

FRIENDLY NOTES

Friends Of The Mounted Police Heritage Centre

Les Amis Du Centre Du Patrimoine De La GRC

NOTES AMICALES

VOLUME 25
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THE PASSING OF JOHN WORTHINGTON

**PROUD
SUPPORTERS
OF/FIERS
D'APPUYER**

**RCMP
HERITAGE
CENTRE**



**LE CENTRE
DU PATRIMOINE
DE LA GRC**

**RCMP
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
UNIT**



**GROUPE DES
COLLECTIONS
HISTORIQUES**

Retired S/Sgt. John Worthington, Regimental #21011, passed away on January 18, 2015 in Regina.

John was born at Timmins, Ontario and raised on a farm at Oakville, Ontario. After finishing high school, he joined the RCMP on July 16, 1959 in Toronto, Ontario and was posted to "N" Division in Ottawa, Ontario for basic training. Upon graduation in May of 1960, he was posted to the Regimental Band of the RCMP in Ottawa. In September of 1964 he was transferred to North Battleford, SK, to General Police Duties. Later in December of 1964 he was transferred to Lloydminster, SK, onto City Detachment, then to Rural Detachment and Highway Patrol.

He married Judy in June of 1965. In June of 1969 he was transferred to Cumberland House Detachment where he was the N.C.O. in charge. In June of 1971, John was transferred to Regina, SK to the Migratory Bird and Small Vessel Regulations Section. In April 1973 he was transferred to the Customs and Excise Section. In May of 1976 he was transferred to Regina GIS and



John Worthington, Regimental #21011.

Photo by Kenn Barker

promoted to the rank of Sgt. In July 1978 he was promoted to the rank of S/Sgt. and transferred to "F" Division Headquarters, as the Assistant Security Coordinator for the upcoming Royal Visit. He was then transferred to the

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FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Tabulation of Individual Responses to Survey

Rating points have been assigned the various options. The higher the number, the more desirable is the option. Each of the scores were out of 8.0.

SCORE	QUESTION
7.1	Promote more use of electronic delivery (email) of the <i>Friends</i> newsletter, <i>The Friendly Notes</i> . (Currently only about 12% receive the newsletter electronically.)
5.7	Reduce the annual number of issues of the newsletter from quarterly to three times a year.
4.5	Combine the <i>Friends</i> newsletter with the newsletter of the RCMP Heritage Centre with possibly reducing the content of the <i>Friends</i> newsletter to such things as listing new members including new life members, and leave upcoming events and new exhibits to the Heritage Centre portion. (Currently the distribution of the Heritage Centre's newsletter is primarily done electronically.)
3.90	Raise membership fees to cover these higher postage costs with possibly separate fees for: 1) domestic (within Canada), 2) continental USA, and 3) International.
1.95	Eliminate the newsletter entirely and have information about <i>Friends</i> activities, etc. only available online through the <i>Friends</i> website.

The *Friends* Board will discuss the significance of the noted scores and the path to take with future issues of the Newsletter.

JOHN WORTHINGTON

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newly created Internal Investigations Unit. He left the Force in July of 1981 and accepted a position as Senior Insurance Fraud Investigator with SGI. He retired to pension in late July of 2000.

John became a Director on the *Friends of the RCMP Museum* Board in 2009 and remained on the Board until his passing. John also served on the Board of Directors of the RCMP Heritage Centre from 2007 until May of 2014. John was a talented musician and a lover of the history of the Force, serving as a docent at the Heritage Centre guiding many visitors through and explaining the many artifacts and exhibits. John will be sadly missed.

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RE-ENACTMENT OF THE MARCH WEST

MAY 8 TO JULY 24, 1999

The following was edited by Murray Klatt from reports that were published for the reading pleasure of the rank and file members of the RCMP during the re-enactment.

