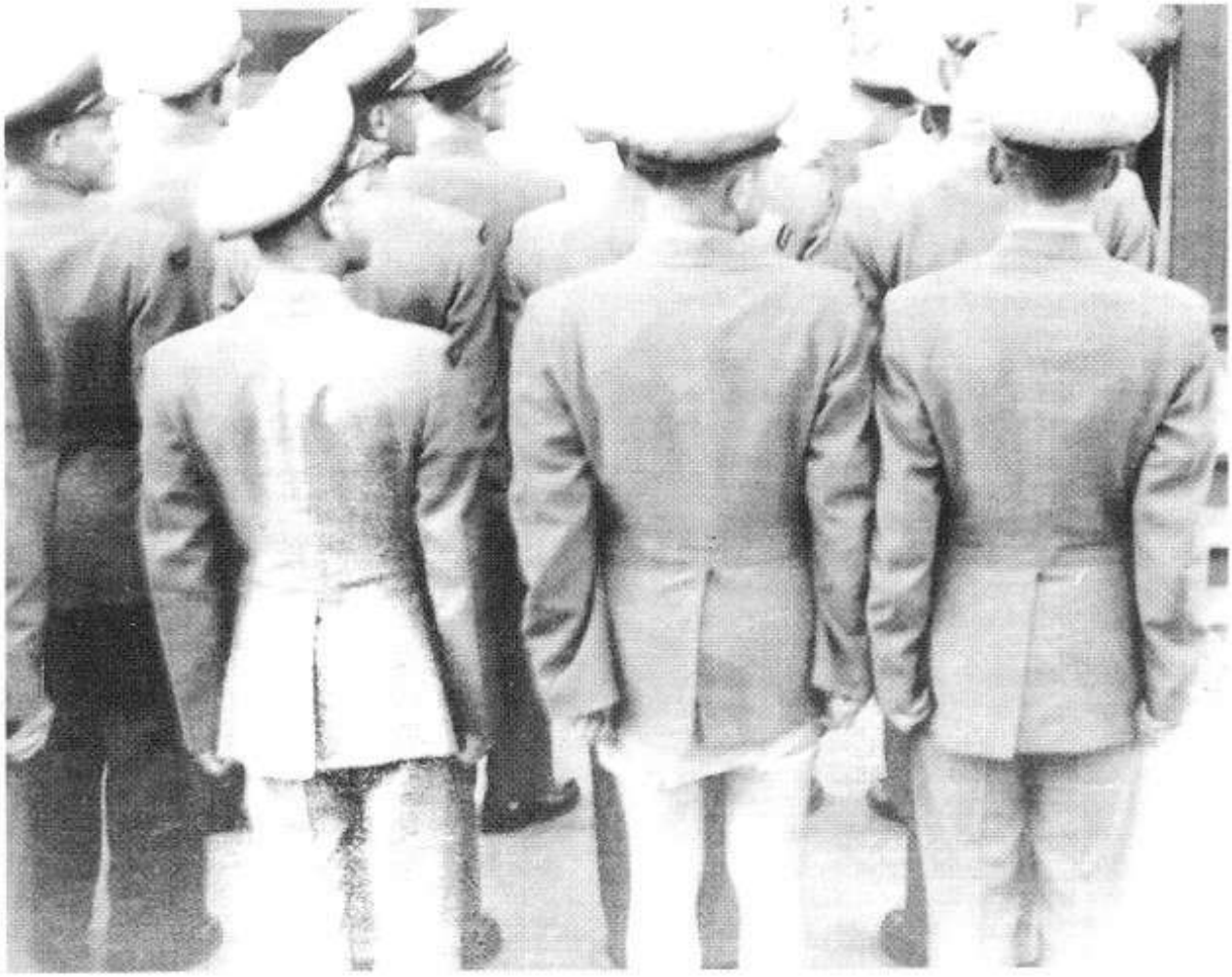
THE NEWSLETTER

Of The UNTD Association of Upper Canada

SPRING EDITION MARCH 2001

EDITOR Robert Williamson

ISSN 1480 - 0470



UNTD HIGH JINKS

Being university students, UNTiDies could at one moment be the model of intelligent dedication and naval discipline, or play silly tricks as a measure of disrespect for authority. This cadet squad at HMCS Stadacona in 1955 is "Dressing by the right" or Undressing as the case may be. The exposed cadet in the rear rank did not stay the course, although his twin brother received his navy commission and became a Medical Doctor.

Photo courtesy Lt. P. Neroutsos, OStJ, CD, RCNR (Ret.), Victoria.

NAVAL HISTORIAN - SPEAKER
At Eleventh Annual UNTD Reunion Dinner

Forty-five former UNTDs assembled in the Wardroom of *HMCS YORK* on Saturday evening November 18, 2000. Some guests had traveled from as far away as Calgary and Missouri to attend this eleventh annual event. The first dinner was held at the Canadian Forces Staff College in 1989.

Bob Willson, the President of the dinner ran a well organized program and invited diners to participate by sharing their favorite song or humorous story. In typical UNTD tradition, dinner guests rose to the challenge. The honour for the best performance went to Norm Balfour (*YORK* '48-'51) at the Midships' table for his rendition of a World War II British Home Guard ditty written by humorist, Noel Coward. Complete with a stuffy British accent, Norm gave a delightful impression of a territorial officer making a plea for the equipment-starved volunteers by singing, "Could You Please Oblige Us With A Bren Gun?"

The highlight of the evening was, of course, the guest speaker, Dr. Barry Gough, an award winning historian and Dean at Wilfred Laurier University. What makes him of special interest to a naval audience is that he teaches two courses on the History of Sea Power, the only known naval history courses at any civilian university in Canada. He also lectures at the Canadian Forces College on the History of Maritime Strategy. It was at the college that he met our dinner president, Bob Willson, an encounter that led to Barry's fascination with *HMCS HAIDA*.

