

NEWSLETTER

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDERS
ASSOCIATION

2400 HIGHWAY 327
DUTCH BROOK, N.S. B1L 1G1

DECEMBER 1999

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At our 30th Annual Reunion memorial service the flowers were placed in memory of Pte. J. (Josie) MacKinnon, A Coy. who died of wounds 28 Dec. 44, and is interred at Argenta Gap, Italy. The placing of the flowers was by Mrs. Valerie Crowdis and her daughter, Lori-Beth Crowdis, escorted by Valerie's father (and Josie's brother) C.R. MacKinnon. Last year we had a niece place the flowers in memory of her uncle. This year we had included a grand niece, Lori-Beth. A very touching occasion, I would suggest.

We are most thankful to L. Col. Steve Kavanagh CD, CO 2 NSH(CB), and his soldiers for the wonderful turn-out they provided in support of our annual memorial service. The four Vigilants, Colour Party, Pipe Band and Guard of Honour. We would also thank the members of the recently renamed Glace Bay Army Cadet Corps, now the Cape Breton Highlanders Cadet Corps, for their turn out and handling of the flag ceremonies.

REFLECTIONS

*There are quiet hours and lonely hours
And hours that have no end.
But the wonderful hour is the evening hour
When you walk beside a friend.*

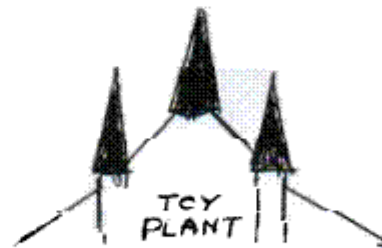
Submitted by Margaret MacEachern, (Paul's wife)

In a few days time we will be saying goodbye to the twentieth century, a century in which sin, sorrow and death, the three characteristic traits of human existence had taken on long legs. Maybe it is hard for us to enter the 21st century in an optimistic mood, but let us do just that for the sake of our children, and children's children, and others. Happy New Year Everyone!

Bill Feeney, our late comrade Frank Feeney's son, had sent us a lovely box of trinkets to pass out at our 30th reunion, but sad to say, we did not receive them until after the reunion. If you are in the area, drop in on us and we will give you a trinket or two while they last. Thank you, Bill.

The third and last building at the Park was officially opened this fall bringing to completion the projected program - The Park never looked so good! This one is named the Desbarres Building, and will be used by the Service Battalion

NORTH
POLE



**ELVES ON STRIKE
SANTA CONTRACTING OUT
TO WAL-MART AND
THOUSANDS MORE
1600 KM TO NEAREST TIM HORTONS**

UPDATE NEWS

Bob Kipping who is chairman of the Reunion Committee, has announced Sept. 15 and 16, 2000, as tentative dates for our 31st Annual Reunion.

We had some growing pains with our last Reunion at Victoria Park, but in the end all went very well. These are the proposals for our next Reunion:

1. We will not be using the Coriann Building.
2. We will be using the WO's and Sergeant's, and the Officer's messes in the Fort Ogilvie Building.
3. On Friday the 15th, Registration will begin at 1300 hrs. in the WO's & Sergeant's mess and the bar will be open for your convenience.
4. On Saturday the 16th, our dinner and Banquet Supper will be served in the Officer's mess while we continue to fellowship in the WO's and Sergeant's mess.
5. There will be a doorman at the door to get you on the right track as well as a person to guide those that need the elevator.
6. We are also looking to have signs made to help direct through the building.

There were approximately 100 registered at the last Reunion. 53 were members and 47 were guests. We have also decided to open the doors for any of the widows who wish to attend, but they must pay the registration fee of \$25.00

Many of our comrades are set aside on beds of sickness, and others are confined to home. This coupled with the many deaths over the past ten or so years has really thinned out our ranks to the point where we sometimes wonder how much longer we will be able to operate as a unit. We certainly have a lot to be thankful for, and especially for the many comrades who have supported the Association with their generous monetary offerings down through the years.