1998 was the 125th Anniversary of the North West Mounted Police. The March West, however never really got going until 1874. The first year of existence saw the newly recruited members of the NWMP travel to Fort Dufferin, now known as Emerson, Manitoba. The winter was taken up training for the life and unknowns which the Force was about to experience. To commemorate the 125th Anniversary a decision was made to re-enact the March West with current members, Veterans and members of the public volunteering to participate. The March was divided into 2 parts. A South Route which was to travel from Emerson, Manitoba, beginning on March 8th, 1999 and arriving at Fort MacLeod, Alberta on 3rd of July, 1999. The North Route is not part of this story.

As with the original March West, there existed a sense of urgency. The creation of the NWMP was made necessary by the problems that whiskey traders had created with the First Nations residents living on the Western Prairies. The re-enactment, although not having the same "need" as the original, was begun a month earlier than was originally planned, so that it could arrive in Calgary for the first day of the 1999 Calgary Stampede. The earlier date, in 1999, resulted in the March encountering very wet weather until it entered Saskatchewan on the 21st of March. "...only 1 day of sunshine and 2 days without rain in the first 14."

The South Route was broken down into 9 blocks of 4 to 8 days each. The first 2 blocks saw the March travel from Emerson, Manitoba to the Manitoba/Saskatchewan border West of Pierson, Manitoba. The next 5 blocks crossed the Province of Saskatchewan and the last 3 blocks travelled



There were 1000 prints, signed and numbered, and 100 artist proofs of the painting entitled 'The March West'. The original painting was commissioned by the Mounted Police to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the North West Mounted Police, March West in 1999. The painting was done by Saskatchewan artist Dianne Dyck.

from the Saskatchewan/Alberta border west of Fort Walsh, to Fort Macleod. To break it down further, the March crossed Manitoba in 15 days, Saskatchewan in 28 days and Alberta in 13 days.

The participants were encouraged to apply for a full block but some were allowed to participate for a few as 3 days. Unlike the original ride, a support crew, composed of Department of National Defence personnel and volunteers, took down the camp each morning and moved it to the next stop. A number of communities along the way organized special events in which the members of the March could participate. Sgt. Rick Wychreschuk and Cpl. Doug Coleman of "F" Division Community Services Section, prepared daily reports on the progress of the South Route ride as it crossed the Province of Saskatchewan. Volunteer Bob Cocks, Regina RCMP Veteran, Summer Student Rob Taylor, CEO Al Nicholson and Sergeant Major Yvon Mercier worked tirelessly planning and organizing the full event. The Force

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MARCH WEST *continued from page 3*

commissioned a painting of the Original March West and prints were framed and presented to the various communities through which the March passed.

Communities through which the South Route March passed, included: Emerson, Gretna, Reinland, Winkler, Morden, Pembina Crossing, Crystal City, Cartwright, Killarney, Deloraine, Medora, Melita, Pierson, Manitoba; Carnduff, Oxbow, Ray's Park, Roche Percee, Estevan, Torquay, Tribune, Radville, Ceylon, Pangman, Perry, Avonlea, Spring Valley, Mossbank, Gravelbourg, Glen Bain, Pambrun, Lac Pelletier, Simmie, Carmichael, Piapot, Maple Creek, Fort Walsh, Saskatchewan; and Elk-water, Manberries, Etziom, Foremost, Rattlesnake Reservoir, Bow Island, County 40 Mile Park, Les O'Hara's, Writing on Stone Provincial Park, Coffin Bridge, Whoop-Up Trail, Conrad's, Raymond, Lethbridge, Calgary, and Fort Macleod in Alberta.

The opening ceremony which was held at Fort Dufferin on May 8, 1999, and was attended by a number of political dignitaries, local citizens, serving members and Veterans of the RCMP. The Commissioner Phil Murray, Assistant Commissioner Tom Eggestone, Commanding Officer of Manitoba and Assistant Commissioner Harper Boucher, Commanding Officer of Saskatchewan were all amongst the first riding contingent. To start the March, a small cannon was fired and Commissioner Murray's horse bolted. After a frenzied quarter mile ride, Commissioner Murray got control of his horse and was able to return and take his place in the ride. This incident prompted C/Supt. Daryl McFadyen to comment, "We had problems with our horses in the first March West and it looks like we are going to have trouble this time also!"

