



## **Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Mar 19, 2019**

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a future newsletter on time, check the websites below to see if there is a notice about the current newsletter or to see if the current edition is posted there. If the newsletter is posted, please contact me at [bob.mugford@gmail.com](mailto:bob.mugford@gmail.com) to let me know you didn't get a copy.

**Newsletter on line.** This newsletter, and previous editions, are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: [www.vancouvergunners.ca](http://www.vancouvergunners.ca) and the RUSI Vancouver website at: <http://www.rusivancouver.ca/newsletter.html> . Both groups are also on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vancouver%20artillery%20association> and <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rusi%20vancouver>

**Wednesday Lunches -** We need your support to keep the lunches going. Hope all you regular attendees can keep coming. The Mess serves a great 5 course buffet meal for only \$20. Hope to see you all there. Guests are always welcome, and we encourage members to bring their significant others and friends. Dress - Jacket and tie, equivalent for Ladies. For serving personnel, uniform of the day is always acceptable at lunch.

**Upcoming events – Mark your calendars** See attached posters for details.

- Mar 27** NOABC Speaker lunch - Captain Dwight Merriam, USN (Ret)
- Mar 28** Battle of Moreuil Wood Luncheon 2019
- Mar 30** Annual RCAF Anniversary Dinner – 30 March 2019
- Apr 07** Vimy Day Commemoration Mountain View Cemetery
- Apr 10** RUSI Speaker - Canada's role in Bomber Command during WW2
- Apr 14** 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment Band - Spring Concert
- Apr 27** 15<sup>th</sup> Fd Senior NCO's Mixed Dining In

### **RUSI Speaker Series for 2019**

Next in the RUSI Vancouver Speaker Series: 10 April 2019- "Canada & The WW2 Bomber Command Campaign" Speaker: Col (Ret'd) Keith Maxwell OMM CD.

The RUSI Speaker Series is free, everyone is welcome, and a no-host bar will be available. Please confirm you will attend on April 10 by sending an RSVP e-mail to: [LHCCATHCART@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LHCCATHCART@GMAIL.COM). RUSI Vancouver thanks the Commanding Officer of 15Fd RCA and the 15Fd Officers Mess for their generous cooperation.

## **World War 2 – 1944**

*John Thompson Strategic analyst - quotes from his book "Spirit Over Steel"*

**Mar 21st:** The Soviets scoop up Mogilev, Podolsk and Vinnitsa. Reinforcements are flown into Kohima and Imphal, where Slim intends to halt the creeping Japanese tide. The 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division, with a sizeable portion of the Pacific Fleet, land on Elmira Island in the Bismarcks, but the Japanese are conspicuous in their absence. General Alexander and Freyberg consider calling a halt to the New Zealand Corps attacks around Cassino. 'The White Rabbit', Wing Commander F.F.E. Yeo Thomas is an SOE agent who is picked up today by the Gestapo in Paris during his third mission in occupied France. After months of torture, he is sent to Buchenwald, where he continues to organize resistance, gather intelligence, save lives, and encourage escape. He is awarded the George Cross.

**Mar 22<sup>nd</sup>:** 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Division has fallen back to its positions in the Shenan Hills south east of Imphail, while 17<sup>th</sup> Division is still busy mauling the attempts by the 33<sup>rd</sup> Japanese Division to trap it as it retreats towards the same town. The Germans tell Hungary that it has a new government under Field Marshal Szotjay. The New Zealand Corps makes one last go at Cassino and then backs off from further attacks.

**Mar 23<sup>rd</sup>:** 1<sup>st</sup> Ukrainian front starts to drive a wedge in between First and Fourth Panzer Armies. Another Japanese counterattack on Bougainville goes nowhere. Alexander and his commanders start preparations for Operation Diadem – an assault by four Allied Corps around Cassino and starts bringing over XIII British and I Canadian Corps from 8<sup>th</sup> Army.

**Mar 24<sup>th</sup>:** General Wingate dies in an aircraft crash. 1<sup>st</sup> Ukrainian front makes considerable progress in its attacks to the southeast of Tarnopol, while 3<sup>rd</sup> Ukrainian Front is active northeast of Nikolayev. Concerted Japanese resistance on Bougainville ends; they have lost 8,000 men while inflicting 300 fatalities on the Marines. Hereafter, they are left to starve in the jungle.

