

Friends Of The Mounted Police Heritage Centre

es Amis Du Centre Du Patrimoine De La GRC

**OTES AMICALES** 

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PROUD SUPPORTERS OF/FIERS D'APPUYER







GROUPE DES COLLECTIONS HISTORIQUES

## MEET ROBIN ETHERINGTON, NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE RCMP HERITAGE CENTRE

Robin Etherington is honoured and thrilled to serve as the new President and CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre. She joined the Heritage Centre on March 23, 2009 moving from Ontario to Saskatchewan just as spring arrived – well close enough.

Robin has lived and worked across Canada and in Mexico serving in a variety of roles at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, the Canadian Museum of Civilization and Canadian Heritage Information Network in Ottawa, the Glenbow Museum in Calgary, Director of Guelph Museums in Guelph and Nortel in Winnipeg and Calgary, as well as at the National Institute of Anthropology and the National University's Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City. She has an M.A. in Museums Studies and one in Language and Professional Writing.

Robin is excited about the Heritage Centre and its role to give voice to the remarkable history and time honoured tradition of the RCMP, as well as its role in the community to provide programs and venue space for community people to enjoy and use for their own events and programs. The RCMP Heritage Centre is a national cultural asset and a premier cultural facility for Regina and Saskatchewan. Robin is working at inviting arts



Robin Etherington, New President and CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre Photo by Kenn Barker

and heritage and community groups to use the Heritage Centre, as well as the First Nations, multi-cultural groups, the City of Regina, and youth and seniors. One of her primary goals is to work with the RCMP, including Depot, "F" Division, Headquarters in Ottawa, the Historical Collections Unit, and the RCMP VETS Associations and ensure that all RCMP members, cadets and Vets feel that the RCMP Heritage Centre is their heritage centre and home. In particular, Robin is looking forward to welcoming the Vets to Regina and to the Heritage Centre for the AGM in 2010 and to celebrating the 125th anniversary of Depot Division in 2010. Established in 1885, Depot has been the heart and soul of training young RCMP officers as well as providing training for national police forces and for international activities. Robin and the Board and staff are pleased that a RCMP buffalo head/crest will have a place of honour

in the lobby in the near future. Sounds like an excellent occasion for a reception.

Robin and her team will be revitalizing the programming throughout the year to attract new visitors and welcome back the regulars; will be inviting community people to become volunteers in a number of roles from docents and greeters to the retail stores to developing programs and special events to help with operations; will be inviting community organizations and businesses to take advantage of the incredible facilities for meetings and receptions; and will invite everyone to do gift buying in the Gift Shop for unique RCMP items.

*The Friends of the RCMP Heritage Centre* have always been there for the Heritage Centre and for its predecessor, the Centennial Museum. This incredible group of people provides moral, social and financial support for the Heritage Centre and Robin wants them to know how much she appreciates their efforts. She is now a proud member of the *Friends*.

On a personal level – Robin thoroughly enjoys being with family and friends, hiking, reading, exploring new places and cooking and eating Mexican food.

# New Board Members – John Worthington and John Hodgson



John Worthington Regimental No. 21011 Photo by Kenn Barker

John Worthington was born at Timmins, Ontario and raised on a farm at R.R.#1 Oakville, Ontario. finishing After High School, he joined the R.C.M.Police on July 16th, 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 as a percussionist to the Regimental Band of the R.C.M.Police in Ottawa. He remained and played with the Band touring Ontario, Eastern and Western Canada twice, as well as the Eastern U.S. States as far south as Boston. 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, on to City Detachment where he remained for 2 1/2 years until moving on to Rural Detachment and Highway Patrol. In June of 1969 he and his family were transferred to Cumberland House Detachment where he was the N.C.O. I/C. His marriage to Judy who he met when she was employed by the C.I.B.Branch for the Force in Ottawa, took place in Ottawa in June of 1965.

