

Commission-

~ Newsletter of the Hamilton Division - Autumn 2005 ~



A GATHERING OF CLASSICS

Once in a while Commissionaires have the opportunity to take on assignments that are a touch more exciting than our usual 'walk-around-the-building-check-the-doors' duties.. Recently Commissionaires Dan Garvey and J.D. Livingstone were tasked to guard a number of airplanes on display at Kitchener Airport. The occasion was the annual *AVIATION DAYS* sponsored by the Waterloo Wellington Flight Centre. The display included a wide variety of and military, civilian and vintage historic aircraft. Pictured above are two classic fighter aircraft, a Canadian Forces CF-18 Hornet and a WW1 vintage SE-5A from The Great War Flying Museum in Brampton. Over the years the GWFM has constructed a number of replica WW1 airplanes which they fly in mock 'dog-fights' at air shows and other events around Southern Ontario.

HEADS-UP ABOUT HOTEL ROOM KEYS - Editor

We all remember the 'good-old-days' when a hotel room key was just that, a key. Like everything else in this age of computerised 'gizmos' that familiar item has been replaced by an electronically programmed room access card. What you may not know is that this electronic card may be programmed with a lot more information than just a release for the lock on the door. According to police investigators in the US It may well be programmed with a whole bunch of..... **Continued on page 4**

SPECIAL



On 20 June 2005, Commissionaire Becky Misener was presented with an award under the 'Non-Government Employees Category' by the Food Research Program at their "FRP Awards of Recognition Ceremony" in Guelph. She is shown here receiving her award from Joan Leatherdale. Becky was nominated and chosen for this award for many reasons. This is what was said about Comm. Becky Misener at the award presentation, which was attended by approximately 100 people.

"Becky has truly been an asset to the food research program. In spite of personal adversity in her life she always comes to work with a smile on her face. She treats everyone equally with her down-to-earth, matter-of-fact attitude. Becky is a true team player and goes out of her way to promote an inclusive working environment. She organised our first annual Aboriginal Awareness celebration at AAFC in the spring of 2005 with a remarkable response – a testament of how much people like Becky and support her grounded and selfless ways. She threw her whole heart into these festivities with a passion she shared with all. Becky went above and beyond the call of duty taking on the responsibility of cooking several native dishes for a staff of over 50 people. She3 arranged for an Elder to give a healing circle, sharing the history of the elder's culture – the smoking, dancing, drumming and singing, with over 25 staff participating. This was one of the best team building events held at the Food Research Centre – all thanks to Becky. Becky helps to make coming to work at the Food Research Program in Guelph a pleasure! She also does a great job as a Commissionaire."

We offer our sincere congratulations to Comm. Misener, not only for her much de-

LAST POST

We are deeply saddened to report the passing of two members of Commissionaires Hamilton in recent weeks. We know that all Commissionaires join in expressing their sincere sympathy to family, friends and fellow workers of:

Corporal Jay Batabyal while on duty at Home Hardware on Tuesday, 26 July 2005. The father of Comm. Jason Batabyal (Home Hardware) Jay was a Graduate of Conestoga College with an extensive background in the computer sciences. A charter

COMPLIMENTS AND CONGRATULATIONS

Every day there occur hundreds of examples of exceptional service to our clients and to members of the public. That few of these acts of courtesy are acknowledged is simply part of the job. However, every once in a while letters are written or phone calls made by people who wish to express their thanks and acknowledgment of what they consider to be service above and beyond the call of duty by Commissionaires. Congratulations to the following Commissionaires.

WO Karl Thorp, Cpl. Catharine Luangrath, Sgt. Mike McGrillen received a letter from the Acting Director of Security Services at Brock University for an undisclosed domestic incident in the Village Residence. While the event took place last March, and some time has passed, it in no way diminishes the fact the “the professionalism and assistance you provided in all of your roles is a real example of what team-work is all about.” Well done!

WO Karl Thorp, Sgt. John Simioni, Sgt. Eric Anderson were recently commended for their professional knowledge of emergency procedures during what turned out to be a false alarm at the Decew residence at Brock University. The manner in which these three Commissionaires carried out their duties caused the St. Catharines Fire Department Captain to express “his appreciation for our staff’s assistance and professional approach displayed during this call for service.” As stated in the letter from the university, “When we interact with outside agencies and we leave them with a positive impression of us it reflects not only on the (Campus Security) Service but the university as a whole.

Cpl. Greg Burdon, Cpl. Terry Webber, Comms. Dan Garvey, Doug Inniss, Ross Lackner, Gord Cupples, Stephen Dunscombe, Jelena Sljuka, Chris Lock COM DEV, went above and beyond the call of duty recently at a special event held by the company. “The Commissionaires, at the site, were very courteous, professional and supportive during the day’s events. Their efforts were commendable.”

To all of the above, and to those who were not acknowledged, many thanks for a job well done.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Feeling good and being able to enjoy doing the things we like to do are important to all of us. These are the basics of the Health and Safety we all try to achieve. The work place is the most important part of continuing good health since it is the most likely place for accidents to happen. As much protection and prevention as possible is provided in the work place but we all must participate in staying healthy.

In this Newsletter we try to give some helpful reminders of the kinds of things we must all be aware of in order to stay healthy. You may recall our reminders of West Nile Virus, Heat Stress, Ultraviolet Radiation, Coping with Stress on Shift-work. As can be seen from these topics weather plays a large part in continued good health. Whether it hot and sunny, cold and snowy or raining we must try to remain watchful. We have nearly finished with what has been a hot summer and we will now have some nice fall weather before what will probably be a cold and snowy winter. In working and playing safely we should stay alert to conditions in order to..... **continued on page 4**

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HOTEL ROOM KEYS (Cont'd form page 1)

of personal information about you that you really would not wish to get into the wrong hands. This information may include your full name and address, your credit card number (with expiry date), room number and possibly even your date of birth. In short the card has everything but your hat-size. In the wrong hands this data could be used for identity theft. In fact the police have discovered a number of cases in which hotel employees have scanned still-programmed access cards for personal information that they then use criminal activity.

Might we suggest the following. When you check into a hotel and are handed an access card ask the desk-clerk what's on it and why. When checking out of the hotel always take the card with you and destroy it or insist that it be destroyed immediately at the front desk. Never leave it on the bed or in the waste basket in the room! Always protect it as you would a credit or bank card or any other vital personal card. To do otherwise is to invite disaster. We hope this information is useful to you.

WELCOME ABOARD

Hamilton Division is pleased to welcome the following new Commissionaires who have joined us since the summer newsletter

Ken Gallienne, Wayne Cotton, Ken Ferris, Jack Guest, James Bird, Vaughn Braby, Nicolas Brouwer, Ken Stafford, Justin Andersen, Norman McLeod, Julie Ellsworth, Ron Smith, Gregory Burton, Diane Miller, Mike King, Lynda Mills, James Mitchell

HEALTH AND SAFETY (Cont't form page 3)

maintain good health. Helpful hints about the environment and our health can be found at websites such as www.gov.on.ca and www.cancer.ca.

Poor health and being careless about matters of safety costs us all money. Any one of us who is not alert to the things which contribute to good health and safety is taking a chance which could result in costly treatments to remedy the damage.