



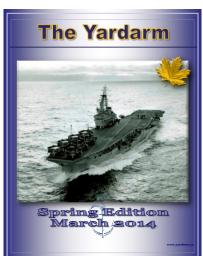
# **The Yardarm**

Spring 2014 Edition



#### Spring 2014 Edition

The Yardarm is published bi-annually; the Spring Edition is released on 31 March and the Fall Edition on 15 September. The editor, LCdr (Ret) Pat Cornect, produces the newsletter on behalf of the Royal Canadian Naval Association (RCNA) which was incorporated in 1959. The



Yardarm is non-profit and is provided free to all RCNA members and related associations.

Although it is best read on a personal computer or ereader, there is also a local print capability. As well, members are welcome to visit the full-time up-to-date Yardarm website at www.yardarm.ca. All material in this newsletter has been sourced whenever possible.

Cover Photo—The HMCS Bonaventure is featured on the Spring Edition's cover. The photo was elected by Jim Lapp, and is provided courtesy of the Canadian War

Museum George Metcalf Archival Collection CWM 19900076-998.

Please see Jim's Historical Fiction on page 10 showcasing the Bonnie and the continuing saga of the Bell family.

#### The Sun is Over the Yardarm

A "yardarm" is part of the main rigging on a sailing ship, i.e.., horizontal spars mounted on the masts, from which square sails were hung. The expression "the Sun is Over the Yardarm' was started by naval officers sailing in the North Atlantic. In those high latitudes, the sun would rise above the upper yards around 11 a.m. The crossing was used to mark the forenoon 'stand easy,' when off -duty officers would take a break to go below for their first tot of spirits for the day, and time for happy hour to begin. *Source: Wikipedia* 



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# The Helm



#### <u>From the Helm</u>

We continue to weather the storm of low interest rates and the financial markets. This we have managed to do through the collective efforts of all branches being prompt in remunerating their annual assessments in the face of their own adversities. They have all made an effort to see that accounts are on time.

The national executive have held the line in finances keeping an eye on unnecessary expenditures, allowing our investments to remain untouched. For this I extend our heartfelt thanks to all the executive in particular our treasurer. I wish to thank all members, Members at Large but mainly the branches for not jumping ship during difficult times, allowing us to maintain the status quo. "United we stand, divided we fall" Thank you all.



I have attended meetings at Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion in Ottawa on several occasions each year as part of a veteran's consultation group, along with other veterans associations and the legion to form a united front when dealing with veteran's affairs and the government with the intent of having the new veterans charter completely implemented and that the benefits of all veterans is improved. This applies especially to those returning home in a handicapped state. "Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder" is a much larger issue than originally believed, and extends back to WWII. Sadly this has not happened through Veterans Affairs to date. This has not been through a lack of trying on the part of the consultation group. The minister Julian Fantino has a "Police

State" attitude when it comes to dealing with the public. He is not a reputable representative of the current government. This charter needs to be completely enacted before any changes to it are attempted. At present Fantino wants to conduct a review, of charter that is not fully enacted or warranted. The National Council of Veterans Associations of which we are also a member speaks as well as the Legion on these issues and others. Strides are being made in these areas but not fast enough and with little or no government assistance. The time for action is now and we urge all to talk to their MPs to act or stand by for the next election.

Again I want to thank the current executive for holding the line and personally wish each including appointees my sincere appreciation for doing an excellent job in the annual operation of the RCNA.

#### Submitted by Blaine Barker, National President



#### <u>A word from your National Secretary</u>

THANK YOU to the RCNA National Executive, Directors and Area Vice Presidents for putting your faith in me, and electing me as your 2014-2015 National Executive Secretary.

I have some big boots to fill in that I am taking over from Shipmate Jerry Sigrist, who, as you know served many years as your National Executive Secretary. I thank him for his many years of service to his country and the RCNA. His service has not stopped there, as he was elected our RCNA National Executive Vice President, and we will continue to benefit from his many years of experience.

As your new National Executive Secretary, I pledge to do my best for each and every member of the Royal Canadian Naval Association across Canada.

