



# We Will Remember



**"K**nowing about our nation's values and history helps us understand the Canada we live in today and how we can build our future together. As Canadians, we have been handed a rich legacy of peace, freedom and identity – it is now up to us to preserve and pass on this legacy to future generations. It is important for youth across the country to honour and remember all those who served Canada in times of war and peace. In doing so, youth will be able to pass the torch of remembrance to future generations so veterans' sacrifices and achievements will never be forgotten."

With these words the Government declared 2005 as the Year of the Veteran.

## The Canadian War Museum

### Youth group programmes

- Workshops with animators
- Guided tours
- Meet with a veteran (depending on availability)
- For various age groups (from Beavers to Venturers)

Explore Canada's rich military past through the stories of men, women and children who experienced war and discover how military events shaped the development of the country.

1 Vimy Place, Ottawa  
1 800 555-5621  
[www.warmuseum.ca](http://www.warmuseum.ca)





**F**red Russell (centre) was happy to receive his crest from his Venturer Grandson, Kyle Russell (left). Peter Preston (right) accepted his crest from two brothers, Justin (Cub) and Curtis (Scout). Courtesy of Northern Lights Council, AB



**B**oaz Feldman and Canadian veteran Russell Leeder at Apeldoorn celebrations. Courtesy of Errol Feldman



**F**or the past 10 years, the Salvation Army Montreal Cubs and Scouts assist the Royal Canadian Legion in honouring veterans. Courtesy of Salvation Army Group, Montreal, QC

### Showing Our Appreciation

Early in the spring of 2005, Scouts Canada proudly announced a partnership agreement with Veterans Affairs, Canada Remembers Division. This partnership provided a unique opportunity for all Scouting members to show appreciation to those that have served, and those who continue to serve and protect peace and freedom in the world.

As part of our partnership agreement, we created and distributed a quantity of Thank You crests mounted on cards (one for every member) to each of our council offices for distribution to groups. Each member, Beavers through Rovers and adults as well, were asked to present the crest to a Canadian Veteran or Peacekeeper. This person could be a relative, neighbour, friend, relative of a friend, or someone not known yet;

any person who had served or is serving in the Armed Forces.

The crest spoke for itself. It stated, *"Scouting thanks you for all you have done to protect Peace and Freedom worldwide."* Members were asked to present these Thank You cards in a thoughtful manner, culminating on November 22, 2005. These are some of their stories and pictures from across Canada.

### Dusk to Dawn Thoughts

*"To a Veteran:*

*I am sitting in the coldness of Mac-taquac thinking about how many days you must have spent in this condition. I thank you for your courage and strength you have put in to ensure our safety. May all of your days be happy. You deserve it."*

An anonymous Scout wrote that message on a post card he made for

a veteran. The Scout was taking part in the annual spring overnight adventure (Dusk to Dawn) at Mactaquac Provincial Park near Fredericton, NB. It was early in the morning, around 2:00 a.m., and the night was cold and wet. At one of the stations, the Scouts were given an opportunity to: a) play the match-up game from the Scouts Canada "Remembrance" JUMPSTART, and b) make a "thank you" post card to be given to a veteran in the Fredericton area.

Another Scout wrote the following message:

*"To a Veteran:*

*I want to thank you for helping in the war. I can only imagine the pain and hardships you endured. Due to your bravery we live good free lives and we never know what could have been.*

*Thank you. A Scout"*



**A**t CCJam'05, the unique "Thank" poster, was unveiled during a special ceremony. Two members of the Whitby, ON contingent (Alec Fry and Hannah Silk) presented a veteran with his Thank You crest and displayed the poster.

Courtesy of Scouter Rick Horeczy



**B**ill Anderson (left) and Great Uncle Keith Anderson, were proud to accept their crests. All three of their grandsons/nephews were involved in Scouting and two are now members of the military. Courtesy of Lynnette Koshman



**S**cout Leader Sarah Dodman presented Rotarians, Jim Stokes, Lach MacLean and Don Watts with Thank You crests. The Rotary Club of Blenheim has supported Scouting since 1935. Courtesy of Pat Henderson, 1<sup>st</sup> Blenheim Group, ON



**S**t. Joseph's #17 Beaver Colony in Chatham/Kent Area, ON, presented a cheque to the Royal Canadian Legion Pipe and Drum Corps for their trip to the Netherlands for the anniversary of VE-Day. Courtesy of Dave Elliot

After the event, the pictures that were drawn on the post cards were scanned and the messages were typed. Then the pictures and the messages were put into a small booklet for presentation to the veterans.

