

## Mess and RUSI Vancouver Members News – Dec 1, 2010

### Wednesday Lunch

The last lunch of the year will be on Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. This is always a Ladies and Guest lunch so ask your significant other and/or anyone you think might enjoy our lunches.

We have started collecting for our annual 'Purse' for Mrs Lum. Our members' way of expressing our appreciation of her efforts at our lunches through the year. See me in the Mess **The first lunch of 2011 is set for Jan 5<sup>th</sup>.**

We haven't firmed up speakers for the new years yet but there will not be a RUSI speaker in January.

Col Keith Maxwell will be at lunch this week and will have the 'Devil's Bge' books for those who ordered them. Don Waite's book, 'Vancouver Exposed - A History of Vancouver in Photographs' will also be available for purchase.

### Dues - 2011

Dues for 15Fd Officers Mess Associates and RUSI Vancouver members are due on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2011. Please note that both organizations, after many years, raised the dues amounts last year. Officers Mess Members will now pay \$60.00 per year and RUSI members will now pay \$25.00 per year.

### Two new Honoraries Appointed by 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment

We are sad to see **Col John Brownlee Baker** and **LCol Peter Veuger** leave their positions on the completion of their appointments. They both worked very hard for the Regiment and its soldiers. We hope that they will continue their association with the Regiment and to give us the benefit of their wisdom and experience.

Their successors have been announced and they are Col Grant Smith, appointed as Honorary Colonel and LCol Bill Rodgers, appointed as Honorary Lieutenant Colonel. Both appointments are for three years.



**Col Grant Smith OStJ, ESM, CD**, appointed Honourary Colonel, was a member of the Vancouver Police Department from 1970 to 2001. When he retired from the force he was Deputy District Commander for the downtown core of Vancouver.

Col Smith is active in the community having received a third Governor General in Council Appointment to Chairperson for the Employment Insurance Commission Board of Referees where he hears appeals related to the Employment Insurance Act. He has been appointed to the following organizations: Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Pacific Regional Advisory Council on Oil Spill Response; a Trustee of the Rosewood Foundation; and an Executive Board Member of Gilmore Gardens (an assisted living retirement centre in Richmond, BC). He is the Chair of Council for Gilmore Park (United Church) and also is the Chair of the Accountable Board for this Church. Col Smith sings in his local church choir, sits as a member of the worship committee and has been appointed as a Lay Minister of Marriages for the United Church of Canada.

He has served as the Chair of the Mayor's (Richmond) Advisory Committee, and has been the campaign manager for both the Mayor of Richmond and a Federal Member of Parliament for Richmond. He recently served as the fund raising chair for the Richmond Chamber of Commerce 911 Awards Dinner.

For twelve years Col Smith was very active with the United Way as a representative and keynote speaker. Annually, on behalf of the United Way, he spoke to groups totaling 25,000 people and played a significant role in raising more than \$250 million dollars. He has written a patriotic narration entitled "I AM THE FLAG, MY NAME IS CANADA" and, supported by 400 military musicians, presented it to a very enthusiastic crowd of 37,000 as part of Veterans Canada's, "Canada Remembers" program at BC Place Stadium.

Col Smith is the founder and Chair of Unity Canada, a private citizen's initiative designed to promote national unity, and is a past Executive Board Member of the Vancouver Branch of St John Ambulance. He is an active member of Rotary International. A yachting enthusiast, he is the Commodore of the Richmond Yacht Club. Col Smith is also licensed by the Attorney General of BC as a Private Investigator.



**LCol William J Rodgers BA, LLB**, appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, is a Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia (14 January 1991 to present) Prior to his appointment to the Provincial Court, Col Rodgers was elected to the Council of the District of North Vancouver in 1986, 1988, and 1990. He served as Council's representative on the Hospital Board, Police Liaison Committee, Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Greater Vancouver Parks Board. In 1988, he presented a paper on Community Policing at the Annual Conference of

the Canadian Association of Municipalities.

Between 1995 and 1999, he served as a Director of the B.C. Games Society in North Vancouver for the Winter Games and the Games For Athletes With A Disability.

Col Rodgers was a Civilian Instructor with 103 (Thunderbird) Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Cadets, North Vancouver from 1998 to 2008. He coached the Squadron's Range Team and assisted with the Advanced Survival Training program.

He has been awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee medal and earned two degrees, a Bachelor of Arts, University of Toronto, 1971 and Bachelor of Laws, University of Windsor, 1976.

## Upcoming Events - The Welch Men's Choir

Many past and current members of this well known Vancouver Choir are also members of the Officers Mess. They would be delighted to have you attend one of their Christmas performances. See the poster below.



