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The UNTD Proficiency Trophy returns to HMCS CHIPPAWA and the University of Manitoba



As pictured on the left, on December 4, 2016 the UNTD Proficiency Trophy returned to HMCS CHIPPAWA, albeit in the form of a framed photo, after a 52 year absence.

In the photo, from left to right are:

Bob Siemens
LCDR Ian Gillis
David Frayer
Chris Thain

On December 21, 2016 a similar ceremony took place at the University of Manitoba.

Both events were organized and well executed by UNTDA Manitoba Regional Director, David Frayer.

More story details and pictures on page 2.

The UNTD Proficiency Trophy returns

The December 4th and 21st presentations in Winnipeg were the culmination of a resurrection process for the UNTD Proficiency Trophy that began over 5 years ago.

The progression of those events have been reported on in the September 2014 and the June 2016 UNTDA Newsletters.

To briefly recapitulate ... the Trophy was created in 1960 by the then UNTD Staff Officer at COND, LCDR Noel Langham. It was awarded for each of the final 8 academic years of the original UNTD Program. It was won by CHIPPAWA/U MANITOBA for the 1963/64 year. In its last year it ended up in Vancouver and then like many other artifacts and records, it simply disappeared with the demise of the program in 1968.

It was in 2010 that Bob Wootton wondered aloud and in print as to what had become of that Trophy, having last seen it in the UBC President's office in the late 1960s. With Bob Wootton's passing in 2012, and a picture of the Trophy appearing in the 2013 edition of "UNTiDy Tales", the question was again raised by his DISCOVERY colleague Bob Duncombe. Roger Elmes who was then UNTDA West Coast Director, contacted former DISCOVERY CO Bob McIlwaine and in short order the Trophy, in a somewhat sorry state, was located in a display case in the former DISCOVERY Gunroom. Roger conceived of a plan to refurbish the Trophy and to present pictures of it and its history, along with a copy of UNTiDy Tales, to all of the UNTD units, both the Universities and the NRDs, who had won it.

The UNTDA approved of and assumed the cost of doing this, with the full cooperation of DISCOVERY. So the Trophy was repaired and spiffed up, pictures taken and placed in frames with historical text front and back. The Trophy now has a permanent home in the Vancouver Naval Museum.

For the December 4th presentation at CHIPPAWA, David Frayer enlisted the aid of two UNTDs who had previously commanded the unit.

In the Cover picture, CDR (Ret'd) Bob Siemens was UNTD CHIPPAWA '58 and was CO CHIPPAWA 1985-90.

LCDR Ian Gillis is the current CO CHIPPAWA.

CDR (Ret'd) David Frayer was UNTD CHIPPAWA '60 with subsequent service in the Judge Advocate's Office.

CDR (Ret'd) Chris Thain was UNTD CHIPPAWA '57 and was CO CHIPPAWA 1978-81.

All have had a robust and continuing legacy of involvement in a variety of military and civic organizations not only in Winnipeg, but throughout Manitoba.

From the days of her formation as the Winnipeg Company RCNVR in 1923, well in excess of 10,000 personnel, all-ranks, have crossed the brow of CHIPPAWA. Since 1943 at least 500 of those have been NavRes Cadets.

CHIPPAWA was named for the War of 1812 Lake Erie Schooner HMS CHIPPAWA, which at one time was commanded by LT Frédéric Rolette. In 2015 it was announced that our 5th AOPS will be named HMCS FRÉDÉRIC ROLETTE - AOPV 434, thus honouring the man himself but also shining a light on the legacy of HMCS CHIPPAWA.

The UNTD Proficiency Trophy returns - cont'd

Pictured below is the December 21st presentation to the President of the University of Manitoba. David Frayer was accompanied by three UNTDs with strong ties to business and academia in the Province and beyond.



Frayer, Beare, Daycock, Kavanagh, U of M Pres. David Barnard

Bernie Beare was UNTD CHIPPAWA '53 and graduated from St John's College in 1957. He has had a long tenure as a teacher and Principal at St John's Ravencourt School and as a member and Chair of the St John's College Council within the University of Manitoba. He received the Order of Rupert's Land in 2012. He retired from the NavRes as a LCDR. In the summer of '54 Bernie had two other brothers training within the UNTD; Archie was RR '52 and John was RMC '53. Both brothers went on to Reg Force careers. Very notably Bernie's daughter Laura was in the first intake of Lady Cadets at RMC in 1980 which she successfully graduated from in 1984.