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, three Scouts from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Fredericton Scout Troop (Chris Arsenault, Chris Davis and John Adams) along with three Scouters visited the veterans at the Veterans Health Unit of the Chalmers Hospital in Fredericton. The booklet was left with staff of the unit so it could be displayed in the common area for all to see and read. The Scouts then visited each of the veterans in the Health Unit to personally present them with the Year of the Veteran crest and to say their own "Thank You" to the veterans. Later this fall a copy of the booklet will be presented to the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

— by Keith Barr, Fredericton NB

#### First from Afghanistan

As the first Canadian soldiers returned to Base Camp at CFB Trenton ON from Afghanistan, they were met with a pleasant surprise. Even though it was 11:30 at night, smiles were large as members of Scouting stepped forward to present them with their Thank You cards and crests. Cpl. Eric Tremblay was the first soldier presented with his crest by David Fry of 1st Stirling Rovers. Also on hand was Rob Walsworth, a Scout leader, with one of his sons (a Venturer). They were there to greet their mother and wife, Captain Carol Sawatzky from her six-month tour of duty at Camp Julien, Afghanistan.

— Nick Fry, Public Relations Algonquinte Area, ON

#### Like a Pearl

I have been a Beaver Leader with 4th Caledonia, Battlefields Region since 1991. I am writing to let you

know the profound effect that the Scouts Canada Veterans Remembrance crest and card initiative has had. For me, handing out the crests to our veterans has been a deeply moving experience.

My father and uncle have been members of the Royal Air Forces Escaping Society (Canadian Branch) (RAFES) since the war. I obtained the names and addresses from my Dad of twelve of his RAFES friends. I proceeded to obtain Thank You cards and enclosed the crests with the following letter...

"For many years now, my husband Peter, our sons Keith and John, and I have been involved in Scouting. Scouts Canada is encouraging its members to recognize the extraordinary contributions that veterans such as yourself and others made during World War II, and other theatres of war and peace-keeping around the world. On behalf of my family, and all the Beavers,



**N**o longer used for war, this tank is better used as a viewpoint for Scouts at a VE-Day parade in Rosetown, SK.

Courtesy of Susan Hodges, Rosetown Eagle, SK



## Taps



**R**emember those lost and harmed while serving their country, as well as those presently serving in the Armed Forces the next time you sing or hear the unmistakable notes of Taps. This tune is often sung at the closing of a Scouting camp or campfire.

"Day is done ... Gone the sun.  
From the lakes ... From the hills ...  
From the sky.  
All is well ... Safely rest ... God is nigh."

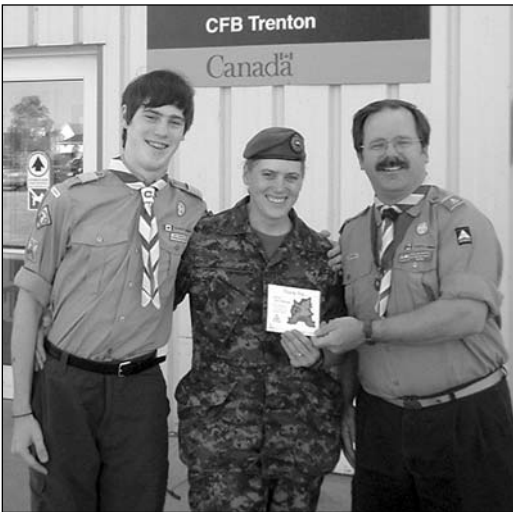
"Fading light ... Dims the sight.  
And a star ... Gems the sky ...  
Gleaming bright.  
From afar ... Drawing nigh ...  
Falls the night."



"Thanks and praise ... For our days.  
'Neath the sun ... 'Neath the stars ...  
'Neath the sky.  
As we go ... This we know ... God is nigh."

**I**ndividuals that have served or are presently serving in the military proudly stand with two veterans at Regina North West Area, Annual Circles Shoe Camp.

Courtesy of Saskatchewan Council.