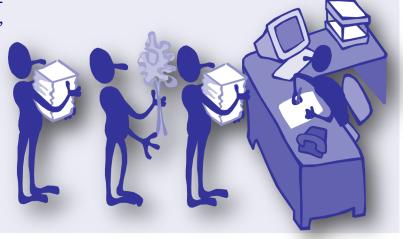
Please feel free to contact me on any concerns that you may have within your Association and I will do my best to get answers for you. We have a very experienced National Executive and between all of us, as a collective, will give all your concerns and questions the attention they deserve.

In the short time I have been your National Executive Secretary, I have received many emails daily on all kinds of Naval matters, including all the Government press releases etc. We have a webmaster, Shipmate Robert Currie, who supplies me with just about everything that happens within our Navy, past, present and future. And we have our YARDARM Editor, Shipmate Pat Cornect, who is always open to new ideas to include in that publication to make a lot of this information available to our members.

In preparation of our AGM, to be held in September, please send me any items your members would like put on the Agenda. I would also request that you discuss with your members the possibility of sponsoring the AGM or a Reunion in 2015-2016.

I look forward to the next two years and hope I can contribute to the advancement of the RCNA as a Naval Association, that serves and represents all of the Naval family across Canada, past, present and future.

Yours Aye, Steve Willar Executive Secretary RCNA National







Kevin Phillips, CD2 Personal Chef, Oakville **Healthy Eating** 



Dr. Gordon Simmons Padre RCNA Sarnia **Padre's Corner** 



Joan Balch Wrens Association **Items of Interest** 



HooJung Jones Korean Veterans Association of Canada **Unit 26, Hamilton** 



Pat Cornect, CD2 RCNA Sarnia Director **Yardarm Editor** 



Gerald "Jerry" Sigrist, CD Executive Vice President Naval Trivia



"RCNA NEWS" will be featured on at least two pages of each edition of the Yardarm. Items must be submitted by the appropriate Branch representative. Submissions should not be time sensitive as they may be carried forward to the next edition.

#### <u>RCNA 2013 AGM</u>

The RCNA AGM was hosted by Kitchener-Waterloo Naval Association (KWNA) between 27 and 29 September 2013. The three-day event started with an Executive Meeting on the 27 September. Meetings continued throughout the next day, and the participants were invited to a sit-down meal that evening. The annual event closed with a General Meeting and Election of Officers on the 29 September. For more information on the 2013 AGM, including the minutes and complete list of officers, please visit the RCNA National website at: http:// www.rcnahq.com, or the Yardarm website at: http://www.yardarm.ca.

The KWNA will also host the 58th Reunion of the RCNA from the 22 May to the 25 May 2014. Additional information is available in this edition of the Yardarm and at the two websites mentioned above. *Editor*.

**Key players included**—below, left to right: Past President, Mike Edwards; President, Pete Beutler; and Events Coordinator, Terri-Leigh Saunders, CD.





High on the 2013 AGM agenda was the election of new Officers. In the photo above the current President, Blaine Barker, congratulates outgoing National Secretary and incoming Executive Vice President, Jerry Sigrist, to his new post. For a complete listing of the current National Executive, and contact information, please check page 17 of this edition or the Yardarm website at www.yardarm.ca.

#### Honourable Jim Karygiannis

Jim Karygiannis, Member of Parliament, Scarborough-Agincourt and Liberal Critic for Veterans Affairs, delivered a very informative talk at the AGM and question/ answer period. Later in the day he also met with many of the members for one-on-one discussions.



The Honourable Jim Karygiannis can be reached by email: jim@karygiannismp.com or by phone: (613) 992 4501.





## **RCNA News**

#### RCNA 58th Reunion

The 58th reunion of the ROYAL CANADIAN NA-VAL ASSOCIATION will take place from 22 to 25th May 2014. The event will be hosted by the Kitchener -Waterloo Naval Association. For further information please contact;

Terri-Leigh Saunders 315 Weber Street North Waterloo, ON N2J 3H8

http://www.kwnavy.net/





The event will be held at CFS Leitrim All Ranks Mess, June 20, 21 & 22, 2014 .

