

Class of 65 Newsletter

Bulletin d'Information—Classe de 65

Number/Numéro 120



June/juin 2019

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 had surgery to repair a severed right Achilles tendon on 29 April and am now in a cast, on crutches and forbidden to put weight on my right foot until I see the surgeon next on 14 June. At that time I hope the cast comes off and I get some form of boot or other device that allows me to walk until I get the final ok to drive again—predicted to be anywhere from two to three months! The bottom line? I have time on my hands to do things like the Newsletter.

This edition promises to be a bit longer than several previous as I seem to have a variety of fairly eclectic items including a report on the recent Ottawa/Montreal Class luncheon; information on the RMC Rowing Team and the generous donation by one of our Classmates; some motorcycle memories from **6567 Gary Running**; a report from the Class of 65 Gifting Committee; an update from our Professor in Leadership, **Christian Leuprecht**, and finally, a response from **Gord Forbes** to the article by **Dave Borrowman** in Edition 119. But first, some letters.

Letters

From **6661 Neill McRae**, currently living in Vernon, BC, who we have not heard from before, “*Many thanks for the newsletter. Wishing you a speedy and complete recover on your Achilles tendon. In battles of 2-300 years ago, the Achilles was a favourite target for disabling enemy foot soldiers. Now you have a new story to tell your grandchildren and amaze them with your age.*”

From **6706 Dick Wright**, “*Thanks for sending this and stimulating some memories; Jay (Julius) Demiany pictured in one shot comes to mind. After graduation Jay and my fiancé Dianne McNaught and I drove across the country to Vancouver from Kingston. It was non-stop driving while on my way to report for duty on HMCS Qu'appelle in Esquimalt in 1965.*” (I also served in HMCS Qu'Appelle, about 5 years later)

From **6604 Jim Carruthers**. Knowing that my father flew Beaufighters in WWII, Jim sent me the following article about a Beaufighter mission (not involving my father) that I had never heard of, but think some of you might find interesting. The link is <http://www.vintagewings.ca/VintageNews/Stories/tabid/116/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/450/Ten-Minute-Triumph-Over-Tyranny.aspx>



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Letters (Concluded)

From **6611 Doug Cope**, “Our classmate, **Quiller Graham**, and I have a mutual friend, Harry, who lives in Ottawa. Harry and Quiller are close friends and last night at a meeting in Ottawa, Harry told me that Quiller has suddenly developed a serious medical condition. ... They do not seem to know the cause to date. Yesterday he was in the General but Harry says he may be moved soon. He was also not in a state to see visitors. They are looking for a long term care facility – possibly the veteran’s long term facility in Ottawa.” (Sad news indeed. Quiller was the most fearsome boxer I faced at RMC).

From **6349 Alain Pellerin**, “Villefranche sur Mer has been our pied à terre in April for the last 5 years. The US 6th fleet was headquartered here until 1967. With a wonderful view of the port of Villefranche sur Mer, Beaulieu sur Mer, Cap Ferrat. And the church is painted inside with works by Jean Cocteau. Wine- Pouilly Fume, wonderful fresh seafood. The essence of life” (As if I wasn’t envious enough, Alain included a picture!)



From **6604 Jim Carruthers**. As usual, Jim attended the Naval Mess Dinner at RMC to present swords to the top Naval Cadets. The event was attended by 70 Naval Cadets and 11 Flag Officers. One of the latter was Commodore Chris Sutherland (since promoted to Rear Admiral, I believe) who is the son of proud father, and member of the Class of 65, **6014 Fred Sutherland**. This is a photo of Jim and Commodore Sutherland.





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2019 Déjeuner Passerelle - Hawkesbury - Bridging Luncheon by Mike Braham , Translation by Charles Emond

On Thursday, 30 May 2019, twenty-four classmates from the Ottawa and Montreal areas gathered at Stephanie's Restaurant in Hawkesbury for their 6th annual luncheon gathering.

These events have their origins in the annual class BBQ held by Jim and Gail Carruthers at their home in Constance Bay. Although their invitation was open to all classmates, attendance was usually limited to those in the immediate area, until seven years ago when a large delegation from the Montreal area banded together to join the party, at which, the idea of a more frequent gatherings of the two areas was born.

Not only is the Class of '65, one of the most active in the history of the CMCs, but the sub-sets of Ottawa and Montreal area classmates with their frequent luncheons and other events are pretty unique. The close liaison between the Ottawa group and its Montreal-area comrades is a further manifestation of a willingness to keep the Class of 65 in the forefront of ex-cadet activity.

