



ANAVETS

Issue 1/06

Dominion Command Newsletter, Ottawa, Ontario

June 2006

Special Points:

- Launch New Veterans Charter
- Our new Patron
- 21 Units increase membership

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

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PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40007186
 RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO ANAVETS
 6 BEECHWOOD AVENUE, SUITE #2
 OTTAWA, ONT K1L 8B4

April 6, 2006 Launch of New Veterans Charter

Speech by Veterans Affairs Minister Gregory Thompson.

Our Prime Minister's visit with us today is as important to our Veterans as was his recent visit to Afghanistan in support of our troops.

All Canadians have been sobered by the recent events in Afghanistan and around the world that are putting our servicemen and women in harm's way.

For our brave Canadian Forces members, the transition from military to civilian life is never easy. And when you are in a high risk area like Afghanistan, the transition can occur unexpectedly under conditions that most of us cannot begin to understand.

A healthy young soldier's life can be turned upside down by enemy fire at anytime. And not only can the life of a soldier be turned upside down, so can the life of a loving family back home.

Canada deploys troops around the world in the defence of values we all share as Canadians. Increasingly these deployments have become more dangerous and more demand-

ing.

And when our young men and women commit themselves to a mission, they commit themselves 100 percent. Canadian Forces members are the best in the world. ~Cont **Minister P.6**

"A young CF member has to feel assured that they and their families will be taken care of. And this is the reason we are here today on Parliament Hill to launch the New Veterans Charter."

~ Minister Gregory Thompson

full speech cont on page 6



Launch of New Veterans Charter -

6 April, 2006



The Honourable Gregory Thompson with VAC personnel and representatives from the 6 participating Veteran's organizations.

VAC Photo

RIDEAU HALL

January 5, 2006

Dear Mr. Henderson:

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean has asked me to inform you that she is very pleased to **accept the invitation to become Patron of the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada.**

Listed below is the correct reference to the Governor General in this capacity, a mention which should take precedence over the names of any other patrons, with the sole exception of Her Majesty The Queen:

Patron: Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D.
Governor General of Canada

...

Her Excellency would like me to convey her very best wishes for the continuing success of the *Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada*, as well as to thank you for extending the invitation to serve as Patron.

Yours sincerely,



Rosemary Doyle-Morier
Advisor, Protocol and Special Programs



ANAVETS' annual '*Friends of the Veteran*' reception

President Kenneth Henderson, Vice-President George Beaulieu and his wife Eleanor, Secretary-Treasurer Lorne McCartney, and Administrative Assistant Deanna Fimrite, hosted 50 members of the veterans' community and government at the Army Officers' Mess on 8 March, 2006. This year we anointed our event "The ANAVETS annual *Friends of the Veteran* reception". The purpose of the event is our way of kick-starting the new year with an informal mingling of like minded people representing Veterans, cadets and related government and affiliate organizations. This also provides a forum to allow us to thank the veterans' community for their support throughout the year. Among those present was the new Minister of Veteran Affairs, the Honourable Gregory Thompson, Senators Meighan and Atkins. Representatives attended from other veteran groups such as The Canadian Peacekeeping Association, The Air Force Association, The Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping, The Korea Veterans Association, all of the Cadet Leagues, Veterans Affairs Canada, the Canadian War Museum and many others. This year was a huge success.

Below, L to R, Legion Dominion Secretary Duane Daly, Senator Meighan, and President Henderson thanking Veterans Affairs Minister Gregory Thompson for a wonderful and supportive speech. Also captured by our fine photographer Deanna Fimrite is the rear view of Les Peate, President of KVA.



President's Message

Comrades,

I want you all to know how proud I am at being president of this fine organization. We are very fortunate for a number of reasons:



- First of all we have a Unit where we can meet and enjoy the company of comrades and friends in a relaxing environment.

There is nothing more stimulating and healthful than interacting with others;

- Then add to this the good works that our organization does to help improve our local communities; and

- The third aspect of being a member is that you help support the Veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces past and present who have dedicated their careers to the service of Canada. In my trips overseas representing ANAVETS during this significant year where Canada recognized 2005 as the year of the Veteran, wherever we travelled, in Holland, Belgium, Italy and France, we were met with respect and appreciation for our good deeds. The Canadian military made Canada a nation, and one that continues to be respected the world over.