**Mar 25<sup>th</sup>:** The Japanese defences on Manus and Los Negros in the Admiralty have been reduced to small groups and individuals. Hube of 1<sup>st</sup> Panzer Army is not obeying Manstein's orders to attack westward to Proskurov, and encirclement by Soviet troops threatens. The Great Escape takes place as 76 Allied airmen from 13 nations tunnel out of Stalag Luft III. Only three make it out of the Reich and – on the orders of Hitler – 50 of the recaptured airmen are later executed by the Gestapo.

**Mar 26<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Ukrainian Front takes Balta, and 1<sup>st</sup> Ukrainian Front encircles part of 1<sup>st</sup> Panzer Army around Kamenets-Podolski. Elements of 8<sup>th</sup> Army are transferred over to western Italy to replace the now-dissolved NZ Corps and the much-battered French; when everything is in place and the ground is dry in May, then there will be a new offensive aimed at Cassino. The Japanese submarine I-8 torpedoes the SS Tjisalak in the Indian Ocean, then take the 105 survivors on her deck only to massacre them; only five of the crew survives by shaming death

in the sea. The 50<sup>th</sup> Indian Parachute Brigade retires from the approaches to Kohima, but it has thrown a spanner into the Japanese plan by inflicting a substantial delay to the 31<sup>st</sup> Japanese Division.

## **Juno Beach Centre Preparing for 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day**

The Juno Beach Centre has a number of interesting displays on their website including a 'countdown to D-Day' clock and a series of interviews with WW2 veterans. You can also support the Juno Beach Centre on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of D-Day by participating in Canada's Juno75 Commemorative Campaign and sponsoring a commemorative dog tag. The dog tags pay tribute to the over 5,500 Canadians killed in action during the Battle of Normandy and offer you the opportunity to honour a family member or include your own name or organization. Or you can purchase a commemorative brick, which can pay tribute to a veteran, or be in the name of the donor or group that purchased the brick.

Check it all out at <https://www.junobeach.org/juno75/>

## **Soldiers say the JLTV Drives Like a Dream.**

Army leaders think that's a problem.

*Jared Keller Task and Purpose March 06, 2019*



*Raider Master Drivers hit the tank trails during the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) Operator New Equipment Training (OPNET) at Fort Stewart, GA  
(US Army/Maj Peter Bogart)*

The Army's new Joint Light Tactical Vehicle offers the smoothest ride and the most creature comforts of any tactical vehicle they've driven before, soldiers told Task & Purpose. But officials say Army leadership is worried that its next-generation

Humvee replacement might be *too* comfortable. "For leadership, the ride is so smooth it brings its own concerns," 1<sup>st</sup> ABCT spokesman Maj Pete Bogart told Task & Purpose. "My wife has a brand-new Volkswagen Atlas, and it does so much for you, you often forget you're hurtling down the highway in a several-thousand-pound vehicle. "Leadership wants soldiers to remember that they're in a tactical vehicle," he added, "not a Nissan Altima." Several soldiers interviewed by Task & Purpose who have operated the JLTV as part of driver training uniformly praised the vehicle's relative comfort compared to much-despised Humvee. "The suspension system is magnificent," Staff Sgt Robert Sanders, a signal support systems specialist with the 1<sup>st</sup> ABCT, told Task & Purpose. "compared to the Humvee, it's like night and day."

"When you hit a bump in the JLTV, you feel it," Spc Donald Vargas, a combat engineer, told Task & Purpose, "But when you hit a bump in the Humvee, you *really* feel it."

Sanders described the transition from hardball road to tank trails during driver training at Fort Stewart. In the Humvee, he said, drivers normally have to slow "to a crawl" when they approach at 12-15 inch washout; in the JLTV, he was instructed to keep his foot on the accelerator. "We took it between 35 and 40 miles per hour," he said. "[The JLTV] took it like it was nothing." Vargas concurred: "It's by far the smoothest ride of any wheeled vehicle I've operated." So far, 1<sup>st</sup> ABCT soldiers have yet to deploy their JLTVs for field exercises, focusing primarily on driver training and user feedback during the initial fielding. According to Bogart, upcoming training with their fellow soldiers in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ABCT will give them the chance to get a better feel for the vehicle. "The vehicles are better on your back and better for operability, which is good for our mission," Bogart said. "But just because you don't feel the bumps doesn't mean the trailer you're hauling won't. You go over a 14- or 18-inch washout, the trailer still feels it." On the upside, soldiers will still be able to enjoy some other creature comforts that eclipse the Humvee without leadership worrying about their tactical focus. "I have a place for my coffee," Sanders said. "The seats are more adjustable than the Humvee ... there's even a cut-out in seats for when you're wearing body armor or a CamelBak. That makes it a far more comfortable ride."

