The next General Meeting will be held June 13, 2010, at 10:00 in the Mess. Visit our web-site at http://www.acpoa.ca

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 Malin,
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
Mailed under Canada Post Publication Mail Sales Agreement No. 40040556

Our Guest Speaker will be Commander Josee Kurtz,
Commanding Officer of HMCS Halifax re: Haiti deployment.
Summer Dress is in order, if available.
THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST 2010.

From the President

By J. Gaylord Kingston

There are a few things to discuss this issue that are of an immediate nature.
We are privileged to have the Commanding Officer of HMCS Halifax, Commander Josee Kurtz, as our Guest Speaker for the June General Meeting. I have heard her presentation on her ship’s role in Haiti and you will find it very interesting and enlightening. The Captain will entertain any questions that you may have on the ship’s participation or the country of Haiti as a whole.

Our Reunion 2010 is drawing ever nearer and we will have a larger than expected turnout as our members are coming from all across Canada, the US of A and England. The schedule of events, as we are able to put out at this time is to be found in this issue. The demand for the Tattoo tickets has also been beyond expectations and we anticipate in excess of 300 persons to attend as a group. We have reserved very good seats for all and we are making allowance for those of us who require seating with few steps to descend. We will have in excess of 200 persons attending the Reunion 2010 itself.

Summer dress, white short-sleeved shirt with ribbons and anchors, is optional for the June General Meeting and the Tattoo. Association dress will be worn for the dedication of our Warship Memorial, the Dinner / Dance and the Church Service.
We will issue a final communiqué for final details prior to the Reunion 2010.

Word of apology: In the photo of the ladies of VMH, Ruth Cassidy was named as Ruth Boutin. Our apologies to both lovely ladies

Quote of the Month:
“Exemption from mistake is not the privilege of mortals; but when our mistakes are involuntary, we owe each other every candid consideration; and the person who, on discovering their errors, acknowledges and corrects them, is scarcely less entitled to our esteem than if they had not erred.”
# Sick & Visiting Committee Report

**Chair – Albert Bishop (902) 469-2829**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Doc Halliday Télé</td>
<td>(902) 685-2342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FAX 685-3452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishermans Memorial</td>
<td>Maurice Legault</td>
<td>(902) 527 2912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liverpool</td>
<td>Larry Truelove</td>
<td>(902) 354-2901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictou</td>
<td>Paul Freeman</td>
<td>(902) 485-8370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelburne,</td>
<td>Fred Molyneau</td>
<td>(902) 875-4271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truro</td>
<td>Joe Fillion</td>
<td>(902) 662-2459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annapolis Royal</td>
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<tr>
<td>and Valley</td>
<td>Doug Moore</td>
<td>(902) 638-8700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springhill &amp; Area</td>
<td>Richard McCormick</td>
<td>(902) 597-2090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>Gerry White</td>
<td>(902) 742-6888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windsor &amp; Area</td>
<td>Spike Sullivan &amp; the Missus</td>
<td>(902) 798-3580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middleton</td>
<td>George Thomson</td>
<td>(902) 847-3308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John’s, NF</td>
<td>Ron Coles</td>
<td>(709) 834-4751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlottetown, PEI</td>
<td>Hari Boggs</td>
<td>(902) 368-2248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petit de Grat &amp; Isle Madam</td>
<td>Robbie Roberts</td>
<td>226-3476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moncton, NB</td>
<td>Carl (Pete) Petersen</td>
<td>(506) 384-8984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fredericton, NB</td>
<td>Rev. Reg Miller</td>
<td>(506) 457-1118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec Area</td>
<td>Frank Cholette</td>
<td>(450) 699 6770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>Frank Cholette</td>
<td>(450) 699 6770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ottawa, ON</td>
<td>P.J. (Peter) Wilkins</td>
<td>(613) 832-3761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brockville &amp; Area</td>
<td>Rev. Paul Gordon</td>
<td>(613) 865 8378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etobicoke, ON</td>
<td>Alan Leslie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingston, ON</td>
<td>Carmen Smith</td>
<td>(613) 376-6791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omemee, ON</td>
<td>George ‘Josh’ Warner</td>
<td>(705) 799-2863</td>
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### Camp Hill Veterans Memorial Building