Just recently Lorne and I participated in events launching Bill C 45, *the New Veterans Charter*. ANAVETS was instrumental in the process, and this Bill is an excellent piece of legislation that we should all be very proud of. This process began about 6 years ago with our then President Bob Cassels, who participated as a member of the *Canadian Armed Forces Advisory Council*. We have kept you all apprised on the progress of this project, and will continue to do so.

President's Message Cont Page 5

Comrade Gerry Wharton appointed as ANAVETS' Honorary President



Gerry has a serious background in many aspects relating to this position. Here is a small excerpt from his bio: "He retired from the military in 1984 with 32 years service and joined the Department of Public Works Canada as the Manager of Ceremonial and Protocol Services. In this capacity he was the Federal Government's expert on flag protocol. He also provided material ceremonial support for all official functions such as Canada Day, Remembrance Day, all official visits and state funerals. He was a member of the interdepartmental committee for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and was responsible for the design of the tomb. He was made a Member of the Royal Victorian Order by Her Majesty the Queen at a ceremony at Buckingham Palace in October 1995. The citation read; "For service to the Crown in Canada." He retired from the Public Service in 2002 having served Queen and Country for 50 years".

It is therefore not surprising that he is representing us on the *Vimy Monument Restoration Committee*, volunteered to put together a more consistent version of our "Manual of Dress, Ritual and Ceremonial", represents us on the *Monument Restoration Committee* for Canadian monuments in Canada and participates on numerous other occasions where we can wave our proverbial flag.

In Memoriam



WE SHALL NOT FORGET

Ernest A. (Smokey) Smith, VC

(3 August 2005)
Association Honorary Life Member
Last Surviving Canadian VC holder

Ted Crawford (12 May 2006)

Association Life Member
Member, S. Vancouver Unit #26

Carol Barbor (June 2005)

Member Steveston Unit #284

Brian Voiels (2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Richard "Bert" Weston (July 2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Ken Nelson (July 2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Harold Caron (2005)

Member, Rockwood Unit #303

Judy Hunt (2005)

Member, Rockwood Unit #303

Norman Steeves (2005)

Member Rockwood Unit #303

Sharon Elizabeth Nicol (25 June 2005)

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Leslie Thomas Brown (18 August 2004)

Royal Winnipeg Rifles 1943-1945
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Jack Mitchell (August 2005)

Member Steveston Unit #284

Geri Saunders (September 2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Sheila Mollett (2006)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Audrey Howarth (2006)

Member E. Vancouver Unit #68LA

Dorothy Brown (2006)

Member E. Vancouver Unit #68

Peter Sykes (March 2006)

Member E. Vancouver Unit #68

Roy Laird Murphy (24 February 2006)

Royal Winnipeg Rifles July 1944-August 1946;
Queens Own Cameron Highlanders Pipe Band
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Blodwen Meirion "Bobbie" Thomson

(7 December 2005)

Association Life Member

Member, Alexander of Tunis Unit #2

Iva Calvert (25 August 2005)

Wife of BC Prov. Vice President, Bill Calvert

Beverly Joan Sylvestre (5 October 2005)

Army Reserve 1952-1954;
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Earl Hiscox (14 October 2005)

R.C.A.F. 1940-1945:

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Joseph Wm John Burton (31 January 2006)

Royal British Engineers 1942-1947; Canadian Army
Reserves 1965-1968

Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

Jim Baxter (February 2006)

Member, Lethbridge Unit #34

Leslie W. Garen (2 November 2005)

RCASC, WWII, Korea, Congo, UNEF Lebanon
Member-at-Large, ANAVETS

Dennis Tilley (21 October 2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Pearce Williams (October 2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Herb Good (2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Richard Clouthier (2005)

Member, Steveston Unit #284

Austin (Ozzie) Ross (April 2006)

Member, Sidney Unit #302

Marry Leather (April 2006)

Member, Sidney Unit #302

William (Billy) Brown (April 2006)

Member, Sidney Unit #302

Dominion Vice President, John Thompson at the dedication of the Columbarium from the Last Post Fund at the Brookside Cemetery in Winnipeg.