## **The New Boeing High-Tech Autonomous Fighter**

*Jay Hemmings Mar 17, 2019*



*The BATS plane is primarily intended, in its wingman role, to protect against electronic attacks Photo: Boeing*

With every passing year, items of technology once confined to the realm of science fiction make their leaps from the pages of novels and comics and the silver screen of Hollywood into cold, hard reality. The latest piece of futuristic technology to make the jump from the imaginary to the real is Boeing's new unmanned fighter-like jet, developed in collaboration with the Royal Australian Air Force. The aircraft was revealed to the world in February 2019 and is called the Boeing Airpower Teaming System. The BATS – also called the Loyal Wingman – was developed in Australia, making it that nation's first domestically-developed military aircraft since the Second World War. Australia has been, though, a perfect place to develop the BATS plane, as this is Boeing's largest base of operations outside of the US. Australia also has a lot

of empty airspace in which prototypes can be tested. The BATS project is thought to be Boeing's largest investment in the development of a new aircraft outside the United States.

The concept of an unmanned plane is hardly a new one. Unmanned aerial vehicles, otherwise known as drones or UAVs, have been used in a military context since WWI, although the current crop of high-tech drones, based on technological advances made in the 1980s, differs radically from earlier UAVs. What is significant about Boeing's new autonomous fighter-like jet, though, is just how much more advanced it is than anything else in the drone field. The BATS fighter-like jet is roughly the same size as a normal fighter jet – it is around 11 meters long (38 feet), with a body and wingspan roughly proportional in size to many current fighter jets used in the Royal Australian Air Force. The reason it is referred to as a “fighter-like” jet is that the prototype has not been designed to be armed in the traditional manner of a standard fighter jet – although the possibility of arming a BATS plane with missiles and bombs in the future remains open. Rather, the current focus of the BATS plane is to fly alongside manned fighter jets, hence the “Loyal Wingman” moniker. The designers envision, in one possible example, a squadron of four to six of their autonomous BATS planes flying alongside a P-8A Poseidon, E-7 Wedgetail or F/A-18E/F Super Hornet.

The BATS plane is primarily intended, in its wingman role, to protect against electronic attacks as well as conduct surveillance and reconnaissance missions in places deemed to dangerous to send manned aircraft but could very easily be modified to take on a more aggressive role. While it is unlikely that this model could go as far as getting involved in dogfights with manned jets, the possibility of arming it for a number of offensive missions is there. One reason a large amount of money has been poured into the BATS project (Boeing has declined to say just how much) is because of the potential such an aircraft offers in terms of overcoming human-piloted fighter jet limitations. Human pilots, even the most gifted and highly trained, can only take a certain number of G's (gravitational forces), fly for a certain length of time without becoming tired, and can only process a certain amount of information at once. A plane piloted by AI (artificial intelligence), or even remotely, could overcome a number of these hampering factors. The BATS plane currently has a range of 2,000 nautical miles and is powered by a commercially-available jet engine. It uses standard runways for landing and take-off and can quite easily be modified to operate from an aircraft carrier at sea. While Boeing has not confirmed that the BATS plane will be able to fly at supersonic speeds, this does seem like a likely possibility.

Another major advantage of the BATS plane is its price. While the exact price of one of them has yet to be announced, Boeing has described the BATS as having a “very disruptive price point” and has sung its praises for featuring “fighter-like capability at a fraction of the cost.” It could potentially serve as a force equalizer for nations that cannot currently afford to field a large number of fighter jets in their air forces. Also, Boeing emphasizes the BATS' flexibility

and its potential for customization, stressing that while it is currently intended for a “Loyal Wingman” role, the scope of its possible future uses extends far beyond this single function. The first flight of a BATS plane is scheduled to take place in 2020, and commercial production is still an unspecified number of years away. Once Boeing does reach the commercial production phase, it is expected that they will sell the BATS plane globally.