This year's luncheon in Hawkesbury, selected as always because of its central location between Ottawa and Montreal was well attended as usual as attested by the following picture. Regulars missing from this year's event were Jim Carruthers who was undergoing cancer treatment, and Mike Braham, recovering from surgery on a severed Achilles heel. We will both be back next year.

Sadly, also missing, were three former regulars, who in the past couple of years have left us – Gaetan Dextras, Laurent Lord, and Pete Walker. Their absence underlines the importance of maintaining links of friendship such as this.

Le jeudi 30 mai 2019, 24 camarades de la promotion 1965 des régions d'Ottawa et de Montréal se sont réunis au restaurant Stéphanie's à Hawkesbury pour leur sixième déjeuner-causerie annuel.

Ces événements ont pour origine le barbecue annuel organisé par Jim et Gail Carruthers à leur domicile à Constance Bay. Bien que leur invitation ait été ouverte à tous les camarades de promotion, la fréquentation était généralement limitée aux personnes des environs immédiats. Il y a sept ans, par contre, une importante délégation de la région de Montréal s'était unie pour se joindre à la fête, ce qui a semé l'idée d'une rencontre annuelle de cette diversité régionale.

Non seulement la promotion de la classe 65 est l'une des plus actives de l'histoire des CMC, mais le sous-ensemble des camarades de classe de la région d'Ottawa et de Montréal avec ses fréquents déjeuners et autres événements, est assez unique. La liaison étroite entre le groupe d'Ottawa et ses camarades de la région de Montréal est une manifestation supplémentaire de la volonté de maintenir la classe des 65 ans au premier plan des activités des anciens des trois Collèges d'origine.

Le déjeuner de cette année à Hawkesbury, choisi en raison de son emplacement central entre Ottawa et Montréal, a attiré, comme d'habitude, beaucoup de monde tel que témoigne la photo suivante. Jim Carruthers, qui subissait des traitements de cancer, et moi-même, Mike Braham, en convalescence après une opération à un talon d'Achille déchiré, étaient malheureusement absents. Nous serons tous les deux de retour l'année prochaine.



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2019 Déjeuner Passerelle - Hawkesbury - Bridging Luncheon

Malheureusement, trois participants réguliers depuis l'origine, Gaetan Dextras, Laurent Lord et Peter Walker, nous ont quittés. Leur absence souligne l'importance de maintenir des liens d'amitié tels que celui-ci.



Rear Row-Arrière Rangée (LtoR, GàD)

Roman Jakubow, Carl Anderson, Michel Matte, Bob Doak, Don Stephenson, Marius Lavoie, Claude Girard, Roger Gaudreau, Alain Pellerin, André Maheu, Richard Lamarche, Gérald Raby, Bruce Corbett, John Critchley, Peter Jackson, Jean Bigaouette

Front Row-Avant Rangée (LtoR, GàD)

Charles Emond, Ben Besner, Pierre Falardeau, Edmond Kingsbury, Claude Belhumeur, Terry Colfer, Jean-Louis Bolduc, Georges Wilson



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6604 Jim Carruthers Helps RMC Rowing Club By Anna-Michelle Shewfelt

The RMC Rowing Club finished the season with the “Head of the Fish” back in November. The Cadets have been gearing up for the winter season since Christmas and recently were down to West Point for the exchange event. While they had their best showing yet against a much larger team, they’re not done yet!

As RMC’s Coach Paul Overvelde explained, “Canada was asked to be involved with the King’s Cup Regatta in England during the Royal Henley event.” (The King’s Cup was held beginning after the First World War; this is the 100th anniversary of the event.) “As RMC is the only active rowing team in the forces, we were called upon to see if we would boat a crew for the event.” RMC has accepted the task and come up with a list of Cadets who have rowed either this year or last year and who can be freed up for this summer to train. “We haven’t made the final selection yet, as we are allowed to name 1 cox, 8 rowers, and 2 spares to the team. RMC has allowed for both myself and the assistant coach to be able to attend as well.”

Donations to the RMC Foundation have ensured that the Rowing Club will have high quality boats to train in for the event. Overvelde and the Club are particularly grateful to H6604 Jim Carruthers. Jim has been an active supporter of the College in a number of areas, but since 2013 in particular has provided over \$122 000 in direct financial support to purchase rowing trailers and shells.

For Paul Overvelde, the significance of this support is summed up in the nature of the Royal Henley. “It’s the highest event in the rowing culture. Many rank it above the Olympics and other world events. The fact that RMC will be present during this event is historic.”

