



Battle of Atlantic Sunday: poor turnout on a sunny day

By Bill Qualtrough

The day was both exhilarating and disappointing. Thank God for the TSCAA.

The exhilarating part was due to the many in uniform who made up the majority of the parade. The Band from HMCS YORK was exceptional in both appearance and sound. The sailors from HMCS YORK and Sea Cadets from RSCC VANGUARD, Navy League Cadets from NLCC ENTERPRISE and NLCC ARK ROYAL, marched very well and wore their uniforms with pride.

To me it was disappointing to see the few veterans that were there. Seats were provided for the Official Party and those who were not able to march, including a couple of NOAC members and TSCAA members, **Bob Connell, John Fielder** and **Norm Fraser**. Of those who marched the former Wrens once again showed up the males. There were a dozen of them who marched beautifully. There were only seven of us in the non-uniform group, including and led by **Cdr. Bob Willson, Saul Glass** and I represented the NOAC and TSCAA, there were members of the Naval Club and a lady represented the Royal Canadian Legion. I believe the only one in the parade who had actually participated in the Battle of the Atlantic was a chap named "Bill" who showed me the way to the Eagles Club. It was an honour to buy him a beer.

I have saved the best for last. The colour party from the TSCAA led the parade and made us very proud. **Peter, Mike, Bill, Ken, Larry** and **Andy** performed as professionals and set the tone for the entire



parade. Not only did they look real spiffy in their uniforms but they performed drill as if they do it every day.

The media coverage of the day was underwhelming. The only picture I saw was of a Navy League Cadet aboard HMCS SACKVILLE, nothing in Toronto papers or TV.

What do we have to do to get people to remember the Battle of the Atlantic and recognize the sacrifices made by so many men for us?

PARADE WATCH

Every parade has a beginning, a middle and an end. Scenes from the Battle of Atlantic Sunday parade, which began at Nathan Phillips Square, moved to old city hall cenotaph, and ended for some at the Naval Club's temporary home, the Eagles Club on Elm Street.

TSCAA Colour Party waiting, marching and sipping. Bob Willson leads a mixed Naval Club and NOAC contingent.



NAVY WATCH

HMC ships of the Toronto Area

By Peter Dixon

During WWII, Toronto, its suburbs and surrounding towns were well represented in names of 15 ships of various types. The destroyer was HMCS HAMILTON, the former USS KALK one of the fifty lend lease destroyers. Two Bangor minesweepers HMCS BURLINGTON (J250), and HMCS OSHAWA (J330).

There were seven Corvettes, HMCS OAKVILLE (K178) rammed and sank U-94 on August 28 1942. The others were: DUNDAS (K229), WHITBY (K346), WESTYORK (K369), MIMICO (K485) FORESTHILL (K486) and LONG BRANCH (K487).

There were five Frigates of which SWANSEA (328) was the top U-boat killer of the RCN credited with U-845, U-448, and U-247. The others were: LEASIDE (492), BOWMANVILLE (493), TORONTO (1) (538) and RUNNYMEDE.

The RCN's Toronto Division was HMCS YORK at the Automotive building in the CNE capable of billeting 1200. From 1939 to 1945 the Toronto Naval Division recruited some 14,183 officers, men and WRCNS, the largest number in Canada.

Navy coin ahead

Jenny Wren Times informs us that the Canadian Mint may issue a numismatic Coin (collectors coin, proof dollar) to commemorate the naval centennial. A circulation coin would create a public awareness of the role that the Canadian navy has played both in war and in peace over the past 100 years.

Why not give one to each naval vet? [Ed.]

Coming soon to a port near you

In September and October, the frigate HMCS VILLE DE QUEBEC will sail up the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes to Sarnia. This annual deployment of a frigate through the Lakes is a component of Canada Command's "Operation Connection," to reach out and connect with Canadians.

There are four port visits in our area:

Toronto	4 - 8 Sep: Day sail 7 Sep
Sarnia	9 - 11 Sep: Day sail 11 Sep
Windsor	11 - 14 Sep
Oshawa	15 - 17 Sep

During each port visit there will be a reception on-board, at least one luncheon and targeted tours for educators and students.

This year, Maritime Command's emphasis will be on recruiting for the navy's six 'distressed' trades. Thus, while the ship is in each port, the focus for receptions and luncheons will be on inviting educators who can attract Canadians into these distressed trades.



Ever wonder why we have a Navy?

