

**Royal Canadian Hussars Association**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 28 April 2018**

**PRESENT:** Steven Barrette      Isabelle Chatillon      Gordon Weekes  
Karl Kramell              Alexandre Cyr              Don Pelletier  
Don Greene              Mario Hetu              Alan Dornan  
Denis Gilbert              Dan Stewart              Ivan Sarkissian  
George Zoni              Alford Fough              Tony Hetu  
Gilbert Hetu              John Cochrane              Bernard Ciarroni  
Nick Waldteufel              Robert Duplessis              Shaun Funk

- 1    **Welcome** Steven Barrette  
  
Steven opens meeting at 11:12, greets members
  
- 2    **Adoption of Agenda** All  
  
Motioned by:              Karl Kramell  
Seconded by:              Don Greene  
Motion Passed
  
- 3    **Fallen Comrades** Karl Kramell  
  
Marjory Smith  
Ginette Vezina  
Kenny Dey  
Glen Massey  
Leonard Browne
  
- 4    **President's Report** Steven Barrette  
  
Thanks to all exec members  
Clear agenda as to what we have to do
  
- 5    **Minutes of last AGM** George Zoni  
  
Minutes were read  
  
Acceptance of minutes:  
Motioned by:              Gilbert Hetu  
Seconded by:              Alex Cyr  
Motion passed

**6 Business arising from minutes**All  
Officers

Regiment has adopted calendar as to next training year; will help to organize activities

**7 Treasurer's Report**Steven  
Barrette

Report presented

Received donation of \$150 000 from Alan Canavan's (former president RCH Association) estate

Account balance at \$166 023.90

Museum balance at \$1 900.00

Acceptance of report:

Motioned by: John Cochrane

Seconded by: Gordon Weekes

Motion passed

**8 Correspondence**Steven  
Barrette

Received some history from past members

Mostly emails from past members

**9 Reports from Standing Committees****Membership**Isabelle  
Chatillo

3 years reports re membership; we have lost many veterans; adhesions are stagnant, meaning looking for solutions.

Propose ideas to stimulate adhesions; usually by day-to-day means, at work (RCH). Adhesion forms are always available at the orderly room and on-line.

Isabelle needs help from members to recruit. LCol Funk will suggest something at a later date.

**Museum**Don  
Greene

Don Greene thanked the Regiment for providing its ongoing support for the museum during the last year. I would like to thank the RCH Association for their support throughout the year. I would be remiss if I did not thank Sgt. Steven Barrette for his continuing assistance and support in running the

museum.

The amount of artifacts coming into the museum has slowed down considerably, however we do get items of interest from time to time. I urge you at this time to be on the lookout for any items that could be of interest to the museum.

During the year the museum has received a sword and picture of the 17DYRCH Band taken in England during WWII. These items were donated by the Kellett Family. Tony Kellett was a former officer of the regiment and one of authors presently writing the history of the regiment.

The museum has in the regimental Fund approx. \$ 2634.35, and the RCH Association has, \$ 1902.59 held in trust.

The museum is always looking for artifacts, nothing is too small or too big or too insignificant, everything is important. I hope that you will take the time today to go and visit your museum, a lot of time, hard work and effort went into getting it ready for this year's reunion.

This concludes the RCH Museum report for the year 2018.

Don Greene

### **Trumpeter**

Just sent out Spring Trumpeter, Alex Cyr contributed, need articles, photos, active and retired. Sent by mail and electronically, usually 185 copies issued. Steven Barrette

### **Public Relations**

Completed 2x rounds TAPV courses Alex  
Keep Retired members abreast of activities, send cards; hard to get notified Cyr  
of passed RCH veterans, usually via Facebook. Elderly members in nursing Karl  
homes need to be notified. Kramell

### **Regimental Website**

Denis  
Gilbert

Bonjour,

L'année dernière il y a eu plusieurs changements sur votre site web. Voici les points saillants. C'est en particulier autour de la page d'histoire qu'il y a le

plus de changement. Elle vient tout juste d'être réorganisée en y ajoutant la publication du film 'Les Hommes de Fer' produit par Robert B. Desrosiers en 1963.