Dr. Gough's interest in naval history began as a child growing up in Victoria BC near the naval base at Esquimalt. While studying for his Ph.D. at Kings College, London, he wrote a thesis which became his first of 12 books, The Royal Navy and the Northwest Coast of North America 1810 to 1914: A Study of Maritime Ascendancy. He has just finished a history of *HMCS HAIDA* (see Book Review) and has another new book on the stocks, Fighting Sail on Lake Huron and Georgian Bay 1812 and After.

Given his background, Dr. Gough's talk naturally featured stories about the British naval base at Esquimalt, Naval Actions of the War of 1812, and the salvaging of *HMCS HAIDA*, a precious piece of Canadian Naval History.

Congratulations to Bob Willson and the UNTD Association for continuing to provide high caliber and memorable Reunion Mess Dinner speakers. We can look forward to next year's reunion dinner, which will follow a Dine Your Sweetheart format with a mystery V.I.P. speaker that might be a woman. *Jack Kilgour / Editor*

Editors Note

For those diners who would like to recall Norm Balfour's memorable dinner performance and for the benefit of those who could not be there, he has written out the words to "Please Oblige Us With A Bren Gun," by Noel Coward.

Col. Montmorency who, was in Calcutta in '92,
Emerged from his retirement for the War.
He wasn't very pleased with all he heard and all he saw,
But whatever he felt, he tightened his belt
And organized a corps
Col. Montmorency thought considering all the wars he'd fought,
The Home Guard had a job to do or die.
But after weeks and years of bravely drying his manly tears,
He wrote the following letter to the Minister of Supply:

"Could you please oblige us with a bren gun?
Or failing that, a hand grenade will do.
We've got some ammunition, in a rather damp condition,
And Major Huss has an arquebus, that was used at Waterloo.
With only a Vickers stirrup pump, a pitchfork and a spade,
It's rather hard to guard an aerodrome.
So if you can't oblige us with a bren gun,
The Home Guard might just as well go home."

"Could you please oblige us with a bren gun?
We're getting awfully tired of drawing lots.
Today we had a shipment of some curious equipment
And just for a prank they sent us a tank that ties itself in knots
On Sunday's mock invasion, Capt. Clark was heard to say
He hadn't even got a brush or comb.
So if you can't oblige us with a bren gun,
The Home Guard might just as well go home.

Col. Montmorency tried at infinite cost of time and pride
To tackle his superiors once again.
Having just one motor bike, four swords and a marlin spike,
He wrote the following letter in this most urgent strain.
"Could you please oblige us with a bren gun?
We need it very badly I'm afraid.
Our local crossword solver has an excellent revolver,
But during a short, attack on the fort, the trigger got mislaid.
We're now on operations and this Friday afternoon,
Our orders are to storm the hippodrome.
So if you can't oblige us with a bren gun,
Then the Home Guard might just as well go home."

"Could you please oblige us with a bren gun?
The lack of one is wounding to our pride.
Last night we caught the cutest, little German parachutist.
He looked at our kit and giggled a bit, then laughed until he cried.
We'll have to hide our armored car when marching through
Berlin. We'd almost been ashamed of it in Rome.
So if you can't oblige us with a bren gun,
The Home Guard might just as well go home".

RCN's EQUIPMENT CRISIS OF 1943

In a little known military magazine, Canadian Military History, I came across this ***Crisis*** *article by Lt. Richard Mayne, a naval reservist who works at the Directorate of History, NDHQ. I found it interesting enough to warrant this precis.* *Editor*

In January 1943, some RCN Mid-Atlantic Escort Groups were re-assigned because the RN felt Canadian ships were too inefficient for the task. The British view of RCN corvettes was that they were "probably more useful as rescue ships than anything else". At the Quebec Conference in August 1943, Winston Churchill was surprised to hear that the Canadians, given the small percentage of submarines sunk, were under the impression that they were making a large and important contribution to the Battle of the Atlantic. The RN knew that RCN was far behind the rest of the Allies in up-dating their equipment. In 1943 they lacked gyroscope compasses, hedgehog, dependable radar and effective asdic which were all essential in the Battle of the Atlantic.

Between May and June 1943, a few permanent force officers including: Captain J.M. Rowland RN (attached to the RCN); LCdr Desmond Piers RCN and Captain R.E.S. Bidwell RCN, wrote memos to the Naval Service Headquarters (NSHQ). They voiced their concerns that poor equipment on RCN escorts, operated by RCNVR personnel, was affecting their efficiency. The NSHQ, however, was very slow to respond. Commenting on the Chain of Command to NSHQ, one reserve officer stated that the use of proper channels had proved totally ineffective and the whole atmosphere at NSHQ stifled initiative.

One of the reasons for this was that RCN officers were inclined to be very diplomatic in criticizing NSHQ. Unlike the RCNVR officers who had civilian jobs to return to once the war ended, RCN officers had made the navy their livelihood and mistakes could mean the end of their careers. Furthermore, if a RCN officer complained about a problem, they could be put in charge of fixing it rather than a preferred sea appointment.

According to Lt. Mayne, it was a group of RCNVR officers who in civilian life had been personal friends of the executive assistant to the Minister of National Defense who were successful in exposing the deficiencies of Canadian escort ships. As a result, the Minister of Defense lost faith in the Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Percy W. Nelles. Wherever the blame lay, it was Nelles who paid the price. Rear Admiral G.C. Jones replaced him in January 1944.

IN MEMORIAM

Rear Admiral Thomas A. Smith OMM, CD**
Aug. 3, 1927–Oct 29, '00, UNTD *HMCS Hunter*
1946–49 Assumption College, Windsor.

Born and raised in Leamington, Ontario, Tom Smith joined the Naval Reserve at *HMCS HUNTER* in 1946 as an OS UNTD. After 3 years in the Reg. Force ('50-'52), he became the SO UNTD at *HUNTER* and eventually CO ('68-'71). He rose through the ranks to the position of Chief of Reserves for the Canadian Armed Forces. With his appointment to Rear Admiral in 1983, he became the first Admiral (Reserves) in Canadian history. He was the chairman of a Naval Reserve Consulting Group 1972-4 that led to the formation of the Maritime Defense Association of Canada and also served as the Canadian delegate to NATO in Brussels. He was awarded Commander of Military Merit in '81 & the NOAC Bronze Medallion in '75. Admiral Smith played a part in resurrecting the title UNTD as a Reserve Officer Training Program. It had disappeared with Hellyer's revamping of the Canadian Armed Forces in 1968. (See p. 11 SPINDRIFT UNTiDy TALES). Qualified with a command ticket, he was a well-known face at the coast and at the Great Lakes Training Centre in Hamilton during the 1950s & 60s. (See pp.105-107 UNTiDy TALES, C.O. *HMCS SCATARI*).

