



The Signal

A publication to share information of interest to the people of the
Conception Bay South Corps and Community

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December 2007



A GOLDEN NUGGET

Christmas Cookies

I knew that the event had been planned. Laura had a day off from school and with the help of Nan was going to make cookies, (a project that both 'ladies' enjoyed to the full).

But it was what I overheard later that really got me into the 'Christmas Spirit'. It was the conversation with her mother, Barbara, our daughter. It was about arranging the delivery of the containers and contents so that the children she baby-sits, her friends from the corps and school could share in the goodies.

Confirmation came very early next morning, when before rising, my wife said "you know Laura gave all her cookies away". My question was how many did you make? Her response "About ten dozen".

Indeed.. "it is more blessed to give than to receive". A Merry and Blessed Christmas to you all!

Lt. Colonel Ralph Stanley

A Christmas Memory



I come from a family of seven; my parents, three sisters and one brother. I was born on a farm in New Brunswick, in "McCain" country, an area known for its produce; mostly potatoes. While oats and wheat were the main source of income, my father also raised cows, sheep, pigs and hens. When I hear people in this community speak of "the old days" of raising animals and growing grain which was part of my life, I can quickly identify with "that" life style.

Growing up as a child, Christmas was a very happy family occasion, enriched by our association with the church and our one-room school. In the winter the fathers would "sleigh pool" with a team of horses by turns in taking the children to school. My Dad would have heated bricks and blankets in the sleigh to keep us warm.

Our life style was certainly not excessive, therefore the gift giving at Christmas time was an expression of love and sacrifice on the part of my parents. One Christmas that I specially remember was the year I was about three years old. In addition to the apple, orange and ribbon candy in my stocking, I received a doll's bed. It did not have to be very large because my one doll had complete privacy, for there were no other dolls to share

this beautiful four-poster bed. How my Dad with all the work and chores of the farm, managed to handcraft this beautiful gift without my knowing it, is still a wonder to me. I really don't know if it was made out in the shed where it was very cold or elsewhere on the farm.

In addition to this little bed, my mother, who was very skilful at sewing and other crafts, made a mattress for the bed, a quilt and a small pillow. Our needs as children were met because of loving concern and compassion. My Mum must have worked late into the night when we were asleep "by the light of the kerosene lamp", as the familiar song says.

It is not difficult for me to draw an association with the children's Christmas Carol:

*Away in a manger No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.*

The difference being through the sacrificial and loving provision of my parents. I cherish this precious Christmas memory perhaps not unlike that of many of our older readers. All of my siblings are living to celebrate this Christmas. May you have a Happy Christmas.



The Smith Family

Back row: Eva, Iva

2nd row: Myrna, Mona

Front row: Edwin

(Lt. Colonel Mona Stanley)



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In the Hands of God



Special guests at the Home League at CBS on September 19, 2007 were 2 handsome baby boys, who attracted a lot of attention. Their parents Kim (Wiscombe) and Jarvis Canning brought them home from Ottawa to visit

family and friends. On July 23, 2007, they celebrated their first birthday and during that year, they overcame many obstacles.

Only 5 weeks into her pregnancy Kim learned she was expecting twins. Just a few weeks later, noting a weight difference in the babies, the doctor decided that a weekly ultrasound would be advisable.

Then quite unexpectedly, the babies arrived 14 weeks premature. Noah weighed 1 lb. 14 oz. and Spencer weighed 1 lb. 4 oz. Nothing could have prepared this family for the journey that lay ahead. They were quickly informed of all the risks involved and the possible scenarios. About 20 doctors, nurses, specialists and support staff were present at the birth. The babies were immediately incubated and ventilated, due to extreme lack of development.

After a few days, Noah began to improve but there were constant tests, head ultrasounds and examinations. Noah was switched from a ventilator to a CPAP / BIPAP machine so he could breathe on his own. The parents were asked to be there, in case serious decisions had to be made. 'Nanny' Barb was present at this time and was able to pray with them.

