

THE BULLETIN

VOLUME ⁵~~4~~, NUMBER 1



LE BULLETIN

APRIL 1998

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OMMC, INC.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been an eye-opener to take on the mantle of Course Director for the 1998 course in Winnipeg. Although I have been associated with the function for a good number of years this is the first at which I am responsible for the selection of content. Thank goodness there has been a good selection from which to choose. Indeed one might say there has been an over-abundance of good material and it has been a question of trying to decide what had to be cut rather than trying to find something to fill the gap.

I think we have been able to fit in all the various components that you asked for in last year's critique, visits to museums in the area, marketing, hands on demos, local and living history and the last half of Ernst's

musical comparisons. The accommodation is superior to anything we have had before and, if we are to believe the chef, the meals will be superb. Add to this the clean western air and we have the makings of a grand course.

In a late breaking piece of news we were alerted to the fact that Jack Granatstein, noted historian and author has been appointed Director and CEO of the Canadian War Museum. I asked him if he could find the time to speak to the group and he replied he would be delighted to have the chance to give a short talk on the "new regime" at the CWM, and to answer questions. In view of the recently signed MOU between the CWM and DHH we have been able to slot his talk into the DHH meeting. You are all urged to attend to find out how CWM's programmes will change.

1998 ELECTIONS

Data on the 1998 elections were presented in the last issue of The Bulletin. Members are advised that nominations ceased 1 April 1998 and that the positions to be filled were Vice-President, Treasurer, and two Board Members. A separate statement will be enclosed concerning those nominated for the positions and a Proxy that is to be completed and sent to the Executive Director at the indicated address for action as directed by the member sending in the Proxy.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1998

The Annual General Meeting of The Organization of Military Museums of Canada, Inc. will be held in the La Vérendrye Lounge, Officers' Mess, 17 Wing Winnipeg, Manitoba, Monday, 10 August 1998 from 1530 - 1715 hours.

1998 OMMC Inc. Museum Course
17 Wing, Winnipeg, Manitoba
9 - 16 August 1998

THE ORGANIZATION OF MILITARY MUSEUMS
OF CANADA, INCORPORATED (OMMC, INC)

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1998 Course Host 17 Wing, Winnipeg

Bulletin Production: Rosemary Salter

The Bulletin for the 1998 dues of \$35.00. So far 120 have responded. For the remainder please reply by 1 May 1998. If your dues are not paid your application to attend the course will not be processed.

NEW MEMBERS

Since the last issue of The Bulletin we are pleased to welcome the following new individual members :

Mr. Bryon E.J. Reynolds, Curator of the Reynolds Aviation Museum, Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Jean Langdon Ford, Librarian CWM, Ottawa, Ontario.

Allan Kerr, Proprietor MILARM Company Ltd, Edmonton, Alberta

Sgt Bruce Reith, Assistant Curator, Thunder Bay Museum, Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Col. G.J. Hayes, Brookline, Massachusetts.

The President, Board of Directors, and members wish to thank LCdr Elspeth Naismith for her dedicated years of work on behalf of the OMMC Inc., in her capacity as both Course Coordinator and as Editor of The Bulletin. Elspeth's increased duties at NDHQ compelled her to relinquish her OMMC Inc. duties. An appropriate recognition of Elspeth's contribution will be made during the 1998 OMMC Inc. course at 17 Wing Winnipeg, 9 -16 August 1998. Dan Potvin of the Directorate of History and Heritage has taken over the responsibilities of the Course Coordinator. Dan arranged last year's course at CFB Esquimalt and is doing the same for this year. Rosemary Salter of Montrose Design, Ottawa has assumed the responsibility of producing The Bulletin, with the assistance of the Executive Director and the Course Coordinator.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please note that the Executive Director has a new Fax number as of 23 March 1998. It is 613-829-7673. The telephone number is the same 613-829-0280..

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership renewal forms for 1998 were sent out in the December 1997 issue of

The course registration form (revised) for 1998 is enclosed in this package. It is hoped that the restructured format will be easier to understand and to complete for submission to the OMMC Inc. Course Coordinator, P.O. Box 26106, 72 Robertson Road, Nepean, Ontario, K2H 9R6. Specific notes on the course are included in this issue of The Bulletin from the Course Coordinator to assist you in your registration form's submission. Since attendance at our courses is now over a hundred and accommodation is limited, as are the DND aircraft seat allocations,

those planning to attend the 1998 course are advised to submit their application early and to observe the target dates listed in the Registration Form.

In the past the membership has been asked for specific data for a new data base for OMMC Inc. records. So far 60 data base record sheets out of a possible 350 forms have been received. To the 60 who have responded thank you for your cooperation. To the remainder who have not responded please do so by 1 June 1998.

