



# THE NEWSLETTER

OF THE UNTD ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA  
NOVEMBER 1993



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



To all those who came to the 50th Reunion and all those whose hard work made it possible, many thanks. This was one of the most successful reunions the navy has seen in Halifax, and why not!? It was a **UNTD Reunion**. The Reunion, as well as being a time for reminiscing, turned

out to be a re-vitalization of the UNTD. The West Coast group has promised to hold the next Reunion there in 1998. The Halifax members are seriously discussing the setting up of a local organization. The Kingston members will be staging a dinner at the new HMCS "CATARAQUIP" in 1994.

To those of you who do not belong to one of the three existing UNTD groups, I urge you to sign on. In this way, you will receive the Newsletters and know about coming events. A list of these groups will be included in this Newsletter.

To the local members of the Upper Canada Association - two reminders.

Please pay your membership promptly. Keep Norm Balfour smiling!

Come to the Mess Dinner at HMCS "YORK" on November 20th. Keep us all happy!

Fair Winds and a following sea to you all.

*Charles Copelin, U-16852*

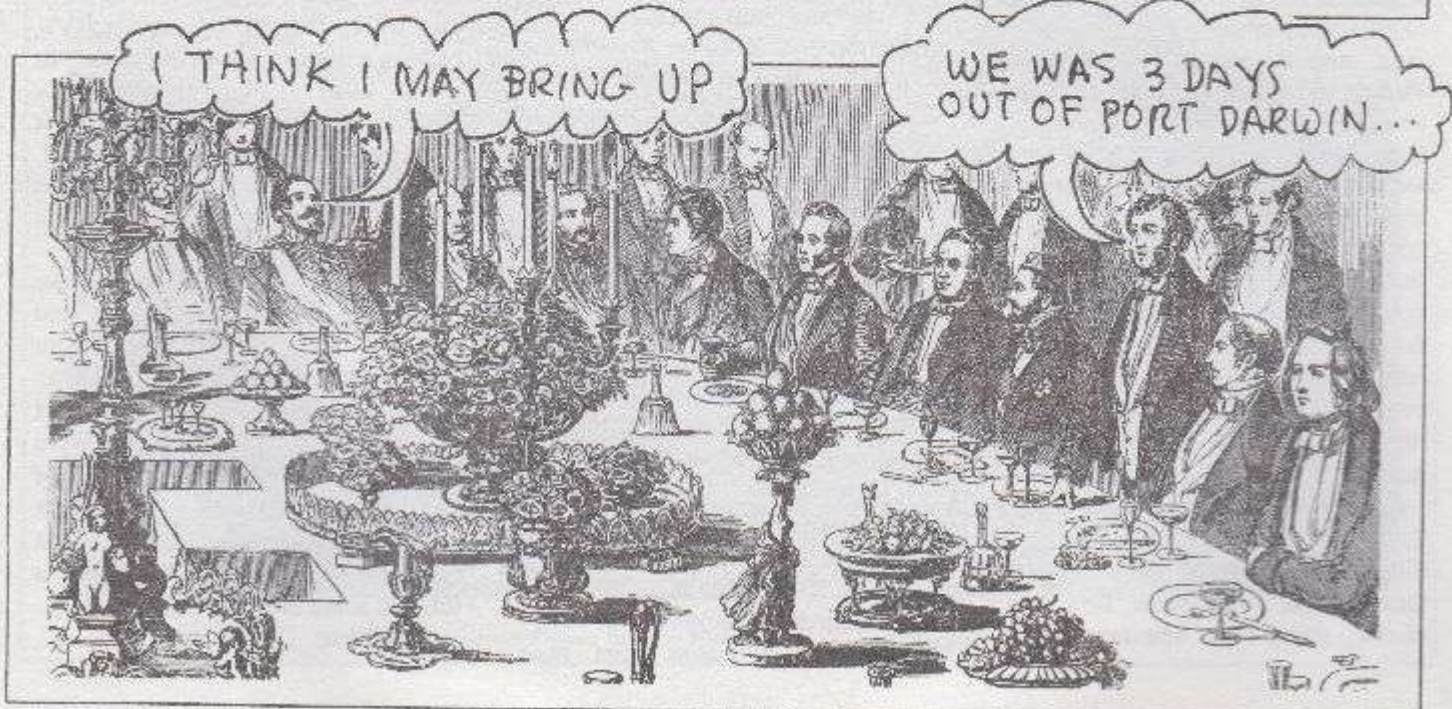
## THE UNTD ANNUAL MESS DINNER

AT HMCS "YORK"  
ON  
SATURDAY  
NOVEMBER 20, 1993

1800 FOR 1900

RIG OF THE DAY  
ANY NAVY UNIFORM  
BLACK TIE  
BLAZER AND FLANNELS  
(WITH ANY SERVICE TIE)

ONLY \$ 50



## BACK TO THE UNTD, BACK TO COLLEGE, BACK TO RESIDENCE

It was the BEST reunion I've ever been to. When you get to 65, you've been to a lot of reunions - university, professional and naval - and this was the best. Everyone, not just ex-UNTD's, but wives, companions, "significant others" entered into the spirit of things from minute one at the Meet and Greet, lunch in the Wardroom, Maritime Command Museum, HMCS "SACKVILLE", Marine Museum of the Atlantic, the Nova Scotia Tattoo, RA Park, at sea in HMCS "IROQUOIS", a wonderful reunion dinner, the Church Service at King's Chapel, Up Spirits and a wind-up lunch in Prince Hall, and then a final day at Peggy's Cove and Chester. One thing which brought this startlingly to me was the fact that everybody had a tot at Up Spirits.

