

FRIENDLY NOTES

Friends Of The Mounted Police Heritage Centre

Les Amis Du Centre Du Patrimoine De La GRC

NOTES AMICALES

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GLENBOW ARCHIVES

FRED BAGLEY DIARY, 1874-1884

PROUD
SUPPORTERS
OF/FIERS
D'APPUYER

RCMP
HERITAGE
CENTRE



LE CENTRE
DU PATRIMOINE
DE LA GRC

RCMP
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
UNIT



GROUPE DES
COLLECTIONS
HISTORIQUES



NWMP Detachment, Standoff, 1884. Superintendent Steele (in buffalo coat), Inspector Jarvis, personnel and Indian scouts. (From Volume 11 of *The North-west Mounted Police* by John Peter Turner, author.)

On January 24th. 2013, I was contacted by an active Life Member of the Friends, who supplied me with copies of a re-print from the Glenbow Archives of a Diary kept by one of the original members of the NWMP March West, Frederick Augustus Bagley. The following are excerpts of his amazing service and adventures, verbatim from his carefully recorded daily experiences.

In 1874 his father who previously served with the Imperial Army, convinced the NWMP Commissioner George French, to engage Frederick Bagley into the Force as a Trumpeter as he was only 15 yrs. of age. He was engaged in Toronto and became one of the original 300 Members of the NWMP who marched west. They endured severe times in their goal of bringing law and order to the west. Frederick

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FRED BAGLEY DIARY, 1874-1884 *continued from page 1*

Bagley served in the Force for 25 years and retired as a Sergeant Major with a yearly pension of \$328.00. During World War 1, he served with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces at the rank of Major. He is buried at Banff, Alberta.

1874, June 6th. Leaving Toronto.

We three Troops left Toronto by the Grand Trunk Railway, bound for the Far West, or, as Sir William Butler named it “The Great Lone Land”. Leaving at 11 A.M. to day our Force comprised 217 Officers and men, and 244 horses, on 2 special trains. At Sarnia 9 Railway cars containing farming implements, etc. and at Detroit 2 cars, with 34 horses were attached to our trains. Tremendous excitement as our trains pull out of the Grand Trunk Station in Toronto. Dense cheering crowds of people, Bands playing, relatives (my own amongst them) weeping, Flags waving, as we say good-bye. At the last minute before leaving my dear Mother presses into my hands a blank diary and a key winding watch, and chain. In order to avoid any “International” incident we are all in mufti, and our arms, accoutrements and uniforms packed away in the freight cars attached to our trains, to remain there

until we finish that part of our journey to the West laying in the U.S.A. Each man is allowed the sum of \$1.00 per day for subsistence while we are passing through U.S. Territory.

June 20th. Bagley and the Troops experience their first prairie storm.

Reveille at 6 A.M. Watered and fed horses 6:30. Breakfast at 8 of 3 soda biscuits and chunk of fat bacon. Stables 11:30A.M. Dinner at 1 P.M. of half of a small pancake, some fat bacon and “23” (tea).

At 8 P.M. furious storm, with terrific thunder and incessant lightning. Rain literally in sheets. Horses frantic with fright. All, except a few, broke away and stampeded. The hoof beats of the frenzied horses could be heard above the rolls of thunder as they tore madly through the camp, flattening loaded waggons and tents in a few moments with their flying hooves. At first I could not find my boots under the flattened tent, so out in my bare feet and sounded “Assembly”. After a short time found my riding boots and put them on, but had them on but a few minutes when I was forced to take them off again when they became filled by the floods of falling rain. All hands drenched to the skin. All was now confusion. The continuous rolls of thunder made conversation impossible, and the stentorian voices of Sergeants Major unheeded, as they shouted orders, which nobody paid any attention to. All tents were flattened by the wind. Sub Const. “Bill” Latimer and several other men seriously injured. My tent was not only flattened but carried away altogether by the furious wind, while the pouring rain soaked our blankets, and everything else we owned. During a lull in the storm we managed to erect a tent for the sick and injured men. Also put up a tent for ourselves, and, in an endeavour to snatch a few winks of sleep rolled into water soaked blankets, but the wind increasing in violence forced all hands up to hold the tent down until daylight, when the wind abated and the storm passed on. Daylight

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showed a scene of confusion and destruction. Found that of 300 horses only about 50 were left in camp. The remainder were “over the hills, and far away”.