**Friday 20th**—CFS Leitrim will host an open house at 1600 hours with cash bar and hamburgers/ hotdogs for sale. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Saturday 21st**—1000hrs Golf at Raceview Golf Course,

1600hrsMeet & Greet at CFS Leitrim ARM, 1800 Catered meal with all the trimmings 2000 - 2400 Social

**Sunday 22nd**—0900 - Remembrance Ceremony at HMCS Gloucester Cairn. This year we will be honouring all SUPRAD Old-Timer Association Members who have passed in the last 20 years, 1000 - Brunch at Greely Legion

**Reunion cost** is \$40.00 per person which covers the Mess/Legion rental, catered meal and Sunday brunch. Golf green fees are extra. Sunday brunch only costs \$10.00 per person.

#### **Reunion HMCS Cornwallis**

HMCS Cornwallis is hosting a reunion August 22 – 24 at Cornwallis. Open to all military and civilian personnel who worked or trained at HMCS/CFB Cornwallis.

#### **Email:**

Veteran Canada

CORNWALLISREUN-ION@YAHOO.CA

Website: www.cornwallisreunion.org

Reservations: www.abcc.ca



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Find out more: budget.gc.ca 1-866-522-2122

Canada



## **Veterans News**

#### Something to Think About

Pension Retired Prime Minister - \$450,000*
Salary of the Opposition Leader - \$194,400
Salary of a Retired Back Bencher - \$174,000
Basic Salary of a Senator - \$135,000

Average Salary of a CAF NCM- \$50,000Average Income of Pensioner- \$12,500Simply amazing when you really think about it!\*includes MP pension and 65 year supplement.Source: Public Domain

#### <u>Calendar August 2014</u>

This is the only time you will see this phenomenon in your lifetime. August 2014 will have 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This happens only once every 823 years. The Chinese call it 'Silver pockets full. "

#### Submitted by Blaine Barker

#### <u>Three Mile Limit</u>

The original three-mile limit was the recognized distance from a nation's shore over which that nation had jurisdiction. This border of international waters or the "high seas" was established because, at the time this international law was established, three miles was the longest range of any nation's most powerful guns, and therefore, the limit from shore

batteries at which they could enforce their laws. In 1988 International law and the Territorial Sea Proclamation established the "high seas" border at the 12-mile limit.



#### Arctic Star Medal- How do I apply?

Canadians seeking more information on the eligibility and application process for this medal should stay in contact with Honours and Awards, Veterans Affairs Canada, at our toll-free number 1-866-522-2122 or at awardscitations@vac-acc.gc.ca.



As the medal is not part of the Canadian Honours System, we are presently entering into our database all requests for the Arctic Star for future reference.

Once guidance by Canada's Honours Policy Committee is received and should the medal be accepted and integrated into the Canadian Honours System, we shall provide further information on applying for this medal through the Royal Canadian Legion, Veterans Affairs Canada's Salute! newspaper and website.



## **Veterans News**



#### Karygiannis - Veterans to Help Veterans

The Honourable Jim Karygiannis, Member of Parliament for Scarborough-Agincourt and Liberal Critic for Veterans Affairs, has assisted a group of veterans establish a toll free crisis line for veterans and soldiers who are in crisis.

Since the middle of November, seven veterans and soldiers have taken their own lives. It has been reported that these veterans and soldiers suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

The toll-free number 1-855-373-8387 will be manned by veterans who will be available on a 24-hour basis. The callers will <u>not</u> be required to identify themselves.



#### KW-Naval Association Military Mural

The mural (right) is located at 295 Weber St. N., Waterloo, ON. The large work is by Mount Forest artist Cliff Smith and features military images from the First World War to the present. Also featured in the mural is the WWII naval corvette, HMCS Kitchener. *Source: KW-Naval Association.* 

#### Your Citizenship Status

Are you a war bride and concerned about the status of your citizenship?

Do you have questions about your status?

If you have questions about your citizenship, contact the CIC Call Centre at 1 888 242-2100. CIC has



created a dedicated unit at their Call Centre for citizenship issues. Where needed, a citizenship officer will be assigned to provide personalized counselling.