Jim Carruthers had the following to add, “*Re the e-Veritas note - an interesting side story here if you are interested in Canadian innovation and boats. In previous years I had bought the boats from Germany – they were the best. But a Canadian company <https://www.hudsonboatworks.com/> really upped their game and the 8,4 and 2 craft I bought last year were all from them. Would argue they are the best in the world. Our Olympic team uses them and with their advanced construction plus outstanding electronics they have had a significant impact on the RMC team.*”



Practicing on the Lachine Canal



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Motorcycle Memories by 6567 Gary Running

My motorcycle memories stretch back 50 years to the late 50's in Europe when I was a student at General Naveraux high school in Metz, France. At the age of 15 I bought a 250cc BMW for \$150.00.



BMW 250

My parents were of course quite nervous about the concept so I promised them I would ride safely, and obey all the rules. They were also insistent that I wear all the safety gear. All the gear, all the time. Much later in life this little phrase was to hold me in good stead. As you can no doubt guess, the gear has changed quite a bit between the 1950's and now. For example my helmet was a plastic inner shell covered with green leather. Other gear included a sturdy leather jacket, a pair of ski goggles, a pair of leather gloves, and a pair of jeans.

For rain I added a pair of surplus fireman's pants and stuffed newspapers in my leather boots to absorb the water that flew up off the wet roads.

Between mid 58 and mid 60 in 3 separate trips, I managed to visit every non-communist country in continental Europe with the exception of Portugal and Finland. Sweden was particularly interesting as in those days, they drove on the wrong side of the road. Scandinavia was also interesting in early July because the sun never set and it was quite bright inside a tent, even at 2 in the morning. I remember a couple of museums in Oslo Norway. One told the story of the sinking of a German cruiser during WWII during the Nazi invasion of Norway, and a second that told how the Vikings made their Longboats.

When we left Metz in mid 1960 I couldn't take the bike with me so I managed to sell it for \$175.00. It sure didn't owe me anything. That was the only time I have sold a motor vehicle for more than I paid for it. That was it for me and motorcycles for almost 50 years. I guess life got in the way.

In 2005 my daughter Rachel married an Aussie and moved to Sydney. By then both my wife Moninna and I were retired and thus spent 3 months or so each year (January thru March) in Australia and sometimes New Zealand. We travelled a lot in both countries and saw how many folks used motorcycles as a way to get around. To make a long story short, I took a motor cycle course in 2008 and bought a Moto Guzzi. During this time my son David, his wife Inga and our two grandkids lived in Nanaimo so we started taking the Guzzi to Nanaimo. It was a no brainer, BC ferries lets motorcycles on and off load first.



Moto Guzzi



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Motorcycle Memories (Continued)

My younger brother Richard is a motorcyclist, so he soon started coming out to Vancouver each summer for a week or so, rent a motorcycle, and before too many years went by we had cycled quite a bit of northern Washington, Vancouver Island and the southern BC mainland.

The next obvious step was to space renting cars in Australia each year with renting a motorcycle. The bike of choice turned out to be a BMW boxer twin. Large enough to travel two up in comfort and with a top box and saddle bags room for needed luggage. Typically we would travel about 6 hours a day (9am to 3pm). One year we flew from Sydney out to Perth and rented a bike to ride back to Sydney. It turned out to be quite warm in Perth that fall (the 1st of March is considered to be the 1st day of Fall in Australia). By the time we got the paperwork squared away for the bike and got it packed it was already past noon and very



warm. It still remained to get out of downtown Perth and start making our way south and east into the wine region of Margaret's River. Once on the back country roads and riding at 80 or so kilometres per hour we soon cooled down and the ride became pleasant. Because of our late start, we planned on riding until early evening the first day. With the early evening approaching, and the temperature moderated, the ride was becoming more and more enjoyable. All of a sudden a flock of parrots took off right beside us. There we were, flying in formation with a flock of 15 or so colourful parrots. For me it was one of the most enjoyable 10 seconds or so I've ever experienced on a motor cycle.

BMW Boxer Twin

Australia, as you no doubt are aware has more than its fair share of venomous snakes. Brown snakes and red bellied black snakes come to mind. Brown snakes I don't much like, they can be fairly common in certain rural areas and can be fairly aggressive if you get too close to them when hiking. Red bellied black snakes I am more tolerant of, partly because brown snakes make up a portion of their diet. Many miles, and perhaps years later we did have a snake incident. Again we were riding on back (but paved) roads and after cresting a small hill, a short distance ahead I saw right in front of us a fairly large snake crossing the road, (it took up a good portion of its lane which as it turned out was also my lane. I moved over quickly to give it more room. I didn't have a lot of time to see if it was a brown or a black, but either way I was not much interested it wrapping a snake around the bike's front wheel.

