



# ANAVETS

Issue 2/02

Dominion Command Newsletter, Ottawa, Ontario

June 2002

**Special Points:**

- 46th Biennial Convention fast approaching
- Members should become informed of issues
- Delegates should seek their members advice on issues
- **Clothing Special Page 7**

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## ANAVETS Preparing For 46th Biennial Convention in Edmonton

Everywhere throughout the Association people are busy preparing for what promises to be an interesting, memorable and enjoyable convention in Edmonton, Alberta, 15-18 September, 2002. Here is the Dominion Command Office, Deanna and I are busy with a multitude of things on behalf of President Cassels. In Edmonton, Tom McKnight and his organizing committee are busy making all the necessary arrangements that go into hosting a large convention like ours. The parade, the transportation, the flag bases, the banquet, the printing of brochures, etc. Tom, you and your committee have the bulk of the work to do and we all wish you tremendous success.



Today's President Bob Cassels & 1st VP Noel Hillier relax at a previous convention.

The convention is a time for the delegates to renew acquaintances, make new friends and enjoy themselves. On the other hand, it is also an opportunity to conduct the business of ANAVETS and deal with some of the serious issues facing our Association. Let us not kid ourselves, we in ANAVETS are in a state of transition and have some tough issues

with which to deal. Since the convention and its delegates are the supreme ruling body of our Association, it is only appropriate that these issues be tackled at this time. Times are a changing and it is time for ANAVETS to take note. The issues will be out in the form of resolutions and agenda items for the Board. Become informed and make your views known!

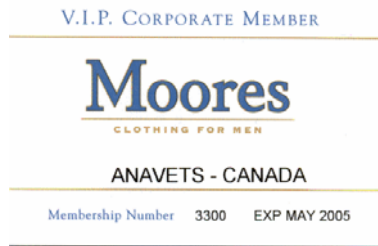
## Meeting With Minister of Veteran Affairs

President Cassels, VP Henderson and Secretary-Treasurer Arseneault of ANAVETS, along with representatives of the Legion and NCVA, met with Minister Pagtakhan and officials on 29 May 02. The meeting was very cordial and the Minister was pleased to announce progress on the issues raised by the veterans' organizations. The issues of long-term care and improved benefits for ex-

POWs are advancing as per our requests. A joint VAC-Vets committee is to make a recommendation to the Minister by end of July 2002 on the Veteran Independence Program "widows for life" issue. Adding the names of all "pensionable" military persons who died in the service of Canada to The Book of Remembrance and re-instituting the VAC Education Allowance is being considered by VAC.

# Moore's Clothing for Men - VIP Corporate Program For ANAVETS

As part of their Corporate VIP Program, members of ANAVETS are being offered special purchasing privileges at Moore's Clothing Stores across Canada for the next three years. Simply present your VIP card to any sales person at any Moore's store and you will automatically receive 10 % of your purchases. The discount applies to all family members when your card is presented.



information.

There are enough cards for each member, including the Ladies Auxiliary, and they are being mailed to each unit and command. Some spare cards for new members will be forwarded to Provincial Command Offices. Units needing additional cards are to request them from their Command Offices.

See Moore's attachment to this newsletter for more

You can speak to someone at a Moore's store nearest you by calling 1-877-666-7376.

## Membership — ANAVETS # 1 Priority

Since the fall of 2001, membership has been ANAVETS number one priority. Executives and members at all levels have been taking action to improve our membership numbers. We know that there is nothing we can do to stop aging and that inevitably many of our elders will join their brethren in Heaven Unit # 1 . Therefore, it is obvious that our future lies with Canada's younger folks and getting them to join our Association.

ANAVETS is a state of transition and how we handle the transition could mean a re-birth or the demise of our Association. There are some tough choices ahead if we are to walk that fine line between maintaining traditions and becoming a more progressive organization that will appeal to today's and tomorrow's youth. Let us not assume like the executives of Eaton's obviously did and think that there is no need to adapt to the changes going on about us. We do not have a monopoly and the younger generation has other veteran associations to join if we do not meet their needs. This topic will be an important issue at our convention in September. Permit me to play "devil's advocate" by asking you some tough questions that might help in generating some discussion on this matter which is vital to our survival. In so doing, I am trying to illustrate what many of you out there believe may be "barriers" to our membership growth.