## **How JRR Tolkien Found Mordor on the Western Front**

*Joseph Loconte June 30, 2016*



*Image Credit  
Rebecca Bird*

In the summer of 1916, a young Oxford academic embarked for France as a second lieutenant in the British Expeditionary Force. The Great War, as World War I was known, was only half-done, but already its industrial carnage had no parallel in European history. “Junior officers were being killed off, a dozen a minute,” recalled JRR Tolkien.

“Parting from my wife,” he wrote, doubting that he would survive the trenches, “was like a death.” The 24-year-old Tolkien arrived in time to take part in the Battle of the Somme, a campaign intended to break the stalemate between the Allies and Central Powers. It did not. The first day of the battle, July 1, produced a frenzy of bloodletting. Unaware that its artillery had failed to obliterate the German dugouts, the British Army rushed to slaughter.

Before nightfall, 19,240 British soldiers — Prime Minister David Lloyd George called them “the choicest and best of our young manhood” — lay dead. That day, 100 years ago, remains the most lethal in Britain’s military history. Though the debt is largely overlooked, Tolkien’s supreme literary achievement, “The Lord of the Rings,” owes a great deal to his experience at the Somme. Reaching the front shortly after the offensive began, Tolkien served for four months as a battalion signals officer with the 11<sup>th</sup> Lancashire Fusiliers in the Picardy region of France. Using telephones, flares, signal lights, pigeons and runners, he maintained communications between the army staff directing the battles from the rear and the officers in the field. According to the British historian Martin Gilbert, who interviewed Tolkien decades later about his combat experience, he came under intense enemy fire. He had heard “the fearful cries of men who had been hit,” Gilbert wrote. “Tolkien and his signalers were always vulnerable.” Tolkien’s creative mind found an outlet. He began writing the first drafts of his mythology about Middle-earth, as he recalled, “by candle light in bell-tents, even some down in dugouts under shell fire.” In 1917, recuperating from trench fever, Tolkien composed a

series of tales involving “gnomes,” dwarves and orcs engaged in a great struggle for his imaginary realm.



*JRR Tolkien*

In the rent earth of the Somme Valley, he laid the foundation of his epic trilogy. The descriptions of battle scenes in “The Lord of the Rings” seem lifted from the grim memories of the trenches: the relentless artillery bombardment, the whiff of mustard gas, the bodies of dead soldiers discovered in

craters of mud. In the Siege of Gondor, hateful orcs are “digging, digging lines of deep trenches in a huge ring,” while others maneuver “great engines for the casting of missiles.” On the path to Mordor, stronghold of Sauron, the Dark Lord, the air is “filled with a bitter reek that caught their breath and parched their mouths.” Tolkien later acknowledged that the Dead Marshes, with their pools of muck and floating corpses, “owe something to Northern France after the Battle of the Somme.” In a lecture delivered in 1939, “On Fairy-Stories,” Tolkien explained that his youthful love of mythology had been “quickened to full life by war.” Yet he chose not to write a war memoir, and in this he departed from contemporaries like Robert Graves and Vera Brittain. In the postwar years, the Somme exemplified the waste and futility of battle, symbolizing disillusionment not only with war, but with the very idea of heroism. As a professor of Anglo-Saxon back at Oxford, Tolkien preferred the moral landscape of Arthur and Beowulf. His aim was to produce a modern version of the medieval quest: an account of both the terrors and virtues of war, clothed in the language of myth.

