



# Sabretache

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF  
THE CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.cmha.ca

January 2015

## “Wait For Me, Daddy”

It's October 1, 1940 and Province photographer Claude P. Dettloff is standing on Columbia Street in New Westminster, his press camera up to his eye, preparing to take a shot of hundreds of men of the B.C. Regiment marching down 8th to a waiting train. Soldiers of the Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles are marching past. Suddenly, in the view-finder, Dettloff sees a little white-haired boy tugging away from his mother's grasp and rushing up to his father in the marching line . . . **Click.** “Wait For Me, Daddy” becomes the most famous Canadian picture of the Second World War. And it was a fluke, a one-in-a-million shot.

The mother's outstretched hand and the swirl of her coat, the boy's shock of white hair and his own reaching hand, the father's turning smile and the downward thrust of his own out-reaching hand — he has shifted his rifle to his other hand to hold his son's for a moment — the long line of marching men in the background, all this makes an unforgettable image, a masterpiece of unplanned composition, a heart-grabbing moment frozen for all time.

But Warren “Whitey” Bernard, who was five when Claude Dettloff photographed him, doesn't remember October 1st. What he does remember is October 2nd, when the picture appeared in the *Province* and he was suddenly famous.

“The picture went everywhere,” Whitey says. “It was a full page in *Life*, it was in *Liberty* and *Time* and *Newsweek* and the *Reader's Digest* and the *Encyclopaedia Britannica Yearbook* and in newspapers everywhere.” Whitey's wife, Ruby, nods. “It was hung in every school in B.C. during the war,” she says, laughing. “I saw him years and years before we actually met.”

The photo caught the attention of the military.

“They were holding War Bond drives,” Whitey says, “and they asked Mom for permission to include me in some of them. They were six weeks long, and so I had to be excused from school. They had entertainers and put on shows. I remember meeting Edgar Bergen and 'talking' to his dummies, Charlie McCarthy and Mortimer Snerd, and there were local entertainers, too: Barney Potts, Thora Anders, Pat Morgan, and I'd come out at the end in front of a big blowup of the picture with a fellow dressed up as my dad. I'd stand there in my dressy blue blazer and short grey pants, they put me in short pants, and give a little speech, and I'd end by asking everyone to buy war bonds to help Bring My Daddy Home. That got everyone all misty-eyed and they'd rush up to buy bonds.”

Whitey's dad came home in October 1945 and Claude Dettloff—now the *Province's* chief photographer—took a photograph of their reunion at the CNR station.



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### CMHS Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on

**Tuesday,  
January 20th,  
2015**

**7:00 pm**

At the  
Petty Officers' Mess  
HCMS Tecumseh

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CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The  
CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
is a non-profit registered society  
which fosters the study of the  
military and the police, and the heritage of  
Canada, the British Empire, and the world  
as well as the preservation of military  
artifacts and records.

The CMHS meets once every calendar month  
at:

Petty Officers' Mess  
HMCS Tecumseh  
1820 - 24th Street SW  
Calgary AB T2T 0G6

## Notice of Next Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on

**Tuesday, January 20, 2015 19:00 (7:00 pm)**

At the Petty Officers' Mess, HMCS Tecumseh.

Members are reminded that an offering of foodstuffs for the Legion Food Bank is considered your unofficial entrance fee to our regular scheduled meetings.

The unofficial agenda of this meeting will be:

- Introduction of guests, Minutes of last meeting
- Correspondence, Membership report Treasurer's report, Old business / New business Break, Show & Tell

The President, Kevin R. would like to invite everyone to remain after the meeting for an informal time of fellowship.

Second World War veteran **Stu Egglestone** holds a self-portrait from 1945 inside his home in Calgary, Alta., on Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2014. The now-90-year-old was a ground technician in the air



force, stationed in Italy during the Second World War; he and 26 fellow Canadian vets will return there later this month to mark the 70th anniversary of the war's Italian effort. Lyle Aspinall/  
Calgary Sun/QMI Agency

In many ways it was the forgotten front in the Second World War. But for a pair of Calgary veterans who served in the Italian Campaign, a special delegation set to honour their wartime efforts is recognition that has long been due.