Do you think first year members are treated as special in your Unit (s)? Or, are they not allowed to attend general meetings and have a voice? When associate members ask questions, particularly on finances, are they told it is none of their business?

Are all members, but particularly new members, made to feel like the executives at all levels welcome their

opinions or do they feel like there is a dictatorial leaning amongst his/her leaders.

Do you believe we have too many categories of membership and are not following the principle that all members are equal with equal rights and privileges? Do we expect new members to volunteer their services and time for our units, pay their dues like all members, but not be recognized as an equal member by giving him a voice, vote, and vacant seat at the decision-making table?

*Paying special attention to  
first year members can  
convert them into productive  
lifetime members*

Are females, who make up over 50% of Canada's population, welcome in your unit as equal comrades and permitted to join in the decision-making process? Or are they forced to remain as "helpers" for the men? Should we give them a choice?

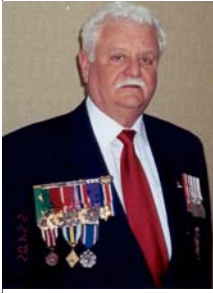
Does your unit permit dual membership?

In trying to improve membership recruiting and retention, does your unit project an image of offering rewarding and challenging opportunities in support of veteran's issues, the community, as well as offering the benefits of warm comradeship and social activity? Or at the other end of the scale, does your unit simply project an image of just a cheap "watering hole"?

Do you believe that ANAVETS is an open and honest "National" Association that above all works together to promote and protect the well-being of veteran and their dependents? Do we work as one or a grouping of Provincial fiefdoms under the ANAVETS banner?

See attached **Membership survey** from the Dominion Membership Committee Chairperson, Noel Hillier.  
**Units are to respond no later than 15 July, 2002.**

## President's Message



I would like to start by saying hello to all members across this great country of Canada!

On a sad note, it is with deep regret that I pass on to you that we have recently lost three long-time members of this association; Frank Farley from British Columbia, George Tremblay from Quebec, and Ed Parsley from Saskatchewan. I know all of you feel

the loss of these three gentlemen who have served this association with such dedication and distinction.

In the last mail-out, all of the membership chairmen from each Provincial Command were asked to reply to the surveys sent out to them on the subject of membership. It is sad to say that we heard from only one province. Where are the responses from the other Commands? Let us not forget that we are the people who need to pursue the interests within this Association; so let us all do our best to work on building our member-

ship!

Since the last mail-out we have held two meetings with Veterans Affairs regarding outstanding issues and the responses when received will be forwarded on to all of the Provincial Commands.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Biennial Dominion Convention.

The best of health to all!

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### Flags For Veteran's Funeral Service

Canadian flags (3'x6') are available for families arranging a veteran's funeral service and can be presented to the family as a keepsake. The Govt is unable to provide the recommended size (4'1/2x9') for draping the casket. However, upon receipt of a request, the Govt of Canada will make every effort to provide a flag (3'x6') in time for the service. Requests should be directed to: Celebrate Canada, Commemoration and Canadian Symbols Promotion Program, Canadian Identity Program, Canadian Heritage Department, 15 Eddy Street, 7th Floor, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0M5, telephone: (819) 953-4735; fax: (819) 997-8777.

## NEW ANAVETS' WEB SITE — [www.anavets.ca](http://www.anavets.ca) — Visit us....

Command Office staff are trying to provide an informative and interesting site for ANAVETS members and potential members. While not professional web masters, we have tried to make it reflect our traditions and member's composition. In colours, you will note the dark navy blue for our naval members, the light brown of our Army comrades and light blue for our Air Force. So far, there has been some interest shown as over 5500 people have visited the site at the time of writing this article. Include in the site are news & views which contains a link to our newsletters,

*Remember....doing business  
without advertising is like winking at  
a girl in the dark. You know what  
you are doing, but no one does!*

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. We would like to congratulate Units # 3, 95, 217, 283, 303, 308, 365 for their excellent web sites and in particular #283, Winnipeg for winning a golden award for web design. Does your Unit have one? If so, please let us know. If not, why not?

## 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.

There is a great article from Barrie, ON about Neil “Gaffer” McKinnon, one of our true heroes. There is superb news from Grand Prairie, AB, about the wonderful charity donations they have made in their community.

