



# THE NEWSLETTER

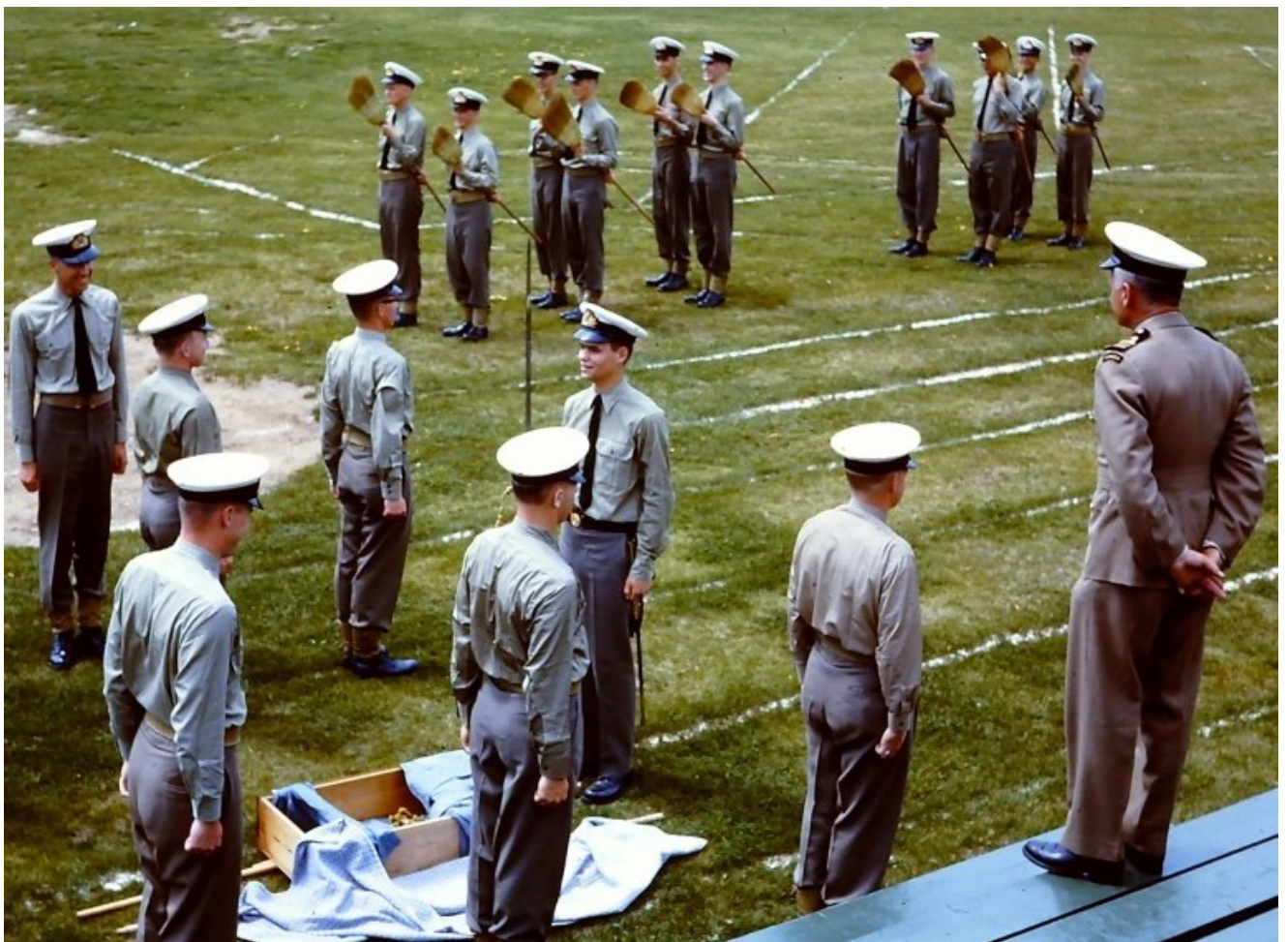
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## CORNWALLIS 1964

THIS CREATIVE UNTD MOCK CEREMONY ON THE PLAYING FIELD OF HMCS CORNWALLIS INCLUDES A CEREMONIAL GUARD AND A SHROUDED BUREAU DRAWER CONTAINING DANDELIONS. CONSIDERING THE SKYLARKS CONDUCTED OVER THE YEARS, THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST ELABORATE.