We have made a number of motorcycles trips in Australia including from Perth to Sydney, thru the Snowy Mountains, the Blue Mountains, and from Newcastle up to the Queensland border.



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Motorcycle Memories (Concluded)

When back in Canada each year when not on a road trip with Richard, it was my habit to take the Guzzi up to Squamish once a week or so for coffee at a local bakery. The trip from North Vancouver to Squamish is about an hour on a very good and scenic road that is part of the legacy from the 2010 Olympics. On what turned out to be my last trip on the Guzzi I was coming back from coffee break in Squamish when entering West Vancouver at about 90 kilometres per hour, I went off the bike. I have no idea what happened. I must have blacked out for one reason or another. In any event, "all gear, all the time" probably saved my life. The Guzzi and I slid 10's of metres down the highway more or less together and an alert driver behind me saw me go off the bike and pulled out just behind where I stopped sliding and protected me from oncoming traffic. The next thing I remember is waking up in Lions Gate Hospital. I broke several ribs on my right, one of which punctured my right lung. After 6 days in the hospital I went home more or less as good as new but with no idea why I went off the bike.

After getting the bike repaired, I sold it back to the dealer. Needless to say I did not get more for it than I originally paid.

After several months went by, I got to thinking maybe I wanted to start riding again. In discussing the concept with Moninna it became clear that I had two options. Ride as a single man, or stay married.

Needless to say, I am still married.

Class of 65 Gifting Committee Update

By 6584 Keith Ambachtsheer

The Class of 1965 continues to fund two Class benefactions: 1. The Class of 1965 Teaching Excellence Awards at RMC and CMR, and 2. The Class of 1965 Professor in Leadership at RMC.

The Terms of Reference for the two TEAs were updated by the Gifting Committee in 2018, with the Award \$amounts increased to \$7,500 (RMC) and \$2,500 (CMR).

The 2018 Award recipients were Dr. Nicholas Vlachopoulos (RMC) and Ms. Isabelle Lépine (CMR). Prof. Vlachopoulos delivered the Class of 1965 Teaching Excellence Award Lecture at RMC on Monday, 29 October 2018.

The Class was well-represented at the Lecture, and the Award continues to be considered one of the best Class gifts to RMC and CMR ever.

The Class of 1965 Professor in Leadership is Christian Leuprecht. The Gifting Committee met with Prof. Leuprecht to discuss his Professorship research plans last Fall. One of his ambitions is to compare the effectiveness/efficiency of differing military college models around the world, and to see where RMC ranks in such an analysis. Since we met with him, Prof. Leuprecht has been awarded the prestigious 4-month Eisenhower Fellowship at the NATO Defence College in Rome. He recently sent us an update of the multiple projects he has on the go. They include progress on the comparative military colleges study, the launch of his



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Giftng Committee Update (Concluded)

new book “*Public Security in Federal Systems*”, and a series of journal and press articles on military and security topics. As just one example, see a short piece just written for the Centre for International Governance Innovation: <https://www.cigionline.org/articles/mitigating-cyber-risk-across-financial-sector>. Prof. Leuprecht points out that he now identifies himself as the Class of 1965 Professor in Leadership, Royal Military College of Canada, in all these publications. He also writes: “.....we may be having a launch of the book in either Ottawa or Kingston in the Fall. If we do and we could make an Ottawa launch coincide with the monthly Class gathering, that would be great!” We will keep you informed on developments here! For more on the book, see <https://utorontopress.com/ca/public-security-in-federal-polities-2>. At the end of his email Prof Leuprecht writes: “I hope you’re pleased with the productivity and with the exposure of the Class of 1965 Professorship.”

Financially, our Class Endowment Fund is in good shape. The Class Fund end-of-2018 value stood at \$856K. At a 5% annual payout rate, it can support paying out \$40K+ in perpetuity. The current commitments are \$10K for the TEAs and \$25K for the Professorship.

As always, your comments and questions are welcome!