Congratulations to President Brian Phoenix of Unit # 306 (Owl) in Ontario. He was awarded the Canadian Coast Guard Exemplary Service Medal in a recent ceremony in Aylmer, Quebec.

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 to be so recognized.

## In Memoriam



WE SHALL  
NOT FORGET

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

### Frank Farley ( 3 April 2002)

- Past Dominion President from B.C.

### George Tremblay (22 May 2002)

- Past Dominion VP from Quebec

### Ed Parsley (26 May 2002)

— Serving Dominion VP from Saskatchewan

( See attachments for details)



Let us all support the families, pay respect to and never forget the sacrifices of those members of the PPCLI who lost their lives in an unfortunate accident in Afghanistan in April: Sgt Marc Leger, Cpl Ainsworth Dyer, Pte Richard Green, and Pte Nathan Smith.

### Chinese Vets Mourn The Passing of Doug Jong

Doug Jong, a Canadian War Veteran, first Chinese Canadian lawyer and first Chinese Canadian Member of Parliament, passed away 4 January, 2002. In the attachments, there is a reprint of a speech he gave in 1987 at the 40th Reunion Anniversary of ANAVETS' Unit # 280 which is still relevant today.



### Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal

We have been informed that the whole process of awarding this medal has been delayed. We expect to receive a letter in late June which will give us the ANAVETS' allocation. Once we receive the allocation, we will be required to fill out forms with the names of nominees and forward them to the Chancellery of Honours and Awards at the Governor General's House. After a review and verification process, the medals will be forwarded to the Dominion Command Office for distribution for appropriate presentations. Given the size of our Association, we should not expect to receive more than a 100 medals. The criteria for selection is up to the Board of Directors.



Pictured above is LA President S. Parker presenting a \$1000 cheque to Unit # 284 President Ian Parker for the use of the Unit. Another example of making a difference.



Provincial President Ron Smith (above right) of Manitoba & NW Ontario presents a peacekeeping medal to Comrade George Jarvis at Unit # 303.



Dominion VP John Thompson (above right) also presents a Peacekeeping medal to Comrade Robert Pigeau.

## Tuesday, 9 April 2002—A Busy Day !

This was a very busy day in the life of our President Bob Cassels as he was asked to be at three places at the same time. He was programmed to attend the VAC/CF Advisory Council on behalf of ANAVETS. This he did. He was also requested to attend the activities commemorating the 85th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. He was able to attend the wreath laying ceremonies at the National War Memorial along with Smokey Smith, Canada's only surviving Victoria Cross winner and First World War veteran Paul Metivier. After laying a wreath, Bob then had to move quickly to attend the memorial church services for the Queen Mother on our behalf.

### Bravo Zulu Comrade President !

Unable to be in two places at the same time, the Dominion Secretary-Treasurer pinch-hit for him at the ceremonies at the Chateau Laurier Hotel as Mr Metivier, at age 102, was awarded the inaugural Minister of Veteran Affairs Commendation by VAC Minister Pagtakhan.

You should be aware that President Cassels expressed the condolences of the Association in a letter to Queen Elizabeth II on the passing of her mum, the Queen Mother.

## Minister of VAC 's Commendation

While the first commendation was given out in the ceremony referred to in the story above, the remainder will be resented during Veteran's Week 2002. There has been no word yet from VAC as to who the winners are. There is to be only 12 given out for this year across Canada.

## New Canadian War Museum

On 25 May, 2002, as the ANAVETS representative on the Canadian War Museum (CWM) Committee, I attended a very interesting joint meeting of that committee and the CWM Advisory Council. The final three design concept for the new museum were reviewed and voted upon. The opinions of the attendees were similar to the results received via e-mail from Canadian across the country. Number two was out, and designs one & three were favoured equally. While all attendees were happy that Canada is about to get a new museum with much more space than the old one, the feeling was that the architects had not designed what we were looking for completely. The Board of Trustees, having the final say, agreed, and the architects have been sent back to

the drawing board. The revised design is expected at the end of June.

You can take a look at the designs and associated information at [www.warmuseum.ca](http://www.warmuseum.ca). If you would like to pass on your comments to me, I will be happy to pass them on at the next meeting.