The vast majority of war brides in Canada are Canadian citizens. When the Canadian Citizenship Act came into force in 1947, war brides (i.e., those married to a man who was born in Canada, or naturalized in Canada, or a British subject living in Canada for at least five years) automatically became Canadian citizens.

For more information on citizenship, visit the CIC Web site (Citizenship and Immigration Canada).





#### CVL 22 HMCS Bonaventure

From patrol in the western Atlantic during the Cuban missile crisis to transporting Canadian Army peacekeeping elements to Cyprus, and from the Arctic to South America, Bonnie asserted Canadian sovereignty and supported NATO and UN commitments.

A long line of Bells served the Admiralty and RCN for over 300 years. In 1963 John Bell joined the ship's company of HMCS Bonaventure when she sailed to Scotland for NATO Exercise SHARP SQUALL. PO2 Bell was a Tracker ASW operator in VS880. Bell and his operator partner PO2 Brian Weatherley were instrumental in locating all seven "enemy" submarines in the exercise. An RN Flag Officer was certain the submarine positions must have been disclosed to the aircrew beforehand because no one could find all seven without insider knowledge.



Served by a complement of more than 800 plus 550 aircrew, the Queen of the Atlantic fleet's CS2F-2 Trackers had a range of 1,300 miles and could stay aloft for 7 hours. Automated navigation equipment provided an enhanced level of accuracy over large open ocean areas by automatic computations of position when the aircraft was actively pursuing a submarine. And finding Russian subs was Weatherley and Bell's job. Explosive echo ranging (JULIE), very low frequency passive sonar (JEZEBEL), and magnetic anomaly sensors (MAD) were their submarine detection tools. By the late 50s, NAVFACS included sound surveillance systems (SOSUS) in Shelburne NS and Argentia NL. Locating and tracking snorkeling diesel subs by detecting low frequency sound worked. It worked even better

against deep-running Soviet nuclear-powered subs. It was a deadly dance as Soviet subs entered the Atlantic through the GIUK gap. Bell and Weatherley reacquired the targets for localization and potential prosecution.

In 1970 Bonnie was towed to Taiwan to be scrapped. Legend has it that a switch was made at sea, the Indian ship Vikrant was scrapped, and the Bonnie was given new life as INS Vikrant.

Bonnie's anchor and chain are part of the Canadian Peacetime Sailors Memorial in Point Pleasant Park, Halifax, NS. "To commemorate the personnel of the Armed Forces of Canada who lost their lives at sea in the performance of their duties and for whom there is no known grave."



CVL 22 HMCS Bonaventure 15 minute video link—http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmFD5bijrok

#### Submitted by Jim Lapp.



#### <u>110th Signal Anniversary</u>

We had the pleasure of meeting with HRH Princess Anne, the Colonel in Chief of the Royal Canadian Signals Corps, at the 110<sup>th</sup> Signal Anniversary in Kingston. Our joint display banners and the artifacts of the Hamilton Signals Association, the HMCS HAIDA association and the Korean War veterans Association helped to demonstrate the Canadian signals' heritage and history.



Our Korean War veterans in attendance, who were Navy signallers, signalled using the Semaphore which was widely used to communicate between ships. Andy Barber served on the HMCS Haida and Ron Kirk served on the HMCS Iroquois during the Korean War and UN Peace keeping missions.

The book chairman of "Semaphore to Satellite" is a well known Korean War veteran, General (retired) Ramsey Withers. His vision and drive to preserve the Canadian signaller history of the Royal Canadian Navy, Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force was well received by HRH Princess Anne at the book launch. 2013 was the "Year of Korean War Veteran" and "July 27<sup>th</sup> is the Korean War Veterans Day", therefore, it was fitting that HRH Prince Anne recognized the Korean War Veterans at the trooping of colours and presented the Royal banner to the C & E Branch.

Our RCN 8 Destroyers Monument committee (Andy Barber, Ron Kirk, Major (retired) Don Kennedy and myself have been working diligently to erect the Royal Canadian 8 Destroyers of the Korean War Monument to honour the fallen naval veterans. These naval veterans have been forgotten at the Naval Veterans Monument at the Spencer Smith Park in Burlington.