In his civilian life, Tom was a teacher, vice principal, Organization and Development Manager for Chrysler Canada and Senior Training Manager at Imperial Oil. His community work included a seat on the Windsor Board of Governors of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires and the United Way. He is survived by wife Louise, former wife Olga, eleven children, and twenty-five grandchildren.

He will be well remembered as a public speaker with a flair for theatrics, humor and a convivial manner. His speeches, like his conversation, were always thought provoking. He last spoke to our organization at the UNTD London Reunion in 1996. His theme was based on the amazing accomplishments of UNTD graduates and how

we should use our influence to stem the flow of current misinformation designed to degrade the Canadian Armed Forces. Admiral Tom Smith has left a great legacy and will always remain an outstanding example of the true value of the UNTD program.

Cdr Fred Lee Ret'd
UNTD McMaster 1957-60

Augustine (Gus) Hidenori Higuchi
November 13, 1927-July 11, 1998
UNTD *HMCS STAR* 1947–1951 OAC, Guelph

Gus Higuchi was a long–standing member of the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve following his UNTD training. He was a member of the "Dream Cruise" on *HMCS ATHABASKAN* in 1948. That story, featured in the Diary of Don Gillies, was recently serialized in this newsletter. Gus maintained his naval association in Vancouver, becoming a long-time member of the NOAC. He was a keen volunteer around *HMCS DISCOVERY*, lending his technical skills to various projects. For example, he regularly helped with our "Vancouver Naval Museum and Heritage Society", building display cabinets with great precision.

He is survived by his wife Betty of Toronto, five children and seven grandchildren. Gus was a retired teacher and student counselor of the Vancouver School Board. His family, friends and colleagues will remember him for his public service, generosity, good nature and fun-loving spirit Among the words of appreciation for Gus at his service, was an address given by Bob McIlwaine, former UNTD and C.O. of *HMCS DISCOVERY* and past president of NOAC. The memorial service was conducted aboard *HMCS DISCOVERY*. Later, his ashes were carried to sea and committed to the deep.

Ron Harrison, President NOAC of BC
Anglican Archdeacon of Vancouver

UNTIDIES - BONDING A NATION

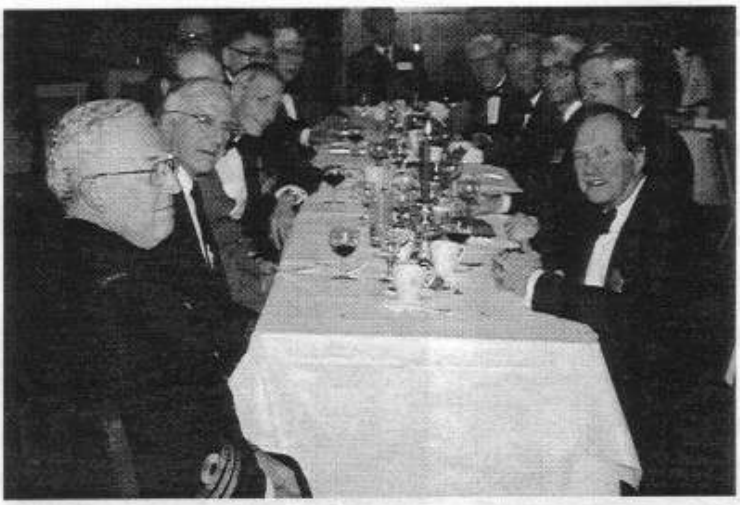
In this issue of the newsletter we are featuring Jim Speight, UNTD 1949-1952, *HMCS CHIPPAWA*, University of Manitoba. The spotlight is on his work in progress that he has entitled, ***UNTIDIES - BONDING A NATION***.

Jim Speight was born in Toronto in 1929, moving to Winnipeg in 1939. He completed a degree in Commerce at U. of M. in 1952 as well as receiving his commission as a sub-lieutenant. He worked as a representative & manager for IBM in Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver. In 1966 he left IBM and founded a computer software and consulting service called Computech Consulting Canada. In 1972 he sold his shares in Computech and began operating independently. He established Universal Library Systems, a company that developed an on-line Circulation Control and Public Access system called ULISYS. It has been installed in over 30 municipal and academic libraries throughout the U.S. and Canada. Over a decade ago he began winding down his business interests and in 1994 became a fulltime writer. He has completed two books, "***Electronic Politics***", published on the Internet, and "***The Assertive Patient***". Living near Vancouver on the "Sunshine Coast" across Howe Sound from the Horseshoe Bay Ferry, he is an active member of a writer's group.

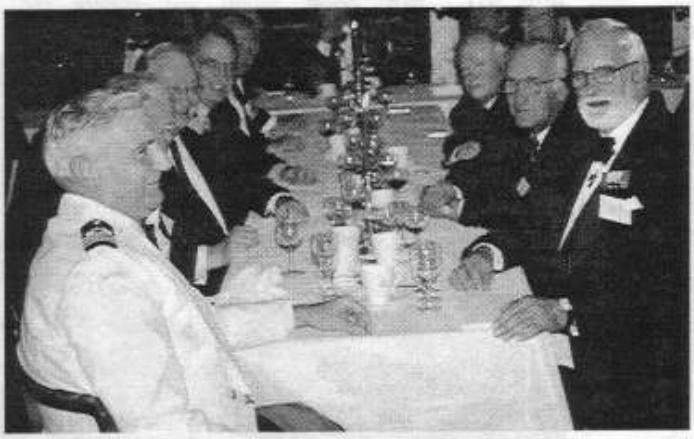
In the introduction to his 150-page UNTD manuscript, Jim states that the purpose of his book is to tell the story of the UNTD. His aim is to show the benefit of UNTD training to the Canadian Navy and how Canada has benefited through the enhancement of leadership skills in many UNTD graduates. With the UNTD and similar programs in the army and air force, Canada had a golden opportunity to create a successful group of leaders capable of taking key roles in society, government, science and industry. To illustrate this, he has dedicated one section of the book to the biographies of many successful and famous UNTD graduates.

