



President's Message – November 2014

Bernard Jordaan

We are losing many of our Senior Clubs, due to low membership. In many parts of the Province, it is difficult to attract "new seniors" to join. Many of these clubs have been members for thirty and forty years.

Needless to say this does affect our income, hence the decision to increase our annual membership dues from \$2.00 to \$3.00. These fees have been untouched for at least 20 years or so.

Understandably, many of our clubs find this 50% increase difficult to implement, especially when their membership fee is only \$5.00. We cannot represent seniors in Ontario without us being able to hold our head above the water. Media exposure for our organization is difficult at the best of times, even issuing a Media Press Release, more often than not, cannot be utilized, due to financial constraints.

The United Senior Citizens Of Ontario, as mentioned many times before, is one of, if not the most, respected organizations of its kind. Our longevity (58 years) testifies to the dedicated people, who over all these decades, has led this organization.

Your Board of Directors and Executive will continue to bring pressure to bear on all levels of government and government representatives, to ensure all our seniors needs and issues are met.

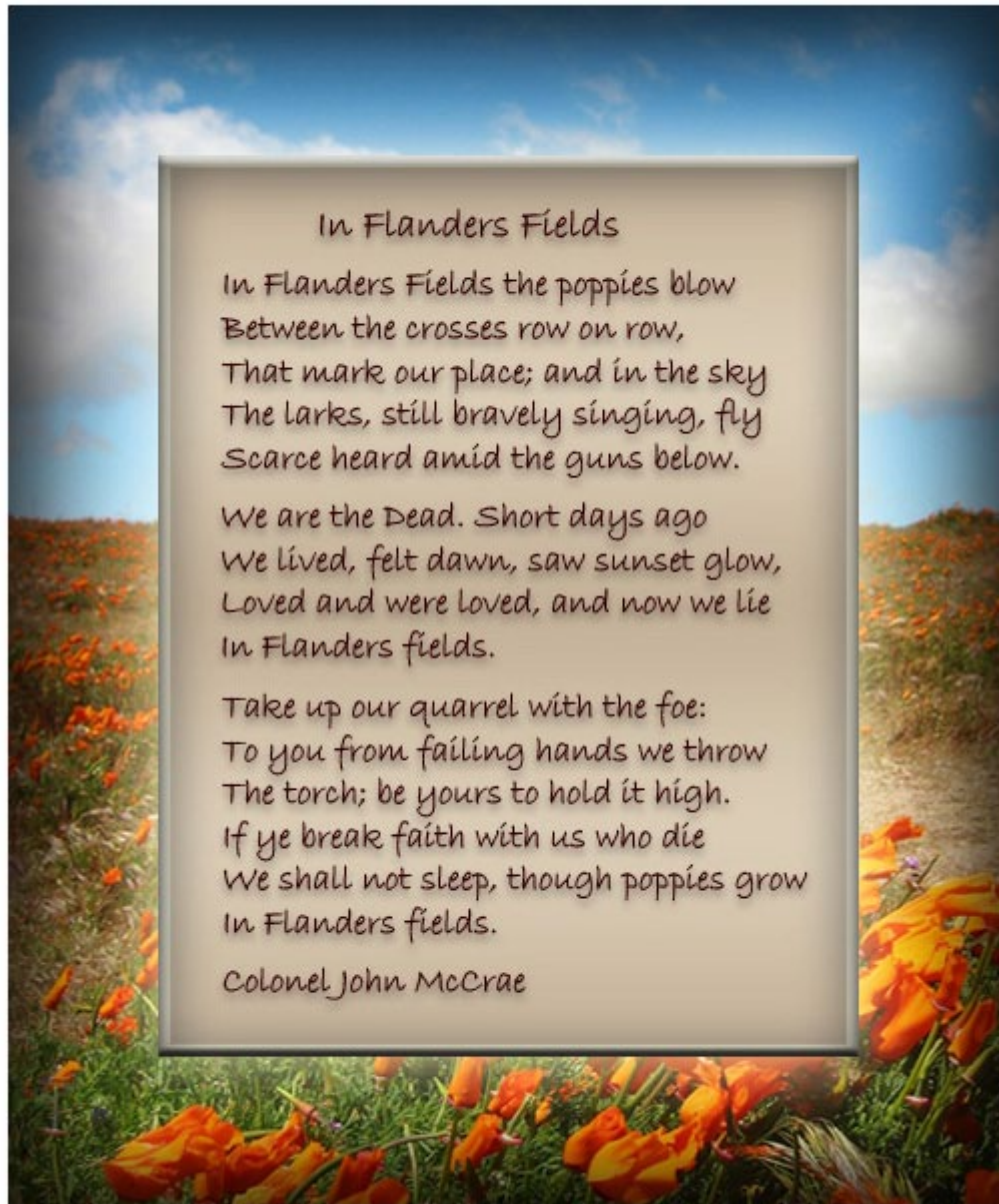
In September, I was privileged to represent the U.S.C.O. at the National Pensioners Federation's annual convention in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. A more detailed report appears in this issue. Herb John was re-elected as president of the NPF.

I end with a quote from Herb, at the convention:

IF WE ALL PUT IN A LITTLE BIT, NOBODY NEEDS TO PUT IN MUCH.



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2014



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Colonel John McCrae

LEST WE FORGET