5955 Veteran’s Memorial Lane,
Halifax, NS, B3H 2E1

- **3rd Floor West**
  - G. Jamieson - 3223
  - John Kehoe - 3235
- **4th Floor East**
  - Norman Ford - 4523
  - Cornelius Sampson - 4433
  - Lewis Hue - 4525
  - Jack McMahon - 4427
- **4th Floor West**
  - Bernard Churchill - 4231
  - Ernest Finter - 4128
- **5th Floor East**
  - Charlie Hall - 5421
  - John Duncan - 5435
- **5th Floor West**
  - Bennett Barrett - 5126

### 6th Floor West

- Frank Hansen - 6127
- Gordon Tomlinson - 6235
- Reginald Pitts - 6120

### 6th Floor East

- Lesley Henderson - 6524
- Thomas Tonks - 6429
- Thelma Carmichael - 6527
- Ernie Thompson - 6427

### Ocean View Manor, 1909 Caldwell Road

**Eastern Passage NS B3G 1M4**

- Fernand (Pedro) Guinard (902) 406 6056
- Bob Wibberley (902) 466 5864

### Soldiers Memorial Hospital, Middleton NS B0S 1P0

- Charlie Boutilier, Army/Navy, Room - 266

### Fishermen’s Memorial, Lunenburg NS B0J 2C0

- Edwin MacKinley
- Leo Ouellette
- Clayton Reinhardt
- Harold Lohnes

### Windsor Elms, 590 King Street, Windsor NS B0N 2T0

- Alice Sullivan - Wife of Spike Sullivan (902) 798 3580

### Sunnybrook Hospital, 2075 Bayview Ave. Toronto ON M4N 3M5

- James (Tug) Wilson - (416) 488 8550

### At Home

- Doug Hughes (902) 895 3744 (wdnshute@eastlinkl.ca)
- Iris Johnson (902) 443 7683
- Victor Vincent Ward (902) 597 8161
LAST POST
THE FOLLOWING SHIPMATES CROSSED THE BAR RECENTLY

Angus ‘Gus’ Neiforth 72 P1ST
Enfield, NS 05 04 10

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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Membership Chairman: Ray Harvie (902) 462 7633
E-Mail: r.harvie.home@eastlink.ca

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS
Total Membership – 733

NEW MEMBERS
Gerry Pattenden P01 Kingston, ON.

RE-ENGAGED MEMBERS
Sam Emmons P01 Bridgewater, NS

Membership dues are $25 per year

SUBMARINERS’ ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
For information contact:
East (Halifax)—Buster Brown at 902 477-9148
http://www.sacoeast.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

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

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
Feature of the Month

Death of a Soldier

While we see the somber ceremony undertaken at the airfield when one of our fallen warriors is to be returned home, we feel that this poignant article gives a tragic sense of realism to the circumstance.

Until recently, Joe Curry was a PC riding president in Toronto Centre. A few weeks ago his unit was deployed to Kandahar. On Wednesday he sent this poignant email concerning the most recent death of a Canadian soldier. Joe has an incredible gift for capturing and describing an event.

This morning, the most sobering event in my life took place as we said goodbye to Petty Officer Blake on the tarmac of Kandahar Air Field.

I did not know him. He arrived here just about a week before I did, as part of the same rotation (roto 9). While we came here prepared to face tragedy, it does not subtract from the sheer sobering reality you face as you stand here holding your salute with a thousand brothers-in-arms as one of our fallen begins his final journey home.

I had a sinking feeling in my stomach the other night as I realized first that the internet was not working, then my cell phone. I went to the trailer filled with small booths, each containing a phone, provided for us to call home. No dial tone. Comms lockdown! We lost someone I realized. (This, as you know, is done until the next-of-kin are notified). As I walked back to my tent I overheard a civilian contractor complaining to his friend that he couldn’t get online to book his vacation which he plans to take in September. They don’t know. In the morning, the maple leaf over Old Canada House flew at half mast.