President's Message *cont from P 3*

Over the last year and a half, we were one of 6 Veterans' organizations that provided input first in one-on-one sessions with Veterans Affairs (VAC) personnel, then as part of a number of multi-lateral meetings where all Veterans organizations met with VAC. The credibility of the process was as a result of separate veterans groups, with an arms length relationship with VAC providing input and oversight. The result was a superb piece of legislation that we can all be very proud of. I have included a copy of the letter that we sent to "Canada Gazette" commenting on the process that will amplify the roll that we played.

The other important aspect of this legislation, and the continuing role that we play, is that ANAVETS are now part of a committee that will meet and review the implementation and interpretation of the regulations with senior government officials on a continuing basis. This should be of particular importance to our service officers who now will have further representation to help solve problems associated with our Veterans.

So again I say you should all be very proud to be supporting this fine organization in its good works.

***New Veterans Charter:
ROLL PLAYED by Vets Orgs.
Why we counted!***

A letter from our President-

19 January 2006

Attention: Dan Fenety, Veterans Affairs Canada

Re: Canada Gazette- Comments on New Veterans Legislation by the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

Dear Mr. Fenety,

I am writing to you because I feel that it is important to have comments from a group (one of six separate and distinct Veteran's groups) that was part of, and integral to the evolution to the New Veterans Charter from the very beginning. To add credibility to our comments, our constitution mandates us to represent and support the best interests of the Veteran and therefore to operate at arms length with Veterans Affairs Canada. I should add as well, that although the combined Veteran membership of the 6 Veteran's organizations doesn't have 100 % of Canadian Veterans as members, we believe that the hundreds of thousands that we do have provides an accurate representation of the concerns of Veterans in general.

The Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada believe that this new Veterans Charter is an excellent piece of legislation which will serve our Veterans well now, and into the foreseeable future.

We, along with the 5 other Veterans organizations were involved in:

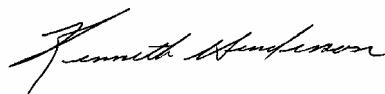
- The initial consultations, as well as the wording of the Bill. Points that were raised were listened to and the reason for any particular wording was explained and in many cases the explanations would ease our concerns. If we still didn't agree, the intent of the wording was frequently adjusted to better support the Veteran. And yes, sometimes we had to proceed with the recommended wording, but the reasons given were valid and understandable given the situation. All Veteran's groups supported the legislation and agreed that it was in the best interest of the Veteran to move it forward as it was written, and at the time we did. This is not to say that we agreed that the legislation was perfect; but since we had to allow the Bill to move forward, we agreed to address further improvements later. Indeed, improving the Bill will be an ongoing process as you will soon see.

- The next phase (July through October), VAC met with all Veterans groups to interpret the legal wording of the act, and to spell out how the services would be delivered to the Veterans. This process worked extremely well, and we were very satisfied that VAC was working on the side of the Veteran in providing a positive interpretation for service delivery; and

- During a summation review meeting in December, senior VAC personnel and the 6 Veteran's Organizations agreed that we would continue to meet monthly during the implementation phase to ensure that the roll-out of the program was in accordance with the intent of our meetings, and was to the benefit of the Veteran. Furthermore, it was agreed, from a process point of view and for simplicity of understanding the interpretations of the New Veteran's Legislation that case examples would be created for use nationally, so that all regions of VAC would interpret the legislation in the same way. This use of case examples would provide 3 other major benefits. First, it makes the job of learning the legislation by VAC employees easier; second it makes it easier for Veterans to understand the legislation and how it is being interpreted; and lastly and most importantly should the need arise to adjust interpretations of the act, then the cases would be changed to reflect these needed amendments thus making the process a "living New Veterans Charter".

As you can see, we believe that this has been an excellent example of cooperation in the development of a significant piece of government legislation. We believe that we represented the Veteran well, and also that Veterans Affairs Canada is clearly focused on providing excellent support to our Veterans. Our goal is to continue to provide oversight on the process, and to help ensure that our Veterans receive the best support possible from our government.

Yours sincerely,



Kenneth Henderson,
Dominion President

Minister's Speech Cont from Page 1

When things go wrong, and sadly when tragedy strikes and a soldier makes the ultimate sacrifice for their country, we have to be there for the loved ones they left behind. We have to be as committed to their families as they were to our country.

A young CF member has to feel assured that they and their families will be taken care of. And this is the reason we are here today on Parliament Hill to launch the New Veterans Charter.

