

# 26 XII

## Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 4 Newsletter of Brandon's Military Museum September 2014

## SPECIAL EDITION SUMMER 2014

26 FIELD REGIMENT RCA/XII MANITOBA DRAGOONS MUSEUM • BRANDON MB

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Museum Volunteers and FOMI information.

### Colonel Richard (Dick) McDonald, CD

*The Museum remembers a great man and great supporter of the 26<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment RCA/XII Manitoba Dragoons Museum and the Regimental Family of 26<sup>th</sup> Fd Regt RCA. Colonel McDonald joined the 26th Field Regiment Royal Canadian Artillery (Militia) in 1958 and served in many capacities. Colonel McDonald was the Commanding Officer and Honorary Colonel. He was greatly respected in the Artillery Family. Our condolences are sent to his wife Verda and Family. A celebration of Dick's life will be held at Central United Church, 327-8th Street, on Thursday, September 25, 2014 at 1400 hours with The Rt. Rev. Jim Njegovan officiating.*



Colonel Dick McDonald  
CO 26 Fd Regt 1974-77      Hon Colonel 1996-2003

***A private interment will take place at the Brandon Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Dick may be made to following organizations:***

***Brandon University Healthy Living Centre,***

***c/o Dept. of Institutional Advancement, 270-18th Street, Brandon, MB, R7A 6A9***

***The 26th Field Artillery Association Inc. (The Senate),***

***c/o E.L. McArthur, 712-16th Street, Brandon, MB, R7A 4Y7,***

***Brandon Humane Society, 2200-17th Street East, Brandon, MB, R7A 7M6 or charity of choice.***



***And at the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember...***

## **M-109's arrival at Armoury**



***Arrival of M-109 12 August 2014 Photo SDI***



***Second coming M-109 14 August 2014 Photo SDI***



***RQMS 26 Fd, Base Transport CFB Shilo Base Lift  
Supervisor and Crane Operator mark the pad Photo SDI***



***150 Ton Crane from BOB'S Crane Service  
Haywood Manitoba Photo SDI***





CFB Shilo Rigging Team fortify themselves for the task ahead Photo SDI



Rigging Team say goodbye to the flatbed Photo SDI



Lifting cables are attached to the M-109's hull Photo SDI



RQMS finds a good place for pictures Photo SDI



Adjutant happy to see the M-109's arrival Photo SDI



Brandon's finest watch the lift Photo SDI



Sergeant Wheatland scoops; Photo SDI



Bird's eye view of the big lift; Photo SDI



The lift Begins; Photo; SDI



So far so good; Photo SDI



Airborne Artillery; Photo SDI



The Rigging Team squeeze the M-109 by the new trees; Photo SDI



Almost there; Photo SDI





*The Rigging Team lines up the M-109 on the landing marks; Photo SDI*



*Touchdown in the background Chief Clerk, Adjutant and The Commanding Officer; Photo SDI*



*The Rigging Team finishes up de-rigging the M-109 Another successful lift; Photo SDI*



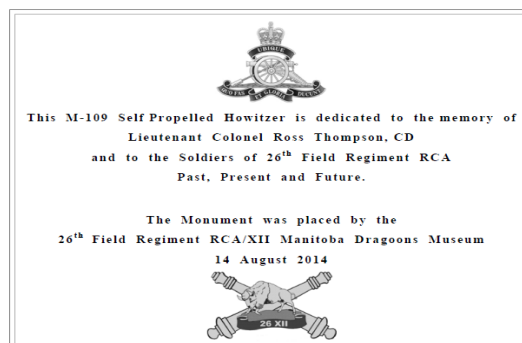
*Home at last for CFR 85-77229; Photo SDI*

## **M-109 Self Propelled Howitzer CFR 85-77229**

*They say that a picture is worth a thousand words. The above twenty-two pictures represent about a million words in e-mails phone calls and meetings which lead to the acquisition of the M-109. Needless to say the effort put in by the Volunteers and the 26 Field Regiment was huge. Hopefully between now and the dedication there will be not as many hours and words expended. From its first arrival on the 12<sup>th</sup> August (crane was too small) until it's second coming on the 14<sup>th</sup> August it was an adventure. The museum wishes to thank the following for pulling it all together, Capt. Santiago and Capt. Doucet DGLEPM, Capt. Haughey, Regt M-109 POC, Capt. Rivard Adj, RQMS Quiring CFB Shilo Base Transport and Major Neville for all his support. We are researching the history of 85-77229 and when we receive the history it will be published in this publication.*



