From the President

By J. Gaylord Kingston

We are very pleased that the annual dues for 2011 are arriving in good time. It is such an insignificant amount to send out, that it is easily overlooked for “I’ll do that tomorrow.”

I would ask that submissions for anniversaries, spouses’ birthdays and other events of note be delivered to me well ahead of the date. We have a file that we now maintain in monthly order.

It was very gratifying to see a good turnout of our members for the memorial service for Greta Bishop, Albert’s wife. She was a lady who contributed her time to the Association and our veterans. On a similar note; although we do not normally include the Officer rank in our Last Post, there are exceptions that should be noted. One is Captain (N) (Retd.) Hal Davies. He was a valuable supporter of our Association and a great sailor.

Our elections are approaching in April and we are looking for some “new blood” for our Executive and the Board of Directors. I am available to anyone who may be interested in the continuing success of the Association. It takes very little and effort to be a part of the team that is essential to our well being. Please don’t take the attitude that “well, the people that are there are doing a good job,” which doesn’t wash when you consider the amount of time that the present group have been on the job (and continue to do so).

Last month’s Feature on the Marsh brothers was compiled and submitted by Stephen Marsh, son of Ron. This month’s article on the Halls was created by Jim Hall, Nobby’s brother.

Quote of the Month: “A yawn is an opinion openly expressed.”
Sick & Visiting Committee Report
Chair – Albert Bishop (902) 469-2829

Bridgewater       Doc Halliday Téle  (902) 685-2342
                  FAX 685-3452
Fishermans Memorial  Maurice Legault   (902) 527 2912
Liverpool       Larry Truelove      (902) 354-2901
Shelburne,         Fred Molyneau       (902) 875-4271
Truro             Joe Fillion        (902) 662-2459
Annapolis Royal       and Valley         Doug Moore  (902) 638-8700
Springhill & Area   Richard McCormick (902) 597-2090
Windsor & Area     Spike Sullivan & the Missus (902) 798-3580
Middleton          George Thomson     (902) 847-3308
St. John's, NF     Ron Coles          (709) 834-4751
Charlottetown, PEI  Hari Boggs         (902) 368-2248
Petit de Grat & Isle Madam Robbie Roberts  226-3476
Moncton, NB        Carl (Pete) Petersen (506) 384-8984
Fredericton, NB    Rev. Reg Miller    (506) 457-1118
Quebec Area        Frank Cholette     (450) 699 6770
Montreal           Frank Cholette     (450) 699 6770
Brockville & Area  Rev. Paul Gordon  (613) 865 8378
Omemee, ON         George 'Josh' Warner (705) 799-2863

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
Jack McMahon - 4427  Ernest Baker - 4526
Thomas Gilford - 4227  Donald B Dixon - 4524
4th Floor West
Bernard Churchill - 4231  Alfred Tremblay - 4122
Ernest Finter - 4128
5th Floor East
Charlie Hall - 5421  Eric Publicover - 5525
John Duncan - 5435  Percy James - 5523
5th Floor West
Bennett Barrett - 5126  Gerard Sampson - 5121
John Lipton - 5130
6th Floor West
Frank Hansen - 6127  Hector Farmer - 6121
Gordon Tomlinson - 6124  Sydney McNevin - 6222
Reginald Pitts - 6120  James Mowery - 6130
6th Floor East
Ernie Thompson - 6427  Orville Murray - 6528
Thomas Tonks - 6429

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  BOM 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

Maplestone Enhanced Care, 245 Main Ave. Halifax
Bill Comeau  (902) 446-4019

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

THE FOLLOWING SHIPMATES CROSSED THE BAR RECENTLY

Greta Bishop (wife of Albert) 82
Dartmouth, NS 15 02 11

Captain (N) (Retd.) Hal Davies 75
Schooner Cove, NS 15 02 11

Ron Wilcox 79
C2ER Dartmouth 17 02 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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Total Membership – 738

NEW MEMBER

Cec Bedard C2ET, Lavel QC 0 - 1338

RE-ENGAGED MEMBERS

Walter Hall LS (WWII), Brampton ON OA – 1275

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.sao-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

ADMIRAL 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
Our Naval Family came to birth in 1903 when my father, Matthew Hall, born in West Ham, joined HMS Ganges as a boy seaman. He survived the 1914-1918 War and was a signalman at the Battle of Jutland in HMS Lion. During the War and ashore in Dundee, he met my mother Maggie. Not long after they were married and took up residence in Edinburgh.