Mission Statement

Canada is a maritime nation and one of the world's most important coastal states.

The Canadian navy's fundamental mission is to defend the nation.

Three things make Canada sovereign at sea: effective surveillance, meaningful presence, and an ability to control maritime events in our own waters.

Maritime security at home and abroad is vital to Canadians' way of life: that makes it navy business.

The Arctic is a maritime theatre of operations. Canada's maritime forces are uniquely postured to project Canadian power and influence.

The task group provides Canada with the capacity for independent and sovereign action at sea.

Our submarines are national strategic assets, unique for the strategic, operational and tactical effects they generate.

The navy is at the leading edge of the CF's response to the evolving security environment.

Navies take a long time to build but provide returns on investment for decades.

The navy is at the threshold of a major transition period between the fleet of today and the fleet of tomorrow.

Building the future fleet is not just about your navy: it's also an investment in the nation, for the nation.

*From Canadian Navy Strategic Communications Handbook, 2008-2009
www.noac.ottawa.on.ca*

NOAC WATCH

Thanks to *Bumpk*

NOAC has endorsed the concept of a nationwide essay contest that will invite high school students from coast to coast to write a 1000-word essay, or a narrative poem, or produce an illustration on some aspect of the evolution of the Canadian Navy. A choice of themes will be presented for student consideration, and students will participate in an active and innovative exercise designed to increase and improve their knowledge and appreciation of the role that the Canadian Navy has played in Canada's evolution to nationhood and international standing.

The initiative, keyed to the Canadian History, Language, and Art curricula will be coupled with the publication of a booklet entitled "*An ABC of The Battle of the Atlantic.*"

There will be a scholarship winner declared for each Province and the Territories. The winners from Ontario east will be taken to the 2010 Fleet Review in Halifax and the winners from Manitoba west, including the Territories, will attend the Fleet Review in Victoria.

PIX FROM THE PAST



Hint: he's on the Executive



AGO display of tiny ships merits a visit

This model reminds me of early Sunday mornings on Lake Ontario with cox'n **John Yurkin** calling the stroke as we flash past Sunnyside beach. Actually it's a troop landing craft, part of an excellent display of model ships donated by **Ken Thomson** to the **Art Gallery of Ontario**.

One of Thomson's early acquisitions and a lasting favourite was this rare Georgian-style model of a troop landing craft made around 1760. This intricate model is complete with over 50 figures – 16 sailors rowing marines to shore. Few models were made with figures and this was one aspect that intrigued him as it gave a human face to the 18th century navy. Thomson's collection of over 130 historic ship models spans some 350 years and contains examples of exquisite workmanship and some of the masterpieces of the genre.

This collection rivals the best museum collections in the world. Quality and skill of craftsmanship were of paramount importance to Thomson as well as the history of the vessels themselves and their provenance.

The earliest examples that Thomson focused on in depth were the models made by French prisoners of war captive in Britain during the Napoleonic Wars (1794-1815). The quality of craftsmanship reflects the fact that many of the sailors who were press-ganged into the navy previously had skilled occupations such as watchmakers. Captured by the British either on land or at sea, they found themselves incarcerated in British prisons and by making models and other objects, such as the double watch stand in the Collection, the prisoners were able to make decent wages and buy better materials and tools. Bone was available from their weekly ration of beef on the bone and they used other materials such as straw, which they coloured, and human hair.

CORPS WATCH Sea Cadet Reviews

RCSCC OJIBWA 3 June, 1830

John English Community School
99 George St., (Mimico), Toronto
Reviewing Officer – LT(N)
Andrew Townley, CD
Former Commanding Officer

RCSCC SCARBOROUGH 6 June, 1300

Don Montgomery Community Centre
2467 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto
Reviewing Officer Capt.(Air)
Paul Martin Bousigard, CD,
Area Cadet Officer, Western Ontario Region

RCSCC VANGUARD / RCSCC ONTARIO 7 June, 1430

HMCS York 659 Lakeshore Blvd. West Toronto.
Reviewing Officer: Cdr
Matthew Davies
Commanding Officer HMCS York

RCSCC HAIDA 14 June, 1730

Erin Mills Twin Arena 3205 Unity Drive Mississauga
Reviewing Officer – L/Cdr
Mike Nixon
Regional Cadet Advisor

RCSCC ILLUSTRIOUS 14 June, 1430

Terry Miller Recreation Centre
1295 Williams Parkway
Brampton
Reviewing Officer: TBA

CORPS WATCH

Minister of National Defence **Peter McKay** unfurls a new camp flag to celebrate the centennial of the Cadet Instructors Cadre (CIC) sub-component of the Canadian Forces Reserve. The flag is comprised of the three Canadian Forces elemental colours behind a centred CIC Branch badge. The gold trim is representative of the cadets who are the primary focus of the CIC. Cadets are the common element that binds the three elements within the branch.