Our prayers go out for all of the sick and sorrowing, and for the many widows among us.

Present Slate of Officers

President	C.R. (Sharkey) MacDonald
V. President	Paul MacEachern
Secretary/Treasurer	W.F. (Bill) Metcalfe

Area Representatives

Glace Bay	Robert H. (Bob) Kipping
New Waterford	Jake Ryan
N. Sydney	Joseph (Joe) Corkery
Central Nova	Ted Slaney
N.B.	Leon Sautiere
PEI	Fred Mallett

DONATIONS



Buchanan, Robert W (Bert)	79	Grand Anse, C.R.
Buckley, John Sylvester	88	Toronto, Ont.
Gillis, Daniel (Piper)	78	Port Hood, CB
MacDonald, Frederick H.	78	Herrington Cove, NS
McKay, John Edward	78	Sydney River, CB
McMullin, John J. (Joe)	80	Dominion, CB
Newman, James E. (Jim)	74	Dartmouth, NS
Peters, W.B. (Bennie)	79	Winsloe, PEI
Roode, Basil Roy	82	Timborlea, NS
Snow, Albert	81	Donkin, CB
Spencer, Eric Wallace		Toronto, Ont.

Words of Comfort for the Bereaved

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again; and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:1-6

Through the love of God our Saviour, All will be well;
 Free and changeless is His favour, All, all is well.
 Precious is the blood that healed us,
 Perfect is the grace that sealed us,
 Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,
 All must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow, All will be well.
 Faith can sing through days of sorrow, All, all is well.
 On our Father's love relying,
 Jesus every need supplying,
 Whether living now, or dying,
 All must be well.

WE REMEMBER THE MCMULLINS



DAN

JOE

ALEX

At a Reunion in Dominion in 1989

Some years ago when Ron MacDonald and Ralph Davies were serving members of the executive, they launched a search for names of two or more same family members who served in the CBH. Their findings included several father and son members, but mostly brothers by two, sometimes three, and I do not recall if there were ever four.

With the McMullins from Dominion, there were three serving members: Dan, Joseph, and Alex. Dan and Alex passed away some time ago, and in July '99, we were all saddened with the news of Joseph's death at the age of 80.

Born in Dominion he was the son of the late Alex and Mary (McNeil) McMullin. Joe was employed in mining where he worked in 1B and 26 Collieries until his retirement in 1970. He was a faithful member of St. Eugene's Parish, Dominion. Through the years he served in the Legion, and the last twelve years with Branch 3, Giace Bay. During the Second World War he served overseas 1941-1945 with the C BH. He was a member and past president of the CBH Association. He was also very active in many facets of community life.

He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Margaret (McIntyre) McMullen, three daughters, two sons, a sister, twin brothers, ten grandchildren, a great-grandson and several nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents he was predeceased by six brothers.

THEIR LAST REUNION

1997 PIER LEGION 1998



George Burke, Sandy Davies, Johnnie Buckley (looking good for his 87 years in spite of his hard battle with cancer) and his wife Peggy enjoying the fellowship of his last Reunion.

John Sylvester Buckley, 88, returned to his creator on Sunday, Aug. 29, 1999, at his residence in Toronto. He was a former resident of Glace Bay.

During the Second World War he had seen active service as a sergeant with the CBH, in Canada, England, Italy and Holland. You will remember him as a member of Number 1 platoon - infantry signals.

Johnnie is survived by his wife Peggy, son Jerry and family in Ottawa. He is also survived by a brother and two sisters, and many neices and nephews.



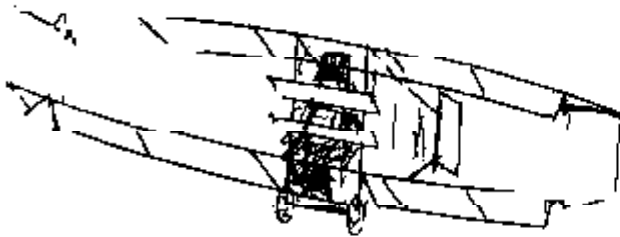
Bert Buchanan made the rounds of the table to get to speak with as many of the old buddies as possible as though anticipating his last reunion.

