



# THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA LA LIGUE MONARCHISTE DU CANADA

## South Saskatchewan Branch

Patron: The Hon. Dr. Lynda M.Haverstock, Lt.Governor of Saskatchewan

Chairman: Rev.Derek F.Nicholls, 5336 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, Sk., S4T 1C3 306-949-8690

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## NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER, 2004

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### *Chairman's Message*

As we enter the final quarter of 2004 we can look back with pleasure at our opportunities to see Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal during her visit to the Province in June. HRH was personable and helped those she met feel at ease in her presence. My wife and I were privileged to attend the Premier's Dinner on 5 June and to attend the special Church Service at St.Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Regina, on 6 June. She certainly was given much to do in accordance with her own wishes to be kept fully occupied. It was not difficult to see that she is one of the hardest working members of the Royal Family and that she enjoys what she is doing.

As this is written we look forward to a formal announcement that Her Majesty The Queen will also honour the Province of Saskatchewan with a visit in 2005 as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the Province. Her last visit took place in October, 1987. On this visit she will be invited to formally unveil the newly-created equestrian statue of herself riding Burmese her favourite horse, a gift from the RCMP. May I say "thank you" to members who have already donated towards that project and to say that further contributions would still be welcome. The Jubilee Statue Committee is still looking for about \$200,000 to complete its task. Donations should be sent to The South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, 2-2700 Montague Street, Regina, Sk., S4S 0J9. Please indicate that the donation is for "Queen's Statue Project" and mention that you are a member of the Monarchist League. Donations of \$10 and over receive a tax receipt and donations of over \$25 a certificate signed by the Lt.Governor. Do you also have friends or family members who would like to send a donation?

On **October 15** the next Branch Meeting will be held at Government House on Dewdney Avenue. It will be a special presentation on "*Government House – Past, Present, and Future*". The meeting is at 7.30pm. and we invite you to bring along a friend or family member to join us for this special occasion. Parking will be in the public parking area off Dewdney Avenue.

Your Board of Directors is engaged in considering the future strategy of the Branch for this southern area of Saskatchewan. It is clear that our vision for the future must be built in part on our past but also be innovative to attract new members both young and old. If you have some thoughts about the approach we need to take please let me know ASAP. The next Board Meeting will be at lunchtime on 15 October. In the same vein we are beginning to consider our programme for 2005 meetings – any suggestions?



Chairman

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Fall Programme

Programme on Government House

At Government House, Regina  
Friday, October 15, 2004  
At 7:30 p.m.

Presentation on  
Government House –  
Past, Present, and Future

Make plans to come to a special evening  
Bring a friend

Parking is available in the public parking  
lot off Dewdney Avenue on the east side  
of Government House.

### **Government House was...**

Built in 1891, this magnificent mansion served as the home of the Lieutenant Governors of the Northwest Territories, a vast area covering over two-thirds of present day Canada, including the present day provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. From 1905, when the province of Saskatchewan was established, to 1945, the house was the official residence of the Lieutenant Governors of Saskatchewan.

Today Government House, Regina's oldest residence, is an impressive, lavishly decorated 14-room museum and National Historic Site. Government House offers public tours, a variety of educational programs, and a unique hospitality facility to various organizations. In addition it houses the

working offices of  
Saskatchewan's Lieutenant Governor.

Now a new addition to the existing structure is being built to enhance the potential and capacity of Government House. The addition will house an Interpretive Gallery, Visitor and Administrative Centre, Gift Shop, and a coach house to house the provincial horse-drawn landau and cutter. Also, the gardens and grounds of Government House are being restored to the original Edwardian design of around 1905.

Donations are being invited to help with this project and can be sent to the Government House Foundation, #120-1230 Blackfoot Drive, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4S 7G4.

### **Queen's Jubilee Statue Project**

Progress continues to be made on the statue of Queen Elizabeth on her favorite horse, Burmese. This statue will be in the grounds of the Legislative Assembly Building in Regina. Donations for this project continue to be most welcomed. You can send a donation (or another donation) to, The South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, 2300 – 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 0K1. Please note that you are a member of the Monarchist League.