Dr Davis Daycock was a UNTD CHIPPAWA '57. He received his BA and MA from U Manitoba and his PhD from the London School of Economics. He is currently a Senior Scholar within the Department of Political Studies at U Manitoba. He retired from the NavRes as a LT(N). His younger brother Rick was a UNTD CHIPPAWA '62.

Kevin Kavanagh, a Brandon native, was a UNTD CHIPPAWA '50. Graduating from U Manitoba with a BComm in 1953 and a Commission as a SLT, he joined the Great-West Life Assurance Company and was ultimately the President and CEO of Great-West Lifeco from 1979 to 1992. He was also the Chancellor of Brandon University from 1996 - 2002. He received the Order of Canada in 2002 and the Order of Manitoba in 2009.

Great-West Life was founded in Winnipeg in 1891 by Jeffrey Hall Brock. All of his offspring went on to military service in WWI and WWII as well as holding substantial positions within the Company. CMDRE Eustace Brock was the first CO of CHIPPAWA when it formed as the Winnipeg Company of the RCNVR in 1923. CMDRE Reginald Brock was the wartime CORD and was the co-founder of the UNTD Program in 1942/43. Two of his sons, Michael and Rees, were in turn CHIPPAWA UNTDs in the early 1950s.

The UNTD Proficiency Trophy returns - cont'd

During the presentation, David Frayer also specifically remarked upon the career of Wally Fox-Decent, UNTD CHIPPAWA '54 who not only commanded the unit from 1973-78, but was RADM and Chief Reserves and Cadets from 1987-90. Throughout that period he was also a Professor at U Manitoba and held other significant civil and military positions, He also received the Order of Canada in 1997 and the Order of Manitoba in 2003.

Dr David Barnard has been the President and Vice-Chancellor of U Manitoba since 2008. He holds a BSc, MSc and PhD in Computer Sciences from U Toronto. He has and continues to hold substantial positions within and without academia. He was previously the President and Vice-Chancellor of U Regina for instance, and has served on the Board of the Bank of Canada.

Dr Shelley Sweeney, pictured below, is the head of the University's Archives and Special Collections. Her staff had prepared an extensive briefing on the historic connections between the University, the UNTD and CHIPPAWA.



Kevin Kavanagh, Shelley Sweeney, David Frayer

From Dr Sweeney's remarks during the presentation:
"Today we will be receiving the book "UNTiDy Tales of Naval Officer Cadets" which details a bit of personal history of the cadets in the University Naval Training Divisions from across Canada as well as a photo of a coveted cup that the Manitoba Division members won in the 1963/64 academic year. I have been an archivist for over 30 years, and I can tell you this much. Those aspects of our history that are not recorded are most often forgotten. In this instance we do have a small, very small amount of records of this important program at the University of Manitoba, and I thank our staff member Natalie Vielfaure for putting together a small exhibit on this Naval Training division and I also thank staff member Lewis St. George Stubbs for his added research. But these are very few records, so this book and photo being presented today will be helpful in maintaining the memory of this program. They will also help balance the research that is conducted which now tends to be solely about COTC, which donated many records. I have asked our Rare Book Cataloguer, Christine Bone, to be present today, and she will ensure that the record gets added to our online catalogue for students and researchers to discover."

The UNTD Proficiency Trophy returns - cont'd

Immediately after the presentation, the copy of UNTiDy Tales was placed and catalogued in the Rare Book Room. The citation can be seen at:

http://primo-pmtna01.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/UMB:UManitoba:UMB_ALM_A21700926740001651

The framed Trophy photo itself was also immediately logged into their Archives; ref: A2016-113.

The three pictures below are of the UNTD exhibit put together by Natalie Vielfaure for this occasion.



Interestingly it was also Natalie Vielfaure who earlier in the year had provided Russ Cape, CHIPPAWA '62, with access to and permission to photograph extensive correspondence between the University, CHIPPAWA, the UNTD and NavRes HQ. That effort resulted in a number of new Cadet names being added to our Nominal List who might otherwise have remained invisible.

As a final bit of connectivity between U Manitoba and the UNTD, Roger Elmes reminds us that while Dr Barnard was on the Board of the Bank of Canada (2005-07), the Governor of the Bank (2001-08) was David Dodge, UNTD CATARAQUI Queen's '61. As Dr Barnard assumed the Presidency and Vice-Chancellorship of U Manitoba in 2008, David Dodge in that same year became Chancellor of Queen's University.