By 1935 he had the rank of Chief Yeoman of Signals and was made Recruiting Officer for Edinburgh and District. One of his first enlisters was my oldest brother Matt who joined HMS Ganges at age 15 years. Sadly, a year later in 1936, my father crossed the bar after a short illness. Mum was left with three sons, three daughters and 10 shillings a week pension. To ease the strain, my other brother, Jack, decided to join the Royal Navy. As he was only 13 years old, he could not join Ganges but was accepted to the Royal Holbrook School. In 1938, at the age of 15 years, he joined the Royal Navy. He was sent to HMS Caledonia (Boys Training Ship) tied up in Rosyth, near our home town. Little did they know that within three years they would be at war. After Ganges, Matt joined HMS Ramillies (1937), Resolution (1938) and Royal Sovereign (1939).

Jack, on completion of boys’ training was sent to HMS Exmouth for sea training and then in August 1939 was posted to HMS Calcutta. After an eye injury in the Mediterranean, he was hospitalized in Alexandria, Egypt, then sent home to Chatham. In December 1941 he was off to Bremington Dockyard in U.S.A. to join HMS Warspite. Exmouth was sunk in 1940 with the loss of all hands, Calcutta in 1941 with the loss of 116 souls.
In 1942, my brother Matt requested a transfer to *Warspite* to be with Jack. They both remained in *Warspite* until the end of the war. Then Matt joined HMS *Phoebe* (where he won the Mediterranean Fleet Small Arms Marksmanship Trophy) and went on to Chatham Barracks as Regulating Petty Officer.

Jack was transferred to HMS *Anson*, then *Ulster*, *Whirlwind* and Donbristle Naval Air Station and was now a P.O.G.I.

In 1939 my oldest sister Eva broke the circle by joining the WAAFs instead of the W.R.N.S. In 1943 she married a Canadian R.A.F. pilot who later was killed in December 1944 over Essen, Germany.

At the end of the war, I was 12 years old and it had always been my ambition to follow in my brothers’ footsteps and join the Royal Navy. When they came home on leave, it looked like a great life... “Jolly Jack Tars ashore.” But they had different plans for me. When I was 15 years old, I was to enter a trade apprenticeship and on completion would do my National Service. I would then make a choice of my future.

Unfortunately, when I finished my National Service in *Widemouth Bay* and was demobilized in 1953, Matt and Jack had followed my two sisters to Canada and joined the Royal Canadian Navy to do another 20 years. With my mum now on her own, I decided to return to my job in a guided missile factory. Shortly after, I met and married my wife, Kit, had two sons and in 1966 decided to join my family in Canada. Later that year, we had our daughter. We also brought my mum, who was now 72 years old, to Canada. My National Service was from 1951 to 1953. First in HMS *Vanguard* and then *Widemouth Bay*. I did apply to the Royal Canadian Navy but was rejected on the grounds that they were looking for younger, single men.

Matt retired from the Navy in 1970 with 35 years’ service and with the rank of Master at Arms. He was killed in a car accident in 1985, two weeks before his 65th birthday, and his ashes were committed to the sea.

Jack retired in 1973 after 35 years in the Navy with the rank of Chief P.O.G.I... and is still living in Halifax. He is 88 years old this year, still playing golf, swimming and attending all the Navy functions even with a bad eye, ankle and a bit of hearing loss. All caused while in the service.

I have often looked back at the path I chose and wondered if it was the right decision. But life has been good to me and my family and I know it was the right choice.
When the Navy League of Canada proposed establishing a sea cadet corps for boys 12 – 14 years of age, many an experienced naval or Sea Cadet officer shook his head and said that it was hopeless. Navy League cadets, it was felt, could at best offer a watered down version of Sea Cadet training.