Colonel French reports to Ottawa as follows:

“One of the most dreadful storms every witnessed in this country. There was one incessant sheet of lightning from 10 P.M. until 6 A.M. 250 horses broke away and escaped about midnight. Fearful sight. 6 men seriously hurt in attempting to stop the horses. Many days lost in recovering horses, and much injury done. Loss eventually reduced to one horse, and this one was supposed to have drowned in the Pembina River.”

After daylight broke, and the wind and storm had subsided, I managed to find my waterproof kit bag, and got some dry clothes to put on. Then saddled and mounted a horse which had been tied to a fence post, and could not get away with the others, which had stampeded, and started out

with Major Walsh to hunt horses. We, and a party of men who had joined us, went 18 miles into U.S. Territory, passed Fort Pembina, where U.S. Troops are stationed, and, riding hard all day, managed to recover about 80 head.

Captain Walker, reported that he had traveled 80 miles into U.S. Territory, and brought in about 35 horses. Other parties brought in a great many more, so that when a final count was made only one horse, as before stated, was missing out of the 250 which had stampeded. Fatigue, hunger, and want of sleep had such an effect on my nerves that when I returned to camp about midnight I was found to be fast asleep in the saddle, and had to be lifted off and put to bed. Not much Fenimore Cooper romance about this, but rather strenuous for a slip of a boy as I am.

Editor Note: Further adventures of Frederick Bagley will be continued in future Issues, space permitting.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATIONS



SAM LARMOUR

On February 5, 2013, on behalf of the Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre, Bob Kells, President of the RCMP Veterans' Association, Calgary Division, presented a Life Membership plaque and a Lapel Pin to Sam Larmour of Calgary, AB. The award was in appreciation of Sam's generous contribution and support of the Friend.

Photo credit: Tim Mitchell, Member of the RCMP Veterans' Association, Calgary Division.

READERS WRITE

The following letter and photos were received from a "Friend", and RCMP Veteran, Tony Wachowicz of Saskatoon, Sask., regarding the identification of two RCMP Members, believed photographed in 1930 in Saskatchewan.

* * *

7 March 2013

Wayne Talbot of Saskatoon presented this picture, as a matter of interest. The Howard Talbot in the photo is his father. He is said to have joined the RCMP circa 1929 at the age of 19 years. Wayne claims he lied about his age as the requirement to join at that time was to be 21 yrs old or more. His true age was later found out when he applied for insurance. He was offered to remain with the Force if he joined the RCMP Band as he was a clarinetist. However, he turned down this offer and chose to leave.

This photo was taken somewhere in Southern Sask. Bob Southam, we know nothing about other than his name.

Wayne found this photo in the old family album. He had it enlarged and one copy colorized. He thought it would be interesting to check some records and find some details of his dad & Bob Southam. Regimental numbers & places they could have been stationed, etc.

I think it's a striking picture & would be interesting to publish in the "Friendly Notes".

Sincerely Tony Wachowicz.



The following information is further to letter of 7-March-2013, from Tony Wachowicz.

* * *

Editor Note: Record checks by our RCMP Heritage Centre Collections Unit revealed the following identification:

Bob Southam: A Constable Robert Nelson Southam, Regimental #10829 joined the RCMP on July 08th. 1930, and retired on Oct. 03rd, 1940. He served in "D", "O" and "L" Divisions. He died in 1946 and was buried at Fort William, Ontario.

Howard Talbot: A Constable H.H. Talbot, Reg. #10818, joined the RCMP in May, 1930, and retired later in 1930, with no further record available.

Members of the "Friends" having any knowledge of the above former members of the RCMP are invited to contact Tony Wachowicz at 47-3110 Louise Pl, Saskatoon, Sk., S7J 5K3. Or contact Editor at Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre, 5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan S4T 0P4.

TWENTY THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty Third Annual General Meeting (AGM) of *The Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre* was held in Regina, Saskatchewan, on Wednesday, March 27, 2013, in the Heritage Room at the Heritage Centre. The meeting started at 6:10 PM

Forty Six persons attended the meeting, and the President was in possession of 435 proxy votes.