In both presentations there was an aura of past-to-present connectivity created within the context of the student-citizen-sailor, with the UNTD and the NavRes at the heart of it. BZ to David Frayer, the other UNTDs involved, the University and the CO of CHIPPAWA for all rowing together to make it happen.

ROUTP Class of 1969

The note and request below was recently received from Al Blackwood (UNTD MALAHAT '65)

"For a couple of years I have been trying to recall the names and faces of the 12 Term Lieutenants who trained the first intake of ROUTP cadets in the summer of 1969.

The picture of 5 upstanding individuals including RADM Couturier taken at the Victoria Mess Dinner last April, which appeared in the June Newsletter, was taken because 4 of those 12 "Termies" were present at that dinner and they appear in the picture - a first in 47 years!

The training in 1969 was not supposed to happen, as I recall, but about 60 1st year ROUTP cadets were enrolled and trained during that summer - and their cruises were aboard DDEs. The admin staff was 12 Reserve Officers - all UNTDs I think. The breakdown was 6 Course Training Officers and 6 Nav Instructors. The 9 names that I can recall with rank at the time are LT Paul Cloutier, LT Roger Elmes, LT Neil Sorsdahl, LT Tom Hopkins, LT Arnie Campbell, LT Peter Chipman, SLT Grant Edwards, SLT Brian Sommerville, and me, SLT Al Blackwood. Can anyone remember the others 3 ?

The timing of this request coincides with a separate attempt by a group of the cadets from that year to re-create the nominal list for their year. The tasks are all the more difficult because there was no Year Book, no official photographs were taken and 47 years have gone by."

If anyone can help out, please contact the Editor or Al Blackwood directly at alexblackwood@gmail.com

UNTD and the Royal Nigerian Navy

CHIAZOR, Onwura Zonyeuno (O.Z.), was a UNTD CATARAQUI '54 U-14505. He had 3 UNTD summers and was Commissioned as a SLT at the end of the summer of 1957. In a series of interviews in 2016 in his hometown in Nigeria, at the age of 90, he explained how his UNTD experience resulted in his being one of the first non-British Officers Commissioned into the Royal Nigerian Navy when it formed in 1959.

O.Z. was not recruited in the normal manner. He arrived in Canada as a shipborne stowaway and after a brief spell in Winnipeg and Ottawa and with some undefined financing, he ended up at Queen's and in the UNTD.

During his 3rd summer out west, a Nigerian Government delegation was visiting some RCN ships and O.Z. was naturally tapped to be part of the reception and tours. At that time he appears to have been the only black African UNTD and soon was the only black African RCN Officer. As a direct result of that tour he was offered a Lieutenancy in the soon to be formed RNN.

In the February 1962 Crowsnest a story appeared about a RCN Frigate Squadron on a high profile visit to Lagos. The RNN Liason Officer for that visit was none other than O.Z., and mention of his UNTD background was part of that story.

O.Z. ended up supporting Biafra in the Nigerian Civil War in the late 1960s and that ended what could have been a substantial Naval career.

UNTD and the Cold War

Some time ago the following story about another Nigerian UNTD was submitted by Noel Gaspar (BRUNSWICKER '51)

"In 2011 George Stroumbouloupoulos, in his CBC programme Doc Zone, had an episode entitled "Love, Hate and Propaganda - The Cold War". In this programme he talked about Theophilus Uzochukwo Chukwuemeka Okonkwo, a Nigerian student. In 1955 Theophilus attended the University of New Brunswick studying Science. As a commonwealth student he applied to and was accepted into the UNB UNTD - a tender of HMCS Brunswick. I was at that time a Sub-Lieutenant attached to the UNTD as a training officer. I was Theo's Divisional Officer. Theo's father was an Anglican Minister in Nigeria and he had a friend (a doctor) who had previously studied at UNB. Theo told me that he wanted to become a Medical Doctor and return to Africa to combine modern medicine with traditional tribal remedies. Coming from a very different culture it was quite a challenge to introduce him to a Canadian military culture and prepare him for his first summer training. He did go to the east-coast for training and I believe there were some further challenges during that time. But any reprimand was met with the suggestion that he was being discriminated against. However, late that summer, he was observed attending the Russian Embassy in Ottawa. It was explained that he was investigating the availability of financial aid should he choose to further his education in Russia. The Navy promptly released him due to security concerns. I lost track of him after that until a few years later, in 1960, I read about him in Time magazine. Apparently, he had accepted a scholarship to study at the Patrice Lumumba Freedom University in Moscow. He had become disillusioned with life in Russia and with two other students left the country and gave interviews to the press saying how poorly treated the African students were and how they were discriminated against, denouncing Russian efforts to help African nations. The Russians counterattacked, according to a December article in the Toronto Star, by claiming that he had been expelled from Russia after it was found out that he was a graduate of a special naval school in Canada, where the teachers are US officers. The American Military had arranged his schooling and had serious plans for him. This is a somewhat different view of the UNTD than most of us experienced. It is interesting though that the UNTD played a small part in Cold War political propaganda."