**Father Bob Greene and Stu Egglestone** will fly out Friday with 26 fellow Canadian vets to mark the 70th anniversary of the Italian campaign, in

a delegation led by Veterans Affairs Minister Julian Fantino, who was a child in Italy during the war. "We were the forgotten front — all the best equipment and reinforcements went to the Normandy campaign," said Green, a 91-year-old of Lord Strathcona's Horse armoured regiment. "We tied up 25 German divisions those guys would have been fighting in Germany." Serving as an intelligence corporal in Italy, Greene said the Italian front was a difficult one, with its impoverished people showing little will to fight alongside the Germans. "These people were struggling — I think they didn't have their heart in it," he said. The occupying Germans made it difficult over the 20-month push from the south to the north part of Italy. Some **93,000 Canadians** along with their allies participated, with almost **6,000 Canadians paying the ultimate price**.

Egglestone joined the Canadian air force in July 1942, eager to take to the skies to battle the Axis powers. "I was 18 years old and I was going to go win the war and become a pilot," he said. But the now-90-year-old said poor night vision led to him becoming an aircraft technician instead, and he spent 11 months in Italy keeping a Squadron of RCAF Spitfires in the air.

This will be Egglestone's fourth return trip to Italy and he said some of the lingering hard feelings from the time are slowly starting to erode. "I've been over there before and we were not very well received," he said. "To drive the Germans out of those towns we had to break those towns down."

The delegation was in Italy from Nov. 22-30. Story from Calgary Sun by Lyle Aspinall

## Minutes of the last meeting

### Minutes of the meeting held December 16th, 2014

Meeting called to order by Pres. David S. at 7:15 PM 21 members and 1 Santa No guests were present.

**Minutes** of previous meeting questioned by the usual suspects. Declared no errors or omissions and moved to accept by Mike C and seconded by Bob McP. Unanimous

**Newsletter.** Discussion of main story and . Various stories about similar planes used as advertisements. Editor points out that storey was taken from various sources and events possibly were exaggerated.

**Membership report.** Brian H reports membership is at 34 members which is down 14 from last year.

**Treasures report.** Treasurer Brian H. lists donations and funds received and also funds paid out. Marjory questions timing of charity donations.

Brian moves that the membership accepts his report and is seconded by Bob McP. Accepted by all members.

### Old Business.

David G. gives report on Remembrance Day at the Commemorative Air Force Museum at Falcon Field in Mesa Arizona.

President Kevin R. request for business cards with the societies logo on it. Cards have been make up and a thank you to member David S. for doing this.

### New Business

President Kevin R. announces that that the Christmas/New Years gathering will be held at the Horton Road Legion on Friday January 16th. Start time is 6:00 PM and the buffet will run till 7:30 PM. Wine will be provided by club and members will pay \$ 12.75 / person

Gun show is brought to members attention by Barry E. It will be on Saturday January 10th. For people having tables setup will start at 7:00 AM and doors to open at 9:30 AM

### Break.

### Show and Tell

Stewart E.— Discusses his trip to Italy . The Government sponsored 28 Veterans who had served in Italy during the WW2 campaign. It was a pilgrimage to honor Canadians who served and gave their lives there.

The tour was very well done and a very sobering affair as they held services at 7 different cemeteries and battle sites.

Gerry—Discusses December Sabertache storey that he wrote about his relative. Also mentions history on his father who served in the RCNDR.

Herb J.—Displays Artillery Shako and Metal box that it was stored in. Pre WW1 and purchased on EBay

Darrel K.— Discusses book on Bowden history which tells about area veterans from WW1 and WW2. Badges from Northern Alberta Regiment Pre 1919 Cdn Irish Reg.

James B.—Pictures and stories of Veterans who went on sponsored trip to Italy.

Bruce—WW2 map case that was in fact produced in 1985.

Mike C.—Imperial Russian Badges. Aux. Pilot wings, unpublished 410 Squadron history and menu from Officer's Mess Overseas in 1943.

Bob McP.— Pair of medals and Memorial Cross 50th Battalion.

Dave L.—Discusses Princess Mary writing kit.

Rob. W.— Decorative plaque WW1 and coin from Royal Mint.

Don S.—Royal Horse Guard belt and pouch.