An added element for some of us was staying in residence at King's. It added a whole other dimension. It was like being back in residence but much better - no classes, no exams, a wonderful congenial group who all found an astonishing amount in common. And, of course, there were no women in residence back in those prehistoric times. We enjoyed every event twice over because every night we lived them over again through each other's eyes and then drank coffee, rum or whatever while we sat into the night (usually 0100 or 0200) reminiscing about UNTD days - Halifax then, Esquimalt then, cruises and adventures, mishaps and just like every common room, then and now, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Our residence included Bob and Eileen Williamson, Bob Judd, Briann Gibson, "Herbie" Little, Ed and Donna Pipe, Andy Shaw, Bob Duncombe, Harry Ross and John Dead-

man among others. We agreed that those who stayed in the hotels missed half the fun. One night, not for the last time, I mused on what a remarkable group the UNTD's were, how interesting and how much fun to know - then and now.

Andy Shaw modestly commented "Well, intelligent people like to travel!" and Bob Duncombe added in like vein, "In the army, you dug a hole where you were. In the Navy you always went somewhere else". The UNTD did produce a surprisingly large percentage of doctors, lawyers and other successful professional and business people. And all 250 at the Reunion were still interesting 25 to 50 years later.

*Gil Hutton*

## LET US PRAY

On Sunday morning July 4th, as a part of the UNTD Reunion, over 100 of those at the Reunion attended a unique Chapel Service in the Chapel of King's College. The first unique feature was the number there. In 1985, on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the RCN, a joint UNTD/HMCS "KINGS" Reunion Chapel Service was held on the Sunday morning under identical circumstances. The total attendance at the reunions was well over 400. Approximately 75 souls attended the church service. This time with a total attendance of about 250 of whom slightly over 200 were in full time attendance at our Reunion, we more than filled the Chapel. Secondly, it was a truly unique ecumenical service presided over by ex-UNTD's Bill Thomas (Anglican), Vince Ihaz (United Church) and Jim McEntee (Roman Catholic). Bill is a member of the UNTD Association of Upper Canada and organized the Service. Vince was, for many years, Chaplain (P) of HMCS "SCOTIAN", the Naval Reserve Division in Halifax, and now has a church in Lunenburg. Jim is a Parish Priest in Montreal. The Church community at large should take a lesson from their

effortless, seamless cooperation - but then, "Sailors, with their built-in sense of order and discipline should really be running the world".