Regrets were received from Commissioner Paulson. Present were Assistant Commissioner Russ Mirasty, Commanding Officer "F" Division; Assistant Commissioner Roger Brown Commanding Officer, "Depot" Division;

President Bob Smart welcomed all guests, particularly Malcolm Wake, one of our founding fathers; Jean Thue, widow of Ivan Thue, who was also a founding father; Murray Grant, and Willem De Lint, long time members of the "Friends"; our bookkeeper, Bob Ursulescu and his wife Wanda; and Bob & Betty Mills, former CO "F" Division. President Bob Smart recognized Bill Greenslade, and thanked him for five years service as President. Bill will remain on the Board as Past President. President Bob also took a minute to remember Mac MacGillivray, long time member of the Board of Directors, who passed away recently.

All persons in attendance were in possession of a copy of the Annual Directors report, and the annual financial report. President Bob summarized the entire 2012 report, the introduced the 2012 Board of Directors and Observers on the Board – Supt Gerry Gourlay, Rhonda Lamb, and Al Nicholson.

President Bob Smart called upon Rhonda Lamb, Manager of the RCMP Historical Collections Unit; Al Nicholson, CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre, and Barrie Nowell, Director, and editor of the "Friends" quarterly newsletter "The Friendly Notes"; and the Commanding Officer "Depot" Division, Assistant Commissioner Brown to address the gathering. Al Nicholson brought the

meeting up to date on the proposed agreement of the three levels – City, Provincial, and Federal, for future funding, and stated that this is stable, with strong support, and it appears that the future looks good for the Heritage Centre. Assistant Commissioner Brown stated that the future looks bright for the Heritage Centre. He said training will pick up at "Depot" with 30 troops of 32 persons each, proposed for the year 2013. All Correctional Service members will receive training at "Depot", as well as "Block" training for members from "K", "D", and "F". Rhonda thanked the "Friends" and staff of the HC. She mentioned the "Friends" purchasing the "Constantine family" photos, and artifacts, and also refurbishing of "The Lost Patrol" painting. Barrie Nowell reviewed the year of publishing the "Friendly Notes", and the annual report. Bill Greenslade, Immediate Past President thanked everyone for their support during his tenure of President for five years, and pledged his support to the new President.

Motion/S/C Willem DeLint/Barrie Nowell – That we accept the Board of Directors report.

Motion/S/C Mike Spurgeon/Kevin O'Callaghan – That we accept the Financial report.

Motion/S/C Ostrum/Malcolm Wake – That we have Select Bookkeeping as our auditor for 2013.

Election of Officers:

Motion/S/C Murray Grant/Jean Thue – That we re-elect Bill Greenslade and Barrie Nowell for 2 years.

Motion/S/C Ron Ferguson/Bob Cocks – That we elect Bob Smart for three years.

Motion/S/C Bill Greenslade/Steve Smedley – That we accept the proposed new by-laws as required under the new Not For Profit Corporation Act.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM on a motion by Kenn Barker.

President Bob Smart invited everyone to partake of lunch and refreshments.



Directors, guests and observers at the AGM:

Back row (l to r): Steve Smedley, Director; Supt. Gerry Gourlay, Force Observer; Barrie Nowell, Director and Newsletter Editor; Bob Cocks, Director; Kenn Barker, Past President; and Ron Ostrum, Secretary. *Front Row (l to r):* Bill Greenslade, Immediate Past President & Director; Russ Mirasty, Assistant Commissioner; Rhonda Lamb, Manager of the RCMP Historical Collections Unit; Bob Smart, President; and Al Nicholson, CEO, RCMP Heritage Centre.

HERITAGE CENTRE UPDATE

On behalf of Al Nicholson, CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre, I am pleased to confirm that both the City of Regina and the Province of Saskatchewan have committed in their recent budgets, to partner with the Friends of the Mounted Police and the RCMP, by providing ongoing, financial support to the RCMP Heritage Centre. Stay tuned for further details!

Barrie Nowell, Editor.

**FRIENDLY NOTES
BY E-MAIL**

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.