**Dec 5<sup>th</sup>** - Watch for the 15 Fd Regimental Band in the Annual '**Rogers Santa Claus Parade**'.

**Dec 12<sup>th</sup>** - **The annual Commanding Officers Tea.** Always a favourite. This afternoon cocktail party starts around 1330hrs and goes to around 1700hrs. Cost includes sherry, Mrs Lum's delicious hors d'oeuvres, as well as coffee and tea served by Regimental Ladies. The Regimental Band is sending one of its combos, the Quay Winds, to entertain us as we mingle. The bar will be open for those of you who want more than sherry. Dress is semi-formal – suit and tie (or Regimental blazer and tie) and Cocktail dresses for the Ladies. Tariff, payable at the door, not yet fixed but was \$15.00ea last year. A sign up sheet will be posted in the Mess shortly. (we need to know the number of attendees so Mrs Lum can produce enough of her famous hors d'oeuvres.)

If you want to be into the Mess before Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> and want to attend, email me and I will put you on the list.

**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 - New Years Levee.** Another good day for former members to meet. Officers and Snr NCOs exchange New Years greetings around 1100hrs then a light lunch is served, starting around noon. Lots of consommé (peppered sherry on the side) and moose milk for those who overindulged the night before. The Mess is open to around 1600 hrs although it is pretty well deserted by 1500hrs. Normal Mess dress applies for civilians, retired military personnel should wear Regimental Blazer and slacks with medals.

**Jan 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - Robbie Burns Event.** The *Robbie Burns Supper* will be held in the *BCIT Aerospace Hanger* in Richmond. An entertaining evening with great food, haggis, and most importantly, good Scotch. Great Scottish tales and music is guaranteed. All proceeds will go to the Regimental Trust.



**Colonel Grant Smith**  
*Honourary Colonel of the  
15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment RCA  
and President of the  
15 Field Artillery Regimental Society*  
**Requests the Pleasure of Your Company**

at a

**Robbie Burn's Night**

with

**The Honourable Linda Reid**

*Member of the Legislative Assembly*

&

**Captain (N) Tung Chan**

*Honourary Captain, Maritime Forces Pacific*

*A Fundraiser in Support*

of

Regimental Family of the Men & Women of the Canadian Forces

**January 15, 2011**

**1800 for 1900**

at the

**BCIT Aerospace Centre**

3800 Cessna Drive

Richmond, BC

*Dress:*

*Business Suit, Scottish Attire,*

*Black Tie, Mess Dress*

*RSVP to: Col Grant Smith*

*[gradon@Telus.net](mailto:gradon@Telus.net) or 604-271-5530*

*7460 Sunmybank Avenue*

*Richmond, BC V6Y 1G5*

*Tariff:*

*Prior to December 10, 2010 \$90 per person*

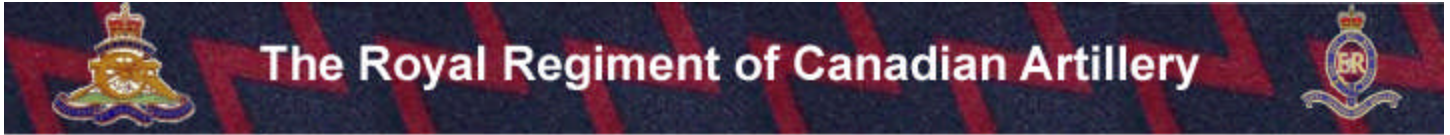
*After December 10, 2010 \$100 per person*

*Make Cheques Payable to the*

*15th Field Regimental Society*

**The Military Ball** - The Vancouver Garrison Officers Society is pleased to announce that the date for the 2011 Military ball has been set. The Ball will be held at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Mark your calendars now!

**St Barbara's Day Greetings from the Colonel Commandant**



**Happy  
Saint Barbara's Day**



**TO ALL CANADIAN GUNNERS**

**MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF CANADIAN ARTILLERY - SPECIAL GREETINGS ON THE OCCASION OF SAINT BARBARA'S DAY, OUR PATRON SAINT, ON THE 4TH OF DECEMBER 2010.**

**MANY OF YOU WILL BE CELEBRATING THIS DAY WITH A DRINK, DINNER OR SPORTS ACTIVITY, WHILE MANY WILL BE ENGAGED IN OPERATIONS.**

**PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO REFLECT ON THE ROYAL REGIMENT THAT SUPPORTS YOU IN YOUR ENDEAVOURS. MY THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU, WHEREVER YOU MAY BE STATIONED OR DEPLOYED, AND WITH YOUR FAMILY.**

**GOOD SHOOTING! UBIQUE**

**ERNEST BENO, OMM, CD, COLONEL COMMANDANT**