The federal government is investing \$83.75 million in the project. The Canadian Museum of Civilization is contributing \$7 million, and \$15 million will be raised through the Passing the Torch fundraising campaign, under the auspices of the Friends of the Canadian War Museum. To date, \$12.5 million has been received through the Passing of the Torch campaign. ANAVETS contributed in excess of \$6,000. The goal is \$15 million and we are nearly there. If you can spare, please donate. This is going to be the veteran's most important memorial for the next hundred years. It's mission is to remember, to preserve, and to educate. It will help all Canadians and visitors to understand Canada's military history in its personal, national, and international dimensions.

The \$105.75 million museum is going to be situated close to the centre of Ottawa just down the road from the Parliament Hill. The interior will be huge and will be divided into eight galleries or zones.

**Zone I** - Pre-Contact to Permanent European Settlement up to 1600

**Zone II** — Wars For Empire, c1600 to 1774

**Zone III**— Wars for Canada, 1774 to 1885

**Zone IV**— Costly Road to Autonomy, 1931 to 1946

**Zone V**— A Nation Forged in Fire, 1931 to 1946

**Zone VI**— Cold War Hot Peace, 1946 to 1993

**Zone VII**— The Challenge of Uncertainty, 1993 to Present

**Zone VIII**— The Royal Canadian Legion of Honour  
Note: I have been informed that Zone VIII is so named because the Legion were the first to donate and that they donated \$500,000.

## Juno Beach Centre

The Government of Canada announced on 30 May that it will contribute \$1 million to the Juno Beach Centre Association to assist in the establishment of the Juno Beach Centre in Normandy, France. This is a project of a group of Second World War veterans who participated in the D-Day landings on 6 June, 1944. See attachments for more information.

## Some ponderings:

At our convention, ANAVET delegates are expected to elect a President who can lead us through a very crucial period in our existence. Such a situation reminds me of that old question: "Who ought to be President?" Isn't it like asking, "who ought to be tenor in the quartet?" Obviously, the man who can sing tenor.

### Who can lead us to success?

If you want to succeed you should strike out on new paths rather than travel the worn paths of the past.

A big organization is more or less blamed for being big; it is only big because it gives service. If it doesn't give service, it gets small faster than it grew big.



The best executive is the one who has enough sense to pick good men to do what he wants done, and self-restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it.

In life, the competition will bite you if you keep running; if you stand still, they will swallow you!

Wanting to work is so rare a want that it should be encouraged, especially if it is a new member.

**You can't sit on the lid of progress. If you do, you will be blown to pieces.**

Opportunities are often disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them

## For Some Great Belly Laughs, See Kanadean Farces Awards Attached

### People of The Netherlands Remember Canadian Liberators

On 11 May, 2002, Princess Margriet of the Netherlands unveiled a replica of "*The Man With Two Hats*", a monument donated to Canada by the people of the Netherlands. The original monument was unveiled in Apeldoorn, the Netherlands, on 2 May, 2000. To mark the 55th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands and to serve as a lasting reminder of the role of Canadians in securing that freedom. The statute, is made of bronze and measures 4.6 meters. It symbolizes the historic bonds between Canada and the Netherlands that has endured almost 60 years.

Veterans and Canadian and Dutch youth participated in the ceremony, along with the RCMP and the Canadian Forces Honour Guard and Band. The ceremony was part of the 50th Tulip Festival, and was followed by the christening of a special tulip, the Canadian Liberator, dedicated to Canadian veterans.



Dominion Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault represented ANAVETS and passed on the Association's greetings to Princess Margriet.

On the left: "The Man With Two Hats" statue at Dow's Lake.

On the right: Princess Margriet christened the new tulip, The Liberator, with champagne.



## Attention, Stand-at-ease, Stand easy.....Now Pay Attention!

Comrades of ANAVETS....the next generation of veterans who are still serving need your help.

You will be aware of the fact that on Thursday, 30 May 2002, the House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence and Veteran's Affairs (SCONDVA) tabled its eagerly-awaited report on the operational readiness of the Canadian Forces. Entitled "Facing Our Responsibilities - The state of readiness of the Canadian Forces", the report makes twenty-five (25) recommendations with every single one of which is supportable by ANAVETS. To read the report go to [www.cda-cdai.ca](http://www.cda-cdai.ca) then click "current topics".

