



## Per Semaphorum ad Satellites

NOVEMBER 2010

**Finally the fall edition**, and by the look of the thermometer perhaps this should be the winter edition.

Now this edition may look a bit different but rest assured that there is no intentional attempt to discard all of Terry's work.

Alas, I was simply having trouble loading up the usual publishing software and ... well ... I could delay a bit longer or simply compile this with the tools I had at hand.

Not fancy but a simple production on time is hopefully appreciated more than a fancy one in another couple of months.

Wish me luck in sorting out the bugs for the next edition

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**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year  
from Your  
2010-2011 Club Executive**

**President: Herb Postill  
Past President: Cec Penney  
Vice Pres: Tony Charters  
Secretary: Liisa Denoble  
Treasurer: Bob Taylor  
Public Relations: Pete Scott  
Sgt of Arms: Noel Coward  
Membership: Bob Lent**



### **Membership**

As at 26 Sep 2010

Life Members 582

Yearly Members 82

Family Members 70

Honourary / Associate Members 5

Retiring Members (1 Yr) 4

Total 743

**A man was telling his neighbour, 'I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me four thousand dollars, but it's state of the art.. It's perfect.' 'Really,' answered the neighbour 'What kind is it?' 'Twelve thirty..**

# How to contact the Signallers Club

## OUR WEB SITE

[www.the-sigs-club.ca](http://www.the-sigs-club.ca)

## OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

the-sigs-club @the-sigs-club.ca

## OUR MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 1983, Kingston, On,  
K7L5J8

Thanks to the interested contributors who are providing news from all corners of this great land.

You are helping make the Signallers Club of Canada, nation wide.

You just never know who might be travelling through your region and would love to drop in on an event as well as meet forgotten friends.

Anyone can contribute! Simply send an email to [pr@the-sigs-club.ca](mailto:pr@the-sigs-club.ca)

### From The membership desk:

#### CALL TO ALL SIGNALS CLUBS

At our AGM on 26 September 2010, it was again noted that the total Club membership is decreasing, that is from 757 in 2009 to the present 743, a loss of 14 members. The majority of the loss is attributable to the passing of our aging membership. This decline would be considerably higher, if it were not for the spouses of deceased members who choose to become Family Members (NO dues for FMs). We expect other Sigs Clubs are having similar declines.

As you are no doubt aware, The Signallers Club of Canada is very involved in the following areas:

- Signals/C & E Branch Reunions,
- archival and research work on a near daily basis in our museum ,as well as acting as tour guides and assisting in restoration projects at the museum,
- weekly Newsletters on the internet, plus real time info when appropriate,
- bi-annual mailings to non-internet users,
- assisting in locating ex members,
- providing a member to our new Branch History Project,
- offering one year free membership to all C & E Branch retirees,
- offering free Family Membership to all spouses of deceased members

It is important to understand that we are not in crisis mode - the Club meets all its obligations and goals from funds received in a given year. We know that many regional club members also belong to the national club. We respect and fully understand the importance of Regional Signals Clubs, but as the numbers continue to decline, we may well need to join our efforts.

Please understand, there is no intention to diminish the importance of Regional clubs, but we do ask that you encourage all ex- Signallers and C & E Branch folks to join The Signallers Club. Further, we request you acknowledge the source of information received from The Sigs Club and subsequently passed on to your membership.

VVV and Happy Signalling

**HAVE YOU TALKED TO ANYONE ABOUT BEING A MEMBER LATELY?**

## Notes from the AGM minutes

History Project: BGen Banks (Ret'd) briefed the attendees on the plan for writing the history of the Branch. The project is sanctioned by the Branch and comprises a Board of Governors and an Executive Committee.

An author has been chosen. The official launch of this project is C&E Week at which time more details will be published by the Branch. The anticipated date of completion of the project is 2013. BGen Banks stated that it is important that an organization of the size of the Signallers' Club be represented on the project Committee.

