



DISPATCHES

THE ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE OF NOVA SCOTIA

Edition 01/11- April 2011

CHANGES TO THE RUSI NS LEADERSHIP

For those of you who missed our Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year, it was held on Wednesday, February 23th. The main item of interest was the election of a new slate of officers for the next year. Here is a review of who will lead our institute for the next 12 months.

Executive:

President – Tom Birchall
Vice-President – Dan Tanner
Secretary – Murray Lee
Treasurer – Wayne Shellnutt

Directors (exp Feb 2012)

Col (Ret'd) Richard Jamer
Col (Ret'd) William MacDonald
Col (Ret'd) Tom Pile

Directors (exp Feb 2013)

Cdr Colin Darlington
Maj Peter Dawson
Mr. Darrell Harvey

We welcome Insp Gregory Laturnus as the RCMP representative and LCol Dale Warner as the army rep. We have yet to receive the names of the navy and air force reps.

You should also be aware that we have several *appointees*:

Medical Officer – LCdr (Ret'd)
Heather MacKinnon

Historian- Mr. Michel Nash Kelly
Chaplain – Maj John O'Donnell
Chief Information Officer –
Richard McNair.

This information is intended to keep you abreast of these recent changes. It's also located on our website at: www.rusi.ns.ca

THE NEW “DISPATCHES”

One of the duties of the Secretary, is to produce our newsletter, “Dispatches”. Several years ago, we stopped sending out this newsletter by mail, not only as a cost saving, but also because nearly all of our members had computers with internet access. It was decided to place our on the website for all to read.

Now that I have once more taken over as your secretary, I plan to mail out our newsletter to those without internet access but also to those members who wish to receive a hard copy in the mail. This represents the first of the six editions I plan to publish annually to keep you informed about all our RUSI NS activities. I would appreciate your feedback to me as to whether or not you would like to receive your own copy. While you're at it, let me know what you would like to see in your future newsletters by sending an email to:
murray.lee@ns.sympatico.ca

The June annual BBQ is back! A new format – read below.....

AN EVENING TRIBUTE TO BGEN “NED” AMY

Earlier this year, Ned Amy passed away in his 92nd year. We highlighted the general in Edition 02 of Dispatches in August 2007. In his final years, he dedicated all his energies to having DND reactivate the Halifax Rifles. His tireless dedication to the task was rewarded last year with the re-activation of the unit. He lived to see his dream fulfilled. As a member of RUSI since 1972, we owe this great Canadian a tribute to his dedication to Canada, the Armoured Corps and RUSI.

Mike Kelly has taken on the task of organizing a tribute to the general in the form of our mixed annual dinner in June which will be once again held at the Ashburn Golf and Country club. The tribute to the memory of BGen Amy will take the form of an address to us by Colonel John Boileau, a retired armoured officer and author/historian, who was recently appointed the first honorary Lieutenant Colonel of regiment. Initial details about this event are on page 2.



RUSI NS Program for April, May and June

Day, Date	Time	Location	Remarks
Wed 20 Apr	1600	RA Park Air Force Room	Board of Directors Meeting
Wed 20 Apr	1830 for 1900	RCMP "H" Division Mess	Presentation by Asst Cmmr Alphonse McNeil
Wed 18 May	1200 - 1300	RA Park Air Force Room	Loonie Lunch – Ross Landry, Minister of Justice
Tues 21 Jun	1800 for 1830	Ashburn Golf & Country Club	Mixed Dining-In honoring BGen Ned Amy

Future Editions of Dispatches

We have purposely kept this edition of our newsletter quite short as we wanted to get out the information on the June dinner as soon as possible.

In future, we would like to publish items of interest to you, not just in a military or security context but also areas of interest you the reader may have. Here is one example:

Medal News: Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

On February 3, 2011, it was announced that a Diamond Jubilee Medal would be struck in 2012 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second to the Throne as Queen of Canada. The design for the medal was unveiled at Rideau Hall by the Governor General and the Prime Minister. The details of the medal program are currently under consideration and will be released in due course. The medal will be administered by the Chancellery of Honours at Government House. If you wish more detail, go to : www.gg.ca/diamondjubilee.

Mike Kelly, our historian is also planning to put out an historical piece with emphasis on famous Nova Scotians.

2011 Dues Reminder

If you are one of those who have still not sent in your 2011 dues, please send a cheque payable to: RUSI Nova Scotia in the sum of \$30 to Maj. Wayne Shellnutt, Treasurer, Royal United Services Institute, Suite #151, PO Box 99000, Stn Forces, Halifax NS B3K 5X5.