In ***UNTIDIES, BONDING A NATION***, Jim recognizes that there are two sides to the story of the UNTD. One side emphasizes the adventure, the friendships created, the vastly improved knowledge and understanding of our country and the happy experiences. The other side, a serious one, refers to the development of naval officers and the parallel with that objective, the training of leaders.

It would appear that Jim has taken the development of the UNTD story one step beyond the book, ***UNTiDy Tales***, that anecdotal overview written as a 50th Anniversary project in 1993. ***UNTIDIES, BONDING A NATION***, will be a welcome addition to our growing history of achievement. We encourage Jim's endeavour and wish him well. Jim Speight: R.R. #6, 1516 Thompson Road, Gibsons, BC, V0N 1V6, Tel. (604) 886-1771 or e-mail jim_speight@sunshine.net

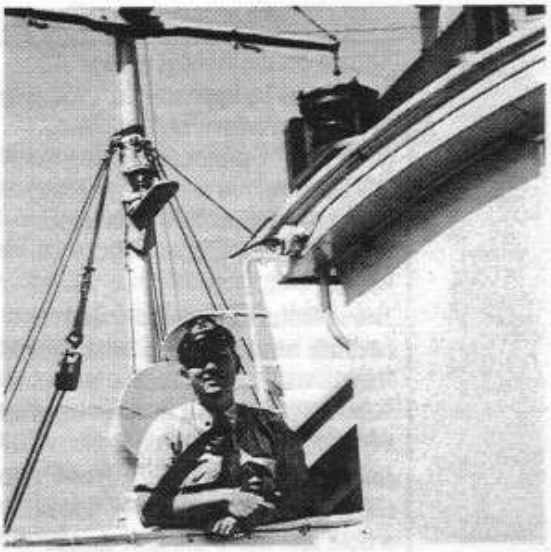


Mess dinner Starboard table: left - Vice F. Lee, M. Boles, R. Richards, P. Yocom, E. de Becker, David Bate. Right – P. Westbrook, R. Connell, C. Bostock, John Bate, Derek Bate.

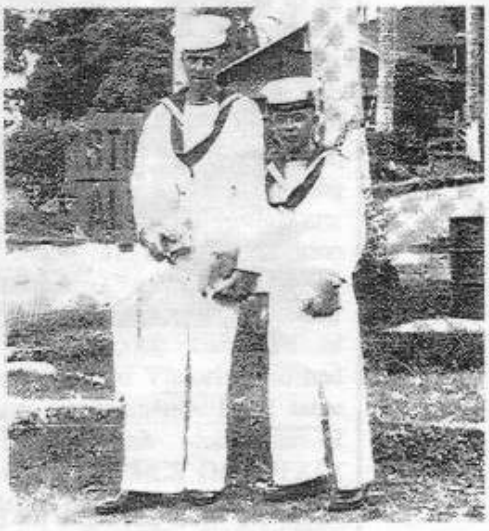


Midships table: left – Vice R. Williamson, N. Balfour, W. Breukelman, D. Gallaher, T. Ferrens, D. Hain. Right – R. Bennett, B. Milne, T. Barwick, R. Morris, D. Beninger.

Port table: left – J. Deadman, B. Kerman Barrie deVeber J. Roberts. Right – Vice T. Pitts, L. Bush, J. Houston, B. Ogden, J. Sharon, R. Kenney, M. Llewelllyn. *Photos by Terry Doran*



Tom Smith (top) as he appeared in 1961 as C.O of HMCS SCATARI at Great Lakes Training in Hamilton. Above as he appeared at the 1996 UNTD London Reunion. *Photos by R. Williamson*



Gus Higuchi with Jack Coon on a run *ashore from HMCS ATHABASKAN in Panama, 1948.*
Courtesy O.A.C. Review

Shown on the right is author Jim Speight as he appeared in 1952 when he was commissioned at *HMCS CHIPPAWA* after completing the UNTD program at the University of Manitoba and as he appears today at his home in Gibsons B.C.

Jim is featured in the newsletter because he is writing a book which he will call, UNTIDIES – BONDING A NATION. It will include biographies of many successful and famous UNTD graduates. If you know anyone who should be included in this list, send him a note and make his task easier.

Al Squire wrote a letter to the Editor (see page 12). He is shown here, holding a broom, with Don Gillies in 194 They are standing in front of UNTiDy Lodge at the William Head Quarantine Station after the Athabaskan Cruise. In the right hand photo, Al Squire on the left is standing with John Mason at the *HMCS UGANDA* Reunion in Nanaimo on Sep. 8, 2000. John Mason, a retired commander, is the founder of the Maritime Museu in Victoria. Al served on the *UGANDA* when he had a spell of continuous duty in 1947. After graduating from the University of Manitoba in 1950, he spent ten years in the RCN. He is very proud of the fact that he can still get into the uniform that he wore in 1947. He has been active in a leadership role in the NOAC for many years.

UNTD NATIONAL REUNION 2000

By Gil Hutton

As promised by the editor in the last newsletter, here is the rest of the story on the 2000 Reunion at Royal Roads, Seattle, Bremerton Navy Yards, and the Alaska Cruise.

The weather in Victoria at the end of August was fabulous. Royal Roads is a beautiful and romantic setting as many of you may recall if you had the opportunity to entertain a young lady in the gardens forty years ago. For the Meet and Greet Afternoon, we had the run of the ground floor of the old castle. The terrace overlooking the gardens and harbour was particularly nice. Many UNTDs with their wives renewed acquaintances and formed new joint friendships. Of course the major topic was. "Do you remember the time..." The conversations continued as the shadows lengthened into the golden glow of sunset.

