

Class of 65 Newsletter

Bulletin d'Information—Classe de 65

Numéro 112



April/avril 2018

Disclaimer: This Newsletter is produced for members of the RMC Class of 1965 and is based primarily on inputs from members of the Class of 65. It is not an official publication of the Royal Military College nor does it purport to represent the views or opinions of all members of the Class. Unfortunately, the Editorial staff lacks the linguistic skills to produce a bilingual version. Items are published in the official language in which they are received.

Editor's Corner/Coin du rédacteur

I know this comes hard on the heels of Edition 111, but I am pleased to say that I received a wealth of printable material with some of it being relatively time sensitive, so here goes. First of all there is the latest accounting of the Class of 65 Endowment. This is followed by a moving remembrance of classmate **Glen Savigny**, and then **Bob Mulvihill** provides an encouraging update on his state of health. Finally, there is a report on the recent Naval Mess Dinner at the College.

Class of 65 Endowment Fund

The following are excerpts from a covering letter to **Keith Ambachtscheer** from Nancy Marr, the Executive Vice President of the RMC Foundation. On the state of the Class Endowment Fund.

“A summary of your Endowment is as follows:

Endowed Funds: This Fund represents the capital portion of your Endowment and is typically not touched. It increases as a result of annual donations or other fundraising activities undertaken. The amount listed in the Endowed Fund would not reflect the gains or losses from investment market performance (instead this is reflected in the Restricted Funds of the Endowment Report) – as it is important to track the history of your ongoing fundraising efforts.

Endowed Fund Balance as of 31 December 2017 = \$679,522.40.

Note: Your Balance in this Fund represents an increase of \$3,600.00 from 31 December 2016.

Endowed Restricted Funds: This Fund represents the amount of money you have available to expend on the purpose of your Endowment in any given year. This Fund reflects interest attributed to this Endowment based on the market returns achieved by the Foundation's Balanced Investment Fund, any Benefactions made in accordance with the purpose of the Endowment, and an annual Endowment administration fee.

Endowed Restricted Fund Balance as of 31 December 2017 = \$577,620.30.

Note: Your Balance in the Fund represents an increase of \$95,129.48 from 31 December 2016



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Class of 65 Endowment Fund (Continued)

Endowment Total: Your Endowment Total represents the actual value of your Endowment as 31 December 2017 and is achieved by adding the Endowed Funds with your Restricted Funds.

Endowment Total Balance as of 31 December 2017 = \$1,257,142.70.

Note: The total value of your Endowment has increased \$98,729.48 from 31 December 2016.

I would like to personally thank you for the generous giving that your class has displayed and I would ask that you encourage your class to consider continuing their donations to the Foundation so that future needs of the Colleges can be met.”

Glenn Savigny by Tom Barwell

Following graduation, classmate **Glenn Savigny** served as a pilot in the Royal Canadian Navy/CF until his premature death in July of 1979. The following article was written for a small newspaper in Merritton, Ontario, by his boyhood and long-time friend, Tom Barwell and is reproduced here with his permission..

Captain Glenn Savigny, RCN A Life Well Lived



O/Cdt Glenn Savigny, 1961

Glenn was born in Merritton on 1 July 1943. His father, Hugh once worked in the Merritton Hydro Office. He was a World War II veteran, President of the St Catharines flying club and past president of the Merritton Lions. I remember him driving around in a large Snap-on-Tools truck delivering his product to the many industries Merritton had in those days. He was a very industrious and well-liked man.

Ray, Hugh's brother and Glenn's uncle was also a very ambitious person. He was the original owner and developer of Vineland Quarries. However, the main item on his bucket list was to open his own golf course, so he simply purchased a dairy farm and it remains today as the Beechwood golf course. Recently, it celebrated its 50th anniversary.



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Glenn Savigny (Continued)

Glenn made his way through the public school system in Merritton and entered good old Merritton High School where I first met him, There were four of us who chummed around—Glenn, David Craig, Ray Martin and myself. Jill, Glenn's sister now lives just outside Kingston, Ontario.

Glenn had a great sense of humour and was ready for almost everything (within reason). Under that demeanour, however, was a very clever individual. He was an excellent chess player, a very good debater and played the trumpet for the air force cadet band in Thorold. He remarked to me one day that his aim was to fly a plane from the deck of HMCS Bonaventure, Canada's aircraft carrier. I didn't laugh or joke about this statement but instead I thought that if anyone could do it, it would be him. He was one of the most positive people I have ever met. Glenn breezed through MHS while I ran into a stiff breeze.

After his final year at MHS, Glenn attended Thorold High School. Shortly after graduation, he entered the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario. RMC is a very difficult institution to gain enrolment into. It's standards are extremely high and as a result only the best gain entry and graduate.