In June of 1971 he and his family were transferred to Regina, SK where he became the Federal Coordinator of the Migratory Bird and Small Vessel Regulations Section, for the Province of Saskatchewan. In April 1973 he was transferred to Regina Sub-Division as the N.C.O. in Charge of Regina Custom and Excise Section for Enforcement in Southern Saskatchewan. In May of 1976 he was transferred to Regina G.I. Section and in June of 1976 was promoted to the rank of Sgt. In July 1978 he was promoted to the rank of S/Sgt. after having been temporarily transferred to "F" Division Headquarters, as the Assistant Security Coordinator for the Royal Visit to the Province in that year. At the completion of the Royal Visit he was transferred to a newly opened section in Saskatchewan as the N.C.O. I/C of the Internal Investigations Unit for the Province in Regina. He remained within that Unit until resigning to pension from the Force in latter July of 1981, accepting a management position with Saskatchewan Government Insurance Corporation in Regina, SK, as their Senior Insurance Fraud Investigator. He remained with that Corporation and in that position for 19 years, until retiring to pension in late July of 2000. John is now fully retired and resides with his wife Judy in Regina.

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John was born in Mt. Middleton, a little country road near Sussex, New Brunswick. After graduating from Saint John High School, he worked at several different jobs and then joined the Force at age 20 on July 9th, 1953. He was sworn in at Fredericton, NB and sent to Fairmont Training Sub/Division in Vancouver for first part training and then to "Depot". His first of many postings was to "A" Div. Ottawa for several months and then it was off to "H" Div. where he served at Halifax, Lunenburg, Port Hawkesbury and GIS in Sydney. At six years service, he was transferred to Whitehorse, YT, where he met his bride of 48 years who was nursing at the Whitehorse General His wife-to-be, then Nellie Sideroff from Hospital. Hines Creek, AB remained in Whitehorse while John was transferred to Dawson City and they married a year later. Next posting was back to Whitehorse for a couple more years and then to Carmacks, YT where their first child was born. A year later, he was transferred to Spence Bay, NWT and promoted to Cpl. Two years later it was off to Inuvik for another two years, then back to Whitehorse for two more making a grand total of 12 wonderful years in the North.

With a change of policy from Ottawa, many of the long term Northerners were transferred South. Although he would have preferred southern BC, it was decided that Yorkton. SK was the best place for him. As CIB Reader, Shift Supervisor, I/C Drug Section and then I/C GIS was promoted to Sgt. Two years later, he was transferred as I/C Regina Drug Section where he remained for 4 years. When the time came again for another transfer, he and his wife, decided that their two



John Hodgson Regimental No. 18249

children (by the way a daughter was born in Inuvik days) seemed too young to be transferred again and he retired in Sept. 1977. He immediately joined the firm of Re/Max Crown Real Estate and sold Residential Real Estate for the next 30 years, retiring for the second time in August, 2006. He now lives quietly with his wife in Regina.

## **19TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 19th Annual General Meeting of the *Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre* was held on March 24, 2008, in the Community Programming Room at the RCMP Heritage Centre, Regina, Saskatchewan. The meeting commenced at 6:30 PM.

Forty-seven persons were in attendance and 414 proxy votes were held.

President Bill Greenslade opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Special guests recognized were Assistant Commissioner Roger Brown, Commanding Officer of "Depot" Division; Chief Superintendent Ron Plomp, representing Assistant Commissioner Dale McGowan, Commanding Officer of "F" Division; Ms. Janet Wightman, Chairperson of the RCMP Heritage Centre Board of Directors; Supt. Dale Erickson, Support Services Officer, "Depot" Division; Jean Thue, widow of one of the *Friends*' founders, Ivan Thue; and Doreen Light, wife of the *Friends*' Past President Tom Light.

President Bill also recognized the former Presidents of the *Friends* – Tom Light; Kenn Barker; Dick Crawford; Ken Campbell and Ivan Thue. President Bill also recognized those members of the Board who are no longer with us – Directors Stan Martin and Ted Madill. Finally, President Bill recognized those who have left the Board – Directors Bill McLeod and Clay Turner; Karen Worobec and Karen

Dackiw of the RCMP Heritage Centre; and, Carmen Harry of the RCMP Historical Collections Unit.

President Bill commented on the challenge in fund raising. Through memberships, donations and other sources, the *Friends* were able to contribute \$216,000 to the Heritage Centre and the Historical Collections Unit in 2008. President Bill then reviewed the 2008 financial statement.

President Bill then called on Shannon Cunningham (representing Rhonda Lamb Manager of the RCMP Historical Collections Unit). Shannon thanked the *Friends* for financial assistance during the year, particularly for the roller shelving and the display cases which were purchased. Bob Cocks, Editor of the *Friendly Notes* then said a few words about the newsletter. Karen Dackiw, representing the Heritage Centre thanked the *Friends* for their support during 2008. President Bill then introduced Ms. Wightman, who in turn introduced Ms. Robin Etherington, the new President and CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre. It was Robin's second day on the job. Robin spoke briefly, thanking the *Friends* for inviting her to the meeting and looking forward to working with the *Friends* in the future.