DONOR WALL OF APPRECIATION

The following changes/additions to the “Donor Wall” have been made since our last issue:

LIFE MEMBER – Sam Larmour, Calgary

LIFE MEMBER – Ed & Helen Ard, West Kelowna, BC

\$100 – William Smith, Baddeck – in memory of Lois I Smith

\$500 – Allen Burchill, Orleans, ON

\$500 – Ronald Roy Dunse, Sherwood Park, AB

\$500 – Naomi Morrow, Hamilton, ON

\$500 – James Purdy, Chatham, ON

\$500 – Garry & Diane Stewart, Red Deer, AB

\$500 – Jessie Hendrigan, Trail, BC

\$500 – David Michell, Saskatoon SK

\$500 – Nona M. Cox, Chilliwack, BC

\$500 – Dennis & Yvonne Schneider, Whitehorse, YT

\$500 – William Pringle, Carcross, YT

The “Friends” are pleased to make honourable mention of a perennial Donor, Mr. Lloyd Libke of Cobourg, Ontario, for a welcome donation of a cheque for \$1000.00. Mr. Libke ranks as an outstanding donor, having donated the total sum of \$20,000.00 over the years. Congratulations Lloyd.

FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

President	Bob Smart, RCMP (Rtd.)
Immediate Past President (ODS)	Bill Greenslade, RCMP (Rtd.)
Past President	Tom Light, RCMP (Rtd.)
Secretary	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	John Hodgson, 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	Supt. Gerry Gourlay, RCMP
Historical Collections Unit Observer	Rhonda Lamb
Heritage Centre Observer	Al Nicholson
Historian Committee	Kenn Barker, RCMP (Rtd.)
Membership Committee	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Newsletter Editor	Barrie Nowell, RCMP (Rtd.)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

A warm welcome to the following persons who have become members of the Friends:

Patricia Bromley, Orillia, ON

J.P. Birtz, Leduc, AB

R.E.G. (Ron) Smith, Regina

Donald K. Wilson, Surrey, BC

**MAC (ORVILLE A.W.)
MACGILLIVRAY**

It is with sincere regrets that we announce the death of Mac (Orville A.W.) MacGillivray, a Life Member of the "Friends", and active member of the Regina RCMP Veteran's Association, and the "Friends" Board of Directors.

Mac joined the RCMP in 1948 and retired in 1969 as a Staff/Sergeant, then was employed several years with the Provincial Government, and joined the Friends of the Mounted Police Museum in 1994 and served until his untimely death on February 15th, 2013 after a lengthy bout with diabetes. Mac was interred in the RCMP Cemetary at "Depot" Division following a Service at the RCMP Chapel. He is survived by his wife Colleen and several children and grandchildren.

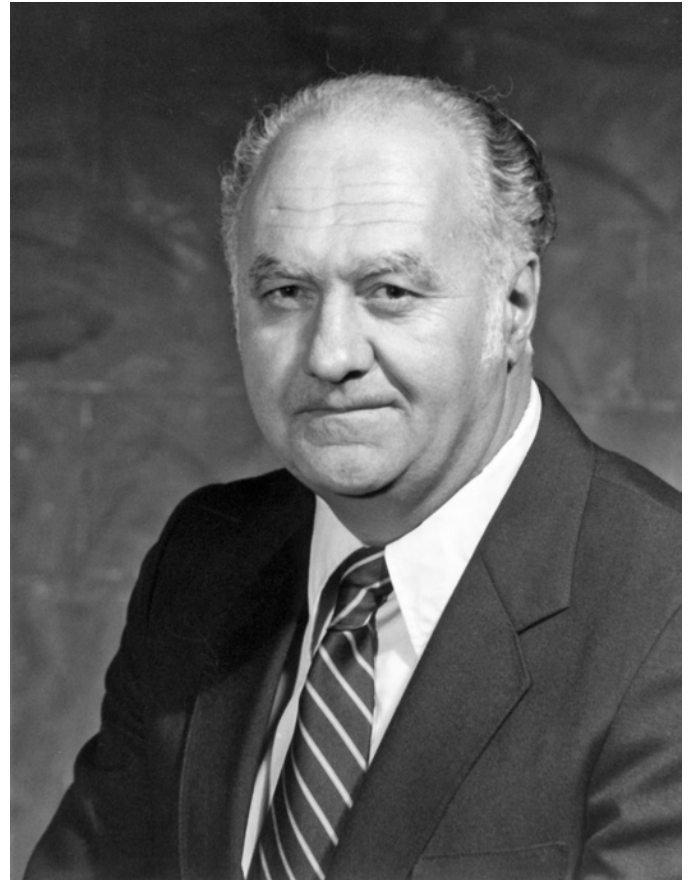


Photo: RCMP Veterans

**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