Robert William Buchanan 79, of Grand Anse, died Monday Sept. 6, 1999, in hospital. He retired from Parks Canada as chief warden. He was a graduate of Maritime Forest Ranger School. During WW II he served with the CBH in Canada, England and Italy. He was a lifetime member and past president of the Royal Canadian Legion, Br. 47, St. Peters.

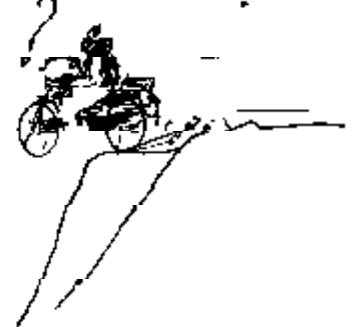
He is survived by his loving wife, the former Jean Frost; one son and four daughters, one brother and three sisters; twelve grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

CAPE BRETON'S FAMOUS FLIGHTS OF THE CENTURY

J.A.D. McCurdy
Baddeck Bay - 1909



Walter (Pottie) Pate
Belmonte Cassino - 1944



Baddeck Bay is a part of the beautiful Bras D'or Lakes, on Cape Breton Island. The main features along its shores include Beinn Breagh (beautiful mountain), the town of Baddeck and Kidstone Island. It was into this quaint setting that the great inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, established his workshop and lab. He built the family home overlooking the bay at the foot of Beinn Breagh.

In the winter of 1909, when the ice was thick on the bay, Bell's mechanics wheeled the Silver Dart, one of his inventions, across the ice to a select position. There the young Cape Bretoner, J.A.D. McCurdy, climbed through the Dart's open framework and secured himself in the area of the controls as he prepared to fly the craft - and fly it he did, right into history. On that day in 1909, the Silver Dart received the honour of being the first heavier than air machine to fly in the British empire.

In the spring of 1944, we moved from our positions along the Arielli river on the Ortona salient to our new positions in the Cassino area. You will remember Belmonte Valley, the inferno tract and Monte Cairo. It was in this area that another young Cape Bretoner, Walter Pate (Pottie), made an unexpected attempt to fly a heavier than air machine.

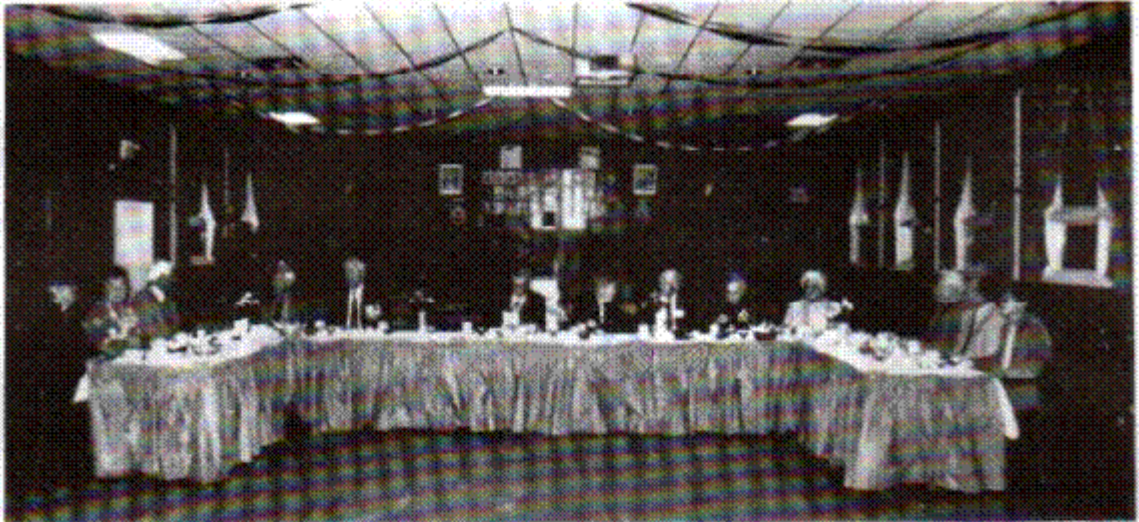
E.G. (Al) Robertson was chauffeuring the CO Boyd Summerville in a jeep while Walter, a DR in the signal platoon, followed close by on his motor cycle. They were wending their way upward along a mule tract when the jeep began to raise a cloud of dust that hid Walter from view. A few minutes later the CO stopped the jeep to get their bearings, and when the dust settled there was not a sign of Walter.