#### Lost or Wounded–Korean War

LOST AT SEA

4 December 1950—**LISKA, Vince,** AB, HMCS Cayuga

11 January 1951—GAUTHIER, Leon Armand, OS, HMCS Nootka

21 July 1951—**LAKER, Frank Richard**, AB, HMCS Sioux; **MOORE, Robert John**, A.B. HMCS Sioux

27 November 1951—**SKAVBERG, Robin Jensen**, AB, HMCS Athabaskan

#### **KILLED IN ACTION**

5 August 1952—**TORRAVILLE, Ian Thom**as Lang, AB, HMCS Iroquois

2 October 1952—**Baikie, Elburne Alexander**, A.B. HMCS Iroquois (from HAMIL-TON);

**Burden, Wallis McBurnie**, AB, HMCS Iroquois; **Quinn, John Louis,** MiD, LCdr, HMCS Iroquois.



Photos and article submitted by HooJung Jones



#### Fish and Brewis (pronounced "brews")

A traditional Newfoundland meal consisting of codfish and hard bread or hard tack. In the day, with the abundance of cod around the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador, it became synonymous with many Newfoundland households as a delicacy to be served as a main meal.

Makes 4 servings—Ingredients:

- 4 cakes hard bread (broken in pieces)
- 1 lb salt cod (pieces or boned)
- 6 slices salt pork (3"L x ¼ " thick)
- **1** med onion (finely chopped)

<u>Method</u>: In two separate containers, soak salt fish and hard bread in cold water for approx 6-8 hours or overnight. In the morning drain and replace both with cold water.

For the fish; bring to a slow boil and let simmer for approx 20 minutes. Remove from heat and drain. Skin, bone and flake fish – set-aside.



For the hard bread; in a saucepan, place hard bread and cover with water. Bring to a slow boil and simmer for approx 5 minutes. Remove from heat and drain. Squeeze out excess water from the hard bread and mix in flaked fish. Blend well.

In a skillet (low heat); fry salt pork until all fat is extracted. Add onions. Cook until golden brown. Spoon fat and onions over the Fish and Brewis. Serve with fried salt pork (or scrunchions) as a side dish. This meal is excellent with a cup of good steeped tea and fresh homemade bread with molasses. *Some Shockin' Good, tell your mother.....* 

**Tips**: Drawn butter can be used instead of scrunchions and onions. Also, onion gives a more favorable taste to the pork fat. **Submitted by K.J. Phillips** 

NL Slang: tuckered out - tired

Kevin was recently featured on the CBC program "Land and Sea " and his cookbook featuring over two hundred Bologna Recipes will be released later this summer.



#### **Healthy Living**

#### WARNING: Stroke Ahead

A stroke is a sudden loss of brain function caused by a disturbance of blood flow to the brain. This can occur by a blockage (ischemic stroke) or from a breakage of blood vessels (hemorrhagic stroke). Consequently, brain cells in the affected area die from a lack of oxygen. The full impact of the stroke depends on the area of the brain affected and extent of damage. It can impair your ability to move, see, speak, understand and remember.

**Five Warning Signs** 

Weakness – sudden numbness or loss of strength in the face, arm or leg

Trouble Speaking – sudden confusion or difficulty understanding/speaking

Vision Loss - sudden trouble or loss of vision

Headache – sudden severe or change in usual headache

Dizziness - sudden loss of balance



There are several factors that increase your risk of having a stroke or TIA. Some risk factors cannot be controlled, while others can be changed or modified.

Modifiable Risks	Non-Modifiable Risks	
High blood pressure	Age (increased risk over age 65)	
High blood cholesterol	Gender (men ≥ 55 and postmenopausal wom- en)	
Diabetes	Family history	
Overweight	Ethnicity (Aboriginal, African or South Asian)	
Physical inactivity	Prior stroke or TIA	
Smoking		
Too much alcohol		

A stroke is a medical emergency. Even if the symptoms resolve within minutes to hours, it may be a sign of a transient ischemic attack (TIA) or mini-stroke. A TIA is also a medical emergency. The risk of having a stroke increases immediately after the TIA to 1 year later. If you experience any of the warning signs, it is important to seek medical attention. To reduce the risk of having a stroke or TIA, speak to your family doctor about making positive changes in your life. *Submitted by Dr. Shauna Phillips* 



#### <u>Peter's Boat</u>

While visiting Israel some years ago I had the opportunity to cruise on the Sea of Galilee and to see "Peter's boat". The boat is a 2100 year old fishing boat recovered from the sea and preserved in a climate controlled environment in a museum. It probably did not belong to Peter but it is the type of fishing boat that one reads about in the bible.