The horse, Burmese, was born at Fort Walsh, Saskatchewan in 1962. By 1967 she was the leading horse for the Musical Ride. Burmese was given to Queen Elizabeth in 1969. The Queen rode Burmese for the Trooping of the Colour Parade, other ceremonial events, and for pleasure until she was retired in 1987.

## From the Board

### **Future Directions for the South Saskatchewan Branch**

The Board of Directors had an extensive discussion at its meeting on May 21 about the work of the South Saskatchewan Branch for the future. The Board agreed that since the former Saskatchewan Branch had been divided, that the branch including the southern part of the province should be called the South Saskatchewan Branch. The board also agreed on what it would recommend as the borders of the branch.

There are some other subjects being considered as the members of the Board look at the future of the South Saskatchewan Branch.

### **Branch Meetings**

Ideas about branch meetings would be welcome. Are there some ways we could improve the meetings and programs? Do you have any ideas or thoughts about the form of the meetings, how they are done and what is done at them?

The Board will be planning the programs for 2005 at its meeting on October 15. Do you have any ideas for programs for the meetings? Any comments or ideas about the meetings can be given to any member of the Board.

### **Finances**

Although the branch finances look good, it still does not have good, stable sources of income for its work. Do you have any ideas on ways the Branch could raise money for its activities?

### **Name and Design of Header for the Newsletter**

For a number of years the newsletter for the branch has simply been called, The Newsletter. The first page has been on the Monarchist League stationary which has served as a header. It was felt that something more imaginative would be desirable. We need your ideas. What name can we give the newsletter? What kind of design can we have at the top of the first page of the newsletter to give it some interest and character?

### **Annual Meeting**

The Board will be setting the date and place of the Annual Meeting of the branch at its meeting in October. The last few years the annual meeting has been around the fourth Friday of January. Please watch for details about the date and place of the Annual Meeting. Often the time for this meeting is set for 7:00 pm. This is done to accommodate the wish for out of town members to get home earlier during a time of long and often cold nights.

### **Nominations**

Nominations for members of the Board of Directors will be welcome. Please give this matter your serious thought. At this time there is no Vice-Chairman, and nominations for this office would be very welcome.

### **Memberships**

Please be sure you remember to renew your memberships when you receive a notice they are due. Thanks go to all who have done this faithfully. If you have any questions, please contact John Morris in Moose Jaw. Do you have any ideas for attracting new members?

## In Memoriam

Dr. Morris Cyril Shumiatcher,  
O.C., S.O.O., Q.C., B.A., LL.M.,  
S.J.D.

Dr. Shumiatcher died on Thursday, September 21 in Regina at the age of 87. He was recognized in Saskatchewan and throughout Canada as someone of integrity who served his sovereign and nation, his province, and his home city with distinction. He and his wife, Jacqui have been active monarchists for many years, and Shumy, as he was known to his many friends, was Honorary President of the Monarchist League in Regina. Awarded the Order of Canada and the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, his many activities during his lifetime testified to someone who gave of himself fully to those in need. The Funeral Service was held at Beth Jacob Synagogue, Regina, on Sunday, September 26. Many members of the South Saskatchewan Branch attended along with Chairman, the Rev. Derek Nicholls. Shumy is now at rest, but his contribution to his community will live on in the hearts and minds of his family and friends. We convey condolences to his wife Jacqui who was his soulmate for 49 years.

### Others who have passed away

We mourn the passing of the following members since our last Newsletter:

Mr. David Morrey of Regina

Miss Lucy Eley of Regina

Mr. Wilf Churchman of Regina  
(husband of member Jean Churchman)

To the families of each we extend our sincere condolences.

## NEWS OF THE NORTH SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH

The North Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League held its first meeting on April 14 with about thirty people attending, half of which were existing members. The Dominion Chairman, John Aimers, who was the main speaker, welcomed and encouraged those who attended the meeting. Nigel Molaro was named Chairman of the Branch. He spoke to the colourful projects that awaited the Branch in the first stretch of its initiatives in the region. Shaw TV News and *The Star Phoenix* afterwards aired a published feature on the inauguration that took place in Saskatoon.

