

FRIENDLY NOTES

Friends Of The Mounted Police Heritage Centre

Les Amis Du Centre Du Patrimoine De La GRC

NOTES AMICALES

VOLUME 29
ISSUE 4 FALL 2018



PROUD
SUPPORTERS
OF/FIERS
D'APPUYER

**RCMP
HERITAGE
CENTRE**



**LE CENTRE
DU PATRIMOINE
DE LA GRC**

RCMP
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
UNIT



**GROUPE DES
COLLECTIONS
HISTORIQUES**

MEET DAN TOPPINGS, NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RCMP HERITAGE CENTRE



In June 2018 Marty Klyne, the Executive Director of the Heritage Centre, resigned from his position citing personal reasons. Dan Topping, who was the Manager of Guest Experience and Facilities at

the time, has assumed the position of Interim Executive Director. Dan grew up in Kipling, Saskatchewan and got a Bachelor of Physical Activity Studies degree, Majoring in Recreation from University of Regina in 1988. After working as the Recreational Director in Mossomin for 2 years, Dan joined the RCMP in 1990. He worked at a number of postings in Manitoba until he was transferred to Depot Division as an instructor in 2005 and worked there until he retired in May of 2014. Dan began working as the Manager of Guest Services in September of 2014, a position which he held, including a few name changes, until assuming the position of Executive Director in July of this year.

Dan and his wife Julie, a clinical pharmacist with the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, have two children, who are both currently attending University.

DATE THIS PICTURE OF DEPOT DIVISION



This photo was taken when the city of Regina was still a kilometer to the East. When was this photo taken – obviously after the invention of the aircraft.

Things to Note:

- Church with the steeple
- Modern day “A” Block
(Built between 1904 & 1920)
- Sick Bay
- S.M.’s residence
- Power Plant and stack
- Small Cemetery
- Post Garage
- Swimming pool and Old Gym/
Self-defence Gym
- Current Resource Centre – once the
Saddler and Tailor
- Current Drill Hall – once the Riding Stable
(Built in 1929)
- No Officer’s Mess
- No “C” Block
- Old “B” Block
- No Rink/Riding Arena
- No Division Mess

(Photo compliments of Randy Prokopanko, former Regina Crime Lab Alcohol Section expert.)

THE MORE NORTHERLY ROUTE – LOOKING BACK 70 YEARS

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)



Deserted RCMP building, Dundas Harbour (D.Riedel, 2007) 12

For hours they cruised back and forth under the lea of a mile long, flat ice-berg for shelter until the gale subsided. Late after-noon of August 18 they anchored in front of the deserted, very exposed police detachment, located at a small, ice free bight to the east of Dundas Harbour. Here they posted the first cylinder; prior to the journey, preparations were made for Larsen and his crew to build a series of cairns and to deposit brass cylinders containing

a record of their visit, along with various papers and ordinances dealing with Canadian administration of Arctic islands into the cairns.

Leaving Dundas Harbour, they followed the straight cliffs of the Devon Island coast west-ward in a hard blowing wind and poor visibility to an opening that led to a long inlet ending in a deep, calm and protected cove. Here were three ancient stone and bone dwellings and grassy mounds, remains of people the Inuit call *Tunit*. It was impossible to determine their location from their old British Admiralty chart, but when cylinder #2 was located by crew of *CGS Labrador*³ in 1968, it was determined to be Stratton Inlet.