The New Charter represents a new chapter in Canada's long-standing commitment to take care of those who take care of us at home and around the world.

The New Charter continues to receive all party support in Parliament both in the House of Commons and in the Senate.

Just as important as their support, is the unwavering support we have received from Canada's six major Veterans' organizations, our CF members and their families.

We support this Charter for one important reason – it will address the needs of our CF members as they make the transition from military to civilian life.

Yesterday, I met with one of Canada's most recognized soldiers. He has personally experienced the horrors of war and knows the effect war can have on our brave men and women.

He explained that the New Veterans Charter is a bridge – a bridge from military to civilian life. He explained that the bridge needs to be carefully constructed – and he believes this one is – and that it needs to support not only our CF Veterans but their families as well.

This is the same level of encouragement I have continued to receive from our Veterans' organizations and CF members. They are encouraged by these benefits. They have every confidence in the New Charter. It is what they need.

The New Veterans Charter is the most profound transformation of Veterans' services and benefits since the end of the Second World War. When I look around the room here, I see a mix of true Canadian heroes. To the men and women here today who served our country in the Second World War and Korea, we are honoured to be in your presence.

What comforts me is that you are the men and women who identified the need for change in the Old Charter. You knew, as we did, that it was not going to be able to meet the needs of the next generation of heroes here today – our Canadian Veterans of the future.

I must give credit where credit is due, so I thank you for helping us create the New Charter. The New Veterans Charter has been tailor-made to offer flexibility in the services that CF members and Veterans have said are most important to them.

For example, to ensure that their families will be cared for if tragedy strikes, the New Charter provides:

the tax-free, lump-sum death benefit of \$250,000. As a former investment planner, I can say, this amount is an excellent start toward an independent future.

It also provides monthly income support through the Earnings Loss program of 75% of the Veteran's military salary, regard-

less of any other income they may earn,

And at age 65, they would receive the lump-sum Supplementary Retirement benefit

And, if needed, the monthly Canadian Forces Income Support.

It also offers a suite of wellness programs. And no dollar amount can truly reflect the significant value of these programs in the lives of our CF veterans and their families. The New Charter provides opportunity with security.

And, the first step to opportunity is rehabilitation that focuses on getting well and staying well.

The next step to opportunity is a new career. For those CF Veterans who are able to re-enter the workforce, the New Veterans Charter offers them practical help to find a civilian job.

It also provides access to health care coverage at an affordable cost.

The network of support we can now provide through the New Charter is one of the best in the world.

Today's new Veterans release from the Forces at an average age of 36. What they want and need is to obtain civilian employment, the capacity to support their growing families and to be able to contribute to society and realize their full potential given the leadership skills they learned in the military.

We will do our very best for them and we will never give up.

Former Ministers, Parliamentarians and members of the Crown all told me if there is one thing you can do as Minister of Veterans Affairs, it is to pay attention to CF members with special needs.

It is very difficult to achieve perfection in politics and in legislation. This is just the start. It is a living document. It is an open Charter.

We are totally committed to improving this as required. It is a foundation that can be built upon as needed. The book is never closed.

I would like to thank our Veterans' organization, CF members, Veterans and their families, for being here today.

It bears repeating, at home and abroad you embody the very best of what Canada stands for. You make Canada proud. You make me proud" **Minister Gregory Thompson**

Prior to the speech, LGen (ret) Romeo Dallaire (Senator), a big supporter of Veterans, joins us (L to R), Past President



GWVA Bob McKinnon, our Ken Henderson, President CPVA Dave Munro, yours truly, and Senator Dallaire.

Membership Chair Newsletter Report

Comrade President, Comrades all:

On September 22-24, 2005 the Dominion held its Board of directors meeting in Winnipeg. All eight Dominion officers and seven Provincial Presidents attended.

Our meeting was an intense two-day agenda covering many topics important to our Association. We looked at Membership, Finance, Strategic Long Term Planning, Publicity, Training and Education. All of these discussions along with the results or recommendations should be in the hands of the Provincial Commands, and units. We must appreciate the fact that our Dominion Secretary and his Assistant are enormously busy and have done a fine job providing these minutes in reasonable time.

The Provincial Commands now being on line and accessible via E-mail has made communications very cost effective and easier than snail mail and fax. In fact having our Units on line is also of great benefit.