Then too was the question of cost. The Navy League would have to foot the entire bill – and how did it expect to pay its officers? Against these grim warnings, the Northern Alberta branch of the Navy League went ahead.

The corps established in Edmonton in 1953 did not appear likely to last the first year. It had only 35 boys and 2 officers who paraded once weekly at HMCS Nonsuch and old salts who watched them on parade those first Thursday nights shuddered. In 1958 the Corps numbered 200 boys and 17 officers, the largest in Canadian won the Alberta Proficiency Championship 2 years in a row and in 1957, the Dominion Trophy, emblematic of national supremacy. In 1958 the Navy League program was so popular that 25 boys had to be turned away because the Corps could not handle them.

The Navy League Cadet program aims simply at making better citizens of boys in the difficult “between” years. Their officers are interested primarily in seeing that their boys learn how to be useful, disciplined young citizens, whether they decide to go on into the senior cadet body or RCN. In 1958, 85 cadets joined the Sea Cadet Corps from the Navy League Cadet Corp.

Their training consists of parade square, seamanship (knots and splices and rope work) communications, compass and helm, but one of its most important features is the time devoted to citizenship training. The latter course comprises lectures on the value of good discipline, of the importance of helping others who are in need and of the part even boys can play in making a community a better place to live. That means respecting other people’s property, as well as one’s own. Once a month, half a dozen cadets take a practical course in brotherhood, visiting hospitals to deliver books and magazines that the whole corps has collected for cadets who are patients.

The Navy League provides their uniforms – naval trousers, caps, belts and layards, as well as the blue shirts and insignia. The RCN provides training space. The officers are provided with their uniforms, but they but their own greatcoats. They serve without pay, from Captain down to Sub-Lieutenant, but the turnover in officers is as low as in cadets.

Why they are willing to spend their unpaid spare time training boys is obvious. On e officer has said, “We’re turning out boys who can play a real role in the community. When you see the rag-time collection that falls in when the “new entry” division is formed and see them again in six weeks later, smart and well behaved, you don’t ask yourself if it’s been worth the effort. You know that it has.”

(Editor’s Note) Today there are approximately 800 cadets serving in the various Sea Cadet Corps throughout the Maritimes. There are approximately 200 cadets serving in Navy League Cadet Corps: Admiral Bidwell, Shearwater; CPO James Carroll, Truro; MicMac, Halifax; William Hall, VC, Windsor, NS.

Not as widely known as the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets, the Navy League of Canada is mushrooming across Canada. The Navy League Cadets were formed 5 years ago for boys 12 and 13 and the objective of the organization – good citizenship through naval training- is the same as that of the Sea Cadets to which most of the younger boys graduate. Originally the Sea Cadets accepted boys of 12 years and up. When their training and equipment was accepted as a naval obligation, the age requirement was raised to 14 years. The Navy League undertook to meet the needs of the younger group by forming the Navy League Cadets, with the Navy cooperating to the extent of supplying training quarters wherever naval facilities were available.

The following article was written by Erik Watt (RCNVR - Retd.)

Amendment to the By – Laws

Pursuant to a discussion by the Executive and the Board of Directors, there is a motion to be put forward to amend Article 9.4. b, “Quorum “to read,” Six (6) Board of Directors members shall constitute a quorum for any Board of Directors meeting.”
Honour Roll of Age  Happy Birthday To All Concerned - March, 2011

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

Corrections for January 2011:
Maurice Williamson 72 Kentville, NS 11 11
Corrections for February 2011:
Ken Eccles 78 Perth, ON 15 11
Gordon Keeling 78 St. Norbert, NB 06 11
Duke Abbot 74 Lower Sackville, NS 13 11
Thomas Arthur 79 Greenwood, NS 18 11
Ken Batchelor 79 Vernon, BC 01 11
Leonard Biggs 80 Westphal, NS 23 11
Edward Bragg 78 Dartmouth, NS 06 11
Art Cipryk 72 Rothesay, NB 21 11
James Clark 79 Dartmouth, NS 18 11
Ryan Conroy 60 Ludlow, NB 20 11
Hugh Cooke 68 Halifax, NS 27 11
Derek Coleman 81 Berwick, NS 21 11
Fred Costello 79 Dartmouth, NS 23 11
Eugene Deveaux 84 Eastern Passage, NS 11 11
Ron Dunn 82 Halifax, NS 19 11
Henry Dyck 81 Valley, NS 10 11
Wendell Ebb 83 Point Claire, QC 29 11
Donald Ferris 75 Dartmouth, NS 29 11
Sherman Goucher 71 Annapolis County, NS 20 11