What's a flag raising without a proclamation? Let these words inspire.

WHEREAS Canada and its youth have been well served by the Cadet Organizations since 1879,

AND WHEREAS, the Cadet Instructors Cadre, responsible for the administration, training and supervision of these cadets have diligently carried out their responsibilities in a highly professional manner,

AND WHEREAS, the Cadet Instructors Cadres predecessor under the Militia Act (1909) was first established on May 1, 1909,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the year 2009 shall be designated the 100th Anniversary Year of the Cadet Instructors Cadre in Canada,

AND THEREFORE, Canadians are encouraged to commemorate this historic occasion by conducting celebrations from sea to sea to sea ©

Words from our constitution

1.0 The Association will comprise members of the original Toronto Sax Cadet Corps, their successors and those interested in Sax Cadet affairs; to keep in touch, inform, entertain and support the naval community.

Your Executive will meet to develop ways to put these words into action. What is this organization all about? Why do some members fail to pay their dues and essentially quit? On the other hand, *why do you remain a member?* What else could the Executive be doing to develop greater participation? Any member is welcome to participate in the meeting. Date to be announced.

If you can't make it to the meeting, but have ideas about these or any other topics, you can write a letter to the president **Mike Roger** c/o 3007 Kington Rd Box 105, Toronto ON M1M 1P1, 905-712-0652 or masroger@live.com.

MEMORIAL WATCH

HMCS ATHABASKAN (G07)

By Saul Glass

This annual event occurs the Sunday before 29 April, the sinking date in 1944 of HMCS ATHABASKAN. This year's service marks the 65th anniversary.

The main ceremony was held on the drill deck of HMCS STAR. Then the Colour Guard, the Armed Guard, and the Band from STAR mustered on the jetty near HAIDA.

Representatives with four wreaths went aboard to the quarterdeck for the blessing and tossing of the wreaths. To honour his uncle, Stoker **Leo Roger**, one of the 128 men who died, **Mike Roger** took part in the tossing of wreaths. A six-man guard in period square rig, fired off three volleys of blanks in the traditional manner with .303 rifles. Everyone returned to STAR for refreshments.



People and organizations represented: HMCS STAR - the primary host, RCSCC LION, Friends of HMCS HAIDA, HMCS HAIDA association, ATHABASKAN G07 Association, Canadian Tribal Class Destroyers Association, Burl-Oak Naval Vets, Naval Club of Toronto, Naval Club of Oshawa, Wrens' Association, UNTD Association, NOAC Toronto Branch, former crew and families of ATHABASKAN and HAIDA, Toronto Sea Cadet Alumni Association. TSCAA members included: **Mike Roger, Peter Dixon, Saul Glass, Bill Harford, Andy Macnaughton, Larry MacDonald and Bev Covington.**



USS NEW YORK: next stop Somalia?

It was built with 24 tons of scrap steel from the World Trade Center. Steel from the Center was melted down to cast the ship's bow section. It is the fifth in a new class of warship - designed for missions that include special operations against terrorists. It will carry a crew of 360 sailors and 700 combat-ready Marines to be delivered ashore by helicopters and assault craft. The ship's motto? *Never Forget.*

HAIDA Cutter Crew 1953



CLAN QUALTROUGH WATCH

Jim Qualtrough has just been elected president, Ontario Division, Navy League of Canada. This is after a lifetime of Navy League Cadets, Sea Cadets, QUADRA, ACADIA, NL Branches in Ajax/Pickering and VANGUARD and various chairs in the Division. When not busy with cadets Jim is a detective sergeant with Toronto Police Services.

In sea cadets oldest son **Bob Q** rose to be Lieutenant (N) (then called Captain) and was Executive Officer of RCSCC SCARBOROUGH before shift work interfered. Supt Bob is unit commander, 41 Division, Toronto Police Services. He received an award from RCL Zone D5 for his continuing help with Remembrance Day ceremonies at Scarborough Town Centre. In his community bulletin, Bob wrote "I fully support the sea cadet program and accredit it to preparing me for my policing career. I still reflect back to my days with the sea cadets and I only have positive memories."