*After two years of hard work acquiring the M-109 the Museum Volunteers pose with Gun; Photo SDI*



18" x 24" Bronze Plaque with a polished beveled edge

Raised polished lettering  
Hidden fasteners on the back

*Dedication Plaque by Rapid City Memorials the ceremony will take place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014; Photo SDI*

## **Badges of the Canadian Army past and present**

On the page of this and following editions of the 26XII Newsletter there will be pictures of the badges of Canadian Army Units past and present. Some examples are below.



**41 Canadian  
Brigade Group**  
Photo CAF



**West Nova Scotia  
Regiment**  
Photo wnsr.ca



**Royal Canadian  
Ordnance Corps**  
Photo eBay



**South Saskatchewan  
Regiment**  
Photo U of Regina

## **Identify the Artefact**



**Answer to last Identify the Artefact**  
**Pocket badge of Canadian Forces**  
**Europe; Photo SDI**



**Identify the Artefact:**  
**For answer see next issue of**  
**The 26XII Newsletter**

## **Name that Ribbon**

In this section different ribbons will be shown. The names of the ribbon and its associated medal will be published in the next issue of the newsletter. Note these ribbons will be world-wide.



**Ribbon 1**



**Ribbon 2**



**Ribbon 3**



**Ribbon 4**



**Ribbon 5**

## **Answers to last issue ribbons**



**Ribbon 1**

**Bosnia Order  
of the Hero  
Liberation War**



**Ribbon 2**

**Canada Meritorious  
Service Medal  
Civilian**



**Ribbon 3**

**Oman  
Order of the  
Renaissance**



**Ribbon 4**

**United Kingdom  
Naval General  
Service Medal**



**Ribbon 5**

**United Kingdom  
General Service  
Medal**



## **Museum summer activities 2014**

### **Brandon open doors**

**The Museum Volunteers were busy with Brandon Heritage Walk open doors on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of July**



*Museum volunteers poses with Roy Photo SDI*



*Afghanistan Legacy Project items Photo SDI*

### **Thresherman's Reunion Austin MB**

**Museum Volunteers were again busy with the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Threshermen's Reunion is 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of July in Austin Manitoba.**



*Roy really gets around seen here at the Museum Booth Photo 26XII*



*Sherman Tank M4 with a 76mm high velocity gun Photo 26XII*



*WWI Canadian Military Ambulance Photo 26XII*

### **Sprinkler Project Museum refit**

**The Museum was a construction zone for most of the spring and summer. The Volunteers did a great job juggling the requirements of the constructions crews and keeping the Museum up and running. After we bade adieu to all the construction workers, a good cleaning and painting was the order of the day. Then the job of getting all the Artefacts that had been shipped to offsite storage back to the Museum and in place was launched. The Volunteer carried these tasks out to their normal high standard BZ to the Volunteers.**

### **Heritage Days Silver Springs**

**The Museum Volunteers were again on the road again on the 1<sup>st</sup> August to visit The Manitoba WW1 Museum, Library and Archive located at Silver Springs B&B near Pilot Mound.**



**Gord Sim**  
Photo SDI



**Ted Krasicki**  
Photo SDI



**Faye Carkener, Don Berry**  
Photo SDI



**George Haggerty**  
Photo SDI

## **Lt Farr, MC**

***On the 14 August the Museum was privileged to have a visit from Janet Farr Parks and her husband. It was a hectic day with the arrival of the M-109 but the Parks watched the M-109 be placed on its new home. Janet then presented her Father's Military Cross (MC) to the Museum for a loan of three years. This is a very important decoration and the museum is very proud to be able to have this example of heroism by her Father. The citation is printed below the pictures.***