Most guests would have been unaware that the new civilian administration at Royal Roads has no understanding of military ceremony or protocol. This drove event chairman Gil Hutton crazy and took hours of persuading and cajoling to get things done right.

On Friday morning, the Royal Roads contingent met the West Coast group at the spectacular new Naden Wardroom. It is a gorgeous facility, making excellent use of wood, stone and glass in reception rooms, dining area and bar. All spaces have a breathtaking view of the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

Many participants thought that they had seen the dockyard before and that it would only be mildly interesting. It was, in fact, fascinating. Forty years ago, young men, even erudite UNTDs, weren't particularly interested in history or architecture. Now we realize that *HMC Dockyard* in Esquimalt is one of the most historic in the world with dozens of buildings dating back to 1840. While the gracious old brick facades have been preserved, the insides are thoroughly modern. We stopped at the flagstaff and memorial on top of the hill for an impressive overview of the entire harbour and surrounding area. After the tour we proceeded to *HMCS VANCOUVER* for lunch. While anyone would be impressed by their first tour of a Canadian patrol frigate, I have toured four of them and was truly impressed by the enthusiasm, cheerfulness, depth of knowledge, smartness and hospitality of the entire crew of *VANCOUVER*. Incidentally, the crew is 25% female, the wardroom 40%! The commanding officer, CDR J. T. Heath, said as we publicly thanked him for his hospitality, that he had the best ship in the navy, and he may well be right! The thing that impressed me the most was our guides' knowledge of the whole ship, not just their own area of responsibility. When I commented how particularly impressive our tour and lunch had been in view of the short 24-hour notice they had, CDR Heath calmly remarked that an hour would have sufficed.

The Cowichan Native Village Coast Salish Feast and cultural evening was so good that we were glad that the Sooke Loggers Show had been cancelled. Our host was funny and entertaining while at the same time communicating the history and traditions of his people and his justifiable pride therein. The ceremonies, dances and pageant were colourful and impressive, never heavy-handed. A film documentary of the history and traditions of the West Coast native peoples was most impressive.

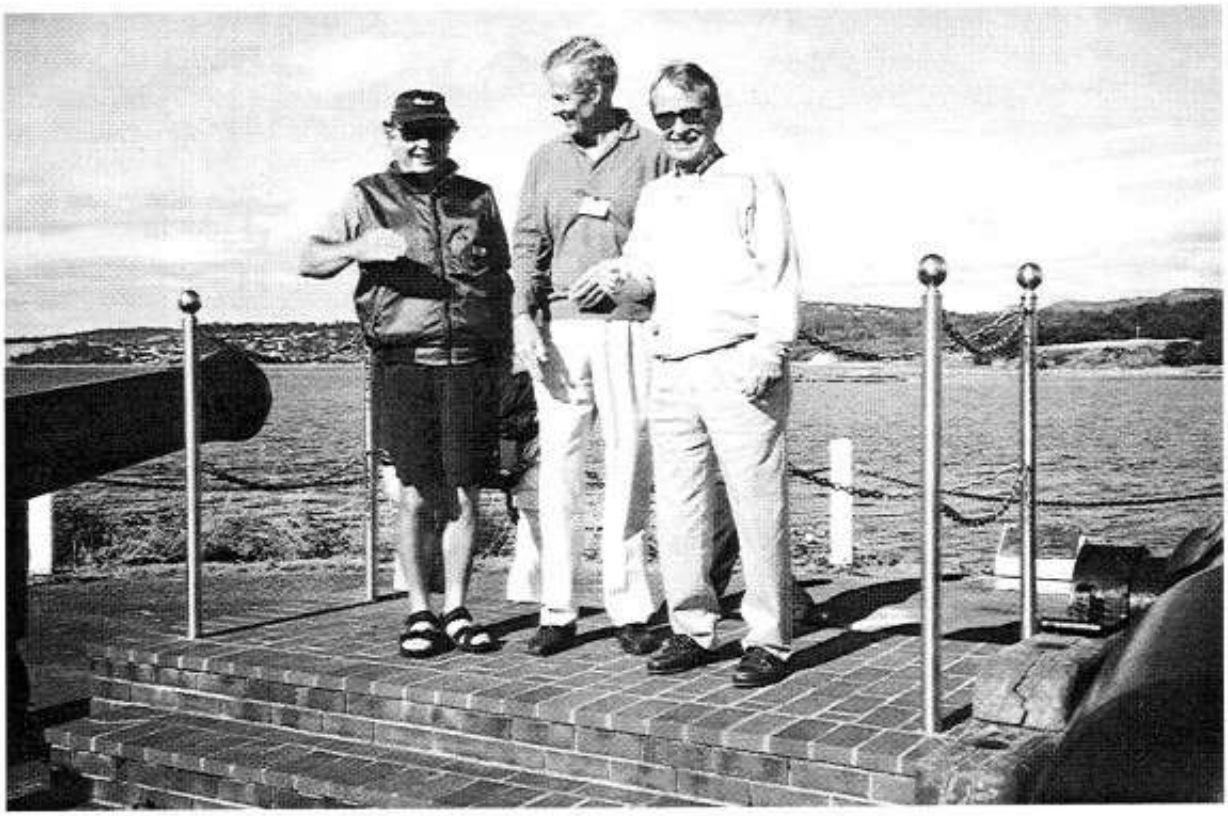
The tour of Victoria on Saturday morning reminded us what a beautiful city it is, but the Butchart Gardens were intoxicating. In the brilliant sunshine and soft breezes, this riot of colour and incredible floral variety were like a dream.