Later in the day (being called upon to assist with the Viewing and Ramp Ceremony) I stood in the mortuary adjacent to the runway where the bodies of Canadian, American and British sons and daughters are lovingly prepared to begin their journey home. In a place where one can seemingly never escape the dust and putrid odour which hangs in the air, this room is cold and sterile. I never want to come here again. A small ante room off the side contains a large table where the flags to cover the transfer cases are meticulously pressed and prepared. Off to the side hang several flags which have been rejected due to small imperfections. “See here?” Sgt Mullen points to where a small portion of red dye has run over into the white part of the flag (only noticeable upon close inspection). “Would you want that for your child? No one would.” She answers herself. “You can take one if you like, we have to burn them and I don’t like to burn a Canadian flag if I don’t have to.” I decline.

The Military Police then arrived to break the seal on the refrigerator so we could move his body to the Afghan War Memorial for the Viewing. Nestled in the Task Force Kandahar compound, the memorial is a beautiful, peaceful place. Matching white marble walls rise from a base of black marble, which is also used to cap the walls. On these are mounted black marble plaques, each etched with the face of a fallen soldier along with his name and unit. The memorial is shaded by several large drooping trees which resemble willows and add to the serenity of the place. Workers finished polishing the memorial just moments before we placed the flag draped transfer case on it, next to a photograph of PO 2nd Class Blake and his General Campaign Star. I decided not to stay for the viewing - it is a time for those who knew him to grieve together.

I emerged from my tent at 0500 hrs this morning into a thick soup of what can best be described as viscous fog mixed with dust. It is something you may have difficulty imagining. There was a dust storm last night (as we frequently experience) which then mixed with a thick fog. It seemed that the moisture particles bound to the dust particles and kept them afloat. At the end of the ceremony our berets, eyebrows, eyelashes, hair etc. were "frosted" with dust. If one didn’t know better, they would think to see it that we all frozen in place.

This cloud insulated the ramp ceremony, making it almost surreal. No outside sound penetrated. From where I stood at the side of the LAV III from which PO Blake’s body was carried, only the open tail of the Hercules could be seen on the other side of the formed body of Canadian, American, British, Australian, and Slovakian troops - the body of the aircraft vanishing into the cloud. It was quite an insular ceremony. As the boots of a thousand soldiers marched on, I felt privileged to be a part of this national - and international - tribute to a fallen Canadian hero. Yes, there was a swell of emotion as we held the salute to our fallen brother as he made his way feet first onto the aircraft - departing the way he had arrived. I thought of the caution I had received from MCpl Lee before going out onto the tarmac:
“whatever you start to feel out there, 
lock it away. We can’t afford to get 
emotional here; there will be plenty of 
time for that when we get home.”

As I type this now I can feel the cold 
steel of the transfer case, the weight of 
the handle pressing into my palm. We 
have more to carry now: the torch of 
PO Craig Blake. We cannot stop to feel 
the emotion fully yet because his work 
here needs to carry on through us who 
remain.

God rest his soul; and may we never 
forget.
Sincerely,
Joe

Editor’s Note: We would like to 
acknowledge the persons who 
thoughtfully send articles and stories 
for the interest of our readers. Recently Joyce Munroe researched and forwarded the three part article on the Midshipman’s adventures. In the past we have articles and stories from 
many of our members, Jack Hall, 
Cliff Ashton, David Bakody to name 
just a few. For those who did not get 
the proper acknowledgement, please 
forget me. It is my intention to 
correct that fault in future issues of 
the C and A. Please continue to send 
in your offerings, as it would be 
greatly appreciated. It is a bit of a 
chore when one tries to fill up space 
for our newsletter. Also, please submit 
anniversaries and other notable 
occasions well in advance of the date 
concerned.