A Life Membership plaque was presented to Ken and Joyce Fader by President Bill.

In other business a motion by Mac MacGillvray and seconded by Murray Grant that the 2008 Board of Directors' report be accepted. Carried. Motion by John Worthington and seconded by Bob Parrell that the 2008 Financial Statement be accepted. Carried. Motion by Bob Cocks and seconded by Malcolm Wake that the *Friends* appoint Select Bookkeeping Services as the official bookkeeper for 2009. Carried. Motion by Mike Spurgeon and seconded by Jean Thue that Bob Cocks be re-elected to the Board of Directors for a period of two years. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM and everyone present enjoyed refreshments and a light lunch.

A copy of the 2008 Annual Report is available on request, while quantities last. The 2008 report is also available by email, upon request.

# 2009 FRIENDS' Board of Directors



Individuals in the above photo: Back Row, left to right: Superintendent Dale Erickson, Observer on the Board representing the RCMP; Bob Cocks, Director; C/Supt. Ron Plomp representing Assist. Commissioner Dale McGowan, C. O. "F" Division; John Worthington, Director; John Hodgson, Director; and, Ron Ostrum, Secretary.

Front Row, left to right: Kenn Barker, Past President; Assist. Commissioner Roger Brown, C. O. "Depot" Division; Janet Wightman, Chairperson of the RCMP Heritage Centre Board of Directors; Bill Greenslade, President; Robin Etherington, President and CEO, RCMP Heritage Centre; and, Mac MacGillivray, Director. Missing from the photo is Tom Light, Immediate Past President; and Rhonda Lamb, Manager, and Observer on the Board representing the RCMP Historical Collections Unit. Photo by Murray Grant

## PRESENTATIONS



On March 24, 2009 at the *Friends* 'Annual General Meeting, a Life Membership plaque was presented to Ken and Joyce Fader. Presentation of the plaque to Ken (left) was done by *Friends* 'President Bill Greenslade.

Photo by Kenn Barker



On April 4, 2009 at the regular general meeting of the Central Vancouver Island Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association, President Myles Novak presented Ben and Barbara Duncan of Parksville, BC and Josh and May Purney of Nanaimo, BC, Life Membership plaques and lapel pins on behalf of the *Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre*. In the photo, left to right are: President Myles Novak, Ben Duncan, Barbara Duncan, May Purney and Josh Purney.

Photo courtesy of the Central Vancouver Island Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association

## CANADA DAY DRAW

Congratulations to Mr. Regis Pollock of Louisville, Ohio, USA who was the lucky winner of the *Friends*' July 1st (Canada Day) Draw. Mr. Pollock's name was drawn from the names of all members of the *Friends* and the prize he will receive is a copy of the book *In the Line of Duty*. Every year, around July 1st, a random draw is made from all paid up members of the *Friends*, and the winner is presented with a gift. Mr. Pollock is a Life Member of the *Friends*.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Email dated April 9, 2009 "Subject: Identity of the members shown in the Friendly Notes Volume 19 Issue 2 Spring 2009 Days Gone By - Nostalgic Memories

Picture with Harry Secombe: Left Brian Linklater; Right Stan Ferguson





Members at Kennsington Station: Left Merle Klien; Right Art Mercer

Disc Jockey and Friends: Member Darwin Fleming





Wendy Craig and Fans: Left to Right: Brian; Linklater; Dallas Allinson; and, Stan Ferguson

We are trying to put together a reunion after 40 yrs. That is the reason I came across this article and am proud to help you out.

Dallas Allinson, Red Deer, Alberta"

Thanks Dallas for identifying those members in the photos of the 1969 Musical Ride Tour of the United Kingdom. Good luck on holding a forty year reunion. Editor

A letter dated May 5, 2009

#### "Dear Mr. Cocks,

As a keen follower of all things "Mountie" since 1939 I have accumulated quite a hotch potch of items related to visits made by the Force to the "Old country".

I have read the article by N. (Windy) Gale on the tour in 1969 of the Musical Ride and seen what interest it generated. That is why I have sent you something similar, hoping members will be equally keen.