*See Cover Story on page 2.*

*Photo & story courtesy Peter Chipman, Tom Kuiper & Dana Doiron*

## COVER STORY

### Funeral Cortège CORNWALLIS 1964

The Base was a huge place with lots of new entries and Wrens in training and was a highly disciplined pussier environment. In the summers the UNTD's were part of the whole mix and brought new spark to the place, always forming the Stbd-side Guard during Friday CDs. The only skylarks you'd see would be of UNTD origin. The ODs would never have dreamt of, nor gotten away with, anything like the Funeral Cortège.

Peter Chipman wrote: "My recollection is sketchy but I recall some of this story. It was definitely 1964 and I was a first year cadet. My division of UNTD cadets was given a weekend make-work plebeian project to de-weed the Cornwallis playing field of dandelions. It was a Saturday and we were the cadets that did not have shore leave. We were annoyed at this inane silly order and our creative response was to hold a funeral parade for the poor harmless dandelions. The cover photo shows the dandelions in the coffin, which appears to be a drawer from the standard issue bureau that was in all the Cadet rooms in the UNTD Block.

We whipped-up a routine and marched through the base in funeral cortege formation (or so we thought). Yes, that's me with the guitar. Originally, we were all in work-party gear (blue dungarees etc.). We were stopped by the base duty officer driving by in a blue 'shore patrol' van, a LCdr Wilson comes to mind. He sent us back to the playing field. At the time, he showed exemplary 'mock' anger and dressed us down, right some smartly, in the middle of the road. We were told our program was 'all wrong' and that if we were going to have a funeral procession then we were going to do it right.

We were told to go find the information on how to present a correct funeral procession and report back to the playing field at 1600 in khakis and puttees (swords and gators), to present this correct version and the base duty officer would act as the reviewing officer. I am not sure where we found the correct procedures, possibly the base library.

We found enough swords but couldn't get permission to draw rifles and so rounded up enough brooms (always plentiful) in the reverse-arms position, to substitute in the funeral procession. The rest unfolded as you see in the photos. We even had two cadets dressed in

civvies to act as mourners, blubbering into white hankies.

"Oh yes, those were fascinating, creative times. Merry, oh merry, oh merry were we ....."



*Photo courtesy Tom Kuiper*

*Caption?*

### UNTD BROTHERHOOD (edited version)

A few years ago, I took some friends to a quiet space overlooking the Ottawa River behind the Supreme Court. Close by is a cliff crowned by the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill. It is an inspirational and contemplative space. I found David Dodge, a UNTD and the then Governor of the Bank of Canada and now Chancellor of Queens University, standing there alone, contemplating the view. We talked about our UNTD background and I reminded David that Michel Legere, a recent long serving Mayor of Gatineau (formerly Hull) across the river in front of us, was a UNTD.

And as we turned to walk back, we passed the East Wing of the Supreme Court building and I observed that Chief Justice of that Court, Jean Richard, along with his brother, Michel, an Ottawa surgeon were also UNTDs.

While chatting with Ken MacInnis, a lawyer from Halifax, we wondered why we had joined the UNTD 50 years ago. We agreed that the sea represented adventure - out of sight of land with only the sun, the moon and the stars as our reference points. Sharing that romantic spirit, we had become a brotherhood of like-minded adventurers, a brotherhood that made a deep impact on our lives and perhaps Canada.

Bob Duncombe



**POSTSCRIPT**

*RICHARD, John D [UNTD CARLETON '52 U-63018] was invested into the Order of Canada, as an Officer, on Nov 23, 2012. The Citation as follows;*

*"The Honourable John D. Richard, O.C. Ottawa, Ontario, a distinguished jurist, is a renowned leader in the Canadian legal system. For over a decade, he served as the chief justice of the Federal Court of Appeal, guiding the institution through a period of reorganization and improving access to justice. His personal commitment to society is also evident in his service with various institutions and charitable organizations, including Carleton University, Reach Canada and the Royal Canadian Geographical Society."*

*John's younger brother Michael followed him into the UNTD and was Chairman of Neurosurgery at the University of Ottawa for a number of years. Both brothers completed the UNTD program and retired as LT(N) and LT(Surg) respectively. There have been 22 UNTDs who have received the Order of Canada (UNTD.org) Bill Clearihue*

**CLEARIHUE'S CORNER  
USING THE UNTD ARCHIVES**

Dave Tildesley asked if I recalled our Term Lieutenant at DONNACONA in '64/'65. I would not have been able to remember, even under hypnosis or pentothal, but Dave remembered his name as Csordas and that he was a Medical Student at that time.