However communication amongst the board members and Provincial appointed members need to be strengthened. Many reports that Dominion Board members do for their portfolios require feedback from these appointed members.

Comrades it is no secret that our membership along with the other veterans' organizations is in decline. Many things account for this, and we are all certainly aware of them. It is interesting to note, however, that of our 70 units, 21 of them actually increased membership. So yes we can do it. Our mandate of supporting our Veterans and their families, our community, and our Armed Forces require that we remain strong so that we have a role to play in improving our country.

In order to do this our Association must stay alive. As we all know, without a Dominion Command we would not have a Constitution and without a Constitution the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada would cease to exist along with the influence that we have in Ottawa.

At the Edmonton convention both Comrade Cassels and I struck on the same theme. If every member brought just one new member into the club our membership would double. Also the first step in improving our membership is to keep the members that we have, who are lost (frequently within the first 2 or 3 years) because we are not meeting their

Membership Continued on next page 9

The following **21 units** increased their membership in 2005.

Congratulations and well done to all of you. You're obviously working hard at your membership and it is paying off! Take a bow! :)



Unit Name & Number	City, Command
Vernon Unit #5	Vernon, BC
Penticton Unit #97	Penticton, BC
Pacific Unit #280	Vancouver, BC
Magog Unit #203	Magog, QC
Montreal East Unit #308	Montreal, QC
Strathcona Unit #99	Sherwood Park, AB
Saskatoon Unit #38	Saskatoon, SK
Assiniboia Unit #283	Winnipeg, MB & NW Ont.
Fort William Unit #257	Thunder Bay, MB & NW Ont.
Kitchener Unit #247	Kitchener, ON
Simcoe Unit #255	Simcoe, ON
Lakeview Unit #262	Mississauga, ON
2/10th Dragoons Unit #341	Brantford, ON
Cornwall Unit #342	Cornwall, ON
Lambeth Unit #345	London, ON
Martello Unit #377	Kingston, ON
Madawaska Valley Unit #378	Maynooth, ON
York # 383	Toronto, ON
London # 393	London, ON
Orillia, Unit #400	Orillia, ON
Glance Bay, Unit #246	Glance Bay, NS

Units in **Bold** were on last years list as well. **DOUBLE CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU**

We hope to see the name of YOUR Unit on this list next year, so get involved and see what you can do to increase awareness and membership in your community. Remember that many hands make light work.

*"In summary then, if members enjoy their units then they will stay and invite their friends along to enjoy this wonderful organization. Let's communicate more and use these new technologies to share our ideas with each other and to our commands so that government will know that we are here and what we stand for. **ANAVETS is doing great things for our Veterans, their families, our local communities, our military, and our great country. Lets all work together to achieve this**"...*