John Adams, Keith Ambachtsheer, Steve Arnold, Charlie Emond, Mike Houghton

Professor in Leadership Update

Professor Leuprecht has provided the following update of his activities: In the fall I was selected for a prestigious Eisenhower Fellowship to spend four months at the NATO Defence College in Rome; so, that’s where I am April through July. As a result, I’m afraid that I won’t be in Kingston in June but would be delighted to catch up anytime in or after August. You’ll see in a blurb on the Eisenhower Fellowship, and a mention in conjunction with my chair, in an upcoming e-veritas. You may have also seen the mention of the chair in the Whig Standard to my appointment to the Police Services Board of the City of Kingston. And you’ll also find a mention in tomorrow’s online version of the Globe and Mail in an OpEd on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of NATO.

Re MilCols, I am currently working on an initial article that compares the seven basic models for structuring MilCols from around the world. That will make a substantial contribution to a more informed discussion around options for RMC, and allow decision-makers to draw more informed assessments of the pros and cons associated with the seven models. My ultimate aim is to have it published in *Armed Forces & Society*, which is the world’s premier journal in the field.

I am also working on a proof of concept paper comparing RMC and the Helmut Schmidt University of the German Bundeswehr in Hamburg, both of which have quite similar and comparable size and remit.



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Professor in Leadership Update (Concluded)

My new book on Public Security in Federal Systems also just appeared with University of Toronto Press: <https://utorontopress.com/ca/public-security-in-federal-polities-2>. The chair is explicitly mentioned as part of my biosketch. I have three more books on the go currently. That's in addition to several articles; I'm attaching the two most recent ones. A third, on Terrorist Financing, is attached in penultimate form and is forthcoming shortly. All three appeared in major international journals.

The following are links to some of the activities noted above:

http://post.queensu.ca/~leuprech/docs/articles/2019_Leuprecht_Paying%20it%20Forward_International%20Journal.pdf

http://post.queensu.ca/~leuprech/docs/articles/2019_Leuprecht%20Szeman%20Skillhorn_Damoclean%20sword_Contemporary%20Security%20Policy.pdf

A short piece that just appeared with the Centre for International Governance Innovation: <https://www.cigionline.org/articles/mitigating-cyber-risk-across-financial-sector>

Tom & I by 6533 Gord Forbes

I was fascinated to read Dave Borrowman's article in the recent edition of the class newsletter. The name Tom Forbes, USN (ret'd) brought back some long-ago memories, mostly pleasant ones. The summer of 1964 was our third summer training experience. It was our introduction to the then-modern destroyers. *MacKenzie* was only three years old that year. It was an amazing experience after the old World War II frigates from the previous two years of sea training. We were, in the eyes of the Navy, Midshipmen instead of Cadets and were allowed in the Wardroom for the first time. There were six other RCN midshipmen aboard, mostly from RMC. Dave McCartney was there, and I seem to remember that one of the others was Vil Auns, but I may be wrong. If anyone else wants to 'fess up to being on *MacKenzie* that summer come on forward.

And into this situation came Tom Forbes, Midshipman from the US Naval Academy. And, of course, the two Forbes's had to get together. We talked about family backgrounds and I found out that his grandfather had emigrated from Aberdeen, Scotland as a young man. A little more digging revealed that our grandfathers were probably brothers. He was the only midshipman who wore two ribbons on his uniform. We were too embarrassed to ask what they signified.

We had some interesting times that summer. One recollection revolves around the XO who liked his drink and pistols. One quiet afternoon at sea, the XO showed up on the flag deck with a pistol and proceeded to try and shoot flying fish which were skimming around the ship. He missed with every shot. After he finished, Tom asked if he could try. The XO acquiesced and loaded the pistol for Tom. Tom proceeded to hit five of the six fish he shot at. We found out then that the two ribbons stood for marksmanship in rifle and pistol.

We cruised down the west coast as far as Acapulco, Mexico, the first really exotic port most of us had ever



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Tom & I (Concluded)

been to. We returned via San Francisco for a port visit. On arrival in San Francisco, our Captain made a rather dramatic along-side involving a full astern movement. I can attest to that since I was in the engine room at the time. I tried to emulate that several years later during a command exam oral presentation. I failed the exam. In San Francisco, some of my fellow midshipmen discovered a nice quiet little bar where we could hang out. On the second or third visit there, we discovered it was a gay bar. Ah, the naivety of youth.

Tom Forbes was a good shipmate. We all shared a lot of laughs and good times that summer. But unfortunately, we lost track of Tom after that summer. I'm sure that, like us, he was busy working his way through his final year at the US Naval Academy. It's because of these memories that Dave's article was so welcome and enjoyed.

Closing Notes

Thanks to all of the contributors to this edition. It is clear that the Class of 65 remains an active and interesting entity. I hope that these articles and other experiences will generate a similar input for the next issue.

1961 Air Force Summer Training