When we arrived for the formal dinner that night, the catering staff's interpretation of our detailed instructions for a mess dinner set up had to be seen to be believed. After some frantic rearranging, everything went fairly well. The three vice presidents were: CDR Duncan MacRae, a former Commanding Officer of *HMCS MALAHAT* representing the West Coast; CAPT Bob Duncombe, former Commanding Officer of *HMCS CARLETON* and former President of the UNTD White Twist Association of Ottawa; and Doug Hain, Past President of the UNTD Association of Upper Canada. Other guests of note were Brooke Campbell of Vancouver and Russ Cape of Victoria who had helped with reunion arrangements. Head table guests included: CAPT Bob McIlwaine of Vancouver, former CO of *HMCS DISCOVERY* and Past President of NOAC of British Columbia; and Arthur Kroeger, distinguished Public Servant and Deputy Minister of five Federal Governments. The guest of honour was Rear Admiral (now Vice Admiral, the first of

that exalted rank on the West Coast) Ron Buck. Our guest speaker was that famous ex-UNTD CAPT Peter Newman. Appropriate, inspiring, nostalgic and amusing remarks were made by all of the above. Brooke Campbell and Bob McIlwaine spoke of UNTD experiences from the West Coast point of view. Arthur Kroeger gave some witty reminiscences of both his UNTD and subsequent political career. Peter Newman spoke of the importance of the UNTD to the navy and to Canada as well as relating some hilarious anecdotes. Admiral Buck welcomed everyone to the West Coast, spoke of the value of the UNTD experience and the expanding role of the navy in the Pacific Command. Gil Hutton, past Chairman of the UNTD Association Board of Directors did his best as Mess President for the evening to keep things running smoothly. Bob Duncombe gave a moving tribute to our Godfather, CDR C. H. Little, now in his 90s and unable to attend. However he did send his heartfelt and emotional greetings which Bob read. Despite a few glitches, everyone felt that the evening turned out to be a fitting tribute to an unique organization, - The UNTD.

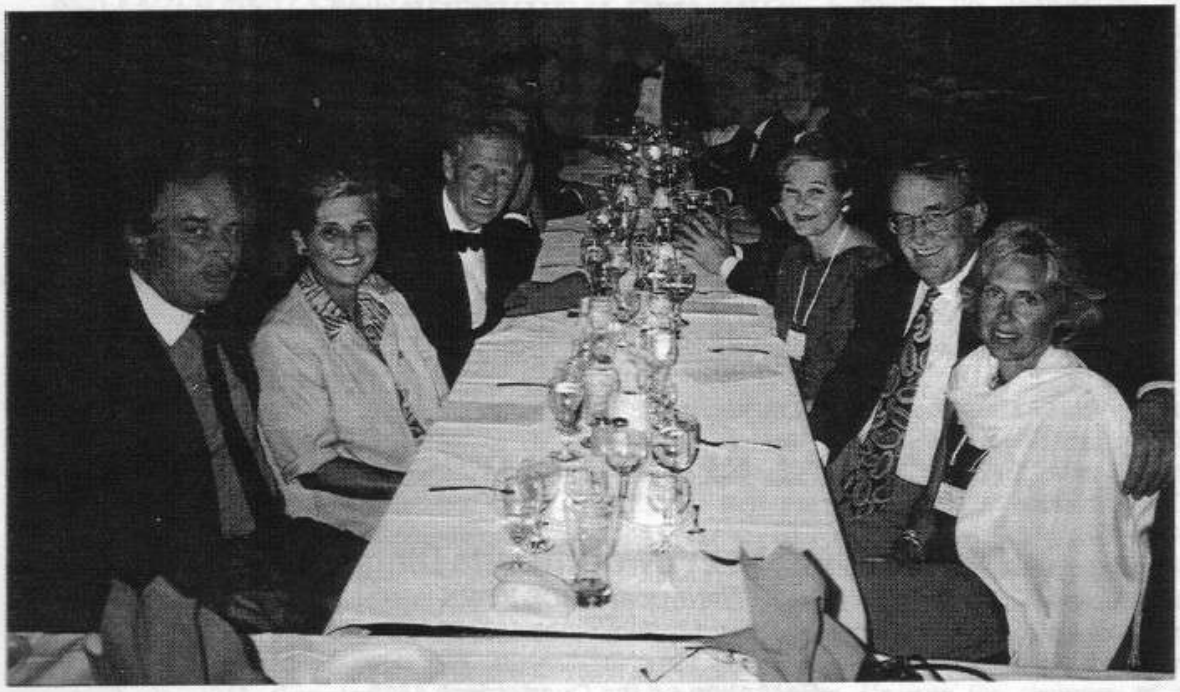
On Sunday morning following a traditional and memorable church service conducted by UNTD Bill Thomas (Canon of the Anglican Diocese of Niagara), Gil Hutton presided over Up-Spirits. Gil issued Pussers Rum while wearing his "Pussers" shirt with the old RN flag hoist for Up-Spirits. Each male recipient doubled up and stood at attention (allowing for bad backs and deteriorating hip joints). A surprising number of female guests not only downed the first tot but came back for a second as did Bill Thomas, upholding the Chaplain's two-tots tradition. In fact, demonstrating great self-sacrifice and fortitude, he managed a third. UNTD Reunion 2,000 concluded with an excellent brunch held, like the dinner the night before, in the old of Royal Roads Quarterdeck. A member of the Admiral's staff spoke of the importance of such reunions and wished us all God Speed.

The story of the visit to Seattle, the Bremerton Navy Yard and the Alaska Cruise will be told in the Fall Issue of the UNTD Association Newsletter.