Boats and ships play an important role in the bible. Everyone knows the story of Noah and one reads in 1 Kings 9: 26 that Solomon built a fleet of ships near Eloth on the Red Sea for bringing in the building materials and workers for the temple. Hiram king of Tyre supplied the sailors and the cedar trees. The building materials came from Lebanon and other countries. In 1 Kings 10:22 it mentions that every three years the ships of Tarshish would bring gold, silver, ivory , apes and peacocks to Solomon.

Any sea story would be incomplete without a description of a storm, seasickness, or sea legs. In Psalm 107 verses 23-30 there is a marvelous description of ships caught in storms at sea, of sailors "reeling and staggering like drunkards." They pray for protection and for a safe return to a safe harbour. For those of us who have been on stormy waters the description is all too real. The gospels of course describe the storm on the Sea of Galilee in which the disciples appeal to Jesus to calm the storm. This psalm and story are frequently read at the Battle of Atlantic and other memorial services.

The longest story of a storm at sea is found in the Acts of the Apostles chapter 27. Paul describes the ship wreck off of Malta. He describes how the captain tried to turn the ship into the storm but being unable to do so he turns the ship and runs before the storm. The captain orders the life boat which

had been towed behind the ship to be lifted aboard the ship and then orders that the hull be wrapped in ropes for added strength. They then throw the cargo overboard and even some of the ship's equipment. One can readily identify with the terror, the confusion and sense of panic as the passengers and crew realize they are about to be wrecked. When they realized that there was no way to save the ship, the crew threw the anchors away, hoisted the fore sail and ran the ship aground. All 276 passengers and crew survived the storm and ship wreck.

These bible stories are a lesson to all of us that from the beginning of time humans have gone down to the sea whether in dugout canoes, woven reed boats, rafts, outrigger canoes or large cargo ships. Like the guy in the foxhole in the middle of a battle there are no atheists when a storm arises; everyone turns to his or her maker and prays for help. I have always believed that sailors, whether in a small boat or on a large ship, have a closer relationship to their maker than most people because they know isolation and the perils of the sea. So we pray to God, "for all those who go down to the sea to serve their sovereign and their country on their several occasions." **Amen.** 



Peter's Boat-Source: www.doubleblade.com



Benjamin, Gordon–17 April 2013. Ben was a member of the Penticton Naval Veterans' Association.

**Cardinell, Pat**—18 December 2013. Pat was a member of the RCNA Comox Branch and served in the RCN/ CAF from 1968 to 1974 in Cornwallis, Margaree and Terra Nova.

Chircoski, Stanley–2013. Stanley served in the RNVR from March 1944 to April 1946.

**Colbert, Kenneth**—27 March 2013. Born 11 May 1922, Kenneth served in the RCNVCR between 1942 –1945 on the HMCS Prince Rupert and HMCS Mimico

**Davies, Hugh B**–26 September 2013. Born 24 October 1928, he joined the RN in 1946 and served in the RCN 1947-1952—served onboard HMCS Magnificent.

Ebner, Ernst–5 September 2013. Ernst was a member of the Penticton Naval Veterans' Association.

**Ferguson, George**—7 November 2013. Portage La Prairie MB, George served in HMC Ships Quatsino and St Thomas.

**Fisher, John Robert** CD–27 January 2014. Born 20 November 1950, John served 33 years in the CAF and retired from the military as a LCdr.

**Fram**, **Joseph**—25 October 2013. Joseph served in the RCNVR and was a Honorary life member of the RCNA Windsor-Admiral Hose Branch.