~Bob Mooney, Membership Chairman

ANAVETS CADET MEDAL OF MERIT 2005 RECIPIENTS

Cadet Names

Brent Prager	302 RCSCC Endurance
Christopher Rudnicki	40 RCSCC Falkland
Leona Qualtrough	244 RCSCC Harwood
Colin Furlong	166 RCSCC Fort Townsend
Kendell Arthur	37 RCSCC Courageous
Justin Smrz	105 RCSCC Lonsdale
Antoine Ribidoux	247 RCSCC Le Timoniers de Valcourt
Philippe Clement	1573 RCACC Bassin de la Lievre
Aaron Cliché	2833 RCACC Oxford
Tyler Carruthers	88 RCACC Hasty Pees
Sean Catterall	570 RCACS Sir Winston Churchill
Katrina Mosley	154 RCSCC Amherst Anson
Brian Clarke	774 RCACS St. Anthony
Robert Coghlan	856 RCACS Pickering Kinsmen
Joyce Ip	
Alexander Sung	142 RCACC St. Andrews
Martin DeSouza	748 RCACC Markham
Antonio Mastrotucci	9 RCACC London
Alex Urquhart	2814 RCACC Hamilton
Natasha Jackson	24 RCACS Red Deer
Pascale Cannon	629 RCACS Quebec
Larissa Marleau	12 RCACS Sherwood Park
Julia Kavuma	283 RCACS Woodbridge
Justin Hawkshaw	286 RCACS Cambridge
Kent Miles	22 RCSCC Undaunted
Peter Xing	2472 RCACC Vancouver
Veronique Corbin	3006 RCACC Dieppe
Dion Gibbons	2863 RCACC Dunne Memorial
Rebecca Gibbs	2501 RCACC Halifax Artillery
Steven Brett	2688 RCACC Bridgewater
Laura Shannon	219 RCACC New Glasgow
Matthew Stryde	2978 RCACC Hibernia
Mary Beth Waldram	339 RCSCC Iroquois
Sarah Child	104 RCSCC Brilliant
Marc Thebaud	337 RCACS Allan Troup
Morgan Hutton	126 RCSCC Red Deer
Doloures Edwards	280 RCSCC Zaandam
Serena Sopterian	65 RCSCC Ron Duke
Venessa Tarpos	65 RCSCC Ron Duke
Darryl Charmichael	189 RCSCC Port Augusta
Jennifer Durand	CC 153 Sault St-Louis
Stephanie Plante-Blanchette	CC 2649 De Salaberry
Steeven Thibeault-Maltais	CC 1497 Normandin
Maryline Lacasse	CC 2920 Gatineau
Francis Thibodeau	CC 2625 St-Georges de Beauce
Alexandre Marois	CC 1497 Normandin
David Bernachez	Esc 04 De Maisoneuve
Melodie Dubois	Esc 544 Letbiniere
Patrick Larouche	CCMRC 257 Le Montagnais
Nick Verrillo	CCMRC 11 Sioux
Cynthia Vertefeuille	CCMRC 267 Kondiarock
Daniel Belanger	CCMRC 182 Cap-Chat

Gregory Mercier

Marcus McGrinder
 Roberta Busch
 Nadhaie Awad
 James McLean

Kenneth Ernst
 Vadeneau Pert
 Bryan Feschuk

CCMRC 247 Les Timoniers de
Valecourt

ESC 150 Hamilton Tiger
 2294 RCACC Ortona Legion
 2981 RCACC
 407 RCACC Queens Own
 Cameron

2979 RCACC Fort Vermillion
 2812 RCACC Seaforth of Canada
 3067 RCACC Lillooet



Left, Dave Shaw and Cadet Winners Katrina Mosley and Brian Clarke at Greenwood CSTC.

Below, Comrade Shaw with winners from Acadia CSTC.



Below, BC Provincial Past President Don Mann presents ANAVETS Cadet Medals of Merit to (left) Cadet Colin Furlong and (right) Cadet Brett Prager.



In Vernon, BC Past President of Vernon Unit #5, Bev Fester presents ANAVETS Medals to (Left to right) Cadet Awad, Busch and McLean In Cap-Chat, Quebec cadets receive their medals from commanding offi-



cers and other dignitaries. Left is Cadet Plante and right is Cadet Thibault



Membership Committee Report *Continued*

expectations. Our first and easiest step should therefore be to keep our existing members. If you want to know how to do this, we have reprinted **The 10 Commandments of Human Relations** (or of keeping membership) later in this newsletter on page 12. This is not rocket science. If people don't enjoy their experience, they will quit. Units should adopt these commandments as their operational guidelines.

Maintaining our membership is as much a priority as getting new members into our association. Leaders at all levels must take an aggressive approach to membership. Poor leadership and disharmony within our units can greatly damage membership levels.

We are an association where members served in the two world wars, Korea, the United Nations as peace keepers (SEE HERITAGE Page 4) and at home as protectors of our shores. We wear our association crest high and must continue to do so. Recognition through the media and government will help us in this task.

Media exposure will raise our organizations success by generating a profile to the general public. It creates a voice in current issues and allows our politicians to see our mandate, and that we want our opinion known. We must gather information from units and provincial commands about our public involvement, about our donations, about our participation with youth including our cadet corps for example. This all funnels to Dominion Command thereby giving us more voice and recognition within government.

Government intervention with our association is at an all time high. President Henderson along with past President Cassels and our Dominion staff have had ongoing interaction with all branches in Federal Government. Our voice has been heard and many good changes for our Veterans both past and Present along with their wives and family have been approved.

In summary then, if members enjoy their units then they will stay and invite their friends along to enjoy this wonderful organization. Let's communicate more and use these new technologies to share our ideas with each other and to our commands so that government will know that we are here and what we stand for. ANAVETS is doing great things for our Veterans, their families, our local communities, our military, and our great country. Lets all work together to achieve this.