Well, we do have a Csordas, just one, in our UNTD Archive List and so it was easy to flesh out some details.

CSORDAS, James Edwin (Jim) [UNTD HUNTER '59 U-841] graduated from Assumption College High School in June 1958, along with another UNTD, Roy Del Col. In the fall of 1959 they both entered Assumption University and joined the UNTD. Jim and Roy spent three UNTD summers; 1960 - 1961 at CORNWALLIS and 1962 out West.

Jim Csordas graduated from Assumption University in 1962 with a BSc, as did Roy Del Col with a BA. (The University became the University of Windsor, while they were there, in 1962.)

Jim was married in January, 1963 in Windsor and left immediately for Montreal where he was enrolled at McGill in Medicine. Ushers at his wedding were fellow UNTDs Nick Kupnicki [U-840] and Joe Berecz [U-6008].

So, as Dave Tildesley correctly remembers, Jim was our Termie in '64/'65 in Montreal. Jim Graduated McGill with an MD in 1966 and became an Ophthalmologist in 1971.

Roy Del Col [U-843], Jim's High School, University, and UNTD Classmate, became CO of HMCS HUNTER 1974-77.

Somewhere along the line Csordas ended up in Hamilton, where he has an active practice near the Hamilton General; 304 Victoria Ave. North. He was/is also an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgical Ophthalmology (study of the eye) at McMaster.



Professor James Edwin Csordas MD, U-841

So, Jim Csordas is indeed another outstanding UNTD on our **VIP List** who is quite literally keeping an eye on this nation. Note the design on his tie in the photo. It is an eye-chart !

Assistant Editor Bill Clearihue

## FORMER UNTD MAKES LANDMARK GIFT

By Bob Williamson, Editor

The Honourable **Bill Graham (UNTD University of Toronto 1958)** B.A. Trinity, 1961; LL.B 1964, former Minister of National Defense and Chancellor of Trinity College, has donated \$5 million to the college's International History Centre to be renamed the Bill Graham Centre for Contemporary International History. The funding announcement, reported in the University of Toronto April 2013 Newsletter, was coordinated with a conference honoring Lester B. Pearson, a Canadian who lifted Canada into a new place in the world. Graham felt it was appropriate that the funding will now enhance the centre's ability to build relationships around the world.

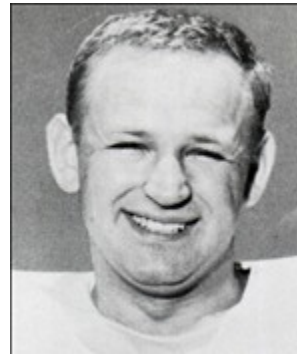


President, Dr. David Naylor, Chancellor Bill Graham, and Professor John English. U. of T. photo

Graham has financially supported the centre since its inception and several years ago he made a major contribution to establish the William C. Graham Chair in International Law and Development at the Faculty of Law. The \$5 million donation is the biggest single gift, ever, to Trinity College. Graham said he felt that the University of Toronto is an important part of his life and he wanted to pay back somewhat for the rich educational experience he received there. Graham has taught international law at the U of T Law Faculty and will teach a course at the new history centre. One can imagine how wonderful it will be for Trinity undergraduates to have their own Chancellor coming in to share his experiences.

**Professor John English**, the first director of the new centre, said "Chancellor Graham's extraordinary generosity will make the centre a major focus for innovative research and teaching on contemporary international history". Dr. **David Naylor**, President of the University of Toronto, thanked Graham for his "catalytic gift" and said he remains a "figure of considerable public influence." (Just like so many other former UNTDs).

## UNTD INDUCTEE INTO THE 1989 ALUMNI SPORTS HALL of FAME



Bruno Bitkowski UNTD HMCS HUNTER, 1949 U-6629 was born in Windsor, Ontario on November 29, 1929 and passed away on February 10, 1966. While at Assumption High School and Assumption College, Bitkowski became one of the most popular athletes

this city ever produced, starring in football, basketball and track. P. 274 UNTiDy Tales.