Ashburn Dinner – Initial Information

As mentioned previously, Mike Kelly has volunteered to organize this evening on our behalf. First of all, his telephone number is 827-7112. He can also be contacted via email at: kellymizzentop@eastlink.ca. Mike plans to phone each one of you individually to ascertain whether or not you will be attending the function and if you are coming alone, with your partner or indeed, bringing guests. The cost of the meal will be \$40 per person. We will provide you with a choice of entrees once we have finalized the menu for the evening. Instead of a guest of honour, Colonel John Boileau will be speaking about the life of BGen Amy who we will honour on this occasion. The timings for the evening are arrival at the Ashburn Golf & Country Club at 6pm with dinner scheduled to commence at approximately 6:30. As Mike will

inform you when he contacts you, you will be asked to pay in advance. We hope that many of you can attend as this will be the first time in several years that we will be holding this annual event and we think it's an excellent way to top off the year's events.

The Modern Canadian Veteran

If you are one of those people who stay abreast of the news of our veterans, you will be aware of the sad situation our modern vets find themselves since the new veterans charter was announced in 2006. As we are concerned with the welfare of our vets, a year and a half ago, RUSI NS formed a Veterans Affairs Committee (VAC) to delve into the care and treatment of our returning vets, especially those members who were in the army reserve. Our committee Chairman is Colonel Dick Jamer and he and the committee have been working hard behind the scenes to see if RUSI NS can somehow influence our community and political masters, including Veterans Affairs to obtain better treatment for the post Korean War veteran. Dr. Heather McKinnon, a member of our VAC has been

instrumental in bringing the plight of our vets to as wide an audience as she can. Dick tabled his report at our AGM. If you wish more information on just what the committee does and its mandate, please contract him at 576-2421 or email at: rjamer@eastlink.ca

The Security Affairs Committee (SAC) rises from the ashes

Once the most prominent committee in RUSI NS, the SAC is now being rejuvenated under the chairmanship of Commander Colin Darlington. We expect that in a future edition of Dispatches we will hear from him and the topics his committee is engaged in on your behalf. I do know they are looking into the future shipbuilding programmes in Nova Scotia and issues surrounding the Atlantic Gateway. Should you wish to contact Colin for more information, his home phone number is 445-5447 and cell 221-6896. He can also be reached by email at: cahd@hfx.eastlink.ca

Initial Distribution

This initial edition of Dispatches will go out the first of April via email to all our members who have such service. As I will be away on holidays for the first part of the month, I will put together a mailing list of those who do not have email service and mail them out. I expect the snail mail copies will arrive not later than 15 April.

Modern Presentations

Over the years, we have progressed from overhead projectors to 35mm slide presentations to computerized power point projected briefings and lectures. It has been a bit of an embarrassment at times to have to ask our presenters to bring their own equipment so that they can brief using electronic means.

At the last Board meeting, it was agreed that we acquire a lap top computer and projector equipment so that we can be all set up for the arrival

of our guest presenter. All they will have to do is bring along their memory stick and we will be away to the races with a modern, easy way to provide you with the information you come to hear.

The “No-Fly” Zone NATO Commander

It was a feather in Canada's cap to see the appointment of Lieutenant General Charlie Bouchard as the NATO air boss for the conduct of operations over Libya. Previous to this appointment, LGen Bouchard was Deputy Commander Allied Joint Force Command in Naples Italy.

LGen Bouchard enrolled in the CF in 1974 under OCTP. He underwent pilot training graduating in 1976 as a helicopter pilot. He has flown tactical helicopters during his career including the CH 136 Kiowa, OH-58, AH-1S Cobra, CH 135 Twin Huey and CH 146 Griffon. He served in various capacities at 427 Tactical Helicopter Squadron in Petawawa ON and 403 Helicopter Operational Training Squadron in Gagetown NB and with the US Army at Fort Hood TX. He commanded 444 Tac Hel Sqn in Lahr FRG. His last flying appointment was Commander 1 Wing based at Kingston ON.

LGen Bouchard has served at Air Commander HQ in Winnipeg as Deputy Chief of Staff Personnel. He also served in NDHQ in personnel and completed a tour of duty as Deputy Commander of the Continental US NORAD Region at Tyndall AFB FL. He served as Commander 1 Canadian Air Division, Canadian NORAD and Combined Air Component Commander responsible for all Canadian air force operations. He then completed a tour of duty as Deputy Commander, North American Aerospace Defence Command at Colorado Springs, CO. He assumed his tour in Naples on 9 October 2009 and now is in charge of NATO air operations for the Libyan campaign.

We look forward to hearing more in the near future as he sets up his HQ in Turkey.

RUSI Web Site Domain secured until 2020.

Richard McNair, our Chief Information Officer, announced at the last Board of Directors meeting that he has renewed our domain registration until 23 August 2020.

What this means is that our RUSI web site is a stable entity for us until that time. We are now looking at developing a protocol for the security of our site. Darrell Harvey has been tasked to look into this for us.

That's a rap for this edition.

Small is beautiful....



The RUSI NS lapel pin is still available – a model of understated elegance, it is pictured here close to its actual size. For only \$3.00, you can support the Institute and perfectly complement the RUSI tie which you already have. No? One can be yours for only \$20.00. Ties and pins are available from the Secretary at meetings or by arrangement (call Murray Lee at 462-7169).