The Atlantic Chief and Petty Officer's Association Newsletter

Dedicated to providing relevant information to the membership. Published monthly and distributed to all members and subscribers.

Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Association or its members.

Articles appearing in the Newsletter may be reprinted provided appropriate credit is given.

ACPOA
PO Box 3533 DEPS
Dartmouth, NS B2W 5G4
Phone (902) 420-0370
FAX (902) 420-0606
E-mail acpoa@eastlink.ca

ACPOA Executive
President:  J. Gaylord Kingston
1st Vice President:  Ken Maybury
2nd Vice President:  Dennis May
Secretary:  Jim Cummings
Treasurer:  Cathy Belanger
Padre:  The Reverend Patricia Main
Phone:  435 4221
Service Officer:  Hank Einarson
Phone 435 6681
Editor:  J. Gaylord Kingston
E-mail: gaylordk@yahoo.com
Production:  Jennifer Stone
E-mail: jennstone@accesswave.ca
Printing:  J&S Print and Design
Phone 468-5558
Distribution:  Precision Direct Marketing
Phone 468-7241
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From the President

By J. Gaylord Kingston

We experienced our first taste of winter weather, which cancelled our January General Meeting. There were a few souls who were lured outside to the Mess before the tempest hit us. Notably was our Guest Speaker, Admiral Murray who had travelled from Hubbards to attend the meeting. The admiral has consented to be our speaker at the February, which in his position as the President of the Navy League will be most enlightening.

The 2011 dues are coming in at a good rate, but I remind you that laxity will have its price, as C and A will be suspended for those in arrears (and you might get a nasty letter from the Pres.).

The Entertainment Chairman, Vince Carr, has informed me that he is planning a Spring get-together, possibly at a local Legion. You will be informed as to the details in the near future.

Speaking of the future, I would remind you of our opportunity to attend the 2011 Tattoo as a group. It would mean a good deal in the saving on the ticket price as well as excellent seating (in the upper seats of the Lower Bowl ...few stairs). We will take names as an intended presence, without obligation, so as to give us an idea as to the proposed attendance starting in March. We should have a working number by the end of March so as to obtain our preferred seating, so you are requested to respond as soon as possible.

...continued on page 2
Camp Hill Veterans Memorial Building  
5955 Veteran’s Memorial Lane, 
Halifax, NS, B3H 2E1

3rd Floor West  
G. Jamieson - 3223  
Ernest Finter - 4128

4th Floor East  
Jack McMahon - 4427  
Thomas Gilford - 4227

4th Floor West  
Bernard Churchill - 4231  
Alfred Tremblay - 4122

5th Floor East  
Charlie Hall - 5421  
John Duncan - 5435

5th Floor West  
Bennett Barrett - 5126  
John Lipton - 5130

6th Floor West  
Frank Hansen - 6127  
Gordon Tomlinson - 6124  
Reginald Pitts - 6120

6th Floor East  
Thelma Carmichael - 6527  
Orville Murray - 6528  
Thomas Tonks - 6429  
Ernie Thompson - 6427  
Thelma Carmichael - 6527

Ocean View Manor, 1909 Caldwell Road  
Eastern Passage NS  B3G 1M4  
Fernand (Pedro) Guinard (902) 406 6056

Soldiers Memorial Hospital, Middleton NS B0S 1P0  
Harold Jackson  Rm. 263  
Curtis McKinnon  Rm. 262

Fishermen’s Memorial, Lunenburg NS B0J 2C0  
Clayton Reinhardt  John James Kinley  
Leo Ouellette  George Robertson

Oakwood Terrace  
10 Mount Hope Ave. Dartmouth NS B2Y 4K1  
Joseph Hecimovich - Home Phone - (902) 434 5558

High Crest Nursing Home  
11 Sproule St. Springhill NS B0M 1X0  
Victor Vincent Ward - (902) 597 2797

Sunnybrook Veteran’s Hospital, K2C23  
2075 Bayview Ave. Toronto ON M4N 3M5  
James (Tug) Wilson - (416) 488 8550

Santa Monica Health Care Centre  
1320 20th Street, Santa Monica CA. 90404  
Hugh McDevitt - (310) 829 4301

Maplestone Enhanced Care, 245 Main Ave. Halifax  
Bill Comeau - (902) 443 401

At Home  
Larry Truelove - Milton NS - (902) 354 2901  
Iris Johnson - (902) 443 7683  
Kenneth Peach - (780) 727-2747  
Bill Skeffington - (902) 435 3292