He also encouraged the membership to submit any comments to the Committee

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Account Balances - As of 7 Sep 10 (Cdn \$)

#### Cash and Bank Accounts

In Trust-Over 60	810.40
Sigs Club Chequing	9,214.76
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>10,025.16</b>

#### Other Assets

BNS 1	17,867.02
BNS 2	17,969.72
CO-OP TRUST 1	14,000.00
Dividend savings	77.42
KCCU	9,000.00
KCCU SHARES	197.49
<b>TOTAL Other Assets</b>	<b>59,111.65</b>

#### TOTAL ACCOUNTS AND ASSETS

**69,136.81**

**Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm. A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, 'You're really doing great, aren't you?' Morris replied, 'Just doing what you said, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'" The doctor said, 'I didn't say that.. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur; be careful.**

It is wide deep regret but much respect that we publish the names of those members, spouses and comrades who have passed away since the last newsletter

### **Deceased Members**

LM113 Ted Allen  
7 May 2010, Ottawa, Ontario

LM336 George Stanley Sibbald  
21 May 2010, Saskatoon , Sask

LM410 – Robert Penney  
15 June 2010, Kingston, Ontario

LM714 Leonard Raymond (Kal) Kalyniuk  
17 September 2010, Welland Ontario

LM305 Willard Eric (Bill) Cousins  
10 October 2010, Kemptville, Ontario

### **Spouses**

Joan Sampson – 19 May 2010

### **Comrades**

Thas Phillips  
28 March 2010, Ottawa, Ontario

George Elwyn Smith  
18 May 2010, Ottawa, Ontario

Roy Fraser Tanton  
21 May 2010, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Patrick Andrew Painter  
June 2010, Napanee, Ontario

Carl Gregory Bursey  
14 June 2010, Kingston, Ontario

David Lloyd Isenor  
25 June 2010, Windsor, Ontario

Charles Douglas Carter  
6 July 2010, Springhill, Nova Scotia

Bert Lerner  
24 August 2010, Ottawa, Ontario

Oswald Lloyd Overland – 13 September  
2010, Calgary Alberta

Yves Roberge  
14 September 2010, Rockdale

Harvey MacPhee  
30 September 2010, Nova Scotia

Arthur Leonard Earle  
6 October 2010, Brookfield, Nova Scotia

Bill MacLean  
11 October 2010,

Gerald Mullins  
21 October 2010, Ottawa, Ontario

If you are aware of other members, family and comrades who are recently deceased yet omitted please inform Pete Scott so that their names may also be listed and together ... at the going down of the sun, we may all remember them

**The Signallers Club of Canada – Annual Dining  
Celebrating the Anniversary of the Signal Corps  
and the Communications and Electronics Branch**

**This Year: also giving tribute to Terry Murphy as the chief pusher, shover,  
do-er and everything else that kept this club moving along successfully  
for so many years**



November 2010



**The Signallers Club of Canada**  
**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
**AND BINGO - SUN 05 Dec 2010**

**Warrant Officers & Sergeants Mess**

BINGO STARTS AT **1400 HRS** - HAM AND TURKEY  
MANY OTHER PRIZES AND DRAWS

MENU - TURKEY DINNER INCLUDING SALAD DRESSING, GRAVY,  
CRANBERRY SAUCE, MASHED POTATOES, VEGETABLES, RELISH &  
PICKLE TRAYS, BUNS, DESSERT TABLE, TEA AND COFFEE.

**COST - \$17.00 Per Person (INCLUDING DINNER)**

(NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR THE CHRISTMAS BASKET WOULD BE  
APPRECIATED)

**Tickets must be reserved NLT 01 Dec 10**

We must have a firm commitment by 01 Dec, if you reserve a ticket you are  
expected to pay for it unless there are special circumstances that would prevent  
you from honouring your commitment.

Contact - Noel Coward 613-389-8030 [noel.coward@sympatico.ca](mailto:noel.coward@sympatico.ca)

-Terry Murphy 613-389-9546 [va3trm@cogeco.ca](mailto:va3trm@cogeco.ca)

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Kingston Region – Monthly Luncheon is Last Thursday of the Month,  
Loyal Oarsman near the corner of Bath And Days Road, 11:30 onward

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Hey rest of Canada, What is happening in your Area  
that we can print here for you. Can't attend if we do  
not know

A little old man shuffled slowly into an ice cream parlour and pulled himself slowly,  
painfully, up onto a stool.. After catching his breath, he ordered a banana split. The  
waitress asked kindly, 'Crushed nuts?' No,' he replied, 'Arthritis

## ARE YOU FEELING LEFT OUT – MISSING REGULAR INFORMATION

We had several complaints from members that the information about the recent Annual Dinner was not getting out to them. Oddly enough these are members for whom we do not have a current email address.