**W**elcome home!  
Husband and son greet Captain Carol Sawatzky.

Courtesy of Nick Fry, Algonquinte Area, ON

**F**irst home from Afghanistan.

Courtesy of Bay of Quinte Shield.



Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers here in Caledonia I would like to thank you for all the sacrifices you made on behalf of Canada during the war. Please accept the enclosed crest as a small token of our appreciation."

The response to the letters and crests has been tremendous. One gentleman wrote me to say that he returned from a holiday "to find your letter lying like a pearl amongst the bills and junk mail. That is a very well designed crest from Scouts Canada and it's being prominently displayed in our living room. I have some happy memories of my years as a Scout in the mid 1930s in England and many things I learned as a Scout came in useful, especially as a P. O. W. in the last year of WW II..."

Another letter said, "...I appreciate your kind sentiments re war veterans... Happy to see that you and Peter are active in Scouts Canada. I was a regular member when I was young.

*Thank you for the crest. It is very appropriate..."*

*A third letter stated, "...thank you for your kind message I received a few days ago. I was fortunate to be both a Cub and Scout many, many years ago. I was indeed fortunate to have the opportunity. Once again thank you. It is most commendable that you are doing this..."*

*I also presented the crest to my Dad, surviving uncle and cousin. Their reactions were equally wonderful. My cousin wrote, "Thank you and your Scouts for the beautiful note and crest. It was such a nice surprise. Your note brought back many memories. While I was a little too young to remember the war, I have heard and read the exploits of our Dads and Uncles and their brothers-in-arms. They are the real veterans and my heroes. They should never, ever be forgotten. You and your Scouts are most welcome for the service I did. I was very proud*

*to serve my Queen and country and carry on the Family Tradition in the R. C. A. F. ..."*

Finally, the commissionaire who works at the municipal parking lot near my doctor's office is also a veteran. We have had many chats. He served after WW II but three of his uncles served during the war and all three were P. O. W.'s (including twin brothers who were captured during the raid on Dieppe.) When I presented a crest to this gentleman *he was deeply moved and cried. He said it was so nice to know that our generation does care about its veterans.*

I know that this letter has been very long, but feel that it is important that Scouts Canada knows what a wonderful thing it has done for the Year of the Veteran. I also found it interesting that many of these men were members of Scouting during their younger years.  
- by Janet Lee MacNeil, Battlefields Region, ON

# SEMAPHORE

**S**emaphore was widely used by navy personnel across the world as a means of communication from ship to ship. It was also a subject in Scouting and part of the second class badge requirement. During the early part of WW II, recruits of the Royal Canadian Navy were being taught semaphore on the McGill Campus in Montreal. The instructors were none other than Boy Scout Leaders and older Scouts. There were no Venturers then. I know, as I was there as a young Scout. What an interesting, exciting time. Once again, Scouting served!

– Abe Zemel, retired Scout Executive

## Veterans in Scouting

On Saturday May 28, two veterans from within Northern Lights Council were given Thank You crests by youth from our Council. We made the presentations at the opening ceremonies of the Council Beaveree. There were over 300 Beavers, 20+ Cubs, 20+ Venturers (OOS), and 150+ leaders &/or parents in attendance.

Fred Russell was presented his crest by his Grandson, Kyle, who is a Venturer in Edmonton. Kyle's Dad, Ernie Russell (a Venturer Advisor) was able to attend the presentation as well. Fred has been involved with Scouts Canada at the Group Committee level in the past and proudly displayed his medals on his navy blue blazer.

Our second veteran, Peter Preston, has been involved in Scouting in Canada since 1950 - and he is still going strong. Two of the Cubs in attendance presented Peter with his crest. Peter wore both his Scout uniform and medals with pride.

This presentation meant a great deal to both gentlemen. They were very pleased to receive the crests & card.

