



ROYAL CANADIAN HUSSARS ASSOCIATION NON NOBIS SED PATRIAE

Spring 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT



Hello Hussars, as new president I would first like to thank Mario Héту who has taken leave of the executive, but as a true hussar will carry on as past-president and continue to support all our activities in the future, merci Mario.

I ask that all association members and current serving Hussars continue to support you executive in our endeavours, along with your help and support we can ensure that our Association remains strong and supportive of the Association and the Regiment. I look forward to seeing more members attend and be part of our Association in all our activities. With our new activities chairman Don Barecki, we can look forward to some new activities in the near future.

Steven Barrette
President

AGM

The annual AGM was held in the WO & Sgts mess, on Saturday April 30th, a few resolutions were passed and the general election was held here are the points;

A 500\$ donation to the regimental history fund, was approved by all present.

New members to the executive committee;

New President	Steven Barrette
New Past-President	Mario Hetu
New 1 st vice	Karl Kramell
New Secretary	Charles Michaud
New Treasurer	Louis-Philip Yanakis
New Activities Chair	Don Barecki

I welcome the new members and with the support of the outgoing members we can trust a good handover. The committee is always looking for other volunteers and if you are able and willing please contact me for more information.

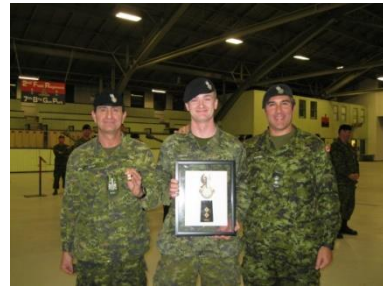
REGIMENTAL NEWS

Just a few promotions to announce;

Promoted to Cpl Girard-Martin & Cpl Zoni



Promoted to Lt Larouche



Finally Capt Beaulieu has transferred to the regular force 12 RBC in Valcartier we wish him luck.



The 25-Pounder

Parked in the Riding Ring at Cote des Neiges Armoury, both Troopers and Gunners have seen three artillery pieces that seem out of place. The very odd piece is a 40mm Bofors Light Anti-Aircraft gun which was recently acquired. More about this in a later article.

The other two pieces are "25 pounders", the workhorse field guns of the Commonwealth through the Second World War and Korea. Hundreds of these guns were used by Canadians in both conflicts; some made in the UK and some here in Canada. In Canada, Sorel Industries built complete guns and provided the ordnance for fitting to the [Sexton](#) Self-Propelled Gun (see below).

These guns are actually "more modern" than their US counterpart: the 105 mm howitzer that are more familiar. The 105s were developed in the US during the 1920s, the 25-pounders in the 1930s.

After the conclusion of the Korean conflict, Canada and her NATO allies agreed to a standard caliber for Light/Packable (75mm), Field (105mm), Medium (155mm) and Heavy (175mm equivalent) artillery. The 25 pounders in NATO service were shelved, along with their sister medium pieces (the 5.5" gun) and replaced in Canadian service by the US 105mm and 155mm guns respectively.

You can see that the two guns in the Armoury differ in appearance. One has a smooth barrel; the other has what appears to be a flash eliminator. Actually it is a muzzle brake and signifies the later version of the piece. Both were used by Canadian batteries.

The wheeled trailer that accompanies them is a "Limber", which was attached between the gun and the tower and carried ready-use ammunition and fuzes. The whole assembly looks like this:



In action, the detachment appeared as this:



Comparing 25-Pounder to 105mm Howitzer

The 25-pounder is lighter and handier at 1,600kg / 3,600 lb. versus 2,300 kg / 5,000 lb. for the 105mm. Add to this the 25-pounder has a better shield and is lower. For direct fire work, especially against tanks these are big advantages. Early in its career the British gun was pressed into service as an anti-tank gun during the Desert War in North Africa.

The British howitzer has a slightly better range of 12,000 meters / 13,000 yards versus 11,000 meters / 12,000 yards for the U.S. M2 105mm.

The main advantage the 105mm has on the 25 pounder is its projectile. As its name implies the 25-pounder main projectile is a 25 pound high explosive shell. The U.S. 105mm howitzers main projectile is a 33 pound high explosive shell.