Spencer had multiple life threatening complications including a hole between the top two heart chambers and increased lung pressure. An immediate concern with Spencer was closing his Patent Ductus Arterious (PDA), which did not happen at birth, as is usually the case. Due to the increased lung pressure excessive fluid was building up in his lungs and he was at a high risk for the PDA surgery. It was a waiting game. Posted on his incubator were the words of Jeremiah 29:11 *"For I know the plans I have you, declares the Lord, plans not to harm you but for a hope and a future"*. Finally, on September 2, the hour long surgery was performed and went well, but he was monitored closely for possible complications. During the surgery, the family were praying in a nearby room. Further complications arose in the next few days. They suspected that Spencer had a fungal infection, which could be fatal. Thankfully, it was a treatable bacterial infection. On September 18, they were able to have their first family photo taken. On September 26 Spencer was finally switched from the ventilator to the CPAP/BIPAP machine..

Noah was discharged on October 12, 2006 weighing 5 pounds. Spencer continued to have increased pressure

in his lungs. However, he did spend Christmas 2006 at home but was admitted to Toronto Hospital for Sick Children in January for further attention. Following tests and consultations, Spencer was diagnosed with Primary Pulmonary Hypertension. A medication was recommended (Flolan), which would be taken through a nebulizer. On January 22, 2007, the 6 month old twins were dedicated to God at Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church. Kim and Jarvis are very grateful for the support and prayers of their church family. Many times they went there specifically to pray for the welfare of their babies.

Spencer was finally discharged on February 7, 2007. The routine then began with the set up for oxygen, feeding tube supplies, occupational therapy, infant development, government funding and drug coverage. Life was hectic and very stressful for everyone.

There have been regular set-backs, with both boys regarding their hearing, eyesight, breathing and pneumonia. Spencer requires oxygen full time and receives inhaled medication every 4 hours. Spencer is behind in his gross motor development but has recently started to crawl. Noah is crawling and furniture walking. Both are happy babies and interact with each other as 2 brothers are expected.



Kim states that the most difficult part of this journey is that as a parent you cannot control your child's health. However, they face each day with the Lord's help and they know that Noah and Spencer are in God's hands.

Kim and Jarvis are overwhelmed by the support received from their families, friends, church families

and complete strangers. They ask for continued prayer for God's guidance and direction in their lives and especially in the lives of Noah and Spencer.

Note: Grandparents, Steve and Barb Wiscombe are members of the CBS Corps in Long Pond

Looking Back!

Jesus said anyone looking back is not fit for the kingdom of God, but are there times when looking back is a good thing? Sometimes the direction of God in our lives is best



L to R: Nicholas, Laura, Jerry, Jeremy & Kathy

seen by looking back. Not looking back with regret, but looking back in amazement at how God has worked His plan into the events of our lives.

When Kathy and I built our home on Readers Hill in 1983, we fully expected to raise a family in Long Pond and someday retire there.

However, in 1996 employment demands meant a relocation of our family of five to Halifax. We all felt the trepidation and the concern of a new neighbourhood, a new school system and a new church. It was most difficult for Jeremy (then 13) who reminded us daily of his intention to return to Newfoundland as soon as he graduated high school, regardless of what we were doing. God was certainly good to us that year and provided a great neighbourhood, the right school and the right church family. Looking back God was in it all and His direction has brought us through.

We found a wonderful church family at the Fairview Corps in Halifax and this has been a positive experience for us all. When they were younger Jeremy, Nicholas and Laura all grew up through the YP programs – Corps cadets, YP Band etc. Their leaders and the other young people have been very supportive. But now they are getting older and they are starting to leave the nest. Jeremy finished his undergraduate degree in Mathematics at Acadia University in 2005 and in the process found a wife. He and Carolyn are living in Montreal – both completing graduate degrees. We really appreciate the times they are home for holidays and other special events. Nicholas is now 18 and just started his university education at St Mary's in September. He helps run the video projection for Sunday services. Laura is in grade 11 at high school and is still very much involved with music at the Corps – senior band and the worship team. Looking back God has been good to our children.