Les sections suivantes ont été modifiées :

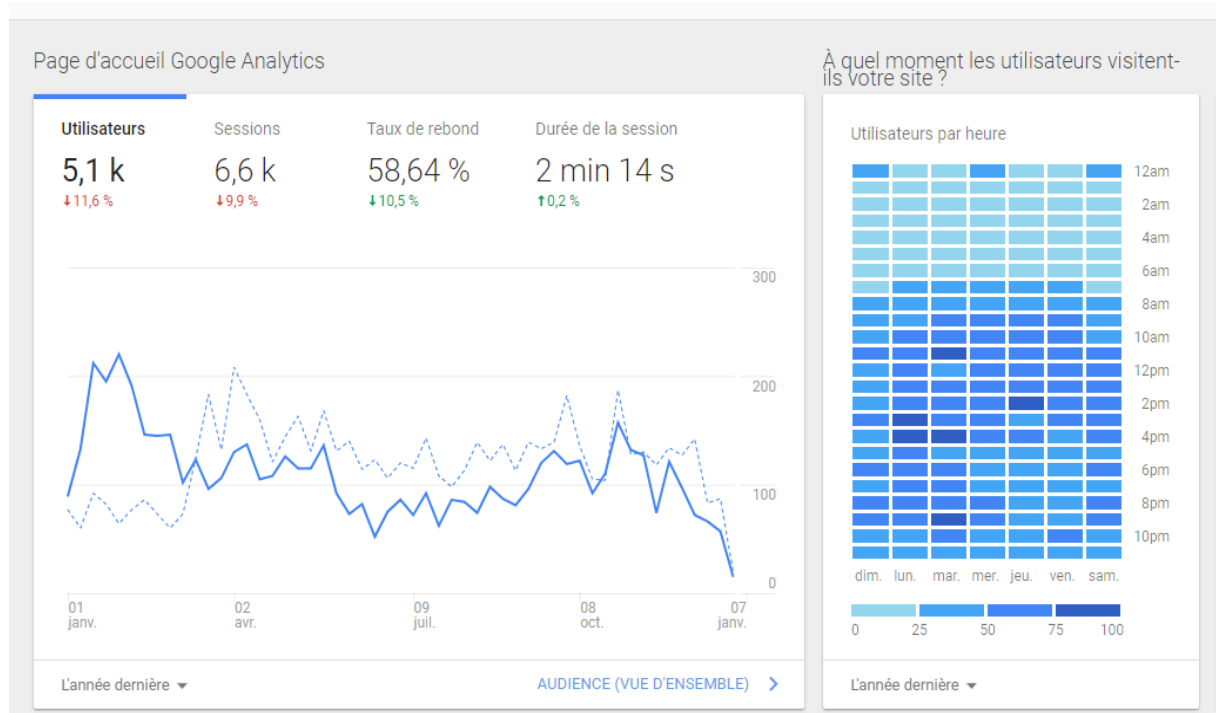
- Avril 2018 : Ajout de Trumpeter's non publiés, publication du film.
- Jan 2018 : Les déploiements allant de 1976 à 1996 (Projet de documentation historique)
- Mai 2017 : Page de liens utiles
- Maintenance usuelle du site

En ce qui concerne le Trumpeter, j'ai l'intention de publier certaines archives mais si vous allez sur le site web, vous allez voir qu'il nous en manque plusieurs. Des efforts ont été fait pour les retrouvés et si par chance vous en avez certains en main qui ne sont pas sur le site web, merci de les faire parvenir au Sgt Barrette. Le projet de recherche historique suit son cours et nous verrons à mettre votre site web à contribution lorsque ce sera possible.

Il y a un point important que j'aimerais toutefois porter à votre attention. Il existe plusieurs fonctionnalités sur le site web qui ne sont pas utilisés et il y a de l'information qui n'est pas à jour. Par exemple, le calendrier (qui est très simple à maintenir), la page de liens, l'organisation du régiment. À titre de Webmestre mon rôle n'est pas de courir après l'information mais de maintenir le site web et de veiller à son bon fonctionnement.

J'ai la possibilité de donner des droits pour ajouter de l'information. Il n'en tient qu'à vous et au régiment de mettre un peu plus de priorité sur le site web que ce soit au niveau du recrutement, des opérations ou de toutes autres activités ou événements de vie.