If you are not receiving a weekly email then that is because the PR guy does not have your most current address. If you simply want to avoid potential email spam but would like to keep current then there are regular (sometimes daily) updates provided to the Sigs Club Blog available on the internet

That is Sigsclub.blogspot.com but you can also find it through the normal Club Website at [www.the-sigs-club.ca](http://www.the-sigs-club.ca)

Whether you have email at home or the library or at a distant relative's place, try to keep more current than the two mail outs per year.

The Blog is being read in 12 countries around the globe so yes you can keep current from anywhere in the world. About 800 hits per week indicates it is being used. So why do I use it. Rather than sending out emails 3 or 4 times a week when there is breaking news I can simply update the blog. Then I simply highlight the headlines in the weekly emails as reminders.

Did you know a weekly email means 23 emails to about 30 members each. This avoids the spam systems from blocking the distribution.

So if you want to be kept informed frequently then we need your email address,

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By now you are likely cursing the editor for not pointing out who all those faces are on page 5. I could say I was simply testing your memory but even I do not have all the names down yet. So I will tell you what I know and wing the rest.

(hopefully they are sitting where the seating plan indicates or I am in big trouble)

Top Left: Gary Billingsley, Jean Herritt, Nellie Key, Norman Herritt, Jolene Billingsley (hidden) Frank Key. Top Right, Gerry Coady, Dan Spencer,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Row left: Bob & Bev Lent, Bob & Joanne Janik, 2<sup>nd</sup> Row Right, Bert Haines  
3<sup>rd</sup> Row Left: Patricia Nicholson, Mary Hildebrand, Gordie Meighan, Doreen Nicholson, Anne Dutcher, Keith Nicholson; Bottom Left: Jim James, Betty Lawless, Reg Rioux, Karen Rioux, Bottom Right: Terry Murphy.

**Congratulations to AJ MacKenzie:** Brave story teller and winner of the grand prize – tickets to the Museum Gala

## From Coast to Coast

### **Pacific Sigs: Excerpt from**

[www.troywoodintarsia.com/pacsigs/pacsigs.htm](http://www.troywoodintarsia.com/pacsigs/pacsigs.htm)

Another year has come and gone. What a great weekend it was. Not too hot or too cold, no rain and great company throughout the 3 days. We had 63 people grace the Campground with their presence, one, Ken Nickolson from Kingston ON. He visited Saturday with his son Jim who lives down Island.

The event was made even greater by the excellent scran served up by the Ladies. Carole Amo was at it again on Saturday afternoon in Swampy's Road Kill Cafe serving up hamburgers and hot dogs. Then the dinner Buffet at 1930 or there about. It was awesome Ladies. They were in no particular order, Bev Blair, Freida Lapointe, Lil Bandurka, Reta Davies, Pearl Tynes, Alice Gradwell, Jennifer Pring, Gil Gilmore, Caroline Gigun, Bonnie Bowerman, Hiroko Currie, and Carole. How Gil got in there I am not sure?? Also a big thanks to Carole for supplying the Keg. I will have to get the name of the company. Again, Colin Gillis served up and excellent breakfast of pancakes and bangers on Sunday morning. A big thanks to everyone who contributed to make this another great weekend.

Swampy, Frank and I hope you all have a great year and we look forward to seeing you again in August 26-27-28, 2011. Until then take care and good health to all.

### **The Maple Leaf Monument in Petawawa**

Since many of you can't be in Petawawa to see the newly dedicated Maple Leaf Monument, a slide show is available at: [http://www.picnik.com/show/id/9501720964\\_QcTLh](http://www.picnik.com/show/id/9501720964_QcTLh)

### **Lest we forget.**

#### **From Michael Conway: BGen Barry Curley Memorial Golf Tournament**

The golf tournament went well. We had in the area of 55 golfers. The weather, while initially threatening, turned warm, sunny and beautiful — once again proving the Jim Maddox adage "It never rains on a Signaller!"