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Days of Yore

June 25 1940
HMCS Fraser. collision. 47 lost

June 21 1749
Halifax founded

June 24 1880
‘O Canada’ played for the first time

June 6 1944
D Day

June 25 1950
Korean War started

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Promotions

June 1957
Bennett, Robert S. ............ LSQM
Estey, James A. ............ P2EA
Hall, John D ............ C2GI
Hunter, John J ............ P2CV
Rogers, Eugene S ............ P2AC

Golden Memories

John and Nanc Keresman  
Mission, BC  
47 Years of Wedded Bliss  
June 1 2010

James Earle  
Halifax, NS  
91 Years Young  
June 2 2010

Nelson and Joyce Larche  
Burlington, ON  
58 Years of Wedded Bliss  
June 6 2010

Marion Bradley  
Sarnia, ON  
87 Years Young  
June 9 2010

Alex Chalmers  
Halifax, NS  
92 Years Young  
June 9 2010

Alf and Mary Cockburn  
Don Mills, ON  
67 Years of Wedded Bliss  
June 12 2010

Malivina Guthrie  
Moncton, NB  
87 Years Young  
June 10 2010

Ken Guthrie  
Moncton, NB  
90 Years Young  
June 17 2010

John and Dolores Micallef  
Dartmouth, NS  
54 Years of Wedded Bliss  
June 18 2010

Frank Holk  
Dundas, ON  
91 Years Young  
June 18 2010

Marion Schimp  
Truro, NS  
86 Years Young  
June 19 2010

John Neale  
Dundas, ON  
90 Years Young  
June 25 2010

Betty Hodgins  
Nanaimo, BC  
81 Years Young  
June 28 2010

Murray ‘Muzz’ and  
Patricia Lahey  
Dartmouth, NS  
54 Years of Wedded Bliss  
June 9 2010
June 1940
A memory of Jack Hall
Seaman Boy 1st. Class

The attack on HMS Calcutta by two JU 88s was both surprising and alarming. Our AA missed them, but thankfully, their bombs missed us. It was so unlike those high-level bombings we'd experienced during the Norway campaign. There was no intention now of Calcutta entering Dunkirk harbour. Great black fumes from burning ships clotted the skies. The ship then laid off the beaches of Lapanne, probably the largest ship there, amongst dozens of small craft taking soldiers off the beaches.

I was relief bowman on Calcutta's motorboat. On our second trip toward the smoking, littered beaches, we grounded. I got a good soaking pushing her off. Panicky and scared stiff, I was pulled back on board by a laughing soldier. There were no more trips to the beach for me. As I dried off and got into new clothes, the ship made for Sheerness, in Kent, to disembark our large cargo of soldiers, 400-500 reported. It took weeks to rid the mess decks of the stink of wet khaki; but there was a reward . a number of soldiers' canteens were strewn about .. rum filled. Not being entitled to arum ration ( underage), it was my first intro to the Demon. I was sick for days afterwards. At this juncture of the story, I reiterate that I was not responsible for our ship's movements and very few decisions. I just went where I was pushed! ( wheelbarrow). I only repeat what I saw personally.

The ship did not return to Dunkirk. On the 20th. or 21st. we headed for St. Jean de Luz in the Bay of Biscay. We were tasked to retrieve a group of senior allied nation officers, who were stranded in a fallen France. After picking them up, Calcutta left in company with a Canadian destroyer, Fraser or Restigouche. I think that it was decided, in my opinion, to steam into the Gironde Estuary and do a defiant shoot up of shipping.

June 25th, 1940 another disaster! I was lookout on the after bridge. There were a group of officers on the forward port with our Captain and O.O.W. Fraser stood off on our starboard bow. What I witnessed next and what followed has always remained an unhappy memory.

In a maneuver that went wrong, Calcutta knifed into Fraser. You can imagine the uproar that followed and the horror that we all experienced. We later learned that 47 men had been lost on Fraser.

After repairs in Plymouth, Calcutta sailed for the Med. I myself would not see these waters again until D Day in June 1944, taking part in a much more rewarding endeavour.