Bill Q serves on the executive of TSCAA, contributes many items to *Hi Sailor* [see Battle of Atlantic on page 1] and was national president of the Navy League of Canada. Bill recently became a great-grandfather. **Bob**, became a grandfather when his son **Brandon** and wife **Janet** had a baby boy on May 1, 2009, named **Aaron Sebastian Qualtrough**.



Left: That's **Jim Q** with Ontario Lt Gov **David Onley** at a reception to commemorate the first visit of the Monarchy [King George VI] to Canada in 1939. The King was also named Admiral of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets in

New member likes to join

New member **Bill Powell** joined RCSCC

in Hamilton in 1940, and later served with the RCNVR as a stoker. In between



he joined the Royal Canadian Engineers and the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry. When war came along, he had to quit the militia because he was still underage. He then joined the sea cadets. In 1942 he volunteered for the RCNVR. He served in STAR, YORK, NADEN as well as sea-going ships in the Caribbean. On V-E Day, he was on the minesweeper OSHAWA out of Halifax and missed the riots.





PROFILE

“Ready aye ready”

Norm Fraser talked to **Bill Harford** about his sea cadet years and beyond. Left, Norm as acting Leading Seaman, HMTS TEMERAIRE, 1937. Right, Norm as TSCAA vice president 2009.



In the fall of 1937 my buddy **Charlie Avery** talked me and four buddies into joining the Sea Cadets. They were looking for bandsmen. Wow, what could be better, nice uniform and the girls love a sailor? So we went down to His Majesty’s Training Ship TEMERAIRE at 364 Richmond Street Toronto and joined. It seemed to me that mostly older young men in their late teens or early twenties were being recruited for the band; I was seventeen.

We had our regular training Tuesday nights and our band practice on Thursdays. Tuesday we learned about life in the navy: you know. what a petty officer is, what is your left foot etc. Anyone who has served in Sea Cadets knows the routine. Yes it was great, although my main interest was the band, I did learn some naval terms, knots, ship’s organization and discipline. These things served me well later in the RCNVR and in life generally.

My most memorable event as a cadet was my first parade as a trumpeter in the band; it was the Remembrance Day Parade at Old City Hall in 1938. Occasionally I got the chance to be a part of the cutter crew. Our boats were stored at the National Yacht Club. We would row out of the basin into the Western Gap then east into Toronto Harbour; it was great fun. We would also row over to RCYC and back, often stopping at Hanlan’s Point for a Coke. However most weekends I had to work; it was depression then and every cent I could earn was needed by the family. At that time I was an apprentice with a small North Toronto bakery where I did the hauling, washing and menial jobs until I became more familiar with the art of baking. On weekends I was busy delivering on a bicycle with a big, heavy iron strap carrier on the front. A whole week’s pay amounted to not much more than three dollars -- a lot of money in those days. A baker I might have been had it not been for the war.

As a Sea Cadet I was welcomed into the RCNVR for training at the foot of Dowling Street. One thing I didn’t learn to do well in cadets was volunteering. As a new entry I volunteered to be a marker; seems I had it all wrong. Despite my good intentions I got a dressing down by the petty officer for not knowing what to do. I have only fond memories of good friends and training with TEMERAIRE; not a moment would I change but it changed the course of my life.

As I mentioned I joined the RCNVR and served on Corvettes often taking rather wet and uncomfortable trips across the pond. Those little ships were a real challenge but seaworthy. After several crossings I was drafted to the Mine Sweeping Depot at Halifax to work in the shipyard, where I learned the art of sheet metal work This became my vocation. After the war I used these skills and worked as a journeyman. Later I went into sales and spent the rest of my working life there thanks to my Sea Cadet career and later the Navy. ***Yes “Ready Aye Ready” was what it did for me.***

EDITOR'S WATCH

As my old friend **Groucho Marx** used to mumble, "*Say duh magic woid and winna hunnerd dollahs.*" In this issue, the magic woid is, you guessed it, **WATCH**, which appears at the head of each section.

Using the word **WATCH** in combinations emphasizes the various interests of our readers. Stencil font, all bold face capitals, links the various departments together visually and provides continuity.