The tournament is a four-man-best-ball format. This year, the winning team consisted of Captain Harold McGuigan, Ray Gallant, Jack Murnaghan and Tim Stanley with a score of 59.

Gerry Coady came third. He was the inaugural winner of the BGen Barry Curley Memorial Trophy for Sportsmanship. Each team was afforded one vote. Gerry has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the tournament. I may be mistaken but I think he has only missed one tournament since inception.

The tournament is held annually on the third Saturday of July. It has traditionally been held at Glen Afton Golf Course, a beautiful, friendly and forgiving 18 hole venue offering spectacular views of the Prince Edward Island landscape and water vistas.

We are looking forward to next year's tournament.

## Time for the Tot

*This year is the 40th Anniversary of the demise of the daily issue of "The Tot" and the fateful day slips by unmarked by the most ex-sailors,. This year there was a rum issue re-enactment alongside H.M.S. Victory on the Anniversary day—31 July*

**A MATELOT'S FAREWELL TO HIS TOT**

You soothed my nerves and warmed my limbs  
And cheered my dismal heart,  
Procured my wants, obliged my whims—  
And now it's time to part.  
'Mid endless perils of the deep  
And miseries untold  
You summoned sweet forgetful sleep,  
Cocooned me from the cold.

Ten years ago, the "pound o' leaf",  
That cast its fragrant spell  
About the ship, expired in grief  
And sadness of farewell.  
Though guests might find the pantry bare,  
Whene'er they chose to come  
*Your* hospitality was there:  
A tot of Pusser's rum.

Two hundred years and more you filled  
The storm-tossed sailor's need.  
Now you've been killed by spite distilled  
From jealousy and greed,  
And petty clerks with scrawny necks  
Who never saw a wave,  
Nor felt the spray nor heaving decks,  
Consign you to your grave.

Alas! However I protest  
To save myself from hurt,  
They tell me that it's for the best—  
To keep us all alert.  
And so the time has come, old friend,  
To take the final sup.  
Our tears are shed. This is the end.  
Goodbye, and bottoms up!

## The Story of the Veteran on Our Ten Dollar Bill

If you look at the back right-hand side of a Canadian \$10 bill, you will see an old veteran standing at attention near the Ottawa war memorial. His name is Robert Metcalfe and he died recently at the age of 90. That he managed to live to that age is rather remarkable, given what happened in the Second World War. Born in England, he was one of the 400,000 members of the British Expeditionary Force sent to the mainland where they found themselves facing the new German warfare technique - the Blitzkrieg. He was treating a wounded comrade when he was hit in the legs by shrapnel. En route to hospital, his ambulance came under fire from a German tank, which then miraculously ceased fire. He was evacuated from Dunkirk on the HMS Grenade but unfortunately two of the sister ships with them were sunk. Recovered, he was sent to allied campaigns in North Africa and Italy. En route his ship was chased by the German battleship Bismarck! In North Africa he served under General Montgomery against the Desert Fox, Rommel! Sent into the Italian campaign, he met his future wife, a lieutenant and physiotherapist in a Canadian hospital. They were married in the morning by the mayor of the Italian town, and again in the afternoon by a British padre. After the war they settled in Chatham where he went into politics and became the warden (chairman) of the county. On his retirement he and his wife moved to Ottawa. At the age of 80 he wrote a book about his experiences. One day out of the blue he received a call from a government official asking him to go downtown for a photo op. He wasn't told what the photograph was for or why they chose him. "He had no idea he would be on the bill," his daughter said. And now you know the story of the old veteran on the \$10 bill

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

**Members are reminded that "yearly" membership dues (\$15)  
are due on 31 Dec of each year,  
please remit by cheque or Money Order  
To**

**The Signallers Club of Canada  
PO Box 1983  
Kingston, On, K7L 5J8**



Complaints?  
Send to [PR@the-sigs-club.ca](mailto:PR@the-sigs-club.ca)

Compliments?  
Tell the world.

Please visit the blog