- 1947 - a Second Team All-City pick in WSSA Football.
- 1948 - a Second Team All-City selection in WSSA Football and Basketball.
- 1948 - selected by "High News" published in Toronto, to tackle position on the mythical All-Ontario football squad
- 1950 - Assumption College, member of their Junior ORFU championship football team. He also played on the basketball team.
- Played 11 seasons with Ottawa Rough Riders in the Canadian Football League, as offensive centre. . Received Rookie of the year Award in 1951. Received the Hiram Walker Trophy (MVP) in 1953. Played in two Grey Cup Championship games and won both times ('51 & '60).

Dave Thelen, a great Ottawa running back of this era, claimed that he never ran behind a better blocking centre than Bitkowski. Eddie MacCabe, of the Ottawa Journal once wrote, "Bruno Bitkowski was as good a man as we've ever known in sports."

Bruno Bitkowski has a W.S.S.A memorial award in his honour for the most gentlemanly player.

Inducted in 1988 to the Windsor/Essex County Sports Hall of Fame.

### **UNTDs WIN OLYMPIC GOLD**

The Golden Anniversary

In February 2014, it was 50 years since the Innsbruck Winter Olympics of 1964. At that event Canada won only 1 Olympic Gold Medal and it was in the 4-man Bobsled, the first time Canada had entered the event. We've not won that event since.

The team was led by 2 brothers, Vic and John Emery, originally from Montreal. Vic was a UNTD PREVOST '51 and John was UNTD CATARAQUI '51. Their UNTD experiences were unique (Pilot and Surgeon Cadets) as was their Gold Medal and their lives afterwards. Vic with his Harvard MBA settled in the UK and John became a famous Plastic Surgeon in the US, appearing on Oprah etc. They are both still alive.

I've got a lot of detail/pictures on this story and its aftermath, right on up to the Vancouver Winter Olympics of 2010.

The only other Olympic connections we've had is a rower who didn't medal, a Cadet's younger sister winning Gold in Squaw Valley '60 and a Cadet's nephew as a Para-Olympian Medalist and Flag bearer.

Bill Clearihue

### **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Editor,

I really want to commend you for all the work you have done with the publication of the 70th Anniversary version of UNTiDy TALES, preserving the collective memory of the excellent UNTD program we all went through. It is an outstanding record of achievement on behalf of all of us. It is remarkable that almost 50 years after the end of the UNTD program over ¼ of those on our email list would show up on the west coast for a reunion. Your work over many years as UNTD Newsletter editor and UNTiDy Tales author has helped to make that possible.

Roger Elmes

Dear Editor

I just finished reading the book UNTiDy Tales. It was fun reliving the experiences of the UNTD officers and cadets over the years. To be honest,

I'm just a little sad to have come to the end of the book as it made for very enjoyable reading and reflection.

John Scott

Dear Editor

I thought I should mention to you that a number of us on the West Coast have been compensated for hearing loss resultant from our UNTD and Naval Reserve service. Depending on the extent of the damage and years of service there has usually been a disability award (\$25,000+) and free hearing aids for life. If there is also tinnitus, as in my case, there is a separate disability award.

Former UNTDs should be aware that the system does work and that the various forms are available through Veterans Affairs. A note on the UNTD website or in the newsletter might be worthwhile.

I only learned about this by word of mouth, but it was well worth my time to jump through the various hoops.

Yours aye, Bob White

### **YMT/YFP NOSTALGIA**

*By Duncan MacRae Captain N*

*Former CO Malahat*

The summer of 1961 was my turn to enjoy the good life at Royal Roads with terrestrial navigation training to Alaska in August. Where could you have such an experience of west coast scenery and travel with pay of \$225.00 per month?

Two events on the voyage with YMT 10 and two YFPs stand out for me. The first was our visit to Ketchikan, where the town's mayor and council had been advised that three Canadian Naval vessels would be paying a visit. In anticipation of having five or six hundred sailors spending their money in various establishments, the town's band was turned out along with the mayor, chief of police and other VIPs. Needless to say, when our flotilla came alongside and a very junior Canadian lieutenant stepped ashore to greet the welcoming party on behalf of his 30 man contingent, it did not take long for the welcoming crowd and band to stand down. Ketchikan had little to offer in the way of R&R for our first foreign port of call.

The second port of call was Juneau where the non-duty UNTDs retired to the Red Dog Saloon for an evening of thirst quenching libations and honky-tonk piano playing by a lady called Hattie.



