



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF MILITARY MUSEUMS OF CANADA, INC.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are well on the way to finalizing Course 99 preparations. I hope you sent in your registration early because as I write this the course load has been reached and late-comers are on standby. As usual, the trip up from Halifax will be a treat, thanks to Marilyn Gurney from the Maritime Command Museum.

Speaking of that museum, I must pass on my personal congratulations to the Museum and to Marilyn. V/Adm Boyle officially opened the Maritime Command Museum in 1974 and I was there as the Secretary of the CF Museum Committee. The displays in place were impressive for that time, and the state of the art in CF museums - but as the saying goes, "You've come a long way baby!" It just goes to show what dedication, talent and perseverance can accomplish - not to forget the wiles of a very personable lady.

Congratulations also to The Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada (PL) on being the recipients of a MAP grant from Heritage Canada. The grant will be used for the cataloguing and computerization of the Unit Historical Collection this summer.

"Remember Collishaw"

Ted Brothers, Chairman of the Remember Collishaw Committee, has advised of yet another ambitious project of the Vancouver Island Military Museum in Nanaimo. Quoting from his letter: "VIMM...with the concurrence of the Nanaimo Airport Commission, has initiated a project to honour A/V/M Raymond Collishaw by dedicating to him the Nanaimo Airport Terminal Building...in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the RCAF. A sign will be erected on the terminal building displaying the name "Nanaimo Collishaw Air Terminal".

The cost of implementing the signage for the terminal building will be approximately \$18,053. The sign will consist of 32 inch individual channel letters lighted by neon tubing. We are now seeking financial support to fund our portion of the project which is the cost of "Collishaw Air Terminal" in the signage. We are offering potential supporters an opportunity to fund the cost of each letter (total 20 letters) at \$902. each or any lesser in support of the project. (Tax receipts will be issued on

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request). All donations will be acknowledged with a Certificate of Recognition.

We are anticipating having all of the funding in place before June 30, 1999. The opening ceremony timings will be announced at a later date. In addition to the sign, we will be establishing a place of honour in the terminal building where Collishaw's medals, portraits, aircraft replica (Black Maria) and memorabilia will be on display.

Your financial support of this worthwhile project will not only recognize Raymond Collishaw as a great Canadian airman but will be a tribute to all veterans who served for Canada in the past wars and conflicts of the world. Please make out cheques to the "Remember Collishaw Project."

Millennium Project

Though we do not have firm financial support from any of the potential backers as yet, there are enough indications of real assistance being made available that we have decided to proceed with the initial set up of the project. More on this at the AGM, by which time I will have some definite answers and some firm plans.

**Fourth Annual United States Army
Museum Course, San Antonio, Texas
28 February to 5 March 1999**

This course was attended by Maj C. Keith Inches (Ret'd) representing the OMMC Inc. and Lt Brian Miller (Ret'd) representing the Saskatchewan Military Museum, both from

Regina, Saskatchewan. Maj Inches report follows:

Prior to the course, we visited the Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas, there being no naval museum included in the course content. Some of the collection is housed outside without overhead cover. Many of the large artifacts are in bad shape. There is an active program to involve people, and some of the vehicles in overhead cover do run, and are used in animated displays. There seemed to be a number of areas that could use conservation. We came away with a number of ideas to implement as to display and conservation.

Course registration was held Sunday night when we were placed in four syndicates. The aim of the syndicate was to develop a briefing package to be used to present to a fictitious commander.

Maj Malott and LCol Mackay's attendance at previous courses was commented on favourably.

We placed timetables out for our course in Aug 99 and all were taken, and at least 12 registration packages were asked for.

The course opened on 1 March with a welcoming address by the Director of Public Works Business Centre, LCol Jackson. He covered the aspect of new construction being designed for Army training purposes, for business, leasing of facilities, rentals to raise funds to maintain that facility and other infrastructure required by the Army.

Judson E. Bennett, Museum Division of the U.S. Army, Centre of Military History covered the State of the Army Museums Program and the changes taking place in the restructure of their forces and some of the political process that took place. Again the idea of building facilities which, while used to show an Army story through a Museum type facility, would have commercial facilities rented to cover the military costs. The custodial claim of artifacts is an ongoing problem within their system as with ours. With downsizing as well there is a problem with the transfer of artifacts. Their computer catalogue system seems to be having problems. Items are being entered in many different formats and comments were made that as a finding aid it was almost useless.