In researching this project it was learned that National monies which had been obtained for this event were part of what was dubbed the "Sponsorship Scandal." After the end of the

March, all the official reports and photographs were packaged up and sent to RCMP HQ in Ottawa. The original participants have never seen their work since that time, however, no irregularities or improprieties were found in the use of these monies.

The following excerpts were taken from the Reports that were compiled by Sgt. Wychreschuk and Cpl. Doug Coleman for the South Route, while the March wound its way across Saskatchewan.

Friday, May 21 – "Rain clouds looming and threatening to open up, the March West team commenced departing Regina at 0900 hrs. Five trucks, loaded with what we believed included all that was need to set up Camp Gainsborough. The clouds opened up and we encountered heavy rain into early evening. At Carnduff, the rain stopped about 2200 hrs."

* * *

"Re-Enactment of the March West" will continue in the Summer 2015 newsletter

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 e-mail address to m.klatt@sasktel.net 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.

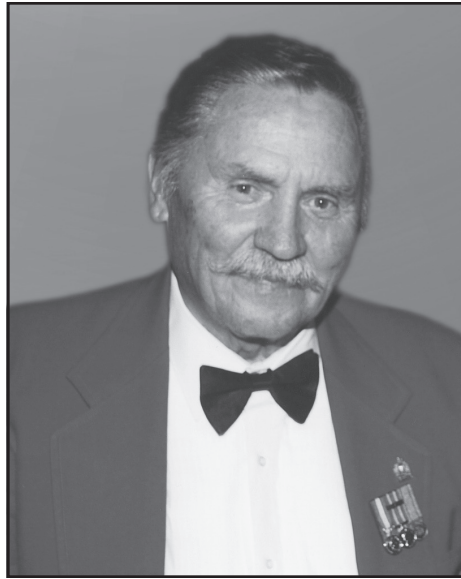
It's easy! All you need is access to the Internet and an electronic mail address.

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

REMEMBERING TONY BREZINSKI

Deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Tony Brezinski, Regimental Number 18373 who passed away on January 23, 2015 in Welaco, Texas where he and his wife Colleen have spent the last 17 winters. After serving 25 years in the RCMP, retiring as a Sergeant, Tony went on to be the Manager of Loss Prevention for Western Canada for Sears Canada.

Tony was an exceptional person: a man of profound integrity, faith, tireless energy and compassion for his worldwide community along with a love and dedication for all his family. In retirement, Tony was the epitome of a true volunteer: he shared his passion for people through endless charitable work with the Lions Club, CNIB, RCMP Vets, *Friends of the RCMP Heritage Centre* and his church. Tony received many accolades and recognitions for his service including the Governor General's Caring



Tony Brezinski, Regimental #18373.

Photo by Kenn Barker

Canadian Award, RCMP Veteran's Association Life Membership, Saskatchewan Centennial Volunteerism Award, Lion's Club Melvin Jones Fellowship Award and the Lion's Foundation of Canada Fellowship Award. Although the awards were appreciated, they were never why Tony gave so much of himself. Tony simply loved life, people and his environment and wanted to leave it happier and healthier than how he had found it.

One of Tony's great passions was sharing the gift fellowship through music with his family, friends and countless strangers that heard him play at nursing homes, festivals, music jamborees, dances and backyards both in Canada and in Texas.

Tony served on the *Friends'* Board of Directors from 1997 to 1999. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

CHEQUE PRESENTATION

Presentation of a cheque for \$40,000 by Friends' President, Bob Smart to Heritage Centre CEO Al Nicholson.

Photo by Chari Lalonde of the RCMP Heritage Centre.



LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATIONS



A life membership plaque and lapel pins were presented to Bill and Margaret Dellebuur on behalf of the Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre. The award was presented by President Bill Hearty at a meeting of the Central Vancouver Island Veterans' Association on March 14, 2015 at the Cowichan Golf and Country Club, Duncan, BC, in recognition of generous support and contributions over the years. In the photo, viewed from left to right: Bill and Margaret Dellebuur.

