

# CMHM NEWSLETTER

## 2019-2020 CANADIAN MILITARY HERITAGE MUSEUM

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NEW EMAIL cmhmbrant@gmail.com

Newsletter Bob Ion / Marilyn Shaver

#### 2019 - YEAR IN REVIEW

2019 will close as one of the most successful years in our 26 year history!

A jam-packed schedule for tours, meetings, banquets, events and probably the busiest Fall and November ever with bus tours, school groups, cubs, scouts, cadets, Car Clubs, seniors and youth groups and service club meetings for breakfasts and dinners.

**CAV Ride** – Canadian Army Veterans travelled by motorcycle to the museum.



**Service and Sacrifice** - As well as commemorating the **75**<sup>th</sup> **anniversary of D-Day**, June 6, 1944 the main theme this year honoured the significant contributions of Women, not only at Home but at the Front during times of war.

Several historic restoration projects (German Artillery pieces) were completed and ambitious plans for new displays are planned.

### Washroom Project

Thanks to the very generous support from the City of Brantford, construction will begin in Dec./Jan. to bring our washrooms up to standard to meet code for universal accessibility.

<u>In 2020</u> - the museum will commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War Two with special focus on the Liberation of the Netherlands and how Brantford, Brant County and Six Nations reacted.

The social event of 2019 was the **High Tea**, so successful that on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the museum will host a second High Tea and will share the museum's theme of **Liberation '75**, also with emphasis on the liberation of the Netherlands and how Brantford area celebrated the end of the war.

#### On The Road Again

The museum was represented at: Greenwich Mohawk Lake Area celebration in Mohawk Park \* Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum D-Day Gala \* Paris Fair \* Simcoe Fair \* Valour Day (Sept)



Don Wilkin at Valour Day 56<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, RCA

Every year, the last Saturday in September, Armouries across Canada open the doors to the public.

Brantford celebrated this year by establishing this day as Valour Day with a full military parade as well as the open house.

**Visitors came from abroad** – Visitors not only from Ontario and Canada have discovered the museum. We welcomed International guests from around the globe.

**Contributors** - Thanks to grants, generous benefactors, foundations, assistance from the City of Brantford and our most dedicated volunteers, the museum proudly preserves and display artifacts in an excellent venue for guests.

**Community Partnerships** - We are reaching out to other heritage and historical organizations to partner with them, share ideas and projects in our similar heritage interests.

**Special presentations** - historian Norm Christie and war artist Scott Waters made presentations to our members and guests.

2020 - an important work of art will be unveiled by local artist Barbara Sutherland Rusnak - Details TBA

# **CMHM NEWSLETTER**

## Fall/Winter 2019 - PAGE 3

#### **Museum Shirts**

Anyone who missed out on getting a shirt this year, we now have all sizes (small to 3X) in stock. Tee shirts are \$10 and golf shirts are \$20

If you are interested please get in touch with Don Musson at

don.musson@gmail.com

## **Open House – Successful Day**

Great food, displays and a record number of enthusiastic visitors for the annual Civic Weekend Open House!



Canadian WWII re-enactors

#### Father and Daughter re-enactors

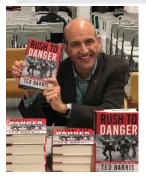


Neil Hurlbut during re-enactment battle





Otto Heinzl donated his old cadet uniform



November 29th, author Ted Barris gave an outstanding presentation at the Museum on his latest book "Rush to Danger" Medics in the Line of Fire.

The audience heard this dynamic storyteller explore stories of military medical personnel including personal experiences of his father, Alex Barris.

This book and his others would make a great Christmas Gift!

Congratulations to Megan Cameron & Geoffrey Moyer of the Great War Centenary Association. They received commendations awarded at a ceremony in Ottawa by Veterans Ombudsman Craig Dalton in November.

The Association, established in 2013 to commemorate the contributions of veterans from Brantford, Brant County and Six Nations of the Grand River during the First World War was recognized in the local organization category. Megan was the guest speaker at the Museum's 2019 High Tea event.





Tickets to Tea Make a Great Christmas Gift.

Email Marilyn ms@minotaurltd.com for gift card for tickets

> Don't forget to send any reminiscences you may have on VE day in Brantford and area.



# **CMHA NEWSLETTER**

#### Fall/Winter 2019- PAGE 5

We were honoured to host Poland's Ambassador to Canada, Adrzej Kurnicki and Polish Veterans Association.

Thanks to **Don Musson** for his periodic 'guess the artifact' contests for members. They'll continue.

#### **Dispatch Rider Project**

An exciting new audio-visual project will be presented for display in 2020.

**Music Crawl** – The strings of the Brantford Symphony Orchestra MUSIC CRAWL was a great success again.

**'Small Town Live' magazine** enhanced our public exposure with a feature article.

CTV news at 5 gave terrific coverage to the museum with video on Remembrance Day. Can be viewed at CTV news at 5 Kitchener website – go to videos – November 11.

**Thanks** to assistance from Vincent Ball at the Expositor and thanks to the generous support of Marilyn Shaver in promoting the museum in the Remembrance Day Expositor.

**Volunteers** – Many thanks to all our volunteers whose dedication helps keep our museum open and thriving.

**Every Member of the Museum Counts**. Thanks for everyone's support.

Please send any changes to contact information to: don.musson@gmail.com

### Membership

Adults \$25
Students & Seniors - \$20
Family -\$35
Corporate memberships available

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Check us out on Facebook

Website www.canadianmilitaryheritagemuseum.ca

#### **EVENTS**

Saturday December 7, 2019
Annual Meeting
Coffee at 9 a.m.
Meeting at 10 a.m.

Service Sacrifice Liberation Victory
High Tea

Sat. May 9, 2020 Exhibits Open: 11:00 a.m. High Tea Served: 12:00 noon

The CMHM is closed November 30<sup>th</sup> until March 1<sup>st</sup> but is subject to availability for

pre-arranged tours in December.

Any ideas or suggestions for newsletter contact Bob Ion at bobbyionir@gmail.com

LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EXCITING 2020!

Come for a visit - Bring a friend!