In “The Lord of the Rings,” we meet Frodo Baggins and Samwise Gamgee, Hobbits of the Shire, on a fateful mission to destroy the last Ring of Power and save Middle-earth from enslavement and destruction. The heroism of Tolkien’s characters depends on their capacity to resist evil and their tenacity in the face of defeat. It was this quality that Tolkien witnessed among his comrades on the Western Front. “I have always been impressed that we are here, surviving, because of the indomitable courage of quite small people against impossible odds,” he explained. The Hobbits were “a reflection of the English soldier,” made small of stature to emphasize “the amazing and unexpected heroism of ordinary men ‘at a pinch.’ ” When the Somme offensive was finally called off in November 1916, a total of about 1.5 million soldiers were dead or wounded. Winston Churchill, who served on the front lines as a Lieutenant Colonel, criticized the campaign as “a welter of slaughter.” Two of Tolkien’s closest friends, Robert Gilson and Ralph Payton, perished in the battle, and another, Geoffrey Smith, was killed shortly afterward. Beside the courage of ordinary men, the carnage of war

seems also to have opened Tolkien's eyes to a primal fact about the human condition: the will to power. This is the force animating Sauron, the sorcerer-warlord and great enemy of Middle-earth. "But the only measure that he knows is desire," explains the wizard Gandalf, "desire for power." Not even Frodo, the Ring-bearer and chief protagonist, escapes the temptation.

When Tolkien's trilogy was published, shortly after World War II, many readers assumed that the story of the Ring was a warning about the nuclear age. Tolkien set them straight: "Of course my story is not an allegory of atomic power, but of *power* (exerted for domination)." Even this was not the whole story. For Tolkien, there was a spiritual dimension: In the human soul's struggle against evil, there was a force of grace and goodness stronger than the will to power. Even in a forsaken land, at the threshold of Mordor, Samwise Gamgee apprehends this: "For like a shaft, clear and cold, the thought pierced him that in the end the Shadow was only a small and passing thing: There was light and high beauty forever beyond its reach." Good triumphs, yet Tolkien's epic does not lapse into escapism. His protagonists are nearly overwhelmed by fear and anguish, even their own lust for power. When Frodo returns to the Shire, his quest at an end, he resembles not so much the conquering hero as a shellshocked veteran. Here is a war story, wrapped in fantasy, that delivers painful truths about the human predicament. Tolkien used the language of myth not to escape the world, but to reveal a mythic and heroic quality in the world as we find it. Perhaps this was the greatest tribute he could pay to the fallen of the Somme.

## **Military, Retired Military & Emergency Services offers and Discounts**

### **Ski Packages for Whistler Blackcomb**

Whistler Blackcomb offers several types of ski pass packages for military, veterans and emergency services personnel, some of which are also good at other Vail Resorts facilities.

See poster at end of newsletter for details on this offer and others.

## **Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates**

Next year 2020 is shaping up to be a busy, busy year.

There's the Birthday Party -

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-20196852293>

There's the Battlefield Tour 2020 - <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/battlefield-tour-2020.html>

All the buzz about our birthday doesn't stop other dignitaries stopping by this year. The Honourable Romeo Dallaire stopped by for lunch.

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/dallaire.html>



The update is rather sparse again this week as your President is still working on the website for The Royal Canadian Artillery Association. Have you signed up for their newsletter? [www.rca-arc.org](http://www.rca-arc.org) It's free and keeps you up to date on all the artillery happenings from coast to coast. Interested in helping out with the RCAA on-line membership project? Have I got a job for you!

Keep those stories, calendar events and pictures coming! Contact Leon Jensen at [president.vcrgunners@gmail.com](mailto:president.vcrgunners@gmail.com)