Bill's sermon stressing the camaraderie of the UNTD and the fellowship of the sea, and the traditional Naval Prayer and hymns culminating in "Eternal Father Strong to Save" left few dry eyes even among those of us who go to Church once a year (on Battle of Atlantic Sunday). For many of us, it seemed to sum up our youth in the UNTD between 25 and 50 years ago and all the years between with a sense of having done something right.

*Gil Hutton*

## MORE GILBITS

### UP SPIRITS

Fittingly, the Chapel Service was followed by "Up Spirits" in the former Wardroom of HMCS "KINGS", now the Junior Common Room of King's College. The College was HMCS "KINGS", the RCNVR officers training establishment in World War II. King's College has a marvellous sense of tradition and it still says "Wardroom" on the door. The room was restored as closely as possible to its wartime configuration in 1985.

Gil Hutton officiated in serving the tots from the oak rum tub and original brass tot measure from HMCS "SACKVILLE". Even the rum was almost authentic - 100 proof London Dock rum. (Pusser's rum from 1685 to 1970 was a mixture of any three of five prescribed West Indian rums. It was 95.5 proof). As mentioned before, everybody had a tot, and some more, to the last drop.

*Gil Hutton*

## SECOND NAVAL HISTORICAL CONFERENCE IN QUEST OF A CANADIAN NAVAL IDENTITY

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It's only a few brief months ago that we received a package from MARCOM calling for papers, a call that was published in this Newsletter. In the topics offered, there was one that caught our eye: "The Reserves, the University Naval Training Divisions (UNTD) and Canadian Society. Indispensable naval links to Canadian Society or a cosy club."

What with the preparations for the Reunion and the UNTD's known preference for camaraderie, there was little reaction to the call for papers that we knew about.

But wait! One of our number did indeed rise to the bait. In early October our Association Historian, Bob Williamson, stood up in front of a room full of admirals and presented a stirring defense of the UNTD and a grand defiance to its detractors (in-

cluding Paul Hellyer), with the title "THE UNTD AND CANADIAN SOCIETY".

To give you a feeling of Bob's work, we quote briefly from the summary.

"The navy has never fully appreciated the inherent value of having a large number of well-placed, highly educated citizen sailors ....."

"If investment in people is an important value, then serious consideration should be given to returning to the concept of the UNTD program as it existed prior to 1968."

And finally, "It is my belief that the UNTD is a quintessential product of the Canadian system, steeped in Royal Navy tradition but tempered by social and democratic conditions that are uniquely Canadian. If you are looking for a Canadian Naval Identity, you will find it here in the

UNTD".

Bob's paper was well-received by the assembled admirals, many of whom (VADM Anderson included), were ex-UNTD's.

We believe that Bob has made a very valuable contribution to naval thinking in this paper. In due course, it will appear in book form with the other papers given at this conference. However, if you would like to receive a copy of Bob's paper, you have the following choices. We will have a limited number of copies at the Annual Mess Dinner on November 20 next. Otherwise, you can send a stamped (2 x 43¢) self-addressed envelope (9 x 12 size) to **106A Pembroke St., Toronto M5A 2N8** and your copy will be promptly returned.



El Presidente Charles Copelin presents "IROQUOIS" CO Len Edmunds with a UNTD crest

DON'T FORGET

## THE ANNUAL MESS DINNER

HMCS "YORK" - SATURDAY NOVEMBER 20 - 1800 FOR 1900



CDR C.H. "Herbie" Little, CDR Len Edmunds, (CO "IROQUOIS") and RADM Tom Smith

## JOIN YOUR LOCAL EX- UNTD ASSOCIATION

At the Reunion this summer, we met ex-UNTD's from across Canada and also from the United States. Considerable interest was expressed by many of those at the Reunion in joining with their nearest Association. Well, that's easy. We have names and addresses for you. Drop a line to the nearest Association and get on their mailing list. Who knows what great parties you may be missing. And, by the way, there's talk of starting a group in Halifax. Stay tuned.