After they left the sheltered inlet at 4 am, they again met heavy snowfalls, some-times obscuring the land. The weather cleared while crossing Maxwell Bay from where Prince Regent Inlet appeared to be ice free. Late that afternoon they anchored in Ere-bus Bay of Beechey Island. Here in 1855 a cenotaph had been erected by Belcher and in 1857, a memorial to Franklin, Crozier, Fitzjames and their crew had been installed by M'Clintock on behalf of Lady Franklin.^{4,5}

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meet Dan Toppings, new Executive Director of the RCMP Heritage Centre	1
Date this picture of Depot Division	2
The More Northerly Route – Looking Back 70 Years (continued).....	3
Life Membership Presentations	6
Presentation of Challenge Coins.....	6
Membership Committee Report	7
Friends Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons	7
Cheque Presentation	7
Becoming a Member/Renewals	8



Larsen, Mckenzie and Andreasen, Beechey Island, Aug 20 1944. At Franklin memorial placed by M'Clintock on behalf of Lady Franklin 15 Aug 1858. (Larsen fonds VMM).



Remains of Northumberland House, Beechey Island. Mast of yacht Mary was upright in the sand at the time. (Larsen fonds VMM).

Here were the remains of Northumberland House cache, established in 1854 by Commander W.S. Pullen of *HMS North Star* and of the small yacht *Mary*, originally left on Devon Island by Sir John Ross, for the use of chance survivors of the Franklin expedition. Captain Bernier had visited the place in 1906 and left his record in a cairn on an elevated plateau referred to as "Franklin's cairn". Cylinder # 3, deposited by the flagpole, was found in 1957 by Capt T.C. Pullen and Lt J.A. MacNeil of HMCS *Labrador*.⁶

Leaving Beechey Island, they crossed Wellington Channel. Thick snow prevented them from landing at Resolute Bay on Cornwallis Island and heavy ice swept towards them. Proceeding westward, they spotted numerous walrus on the ice between Griffith Is-land and Resolute Bay and four of them pro-vided a welcome change in diet for men and dogs.

Thirty-eight days after first leaving Dart-mouth, they had passed Somerville and Brown Islands



Larsen, Diplock and McKenzie with relics of yacht Mary left at Devon Island in 1850 by Sir John Ross for use by Franklin expedition survivors. Moved by Commander Pullen to Beechey Island 1852. (Photo taken at Vancouver 1944). 13

and were about 8 miles east of Cape Cockburn on Bathurst island and be-came trapped in the thickly packed ice moving eastward with great speed. It carried them backwards about twenty miles before they managed to get loose. Working their way inshore they anchored behind some shoals on which heavy ice had grounded, but which broke the flow of drift ice. Finally the wind changed, clearing the ice from the shore, enabling them to follow a lead up to Cape Cockburn. Here they built a cairn and deposited Cylinder #4 (which was collected by the *Labrador* during a geological survey in 1968). Their position was recorded as approximate. Navigation had been very difficult for several days; constant snow fall and fog obscured the sun and land most of the time. Their magnetic compass was unresponsive with its North point fixed on the ship's bow regardless of direction so they were

navigating by dead reckoning. The ice in Melville Sound was tightly packed to the west and south. Working northward in Austin Channel, alternately steaming and drifting, they reached Schomberg Point. In my father's personal diary, he recorded that he was dead tired from lack of sleep.



Johnson sounding on approaching Dealey Island, 28 August, 1944 (Larsen fonds, VMM). 14



Joe Panipakoocho with walrus shot off Griffith Point, Larsen at bow (Hunt fonds, VMM).

When good lead appeared to the north end of Bryam Martin Island they were able to land and build Cairn #5. Constantly sounding by hand lead, they followed the island's northern point then crossed to Melville Island. Now there was little ice and they enjoyed the first clear weather in days. Griffith Point on Melville was a long sand spit