Alan M.—Trip to Ireland finds Kings Royal Rifle Corp. hat and Rhodesian Reg. Medals WW1

Dave S.—story on RCN ships that are now dry.

Barry E.— Pre WW1 badge Cdn. Ordnance Corp.

Martin U.—Discusses Poppy project in London that gathers 15 million pounds for veterans. Book on Heavy Water Project for development of atomic bomb.

Floyd S.—Trench art from Italy WW2

David G.—WW2 RCAF wedge caps made in Canada, UK and in market in India.

Kevin R. WW1 helmet with service divisional patch from 4th Australian Battalion. WW2 Gillett shaving kit.

**Meeting Adjourned** Moved by Barry E and seconded by Mike C.

## In Memory of our members Ken and John



### TAYLOR, Kenneth William

Ken was born in Strathmore, Alberta and passed away there 83 years later. Fifty-seven years ago, he married Beth Fielder, and with her had four children; Joan (Shelly Osten), Tom (Jane), Clark (Cheryl) and Al (Tammy), 12 grandchildren, 7 great-grand children, 16 chickens and a tambourine.

With his dad, Harold, brother, Ross, and later his son, Clark, he farmed the family land at Langdon Corner for seven of those decades. Meanwhile, he had time to be one of the founding members of the Alberta Pioneer Auto Club and Pioneer Acres of Alberta. He was, at various times, the president of the Horseless Carriage Club, the Calgary Historical Society and the Alberta Archaeological Society. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Foothills Model T Club, the Military Collector's Club and was a regular columnist for the World Airline Historical Society. He still had time to teach the Dale Carnegie public speaking courses, volunteer with the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede and with the Calgary Airport White Hatters. He also enjoyed travelling with Beth throughout North America, Russia, Europe, Britain, Australia, South America and Hawaii.

He was, first and foremost, a loving husband and family man, but also a farmer and a friend to many.

Funeral Services were held at Strathmore Alliance Church (325 – 1st Avenue, Strathmore, Alberta) on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 2:00p.m. Condolences may be forwarded through [www.mcinnisandholloway.com](http://www.mcinnisandholloway.com).

The family would like to thank the staff at the Strathmore Hospital for the exceptional care and love they provided to Ken over the past three weeks, so, in lieu of flowers, donations to the Strathmore District Health Foundation would be greatly appreciated.

### **McLeod, John William November 7, 1926 – Calgary, AB—November 6, 2014 – Calgary, AB**

John passed away peacefully at Agape Hospice with his family by his side.

John was born in Calgary to Bill and Margaret McLeod and proudly lived in Calgary his entire life. He was a Veteran of World War II with overseas duty as an air gunner in the RCAF. John was a member of the Calgary Fire Department for over thirty-four years, retiring in 1984 as a District Chief.

John leaves to mourn, his lovely wife, Evelyn (nee Dunsmore). They were married for almost sixty-five years. John's commitment to caring for Evelyn allowed them to remain together at home until his recent illness. John is also survived by his four children, Colin (Corrine), Marsha (Jack), Cameron, and Alison (Andy); and seven grandchildren, Melanie, Jennifer (Eric), Krista (James), Adam, Tyler, Michael and Darren. John was happy to also have two great-grandchildren, Evan and Kate and was pleased to know another one would be arriving in the New Year. He was predeceased by his parents and brother, Roy.

As per John's wishes, there will be no funeral. A private celebration of John's life will be held at a later date. John's ashes will rest in the Field of Honour, Queens Park Cemetery. Condolences may be forwarded through [www.mcinnisandholloway.com](http://www.mcinnisandholloway.com). If friends so desire, memorial tributes may be made directly to the Agapé Hospice, 1302 – 8 Avenue N.W., Calgary, AB T2N 1B8 Telephone: (403) 282-6588 or to the Poppy Fund, #1, 4539 – 6th Street N.E., Calgary, AB T2E 3Z6, Telephone: (403) 265-6304. The family would like to give a special thanks to all the staff and volunteers at the Agape Hospice for providing such comfort and care. Dr. Jeremy DeBruyn's visits were a special part of John's day.

In living memory of John McLeod, a tree will be planted at Fish Creek Provincial Park by McINNIS & HOLLOWAY FUNERAL HOMES,