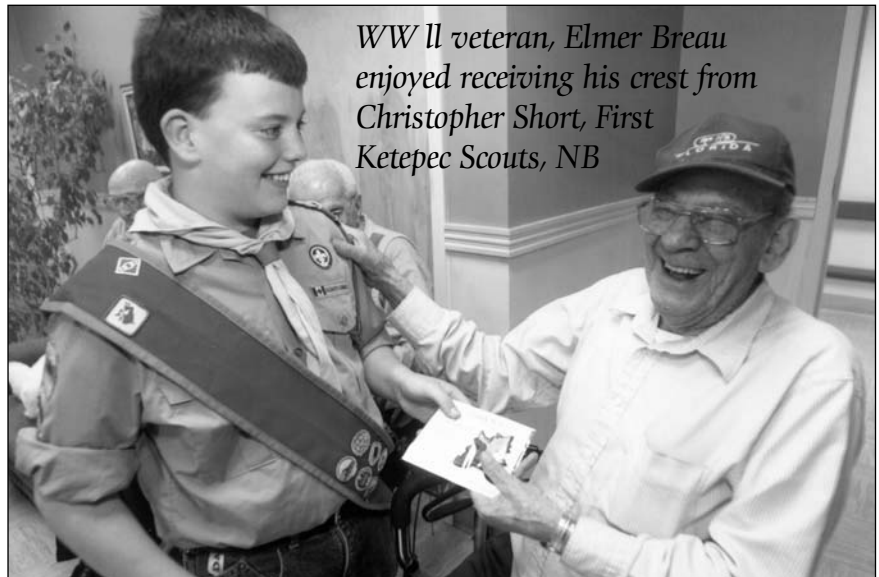
What an absolutely splendid way to start the day.

– by Bonnie Lucas, Northern Lights AB, Council Commissioner

## Scouts in Montreal

The 24th Montreal-Rosemount Scout Troop had the opportunity to thank four veterans with the special Thank You crest issued by Scouts Canada. Spouses, parents and friends were in attendance as the ceremony was held to honour and thank the veterans. Last Post as well as Reveille was played in their honour by David Massarelli.

– by Philip Massarelli, 24th Montreal Trinity Rosemount, QC



WW II veteran, Elmer Breau enjoyed receiving his crest from Christopher Short, First Ketepec Scouts, NB

Courtesy of Brenda Graham

## So Many Veterans

Ron Wadden in Nova Scotia, undertook as his personal mission to ensure that most veterans in his province received their Thank You crests from Scouts Canada. Together with other Scouting youth, they visited many Royal Canadian Legions and the Veteran's Long Term Care facility, making presentations individually or at banquets and general meetings. Over 2600 crests were distributed. Saying thanks was never so easy.

– Ron Wadden, Regional Commissioner for Industrial Cape Breton

## Canadian Soldier Receives American Bronze Star

Captain Jeff Wilson is a Beaver Leader with 23rd Brandon Manitoba Beaver Colony and Assistant Leader with 23rd Brandon Cub Pack and that already makes him a special person. But on Friday November 26, 2004 he received another honour in a special presentation in Ottawa; he was awarded the American Bronze Star for his role as Brigade Battle Captain and Assistant Operations Officer during eight days of combat operations against al-Qaeda and Taliban forces. Thanks Jeff for your sacrifice and time away from your family.

## VE-Day Celebrations

May 8th, 1945. People wept, and nations cheered as victory was declared. Sixty years later, veterans from all over Saskatchewan gathered in Rosetown to commemorate this anniversary. As spoken by Rosetown legion member and padre Clive Hough, "As we commemorate the 60th Anniversary of VE-Day, we remember once again those who lost their lives in the defence of freedom and truth so that all nations could enjoy

*the democratic way of life that we take so much for granted here in Canada. They gave everything and have had to live with the memories - good and bad. We must ensure that as time passes, the memory of their sacrifice does not fade."*

– Susan Hodges of the Rosetown Eagle

## Saying Thanks

Windsor Area, ON participated in the VE-Day parade commemorating the anniversary of the end of World War II. As part of the celebrations, Scouts Canada members presented the veterans with their Thank You cards. The experience of presenting these tokens of appreciation was a real privilege. Thanks to Brian and Nicole Hicks and family from the 95th and Iain Tait from the 57th for their participation.