**Gibbings**, **Herb**—12 January 2014. Winnipeg MB, Herb served with the 65th Canadian MTBs in MTB 744 and 736 also with Royal Navy MTB 695.

**Graham, Peggy**—14 September 2013. Peggy served in the Royal Air Force and was a member of the RCNA Windsor-Admiral Hose Branch.

Holmes, Patricia, Marie—23 October 2013. Born 17 March 1937, she was a member of several associations in Sarnia including the Sarnia Branch of the RCNA.

**Hunter, Warren**–2 August 2013. Warren served in the RCNVR and was a life member of the RCNA Windsor-Admiral Hose Branch.

**Jenkins**, **Bob** –4 May 2013. Bob was a member of the Penticton Naval Veterans' Association.

**Kennedy**, **John Ralph**—29 December 2013. Winnipeg MB, John joined the RCNVR at age 17—served as an ASDIC operator on the Murmansk/invasion of Normandy. He was a past president of the Winnipeg White Ensign Naval Club.

**L'Heureux, Edward Joseph**—28 October 2013, age 84. Ed was a graduate of the University of Western Ontario and served in the Royal Canadian Navy for 30 years retiring as a Commander.

McKee, Fred-15 May 2013. Born in 1941, Fred served in the RCN as a Stoker ABEM, 1961-1964.

Miller, Steward–March 2013. Born 7 March 1919. No further information provided.

**Miner, Stanley (Stan)** - January 2014. Winnipeg MB, Stan served in the Merchant Navy 1940- 1946— all theatres except the Western Pacific. He was decorated by the Norwegian and Canadian Governments.



Murphy, George—2 December 2012. George was a member of the Penticton Naval Veterans' Association.

Murray, Atholl EJ–30 June 2013. He was a member of the Woodstock Navy Club.

**Napier, Robert (Bob) Hugh**—6 January 2014, Winnipeg MB. Bob joined the Navy at age 16 and served as a gunner (DEMS) onboard SS Dufferin Park and SS Wentworth Park.

**Neilson, Tony**—20 August 2013. Tony served in the British Merchant Navy and was a member of the RCNA Windsor-Admiral Hose Branch.

Orasuk, Frank –Summer 2013. Passed in New Brunswick, Frank served in the RCN from 1944 to 1969.

Payie, William–16 June 2013. Born 11 July 1920, he was a member of the Woodstock Navy Club.

**Porter, Howard**—5 January 2014. Howard served in the RCNVR and was a Honorary life member of the RCNA Windsor-Admiral Hose Branch.

**Ranson, Claude**—20 January 2014. Born 31 January 1931, Claude served between December 1939 and August 1945—USS Kalk, HMCS Hamilton, Gananoque, Sackville, Ontario. A member of RCNA London.

**Somerville, William (Slim) Arthur**—28 September 2013. Duncan BC, Slim joined the Navy during WWII as a communicator and took part in the D-Day Invasion.

**Sterling**, **Norm** –12 June 2013. Norm was a member of the Penticton Naval Veterans' Association.

**Thomson, Alexander (Sandy)**—29 September 2013. Winnipeg MB, Sandy joined the RCNVR in 1942 served on HMC Ships: Rimouski, Lethbridge, Truro, New Glasgow and Snowberry. He was a past president of the Winnipeg White Ensign Naval Club.

Travers, Bernard-4 March 4 2013. Born 15 January 1926, Bernard served on HMCS Matane.

**Turner, Ernest**—20 August 2013. Ernest served in the Canadian Army from 1943 to 1946 and subsequently joined the Merchant Navy.

**Wainwright**, **Frederick**—11 April 2013. Born in 1926, Fred served during WWII and was a member of the KNVA.

#### WREN ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO

Ardenne, Louise Porter-15 December 2013. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Bell, Jean Whitaker Cathart-1 August 2013. Sarnia, Ontario.

Durdy, Rosly-3 April 2013. Toronto, Ontario.

Flynn, Marjorie–15 November 2013. Regina, Saskatchewan.

Gosse, Jean Aberdein Milne–28 April 2013. Vancouver, British Columbia.

McKay, Margaret Henderson Drysdale-17 December 2013. Toronto, Ontario.

