

Class of 65 Newsletter

Bulletin d'Information—Classe de 65

Number/Numéro 142



August/aout 2021

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

This Edition will highlight a very pleasant and successful Class lunch hosted by **Jim and Gail Carruthers**. Also included is some information on the latest effort on the part of the RMC Foundation to raise money. **Gord Forbes** has provided another of his thought provoking blogs. There is a battle brewing to determine who is the oldest member of the Class (I guess no one really want to win that contest). Finally, to lead off there is a follow-up to the article in the last edition on books authored by class members.

Books by Classmates

Not included in the list of Class of 65 authored books in Edition is the following:

- Gagnon, Y - *Making Sense of Politics ... Anytime, Anywhere*, ISBN 189635436X, Published by Kashtan Press in 2005.

Are there any more out there? I am sure that classmates would be interested.

Who's the Oldest?

6314 Stu Smart opined that he might be the oldest living member of the Class of 65 and this was challenged by **6641 Charlie Jurek**. After some investigation, Stu's birthdate was 13 Feb 40, a month before Charlie's. Can anyone else lay claim to this dubious title of Class Sage? Bruce Greaves' name has been suggested but unfortunately I don't have his e-mail or any other way of contacting him. Can anyone help in that regard?



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Class Lunch

On 10 August, **Jim** and **Gail Carruthers** hosted a lunch for Classmates and their spouses/partners from the Ottawa area at their beautiful home on Constance Bay. The day dawned sunny and hot and the event took on a post-pandemic air as the fully vaccinated attendees mingled and reacquainted themselves after a long period of Covid isolation. Twenty five classmates participated plus 20 spouses/partners. In addition, **15946 Jill Carelton**, the current President of the RMC Foundation joined the gathering. Although most attendees were from the Ottawa area, **Roger** and **Lina Gaudreau**, and **Marc** and **Louise Jette** made the trip from the Montreal area, and **Yvan** and Alice Gagnon came up from Kingston.

The group was treated to a substantial BBQ lunch complemented by salads, cheeses and desserts, all courtesy of our hosts. Yours truly and **Charlie Emond** were pressed into duty as BBQ Chefs.

A great time was had by all and I know I can speak for all in thanking Jim and Gail for their generous hospitality. The following are some photos taken at the event, including a group shot with **Phil Bury** playing regimental mascot.





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Class Lunch (Concluded)





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Battle of the Classes

The RMC Foundation has launched it's third 'Battle of the Classes' to raise money. A number of us, myself included, have expressed dissatisfaction with this method of canvassing, however, as **Keith Ambachtscheer** points out.

- *The Foundation has paid out \$6M to various projects/causes in the last 10yrs. The 4 top target areas were academic/bilingualism, heritage, athletics, and leadership.*
- *Out of the 47 graduating classes between 1952 and 1999, the Class of 1965 is #3 in gifting with \$2.0M. Only the Classes of 1962 (\$4.9M) and 1966 (\$2.7M) are ahead of us.*
- *Many Classes have picked their own 'causes' (e.g., ours are the RMC and CMR Teaching Excellence Awards and the Class of 1965 Professorship). (see below)*
- *There is an interesting list of future causes/projects that ex-cadets of all Classes can donate to. (see below).*

CURRENT CLASS PROJECTS

Class of 1958 – A Lecture series at RMC on emerging global issues

Class of 1960 – RMC Museum support fund

Class of 1962 – Recreational Club support for the colleges and Ties and Scarves for graduates

Class of 1964 – Support for the Sandhurst team and the Colleges bands

Class of 1965 – RMC Professorship Prize and Teaching Excellence Award

Class of 1966 – Academic travel support and the Class of 1966 gazebo refurbishment fund

Class of 1967 – Vimy Tree project support with the class of 1973

Class of 1968 – Refurbishment and ongoing maintenance of the F86 sabre

Class of 1969 – Annual support to projects that enhance military leadership history and philosophy through library acquisitions