The subject of Army in Developing programs which Support Training in Army Values emphasized the LDRSHIP-LOYALTY, DUTY, RESPECT, SELFLESS SERVICE, HONOUR, INTEGRITY, and PERSONAL COURAGE, values. The museum must, in their story line include the values and illustrate them. This was done with Medal of Honour winners and their stories, individual displays emphasizing individual actions and unit results. Their army has had scandals which were attributed to a lack of values at all levels. This new emphasis seems to be bearing fruit and new soldiers, at least, are showing positive signs. Other tools used are; the medal displays with captions, streets and rooms named after individuals, with an accessible story to reach the user; Soldiers handbooks, museum accessibility and use by recruit classes.

A Practicum - on Program Evaluation

emphasized our maintaining feedback on our programs and led to the briefing lecture. A point to remember in our presentations to those in command and control of us, is that while we can be very important tools to the commander in teaching values, we are not critical. The point was made that for the recruits, the Drill Instructor was the key person in their indoctrination - any use of the Museums, its facilities, and interaction by the course instructors only helped in teaching VALUES and raising the importance of "The Museum".

How to conduct an informative briefing was very well done by David Hagy whose regular job includes teaching this subject. The subject matter was a good review of briefing and public speaking rules and ideas we all have had and forget to put in place. The briefing lectures were the basis for the syndicate assignments.

Presentations were made to John Manguso of the host museum, on behalf of the OMMC Inc. A plaque and pins and on behalf of the Province of Saskatchewan and the City of Regina, pins and flags. Pins from Canada and OMMC were distributed to the course participants and to those who expressed interest in coming to our course.

Tuesday, Mar 2nd started a two day series of visits to museum and other training facilities. Included were the U.S. Army Medical Department Training facilities and Museum; Fort Sam Houston and Museum. The Quadrangle Combat Medic Training and Stillwell house. The training facilities offered by the Medical Department use among other things the Internet, with course packages covered at the students own time

during given periods with instructors at the centre whose main function is to assist and guide these students. In that way formal courses can be shortened in time. As a logistics type the Combat Medic Training facility was excellent and I wish that our Reserve officers had more of an opportunity to examine this type of facility.

Wednesday 3rd March visits were made to Fort Hood, Camp Mabry, Texas Military Forces Museum, 1st Cavalry Division Museum and 4th Infantry Division.

There was a great variance in the size, scope of materials displayed, and LDRSHIP VALUES covered. We certainly came away with a number of ideas we could implement in our small museum and for travelling exhibits. Some of the mannequins were made of a rubber materiel which was breaking down and releasing harmful gasses. This should be considered in some of our purchases. Many of the vehicles were stored outside and regular maintenance was a key consideration. The Texas Military Forces Museum has just taken on a second paid employee but about 40 volunteers carry the museum in its operations. Their enthusiasm, positive spirits and helpfulness were a moral booster to us.

Thursday 3rd March, was back to lectures. The presentation on Museum Conservation and Preservation gave a number of useable ideas. One warning was that coloured ethofoam may release harmful fumes. On our return we sent samples of those we had used to CCI and had them checked. Apparently those used in the Saskatchewan Military Museum to date are acceptable. It

was also advised that computers should not be in the storage areas due to chance of fire. We should also be aware of the possibility of our facilities being used for evacuation purposes and this should be included in our disaster and preparedness plan.

The syndicates presented their briefings and were evaluated by the course participants. A most valuable exercise.

We could recommend attendance at these courses as a follow on to OMMC Inc. attendance. There was a sense that we have common situations with similar solutions and also different ways as well. There was an opening of sources of information on subject matter to which we do not have easy access. There was the usual broadening of our contact base for many purposes, both on a national and regional basis.

My thanks to the OMMC Inc. for giving me this opportunity to represent it and our Country.

OMMC INC. MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

ROYAL CANADIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS BUFFALO COAT FOUND

The Saskatchewan Military Museum was able to acquire a 1920's Buffalo Coat from a donor in Regina this spring for a Tax Receipt. The coat is of the type illustrated in the book "Military Uniforms in Canada, 1865 to 1970", by Summers and Chartrand on page 145. It was worn by the NWT and Yukon Radio System personnel. Major Dick

Malott (Ret'd) gave us an evaluation for our insurance and the Tax Receipt.