## Who Is It

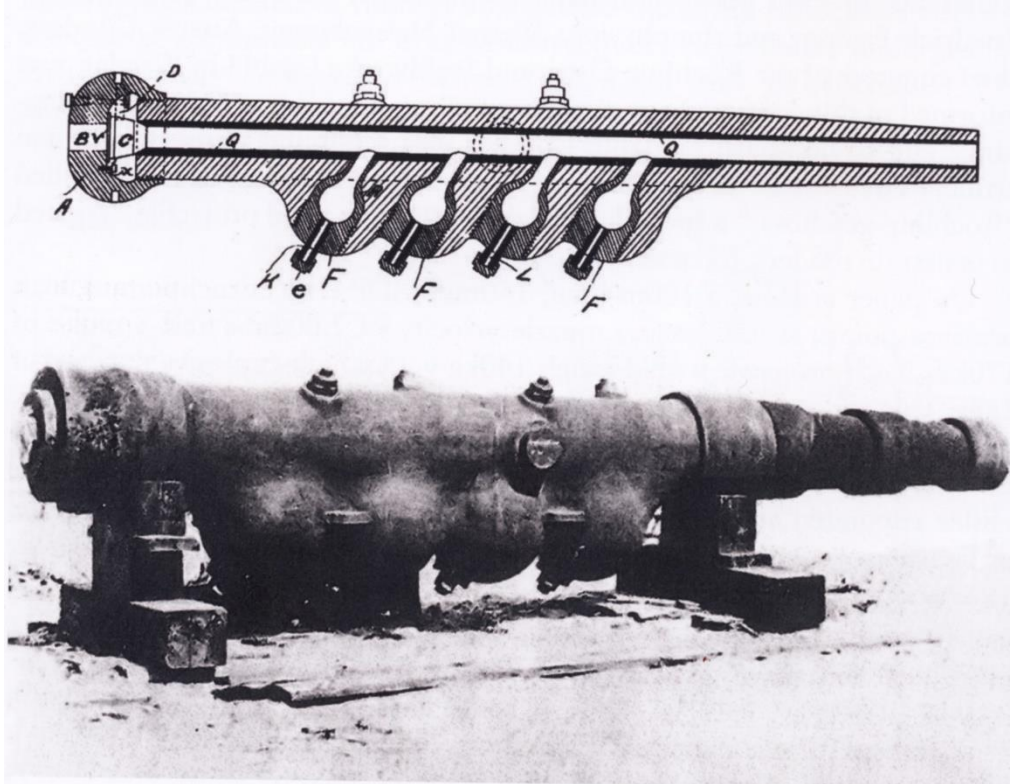
**Last Week:** Lieutenant Colonel Stewart Blacker was a retired Indian Army officer who dabbled in weapon research, especially in attempts to create an anti-tank weapon based around the spigot mortar concept: a barrel-less device that uses a steel rod – the spigot – to ignite a charge propelling a bomb into the air. The War Office was unresponsive to Blacker's approaches until a demonstration of the weapon ignited Winston



Churchill's 'boy's own' love of the dramatic. The Bombard was a 29mm spigot mortar, weighing between 112 and 360 lb, placed on top of a swivel or pivot. It was able to fire a 20 lb high-explosive bomb to a range of approximately 100 yards; when the bomb detonated, it was able to inflict significant damage on a tank, although it was unlikely to actually pierce the vehicle's armour as the projectile was not able to gain sufficient velocity. It was served by a crew of between three and five men. The Bombard was considered to be most effective at short range, with targets being engaged with 'considerable success' at a range of between 75–100 yards.<sup>[1]</sup> It was a muzzle-loaded weapon and therefore had a slow rate of fire, averaging between six and twelve rounds per minute; as such it was considered vital that the weapon be well-camouflaged and that it hit the target with the first shot. Two types of ammunition were provided for the weapon – a 20 lb anti-tank bomb and a lighter 14 lb anti-personnel bomb, with each weapon being issued with 150 rounds of the former and 100 of the latter. The anti-tank rounds were found to possess several problems. They had insensitive fuzes, which meant that they would often pass through an unarmoured target without detonating, and when they did explode fragments were often thrown back at the crew. The Bombard was either affixed to a large cruciform platform, or an immobile concrete pedestal; in either case would usually be placed in range of defensive positions, such as road-blocks. It seems that there was a preference for the Bombard to be used primarily in a static role, with extra mountings being built by the Royal Engineers to provide alternative positions from which the weapon could be fired. In a static position, the weapon was usually emplaced in a pit with ammunition lockers nearby. It was intended to equip Home Guard units with an anti-tank weapon in case of German invasion, at a time of grave shortage of weapons. An unpopular device as an artillery weapon for obvious reasons, the Blacker Bombard nevertheless served as the template for the Royal Navy's hugely

successful forward-firing ‘hedgehog’ submarine killer, which had a success rate ten times greater than depth charge attacks.

**This Week:** This week’s photo is of an object that appears to be more at home in a boiler room or HVAC plant than in any armed force of the world. Indeed, it could be the inspiration for something evil that further inspired a certain Canadian scientist who once crossed paths with my late father.