Class of 1970 – Endowment to support the RMC Athletics Wall of Distinction

Class of 1971 – Danny McLeod Athletics Fund

Class of 1972 – Currie Hall renovations project

Class of 1973 – Vimy Tree Project in conjunction with the Class of 1967

Class of 1974 - Gauthier Collection

Class of 1975 – Is now taking over responsibility for the Wall of Honour from the Class of 1963

Class of 1976 – New RMC Museum and Charitable Initiative Projects

Class of 1979 - Accumulate funds for a gift to the Colleges upon entry into the Old Brigade in 2024

Class of 1980 – LAV III Project

Class of 1981 – Female Bronze Statue in conjunction with the Class of 1984

Class of 1982 – Accumulate funds for a gift to the Colleges upon entry into the Old Brigade in 2028

Class of 1984 – Female Bronze Statue in conjunction with the Class of 1981

Class of 1988 – Accumulate funds for a gift to the Colleges



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Battle of the Classes (Concluded)

PROJECTS FOR CLASSES TO CONSIDER

- RMC Saint-Jean Saint-Maurice Renovation Project - <https://fondation-anciens.com/en/saint-maurice-project>
- RMC Museum
- RMC's 150th Anniversary 2026
- Diversity Support
- Academic Support for Model NATO/UN
- I-81 Exchange includes the historic RMC vs West Point Hockey Game - <https://fb.watch/69QwwwoQp6/>
- Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race - <https://youtube/ICtk9lBR6BI>
- Black, Biracial, Indigenous Student-Athlete OUA Bursary Proposal - https://oua.ca/sports/2021/1/31/bbi_committee.aspx
- Robbie Burns Dinner (RMC Saint-Jean)
- RMC Saint-Jean Annual Broomball Tournament support - <https://bit.ly/3r1ysMU>
- Artist-in-Residence - <https://bit.ly/3hBfY2N>
- Sports Teams Analytical Software
- Conferences and Lectures Support
- RMC Saint-Jean Paris London Study Tour - <https://bit.ly/3AWJ2JE>
- RMC Saint-Jean West Point Military Academy Visit



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Passport Anyone? By 6533 J.G. Forbes

No, I am not talking about the federal government issued Canadian passport that allows you to travel to other countries. I'm talking about the unconstitutional, privacy invading, divisive passport that is being proposed to indicate that you have had two doses of anti-Covid 19 vaccines. The hue and cry about these documents are truly amazing. It has been rejected by the Canadian government and we are told it is a provincial matter. The provinces cannot agree, even within themselves, whether to issue them or not. How ridiculous.

Think of the things we already carry with our personal information. If you drive, you have a drivers license. You need a health card to get any health services in Canada, otherwise you pay. You have bank cards, credit cards, loyalty cards. If you live 'on-the-grid' you are registered with every utility including phone, electricity, natural gas, internet, and television providers. And yet I have never heard anyone complain about their privacy, civil liberties, or constitutional rights when these are mentioned. If you travel abroad, you have a Canadian passport. And now, many countries are demanding a vaccination passport to enter there. That is one reason that any vaccine passport should be issued by the federal government. Do you really think that other countries are going to accept something from some province without having any idea how they are issued?

As it is now, whether or not you have had the vaccines, you are treated no differently than all those who have not. You still must follow all of the protocols that the pandemic has brought forth. You still must isolate, more or less. You still have to wear a mask to go into any establishment. You still have to limit your exposure to friends and relatives (I haven't seen any of my children or grandchildren for almost a year). If you have had both of your shots, is this fair? All because too many people have not had, or refuse to have, their shots.

There was an interesting editorial in the weekly local newspaper this week. The writer proposed that a date be set, such as the beginning or end of September by which time all who want or need the vaccine should have had that opportunity. After that, any unvaccinated people who contract Covid 19 should be made to pay any and all bills, including hospitalization costs. The idea is that anyone who chooses to remain unvaccinated has had ample opportunity to protect themselves and it should not be the responsibility of taxpayers to continue to support them. An intriguing thought.

In summary, those people who have been fully vaccinated should have some way of proving it and be liberated from the sometimes onerous burdens that we still have to put up with. Many European countries are already putting that into effect.

Closing Notes

That's it for another month. Stay safe and stay in touch.