– Windsor, ON

## We Will Remember

*On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, stop for two minutes and think of all the men who gave up their lives for our freedom. Even though they lost their friends and family, the soldiers are proud and march with pride. Many men lost their limbs and got wounded. Many unfortunate men lost their lives and left their families.*

*Our soldiers are the bravest men who ever walked the earth, so we all should wear a poppy on November 11<sup>th</sup> to remember those who fought and died. Our soldiers paid a heavy price for our freedom and peace. So, in honour of all the soldiers who fought in the war, just stop on November 11<sup>th</sup> and think of them just for two minutes – and remember.*

– written by Curtis Smith, 4<sup>th</sup> Goderich Cubs (2003), Goderich, ON

# VE-DAY CELEBRATIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS

— by Errol Feldman

Every year during the first week of May, the people of the Netherlands remember their fallen countrymen from WW II and celebrate their liberation. 2005 marks the 60th anniversary and many of the heroes of the last war, most of them Canadian, went back to receive the gratitude of the Dutch population.

The first major Remembrance activities took place at the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery on May 3. Among the 8,000 people were Queen Beatrix, Queen of the Netherlands, her Excellency Adrienne Clarkson, Governor-General of Canada, many other dignitaries, and over 1500 Canadian veterans. Andy and Norma Janssen, along with Errol and Marion Feldman of Scouts Canada's Service Team in Europe were there to help receive and seat the honoured guests. After the ceremony, the veterans browsed amongst the 2,338 headstones, looking for the familiar names of those left behind during the war.

Canadians were present the next day as well for a Remembrance ceremony at Holten Canadian War cemetery. Dutch and Canadian children laid flowers on all of the graves. (Each Christmas, Dutch children remember the fallen by placing candles on every grave at Holten.) The young people then shared bread with the veterans. Among them were the Canadian Youth delegation consisting of a young person from each Province and Territory from across Canada.

On May 8, at Apeldoorn, there were more celebrations and a huge parade in the presence of Princess Margaret (the Queen's sis-



Andy Janssen (left) and Errol Feldman presenting crests to Canadian veterans at Apeldoorn celebrations. Courtesy of Errol Feldman

ter who was born in Canada during WW II) and other dignitaries. It was at Apeldoorn that Andy and Norma Janssen, and Errol, Marion and Boaz Feldman were able to present Scouts Canada's Thank You crests to some 1200 veterans, including the official delegation of 300 veterans from Canada who had made the pilgrimage to the Netherlands one last time. Many of the veterans we spoke to were Scouts/Scouters in the past and/or still have family involved in Scouting now. It was a wonderful experience and the veterans greatly appreciated the thought behind the crest.

— Errol Feldman is one of the driving members of Scouts Canada's Service Team in Europe.

## Scouts Canada and the "Thank" Poster

On July 27, 2005, ceremonies were held in Brampton ON to commemorate the anniversary of the Korean War Armistice. One of four series of posters, a special "Thank" poster was unveiled during the luncheon afterwards. The poster pays tribute to those who served in the Korean War and highlights Scouts Canada members and the Thank You appreciation crest and card. The Minister of Veterans Affairs, the Honourable Albina Guarnieri stated that more than 26,000 Canadians served in Korea during the three-year war and 516 Canadians lost their lives. She asked that we all Honour, Thank, Remember and Teach so that another war will never be fought.

## And many more

The response to Scouts Canada's Thank You card and crest was overwhelming. Scouting members in every province met and thanked veterans in their communities and at large events. When this initiative was first discussed, Scouts Canada was looking for a way to connect with our veterans, allowing us to show our appreciation for all they did for Canada and the World during times of war. Obviously, this project has been a huge success! As the youth said in their many letters and e-mails, "We Will Remember!" X

## REMEMBRANCE JUMPSTARTS

Looking for ways to introduce the Remembrance theme? Scouts Canada has produced Remembrance JUMPSTART packages for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in English and French. These are available from our web site, at [www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca), For Leaders, Year of the Veteran.



## Camp Charlbro – Big Bay, Ontario to Cape Crooker Indian Park

Week-long trips available starting July 9th, 2006

*Imagine a week away camping with friends. First, you sea kayak along Georgian Bay's scenic shores to historic Cape Crooker Indian Park; then you bike south along the beautiful Bruce Peninsula Trail.*

For more information please call **705-309-0084** or e-mail [kcarthew@scouts.ca](mailto:kcarthew@scouts.ca) or surf to <http://bbhac.tripod.com>

Leaders, can't find the time to join us? No problem, our trained leaders will take care of all your youth's needs. **Registration deadline May 1, 2006**