The 105mm howitzers were said to have a kill radius of 25-35 meters. The 25-Pounder would be 20-25 meters.

Crew:

The 25-pdr Mark 2 (Mark 1 Carriage) was served by a crew of six. These were: the detachment commander (No. 1), breech operator/rammer (No. 2), layer (No. 3), loader (No. 4), ammunition handler (No. 5), and a second ammunition handler/coverer who prepared the ammunition and set the fuses. The No. 6 usually served as second-in-command on the gun crew. The official "reduced detachment" for the weapon was four.

Ammunition:

Though capable of firing a variety of ammunition, including armor piercing, the standard projectile for the 25-pdr was high explosive. These rounds were propelled by four types of cartridge depending on range. Unlike ammunition for the 105s, which were separated (projectile and cartridge casing could be separated, the amount of propellant adjusted, the two pieces fitted together again and then loaded in one operation by hand) ammo for the 25-pounder was separate loading. The projectile was placed in the breech and then rammed home with a short rammer; the cartridge casing was selected (there were 4 different charges, or amounts of

propellant) and then loaded by hand and the drop-breech then closed. This was a complex procedure and could easily result in "finger detachment". Many old Gunner vets of WWII had far fewer than 10 fingers by the end of the war.

Transport & Deployment:

In Commonwealth service, the 25-pdr was deployed in batteries of eight guns, which were composed of two Troops of four guns each. For transport, the gun was attached to its limber and towed by a Morris Commercial C8 FAT (Quad). FAT means "Field Artillery Tractor". Ammunition was carried in the limbers (32 rounds each) as well as in the Quad. Upon arriving at its destination, the 25-pdr's firing platform would be lowered (the toothed wheel you will see suspended under the piece) and the gun towed onto it. This provided a steady base for the gun and allowed the crew to rapidly traverse it 360°. This was especially useful in the direct fire (anti-tank) role.

Operational History:

The 25-pdr saw service throughout World War II with British and Commonwealth forces. Generally thought to be one of the best field guns of the war, the 25-pdr Mark 1s were used in France and in North Africa during the conflict's early years. During the withdrawal from France in 1940, many Mark 1s were lost. These were replaced by the Mark 2 which entered service in May 1940. Though relatively light by World War II standards, the 25-pdr supported the British doctrine of suppressing fire and proved itself highly effective.

After seeing American use of self-propelled artillery, the British adapted the 25-pdr in a similar fashion. Mounted in the Bishop and Sexton tracked vehicles, self-propelled 25-pdrs began to appear on the battlefield.



In common with all British guns of the period the indirect fire sight was "calibrating". This meant that the range, not elevation angle, was set on the sight. The sight compensated for the difference in the gun's muzzle velocities from standard. The gun was also fitted with a direct-fire telescope for use with armour-piercing shot. It

also used "one-man laying" in accordance with normal British practice.

S.J. Goldberg, LCol

DAVE? DAVE'S NOT HERE!

Célèbre maxime d'un monologue du duo Cheech & Chong, n'est-ce pas? Rassurez-vous, chers lecteurs, je ne vous amènerai point dans une lecture de mauvais goût, mais vous introduirai plutôt dans une avenue où un de nos anciens hussards a été oublié, tout comme le petit bout d'histoire de cavalerie où il s'était distingué. Oublié? Du moins, pour ma part, je n'avais jamais entendu parler de lui ni de son fils mieux connu de l'establishment du Montréal de la fin du XIXe siècle. Même si la question *où est Dave?* demeure, il faut avant tout se poser la suivante : *qui est Dave?* Trêve de plaisanteries! Laissez-moi donc vous présenter le capitaine David Linton Lockerby.