UNTDA 75th Anniv. Reunion in St John's, NL

September 9 - 12, 2018

Bob Jenkins and his Reunion committee continue to explore venues, events and costs for this event. Bob expects to be able to start firming up arrangements as we approach September 2017. The NAC has only recently announced that their Fall 2017 AGM Conference will also be held in St John's. These two events will be planned and take place in isolation from each other. Unlike in previous years, the UNTDA will not be holding a co-event with NAC 2017 and the UNTDA 2018 event will also be free-standing.

The incentive for the UNTDA 2018 event is the UNTD 75th Anniv. and for the NAC 2017 event, it is the 75th Anniv. of the venerable Crow's Nest Club. Questions and expressions of interest can be directed to: rjenkins@nl.rogers.com

A flashback - UBC at War - 1944

The article below appeared in the April 1944 issue of the UBC Totem, the student's annual yearbook, beginning on p39:

"UBC at War - Air force, Navy, join the COTC.

CO-EDS in 1943-44 were a little more fortunate than their sister undergraduates of four other war sessions. The old saying that "there's nothing like a soldier" thrilled feminine hearts when first in 1940 the men of the campus blossomed forth in their wartime khaki, but in the fall of 1943 the saying had changed to "nothing like a soldier—or a sailor, or an airman" as the other two services invaded the khaki stronghold of UBC.

The khaki found rivals for co-ed attention as the Navy and Air Force established schemes similar to that of the Army and began training students in preparation for eventual service in those branches of the armed forces. For five years a dominating factor on the campus, the Canadian Officer's Training Corps bowed gracefully to the other two services, and welcomed to UBC the University Naval Training Detachment and University Air Training Corps.

Cadets of all three services, however, were still under the stern, watchful eye of Lt.-Col. Gordon M. Shrum, commanding officer of the COTC, who was appointed director of military training at UBC. A strict disciplinarian, the colonel smoothly co-ordinated the three services into a compact campus task force. The UNTD, COTC and UATC presented a striking picture of concentrated war effort of which the University could well be proud.

Under the command of Lt.-Cmdr. H. M. McIlroy, the sailor-students took their position of senior service on the campus very seriously, and quickly acquired naval manners and polish to become the envy of their fellow trainees. Undergraduates soon became used to the sight of navy blue bell bottom trousers marching briskly about the campus as the student tars, 180 strong, acquired their shore legs.

Training both on the campus and at HMCS Discovery, the naval cadets were instructed as other sailors in the ways and means of fighting on the sea. Wearing white lanyards, denoting ordinary seamen in training, the cadets were drilled in signals, Morse, semaphore and flags, and taught types of ships, ship markings and naval law.

At HMCS Discovery they learned the ancient art of boat pulling and the traditional slinging of the hammock, or as it is known in the Navy, a "mick". Other time-honored sailor duties, the tying of complicated knots and splices, boxing the compass and manoeuvring the helm were taught the naval cadets of UBC.

The Navy believed in keeping its men in fighting trim at all times and made the cadets do most everything on the double. The cadets took five hours of drill and one hour of physical training a week. Most of the students in the Navy were enrolled as ordinary seamen, but a few students in mechanical and electrical engineering enlisted as stokers for technical navy jobs.

The navy cadets finished their year's training at HMCS Naden in Esquimalt, where they were instructed in more advanced types of training."

A flashback - UBC at War - 1944 - cont'd

LCDR (SB) Murray McIlroy was himself a COTC Lieutenant at UBC when the UNTD first arrived and he was remustered to become UBC's first CO UNTD, remaining as such for a number of years. He was born on July 22, 1905 in Hamilton, ON and crossed the bar on January 9, 1972, in Vancouver BC at the age of 68. McIlroy was Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering at UBC when he retired in July 1971 after 35 years on campus.