One of my colleagues went back to YMT 10 and brought my bagpipes up to the Saloon where Hattie and I alternated in playing a variety of tunes. The Saloon was very full that evening due to the presence of a cruise ship from Seattle. Among the passengers was a former Cape Bretoner who had made his fortune in the US. After every tune that I played on the pipes, our Cape Breton friend bought a round for the UNTD table. It was a wet night for the cadets.

With the cruise ship ready to depart, our UNTD contingent, with pipes playing, escorted the cruise passengers down the main street of Juneau to the jetty. As the ship pulled away, a Scottish lament sent them on their way.

The next day, the YMT10 crew were a quiet lot after the Cape Bretoner's hospitality of the night before.

A foot note on Rodger Glassford's counsel about wooden hulled boats. To tide me over to retirement, I purchased a 41-foot trawler and converted it to a pleasure boat. After 9 months of conversion and significant expenditure, I had a great vessel. The work on maintenance and expenditure did not stop. The Tonga was sold but it can be seen in the book "Legacy in Wood", Ryan Wahl p.197, before and after conversion. It was a costly experience. Best regards to all who had the experience to sail in the YMT/YFP fleet.

### WHERE DO OLD NAVAL VESSELS GO?

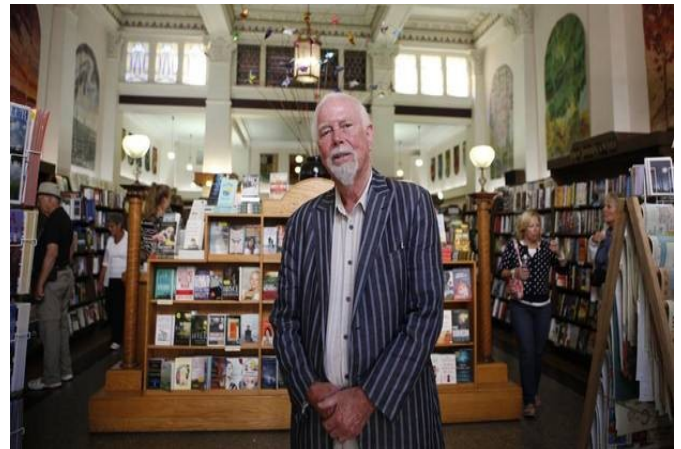


Stew Churlish sent this news item. Ex Porte de la Reine and ex Porte Quebec, derelict 125 foot naval training vessels were removed from Anacortes harbour by State authorities on Feb 25, 2013 after

high winds tore the vessels from an old dock threatening damage to a nearby ferry terminal and marine ecosystems. When the owner failed to take action, the vessels were towed to the Port of Seattle.

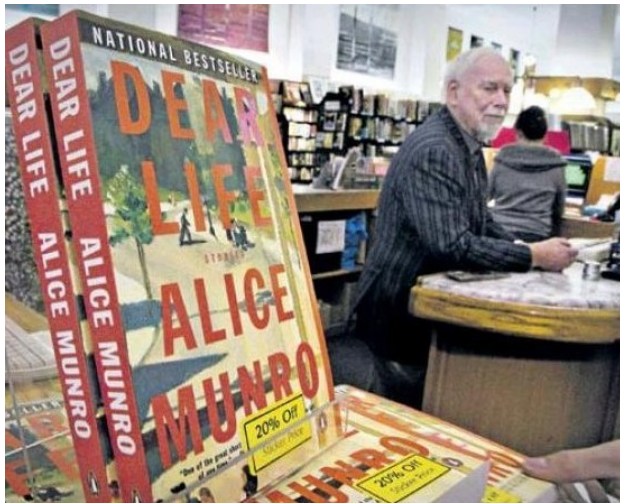
### MUNRO'S BOOKSTORE

50 Years and Counting



James A. Munro (Jim) [UNTD PREVOST '49, U-55172] and his first wife, Alice (recent Nobel Prize for Literature), met as Western University students in London, Ontario. After twelve years working at Eaton's Department Store, where one of his jobs was writing ads for the bargain basement, Jim and Alice Munro ignored advice that there was "no money in books" and opened his first little shop on Victoria's Yates Street, in September, 1963. "We actually did over \$100.00 the first day and were thrilled."

Munro bought a large, stately building from the Royal Bank in 1984 that had been for sale for some time. "Nobody wanted a used bank building, but to me it looked like a library." It had been "hideously modernized," he says, and he undertook a massive renovation, restoring the spectacular ceiling and adding stained glass windows. "I always had visions of grandeur," he says. "Containing 6,000 square feet, everyone found it incredulous that we had a building this big. Bank vaults became storage areas and Munro's second wife, created large-scale wall hangings representing literary works ranging from *Alice in Wonderland* to *War and Peace*.