**Lieutenant Maurice Gordon Farr**  
18 Canadian Armoured Car Regiment  
Photo 26XII



**Gord Sim, John Ball, Janet Farr Parks and  
Curator Edd. McArthur receiving the MC**  
Photo 26XII

## **Maurice Gordon Farr Military Cross Citation**

***On 6<sup>th</sup> April 1945 Lieutenant FARR was ordered to contact the enemy in the area HET LOO 2119, establish their strength and dispositions and attempt to establish a threat to the enemy from this direction to assist 10 Cdn Inf Bde to capture WIERDEN 2215. This officer had been as far SOUTH as wood 2021 on 5<sup>th</sup> April 1945 and knew it to be held by enemy infantry.***

***At approx. 1300 hours he approached this wood without observing any enemy, moved past through the wood without drawing any fire and approached HET LOO where he observed enemy movement in the town. When he was approx. fifty yards from the town he suddenly came under intense small arms and machine gun fire. He immediately engaged the enemy in the houses and then more appeared on his RIGHT and LEFT flanks. The enemy immediately went to ground and started to move towards the cars. Lieutenant Farr noticed that enemy panzerfausts were carried by the infantrymen and that some had circled around behind him. In spite of this situation he continued to press home the attack on the enemy.***

***Then the enemy who had circled around behind him engaged his car with panzerfausts from a range of sixty to seventy-five yards. Some of the Panzerfausts hit the back of his car but failed to explode. He immediately engaged and killed approx. ten to fifteen. He then re-engaged the enemy in the town. There were approx. sixty-five to eighty infantry in the area.***

*He appreciated from the intensity of fire and numbers of enemy infantry, established now at approx. one company in strength, that the area from HET LOO to approx. 206212 was an organized company defensive position. The cars were continually under heavy small arms, machine gun and sporadic Panzerfaust fire. As more enemy began to appear in the town it became clear that an organized attack on both cars was imminent. Lieutenant FARR then ordered both armoured cars to withdraw. They were continuously engaged by infantry on both sides of the road and in the woods. The enemy attempted to block the withdrawal of the two cars but Lieutenant FARR's skillful direction of the vehicles and engagement of the infantry forced them to withdraw to the protection of the woods. He then withdrew to a covering position where he kept the enemy under observation and reported by wireless to his squadron headquarters.*

*Lieutenant FARR's aggressive action, skillful leadership of his troop and complete disregard for personal safety under intense machine gun, small arms and sporadic Panzerfaust fire exerted considerable pressure on the enemy in this and inflicted at least ten to fifteen casualties, and undoubtedly forced the enemy to leave a strong force in this area, thereby materially assisting the task of 10 Cdn Inf Bde in clearing WIERDEN. Lieutenant FARR's leadership determination to close with the enemy and example under fire were an inspiration to his men.*

***The Museum wishes to thank Gord Sim for all the work he did in the acquiring of Lt Farr's Military Cross. We also wish to thank Lt Farr's Daughter Janet for allowing the Museum to house this important decoration.***

### **Opening RCA WWI Exhibit**

***The Museum Volunteers visited the RCA Museum in Shilo on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August to attend the open of the WWI Exhibit. Author Paul Almond donated a copies of his book "The Gunner" to the museum volunteers.***

### **Brandon Mini BU and Westman Immigrant Services tours**

***The Museum Volunteers had several visitors from the Brandon University Mini BU program this summer and the Westman Immigrant Services. Always a pleasure to host the youth of Brandon.***

### **PPCLI 100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary run**

***The Museum Volunteers open the museum on the day the PPCLI 100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Run visited the Brandon Veteran's Memorial.***



***PPCLI 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Torch arrives at Armoury  
Photo 26XII***



***Runners and family  
turn in BPS parking lot  
Photo 26XII***



***Service of Commemoration  
Photo 26XII***





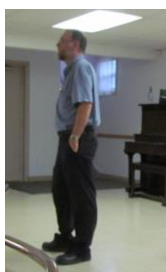
## Catch a bus, Drive a car, Ride your bike or walk.

The Museum is open every Tuesday from 9:00 to 11:30 am and 1:00 to 4:00 pm. For tours at other times call the Curator Edd. Mc Arthur at 204 726-3498.