In 1943 UBC had 1,800 COTC, 200 UAS, and 180 UNTD cadets on campus. Of those 180 we have only identified 17 by name, the remaining 163 still to be added to our Nominal List.

In 1944 UBC had 150 names on their Roll of Honour of students KIA in WWII. At the end of 1945 that number stood at 170. Most famous of those was LT(N) Robert Hampton Gray, VC, DSC, (UBC BA Class of '40), b Nov 2, 1917, enlisted as an OS RCNVR at HMCS TECUMSEH in 1940, d Aug 9, 1945, Onagawa Bay, Japan, age 27.

The 1946 UBC Totem Yearbook was dedicated to Hampton Gray. Gray's younger brother Jack was KIA on Feb 27, 1942, while a RCAF F/Sgt on mine-laying operations, age 21. Their mother Wilhelmina, was the 1969 Silver Cross Mother during that year's National Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa.

One of the original DISCOVERY '43 UNTDs was Bob Codrington. He had entered UBC in the Fall of '42 and so by 1943, was a COTC transferee, as many of the original UNTDs across the country were. Most interestingly, a year before entering UBC, he had met Hampton Gray, through an older cousin and former UBC classmate of Gray's, while Gray was back in Canada for additional flight training. They both tried to convince Bob to go into the Fleet Air Arm, going as far as to arrange a familiarization flight for him at Sea Island. That cousin, Jack Richardson, soon joined the RCAF and like Hammy Gray, did not survive the war.

Bob Codrington's UNTD experience led directly to a wartime secondment to the USN to work on new Radar technology. This in turn led to a substantial academic and industrial career which largely played out in the USA, where he was at the forefront of developments that led to our modern day MRI diagnostic imaging. Dr Robert Codrington crossed the bar in 2008, in Victoria BC where he had been born 83 years earlier.

Carl Zanon was selected to be one of 12 Sea Cadets to attend the 1953 Coronation Spithead Review in MAGNIFICENT. He represented RSCC HAMPTON GRAY VC, located in his and Gray's hometown of Nelson, BC. It was that experience that prompted Carl to join the UNTD at DISCOVERY in '55.

In 2012, Peter Milsom PREVOST '62, was President of the Hampton Gray VC (Ottawa) Chapter of the Canadian Naval Air Group. In that year Peter was able to make a generous donation on behalf of CNAG to the Japanese Ambassador for the Onagawa Bay Relief fund. Onagawa was heavily damaged during the 2011 Tsunami. The town had famously erected a monument to Hampton Gray in 1989, which was damaged in the Tsunami and moved onto higher ground in 2012. The new plaque calls for the "peaceful repose of the souls of all those who died in battle." Hampton Gray's sister, Phyllis Gautschi, attended that ceremony in Japan.

UNTDA Up-Spirits/Brunch

BYTOWN Mess, Ottawa, ON - Saturday, October 22, 2016

UNTDA Ottawa Regional Director Michael Mace organized this event in conjunction with both NAC and BYTOWN, as he had done two years earlier. This year's event had 60 attendees which was similar to the 2014 turnout. It was held to take advantage of UNTD/ROUTP members of the NAC who attend their annual AGM-Conference which is held in Ottawa every second year. The largest NAC branch membership-wise is Ottawa and as well there is a large number of non-NAC UNTD/ROUTPs living in the area. That group is held together largely as a result of the UNTD Old Oars contact list maintained by Peter Milsom who organizes regular BYTOWN get-togethers, which are regularly reported on.

In conjunction with the Up-Spirits/Brunch, an ad hoc Weepers was held the night before at the Rideau Club. Immediately after the Up-Spirits/Brunch a contingent left to attend the Change of Command ceremony at HMCS CARLETON. CARLETON has been the home division of and has been commanded by any number of UNTD/ROUTPs over time. Even the venerable Rideau Club had a UNTD as its President in 1991-92. That was The Honourable Justice Michael Phelan (DONNACONA '64).

Pictured below is CAPT(N) (Ret'd) Peter (Pete'Oar) Milsom (PREVOST '62) issuing Pussers' Rum to Bruce McKean (MALAHAT '64) and Ron Harrison (DISCOVERY '65).