### MALAHAT WHITE TWIST CLUB

Duncan MacRae, President,  
1450 Lands End Road,  
Sidney, BC, V8L 3X9

Tel: 604-656-6383

### UNTD ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA

David Fry, Secretary  
106A Pembroke Street,  
Toronto, ON, M5A 2N8

Tel: 416-927-8526

### UNTD ASSOCIATION OF OTTAWA

Bob Duncombe, President,  
100 Sunnyside Avenue,  
Ottawa, ON, K1S 0R1

Tel: 613-236-5533

Jul 1 The national day of our country and we didde arrive at Dartmouth which, when I was a cadet, was a small town with a few lakes but is now a vast conglomeration of malls for shopping and other devious matters wherein I saw the emporium of wachie Wheelley whose father I know for many these past years. We didde cross the great bridge and so to the ward room of the Queenes shippe Stadacona. Here we didd find my lords Williamson and his wyfe and commander Ross who was once my commanding officer and bigge al Macleod and his friend Tony Cormier and all did manfully stuff bookes and other delights into bagges for the pleasure of reunion. And all was supervised by Sir Gilbert Hutton. And when all was arranged in the afternoon did the hordes attending the reunion meet at the ward room and did greet and eat of stickie bunnies and partake of liquid refreshment and so to our inn under the signe of Lord Nelson and so to bed.

Jul 2 Up betimes and to the panne cake house for brakefast and then briefly about the olde east coast town and then to the ward room of Stadacona to prepare for a grate luncheon of the reunion wherein we solde neckties and bookes of cadetly anecdotes. After the luncheon didde was all repair to the museum wch once was the admirals house and then didde our scribbler and our filme maker present their recordes to the museum for the edification of posteritie. Back then to the cite and a visite to the gallerie of arts. Of the evening to the playe house wherin we didde see amazing things done by jollie prussians and the musick of the baggepipe and the sailors with their ancient gunnes which methinks may be necessarie to our defense if our leaders do cancel the neue helicopters. And when the tattoo was done to our immense satisfaction, then to the RA park for drinke and so to bed.

Jul 3 Up much betimes and a swift brakefast of panne cakes and then by a busse to the Queenes shippe Iroquois which be the namesake to a shippe in whiche I once didde serve. And when we all hadde repaired on board and hadde our photos

taken, did the grate shippe slip and proceed to the broad Atlantick which was calm as a mill pond to the undoubted relief of many. The sailors did divide our group of two hundred into small parties wherein we didde visit all places in the shippe and all were most pleased and impressed by the shippe and her crew and after the visits did the crew bring forth their barbycue and didde treat us to hamburgs and beere. There being a lacke of berthes due to a visit of Muscovites, we did leave the shippe at Shearwater and to our various inns and colleges by busse. In the evening did we repair to the centre of convention for a vast and tasty banquet which was preceded by an appeal to the Almighty ably made by the Reverend Wallace and was followed by an equally strong appeal to the supporters of the naval Service by Admiral Mason and then all did dance to master Alphonse and his bigge band and so home to bed.

However, my wyfe and I not being of the teatotal view, we can reporte that the cry of Upp Spirits was unanimously supported and followed by a fine feaste in the college hall. Then didde some return to their homes while others did disport themselves in Halifax and meet olde friends and the like and so the daye didde end and so to bed.