Although my great-grandfather was, indeed, a boilermaker, that trade had boiled away by the time my father took up his trade as a follower of Saint Barbara. That might be a hint, but Dad also liked music, so could this be the famed mega-fife of Tara, designed by Father Patrick O’Houghlihan for Halifax’s Pride of Hibernia Band, in which his father, my grandfather played? Its sole purpose was to enable those fine

sons of Eire to drown out the drums of the Loyal Order of the Orange, a fruit-loving group of competitors.

So, if you know if this is a boiler, a fife, or something more RUSI-related, let your editor [bob.mugford@outlook.com](mailto:bob.mugford@outlook.com) or the author know. The latter can be contacted, via electronic mailing services, at [johnd.redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net). Begorra!

### **From the ‘Punitenary’**

Why can't you give Elsa a balloon? Because she will ‘Let It Go’!

### **Murphy’s Other Laws**

If enough data is collected, a board of inquiry can prove anything.

### **Quotable Quotes**

When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt. - *Henry J Kaiser*



The Naval Officers' Association of British Columbia  
Founded 1919

### Luncheon Speaker's Series organized by NOABC

Wednesday, March 27, 2019  
Bessborough Armoury  
2025 W 11th Ave, Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7

Presentation starts at 1300 hrs

## Captain Dwight Merriam, A Lifetime of Service

Topics at this presentation will include:

- His Service in Vietnam
- Recent Developments in the U.S. Navy
- Importance today of the citizen-soldier

### Speaker's biography



Captain (Retired) Dwight Merriam of Connecticut served 31 years from 1968 to 1999 as an Officer in the United States Navy, Surface Warfare. Seven of these years were active service, including three Vietnam deployments, and his remaining 24 years were in the Reserves. As a Commander, he commanded Personnel Mobilization Team 101 responsible for mobilization of 80,000 Navy reservists and retirees. His last command, as a Captain, was of the augmentation unit of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center.

Captain Merriam will speak first on his service in Vietnam, then on recent developments in the U.S. Navy, and finally on the importance today of the citizen-soldier.

In civilian life, Captain Merriam, a graduate of Yale Law School, is a nationally recognized land use lawyer and planner. He recently retired after 40 years from a 225-lawyer firm at age 70, as required by its partnership agreement, and has taken up a solo law practice.

Captain Merriam has four children, including his daughter U.S. Federal Magistrate Judge Sarah A. L. Merriam who he notes, with a father's pride, also graduated from Yale Law School.

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**If you plan to attend the lunch and presentation please respond to David Reese  
by Sunday, March 24, 2019**

**At either [dreese@telus.net](mailto:dreese@telus.net) or call him at 778-227-8203 so that he can advise the caterer.**

# Battle of Moreuil Wood Luncheon 2019



## **WEST COAST SPRING BLACK HAT LUNCHEON**

### **BATTLE OF MOREUIL WOOD LUNCHEON 2019**

**ALL SERVING MEMBERS, RETIRED, FRIENDS, SPOUSES AND FAMILY OF THE RCAC  
ARE MOST CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE MOREUIL WOOD LUNCHEON TO  
COMMEMORATE THE BATTLE ON 31 MARCH 1918**

**THE LUNCHEON WILL COMMENCE AT 1100HRS AND CONCLUDE AT  
APPROXIMATELY 1400HRS TO MEET FERRY SCHEDULES**

**28 MARCH 2019**

**AT**

**SIDNEY NORTH SAANICH YACHT CLUB  
1949 MARINA WAY  
NORTH SAANICH,  
BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA**

**DRESS**

**SUGGESTED- JACKET AND TIE**

**TARIFF**

**\$35.00**

**RSVP**

**DAVID SCANDRETT - [SCAND@SHAW.CA](mailto:SCAND@SHAW.CA)**

**PERSEVERANCE**



# Annual RCAF Anniversary Dinner – 30 March 2019



## **AIR FORCE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

**VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA**

*Since 1920*

### **NOTICE**

**ANNUAL RCAF ANNIVERSARY MESS DINNER**

**SATURDAY, 30 March 2019,**

**1800 HOURS**

**AT**

**THE POINT GREY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**

**LOCATED AT 3350 SW MARINE DRIVE, VANCOUVER**

**A MESS DINNER IN CELEBRATION OF THE 95<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE**

**AND**

**THE 79<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN**

- \*\*\* Dress: Formal - Mess Kit, Tux or Dark Suit - miniature medals should be worn  
Ladies - cocktail dress
- \*\*\* Cost: \$ 85.00 per person(includes wine and port)
- \*\*\* Reception: 1800 Hours (no host bar)
- \*\*\* Dinner: 1900 Hours - Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding & all the trimmings
- \*\*\* Guest of Honour: Roddy MacKenzie - His topic will be RAF Bomber Command in WW II

Please bring your spouse and guests to this event. Names are needed please for the seating plan.