Ma rencontre fortuite avec ledit personnage remonte à juin 2013, alors que j'étais candidat au cours d'équipe de commandement de l'Armée canadienne au Fort Frontenac de la garnison de Kingston, Ontario. Lors d'une pause au mess des officiers (MOFF), je discutais avec mon collègue et ancien sergent-major régimentaire (SMR) du RCH, Denis Lessard, tout en appréciant les différents artefacts et œuvres d'art qui décoraient le petit salon arrière du mess. Quelle ne fut pas notre surprise de voir un petit écrin en bois dans lequel était accrochée une simple médaille avec la mention suivante:

*CANADA GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL
1866-1870.*

*Lieut. D.L. Lockerby
No1 Montreal Cavalry
Presented to the officers
Canadian army staff college*

*By
Brigadier M.P. Bogert, CBE, DSO, CD
1957*

Mon regard s'est évidemment arrêté à la mention: *No1 Montreal Cavalry*, car le reste ne me disait rien du tout. Bref, la médaille a été présentée en 1957, soit une année avant la création officielle du Royal Canadian Hussars (MTL). J'ai donc pris quelques photos dans l'intention de faire ultérieurement des recherches sur le type en question. De retour à la maison, j'ai débuté mes recherches sur Internet et j'ai vite

trouvé de l'information sur la famille Lockerby via le site *ancestry.com*. Tel qu'on peut le remarquer sur la photo, la grande tenue du lieutenant-colonel DW Lockerby m'était plus que familière. En lisant la description, j'ai appris qu'il était major au 6th Duke of Connaught Royal Canadian Hussars, avant d'être nommé lieutenant-colonel au Royal Canadian Army Service Corps (RCASC), ancêtre de la



Le fils:
LCol David William Lockerby
Source:
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~qcmtl-w/LockerbyDW.html>

branche logistique. Une simple mention de cette page web précisait qu'il était le fils aîné de David Linton Lockerby et de Mary Ann McArthur, et qu'il naquit en 1869. J'avais maintenant un nom et une fenêtre historique plausible.

Mes efforts ont en deuxième lieu été dirigés vers la médaille en question. Il s'agit de la médaille du service



général au Canada (1866-1870) (C.G.S.M.). Selon le site des anciens

combattants, elle était décernée aux officiers et au personnel non-officier des forces militaires impériales et canadiennes ayant participé aux opérations de suppression des raids des Fenians et à la répression de la première rébellion de Louis Riel, cette dernière opération étant généralement appelée l'expédition de la rivière Rouge. Faits intéressants, elle n'a été autorisée qu'en janvier 1899, vingt-neuf ans après le dernier événement qu'elle commémore, et on a décerné en tout 16 668 de ces médailles, dont 15 300 à des unités canadiennes¹.



MGen Bogert, DSO, OBE, CD

Dans un troisième temps, je me suis intéressé au major-général **Mortimer Patrick** Bogert, DSO, OBE, CD, celui-là même qui a présenté en 1957 la médaille de DL Lockerby. Le général Bogert s'est illustré, entre autres, lors de la Deuxième Guerre mondiale et lors du conflit coréen. Toujours selon le site des anciens combattants: *le 27 avril 1952, le nouveau commandant de la brigade, le brigadier MP Bogert, prenait le commandement de la 25^e Brigade²*. J'admets toutefois ne pas avoir poussé plus loin mes recherches sur le général; j'ignore comment la médaille de DL Lockerby s'est retrouvée entre ses mains et pourquoi il l'a offerte au Collège d'état-major de l'Armée de l'époque. Quelle est donc la valeur symbolique de la médaille? Pourquoi DL Lockerby est-il important et signifiant aux yeux d'un général-commandant? Les éminences grises du Régiment pourront sûrement porter un peu d'éclairage à ces questions.

¹ <http://www.veterans.gc.ca/fra/remembrance/medals-decorations/campaign-stars-medals-1866-1918/cgsm>

² <http://www.veterans.gc.ca/fra/remembrance/history/korean-war/valour-remembered/rotation2>

J'ai par la suite discuté du dossier Lockerby avec Steve Barrette afin de savoir s'il en connaissait davantage que moi, mais en vain. Steve s'est aimablement proposé pour contacter le responsable du MOFF afin de voir s'il ne serait pas intéressé à nous laisser rapatrier ladite médaille et son écriin.

Le temps a passé, j'ai quitté mon poste de SMR au Régiment: le tout demeurerait lettre morte dans mon esprit... J'avais l'impression, à tort ou à raison, qu'une partie de notre histoire régimentaire gisait en Ontario sans y avoir de sens ni d'importance. En septembre 2015, j'ai retrouvé la sépulture du capitaine David Linton Lockerby, 1843-1905.