Jul 5 Up betimes and to a grate busse for a trip to the fair town of Chester. We didde stop in Peggys cove to admire the sights whereupon a poore american man fell downe of an heart attack and our surgeons of whom we hadde several, did try to revive him but alas to no avail. Then did we jounie on to Chester where master Congers Baker had arranged a fine repast which was followed by a learned discourse on naval historie given by admiral Piers who didde command the Kings shippe Restigouche some fifty-two



HMCS "IROQUOIS" alongside at "SHEARWATER"

Jul 4 This morn, being the sabbeth day, did those of our number who be of religious leanings attend holy service at the Kings chapel in the universitie. Since my wyfe and I are notorious unbelievers, you must read of this service from the pen of Sir Gilbert which you will finde herein.

years since and so did the grate Reunion end and all went their ways being quite satisfied and hoping for yet another such five yeares hence.

The Ende

### **BOB WILLIAMSON IMMORTALIZES UNTD CADETS**

Yes, our old friend, the former Cadet, former CO of "STAR" and author extraordinary, now tells ALL!

"SPINDRIFT" or otherwise "UN-TiDy Tales of Officer Cadets" should be compulsory reading for all aspiring Naval Officers - far better value, I should say, than "Do you read Time magazine" which used to be the standard question put to university graduates hoping to be Acting Sub-Lieutenants.

All anecdotes found in this book come from distinguished members of the Service, the professions and business. They wouldn't tell lies, would they?

And you can have your own copy for a mere \$ 17 by writing to:

Robert J. Williamson,  
1 Clonmore Avenue,  
Hamilton, ON, L9A 4R2  
Tel: (905) 383-6084

### **OUR BOOK REVIEW DEPARTMENT**

Vanwell Publishing, seemingly Canada's leading publisher of Naval lore, presents two fine tomes for the Christmas Book Season.

Marc Milner and Ken Macpherson have come up with the ultimate book on corvettes 'CORVETTES OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY 1939 - 1945'. There is nothing about corvettes that is not contained herein.

John Harbron hits the stands this month with "THE LONGEST BATTLE - THE RCN IN THE ATLANTIC 1939-1945" The first picture history of the Battle.

Both books are available from your bookstore or:

Vanwell Publishing Limited,  
Box 2131, 1 Northrup Cresc.  
St. Catharines, ON, L2M 6P5  
Tel: (905) 937-3100

### **HABERDASHERY FOR THE WELL-DRESSED UNTD**

Al Boothe, proprietor of Muir Cap & Regalia Limited, is once again offering UNTD pins (to be casually sported in your button hole, proving to the world that you're a gentleman, scholar and former naval officer). A mere \$ 3.70 (+ the usual taxes) will secure you such a button. You may write or phone the number below and Mr. Boothe will be pleased to look after your requirements. He will also offer UNTD ties at \$ 20 made of the finest acrylic, and cunningly-executed blazer badges for only \$ 30.

We believe that Mr. Boothe himself may attend the Annual Mess Dinner, there to offer his wares.

Muir Cap & Regalia Ltd.  
777 Warden Ave., Unit 14,  
Scarborough, ON, M1L 4C3  
Tel: (416) 757-2815

## **NOTICE**

### **TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNTD ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA**

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Boardroom, HMCS "YORK", 659 Lakeshore Boulevard West, Toronto, ON, on Saturday, November 20, 1993 at the hour of 1700 for the purposes of:

- approving the financial statement of the Association;
- electing such Directors of the Association as the by-laws of the Association may require;
- dealing with such other business as may arise;

Given at Toronto this 31st day of October, 1993.

David Fry  
*Secretary*

### **UNTD CRESTS TO DECORATE YOUR HOME OR OFFICE**

LT Bob Maveety informs us that he can supply full-colour UNTD crests mounted on red oak shields for a mere \$ 45 plus taxes and delivery. These are the same crests that your association presented to HMCS "IROQUOIS" and RADM Piers last summer. You can have one too by writing to Bob at the address below. By the way, he has crests for 95 other RCN ships together with inspirational items such as "Remember well your Oath of Allegiance . . ."

With such crests and a minimum of money, you could make your rumpus room look like the bar at the Naval Club. An order form is enclosed.

Maveety's Custom Crests  
5 Hill Road,  
Arnprior, ON, K7S 3E8  
Tel\* (613) 623-4800