From the President  
. . . continued from page 1

For a full review on the question of ‘Royal’ designation for the Navy and the Air Force, go to: rcn-rcaf.blogspot.com/2010/09/minister-of-defence-tells-me.htm

In response to a request, any further news of a Centennial Medal has apparently died without official notice

Quote of the Month: “Years teach us more than books do.”
MEMBERSHIP REPORT  
Membership Chairman: Ray Harvie (902) 462 7633  
E-Mail: r.harvie.home@eastlink.ca  

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS  
Total Membership – 701  

NEW MEMBERS  
No New Members  

RE-ENGAGED MEMBERS  
0 Re-Engaged Members  

Membership dues are $25 per year  

For though from out our bourn of time and place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.  
Alfred, Lord Tennyson  

SUBMARINERS’ ASSOCIATION OF CANADA  
For information contact:  
East (Halifax)—Buster Brown at 902 477-9148  
http://www.saceast.com  
Last Wednesday of every month  
in Halifax Dockyard in the MOG-5 Messes  
Central (Ottawa)—Bob Wallace, 819 994-4931  
http://www.saoc-central.com  
West (Victoria)—Jim Scott, 250 370-2359  
http://members.shaw.ca/saocwest  

Naval Weapons Association (Ottawa Chapter)  
Meet: Third Wednesday of the Month HMCS Carleton  
Chief’s & PO’s/ WO’s & Sgt’s Mess Dows Lake  
79 Prince of Wales Drive Ottawa  
President: Ron Robertson  
Vice President: Ross Raymond  
For Information Contact:  
Hazen Harris 613-738-2880, OR  
Ross Raymond 613-834-0105  
ross.raymond@forces.gc.ca  

NB Naval Association  
President: Claude Smith - 506 633 0655  
Secretary: Terence M. Dexter - 506 357 8158  

ADIMIRAL DESMOND PIERS NAVAL ASSOCIATION  
(A Branch of the RCNA)  
Secretary/Memberships – Martin Field  
Phone: 1-(902) 527-2660  
E-mail: adpna@bwr.eastlink.ca  
Mail: ADPNA  
450 LaHave St., Unit 17, Suite 121  
Bridgewater, Nova Scotia B4V 4A3  

RCN BENEVOLENT FUND  
East 1-902-423-8561  Central 1-888-557-8777  
West 1-250-383-6264  

RCNA PEREGRINE BRANCH  
2623 Agricola St., Halifax, 454-4385  
Open to Veterans & Members  
Bar hours 1300 to 1900 or later  

CANADIAN NAVAL AIR GROUP  
Shearwater C&POs Mess 1st Sunday each month  

LAST POST  
THE FOLLOWING SHIPMATES CROSSED THE BAR RECENTLY  

George MacIntyre 95 C1CK  
Victoria, BC 19 08 10  

Stirling Grant 84 CIMA  
Woodstock, NB 30 10 10  

Hugh MacDevitt 87 POQR  
Los Angeles, CA, US of A 03 01 11  

Robert Wibberley 80 C1FC  
Dartmouth, NS 06 01 11  

For though from out our bourn of time and place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.  
Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Not many organizations nor service branches have 3 brothers serving at the same time in their careers. Our Association is proud to present this article as a tribute to 3 of our members who are distinguished by their sense of duty and accomplishments… the Three Amigos.

All three Marsh brothers, Ron, Don and Bruce were born in Halifax, N.S. during the depression years (1930’s). With the advent of war (WWII) the family was sent inland by the patriarch, Alfred N. Marsh, to Lambeth, Ont (suburb of London) to seek refuge from the unknown (German wolfpack was one of the threats I recall being told by dad). As young school age boys, life was ideal for the newfound farm boys. All spoke fondly of the fantastic childhood and teen years they had in rural Ontario. However as time moves on, a career choice is inevitable. It was post WWII and the Korean conflict was beginning. Btw, the Marsh family has a well documented military history, with representation in WWI and II. Long story short, the Marsh brothers made the Navy their lifelong careers.