The need for the Government to conduct a comprehensive defence review, linked with a foreign and industrial policy review, with parliamentary and public input, is of critical and pressing importance. Given the current state of readiness of the Canadian Forces, however, an even greater need exists for the Government to immediately increase the defence budget by a minimum of \$1 billion to prevent operational readiness

from falling further below minimum acceptable levels.

What can you do? Your active support would be greatly appreciated. I urge you, in the weeks and months ahead, to contact the Prime Minister and your Members of Parliament and ask them to actively support the SCONDVA report and call for Government action to remedy what can only be termed an unacceptable state of affairs in our Canadian Forces.

Please put pen to paper and write to your local MP and while you are at it, why not encourage pro-defence friends to follow your example. See a copy of the letter submitted to every senator and MP by LGEN (ret'd) Chair of the Canadian Defence Association in the attachments.

For e-mailing your MP, follow the following procedure: type in name.initial followed by @parl.gc.ca, for example if David Pratt was your MP you would type: [pratt.d@parl.gc.ca](mailto:pratt.d@parl.gc.ca).

## Aero Mode Promotion - ANAVETS' Preferred Clothing Supplier

Our preferred clothing supplier has agreed to a "Baker's Dozen" special promotion for all ANAVETS units **for the three months of July-September only. So get your orders in early!** After that, no freebies, but you will still be able to order the jacket & sweater.

The jacket is a coach windbreaker black nylon with the crest of "Army, Navy & Air Force" embroidered in a half circle over the unit number can be seen. Price is \$31.00 and there are no oversize charges. Buy 12, get one free!

The sweater is a "V" neck black and made of Piltro. Price is \$33.00 and again, there are no oversize charges. Buy 12, get one free! The order form is available in the attachments. This is an excellent opportunity to obtain quality clothing at a very good price and at the same time advertise your membership and unit.



**Baker's Dozen**  
**Buy 12 ...**  
**Get One Free !**



Newsletter Editor  
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**ANAVETS**



## WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK

The Dominion Staff needs **your** help ! Four times a year we try to publish a newsletter that would be of interest to the members of the Association. Because we have not received any feedback, we are not sure if we are meeting our goal. Unlike a commercial newspaper who can judge their effectiveness in meeting their readers needs by the number of newspapers sold, we at the Dominion Office must rely on feedback from our readers. It takes a great deal of time and considerable expense (paid by your PCT contributions) to publish this newsletter. We have heard rumours that in some units, the newsletter is not passed around or put out where people can read it. We have been told by one person (only feedback) that we would be lucky if six people in a unit reads it. Should this be the case nationally, we should maybe consider either cancelling the newsletter altogether or at least reducing the number published per year.

**Your** feedback in any form is requested. Let us know how **you** feel !

## 26 Americans Inducted Into ANAVICUS

President Bob Cassels and Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault travelled to Washington, D.C. for the American Legion's Washington Conference held 11-13 March, 2002. We were met by long time ANAVETS friends Mr James & Stella Valentine from Indiana. Besides being our friend, Mr Valentine was Col Frank Kossa's best friend. Jim is also a Trustee of our Frank Kossa Trust Fund which each year awards a \$1000 Cdn bursary to a deserving student at Royal Military College.

In a breakfast ceremony on 11 March, President Judge Foley of Minnesota assisted President Cassels in inducting 26 new members into ANAVICUS. In August, they will be inducting another 75 new members in North Carolina.

For those of you unfamiliar with ANAVICUS, it stands for Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada— United States. Our close association with the American Legion goes back to 1948 when ANAVETS President at that time, Jack Wickens, was invited to

their convention in Miami. The Americans most responsible for bringing us together was General Frank Schwengel and Past National Chaplain Reverend Father Frank Harrington. "Shoulder to Shoulder" relationships developed and quickly assumed important portions. Each year a selected group of American Legionnaires receive an ANAVETS Honorary Life Membership and it is considered a very prestige award. John F. Kennedy and former President George Bush have been inducted into ANAVICUS. To date, over 800 members have been so inducted.

Each biennial convention, selected members of ANAVETS receive the coveted American Friendship Award.

These awards mean so much to the recipients because of our nation's shared history and camaraderie, in the wars our veterans fought side by side to protect the freedoms we enjoy today.

Today in Afghanistan, we again stand "Shoulder to Shoulder" with our American allies.