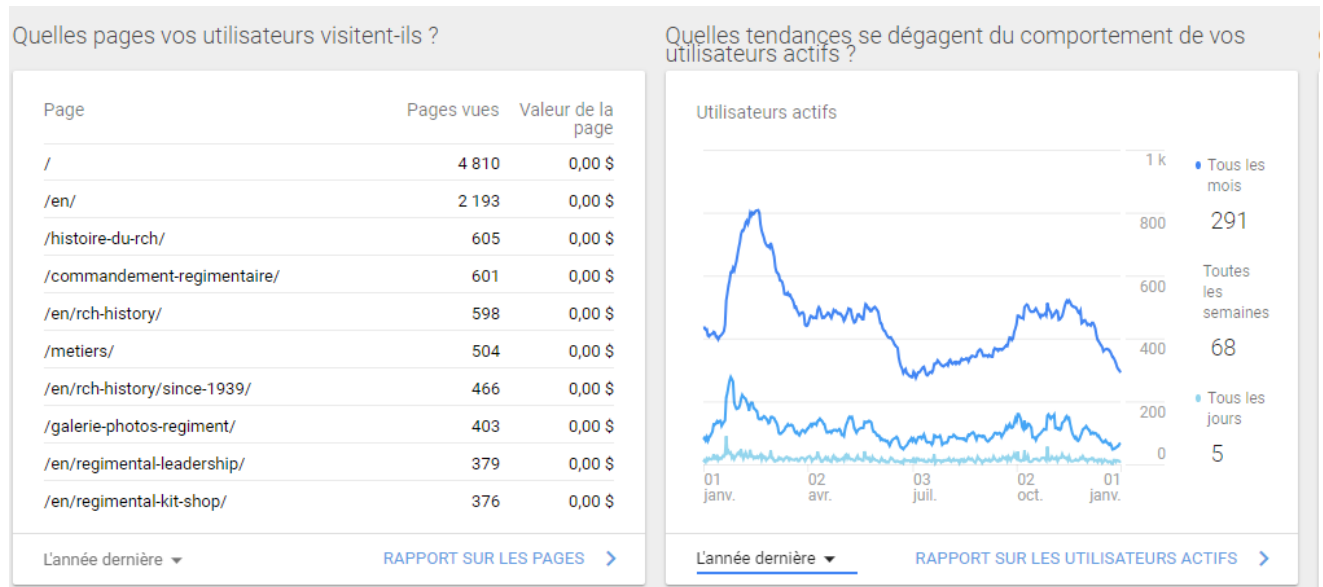
L'an dernier, un membre se questionnait un peu sur l'achalandage du site web. Je vous présente ici les statistiques de l'année dernière, soit du 1<sup>er</sup> jan. au 31 décembre 2017 selon Google Analytiques



Nous parlons donc d'un peu plus de 5000 visites l'année dernière avec un taux de rebond un peu à la baisse (usagers qui reviennent sur le site). Les visites proviennent principalement du Canada mais nous avons eu aussi des connexions en provenance des États-Unis et même de la Russie !

Ce que j'aimerais surtout, serait de voir la durée des sessions augmentées. Ça reste une moyenne annuelle et il peut y avoir des personnes qui se connecte par erreur, mais cela reste directement proportionnel aux efforts qui doivent être mis pour développer plus de contenu ou de tenir le site web à jour.

Nous avons actuellement un hébergement partagé, à environ 7\$ par mois. Cela est un site web de base. Je ne vois pas le besoin actuel de demander des budgets supplémentaires d'augmenter la performance du site.



Nous pouvons voir ici l'intérêt de nos visiteurs : l'histoire, le recrutement (métiers), les photos, le commandement. Il y a des courriels assez fréquents aussi sur toute sorte de sujets ce qui en fait un point de contact intéressant. Il y a des usagers tous les jours mais c'est un peu faible. Avec des nouveautés par contre, le film les Hommes de Fer a été vu par plus de 200 personnes au moment de sa publication en une seule journée.

Pour terminer, nous analysons actuellement la possibilité de rendre le site web transactionnel. La boutique en serait la première bénéficiaire dans le but de favoriser son expansion, sa gestion et la facilité de paiement.

Dans tous les cas, il me fera plaisir de continuer à vous servir tout en aidant à la mission du commandant à titre de webmestre.

Sgt Denis Gilbert (ret.)

**Association Activities**Mario  
Hetu

Difficult year due to all RCH activities, this year Mario Hetu will plan an Oktoberfest this year, and will also plan for the beginning of 2019 a February wine & cheese evening.

LCol Funk remarks that the Cavalry Ball on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> may interfere with the Oktoberfest dates.

**Regimental Report**LCol  
Funk

The regiment is in a transitional year, no tasking due to TAPV training. The regiment qualified 28 drivers and 23 gunner on the new TAPV.

Back to AR tasks; The squadron lead was given to RCH, who will share the task with Regiment de Hull. Tasks from brigade commander: primary job as section head for army reserves, trying to strengthen reserves. Job to recruit and get as many soldiers in. No more restrictions on strategic intake plan, even if we go over current single squadron framework. Looking for 2nd squadron. Brigade Commander informed LCol Funk that we will have sufficient recruits who are not part of the EETP and will provide meaningful training leading into 4-year training cycle.

Army has identified a 4-year plan to have qualifications for Captain or Sgt. Summer training eliminates waiting around for summer employment.

A Gun camp was held April 21-22, it was mostly a static shooting, then 11 battle runs were made by the TAPV, the regiment exceeded the results, at which the 34 Brigade battle school and 2 div we surprised, kudos to course staff. Morale is high, members encouraged to come in and work, 76 members were present at the yearend Smoker.

Cavalry Ball Oct 20, 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of amalgamation of 6<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

We are in the middle of planning a Cavalry ball, invitations will go out July 1st, 300-500 people, guest speaker Lt-Gen JM Lanthier, will speak on Army and Reserves, other speakers re Armored corps and reserves.