Many years ago, I was gifted a framed photograph of the RCMP contingent which attended the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in June 1937. The photo shows the

inspection of the Force members prior to the parade by a VIP and who, I believe to be Asst. Commissioner S. T. Wood.

The significant thing about this particular item, is on the reverse of the framed picture is a montage of a letter sent to an officer of the Life Guards who was responsible for their wellbeing and comfort during their stay. It was sent and signed by Assist. Commissioner Wood with the signatures of all members to record their appreciation of the kindness received.

I have been able to trace many of the names through the obituary pages in past copies of the Quarterly and am sure the Friends will find pleasure in researching others.

I have enclosed photos taken of the item. I hope you find this to be of interest

Kindest regard, Brian Humphryes Maidstone, Kent, England"

A framed photo of the RCMP attending the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in June 1937.

The back of the framed photo which contains a letter which reads:

"Royal Canadian Mounted Police Criminal Investigation Branch Ottawa, Canada

June 7th, 1937

Dear Corporal-Major Smith Photos courtesy of Brian Humphryes Life Guards, Hyde Park Barracks, Knightsbridge, London, S. W. 7, England

Dear Corporal-Major Smith,

At the request of the members of the Mounted Police Coronation Contingent I am enclosing an autographed photograph of the Contingent taken during our recent visit to London. This is intended as a small token of our appreciation of your courtesy, assistance and many kindnesses during the time we were quartered with your regiment at Knightsbridge. Again thanking you,

Yours very truly, S. T. Wood, Assistant Commissioner"

Thanks Brian for the photos and names of the RCMP contingent attending the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in June 1937. For more on the 1937 Contingent see the Days Gone By – Nostalgic Memories section below. Editor An email dated May 5, 2009:

"Subject: Musical Ride Memories - 1969 Contingent

Attention: Bob Cocks, Newsletter Editor Re: Volume 19 - Issue 2 Spring, 2009

Hello, Bob and Kudos to you for yet another inspiring *Friendly Notes* Publication!

I remain enthralled in the "Days Gone By - Nostalgic Memories" of the troops of '69 who were honored in England. I glean a mutual sense of esteem in reading the responses from other '69 Ride Members who graced the saddles and set a high standard on behalf of Canada. Regretfully, my husband (Cpl. D.J. Fleming Reg. No. 23693) is no longer here to share his experience; however he did keep a scrapbook which now serves as a recollection of this honorable allegiance. I would be pleased to share my collection and extend a welcome to fellow Ride members to send me an expression of interest via the *Friendly Notes* network.

L. Fleming 70 Mile House, B.C.

Thanks Lorrie for your email. If any former Ride Members would like to contact Lorrie, please email bobc@accesscomm.ca, and your message will be relayed. Editor

## DAYS GONE BY -Nostalgic Memories

An article appeared in a 1937 Quarterly titled *The Coronation Contingent* by Constable R. J. Kidston.

#### The first paragraph reads:

"Towards the end February, there converged on Regina men from every division in the Force; from every corner of Canada; to be moulded into the the Contingent which would represent the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at the Coronation of His Majesty King George VI. They came with the diversity of thoughts; thoughts of visiting England for the first; of returning home again after many years; of the rigours of Regina and of the Riding School; of their good fortune in being chosen, and, with some, the wonder that they had been picked at all."

From the signatures on the letter (see Correspondence section), the following are some of the names of those in the contingent. Three other signatures on the letter are obscure and the names of these Members have not been determined at this point. Some Members did not sign the letter and thus a complete listing of the full Contingent is not available.