Note: HMS Calcutta was sunk by bombing off the coast of Africa in May 1941.
My name is Ben Grayson and I’m the Veteran Liaison for the Mesothelioma Center (Asbestos.com); an organization devoted to assisting veterans through their application processes for VA benefits, and helping them obtain the maximum benefits for which they are entitled. While I was browsing through a number of Veterans sites, I came across your website.

Countless veterans are currently suffering from life-threatening illnesses that are a result of exposure to asbestos, a material that was commonly used in hundreds of military applications, products, and ships primarily because of its resistance to fire. Unfortunately, asbestos-related diseases are not always recognized by the VA, which is why I’m reaching out to veterans -- in hopes of helping them win the rights to their benefits.

The Mesothelioma Center provides a complete list of occupations, ships, and shipyards that could have put our Veterans at risk for developing asbestos-related diseases. We have a veterans-specific section on our website in order to help inform them about the dangers of asbestos exposure.

I thought that you may be interested in helping to educate our nation’s veterans about the dangers of asbestos exposure.

Lung-related cancers have been a leading cause of death in our country for decades. Please help us increase awareness of lung-related cancers, including mesothelioma.

Best regards,
Ben Grayson
National Awareness Coordinator & Veteran Liaison
Mesothelioma Center
W: (407)965-5755

Reunion for H.M.C.S. Uganda/Quebec
will be taking place in Moosejaw Sask.
September 09 to 12, 2010
For more information they contact
Fred Bradley, Secretary
Phone 902-569-2257

HMCS Uganda / Quebec Veterans Association
Fee $ 20.00 (2 years)
4 SIGNALS newsletter per year
Fred Bradley-Secretary
30 Pippy Road,
RR#5,
Mount Herbert,
Charlottetown,
PEI.C1A7J8
Email;fwgme@eastlink.ca

HMCS Magnificent Info Requested
In mid-July 1948, HMCS Magnificent went on her first 'shake-down' cruise to Cape Breton. It is said that she went into St.Ann's Bay and into Sydney Harbor and that her crew took part in races and regattas. Any information about that trip would be of great assistance to me as a writer of history.
Thank you for your consideration.
Reunion 2010 Update  . 25 - 5 - 10

While most of our plans are solid, there are a few areas that we are working on in order to have the best possible reunion. If anything drastic should change, we will notify the membership through the mail and the internet. The following is the schedule of events that we hope to accomplish as of this date.

**Wednesday June 30:** registration . Shireff Hall . Dalhousie . 1200-1700

**Thursday July 1:** registration . 0900 – 1200 . 1300 – 1700
tour of Juno Tower ( the Bridge ) . 1200 – 1400
Meet and Greet . 1900 – 2300 . Sheriff Hall
Entertainment at 1930

**Friday July 2:** Dedication of Warship Memorial .1400
Tattoo . 1900 – 2300

**Saturday July 3:** Sackville breakfast . 0900 . 50 men
Tour of Pier 21 . lunch . 1000
Dinner / Dance . Cocktails 1800 . Dinner . 1900

**Sunday July 4:** Church Service . Sailor statue . 1000

We will have transportation arranged for those who will require it as it will be scheduled and on call. It will be for official functions only.

**Code of dress:**
Meet and Greet . informal
Dedication of Memorial . ACPOA dress with medals
Tattoo . summer dress
Dinner / Dress . ACPOA dress with medals
Ladies . informal
Church Service . ACPOA dress with medals

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**For Lovers of Words**

1. Police went to a day care center, a 3 year old was resisting a rest.
2. To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
3. When fish are in a school, they sometimes take debate.
4. A thief who stole a calendar got 12 months.
5. The dead batteries were given out free of charge.
6. A chicken crossing a road; poultry in motion.
7. With her marriage she got a new name and a dress.
8. The guy who fell into an upholstery machine was fully recovered.
9. A lot of money is tainted: t'aint yours, t'aint mine.
10. Those who are too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.