DONALD JAMES MARSH

In 1949, at the age of 18, Don broke first from the nest and joined the RCN at HMCS Prevost. After completing NET (New Entry Training) he was posted to the West Coast as a seaman (OSTR) in Apr 1950 onboard the training cruiser HMCS Ontario. The Korean War broke 25 June, 1950 and shortly afterwards three Canadian destroyers, HMCS Cayuga, HMCS Athabaskan, and HMCS Sioux sailed out of Esquimalt harbour for Korean waters on 12 July 1950 to serve under United Nations Command. OS Don Marsh sailed onboard Athabaskan, which came under the Commonwealth commitment to the UN under FO2 FES Rear Adm Scott Montcrief. Don recalled that they put all the OSTR’s in formation on the jetty, broke them up into 3 groups and that was how he ended up on Athabaskan. Returning to Esquimalt in June 1951, Don was drafted in July of 1951 to Halifax to the L school to become an Electrician. Some might say the stars and the moon aligned for him at that time and he was soon drafted to HMCA Nootka in Aug 1951 to become a Signalman. Nootka sailed for Korea under Cdr “Stainless” Steele and formed up with the Nato fleet to become part of the trainbusters club. One daring episode Don recalled was the sailing up river to Wan San harbour under the cover of darkness at action stations - with the USS Fastkey and the HMAS Warmonger. Once inside the harbour, Nootka brought A&B and X&Y guns to bear on the munition dumps and marshalling yards. The Nato ships lit up the place and a quick escaped followed with black smokescreen billowing to confuse the North Koreans. Another wartime memory was as a member of the boarding party. Don went ashore in the motor cutter as the comm number and, although they were unopposed at the time, they came upon an old man in a hut who had a bullet in his head. That was an eye opener. Don enjoyed his third deployment to Korea on Haida in 1953/54, where several good stories occurred, some of which will have to come from him personally. Don was drafted to HMCS MicMac in 1955 and in the years to follow he enjoyed the many jobs of progression in the Signalman trade on the cadilacs and 280’s. Squadron Yeoman D1 staff was among his favorites.

RONALD THOMAS MARSH

Approximately one year after Don surprised the family and joined the
RCN, Ron followed suit. Being 15 min older than Don, usually meant that Ron did things first (or so he used to say). This time around Don beat Ron to the punch. In the Spring of 1951 Ron gave up his job at Wishing Well pop and signed up at HMCS Prevost. Upon completion of NET at CFB Cornwallis, Ron was sent to the Fleet School in Halifax for his initial Radio Operator training and drafted to HMCS Nootka July 1951. Nootka sailed for Korea 31 Dec 1951 and returned 18 Dec 1952. In 1953 Ron was promoted to LS, drafted to HMCS Haida and sailed for the second time to Korea on 14 Dec 1953 -- returning to Halifax on 1 Nov 1954. In 1956 PO2 Ron Marsh was drafted to the first of the new “cadillacs” HMCS St. Laurent and for the next 18 months they sailed the world showing it off. In 1963 Ron commissioned HMCS Provider and became the new PO Tél onboard. One of his fondest memories came from a Christmas duty watch at Albro Lake radio station in Dec 1965. Traffic was very slow that day and he decided to scan through the lower bands. He detected a very faint signal and as it turned out, an old tramp steamer a way down in the South Atlantic had been trying for days to reach Whitehall (or anyone out there) with no luck for days and days. Ron made contact with them and to their great relief had them pass their traffic. Ron had a reputation in the trade and the fleet as a top notch radio operator all throughout his career. He was promoted to CPO2 in 1966 and to CPO1 in 1975. One of his favourite drafts was Base Chief of Mill Cove (1978-80).

**BRUCE MURRAY MARSH**

Bruce joined the RCN in 1953 as a gunner. He was scheduled to go to Korea but an injury forced him ashore and he never went. This haunted Bruce for many years afterwards. Once mended his first ship was HMCS Magnificent. Bruce served on several of the cadillacs and the 280’s throughout the 1960’s/70’s eventually falling into the Weapons Surface trade. He was noted for being an extremely good seaman and weapons technician. “Swampy” was also noted for his prowess with his dukes and had many a run in over the years, normally coming out on top. This played a role with him not progressing further in rank. Bruce was often the PMC of the hands mess and he ruled with an iron fist. Ships senior staff always knew they could depend on Swampy to keep the troops in line. During the early 70’s, Bruce fondly recalled being the Cox’n of the HMCS Iroquois’ boat team, where they won the Cock of the Walk soundly thrashing all other rivals. Ed Tracy relives this tale in a tribute song he later wrote for Bruce as it speaks of how proud the CO and ships company were of that team. Ask Ed to play it sometime when you run across him. Bruce retired as a Master Seaman in 1978 and a couple years later followed his brothers into the Reserves as a PO2, where he worked with the NS Tattoo. When he retired outright from the military, Bruce went on to work at NAD Dartmouth with the Commissionaire Corp for many years. An ace dart and card player, Swampy could often be found at the various local watering holes plying his trade or entertaining the patrons with his Irish brogue. His love of Al Jolson was well known by any that had the pleasure of being in his company when the band struck up.