The assignment of departments or specific areas of interest is intended to bring in more contributors, and make *Hi Sailor* less of a one-man band. Thanks to all who gave me stories and ideas; I invite **you**, too, to get involved. Similarly, using bold-face names draws attention to **people**, a prime interest to most readers. Pictures give the eyes relief and draw the reader's attention. I include them when space permits.

A future issue shall contain a reader survey to see what you like or dislike, and what you want to read more [or less] about.

Finally, the editor's position is an appointment by the Executive, not an elected office. I took the job because no one else wanted it, and **Garry Thomson** wanted a break. If you want to learn how to put a newsletter together, get in touch with me. I welcome fellow travellers who want to develop the skills necessary to create a digital publication. Come along for the ride; it may be bumpy at times and we may even go off the rails. But this is your organization and the Executive needs your input to keep TSCAA going in a positive direction.

As I learn, I hope to include more internet links to allow our e-net readers to click and go directly to websites cited in the stories. Of our 204 members, only 13 do not have internet access. This gives us a tremendous opportunity to reach beyond the print barriers and give websites where the reader can find further information.

WEB WATCH

From time to time we surf the WWW for sites of interest.

Follow-up to a story in the last issue about **Bonnie Rourke's** book. MP Bruce Stanton, Simcoe North, reads a citation into Hansard that praises the her book and the value of sea cadets. <http://www.brucestanton.ca/#>

Like to watch old RCN docs? See www.nfb.ca/film/action_stations/ Various flix including Corvette Port Arthur, Turning the Tide, Atlantic Patrol, etc.

Two sites about sea cadets:

www.isca-seacadets.org/about_us/aim.html

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_sea_cadet_corps_in_canada.

and one about the Andrew www.royalnavy.mod.uk/training-and-people/rn-life/navy-slang/

How you can help

We need stories and pictures for *Hi Sailor*. Send your material or story ideas to the editor, John W. Fielder, 167 Robert St Toronto ON M5S 2K6, 416-967-0304 or jfielder@pathcom.cm

TSCAA 2009 First Quarter Treasury Report

January 1, 2009, to March 31, 2009

Revenue

Membership Dues received for period	\$ 220.00
Donations for period	\$ 165.00
Miscellaneous Income	<u>\$ 32.88</u>
Total Revenue for period	\$ 417.88

Expenses

Bank Service Charges for period	\$ 12.72
Office Supplies and postage	\$ 271.20
Uniform regalia purchased	<u>\$ 20.00</u>
Total Disbursements for period	<u>\$ 303.92</u>

Revenue over Expenses for period \$ 113.96

Bank Reconciliation

Balance December 31, 2008	\$ 920.12
Revenue over expenses for period	<u>\$ 113.96</u>
Balance March 31, 2009	<u>\$ 1,034.0</u>

Notes:

Bank service charges for March 2009 have not been received or included.

Bank balance has been reconciled.

Dennis E. Hampson TSCAA Treasurer

PRESIDENT'S WATCH

June is always a busy month for the TSCAA, what with annual reviews, a Change of Command at VANGUARD and the D-Day Ceremony at Toronto City Hall. This year's Ceremony is on 6 June at 1200.

Pre-parade entertainment includes Wren Janet Watt accompanied by Leo Leach and Bill O'Hara. Your TSCAA Colour Party will lead the Naval Club of Toronto and other Naval Veterans contingents. Come on out and show your support for our Vets.

After the Parade, we will gather at the Naval Club of Toronto c/o the Eagles Club, 17 Elm St., a very short walk from City Hall, to rinse the parade dust from our throats with a cool one (or two). Hope to see you there.

As if June isn't busy enough, we have planned another event. On Sunday, 28 June 2009, from 1330 to 1830, we will be holding an informal get-together at the Eagles Club. TSCAA Director Ken Johnstone (formerly with the CBC) will present a half-hour video (minus commercials) entitled "Ghost Ships of the Great Lakes."

The Eagles Club has a pool table and several dart boards (bring your own darts) and a big-screen TV for the sports enthusiasts. Bar prices are very reasonable. We will have a 50/50 Draw and Free "Munchies". Pictures of this year's annual reviews, change of command and the D-Day ceremony will be posted.

Please note: The Eagles Club is not normally open on Sundays during the summer, but will open especially for us; so we need a good turnout. Bring your spouse or companion (but not both!) and enjoy a relaxed afternoon with your fellow alumni. *We would appreciate hearing from you as to whether you will be attending.*

Yours aye, **President Mike**



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