His first choice of Honours Science was eventually changed to Mechanical Engineering. His pick of Services was, of course, Naval Air, and he graduated from RMC in 1965 as one of the highest members of his Class. He was one step closer to the Bonnie.

Glenn was assigned to Centralia, Ontario for pilot training where he first trained on small Chipmunk aircraft. Then to Portage la Prairie in Manitoba flying Beechcraft type planes. From there he travelled to Shearwater, Nova Scotia and learned the art of flying Canadian-built twin-engine Tracker aircraft used in the anti-submarine role. Glenn then joined VS880 anti-submarine Squadron for further training and development as a co-pilot. He then was promoted to the rank of Captain.

HMCS Bonaventure was purchased from Britain in the early 50's. In 1959 she was caught in a vicious storm off the coast while heading for Halifax. The ocean treated her like a toy. Thick armoured windows were blown out and guns were torn from their mounts. Planes tied down on deck were practically destroyed. Some crewmen and pilots were thrown from their bunks. The storm seemed to follow them, with 60 foot waves tossing the ship about like a cork, It must have been very frightening.

As carriers go, she was very small with a mixture of aircraft flying from it's deck—Sea King helicopters, Banshee jets and the twin-engine Trackers leading the way. Bonaventure was decommissioned in July 1970 and sold for scrap in Taiwan.

It was not easy to land and takeoff from an aircraft carrier, especially one the size of Bonaventure. Confidence, hard work and just plain old guts came into play. Just imagine trying to takeoff from a heaving, twisting platform with wind that is constantly changing direction. There were US pilots that balked at the challenge. Not sure of the date that Glenn fulfilled his dream of taking off and landing, but he did it.

Glenn married Nancy Laurie of Scotsburn, NS in 1974 with former Merritton resident Ray Martin as best man. He was to return the honour when Ray married but unfortunately was on maneuvers off the coast of Portugal at the time.





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Glenn Savigny (Concluded)

In 1972 he received a commendation for his part in a rescue of the freighter “Rumba” off the east coast of Canada. It was outbound from Montreal on it’s way to Africa with a load of eight locomotives, each weighing 140 tons, They had come loose in the hold and were thundering back and forth, pounding the ship to bits. The entire crew of 18 was rescued with the help of the Canadian Coast Guard and Canadian Forces Trackers.

Glenn then took a short posting to Chilliwack, BC. This was a base for officer training and, for a while he was an instructor. But tragedy struck. He was diagnosed with cancer which sadly ended his flying career. He was posted to Downsview in CFB Toronto as a staff officer. This allowed him to be close to his family. He was then referred to the National Defence Medical Centre in Ottawa, then to Roswell Park in Buffalo, NY that specialised in cancer treatment, From there he went to the MD Anderson Cancer Hospital in Houston, TX, but to no avail. He fought hard as only he could but sadly passed away on 5 July 1979 with his family at his side.

Glenn was one of a kind. Through hard work and perseverance he accomplished what he had set out to do— fly from the Bonnie. But there should have been so much more life ahead and I felt his story had to be told.

I received a lot of research help from **Ray Martin** (Class of 65) and a former pilot who flew with Glenn by the name of **Jack Flanagan** (Class of 65) who lives in Belleville. There is much more that could be written of Glenn, but hopefully this will help preserve his memory.

Glenn lived his life to the fullest and probably accomplished more in his short life than some people do in a life time. He was always positive, always happy, always whistling and loved adventure. I miss him, his family misses him, but as he said, “I don’t need a headstone. I will endure in your memories”. That he has.

Bob is Still Around by 6383 Bob Mulvihill

Some of you may be aware that classmate **Bob Mulvihill** has been battling cancer. The following is an encouraging update on his condition:

Last September, you may remember, or have heard that I sent out a bit of a gloom and doom e-mail after Helen and I were told by the oncologist that my cancer wasn't responding to any treatment, so it was only a matter of time. How much, they wouldn't venture even a guess.

Quite frankly, at the time, I never thought I would make it until Christmas, but here I am, still kicking at Easter. I'm attributing that to all your thoughts and prayers and thanks to the excellent care I'm getting from the palliative care nurses and doctors; and especially Helen who keeps me on the straight and narrow with regard to medications and meals. People have noted that I look better now than I did at Christmas. I feel better too.



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Bob is Still Around (continued)

Right now we are having a great time in the Mulvihill household in Ottawa. Our daughter, Shauna, flew up from California for spring break and our other two "daughters" Janet and Alison Burton have flown in from Toronto. It's great having them here. Corey, Daina and Emi already live in Ottawa. In fact, Daina and Corey are hosting family Easter dinner this year. Around 18-20 people to sit down. It would have been more if Ontario recognized Easter Monday, because some folks wouldn't have to rush back to work.