**POST NAVAL YEARS**

Ron and Don both retired from the military in 1986, after serving 5 years as Class B Reservists at the Fleet School. They were founding members of the Atlantic Chiefs & PO’s Association, where they served in various capacities on the executive. They were also members in good standing with the South Shore Naval Association (renamed Adm Deby Piers Naval Association).

Ron was a longtime member of the Centennial Branch Legion in Dartmouth from the 1980’s up until his passing in 2007. Bruce Marsh also served in the Reserves, after retiring from the Navy in 1978, until 1982.

Ron & Don both built their own cottages during the late 1960’s at Cockscob Lake in Mount Uniacke, NS. During the 1970’s they founded the Cockscob Lake Association and both served many years on the executive. It was often said by various cottage owners that things would never have progressed the way they did around the lake community had it not been for the military know how and the influences they brought with them. One of the finer achievements all three Marsh brothers were involved with was the blazing of the trail for the eventual road that was put in at Cockscob Lake. That and the many other social events they helped organize and run – annual family day picnic, annual corn boil and the many legendary bonfires they presided over attracted full houses from the camps on the lake.

They also built a hunting and fishing camp on Sandy Gunn Lake at Black Brook, Pictou County, NS with a few of their friends. Over the years the community evolved into what is now known today amongst the locals as Hooterville. Ron, Don & Bruce were active fishers and hunters all the days of their lives and welcomed a good many of their Naval buddies and friends to...
their camp over the years, which was known as the Gunn Lake Rod & Gun Club. To the locals however, it was always known as the Sailors Camp, and still is today. Good times and nothing but true stories were ever told there. In 2005, Don spearheaded a music festival at the site which went over extremely well with all concerned and it became known as “donstock”. It continues today and in summer 2011 donstock # 6 will take place.

Proud men of the RCN, loyal monarchists, love of country and guys that could be counted on is how they would like to be remembered...the three amigos.

Bruce Marsh passed away on December 6, 2003
Ron Marsh passed away on November 18, 2007
Don Marsh continues on, the last of 11 children to Alfred & Laura Marsh

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**Survey and study on Cancer and Mortality within the CAF**

*This request is from Service Officer Jim Scott*

As you probably are aware Dr Maureen Carew (Ottawa) has been commissioned to carry out a survey and study on Cancer and Mortality within the CAF. Unfortunately this study covers only 1972 -1992. Apparently this is where their data base starts. I have been in contact with Dr Carew in the past few weeks and made my feelings clear that the people who commissioned her to undertake the study are missing a whole generation of sevicemen prior to 1972. She totally agrees but her hands are tied.

Dr Carew has as I understand has been allowed to take the required info prior to 1972 and link it to the official study thereby making the study that much more complete and deeper.

In Esq I have in the past five days received 105 names and I know a lot more that are coming in to my desk and that is just from the blurb in Decembers bulletin.

I would request of you as I have requested Ottawa area to put the following in your next bulletin and maybe also remind the members at your next general meeting.

Name.
Time served (e.g 44-64).
Date of diagnosis.
Type of cancer.
Trade, and make a note if they served in diesel submarines.

The info will forwarded to Dr Carew in the spring. I do not know what the outcome will be but for years we have been asking for such a study so at least someone has listened

Participants may contact me at J.Scott39@shaw.ca or C/O CPO’s Assoc Esq, 618 Admirals Road Esquimalt, BC, V9A2N7 or phone Assoc office 250-382-2415 before noon PST. and leave the info with duty reception.

Please note the participants can be any branch of the forces and the wider the distribution the better the survey.

I have contacted the East Coast Sunmarine Assoc with a similar message.

Yours in Service to All
James M Scott
Service Officer, CPO Assoc Esquimalt
Honour Roll of Age  Happy Birthday To All Concerned - February, 2011

Members 85 years old and over will have an honourable place in the Golden Memories article.