George Hachey 82 Halifax, NS 23 11
Tony Halvorson 66 Charlottetown, PEI 07 11
Robert Hamilton 80 Dartmouth, NS 11 11
David Hensbee 75 Morwood, NS 07 11
J. Jerome Hickey 83 Waterloo, ON 09 11
Norma Hickson 65 Medicine Hat, AB 23 11
Robert Hodgson 84 Belleville, ON 08 11
John Howard 81 Eastern Passage, NS 26 11
Tony Ivanko 79 Halifax, NS 27 11
Mel James 74 Goderich, ON 23 11
Joe Kearney 76 Belleville, ON 02 11
Richard Kearns 68 Lower Sackville, NS 25 11
Steve Korman 82 Halifax, NS 16 11
John Loranger 78 Lake Echo, NS 25 11
Robert MacDonald 71 Orleans, ON 04 11
Norman MacIntrye 79 Greenfield, NS 06 11
Fred MacNeill 70 Dartmouth, NS 16 11
William Masaer 74 Mount Uniacke, NS 29 11
Peter Mattice 73 Lower Sackville, NS 11 11
William McBride 77 Dartmouth, NS 21 11
John MacDonald 73 Stratford, ON 11 11
John MacIntosh 71 Dartmouth, NS 03 11
Fred Molyneaux 70 Shelburne, NS 07 11
Joe Murphy 74 Granville Ferry, NS 09 11
William Murray 83 Courtenay, BC 07 11
Jim Paul 73 Peterborough, ON 24 11
Brian Payne 74 Dartmouth, NS 16 11
Spike Pihowich 73 Aldergrove, BC 24 11
Jean Racine 66 Glouchester, ON 08 11
Lionel Ranger 77 Dartmouth, NS 07 11
Don Reid 67 Ottawa, ON 19 11
Ernest Rioux 81 Sorel-Tracey, QC 02 11
William Ross 53 Lake Echo, NS 18 11
Richard Rudback 72 Lower Sackville, NS 22 11
William Russell 81 Toronto, ON 29 11
Les Seebold 83 Seminole, FL, US of A 19 11
Alistair Simpson 60 Eastern Passage, NS 16 11
Claude Smith 61 St. John, NB 20 11
Raymond Soucie 71 Dartmouth, NS 16 11
William Williams 76 Dartmouth, NS 20 11
James Wilson 84 Willowdale, ON 10 11
Brian Windle 67 Cornwall, ON 18 11
Jerry Wynnyk 77 Nepean, ON 06 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)
Petition for Governor General’s Volunteer Service Medal

Since 2 March 1947, our Veterans have not been issued a Volunteer Service Medal as was the Canadian tradition to do so up until 1 March 1947.

The proposed Governor General’s Volunteer Service Medal (GGVSM) is to recognize the conviction of our Veterans to have volunteered to serve our Nation. Many Veterans who have voluntarily served in our country’s forces and for reasons did not serve for an extended period (more than 12 years) and they left the services. These Veterans never received a single “Canadian” medal or any recognition for their service.

The GGVSM would re-introduce a proud aspect of Canadian Heritage and remembrance of our Veterans. The GGVSM would also be highly supportive of Veterans Affairs “Canada Remembers program”. Let us remember all of our Veterans and give them at least one medal to wear to give them the dignity and honour they deserve for volunteering to serve and the GGVSM would be a truly outstanding Canadian Medal to do this.

Petition:
To The Government of Canada
The petition for signing will be found at .. veterans petition GGVSM ..search site.