Bruce McKean, Peter Milsom, Ron Harrison

The NAC executive also attended the Up-Spirits/Brunch, including Jim Carruthers (National President), Ken Lait (Executive Director) and Dan Sing (Director Naval Affairs). A number of UNTD/ROUTPs have served as both National and/or Branch Presidents of the NAC, including Ron Harrison pictured above. Ron was a past President of NOABC and then the NOAC National President from 2005-07. He was preceded by Mike Cooper (DISCOVERY '64) and succeeded by Ray Zuliani (GRIFFON '71).

UNTDA Up-Spirits/Brunch - cont'd

In the last Newsletter we featured Jim Boutilier receiving the Admirals' Medal for 2015. At that time we mentioned the 5 previous UNTD winners. It was gratifying to see 2 of them present at the Up-Spirits/Brunch: Alec Douglas (2003 winner) and Art Collin (2006 winner).

UNTD Raid on Royal Roads - 1949

We were pleased to recently receive the message below:

Nigel Brodeur mentions on Page 3 in your recent Newsletter of the UNTD raid on Royal Roads in 1949. I participated in that raid - I think we were after Royal Roads white ensign. The only names I can recall on the raid were Peter Robinson (who later joined the RCN) and Pat Brodeur (now deceased, but related to Nigel Brodeur). I am sure there were many others. We went by whaler from HMC Dockyard, and landed at Royal Roads. Our plan if I remember was to capture their white ensign. Also we took out the plugs in the Royal Road's whalers so that when they were launched to catch us they very quickly took in water. If I remember the Admiral or Captain was officially displeased - but quietly said "well done". If my mathematics is correct all this happened some 67 years ago!

Richard Birkett, Oakville, ON - DONNACONA '46

The portion of the story repeated below was told in UNTDiY Tales by LCDR (Ret'd) Sam Huntington, who was then a UNTD Term LT.

"At 0830, July 8, 1949, Commander J. C. Littler called me into his office and told me that he had just received a call from the Commandant of Royal Roads, Captain Rayner. He said that thousands of dollars of damage had been done to the boats and gear at the lagoon. He was very irate to say the least and almost certain that it was the UNTD who were responsible. Cdr Littler asked me if I knew anything about the raid and I said, "Raid! Sir?"

Maybe I don't lie very well or perhaps he had an intuitive feeling as he demanded, "Were you on that raid last night, Huntington?" Because Cdr Littler was such a gentleman and a fine officer, and knowing full well that there had been no damage done I said, "Yes Sir".

His next question was about the incurred loss and damage to the Roads' equipment. I told him that there had been strict instructions to prevent vandalism. The cadets however, had hidden oars and life jackets in the loft as well as put equipment on the roof of the boat shed so as, in general, to make it look as though everything had been stolen. Littler nodded his head knowingly and advised me that the Commandant was expecting him to send an officer out. I was therefore to get a staff car and report to Captain Rayner immediately. The ride out to Roads was full of grim expectations. I barely had time to report to the Commandant before the tirade began. "UNTD Hooligans, ... no respect for the King's property, ... thousands of dollars damage to boats and equipment", .. and on it went with particular attention to the low status of any officer like qualities in the UNTDiDies. It was such a good blasting that I didn't move and kept a stony look on my face, but I must admit my umbilical scar was smiling. At the end I was instructed to go with Lt Cdr Frewer to survey the damage myself and report back to my commander.

Off I went with Freddy, who I had first met in 1943, and we chatted on the way to the boat house. Freddy told me about the shambles that had occurred when they went to launch the boats from the sand spit in the half light of dawn. They had forgotten rule number one - check to see that the boat plugs are in. The boats all started to sink before they could haul them back out. They didn't think to search the boats for the errant plugs and since no one had a knife to cut new ones, they chewed pieces of drift wood to make them fit.

When we arrived at the boat house, Freddy revealed the absence of oars, life jackets and other paraphernalia. I surreptitiously glanced up to the rafters and with mock surprise discovered the oars. Before long we located the life jackets on the roof. As much as I liked Freddy, I was damned if I was going to admit my knowledge of the raid and so absolve him or his Commandant of any culpability for the missing property claim. I simply observed that the stuff would obviously turn up sometime. On the way back to the Castle, Freddy admitted to me that he thought it was a pretty good lark, particularly as they had been expecting something to happen that night but had posted pickets for a land raid.

