which includes Canada Remembers Division on 1 Feb 04. Doug Clorey, present DG of Canada Remembers Division, will head a team, to be comprised of staff selected from the Canada Remembers Division, that will focus entirely on the Anniversary events around Normandy and Italy, including planning for the in-Canada components with the Regions, and the planning for Government of Canada events for appropriate recognition of the 2005 60th Anniversary of the end of WW II. Derek Sullivan will lead all remaining programs in Canada Remembers including Veterans Week, European Operations, Learning Initiatives, Cemetery Maintenance, Funeral and Burials, Community Engagement, & Partnership Funding.

This should help in getting things more organized and material out in a more timely fashion. The Canada Remembers Division is relatively new in VAC and there has been a resurgence in Canada of remembrance ceremonies and public interest. The small staff obviously wasn't able to keep up with the increase demands placed upon them. It will be important to be well organized and staffed properly with the 60th Anniversary of D-Day coming in 2004, the Italian Pilgrimage in the fall of 2004, followed by the huge national 60th Anniversaries of the end of WW II. Should be a busy two years ahead!

Received news that in New Brunswick starting in 2004, **11 Nov will become a paid statutory holiday.** This is an issue that our Provincial Commands could jump upon and have legislated in their province. I beseech our Provincial Commands to meet with their Provincial Premier and his Ministers and officials to promote such important issues. Take a leadership role as a representative of ANAVETS.



ANAVETS' Members meet with Governor General Clarkson at Government during Veterans' Week. Talking with the GG from Left to Right: Gerry Wharton, Jack Arseneault and Honorary Dominion President John Hardy.

See attachments for some New Year's Resolutions for Association Executives.