If you have not been phoned by your phoning committee contact by March 25<sup>h</sup>, please phone the Secretary, Jerry Vernon, at (604) 420-6065 or advise him at [jevernon@telus.net](mailto:jevernon@telus.net). If your plans change later, also please advise us of this, for catering purposes. No shows are no-nos!!

Payment by cheque is most appreciated by the Treasurer, both for security and accounting reasons.

Note that our finances continue to be in good order, and we have been able to hold the Mess Dinner price to \$ 85, the same as it was in 2017 and 2018, despite a small increase in our cost.

## Vimy Day Commemoration



*You are invited to attend*

### **The Vimy Day Ceremony & Army Cadet Parade**

**Mountain View Cemetery**

**5455 Fraser Street, Vancouver, BC**

*Commonwealth War Graves Section*

**10:15 am – Sunday - April 7, 2019**

The Vimy Day Commemoration is sponsored by RUSI Vancouver with support from Veterans Affairs Canada and Mountain View Cemetery.

# 5th Regiment Band - Spring Concert

Canada  National Defence / Défense nationale

The Fifth BC Artillery Regiment Foundation presents the



**Band of the  
5th (BC) Field Regiment,  
Royal Canadian Artillery**

Master Warrant Officer Daniel Moses, Bandmaster

in its

**20th Annual  
Spring  
Concert**



**Sunday, April 14, 2019  
2:00 p.m.**

at the  
Dave Dunnet Community Theatre  
at Oak Bay Secondary School  
2121 Cadboro Bay Road, Victoria

GENERAL ADMISSION BY CASH DONATION

 Donated proceeds will go to the  
Fifth BC Artillery Regiment Foundation

 **LOOKOUT**  
NAVY NEWS



# Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess MIXED DINING IN



The Regimental Sergeant-Major  
Warrant Officers and Sergeants  
of 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment,  
Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

*Cordially invite you  
to their*

**MIXED DINING IN**  
**Saturday, 27 April 2019**

Cocktails: 18:00 hrs Dinner: 19:00 hrs

*To be held in the*  
Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess  
Bessborough Armoury  
2025 West 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, BC

RSVP required by 17 Apr 19  
to Sgt Woods  
2025 West 11th Ave,  
Vancouver BC V6J 2C7  
Email: [brenda.woods@forces.gc.ca](mailto:brenda.woods@forces.gc.ca)  
Telephone: 604-666-4876

Dress  
Mess Kit/Formal  
Couple: \$100.00  
Single: \$60.00



## **Ski Package for Whistler Blackcomb**

Military, Retired Military & Emergency Services Discount

### **Daily Lift tickets**

2018/19 Fixed rate of -

\$107.00 CAD/day for teen/adult/senior, \$54.00 CAD/day for a child (age 5-12).

Discount is valid for:

- Active duty, reservists, retirees and Dept of Defense civilians across all branches of military, all countries;
- Retired US and Canadian Military.
- Police, Fire and Ambulance Services; (Canadian and US only for non-military)
- E-Comm 911
- Search and Rescue agencies
- Transit Police

Immediate family members are also eligible

- Includes: member, spouse and immediate dependents
- No cousins, aunts/uncles, grandparents etc.
- Member must be present
- One discount per transaction (cannot have different transaction for each family member) and must be purchased with 1 payment

**Discounted season passes** for military and retired military for the 2019/2020 season are also available. See:- <https://www.epicpass.com/pass-results/military.aspx> See the 'Canadian Military Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page' for verification requirements and other information:- <https://www.epicpass.com/info/canadian-military-faqs.aspx>

### **'Support the Troops' Offers and Discounts**

Most of these require presentation of a military ID or CFOne card, see these websites: -

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/support-the-troops.html>

<https://cfappreciation.ca/everyday-discounts>