I admit that I was gloating a little during the car ride back to Dockyard where I reported to Cdr Littler that the only damage done was a cut painter to a boat. Everything else was found in the new stowage places. There must have been a lot of red faces over at Royal Roads as all the supposedly stolen property reappeared ridiculously under their noses. The Commandant wanted an immediate end to the episode and squashed any retaliation. That was a disappointment to the UNTD who had made elaborate plans for such an event. The plan was to leave a weak point in the perimeter and when the Roadents came in, close the gap and overpower them. Each invader would have, "UNTD", painted in gentian violet across their forehead. I developed a great deal of respect for the students in the UNTD organization. It is a shame that senior naval officers and politicians did not recognize the value of this program in developing leadership, loyalty and national unity in our young people."



Sam Huntington leads UNTD march past, Victoria, BC, 1949

CDR John Littler in a 1995 book, recalled the Raid: "Consequently, I was summoned by the Flag Officer Pacific Coast, Rear-Admiral Harry DeWolf. Fortunately, prior to this, I had been tendered an apology by my senior cadets to the effect that they hoped that their innocent prank had not caused me problems of their making. Furthermore, they had given me a well-produced operation plan worthy of the naval staff, complete with tide and meteorological details. I was received somewhat gruffly by Admiral DeWolf, who wanted to know what my young devils had been up to. In answer, I gave him the operation plan to read, and he became lost and obviously interested in the well-written detail.

Suddenly, a thought came to his mind and he said, "Did you know about this beforehand?" I could truthfully say that I knew nothing until this morning early, when I was acquainted of it by the senior cadets involved. The plan had been concocted by my best senior cadet, a Peter Robinson of Montreal, who was a first-class athlete and a good brain. With an understanding grin, and the thought that perhaps I should start the early morning run at 0500 rather than 0615, he dismissed me to get on with more important work. I often wonder what happened to the cadets who stand out in my memory - Robinson, Hogg, Havelock, Kelso, and the Kings, J. & R. - and so many others."

As Richard Birkett remarked, indeed 67 years has since passed and so an update on the key figures might be in order.

All of the Officers mentioned had substantial WWII and post-war service in the RCN, RCNR or the RCNVR but had yet to experience the UNTD.

RR Commandant CAPT(N) Herbert Rayner became a VADM and the last CNS, retiring as Forces Unification came into being. He crossed the bar in 1976 at the age of 65. At the time of the Raid, his son Michael was just 6 years old. Michael became a UNTD Cadet Captain and tragically crossed the bar in 2004 at the age of 60.

RR XO Freddy Frewer became a CAPT(N) and in 1967 was Base Commander NADEN and officiated at that year's UNTD Graduation parade. His son Barry was a UNTD Termie at that event and himself went on to become a Reg Force CAPT(N). Fred Frewer crossed the bar in 2005 at the age of 85. Barry is an Ottawa resident and regularly attends UNTDA events.

CDR John Littler was British-born and Merchant Marine trained. He joined the RCNR in 1940 and had significant sea and shore appointments during and after WWII. He Ret'd as a CMDRE RCN in 1962 as Chief of Staff (Naval Reserve Divisions). He crossed the bar in 1997 in New Zealand

Peter Robinson, the UNTD Raid instigator, spent a number of years in the RCN and went on to become a renowned marine artist in Courtenay BC, crossing the bar there in 1995 at the age of 67. His life story was featured in the UNTDA Newsletters of March and September 2010.

Sam Huntington as a LCDR found himself on the staff of COND in the mid-1950s. Sam to this day still associates with UNTDs through his membership in the Hamilton Area Group of NAC-Tor. chaired by UNTD Bill Thomas. Sam video-interviewed Peter Robinson out west in the early 1990s.

Dick Wilson's Memorial Service

October 21, 2016

As we were only briefly able to report in the last Newsletter, Dick Wilson crossed the bar in Toronto on October 10, 2016. He was at that time the very long standing Treasurer and Membership Chair of the UNTDA. For many of those years he was also the Treasurer and Membership Sec. of the NOAC/NAC Toronto Branch.

His Memorial Service was held on Trafalgar/Niobe Day at Grace Church On-The-Hill which is just 5 blocks from his home.

UNTDA Director Graham Scott stayed in town to attend the Service on behalf of the Board, the majority of whom were by then in Ottawa for the joint NAC/UNTDA events of Oct 20 - 22nd. Graham reported a well attended elegant Service with a distinctive Naval flair including UNTDAs, NACs and Royal Roads/RMC Alumni from Dick's class of 1953/55 along with a military Bugler and Piper for the Last Post and Lament. Three of Dick's grandchildren handled the Readings.