Yours in Comradeship,
Bob Mooney, Sask. Dominion Vice President, Chairman Membership Committee

Awards & Rituals Committee Status Report

February 1, 2006

The Awards & Rituals Committee consists of three members which are in contact when an award application is sent to us for consideration. I want to thank the Committee members for their prompt replies to applications and the co-operation they have given me.

In the past 6 months we have approved 3 Award of Merit applications.

I would like to thank all units and commands for the professional and proper way that the award applications were sent to My Office. It has helped greatly to have all the required documentation for each of the awards.

I would like to remind every Command, all Unit Presidents, Executive Officers and Ladies Auxiliaries that they should read and familiarize themselves with our awards and rituals manuals.

On behalf of the Committee, Thank You

**Shoulder to Shoulder
In Comradeship
Brian Phoenix**

Newsletter Editor
Secretary-Treasurer Lorne McCartney

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ANAVETS



WE WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP

The Dominion Staff needs your help !

We try to publish a newsletter that would be of interest to the members of the Association. It takes a great deal of time and expense to publish this newsletter. Much of this time is as a result of having to retype articles and scan in pictures because they are not in electronic format.

It would very much help us if you could possibly provide your articles and supporting photographs in electronic format.

Thank you very much, Lorne and Deanna

AERO MODE CLOTHING COMPANY

Offering good quality, well priced uniforms for all of our members. Blazers, flannels, short and long sleeved shirts available.

Order forms available in the back of the Regalia Price list or by request from the Dominion office.

ORDER YOURS TODAY

Secretary-Treasurer's Notes

STATUS REPORT WEDGE CAPS

We are still working on sourcing a reasonably priced wedge cap as approved at convention, and we may be almost there. Whether to put anything on the right hand side (looking forward) will be voted on at convention this September. Thank you for not calling to ask "Are we there yet?". Rest assured that we are doing everything that we can to progress this project and when we know, we will pass on the information.

NEW VETERANS' CHARTER (NVC)

As you can see from elsewhere in this newsletter, the New Veterans' Charter, Bill C45 became effective 1 April 2006, with the official launch a few days later. This is a wonderful step forward for Veterans support, and ANAVETS played a key active roll in its creation.

There is still much work to do and we will continue to be part of the process. We will continue to sit on the *Multilateral* panel with the 5 other Vets Orgs, as well as senior representation from Veterans Affairs. The two principle focuses of this panel are firstly to oversee the implementation of the new charter, and secondly, to bring forward recommendations for improvement. This is also an excel-

lent forum to bring up observations from our Unit Service Officers who see problems resulting from their work in support of Veterans. We will continue to keep Units and Commands informed on progress in this area.

MEMORIAL RESTORATION

As you are no doubt all aware, Veterans Affairs is in the midst of a program to fund up to 50% of the cost of restoring Veteran's memorials across Canada to a maximum of \$25,000 a project. Our Honourary President Gerry Wharton sits on the board that approves these projects and he tells me that the process is straight forward, and most projects do get funding. So get your requirements in while the money lasts...

SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING

We have asked VAC to provide us with relevant information with respect to training on the NVC and the processes relating. We will send out the information to Commands once it becomes known. Although most of you are in contact with VAC Districts and are aware of this information on your own net.

S-T Notes Cont Next page...

S-T Notes Continued

JOB PLACEMENT VOLUNTEERS

Part of the mandates in the NVC is to facilitate job placement for members of the Canada's Armed Forces who will be re-entering the civilian workforce. ANAVETS has been asked for their support in helping in this worthwhile endeavour. Three commands and our New Brunswick unit have indicated interest in providing this sort of support. Training and financing for out of pocket expenses will be provided. If you are interested in taking part, please let your Units know so that they can pass the information along.

ONLY 3 WW I VETERANS STILL ALIVE

I am on a committee planning for the remembrance event following the death of the last Canadian WW I Veteran. At the present time there are 3 survivors that we know of; 2 in the Toronto area, and one living in the US. First of all, if you are aware of any other WW I veterans who are still alive, please let us know.

