



The Military History Society of Manitoba
PO Box 131 Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2G1
Newsletter November 2011

Upcoming Events

- With November arriving, I feel compelled to invite all to attend the Remembrance Day services at the Norwood St. Boniface Legion. Fall-in is at 1015 and the service is at St. Phillip Anglican's Church. A light lunch will be served. The Legion House Museum will be opened for the day.
- On New Years Day—The Norwood St. Boniface Legion will be hosting a New Years Levee—The Legion House Museum will be open.
- A Fundraising Dinner for the Museum will be planned in late February. More details will follow and I hope all will be able to attend and help out.

President's Remarks

Bruce Tascona

I am happy to announce to the Society that this will be my last year as President of the Society and I hope someone out there will consider taking up the job. It can be very demanding but at the same time it can be very rewarding. I have taken the Society so far.

I will remain in some capacity with the Museum and serve on the Board of the Society. I hope come the Annual March Meeting that some individual will step forward.

The Legion House Museum is currently undergoing some changes—The Library and Archives will become more accessible to the public. The Museum storage situation will be greatly enhanced by the Library and Archives changes.

Camp Hughes Heritage Site has also seen some very positive changes. The Friends of Camp Hughes has managed to set up a fence protecting the trenches. A land management agreement has been established where the general public will have access to the site between late June and mid- September of each year.

On the Society website we have a "Camp Hughes Self Guided Tour Brochure" available to all who want to visit Hughes on their own.

www.mhsm.ca

I trust all will have a very prosperous holiday season and a very productive winter.

Camp Hughes Heritage Day October 2, 2011

Thirteen volunteers from the Society took part in this Heritage Day Event. The event was hosted with very agreeable weather cooperating. The Friends of Camp Hughes set up a BBQ and refreshment stand while CFB Shilo cooperated by providing a modular tent and washroom facilities. The Society was responsible for the media advertising and setting up the general program for the day.

Approximately 300 visitors attended this event of which 240 took part in the tour of the trenches. The numbers that showed up for the event is an indicator of the popular interest that Camp Hughes holds with the general public.

Tour guides were Marc George from the RCA Museum

and Grant Tyler and Bruce Tascona of the Society. Each tour began with a presentation by Mitchell Tyler on the Bell Tent and training rifles used at Camp Hughes. The visitors were greeted by presenters located in the trenches. Paul Tascona gave a presentation on the Battalion Aid post and the duties of the Medical Officer. Patrick Tascona presented himself as an underage signaler being held back from going overseas and role of communications in trench warfare.



Tyler Mitchell and Bell Tent



Paul Tascona



Patrick Tascona



Jason Darling

The other presenter was Jason Darling who gave a presentation on attacking and clearing a trench with hand grenades.



Dennis Puranen



Mitchell and Grant Tyler



Darcy Hickson Postcard Exhibit



Ed James Exhibit



Vickers Machine from the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Museum



Jason Darling, Paul Tascona Patrick Tascona Bruce Tascona Ed James

In the orientation tent was an exhibit on the material culture used by the soldiers in trench warfare by Mr. Ed James. Mr. Darcy Hickson had an exhibit on the type postmarks and postcards of Camp Sewell and Hughes. The Royal Winnipeg Rifles Museum had a static exhibit of their regiment at Hughes in the First World War with Gerry Woodman and Lee Wood presenting. The Society had an exhibit of archaeological artefacts found at Hughes.

Thank you to the Society volunteers: Mr. Dennis Puranen, Larry Blair, Pam Darling, Lucille Blanchette, Grant Tyler, Darcy Hickson, Ed James, Jason Darling, Paul Tascona Patrick Tascona, Mitchell Tyler, Gerry Woodman and Lee Woods.

What's New at the Legion House Museum? (Some stories behind the artefacts)

In June, the Society was the recipient of a First World War uniform. The son of Private Stanley Dudenhoffer 10th Canadian Battalion CEF brought in a tunic and cap, medals, canteen, some German shoulder boards and an Iron Cross. The tunic with all the memorabilia is a welcome addition to the Winnipeg Light Infantry Exhibit at the Museum. Initially the uniform was donated anonymously and a media search was undertaken to find the donor. It was publicised in the local newspaper. The donor was found and proper receipt was given.



Pte S. Dudenhoffer 10th BN CEF with sister Sadie June 1919

As a result of the media attention this spawned a spate of donations. We received two dress sabres to members of the RCASC—one of whom was killed in an air show in June 1956 at RCAF Station Winnipeg. They are both unusual—they have the “EII” Cypher with King’s Crown. We also received two Second World War RCAF uniforms. Also a donation of two Lt/Col uniforms to a member of 402 Squadron.



Staff Sgt Stowell MC 48th Hdrs

Another donation of note is a very interesting and unusual set of medals covering two wars and involving three Canadian Highland Regiments. The First War portion includes a Military Cross won by the recipient while attached to the 13th BN CEF. The recipient after the war moved to Winnipeg and was a member of the Queen’s own Cameron Highlanders of Canada until 1938 when he moved to Toronto. At the outbreak of the Second World War he enlisted as an other rank with the 48th Highlanders of Canada. He is

the recipient of the 1939-45 Campaign Star along with his other campaign medals. He was forty five years of age far too old to serve as an infanteer but served in France in June of 1940 explaining why he received that campaign star. He remained in England for the duration of the war.

The media attention resulted in other donations including War Bond and Saving Stamps which help in enhancing in what was happening on the homefront in Manitoba.

Volunteers needed—If you can help out or need something to do we have positions to be filled as: Tour Guides, Volunteers needed in the Library and Archives. General Museum Volunteers. Call Bruce 255-3907

Be a Friend of the Military History Society of Manitoba

We encourage all members to help support the activities of the Society. Any financial donation received. A Tax Donation Receipt will be issued.

Please make cheque payable to **“Military History Society of Manitoba”**

**Mail to: MHSM
PO Box 131
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 2G1**

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