Over the years Dick received awards and accolades not only from his military associations but from Upper Canada College and U of T as well.

Ross Connell named as UNTDA Treasurer

Like a White Knight riding over the crest of a hill on his trusty steed, Ross Connell (STAR '60) has graciously agreed to become a Director and Treasurer of the UNTDA. UNTDA Secretary, past-President and a STAR classmate of Ross, Doug Hain, no doubt mounted a major charm offensive to make that happen as Ross is already a very busy guy.

Dick Wilson's wife Barbara and his daughter Mary were very gracious to meet with Doug to hand over Dick's voluminous UNTDA financial and membership records and those will be handed over to Ross. This appointment takes effect on January 10, 2017.

From Roger Elmes' presentation to the Board:

"Ross Connell joined the UNTD in the fall of 1960 at McMaster/STAR. Following the standard first two years of training in STAR (winters) and CORNWALLIS and at sea (summers) he spent his 3rd summer at HOCHELAGA completing the supply specialty course which included a fair bout of accounting. Subsequently, in his own words, Ross "assumed the duties of [DONNACONA] Wardroom Treasurer around 1966 and muddled through the manual set of books for about 9 years." With this firm grounding in double-entry bookkeeping and the trauma of AccPac for DOS, it was but a small step from there to Intuit QuickBooks which he taught for a couple of years. But his main qualification is his Scottish nature – he'd be counting our pennies if Canada still issued them. Ross has always shown a keen interest in the UNTDA, attending many of its events. He has been the glue that kept the group of ten 1960 McMaster/STAR UNTiDy's together for over 50 years as described in the UNTDA Newsletter Sept 2014. Ross lives in the GTA (Oakville). He continues to work in the financial services industry and is familiar with the latest in computer accounting."

UNTDA Regalia available:

After a long absence, UNTDA Ties and bullion Blazer Badges are now available.

Ties: \$35 + \$5 shipping.

Blazer Badges: \$25 + \$5 shipping.

(were sold out in October, a new batch is on order).

Lapel Pins: \$5 - includes shipping.

Contact Bill Thomas at: wctpts@cogeco.ca

Ball Caps: \$15 + variable shipping.

Contact Andy Shaw at andy56@telus.net

UNTDA Archives Update:

The UNTDA Master List database is continually receiving information from a wide variety of sources.

As of December, 2016 we are accumulating data on 8,250 individuals. Of those, 7,086 are UNTDAs from the 1942-1968 period, 985 are ROUTH+ from 1969 to the present and 10 are Honorary UNTDAs.

169 are closely associated with the Programs such as Founders, Staff, Trainers etc.

From the UNTD/ROUTH+ group, 844 are known to have crossed the bar and 588 are on the UNTDA VIP List.

Lists are updated frequently and are available on the UNTDA website, on the Members Page:

<http://www.angelfire.com/on2/UNTDA/members2.html>

and on the In Memoriam page:

<http://www.angelfire.com/on2/UNTDA/IM.html>

The UNTDA Webmaster maintains a growing collection of Obituaries, also available on the In Memoriam page.

Our collection of 26 UNTD and ROUTH+ Yearbooks has been converted to .pdf files and can be viewed and downloaded from:

<http://www.angelfire.com/on2/UNTDA/WT.html>

UNTiDy TALES OF NAVAL OFFICER CADETS

The Story of Canada's University Naval Training Divisions
By: CDR Robert J. Williamson CD RCNR (Retired)

The 2013 70th Anniversary edition of this 424-page classic is recently back in print. The digital version is also available on a CD. The price for either format is \$20 including tax. Shipping is free for the CD but not for the book.

To order a CD, send a cheque payable to Robert Williamson at:
1 Clonmore Ave. Hamilton, ON. L9A 4R2

For ease of shipping, stocks of the book format are maintained in Vancouver and Toronto.

From Vancouver contact Roger Elmes at mcroger@shaw.ca

From Toronto contact Doug Hain at doug.hain1@gmail.com

The UNTD Association of Canada publishes this Newsletter four times a year. Send letters, anecdotes, or suggestions to: Newsletter Editor:

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Newsletter back issues are available from the Editor and online at www.untd.org