On June 1, 2004, members of the North Saskatchewan Branch attended the official opening of the Diefenbaker Canada Centre's newest exhibit at the University of Saskatchewan, *Happy and Glorious: The Royal Presence in Canada*. Her Honour, The Hon. Dr. Lynda M. Haverstock launched the project that would welcome children to educational workshops about Canada's Monarchy. The event also marked the unveiling of the Raymon Hnatyshyn commemorative stamp.

Young monarchists from Saskatoon traveled to visit members in the western region of the Branch on August 5, 2004. They also made known the League's cause in new communities. The road tour made stops, among other places, in North Battleford, Edam, Meota, Mervin, and Waseca.

The new branch hosted members of Saskatoon's community at a summer reception on August 10 to promote the new presence and purpose of the Monarchist League in North Saskatchewan. Guests were joined by The Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, and Mr. George E. Lafond, Special Adviser on Aboriginal Initiatives at the University of Saskatchewan.

## ANNUAL QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

The South Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League held its annual Queen's Birthday Luncheon on Saturday, May 22, 2004, at the Hotel Saskatchewan in Regina, starting at 12:00 noon. The programme of activities opened with the singing of, *O Canada*. The Rev. Derek Nicholls, Chairman of the South Saskatchewan Branch, welcomed all who had come and paid tribute in memory of deceased members, John Archer, Ada Bird, Hilda Bigelow, and Mary Budd. He also introduced table guests. Among those introduced at the luncheon was Heather Salloum, the new Private Secretary and Director of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Heather earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and Psychology and a Bachelor of Education in Secondary English at the

University of Regina, and earned a Master of Arts at Carleton University. She brings tremendous experience to her new position as an educator, administrator, and active volunteer.

Derek Nicholls also read a number of regrets. Some of these included Ann Cheetham, Irene White, Lynn Gildman, Victoria Whitmore, Joan Finn, David and Margaret Morrey, Nigel Molaro, the Chairman of the North Saskatchewan Branch, and the Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and an ardent monarchist. After Raymond Mynett led in the Grace, those present enjoyed a buffet luncheon. The Loyal Toast was presented by Mr. Keith Inches.

After the luncheon Derek Nicholls, the Branch Chairman, spoke about branch concerns and coming events. He showed a certificate recognizing donations given by Monarchist League members to the Queen's Jubilee Statue Project, which totaled \$15,300.00. He also showed a silk scarf with a portrait of the Queen which a friend had given to them along with a copy of the video, *A Queen in Crowned*. Derek Nicholls noted that we celebrate the official birthday of Queen Elizabeth who is 78 years old and is still giving strong leadership and is setting an example of dedicated service. He noted that we live in a constitutional monarchy and recognized the role of the Queen in this.

Derek Nicholls spoke about developments in the organization of the Monarchist League in Saskatchewan. At one time there were two branches in the province. However the two branches were combined into one branch, the Saskatchewan Branch after the northern branch had some problems. This northern branch was re-activated on April 14 in Saskatoon. Thus there are

again two branches of the Monarchist League in Saskatchewan, the North Saskatchewan Branch and the South Saskatchewan Branch. The South Saskatchewan Branch would now be able to concentrate its efforts in the southern part of the province. The branch is looking to expand its membership with people of all ages. Derek Nicholls invited people to let him know if they found any interest in the Monarchist League so this could be followed up.

Derek Nicholls announced two coming events. These included the bus tour to Assiniboia, and the program at Government House on October 15. He also noted that 2005 was the centennial of Saskatchewan. It was anticipated that the Queen would be coming to the province as part of the celebrations. Members were invited to consider what would be done for the birthday luncheon in 2005 which will be on May 21.

Michael Jackson spoke about the program for the tour of Princess Anne, the Princess Royal, who would be in Saskatchewan for three days on a working visit. The Princess Royal is the hardest working member of the Royal Family who likes to be kept busy. The very full program for her visit reflects this wish. She would be flying to Canada and returning to London on a commercial flight.