On possession we sent it off to the Canadian Forces Communications and Electronics Museum who put it on display upon arrival. Our thanks to Dick Malott for his quick reply on the evaluation which allowed us to obtain this wanted item for the Communications Museum.

JEFFREY HOARE AUCTIONS INC.

Anyone interested in acquiring any of the following 16mm films can contact Wendy Hoare at (519) 473-7491 or fax (519) 473-1541:

- These are the Men, 12 minutes
- V-1 Over London, 11 minutes
- Operation FIDO, 12 minutes
- Operation PLUTO, 7 minutes

On Saturday, February 27th, 199 LCol Ernest Adams passed away shortly after his 85th birthday at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. Ernie firmly believed that it was important if not vital that the history of Canada be preserved and that the contribution of the Military to our country be recognized. To this end he served as a Director of the Pender Islands Museum Society and was a member of the Association of Canadian Military Museums and the OMMC Inc. We salute the passing of our senior comrade.

The Members of OMMC Inc wish to pass on their sincere condolences to Garry Robson and his family on the recent passing of his father.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As of 15 July 99, 260 OMMC Inc. members have paid their 1999 dues. Thanks to all who have responded. Applicable receipts and membership cards have been sent to all

concerned. There are still 50 of last year's members who have not sent in their 1999 dues. We hope that all will continue their membership in the OMMC Inc. at a yearly fee of \$35.00 Canadian. If anyone does not wish to continue their association with the OMMC Inc. a letter of resignation for our records would be appreciated.

Members who have their individual course fees paid by a Federal Government Department are requested to have their names and museum data presented on the cheque stub for information as to whom the cheque applies. Each year we receive Government cheques for such payments but often we are unable to discern to whom the payment applies.

Since we are a military organization I request that those who are serving or retired military personnel indicate their rank, status and military awards and decorations. I wish to use such designations in applicable correspondence. Thanks for your cooperation.

Major Vince Brown (Ret'd) and I had the pleasure of visiting Dr & Mrs Ernst Aichner in Ingolstadt, Germany, as well as LCol Dr. & Mrs Ernst Schmidt in Durmersheim/Rastatt, Germany, in May 1999. We were shown wonderful hospitality in both homes

and visited many outstanding military museums and castles. A report on these museum visits will be presented in a later issue of "The Bulletin".

One of our american member, Henry B. Davies Jr. has published his book "GENERALS IN KHAKI." See the enclosed flyer on this most interesting book.

Remeber 1999 OMMC Inc. Course, CFB Gagetown 15 - 20 August .

COURSE COORDINATOR'S CORNER

I am pleased to advise that Course Registration has been an overwhelming success again this year. Unfortunately we were unable to accommodate a few of the late registrations and they have been placed on standby in case of last minute cancellations. Paulette and I look forward to seeing you in Gagetown.

Course participants requiring transportation from Halifax to Gagetown on Sunday 15 August are asked to contact Marilyn Gurney at (902) 427-0550 ext 8250 (museum) or at home (902) 454-7273.

Marilyn has kindly offered to set up a special tour (visit to a ship) on Saturday 14 August for those who are interested please advise her accordingly no later than 1 August 1999.

OMMC KIT SHOP

The Course Coordinator is pleased to advise OMMC members that the following items will be available at the course in Gagetown. Order forms will also be available with the next issue of the bulletin,

or you can download it from our website at
www.ommc.ca in late September 1999.

ONT/PST # 6215-1800
PROVINCIAL SALES TAX APPLICABLE IN
ONTARIO ONLY

Wire Bullion Blazer Crest --- \$25.00 + tax (\$1.75) = \$ 26.75

Necktie ----- \$22.50 + tax (\$1.58) = \$24.08

Lapel Pin ----- \$ 5.00 + tax (\$.35) = \$ 5.35

Golf Shirt ----- \$28.00 + tax (\$ 1.96) = \$29.96

T-Shirts ----- \$18.00 + tax (\$ 1.26) = \$19.26

Embroidered Crest ----- \$ 5.00 + tax (\$.35) = \$ 5.35

Epoxy pins ----- \$ 3.50 + tax (\$.25) = \$ 3.75

Baseball Cap ----- \$15.00 + tax (\$ 1.05) = \$ 16.05

Coffee Mug ----- \$10.00 + tax (\$.70) = \$ 10.70

EDITORS NOTE

1999 OMMC/DHH FISHING CHARTER

WHAT NO FISH?????