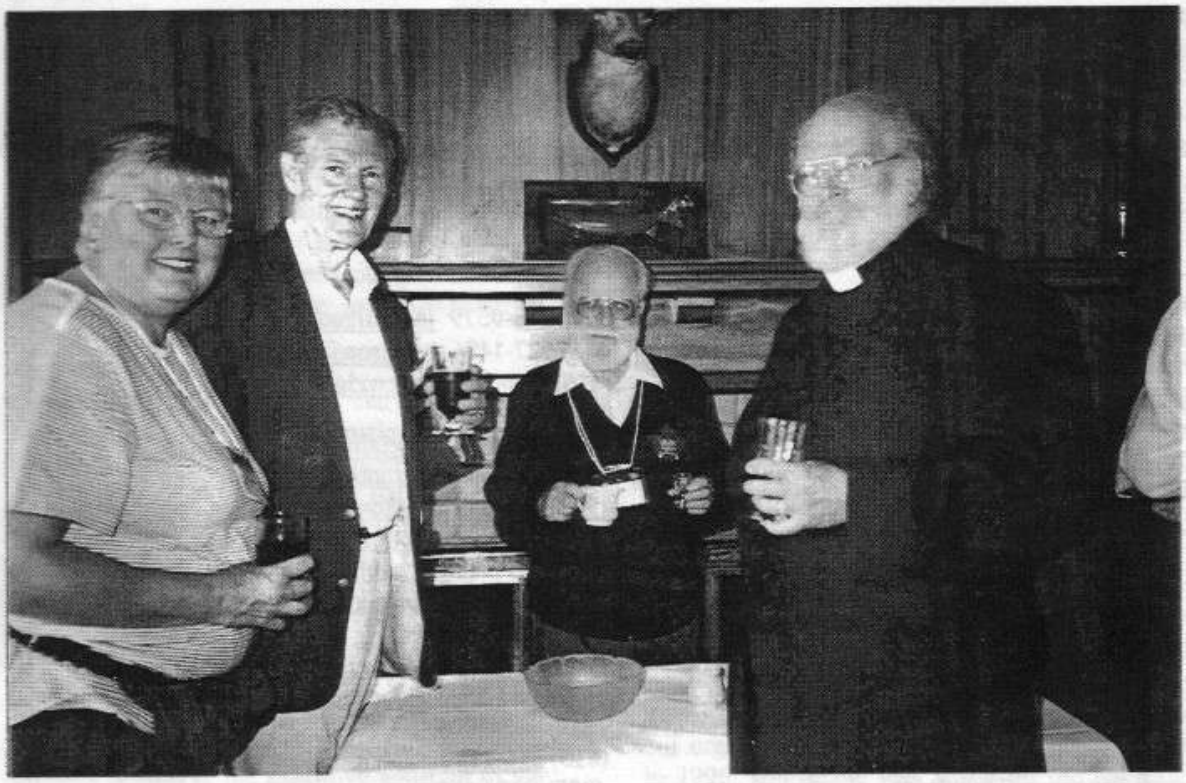


Peter Hyde (YORK, U. of T. '66), Conn Baker (CATARAQUI, Queens '55), Dave Gallagher (STAR / CATARAQUI, McMaster /Queens '55) on the Look-off Memorial at the channel entrance to HMC DOCKYARD, Esquimalt.

Photo Courtesy: Gil Hutton



Seated with a mellow glow after the Reunion 2000 Dinner on the Royal Roads Quarterdeck are:(left to right) Peter Hyde, Llyn Urquhart, Conn Baker, Anne (Piers) Baker, David Gallagher, and Beverley Hyde.



Gathered at "Up-Spirits" after the church service are (left to right): Jetta Thomas, Conn Baker, Issuing Officer Gil Hutton and Canon Bill Thomas, enjoying his traditional Chaplain's second tot.

UNTD SOCIAL EVENTS FOR YOUR YEAR 2001 CALENDAR

SPRING WEEPERS

Time and Place to be Decided

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wardroom, HMCS YORK
Thursday, September 27, 2001
1800 hours for A.G.M.
1915-2015 Steak B.B.Q
Dress Informal, Wives & Friends Welcome

ANNUAL REUNION MESS DINNER

Dine Your Sweethearts Dinner

Wardroom HMCS YORK
Saturday, November 17, 2001

Reception on the Quarterdeck 1830
Roast Beef Dinner with Yorkshire Pudding 1930
Dinner Wines & Port, Tariff $60.00

Guest Speaker

To Be Announced
Invitations mailed early October. Mark your calendar now!

For further information contact Bob Willson
(416) 927-1486 or Email bwillson@istar.ca

UNTD ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2001

President / Treasurer	**Jack Kilgour**	**(416) 288-0579**	**jackkilgour@home.com**
Vice President	**Bob Willson**	**(416) 927-1486**	**bwillson@istar.ca**
Past President	**Alex Wright**	**(416) 402-7526**	**alecwright@hotmail.com**
Past Chairman	**Gil Hutton**	**(905) 523-9151**	
Secretary	**John Heighton**	**(905) 584-9337**	**j.heighton@sympatico.ca**
Newsletter & Historian	**Bob Williamson**	**(905) 383-6084**	cdrbob@worldchat.com
Chaplain/UNTD Web Site	**Bill Thomas**	**(905) 628-2412**	**wthomas@niagara.anglican.ca**
Membership Services	**Doug Hain**	**(416) 239-7061**	doug1@sympatico.ca
Director	**Conyers Baker**	**(416) 621-9410**	cbaker@electrolyser.ca
Director	**Terry Doran**	**(416) 489-5615**	terencedoran@webtv.net
Director	**Hugh Franks**	**(416) 968-0105**	
Director	**Bob Morris**	**(905) 383-7419**	morreng@sentex.net
Director (Ottawa)	**Bob Duncombe**	**(613) 730-5533**	bobduncombe@hotmail.com
Director (London)	**Peter Schwartz**	**(519) 645-7026**	
Director (Kingston)	**Ed File**	**(613) 396-1140**	**<lofi@suckercreek.on.ca>**
Director (Hamilton)	**Gil Hutton**	**(905) 523-9151**	

BOOK REVIEW
By Bob Willson

HMCS HAIDA, Battle Ensign Flying, Barry Gough, Vanwell Publishing, $50.00, HC, 260pp 8.5 x11", B/W photos, ISBN 1-55125-058-6.

Professor Barry Gough's new book has done an outstanding job of recording *HAIDA*'s history from the time the concept of building Tribal class destroyers was first mooted in Naval Service Headquarters. He follows her twenty years of active service, and the struggle to get her to Toronto, right up to the current battle to ensure she survives as a national symbol of our naval heritage. Others like Sclater's charming book, *HAIDA*, was published while the war was still raging and presents a highly readable, but limited view. Butcher's effort is strictly anecdotal, and leaves much to be desired. E.C.Russell's little pamphlet gives a clinical overview of *HAIDA*'s history, but reads rather like a summary of the Monthly Reports of Proceedings. Gough gives us the whole picture in highly readable but comprehensive terms.