Heureusement, la ténacité de Steve a porté fruit l'hiver dernier. C'est avec l'aide du lieutenant-colonel honoraire Bernard Ciarroni, OMM, CD, que Steve a pu convaincre les autorités du MOFF de l'importance de ce rapatriement. La médaille de David Linton Lockerby est maintenant revenue à la maison: elle sera dorénavant exposée dans notre musée régimentaire. Malheureusement, je n'ai toujours pas réussi à trouver une photo de l'homme en question.

David Linton Lockerby repose actuellement en paix auprès des siens, sous un magnifique bouleau, au cimetière Mont-Royal, à deux pas du manège...
Requiem in pace, old brother!



Philippe Chevalier

REUNION

Once again the Annual reunion was held at the Cote des Neiges Armoury Combined Mess. This year our numbers were low, 38 attending, we understand those who wish to be there but due to distance and travel, are unable to attend, we hope to see you in future.



Let's check the minutes of the last meeting.



The Committee at work



Ms. Isabelle's Membership Report



C. Hobbs, J. Rioux, I. Chatillon, M. Hetu, D. Gilbert, G. Beriau, N. Grenon



Mr. Greene's Museum Report



B. Grant, S. Descoteaux, G. Brazeau, L-F. Yanakis, B. Li, P.C. Pilon-Bouchard, M-C. Proulx



Mr. Gilbert's Webmaster Report



J. Cochrane, K. Kramell, Michel & Ginette Vézina, Gilbert & Tony Hetu



John Cochrane History of the Regiment Committee & Book Report



C. Michaud, J. Brioché, A. Lescot, C. Milon



Your New Committee



C. O'Donnell, D. Barecki, S. Barrette, G. Weekes, G. Camaiani, D. Greene



Life Member Certificates for Gilbert & Tony Hetu



A little texting before lunch



Life Member Certificates; Gordon Weekes George Zoni Michel Vézina

Photos courtesy of Gordon Weekes

Last Post We are grateful that we have no notices.

Canadian Grenadier Guards

2016 Golf Tournament

Saturday May 28th 2016
Bonniebrook Golf Club
207 Côte St-Paul, St-Colomban

Vegas Style golf suitable for all levels of play
Round of Golf w/ Cart, Brunch, Dinner \$ 120
Dinner only \$60
Méchoui: Roasts of Beef, Pork loin and Lamb

Registration limit: May 12th 2016 (for early bird special)

Late registrations \$ 130

RSVP

d_icon9@hotmail.com or 514-892-8712
Howard.parchment@forces.gc.ca : 514-496-1984
ext 240 or 257

Payment can be made in advance or day of event
in cash or cheque payable to CGG Golf Tournament
To the attention of:
Sergeant Major (Retd) D. Edwards
d_icon9@hotmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

26 May Breakfast 09h00 PJ's Pub

28 May CGG Golf Tournament
Bonnie Brooke Golf Club
For details contact; Dave Edwards
d_icon9@hotmail.com

24 & 25 June Gathering of Dragoons
Fort St-Jean, St-Jean Quebec
For details contact; Michel Vézina
vezina_1@sympatico.ca

30 June Breakfast 09h00 PJ's Pub

22 July Henry Sampson Golf Tournament
Smith Falls Ontario

28 July Breakfast 09h00 PJ's Pub

26 August Breakfast 09h00 PJ's Pub

29 August Armoured Corps Golf Tournament
Uplands Golf Club Ottawa Ontario
For details contact; S. Barrette
Steven.Barrette@gmail.com

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Activities Chairman
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Mario Hetu
Past -President
htu277@hotmail.com

LOST TRAILS

Unfortunately, we have lost contact with some former members of the association and regimental family. If you know of any former regimental members who are not in the association, please contact us via mail or e-mail;

RCH Association

**4185 Cote des Neiges Rd
Montreal, Québec. H3H 1N2
Attn: Membership Isabelle.chatillon@forces.gc.ca**

THE MUSEUM

After some extensive renovations to the building, our museum was opened April 30th 2016.

Don Greene our curator with the help of his wife Carmel and grand-daughter took four weeks to put everything back together.

If you have never visited the museum now's the time.

Don can be reached for private tours at, greene_donald@hotmail.com

Donations of equipment, clothing, and medals are always welcome.