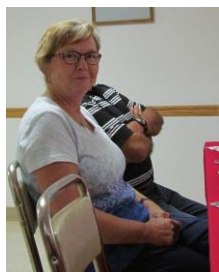


## Volunteer Potluck Supper

To wind up the summer the Volunteers held a thank you potluck supper at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014. Words are not enough to say how much the Volunteers do, sometimes you need Chili Con Carne and pie to say thank you properly.



Our Host the Rev  
Glenn Ball  
Photo SDI



The FOMI Treasurer  
Penny LaRocque and  
the camera shy Chuck



Lorna Ball  
Photo SDI



Ted Krasiki, John Ball  
Photo SDI



Don and, Joan Berry, Joan and Bill Pierson  
Photo SDI



Sandy Armstrong, Faye Carkener  
Photo SDI



Sharon Dixon, Deb McArthur  
Photo SDI

## Museum Coming Attractions and events

5 Oct 2014	Camp Hughes Heritage Day;
25 Oct 2014	26 Fd Regt RCA Change of Command;
1 Nov 2014	Dedication of M-109 Memorial at 1300 hrs at the Armoury;
9 Nov 2014	Rededication of 45 BN CEF Colours at 1030 hrs at St Matthews Cathedral;
11 Nov 2014	The Museum will be open 1300 to 1530 hrs.

## **XII Museum Kit Shop**



26XII Museum Kit Shop Photo SDI



26XII Museum Hat \$20 Photo SDI

### **26 Field Regiment RCA/ XII Manitoba Dragoons Museum Kit Shop**

#### **Items for sale:**

##### **Books;**

History of the Regiment	(hard cover \$25.00)
History of the Regiment	(soft cover \$25.00)
Ubique 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	(soft cover \$5.00)
DVD, Life in the Regiment/XII Scrapbooks	(\$25.00)
Dragoon Stamps	(\$1.25 each or \$50.00 a sheet)
Key chains each	(\$3.00)
Stickers each	(\$2.00)
Hats each	(\$20.00)

#### **The Donors List will be published in the November issue**

The museum appreciates all donations of artefacts, and financial assistance. People interested in donating to the Museum please contact the following:

Museum Curator  
Edd. Mc Arthur at  
[26fdregCurator@wcqwave.ca](mailto:26fdregCurator@wcqwave.ca)  
or call 204-726-3498

For tax deductible charitable donation please make your cheques payable to:  
Friends of 26 Field Artillery/XII Manitoba Dragoons Military Museum INC.

**The Museum is located on the  
South West corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
and Victoria Avenue.**

#### **26 Field Regiment RCA/XII Manitoba Dragoons Museum Board and Officers**

President, Colonel (Ret'd) Don Berry, CD;  
Vice President, Hon Col Rick Felstead, CStJ, CD  
Curator, Captain (Ret'd) E.L. Mc Arthur. CD  
Secretary Gord Sim, CD

Be sure to check us out on the web at:

[www.26fdregmuseum.com](http://www.26fdregmuseum.com) or

[www.12mbdragons.com](http://www.12mbdragons.com)

Webmaster Bill Hillman

Or e-mail the following:

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[26FdRegMuseum@wcqwave.ca](mailto:26FdRegMuseum@wcqwave.ca)

Treasurer Lorna Ball

[rgball@mymts.net](mailto:rgball@mymts.net)

Librarian Sandy Armstrong

[26fdlibrary@wcqwave.ca](mailto:26fdlibrary@wcqwave.ca)

Or telephone the following:

Office and Library

204 717-4579 or 204 728-2559 ext 238

Curator/Newsletter Editor 204 726-3498

#### **Friends of 26 Field Artillery/XII Manitoba Dragoons Military Museum Inc. (FOMI Board**

President Rene Bell, CD

Vice President Jacquie Thompson

Secretary Arlene Haggerty

Treasurer Penny LaRocque

#### **For Information on the Museum and tours, contact Curator.**

This Newsletter is published by SDI under the authority of the Commanding Officer of 26 Fd Regt RCA and The Board of 26 Field Regiment RCA /XII MB Dragoons Museum. Please forward any inquiries to [26fdregCurator@wcqwave.ca](mailto:26fdregCurator@wcqwave.ca).

My thanks to all the Museum Volunteers for their valuable assistance in putting the Newsletter together.

Editor.