without rocks; Cylinder #6 was placed on a large, solitary boulder 2-3 miles from the spit and heaped up with sod. During the night and next forenoon they again worked through heavy snow with little visibility, and at midnight reached Palmer Point of Skene Bay. The place was a mass of boulders. Cylinder #7 was deposited in a pyramid of rocks looking much like a cairn. The weather cleared briefly the following day allowing them to proceed to Dealey Island where Captain Henry Kellet had wintered in *HMS Resolute* in 1853. On the top of the island, Kellet had left a cairn consisting of a huge pile of rocks on which is raised a spar sur-mounted by three barrels. The stone walls of the massive cache he also built still stood, but the roof had long since fallen in. At one end were iron tanks of hard, square ships biscuits (some wet and soggy), bearing a broad arrow stamp denoting them as property of the British Navy. Canned meat and vegetables stacked up and covered with sod, formed part of one wall. In the middle was a conglomeration of broken barrels of flour, clothing, coal, salt beef, broken hard-wood pulleys for ships blocks, and sea boots. Outside were scattered leather sea boots, soggy navy clothing, and broken barrels of chocolate, peas and beans. Two Ross Army rifles and ammunition were found on the beach, the latter left by Bernier in 1909.

continued in the next issue...

Footnotes

3. Formerly Wind-class icebreaker *HMCS Labrador*, Canada's first modern and powerful icebreaker: commissioned in 1954.

4. David Murphy, *The Arctic Fox: Francis Leopold McClintock, Discoverer of the Fate of Franklin*, 2004, p. 119.

5. Beechey Island is one of the most important heritage locations in Canada and in the history of arctic exploration by the Royal Navy in the nineteenth century according to Brian D. Powell, *The memorials on Beechey Island, Nunavut, Canada: an historical and pictorial survey Polar Record*, 2006 (Vol. 42, No. 04) p. 325-333.

6. Graham Rowley, "Captain TC. Pullen, RCN: Polar Navigator," *The Northern Mariner/Le Marin du nord*, April 1992, (Vol. 2, No. 2), p. 29-49

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATIONS



President Bob Smart presenting Life Member plaque to **Mrs. Shirley Williamson**, Regina at AGM Mar 21st, 2018.

Photo courtesy of Dan Toppings.

PRESENTATION OF CHALLENGE COINS



President Bob Smart presented the first two Challenge Coins to **Ron & Marj Ostrum** at AGM Mar 21st, 2018.

Photo courtesy of Dan Toppings.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

***FRIEND – \$500.00 +**

Nellie Gillespie, Brandon, MB

IN MEMORIAM

\$200.00 Jean Thue, Regina, SK
in memory of Ivan Thue

*These are cumulative amounts over the years

FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

President	Bob Smart, RCMP (Rtd.)
Past President	Bill Greenslade, RCMP (Rtd.)
Secretary	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Bob Cocks
Director	Murray Klatt, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Dave Hoeft, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Glen Berger
Director	Al Nicholson (Rtd.)
Director	W. Douglas Keam
Force Observer	SM Ben Gibault
Historical Collections	
Unit Observer	Rhonda Lamb
Heritage Centre Observer	Marty Klyne
Membership Committee	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Newsletter Editor	Murray Klatt, RCMP (Rtd.)

CHEQUE PRESENTATION

President Bob Smart presenting a cheque for \$110,000.00 to Marty Klyne, CEO, Mounted Police Heritage Centre, at AGM, Mar 21st, 2018.

Photo by Dan Toppings.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Membership One Year (\$35) Three Years (\$90)
Life Membership \$1,200 single payment or cumulative over several years to \$1,200 level. Existing members will have past membership payments credited towards the \$1,200 level.
Donation _____ (Any amount is eligible for a Canada Customs and Revenue Agency tax receipt. Canada Only)

American residents please add \$5.00 extra per year and international residents please add \$10.00 extra per year, to cover postage costs.

Total Enclosed Amount \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov./State _____

Postal Code _____ Country _____

E-mail Address _____

My membership/donation will be paid by:

- Cheque/check (payable to the Friends of the Mounted Police Museum)
 Credit Card # _____ (Visa or Master Card) Expiry _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Return by Mail:

Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre, 5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan Canada S4T 0P4

Join or Renew Your Membership Online:

Purchase your membership of the *Friends* with a simple, secure, on-line transaction using Pay Pal. When we receive your payment, a receipt will be sent to you by mail. Visit our website at www.rcmpfcfriends.com and click on "Join the Friends".