Jeremy & Carolyn

Kathy has completed her recertification for nursing and is working at Dartmouth General and constantly reminds

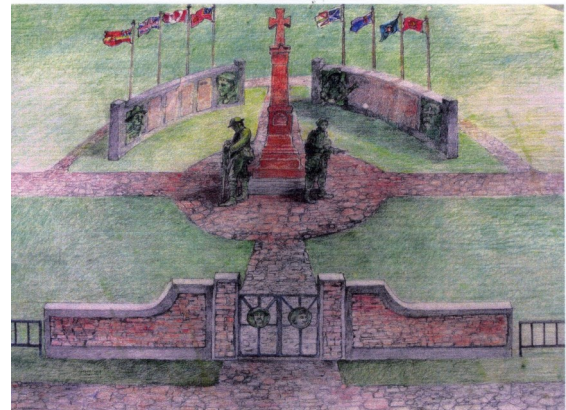
us "I love my job". Her nursing has been a real calling for her and it is a real ministry.

I have been doing my part at the Corps too. For 8 years now I have been CSM and it has been a growing experience for me. It has been a great challenge but I believe this too was in the Lord's plan and His grace has been equal to the task.

I still pray for the CBS Corps and the people - I still consider you to be my 'home corps'. The face of the corps has changed significantly over the past 11 years with a lot of new comers and many others who have moved on. Every time I come home it seems another 'saint' has been promoted to glory. I pray that God will continue to save souls and raise up saints to fill the gap. With God's direction I know there are still many good days ahead for the Corps in CBS. But don't forget to look back once in a while and see the goodness of God through the years.

Submitted by Jerry Porter

MONUMENT OF HONOR



Members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #50 are in the process of re-locating the existing monument and erecting a Monument of Honor on Stony Hill in CBS. This will recognize members of the military, both past and present, as well as peacekeepers, policemen and firefighters of our area who have put their lives on the line for our town, our province and our country. Spearheaded by committee chairperson Wayne Miller, the project has received tremendous support locally. At a cost of well over \$500,000. they graciously are seeking assistance from individuals, businesses, organizations and all levels of government. The next memorial service (Nov. 2008) is expected to take place at the new site. Any financial donations to this memorial would be greatly appreciated. You may contact Wayne Miller for further information (Tel. (709 - 744 2657)

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE HALES



Christmas Greetings to you. This is such a wonderful time of the year. It brings out the child in all of us. AND - if it wasn't for the Christ child, we wouldn't have anything to celebrate. What a great gift that God gave to us - and all we have to do is accept it (Him) - Jesus!!!

God wants to do something new with us this Christmas. To bring us closer to Himself, to experience anew the Christ Child. His presence is powerful and life changing...not only for us but for the people God has called us to help. So, as your Corps Officers, we say "Hold your cup out there and it will be filled to over-flowing as well." This is a time of great blessing...be sure to get yours!

Majors Lyndon & Lisa Hale

GREETINGS FROM THE TOWN OF CONCEPTION BAY SOUTH



Mayor's Greeting

I am delighted to bring Christmas Greetings to you on behalf of the residents of the Town of Conception Bay South.

Christmas is a time to spend with family and friends to reflect on the past year and to rejoice in all its beauty.

We would like to extend Best Wishes for a Joyous Christmas and a wonderful and prosperous New Year.

Woodrow French, JP CRSP
Mayor
Conception Bay South



2007 Christmas Shoeboxes
Our Corps collected 167 boxes



Home League Sale 2007



2007 Kettle Kickoff

L to R: Zita Butler, Deputy Mayor Paul Davis, CBS. MHA Beth Marshall, MHA Terry French, Terry Roche, Manager of Sobeys, Major Lyndon Hale, Corps Officer; Front Row: Abby French, daughter of Terry French and Major Lisa Hale, Corps Officer.

The Salvation Army, P.O. Box 14147, Stn. Manuels, Conception Bay South, NL. A1W 3J1

Office: (709) 834— 2373; Fax: (709) 834— 7469

Corps Officers: Majors Lyndon and Lisa Hale

Editor: Major Winston Dodge

**Permission to reprint any article may be obtained from the Editor by request.
(709) 834-2756; Email—wdodge@nf.sympatico.ca**