CAMPBELL, Arthur Charles
 CAREY, Charles Edward
 DENTON, L. Art

Reg. No. 10040 Reg. No. 10443 Officer No. 0.401

4) GILL, William Arthur	Reg. No. 11013
5) HARRINGTON, Charles Frederick	Reg. No. 9988
6) HARRIS, John Blair	Officer No. 0.369
7) HUNT, Walter Battison	Reg. No. 9544
8) KIDSTON, Ralph James	Reg. No. 10400
9) LAMOTHE, Alcide	Reg. No. 10273
10) LEA, Richard	Reg. No. 10760
11) LYONS, Emmett Morrell	Reg. No. 11484
12) MARTYN, Frank	Reg. No. 10969
13) MATHEWS, W.	Reg. No. 9553
14) MERTENS, Paul	Officer No. 0.417
15) MIGHALL, Dennis Charles	Reg. No. 10189
16) MORLEY, William George	Reg. No. 7700
17) NEWMAN, Frank Arthur	Reg. No. 10904
18) PARSONS, Albert William	Officer No. 0.341
19) PATON, John Rowlan	Reg. No. 9261
20) REGIMBALD, Oscar	Reg. No. 10663
21) SOAME, James Henry	Reg. No. 5476
22) THACKER, Leonard George	Reg. No. 10895
23) WILSON, Arthur Samuel	Reg. No. 9938
24) WOOD, Stuart Taylor	

If any readers know of any other Members of the 1937 Contingent, we would be pleased to hear from you. Responses can be sent to bobc@accesscomm.ca or to The Editor, *Friendly Notes*, c/o RCMP Heritage Centre, 5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan S4T 0P4.

## AT THE TEMPORARY EXHIBIT GALLERY

A new temporary exhibit titled Scarlet Settlement opened at the Heritage Centre on April 16, 2009. The exhibit brings to life the Force's famous 1874 March West through the displaying of rare artifacts and the sharing of personal experiences from three North West Mounted Police members who made the trek – Arthur H. Griesbach, John H. McIllree and James M. Walsh.

The exhibit runs until December 2009.



Part of the exciting exhibit Scarlet Settlement are rare artifacts from the 1874 March West and establishments of forts upon arrival.

Photo by Timothy Hersche, RCMP Historical Collections Unit



Viewing the route map of the 1874 March West (left to right) are Sheila McGowan, Assistant Commissioner Dale McGowan, Commanding Officer of "F" Division; Robin Etherington, President and CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre; and Assistant Commissioner Roger Brown, Commanding Officer of "Depot" Division.

Photo by Kenn Barker



Partners in presenting the Scarlet Settlement exhibit were Robin Etherington, President and CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre and Rhonda Lamb, Manager, RCMP Historical Collections Unit.

Photo by Kenn Barker

### 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 bobc@accesscomm.ca and a mail-out list will be created. 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.

#### Donor Wall in Memory of:

\$100Irene F. Black, Grande Prairie, AB - in memory of #18490A. James BlackHoward Ross, Regina, SK - in memory of Stan Wight;P.A. Anderson; and Ken Bradshaw

#### Friends (\$500 to \$1,199)

Robin Brown, Coral Gables, FL, USA Neville P. (Windy) Gale, England Tony Kozak, Winnipeg, MB Howard Ross, Regina, SK David H. Slinn, Regina, SK

Enjoying the opening of the new exhibit are Ray Boughen, Member of Parliament for Palliser and Robin Etherington of the Heritage Centre.

Photo by Kenn Barker



The opening of the Scarlet Settlement was well attended. Support for the exhibition was provided by the PEI Division and Calgary Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association and by the *Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre*. Photo by Kenn Barker

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

A warm welcome to the following persons who have become members of the *Friends* during the period from March 7 to June 15, 2009:

Kathy and Don Beck, Regina, SK

Ralph Cave, Surrey, BC

Robin Etherington, Regina, SK

E.J. (Al) and Shirley Haggerty, Ottawa, ON

John R. and Jacquelen McDonald, Navan, ON

Ken and Loverna McKenzie, Regina SK

Maxine McKenzie, Moose Jaw, SK

### FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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	Bob Cocks
Force Observer	Superintendent Dale Erickson
Historical Collections	
Unit Observer	Rhonda Lamb
Heritage Centre Observer	Robin Etherington
Historian Committee	Kenn Barker, RCMP (Rtd.)
Membership Committee	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Newsletter Editor	Bob Cocks

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

Membership Life Membership Donation American residents pl	<ul> <li>One Year (\$35)</li> <li>Three Years (\$90)</li> <li>\$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.</li> <li>(Any amount is eligible for a Canada Customs and Revenue Agency tax receipt. Canada Only)</li> <li>ease add \$5.00 extra per year and international residents please add \$10.00 extra per year, to cover postage</li> </ul>
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Enclosed Amount \$	
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E-mail Address	
My membership/dona	tion will be paid by:
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	Expiry
	Visa, Master Card or American Express)
Signature	
<b>Return or Mail:</b>	
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5	ie, Regina, Saskatchewan
Canada S4T 0P4	