Helen and I couldn't be more proud of how our "kids" have turned out. Shauna and her husband Ed are history professors at American River College in Sacramento CA and have a 8 year old son Benjie, who is as smart as a whip. Corey and Daina also have their Phds and teach at Ottawa U. Daina in Business and Corey in Philosophy, They have given us a delightful grand daughter, Emi, who'll be six in late June. She constantly reminds us what great imagination kids that age have. Benjie and Emi are the best of buds, especially when they get together in PEI in the summer.

Janet and Alison Burton, have become part of our family since we returned from the States. They lost their mother when they were in their teenagers, and have become very successful business women pretty much on their own. Janet, our God daughter, has worked her way up the "sales" ladder and is now sales manager for the Little Potato Company for Canada and the USA, Alison worked her way through university, got two degrees, came to Ottawa, got her law degree and now is VP of Wealth Management for the Royal Bank. They are wonderful people and such a joy to have visit.

Regarding my current condition, I certainly can't do the things I used to do. I take a lot of naps and meds, don't have much stamina, but can get out and about for short trips, mostly in the afternoon. Shauna and I drove out to Stittsville in the west end the other day to visit my sister Margaret and her husband Graham and stopped to visit (brother) Tom and Brenda on the way home. That was about the limit of my energy that day.

For those living around and about Ottawa, since I can't travel too much, I'd be happy if you would like to visit, preferably in early afternoon. Just give me call ahead of time so we can make sure there are no doctor's appointment conflicts. We'll be happy to see you.

One last thought. If you haven't colonoscopy yet, convince your doctor to schedule you for one. Convince your spouse and siblings to get one as well. It could save their/your life. Both my brothers had to have polyps removed when they underwent the procedure.

Keep those thoughts and prayers coming, and Happy Easter to all.



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Navy Mess Dinner

The following is an extract from an article in e-veritas edition 13 written by 27262 NCdt Liam Cole. Photos were taken by 28074 OCdt Robert Haddow.

The Navy Mess dinner, held on 7 March, was a great event that celebrated the Navy community at RMC. Fourth year cadets had a chance to mingle with the other Naval Staff at the College as well as special guests **16204 Rear Admiral Luc Cassivi**, **18777 Brigadier General Sébastien Bouchard**, and **H6604 Capt[N] (ret'd) Jim Carruthers**. Throughout the dinner cadets had their first taste of a true naval mess dinner with the port, starboard, and mid-ship tables challenging diners at other tables.

Featured speaker and guest of Honour Rear Admiral Cassivi welcomed and motivated the graduating cadets. After the speech Jim Carruthers presented the Naval Swords to the top NCdt graduates, a custom he had initiated in 2011.

Selection of the top graduating NCdts in each classification is based on third year academic marks and overall performance in naval training during summer training periods. The cadets were also provided with a set of 'Salty Dips' by Jim as a parting gift. The dinner concluded with extensive 'discussions' as the cadets shared their thoughts with guests.

27337 Naval Cadet Andy Lee, recipient of the Naval Technical Officer (NTO) Sword, is an aspiring Naval Combat Systems Engineering (CSE) officer. NCdt Lee calls Surrey, BC his home and is currently in his fourth year of mechanical engineering. He will continue his academic pursuits after graduation with a Master of Applied Science in nuclear engineering at RMC. **The sword was donated by Capt[N] Carruthers.**

27518 Naval Cadet Liam Moors recipient of the Naval Warfare Officer (NWO) Sword is studying Honours Business Administration and Economics at the RMC. While at RMC NCdt Moors had the opportunity to complete the Ship's Diver course. He sailed in ORCA class patrol craft during periods of On-Job-Training. Liam was also selected to participate in an exchange program with the United States Naval Academy where he completed the first semester of his third-year studies. He is looking forward to graduating and continuing his NWO phase training in the fall. **The sword was donated by Capt[N] Carruthers.**

27248 NCdt Kassandra Byrne is the recipient of the Naval Logistics Sword **donated by the Naval Logistics Branch** as the top LOGS graduate. Growing up in Winnipeg Manitoba, Kassandra never thought she would one day join the Navy. Completing her fourth year, she is ready to enter the fleet, and is very excited for what is to come, whatever it may be. She would like to thank her Mom, Dad and Dr. Dev for being her support system during her time at the college.

The Naval Cadets of the Class of 2018 would like to thank all those who attended and are looking forward to joining the fleet.



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Navy Mess Dinner



**27337 NCdt Andy Lee receiving the Naval
Technical Officer sword from
Capt (N) (Ret'd) Jim Carruthers**



**27518 NCdt Liam Moors receiving the Naval
Warfare Officer sword from
Capt(N) (Ret'd) Jim Carruthers**



**27248 NCdt Kassandra Byrne receiving the Naval
Logistics sword from
Capt(N)(Ret'd) Jim Carruthers**