Excerpt from the Friends of the Canadian War Museum Newsletter

DR JACK GRANATSTEIN TO BE MUSEUM CHIEF

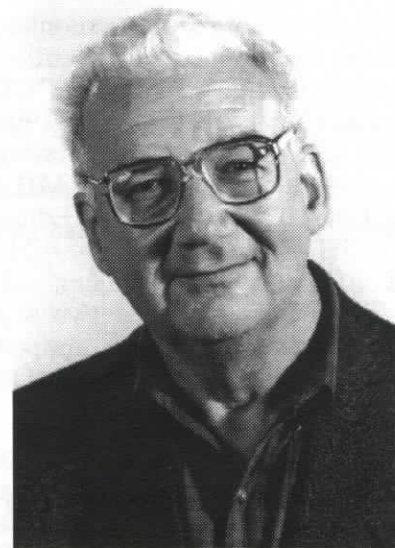
The well-known historian, author and academic, Dr Jack Granatstein will become Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian War Museum on 1 July 1998. A graduate of Le College Militaire Royale de St-Jean and the Royal Military College (BA, 1961) he attained his MA from the University of Toronto in 1962 and his PhD from Duke University in 1966. He is currently Distinguished Research Professor of History Emeritus at York University, a member of RMC's board of governors, and a Fellow at the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

His more than 30 books published over the last thirty years include: *Bloody Victory: Canadians and the D-Day Campaign; The Collins Dictionary of Canadian History; Marching to Victory; Canadians and the Great War; A Nation Forged in Fire: Canadians and the Second World War; The Generals: The Canadian Army's Senior Commanders in the Second World War; and The Veterans Charter and Post-World War II Canada.*

Dr Granatstein broadcast extensively from Europe during the 50th anniversary ceremonies commemorating D-Day and VE Day, and gives frequent media comments on defence, public affairs and historical questions.

In 1996 he was the recipient of the Vimy Award which each year honours the Canadian who made the most significant contribution to the defence and security of Canada and to the preservation of our democratic values. In 1997 he was an advisor to the Minister of National Defence on the future of the Canadian Forces and was one of the three members of the Special Commission on the Restructuring of the Canadian Forces Reserves.

He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1997.



J.L. Granatstein, OC, PhD, FRSC

Enclosed are the latest flyers from Stephen Pallas of Pallas Books, Purveyors of Military Books, 17 Ella Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 2S3 (Tel: 613-238-1067 or Fax: 613-238-4661 and from Larry Milberry of CANAV Books, 51 Balsam Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4E 3B6 (Tel: 416-698-7559 or Fax: 416-693-4344). Both Stephen and Larry are members of the OMMC Inc., and both offer an excellent range of military and aviation books. Any late arrivals of flyers for this issue of The Bulletin will be enclosed without reference in this column.

Arthur Bishop, noted military historian and an OMMC Inc. member, is planning a new book for a Military Millennium Project entitled, *The Art Of Canadian Valour*. As Arthur's plans develop he will be requesting the OMMC Inc. members for information and participation in his project. We are fortunate to have such an enthusiastic author as a member of the OMMC Inc.

Members have been advised that we have available for use at a nominal sum a set of conservation data in English and in French. So far only the Royal 22nd Regimental Museum has availed itself of this data. Member museums are urged to use these invaluable training aids for the benefit of their staff and volunteers. If you have misplaced your data please contact the Executive Director for full details.

Members living in the Edmonton area are advised of the next Convention and Bourse of the Military Collectors Club of Canada to be held 1 and 2 August 1998. For further data please contact the Chairman of the event Mr. Allan Kerr, MILARM Company Ltd, 10769 - 99 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 4H6, Tel: 403- 424-5281 (Home) & 403 - 424 - 5281 (Office); and Fax : 800-894-7598. There will be two separate exhibitions - one for militaria and one for guns. Alan recently joined the OMMC Inc as an individual member.

In the year 2000 the MCCC Convention and Bourse will be held at the Chateau Laurier, 18 -20 August 2000, under the Chairmanship of Dick Malott, Director-at-Large MCCC. Plan to attend!

We all remember the uproar concerning the purchase of the LCol John McCrae medals last October 1997. Fortunately the episode ended happily entirely to the credit of Mr. Arthur Lee, philanthropic Canadian from Toronto. A book has been published by Dianne Graves, wife of OMMC Inc. member Don Graves, entitled *A Crown of Life : The World of John McCrae*. The hard cover book of 300 pages is a thoroughly researched book with many foot notes and an extensive bibliography. The extent of the capabilities of John McCrae are unbelievable as his life history is unfolded. He was a very talented doctor, a deep-thinking poet and philosopher, and a dedicated soldier. If you do not read this book you will be doing yourself a disservice. It is well edited and I only perceived 3 typing errors in the 300 pages. When the book is reprinted Dianne will have to add a chapter dealing with the auction of this great Canadian's medals.

Bulletin Notes:

1. A reminder from your course coordinator that this year we are pleased to offer you the option of paying your registration/course fee by VISA.

2. The Director of History and Heritage (DHH) annual meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 1998 at 1600 hrs will be divided into two parts followed by a wine and cheese reception.

Part 1. Special guest speaker, Dr. J.L. Granatstein, Director and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian War Museum, will address the membership followed by a question and answer period.

Part 2. In order to adequately respond to questions from the membership to the Director of History and Heritage you are requested to submit your agenda items to the Staff Officer Museums (DHH) by 1 July 1998. The meeting will be limited to discussing the submitted agenda items only.

Submit your agenda items to:

Staff Officer Museums
Director of History and Heritage
National Defence Headquarters
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K2
or by Fax (613) 990-8579

See you in Winnipeg!