The CO ordered Al to turn the jeep around and drive back along the tract in search of Walter. They finally found him and his bike at the bottom of a very steep drop of some 40 feet, more or less. They took an easy way down to where he was, and found that he was slightly dazed, and one broken finger was the only evidence of physical damage. However, the bike was a write off. Looking up from the bottom of the drop they figured that he was in free fall for at least 30 feet of the total.

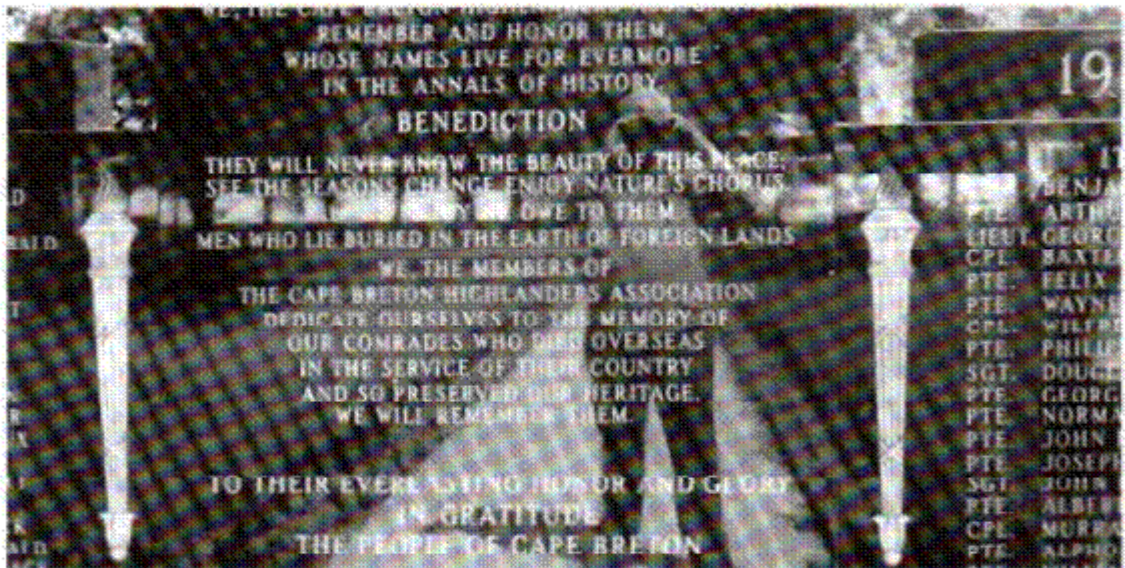
Two days later while Walter was recuperating in sick bay, the CO sent him a copy of the Maple Leaf in which cartoonist Bing had already latched onto the occasion, and had Herbie flying through the air on a motorcycle.

I was talking to Neil Dan, and he suggested that Buck Yates also qualified. I explained to him that Buck's bike stopped dead when he hit the abutment and he made his 50 foot horizontal flight on his own without the bike; he may have done better but his helmet made contact with a tree. If he had made the flight with his bike he would have qualified, I explained.

ODDITIES IN THE NEWS



THE LAST SUPPER?



EMERY IN THE SHOT



JOE MEETS MADAME X