Taylor, Audrey Lily-3 August 2013. Toronto, Ontario.

Wardle, Reta Marion Hurd–20 November 2013. Toronto, Ontario.



Yardarm Spring 2 National Execution	
National President Blaine D. Barker, CD Phone: 705-472-5621, Email: <u>rcna@vianet.ca</u>	
Executive Vice President Gerald W. "Jerry" Sigrist CD Phone: 902-543-6763, Email: jerry.sigrist@eastlink.ca	
Executive Secretary Steve Willar Phone: 519-945-1102, Email: <u>stevewillarsr@gmail.com</u>	
<u>Vice President (Membership)</u> John Chapman CD Phone: 403-255- 5643, Email: <u>suenjohn@telusplanet.net</u>	
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The Yardarm Editor   Pat Cornect CD2   Phone: 519-882-0484, Email: pat@cornect.com	



# **Naval Trivia**





#### Trivia by Jerry Sigrist

Normally this space is reserved for a piece of Naval Trivia from Jerry Sigrist. However, Jerry was not feeling well when this edition was being put together. Hopefully he will recover soon. Instead of trivia, I decided to post the photo (left) submitted by his son Mike. Thanks Mike.

Remembrance Day 2007—from left to right: Jerry's Granddaughter Amanda, her husband Chris (Air Force), his son Mike (Navy), Mike's wife Noreen (Naval Reserve and Regular Force, Air Force) Jerry's wife Ruth (Naval Reserve) and Jerry (Navy). **Source: Mike Sigrist**.

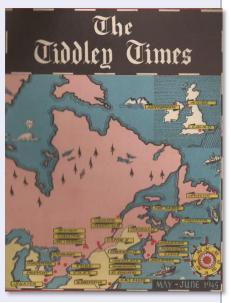
#### The Tiddley Times

The Second Word War saw the start of an unnamed publication of 20 pages [1/2 sheets] with Vol. 1 No 2 mentioning that 'You Name it" which later became 'Tiddley Times. By that time Chief Officer Isherwood was back in UK as CO Orkneys and Shetland and First Officer Kellett and Superintendent Carpenter at Western Approaches. All three had been part of the initial Officers sent from UK on request to form the Wrens.

Commander Sinclair was now chief officer regarding the WRCNS in Canada. Sub Lt. Mackie was in charge of the first dozen WRCNS who sailed for the UK with Wren Doreen Davie acting as German/French tutor. Acting Pay Lt. Dorothy Walmsley, HMCS Conestoga, was first Wren Accountant Officer to take charge of a Ship's Office. News was received from all the various locations and there after short reports kept track of wrens...up to and including the Final Issue December 1945. About 1000 of the over 6700 or so, WRCNS were posted outside of Canada and the remainder served from British Columbia to Nova Scotia. [Newfoundland was overseas] . These small editions are short snapshots of life in the WRCNS during wartime.

**Please note:** This Vol. 1 No. 2 suggests there were others and so far I have not seen a No. 1. or earlier than Tiddley Times Feb-Mar 1944.

Submitted by Joan Balch





#### Special Thanks to Our Contributors and Sponsors

Once again I would like to use this space to pass on a few words of thanks to the Yardarm contributors who are key to making each edition interesting and relevant. Feedback from readers of the first two editions was very positive. The goal as always is to provide current and relevant material to our members.

Also, a special thank you to our sponsors—placing an advertisement in the Yardarm is a great value and all money collected goes directly to the RCNA. Your continued support is very much appreciated. Each year, I will present a cheque to the National Treasurer at the AGM accounting for all funding collected from our sponsors.

As a final note: to help reduce printing costs—at the AGM, it was decided to provide MALs with printed copies—I will endeavor to restrict the size of the magazine to 20 pages. *Editor* 

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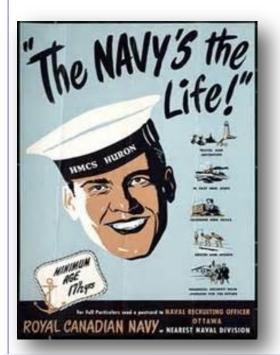
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