

WASURERU-NAI

Membership Numbers

There has been much improvement in the numbers since the last Newsletter. Our database of members, including the Widows of HK veterans who are automatic members, now stands around 800. This is a significant increase and provides us with a suitable base of resource skills.

I believe the numbers will still grow. We are a little behind in getting out material to everyone in Ontario and British Columbia. Most of us still have to make a living and our daily employment must take precedent over volunteer work. Additional members have been brought onto the teams handling the provincial organization in these areas, so the backlog should soon be cleared. Please let us know if you are able to lend a hand. As the old saying goes, the more the merrier!

If this is the first Newsletter you have received, and live in any other province than Ontario or British Columbia, please let us know immediately. The first newsletter was to have been mailed out from the provincial council organizers. In Ontario and British Columbia I understand the mailing is not complete but you should be receiving it shortly.

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Membership Cards

Here is your members card for 1996/97. It is valid until March 31st, next year.

You will notice the logo. This design was proposed by members attending the HKVA Quebec/Maritime Branch Reunion held in Dartmouth NS last August. It is not casted in stone.

It was felt that using it on this year's membership cards would give you all a better idea of how it would appear on our other printed material and as a blazer crest. The only other proposal received is the HKVA blazer crest with the text "Commemorative Association" attached to the bottom in a circular pattern as follows.



Which do you prefer? Drop a line and let us know, or submit your own design for consideration.

Our first Convention

We are planning to hold our first Convention to coincide with the National Convention of the HKVA in Toronto next September. I have enclosed a form for you to complete and submit if you think you MIGHT POSSIBLY attend. There is no hard commitment here, but we would like to have a feel for numbers. This will help in the contracts needed for the hotel, meals, busses, and activities. This will be a major meeting for our organization. Our By-Laws will be approved, and other major issues which will govern our

actions for the foreseeable future. Acceptance is best obtained if the opportunity is there to discuss the issues with your fellow members. Please try and attend. More information will be forthcoming in our next newsletter and through the newsletters of the HKVA Branches.

Projects on-the-go

- Erecting of plaques in Hong Kong

We have contacted the Canadian Legion, and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The National Executive of the Hong Kong Veterans Association of Canada has been approached for their input as well. As part of the preliminary work on this project, we will be forming an implementation task force of our members. If you are interested in serving on this project, please let us know as soon as possible.

feats of bravery occurred, as well as unpleasant events - Stanley hospital, etc.) This will be undertaken with significant -

- Lost Trails

I repeat the message in the last newsletter. There remains many H.K. veterans and widows of veterans for which we do not have addresses. It is important that we have these individuals on record if we are to complete our mission. If you or your parents know the whereabouts of such individuals who have discontinued participation in the H.K. Veterans events, please mail in their names and addresses.

- Visitations

So far we have been doing this on a piece-meal basis. We hear of some of our members who have visited vets and widows, but we haven't a system in place to record either visits made or the names of those who would welcome such visits. This is really a provincial issue. Once the provincial organizations are in place, this will be stressed by the National Board. This will help address our prime mandate. Again, are you interested in participating?

- Monument Badges

Quotations have been solicited for these emblems. The design proposed is the Hong Kong shoulder flash - white HK on a red circle.

- Erection of a cenotaph/monument in Canada

Nothing to report on this project.

- Production of interview videos

Nothing to report here as well. please pass them on.

History of H.K.V.A. The Founders Series

Each newsletter of more of the dedicated veterans who so unselfishly gave of their time and finances to make the Hong Kong Veterans Association of Canada the strong and influential organization that it has been throughout the years.

I invite you to think of your own Branch or province and to submit names for this item. If you have the time and are so inclined, speak to the veteran, or his family if he is deceased, get a picture if possible, and write the article yourself. This is a rewarding task and you will have written your own piece towards the history of the organization. Your name will be included in the list of contributors.

Your Association

I can but only repeat, that if this association is to be successful, you must participate.

The ten dollar annual membership fee allows us to produce and mail these newsletters, membership card, etc. so your financial support is very much appreciated. BUT...if we are to achieve our goals and fulfill our mandate, it will take your involvement. I appreciate the pressure and the lack of available time each of us has. The key is to act as teams. Many hands make work light. Please do not hesitate to get involved, even if marginally.

Write to the address at the end of this newsletter, to the members of your National Board of Directors, or to your Provincial councils. The latter will be getting of the ground shortly. Contact the Association mail drop and we will insure it gets passed on to the appropriate provincial council.

Above all, I repeat, please get involved.

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Provincial Councils

Still in the formation stage.
Further details to follow.

In Comradeship,

Derrill Henderson