Long-time member, Eileen Bancroft, put in a brief appearance at the luncheon. She was celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 24, and would be guest of honour at a social to celebrate this birthday later in the afternoon of May 22. After the luncheon a number of members of the Monarchist League went to the birthday social at which Derek and Margaret took part in the program.

At the end of the program there was a draw for the raffle on a spoon. The raffle earned \$55.00. Also, there was an announcement on the roses for sale. John and Heather Morris had donated roses to be sold to raise money for the South Saskatchewan Branch.

The program for the luncheon closed with the singing of, God Save the Queen.

## **BUS TOUR TO ASSINIBOIA**

Members of the South Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League joined with members of the Royal Society of St. George for a tour to Assiniboia, Saskatchewan. Raymond Mynett welcomed those on the bus when they arrived at the Prince of Wales Centre in Assiniboia. They were joined by League members from the local area.

Mrs. Pat Leatherdale spoke to those on the tour about her extensive royal collection which she had displayed. The collection included china, books, and other items relating to the Royal Family. Those on the tour were able to look at the collection before and during the luncheon.

Following the luncheon there were tours of the Prince of Wales Centre which included an auditorium hall, curling rink, library, regional college, and other facilities. Prince Charles, for whom the centre was named, had turned the sod for the centre. The afternoon concluded with a tour of Assiniboia conducted by Raymond Mynett and a visit to the museum.

## ROYALTY NOTES

### Visit of The Princess Royal

Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal visited Saskatchewan from June 4<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>.

As is her custom, the Princess Royal maintained an extremely busy schedule. On June 6<sup>th</sup> alone, she attended a D-Day Church Service for the Royal Regina Rifles, unveiled a D-Day Anniversary postage stamp, attended a reception hosted by Veterans Affairs Canada, received an honorary degree and unveiled a plaque at the University of Regina, visited the Regina Palliative Care Unit, unveiled the cornerstone for the Government House Centennial Addition, celebrated the Regina Humane Society's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and concluded the day at a dinner hosted by Their Honours at Government House.

Chief Justice E.D. Bayda acted as the Master of Ceremonies for the dinner in the historic ballroom, author Yann Martel offered a blessing, artist Yvette Moore proposed the Loyal Toast, La Raquette a claquettes provided upbeat French Canadian entertainment, and the Ken Jefferson Trio set a jazzy mood.

The Princess Royal was as busy on the other days she was in Saskatchewan. June 5 was the main focus of her visit, the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day Landing with the Royal Regina Regiment of which she is Colonial-in-Chief. Her Royal Highness also attended the Speaker's Tea, fulfilled several private engagements, including one to the Therapeutic Riding Association of which she is patron, and attended a D-Day Dinner with representatives of regiments of which she is Colonial-in-Chief.

On June 7 the Princess Royal went to Saskatoon and North Battleford where she took part in various events, including an aboriginal event. Then she flew to Toronto for a full day of various activities including a Monarchist League luncheon with a youth emphasis.

### Royal Weddings

The spring of 2004 was marked by some important weddings of royal heirs. Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark married Mary Donaldson on May 14. This was the first wedding of a Danish crown prince since 1743. The wedding was attended by Kings and Queens of Sweden, Norway, Greece, Spain, the Netherlands, and a number of princes and princesses. The Earl and Countess of Wessex represented the House of Windsor.

Crown Prince Felipe of Spain married Letizia Ortiz Rocasolano on May 22. Wedding guests included representatives of about thirty royal houses, the cream of Spanish society and a number of international figures such as Nelson Mandela. Prince Charles was among the guests at this wedding.

The marriage of Crown Prince Hamzah of Jordan and Princess Noor Hamzah was celebrated on May 27. This celebration was attended by nearly 2,000 guests. The Duke of York represented the Queen at the celebration. Other royal guests included representatives of the Spanish, Swedish, and Norwegian royal families.

A wedding of a member of the Windsors was of interest, although it was a quiet event. Lady Davina Windsor, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, married Gary Lewis who is a Maori from New Zealand.