Jim Munro looks over at a display of Alice Munro's books portraying the struggles, loves and tragedies of women in small-town Canada.

*Courtesy Toronto 24 News*

Jim's bookstore business, which received a boost with the rise of the credit card, grew steadily until the arrival of Chapters and eBooks, but with downsizing this iconic book store has survived.

Bill Clearihue courtesy Globe and Mail

## WHEN FACT IS FANCIER THAN FICTION

Correcting history is like trying to make water run uphill but that is what our Newsletter Editor, Robert Williamson, has been trying to do since he retired as an educator in 1993. With the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, this is a story that has been 200 years in the making but for him it has been 20 years of persistence to dispel a popular myth that is well entrenched in archival records, books, video recordings, newsprint and a bronze provincial plaque.

Since the centennial of the War in 1913, a myth, published in Canadian Collier magazine, has prevailed. The story tells how a British Naval Squadron on Lake Ontario escaped a pursuing American fleet by cleverly navigating the dangerous shoals into Burlington Bay during a battle for control of the lake. Such naval control was essential to winning the war and the survival of our nation as we know it today. The story of how the British squadron survived was widely repeated even though the author warned: "the dry bones of record were clothed with the flesh of fancy". But eventually, FANCY MUTATED INTO FACT.



The last five lines of the provincial plaque contains the one hundred year-old myth.

The truth about this battle for Lake Ontario supremacy on September 28th, 1813, remained a mystery because the logbook of HMS Wolfe, British Commodore James Yeo's flagship, disappeared in 1814. When discovered in the Naval Section of the American National Archives, the entry for September 28th was interpreted by our UNTD naval historian, Robert Williamson, a retired Commander of Hamilton's Naval Reserve.

He discovered that, HMS Wolfe, having suffered sail damage during her earlier encounter with the enemy, was unable to manoeuvre. Commodore Yeo anchored his squadron close to shore near Burlington, preventing the enemy from enveloping his ships. With the wind at their backs, the ships anchored by the stern, hauling their anchor cables to the rear using spring hawsers. Releasing these ropes during battle, would allow the ships to swing in the wind, presenting a fresh battery of guns to the enemy. Yeo had thus regained his maneuverability while safely at anchor. It was a feat of seamanship as impressive as the imagined navigation of the shoals. The truth proved to be fancier than fiction.

This strong defensive British formation confronted the Americans who sailed away to make repairs to their ships in the Niagara River. The British squadron remained in control of Lake Ontario, preserving our Canadian sovereignty.

As a member of the Hamilton Historical Board, Williamson has written this story on a plaque that



was unveiled on the 200th anniversary of the battle. The plaque is located beside the paved walking path on Hamilton beachfront, in Confederation Park. The City of Burlington picked up on Williamson's research and plan to install their Battle of Lake Ontario display at the south end of Spencer Smith Park. Now the western end of Lake Ontario has its 1812 Bicentennial recognition with the lakefront proudly promoting its naval equivalent to the neighbouring Battle of Stoney Creek.



Bob Williamson, dressed as Commodore Yeo, unveiled the corrected version of the naval battle for Lake Ontario supremacy. The action took place on the lake in the distant background along the north shore.

### COVER COMMENTS

The distinctive cover page of the Autumn 2013 UNTD Newsletter was intended to stimulate creative UNTD comments and elicited the following observations.

Ryan Kidd, York '56 wonders if the geese were marching to Elgar's "Poop and Circumstance", while Bill Clearihue, Donnacona '64, thought that with all the west coast activities, the main entrance to NADEN was indeed "poopular".

## UNTiDy TALES OF NAVAL OFFICER CADETS



The Story of Canada's  
**U**niversity **N**aval **T**raining **D**ivisions

Commander Robert J. Williamson CD  
RCNR Retired

**Peter Newman** says "this 425 page 70th Anniversary Edition of our UNTD history is superb, both in contents and production. A real "keeper" and I recommend it highly".

It is available in either a printed book format for \$40.00 or convenient CD disk for \$20.00. Prices include tax, mailing and packaging. To order your copy, send a cheque payable to the author at 1 Clonmore Ave. Hamilton, ON. L9A 4R2

The UNTD Association of Canada  
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