A major portion of the work deals with the ship's outstanding performance, under Harry DeWolf's command, in 1944. The chapter on *HAIDA*'s activities in 1945, including her final trip to Norway under the command of Bob Welland, presents us with some stories that are recorded in print for the first time. Drawing extensively on the original war diary which the Navigating Officer, Norm Jackson, kept for Dunn Lantier, the book provides a new look at the Korean War, as experienced in *HAIDA*. A wealth of material will enlighten many readers to the scope and purpose on the Canadian effort in the early development of NATO, the beginnings of the Cold War, and the role of navies in time of peace.

The final chapters outline the determination of the members of "*HAIDA* Incorporated", to save the ship from destruction and bring her to a fitting resting-place in Toronto. They felt their wildest dreams had been fulfilled when the Ontario government of John Robarts took ownership of *HAIDA* in 1970. However, the story of the next thirty years has been filled with ups and downs and the neglect resulting from under funding and apathy finally catches up with the ship in the late 1990's. Fortunately, there seems to be a small reawakening of government interest at both the federal and provincial levels leading to surveys and studies to find a way to perpetuate the ship. It is to be hoped that these studies will not be left to gather dust in the archives, and that the money and political will to save the ship will materialize in the foreseeable future.

This carefully researched, well-written and beautifully illustrated book is a chronicle of our nation's history. It deserves to be in the collection of every naval buff and in every school library in Canada. Dr Gough is a noted historian who has published or edited over twenty books. He is Professor of History and Assistant Dean of Arts at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo Ontario. He has generously donated all his earnings from this book to the Friends of *HMCS HAIDA* for the preservation of the ship.

To place book orders at the author's invitational price of $45.00, send the order form to:
Vanwell Publishing Limited, P.O. Box 2131,
1 Northrup Cres. St. Catharines, ON
L2R 7S2, or
Phone Toll Free: 1-800-661-6136
Fax: 905-937-1760
Email: <sales@vanwell.com>

Order by Phone, Fax, Email or Mail

Offer Valid Only in Canada

Please send me _____ copies of
HMCS Haida: Battle Ensign Flying
@ $ 45.00* NET ea.
Price **includes** GST, Shipping & Handling
(*Reg. List Price is $50.00 *plus* Tx, S & H)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov _____ PC _____

Phone _____

Email _____

[ ] Visa [ ] Mastercard [ ] Cheque [ ] Money Order

Credit Card # _____

Expiry Date _____ Signature _____

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

October 25, 2000
Toronto, ON.

Dear Editor,
I am sorry that I did not get to the reunion in Esquimalt last summer. However, I was so moved by the September Reunion Issue of the Newsletter that I had to write and congratulate you on it. The picture on the front of the newsletter of the Cadet Guard in Victoria 1949 brought back a lot of memories.

Our class from YORK trained at STADACONA in the summer of '49 and at NADEN R.T.E. in 1950. The Bicentennial Year of Halifax was celebrated in 1949. Our group, after very thorough training by CPO Steiner, mounted a guard in the big parade. I still remember him screaming, "Buck up your ideas, Sir." Six miles with a heavy Lee Enfield rifle on one's shoulder was a challenge, but we did look smart! Is there any chance that someone can produce a picture of the Halifax parade?

Keep up the good work. Incidentally, is there a roster available to the current association members?

Alistair M. MacKenzie
146 The Kingsway, M8X 2V3

Editor's Note: This is a call for Halifax Bicentennial pictures and stories. The only one that exists is on page 140 of UNTiDy TALES.

The Association has been working on a new roster for some time with no success. The last person assigned to the task was David Fry and he has been struck down with a debilitating illness. The roster should be our new focus now that the reunion is over.

Dec. 13, 2000
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Dear Editor,
It was very thoughtful of you to send along back copies of the UNTD Newsletter. They were interesting and brought back a lot of memories especially about the 1948 ATHABASKAN Cruise. Would you believe that I can still get into my original uniform? It is a bit of a struggle since it is the old pullover jumper with no zipper.

I had fun at the UGANDA Reunion in Nanaimo. The next one is in 2002 in Kingston. All the associations are getting thinner and thinner as the old salts depart, including ex-UNTDs. Sad to hear that Don Gillies is gone. I am 73 and he had to be about the same.

I am active with the navy still, being National Director for the Manitoba Branch of the NOAC. I am also National Treasurer for an interim period – should have learned long ago never to volunteer. We have a good relationship with HMCS CHIPPAWA and I am active with "Friends of HMCS WINNIPEG" as well. The new Base at CHIPPAWA is quite nice but much smaller than the old place. We had our NOAC Wardroom Christmas Cocktail Party there on Sunday last. It was fine but the whole world has changed dramatically from the old days. Did you know that I ended up in the Regular Force for a goodly number of years? I retired in 1960 to take a position as Accounting Manager for Eatons.

I am Editor of "Ditty Box" the newsletter of the NOAC Winnipeg Branch which goes out a least once a year. As you must know it is a lot of work preparing and mailing 150 copies. Thanks for your interest and best wishes to your UNTD association. I suppose I should join but there is no connection here. Our ex-UNTDs can join NOAC.

Alan Squire,
227 Balfour Ave. R3L 1N4

CORRECTIONS

The photo of the UNTD Cadet March-Past on the cover of the Fall Edition of this newsletter incorrectly stated that the picture was taken at Beacon Hill Park. The Parade formed up beside Beacon Hill. The actual saluting dais shown in the picture was in front of the Empress Hotel. It is now believed that the page 3 picture of the cadet inspection on a coal jetty in 1949 took place at Royston on Comox Harbour.

Sam Huntington

UNTD NEWSLETTER

The UNTD Association of Upper Canada publishes this newsletter twice a year. Send letters, anecdotes, or suggestions to Newsletter Editor: Cdr Robert Williamson, 1 Clonmore Ave., Hamilton, Ontario. L9A 4R2; OR e-mail Cdrbob@worldchat.com

VISIT THE UNTD WEB SITE
http:/www.untd.org/