Corrections for January 2011:
Harold Moody 92 lives in Clementsport, NS
John W. MacDonald 72 lives in Halifax, NS

Eric Ayres 57 Dartmouth, NS 03-11
Colin Bishop 80 Elliot Lake, ON 01-11
Yvon Brunet 76 Stellwater Lake, NS 19-11
Alan Burroughsford 77 Lower Sackville, NS 01-11
Bernard Cassidy 82 Halifax, NS 07-11
George Crawley 80 Dartmouth, NS 28-11
James Cummings 72 Halifax, NS 28-11
William Degen 83 Dartmouth, NS 04-11
Peter Doherty 72 Lakefield, ON 06-11
William Dutchak 83 Halifax, NS 14-11
William Gillespie 78 Dartmouth, NBS 15-11
William Giroux 84 Windsor, ON 19-11

Phillip Godfrey 73 Kingston, NB 12-11
Leith Graham 76 Dartmouth, NS 22-11
Robert Haddow 74 Dartmouth, NS 27-11
Richard Halliday 75 Bridgewater, NS 21-11
Robert Hamilton 71 Mahone Bay, NS 06-11
Patrick Hanlon 71 Frankville, NS 06-11
Fred Harris 81 Elliot Lake, ON 11-11
Derrick Joffre 63 Shelburne, NS 26-11
Brython Jones 84 Battersea, ON 13—11
John Keresan 79 Mission, BC 12-11
Richard Kidd 79 Halifax, NS 05-11
Ronald Knapman 82 Halifax, NS 28-11
Gerard Lacroix 61 Dartmouth, NS 01-11
Albert Lothian 63 Eastern Passage, NS 28-11
Dan MacDonald 82 Fall River, NS 03-11
Jean-Pierre Martinello 48 Middle Sackville, NS 22-11

Vincent Maxwell 82 Coldbrook, NS 19-11
James McCallough 81 Lower Sackville, NS 06-11
Warren Noble 45 Saskatoon, SK 04-11
Jacques Noel 53 Eastern Passage, NS 02-11
Bonita Russell 64 Mount Uniacke, NS 13-11
Jean Santerre 73 Dartmouth, NS 07-11
Jonathan Seaward 75 Mount Uniacke, NS 24-11
Barry Smith 79 Stokkay Bay, ON 12-11
Mary Jane Smith 70 Dartmouth, NS 21-11
Colin Tanner 67 Dartmouth, NS 10-11
James Tracy 77 Dartmouth, NS 08-11
Stewart Trentowsky 79 St. John, NB 27-11
Jil Trousse 76 Dartmouth, NS 27-11
David Van Valkenburg 65 Centreville, NS 09-11

(These figures are taken from application forms when submitted. Discrepancies are to be forwarded to gaylordk@yahoo.com or the office 1 902 420 0370)

Golden Memories

Russell Rose
St. John’s, NL
95 Years Young
February 11 2011

Cecil Cruickshank
Falmouth, NS
88 Years Young
February 25 2011

Cecil Noakes
Belleville, ON
92 Years Young
February 07 2011

Leo McTaggart
Dartmouth, NS
87 Years Young
February 17 2011

Albert Clements
Dartmouth, NS
91 Years Young
February 16 2011

Dorothy Vokey
Dorval, QC
87 Years Young
February 20 2011

Joseph Perdue
Etobicoke, ON
90 Years Young
February 05 2011

Edward Smith
Fort MacLeod, AB
86 Years Young
February 26 2011

Walter Weston
London, ON
90 Years Young
February 18 2011

Ray and Lillian Harvie
Dartmouth, NS
55 Years of Wedded Bliss
February 4 2011

Johnston McMahon
Halifax, NS
88 Years Young
February 02 2011

Days of Yore

February 10, 1942:
HMCS Spikenard . torpedoed . 57 lost

February 6, 1943:
HMCS Louisburg . aircraft raid . 38 lost

February 22, 1943:
HMCS Weyburn . mined . 7 lost

February 14, 1945:
MTBs 459 . 461 . 462 . 465 . 466 . fire . 28 lost

February 23, 1893:
Montreal AAA awarded 1st. Stanley Cup (amateur play)

February 15, 1965:
Maple Leaf flag flies for the first time. Terra Nova in Ireland

February 1, 1968:
Unification of Canada’s armed forces

Prayer for Grandpa
Dear God, please send clothes for all those poor ladies on grandpa’s computer.
Amen
Promotions

February 1959

Farmer, William L .......... P1AW
Hamilton, Alexander R ...... P2PW
Keeling, Gordon E .......... P2AW
O’Sullivan, Paul C .......... LSQM
Robinson, William J ........ C2OT
Walsh, William J .......... P1PW