**1 Old Business**

0

Steven  
Barrette

Reunion: covered

Website: covered

1 **New Business**

1

**Elections**

To be performed after Important Dates

Steven  
Barrette

**Museum**

LCol Funk speaks on museum, Don Greene doesn't believe that it meets military museum qualifications; there will be no amalgamation.

LCol  
Funk

**PayPal Website**

Denis mandated to make website transactional, more to follow.

Steven  
Barrette

**Distribution of Funds**

Committee requested support from the BMO re investments from donation of the Canavan estate; John Cochrane will advise re limits for bank account. Past practice to put money in GIC, more to follow.

Steven  
Barrette

**History Committee Report**

Stories re deployments, some donations.

Karl recounted the friendship with Alan Canavan, who was a big supporter of regimental history, he escorted Alan to France on three separate occasions. John Cochrane typed out all letters written by Alan during the war and the Ruthford Family put the letters in a mini book format.

Karl  
Kramell

John discussed the book printing requirements for the regimental history, estimates \$100K, translation may be free through a Federal Government grant.

John  
Cochra  
ne

Isabelle asks other ways to raise money? Bernie suggests members should pre-order a copy the book, LCol Funk suggests donations would be welcomed, all donators will receive tax receipt from the Montreal Cavalry Institute.

Isabelle  
Chatillo  
n

A motion to donate \$25K to RCH Institute was made:

Motioned by: Karl Kramell

Seconded by: Mario Hetu

Motion passed



1 **Important Dates**

2

- 8th of may VE Day in Hemmingford at 11:00
- July 14 Golf Tournament in Hemingford
- End of July, Henry Sampson Golf Tournament in Smith Falls followed by Armoured Corps BBQ in Perth
- October 20 Calvary Ball
- November 11, RCH Association lunch, TBD if Saturday instead Nov 10 2018

Steven  
Barrette

### **Elections**

President	Steven Barrette
Motioned by	Karl Kramell
Secunder by	Gordon Weekes
	Acclamation

1st VP	Karl Kramell
Motioned by	Mario Hetu
2nder	Don Greene
	Acclamation

2nd VP	Mario Hetu
Motioned by	Steven Barrette
2nder	Alex Cyr
	Acclamation

Secretary	George Zoni
Motioned by	Steven Barrette
	Acclamation

Treasurer	Steven Barrette
Motioned by	Mario Hetu
	Acclamation

Past President	Mario Hetu
	By Acclamation

Membership	Isabelle Chatillon
Motioned by	Steven Barrette
	Acclamation

Assistant	Gordon Weekes
Motioned by	Steven Barrette
Membership	Acclamation

Museum Motioned by	Don Greene Mario Hetu Acclamation
Trumpeter Motioned by	Steven Barrette Karl Kramell Acclamation
Webmaster Motioned by	Denis Gilbert Steven Barrette Acclamation
Activities Motioned by	Mario Hetu Steven barrette
Public Motioned by Relations	Karl Kramell Steven Barrette Acclamation
Public Motioned by Relations	Alex Cyr Mario Hetu Acclamation

1 **Varian**  
3

Steven  
Barrette

Working on personal histories of members who went on tour (1958 to present); letters from home (Higginson from the 6th) book, Alan Canavan's letters book, almost finished, all 5 publications on the website this summer. Steven encourages members to contact John re experiences

John  
Cochra  
ne

1826 Col John Forsythe founded Hunt, also co-founder of BMO, was dominated by military officers, oldest Hunt in North America, approached by Hunt to meet with RCH IOT to reattach to RCH  
Question from Lt-Col Funk: Lake of two mountains Hunt Club link to RCH, separate Hunt Club. Dispute 10 years ago, RCH withdrew from Hunt Club - Lake of Two Mountains.

Cavalry Ball 60th anniversary, ties back to cavalry, budget at positive currently, excellent opportunity to promote book, portion of event will be to raise funds for book. Need focal point IOT support Institute? Multimedia history of regiment to be organized. Iron men is on YouTube. Positive balance goes where?

LCol  
Funk

2019 75th anniversary of D-Day June 6th, maintained good relationship with Neufchâtel en Bray, and 31st of August send contingent from RCH to France

for two weeks in August to visit war memorials, regiment to lay plaque at war grave site. Spouses may accompany members. Significant research done on this subject. Propose to start communication with France (Neufchatel) IOT coordinate activities August 15 to 31. Question re itinerary by member. Committee to be formed following Cavalry Ball. Contingent: 40 members, 20 soldiers and 20 spouses

1 **Next Meeting**

4

Next AGM ~April 2019

1 **Motion of Adjournment at 12:41**

5

Motioned by: Don Greene

Seconded by: Tony Hetu

Motion passed

Secretary George Zoni: \_\_\_\_\_

President Steven Barrette: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved