

FRIENDLY NOTES

Friends Of The Mounted Police Heritage Centre

Les Amis Du Centre Du Patrimoine De La GRC

NOTES AMICALES

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PROUD
SUPPORTERS
OF/FIERS
D'APPUYER

RCMP
HERITAGE
CENTRE



LE CENTRE
DU PATRIMOINE
DE LA GRC

RCMP
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
UNIT



GRUPE DES
COLLECTIONS
HISTORIQUES

THE SHERWOOD CUP



On the first of February 1920, the Dominion Police Force was absorbed into the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The small force had been organized in 1868 to protect the Parliament Buildings in the dark days following the assassination of Thomas D'Arcy McGee. But the Force branched out in the years that followed: Dominion Police officers served as bodyguards to government leaders, they served as intelligence agents infiltrating the Fenian Brotherhood in the 1860s and, as the British withdrew in 1911, the Dominion Police Force took over protection of the naval dockyards at Halifax and Esquimalt. The small Force was responsible for the national fingerprint bureau, the parole service, the enforcement of laws relating to counterfeiting and during the First World War, it fell to the Dominion Police Force to enforce the War Measures Act.

In 2011, the Dominion Police Force reappeared at the RCMP Historical Collections Unit with the donation of the Sherwood Cup to the collection. A beautiful silver Loving Cup made by Birks of Canada, the Sherwood Cup was presented to the Chief Commissioner of Police within Canada, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Arthur Percy Sherwood, on his retirement in June 1919 by the members of the Dominion Police Force. It is an outstanding reminder of the esteem in which Sherwood was held.

Arthur Percy Sherwood was born in Bytown in 1854. He began his career in police work in 1877 when he was appointed Deputy Sheriff of Carleton County. From April 1879 to October 1882, he served as Chief of Police in Ottawa, the second man to fill the position. In 1882, he was appointed Superintendent of the Dominion Police Force and quickly rose through the ranks as he was promoted Commissioner in 1885 and then Chief Commissioner in 1913.

Sherwood had an equally rapid rise through the ranks of Canada’s militia. He became a Lieutenant in The Guards in 1884. In 1886, he was transferred to the 43rd Regiment as Captain. With the 43rd Regiment, Sherwood rose to the rank of Major in 1889 then to Lieutenant Colonel and Commanding Officer from 1898 to 1904. In 1930, Sherwood was named Honorary Colonel of the 38th Cameron Highlanders.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Arthur Percy Sherwood died on 15 October 1940. The Ottawa Citizen wrote: “If the real test of the fineness of a man’s character can be gauged by the number of friends who sincerely mourn his passing then Sir Percy was one of the finest. Throughout his long, active and highly honourable life he made friends everywhere. He was in fact one of those fortunate individuals who look out rather than in, whose mind was not so much concerned with his own interests that he could find no time to delight in other people’s happiness or to sympathize with their sorrows.

“This emanation of essential kindness and consideration for others made Sir Percy a

welcome figure in every walk of life in which he moved; there was not a constable or officer of the Dominion Police of which for so long he was the honoured head, but looked on him as a friend, but had for him a sense of keen personal loyalty, a loyalty which is the bed-rock basis of efficiency in every organization; not an officer in the old 43rd, or in any of the messes of later units but eagerly welcomed his coming to their company...” (Editorial, The Ottawa Citizen)

This unique piece of Canada’s early federal police history will be going on exhibition at the RCMP Heritage Centre in the New Year as part of the HCU’s “New Acquisitions” display. The Sherwood Cup will be displayed with other memorabilia belonging to Sir Percy Sherwood. We hope you’ll have a chance to drop in to see the exhibit.

*Jodie Ann Eskritt, Curator
RCMP Historical Collections Unit*

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BANFF INDIAN DAYS AND RODEO

The following article on the colourful history of the Banff Indian Days and Rodeo was submitted by RCMP Veteran Regimental #18648, Alex Matches of Surrey, B.C. He also supplied several photos of the Banff Parade in July 1958 and one of the Indian participants. *Editor*

The Banff Indian Days and Rodeo was a tradition that began in 1889 by the Banff Springs Hotel and was held annually until 1978.

After two years on the Musical Ride in 1956 and 1957, I turned down going on the 1958 Ride and returned to duty in Calgary. In the spring of 1958, I was informed that I was going to Banff Detachment for the summer. My past years and experience as a horseman were likely the reason for my posting. I couldn't seem to get away from red serge and horses in my five years of service. Even while in training, our troop was called upon to escort dignitaries and diplomats and to escort the Governor-General to the 1955 Opening of Parliament. Then following training, I spent a summer in "A" Division in red serge on Parliament Hill, Rideau Hall, The Mint and other Protective Branch locations around Ottawa.

I reported to Banff on July 1st as a summer addition with one other member from Calgary detachment. After a very busy couple of weeks I was told that I would be taking part in the Indian Days Parade and Rodeo weekend with Staff Sergeant R.C. Gray, N.C.O. i/c Calgary Sub-Division.

With tack and saddlery sent from Regina (or Rockcliffe ?) and two local horses, Eagle and Rowe, Staff Gray and I led the parade from the Indian Days grounds, through town, first to the Park Administration Building then to the courtyard of the Banff Springs Hotel for the viewing pleasure of the many tourists gathered there. The two horses performed beautifully and

seemed to sense that they were representing the force. After the parade duties were over I was on mounted patrol on the grounds during each of my day shifts.

That summer in Banff continued to be a busy one. Near the end of July, Princess Margaret stopped in Banff en route to British Columbia for that province's centennial year celebrations. During her four-day stay at Fairholm Ranch, outside of town, dozens of members were brought in for her security and part of that security included a mounted contingent. Six horses were borrowed from Brewster's Stables and a number of men were transferred in from around the province to make up the mounted section which patrolled the grounds of the ranch. Many of these men were ex-Musical Ride members, including Corporal Bob Simmonds, later commissioner, who was on the 1953 Queen's Coronation ride.

The month of August was a bit quieter but with lots of interesting police work, then toward the end of the month Staff Gray and I were on mounted duty again. The Coca-Cola Company in Toronto was filming an international commercial film which





was to depict typical scenes from countries around the world, e.g., Dutch windmills, the pyramids, Eiffel Tower, Mount Rushmore, etc. Of course, what would be more Canadian than red-coated mounted policemen. Staff Gray and I were “on location” with a film crew for two days at the nearby Hoodoos, with snow-capped Rocky Mountains in the background. The next day was spent filming at Banff’s famous Bow Falls which at that time was pictured on the reverse of the five dollar bill.

Toward the end of September when the Banff Springs Hotel was preparing to close down for the winter, which it did in those days, I was returned to Calgary. A week later I was transferred to Okotoks, a two-man detachment south of Calgary from where I took my discharge, “time expired” in June, 1959.

In 2004, while on a trailer trip through Alberta with my wife and granddaughter, we were in the Banff Springs Hotel courtyard where we found a statue of a mounted policeman, which was a tribute to “The North West Mounted Police,” by sculptor Harry O’ Hanlan (1916-1996). It was the same courtyard that we had escorted the Indian Days Parade to in 1958. To my granddaughter, that mounted policeman’s statue will forever be of me.

*Alex (Eddy) Matches, Reg. #18648
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PRESENTATIONS



On January 30th. 2012, at Prince Albert Sask., the Secretary Treasurer of the Prince Albert RCMP Veterans Association, Bob Hemsworth, presented RCMP Veteran Jack Kutcherawy with a Life Membership and Lapel Pin, on behalf of the Friends of the RCMP Heritage Centre, in recognition of his generous support and service over the years



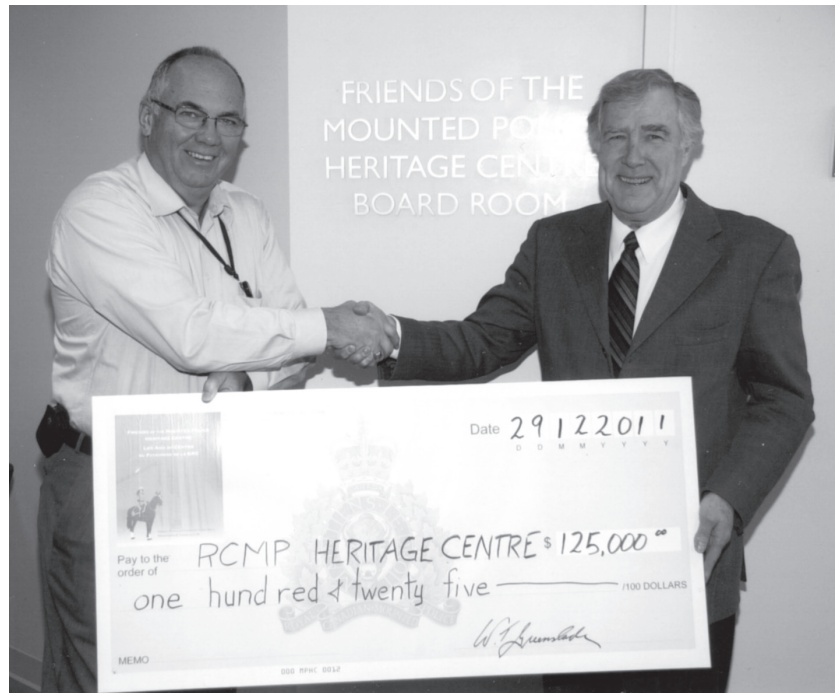
At the January 11th, 2012 Meeting of the Red Deer RCMP Veterans Association, Gail WITHERSPOON of Red Deer was presented a Life Membership Plaque and Lapel Pin, by Veteran Bob Lagrange, on behalf of the Friends of the RCMP Heritage Centre, in recognition of her generous support of the “Friends” and the RCMP Historical Collections Unit, RCMP Heritage Centre.

Photo by Garry Stewart

At the Friends monthly meeting on December 29th, 2011, President Bill Greenslade presented a cheque in amount of \$125,000.00 to President Al Nicholson of the RCMP Heritage Centre.

The cheque represented the total amount of presentations from the Friends, to the Heritage Centre, for the 2011 Year. President Nicholson thanked the Friends for their generous donations and support of the Centre and wished the Friends a successful year in 2012.

Photo by Kenn Barker



Congratulations and a belated Happy 90th Birthday are in order for our senior RCMP Veteran and Lifetime Membership “Friend” and photographer, Past-President Kenn Barker. Besides marking the occasion by his regular attendance at the Heritage Centre, Kenn also chaired the February 22, 2012 “Friends” meeting in the absence of President, Bill Greenslade, on holidays. Kenn continues to perform his volunteer services above the call of duty!

OH SUZANNA



As living and adventuring in the queen city of Regina has many unique advantages to the preservers of the RCMP folklore and history, it is only fair that the *Friends* share their experience with the membership when the opportunity presents itself!

The following is the ongoing saga of Suzanna, the depot's ambassador and unofficial mascot.

Having received several horses from the RCMP, the Queen decided to gift a royal dog to the Canadian Force, hand-picking "Kenside Wallow" of Sandringham, a golden retriever and renaming her Suzanna.

The special name bestowed on the canine comes from one of the Queen's favourite childhood books, "Susannah of the Mounties", which the Queen read when she was just eight years old.

On arrival in Canada she was posted to Regina, to the home and care of Asst. Commissioner Roger Brown, the RCMP's Commanding Officer, Depot Division.

She accompanies him on numerous occasions, such as meeting and greeting the new trainees, and attracts the attention of visitors and employees wherever she goes.

Suzanna has become a royal success with all-comers and particularly school children, as depicted in the attached photo, of the writer's grandchildren, Charli, and Saylor from Summerland, B.C. and RCMP officer Chrystal Kruszelnicki, as she took Suzanna for a stroll at depot.

Be sure and look for the regal Suzanna, on your next visit to Depot, Regina!

Editor

Photo by Barrie Nowell.