Photo: Bill Hearty

A life membership plaque and lapel pins were presented to Peter and Trink Graham on behalf of the Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre. The award was presented by President Bill Hearty at a meeting of the Central Vancouver Island Veterans' Association on March 14, 2015 at the Cowichan Golf and Country Club, Duncan, BC, in recognition of generous support and contributions over the years. In the photo, viewed from left to right: Trink and Peter Graham.

Photo: Bill Hearty



A life membership plaque and lapel pin was presented to Adrienne Brezovski on behalf of the Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre. The award was presented by Joan Panich, Director, Honours and Recognition, RCMP Veterans' Association, Ottawa Division in recognition of generous support and contributions over the years. In the photo, viewed from left to right: Joan Panich and Adrienne.

Photo: Graham Muir



DONOR WALL OF APPRECIATION

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

\$1200 – LIFE*

Richard A. Floyd, Sherwood Park, AB
Andre & Deborah Gauthier, Kentville, NS
Bill & Margaret Dellebuur, Duncan, BC
Eileen Martin, Regina, SK
Bill & Shelley Greenslade, Regina, SK
Michael & Eileen Jarboe, Illinois, USA
Peter J. Graham, Bowser, BC
Paul Schauerte, Creston, BC

\$500 – FRIEND*

John Metcalfe, Airdrie, AB
Robert O. Pederson, Lethbridge, AB
Anne L. Lee, Hanceville, BC
Harvey K. Wood, Burnaby, BC
Robert H. Simmonds, Ottawa, ON
David Austin, Brossard, QC
Bob & Wanda Ursulescu, Regina, SK
Bill & Millie Goodhand, Regina, SK
John & Mary Kusalik, Calgary, AB
Walter Tyrrell, Richmond, BC
Lorraine & Edwin Woods, Stonewall, MB
Michele (Mike) A. Pepe, Port Elgin, ON
James G. Wilson, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
Orest & Pauline Kaminski, Westaskiwin, AB
Cynthia Milligan, Calgary, AB
Larry Larson, Oliver, BC
Donald Johnston, Saskatoon, SK

*These are cumulative amounts over the years

IN MEMORIAM:

\$250 – Sharon Kowalyshyn, Regina (also Jennifer, Jason & Kira) in memory of Tom Light

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

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Jean Potter, Calgary, AB
Gary Harrison, Winnipeg, MB
John Billing, Rusagonis, NB
Dan Topping, Regina, SK
Lois Vesh, Peterborough, ON
Neil Foley, Bath, ON
G. Grant Eppy, Calgary, AB
Richard A. Floyd, Sherwood Park, AB
Robert Major, Stittsville, ON
Leo Lacelle, Lasalle, QC
Walter Veenstra, Fitzroy Harbour, ON
Dave and Patricia Yates, Lethbridge, AB
Debra & Gordon Roach, Riverview, NB
Denis P. Mayer, Kingston, ON
Wayne Lang, Island View, NB
Edward A. Turco, Cochrane, AB
Joan D.V. Kacenia, Kitchener, ON
Mrs. Doreen Light, Regina, SK
Randall Prokopanko, Winnipeg, MB
Lenore Jacques, Saskatoon, SK
Tom J. Abernethy, Ottawa, ON
Gerry Clarke, Calgary, AB
Marie Coombs, Ottawa, ON
Penelope Power, St. John's, NL
Lynne Wright, Borehamwood, Hertfordsire, UK

**REQUEST FOR
SUBMISSIONS
TO THE
FRIENDLY NOTES**

Anyone who has an interesting article, note, or photo relating to the history of the RCMP and wishing the same to be published in the *Friendly Notes*, may submit it to Murray Klatt at: m.klatt@sasktel.net, or mail to:

The Editor, Friendly Notes
c/o Friends of the Mounted Police
Heritage Centre
5907 Dewdney Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan Canada S4T 0P4

**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	George Germaine
Director	Glen Berger
Force Observer	Supt. Paul Hebert, SSO, RCMP "Depot" Division
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	Murray Klatt, 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.

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 <http://www.rcmpheritagecentre.com/home/about-the-centre/friends-of-the-rcmp-hc> and click on "Join the Friends" at the bottom-left corner.