The way it is shaping up is that nothing concrete has been planned for the actual deaths of any of these veterans; however, upon each of their deaths, VAC will be approaching each of their families to inform them of their options. What we are preparing for is an event following the last death, that will mark *'the end of an era'*. This event will fall within 2 weeks of the last passing and will be quite significant.

VETERANS' WEEK 2006 (5 to 11 November)

Again this year, all Units and Commands will be able to post their local events on the VAC web site. From last year, there were a lot of favourable comments about being able to nationally advertise local events.

As well, for those Veterans going to schools to talk to the children, this year there will be 2 training packages, the first for K to 6, and the other 7 through high school. These will be geared towards these specific age groups and are available from VAC. They include DVDs Historical newspapers and other training aids. These can be ordered directly from VAC, or through the school. All schools have at least one sample of the package.

In addition, DND has prewritten (prepared portions to add to your own message) speeches that may be of use to those addressing audiences. We will send relevant info out to all Units and Commands through e-mail when it becomes known. Or, if something comes up where you would like a canned speech, (last year they came in various lengths), then just send me an email, giving your audience size and composition, and how long you wish the speech to last and we'll send you one.

WEBMASTER NEEDED

Dominion Command has need of a webmaster to help us create a few arrangements on our site such as password controlled locations, updates that we would prepare that can be added to the site, on-line forms, and no doubt other items will be required as we evolve. Please drop me a line (anavets@storm.ca) if you would like to help to improve our site and the information it provides.

ANAVICUS NEWS

President Ken Henderson inducted 26 new members in the United States Unit in Washington, D.C. during the American Legion's annual Washington conference February 27th, 2006. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome these new members into our United States Unit and President Henderson would like to thank everyone at the American Legion for the wonderful hospitality that they showed him. Their next National Convention will be in Salt Lake City in August.

Be proud of our heritage.

Not only have we had members from the first and second World Wars, Korea, the UN Peace Keepers and NATO, consider the following:

We were founded in 1840 by veterans living in Canada at that time and therefore safe to assume that our founding comrades were veterans of **the War of 1812** and the **Napoleonic Wars**. Because we were the only veterans organization in Canada, there is a strong probability that we had members who had served in the **1837 Rebellion** which took place a scant 3 years before our founding and in **the Nile Expedition** of 1884 four years after our formation. The same premise applies to veterans of **The Fenian Raids** which were between 1866 and 1870, the **North West Rebellion** of 1885 and **The Boer War** of 1899-1902. We must also have had veterans of the dozens of little wars fought throughout the Empire during Queen Victoria's reign who subsequently emigrated to Canada.

Be proud of our heritage. Strive to ensure its perpetuation.

INFORMATION FOR SERVICE OFFICERS

VAC – Training on the New Veterans Charter

Veterans' Affairs Canada is presently finalizing a 1 day training course which will be held in various locations across Canada beginning in the Fall.

We will keep Commands advised via E-mail.

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF HUMAN RELATIONS

SPEAK TO PEOPLE - A CHEERFUL WORD OF GREETING CAN BRIGHTEN THE MOST DEPRESSING DAY.

SMILE AT PEOPLE - IT TAKES 72 MUSCLES TO FROWN, ONLY 12 TO SMILE.

CALL PEOPLE BY THEIR NAME - THERE'S NOTHING ANYONE LIKES TO HEAR MORE THAN HIS OR HER NAME.

BE FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL - IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS, THEN BE FRIENDLY. IF YOU HAVE PEOPLE HELP YOU, THEN BE HELPFUL.

BE CORDIAL - SPEAK AND ACT AS IF EVERYTHING YOU DO IS A GENUINE PLEASURE.

BE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN PEOPLE - YOU CAN LIKE ALMOST ANYONE, IF YOU TRY.

BE GENEROUS - WITH PRAISE, CAUTIOUS WITH CRITICISM

BE CONSIDERATE OF THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS - IT WILL BE APPRECIATED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU.

BE THOUGHTFUL OF THE OPINION OF OTHERS - THERE ARE USUALLY THREE SIDES TO A CONTROVERSY - **YOURS**, THE **OTHER FELLOWS** AND THE **RIGHT ONE**.

BE ALERT TO GIVE SERVICE - WHAT COUNTS IN LIFE IS WHAT WE DO FOR OTHERS AND THE MANNER IN WHICH WE DO IT.