RCMP HERITAGE CENTRE - ARCTIC ADVENTURES

February 20th, 2012 was Family Day at the RCMP Heritage Centre, and "Arctic Adventures" was the theme reflecting Canada's far north and the Mounties who serve there. A team of trained sled dogs was one of the genuine attractions most popular with the children, together with materials provided for them to build inukshuks from small rocks; snow goggles from cardboard and string and sleds from popsicle sticks.

The Centre staff and volunteers hosted 215 visitors to round off a successful day with adventures and treats to encourage return visits in the future.

DONOR WALL OF APPRECIATION

The following changes/additions to the "Donor Wall" have been made since our last issue.

LIFE

\$1200 - William J. Smith, Baddeck, NS
1200 - LeRoy M. Hibert, Genelle, BC

FRIEND

\$1000 - Lloyd Libke

\$500 MEMBER

Eric B. Harries, Vernon, BC
Howard Fullerton, Scarborough, ON
Gerald Doucet, Orleans, ON
Eunice Campbell, Regina, SK
Terry Kushniruk, Cranbrook, BC
Neal Melsness, Ottawa, ON
Terry & Dorothy Swystun, Regina, SK
Norm Schroeter, Vernon, BC
Shirley Williamson, Regina, SK
Len Swift, Carp, ON
George Parchomchuk, Saskatoon, SK
Wendy F. Calis, Coquitlam, BC

IN MEMORIAM -

\$200.00 John Ewashko, Winnipeg, MB - in memory of deceased members of "J" Squad - G. Barbeau, Quebec, QC;
R.E. Muir, Ottawa; &
D.J. Risto, Winnipeg, MB

\$100.00 Miriam Bennett, Peterborough, ON - in memory of #17855, Sgt. T.S. (Tom) Bennett

\$5000 Bequest from Estate of Robin Brown of Crescent City, Florida, USA

FRIENDLY NOTES BY EMAIL

Would you like to receive the *Friendly Notes* electronically? This e-mail delivery allows you to view the *Friendly Notes* online rather than through the mail. If so please provide your email address to **bnowell@accesscomm.ca** and your e-mail address will be added to the mail-out list. The *Friendly Notes* will be sent in the Adobe Acrobat pdf format.

The benefits of taking advantage of this include:

- convenience and timely access to the *Friendly Notes* – you receive the *Friendly Notes* a week to ten days earlier,
- environmentally friendly, and
- reduces costs of printing and mailing.

It's easy! All you need is access to the Internet and an electronic mail address.

Thanks to those Members of the *Friends* who have already indicated they would like to receive the *Friendly Notes* electronically.

RECENT CASES

RCMP were called to a Day Care, where a 3 years old was resisting a rest.

A thief who stole a calendar got 12 months.

A thief who fell and broke his leg in wet cement, became a hardened criminal.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

A warm welcome to the following persons who have become members of the Friends during the period from December 1, 2011 to February 29, 2012:

Kevin J. Kientz, Inuvik, NT
 Sylvia M. Monson, Edmonton
 Rick Wychreschuk, Regina
 Doreen L. Riedel, Ottawa
 Robert W.Fenske, Duncan, BC
 Henry Derkach, Regina
 LeRoy M. Hibert, Genelle, BC
 George Wm. Fridgen, Iroquois, ON
 Bob Warnke, Regina

President	Bill Greenslade, RCMP (Rtd.)
Immediate Past President (ODS)	Tom Light, RCMP (Rtd.)
Past President	Kenn Barker, RCMP (Rtd.)
Secretary	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	John Hodgson, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Mac MacGillivray, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	John Worthington, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Steve Smedley, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Gary Davidson, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Bob Cocks
Director	Barrie Nowell, RCMP (Rtd.)
Force Observer	Inspector Jerry Gourlay
Historical Collections Unit Observer	Rhonda Lamb
Heritage Centre Observer	Al Nicholson
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Historian Committee	Kenn Barker, RCMP (Rtd.)
Membership Committee	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Newsletter Editor	Barrie Nowell, RCMP (Rtd.)

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER/RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE MOUNTED POLICE HERITAGE CENTRE

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.

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, Master Card or American Express) Expiry _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Return or Mail:

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