



THE NEWSLETTER



of the UNTD Association of Canada

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Senat'Oar Bill Rompkey

Crossed the Bar on March 21, 2017, in Ottawa, at age 80.



Pictured:

<< Left:

In 1955
UNTD C/C

Right: >>

In 2009
LT(N) Ret'd
Educator
MP
Cabinet-
Minister
Senator
Author
Old Oar

A look back:

see Page 2



Senat'Oar Bill Rompkey

It is a unique circumstance within the history of the original UNTD program, that none of the 200+ Cadets from one particular NRD/University, were Canadian-born. Yet they all became Canadian citizens on exactly the same day.

We are of course referring to the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation on April 1, 1949 and the subsequent Commissioning of HMCS CABOT and the UNTD intakes from the Fall of 1949 to 1966 inclusive.

William Hubert (Bill) Rompkey was born on May 13, 1936 in the tiny community of Belleoram in Fortune Bay on the south coast of the Dominion of Newfoundland. During the WWII years his family were living in St John's and so as a youngster he was an eye witness to the transformation of that city from it's initial defensive posture to the 5,000 person strong RCN Base and the eastern anchor of the fabled Newfie-Derry Run.

The picture on the right hand side of the cover page was taken in 2009 at the Crow's Nest Officers' Club in St John's, where Bill was book-signing his "St. John's and the Battle of the Atlantic", the Club itself having formed in 1942.

Bill entered Memorial University and the UNTD in the Fall of 1954 and maintained a lifelong association with both. In 1957 he graduated from Memorial with a BA and a Commission as a SLT RCN(R). While at Memorial he was also President of the Students' Council. Later an MA (1962) from Memorial was added as well as a promotion to LT RCN(R) and he was Ret'd as such in 1963. In 1963 he began his career as an Educator in Labrador, first as a Principal and then a District Superintendent.

In 1972 Bill was elected as the Liberal MP for Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador and served as such through six subsequent re-elections under PMs Trudeau Sr, Turner and Chretien including Cabinet Portfolios in Government and Critic responsibilities in Opposition, until 1995. In that year he was appointed to the Senate for Newfoundland and Labrador by Chretien and subsequently served as Government Whip and then Deputy Government Leader from 2001 until 2006.



Bill Rompkey

Jean Chretien

Senat'Oar Bill Rompkey - cont'd

Upon his compulsory retirement from the Senate on his 75th birthday in 2011 he had accumulated 38-1/2 years of unbroken Federal Parliamentary Service, or 14,075 consecutive days. In 1989 Bill was named as the Memorial University Alumnus of the Year. He was back to Memorial again in May 2000 to receive an Honorary LLD alongside none other than Jean Chretien.

As the seat of Government, Ottawa has always been a magnet for UNTDs as they pursued their civilian and/or military careers. In 2005 Bill Rompkey serendipitously reconnected with a number of his UNTD cohorts and after the requisite reminiscences decided to expand their horizons and form the 6 Old Oars. Bill became Senat'Oar, Grant Thompson, YORK '54, a renowned surgeon in Ottawa, became Doct'Oar. Jim Maxwell, DISCOVERY '54, former Executive Director of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society, became Geograph'Oar, Peter Milsom, PREVOST '62 and a Reg Force Pilot and CAPT(N), became Pete'Oar, Bob Duncombe and Bob Wootton, DISCOVERY '54 classmates and perennial CORNWALLIS Term Lieutenants, became Bobby'Oar (Port and Starboard).

Using Bill's Senatorial privileges, from 2005 to 2010 the Old Oars hosted 6 successive annual October UNTD Rendezvous on Parliament Hill, variously in the Centre, East and West Blocks. To say that these were splendid events would be an understatement as they attracted an increasingly wider audience each year, not just from the original UNTD program, but from the post-Unification cadre as well.. As Bill Rompkey explained in opening remarks at each of these events, the UNTD was a nation-building program that opened the hearts and minds of the Cadets in their formative years, to the Canadian experience and as such benefited not only the Navy but the country at large. The 2006 and 2010 events were full-on formal Dine-the-Partners Mess Dinners and were held in the historic Railway Committee Room, the very place where final negotiations were held for Newfoundland's entry into Confederation. Thus everything had come full circle for Bill Rompkey.



UNTD Rendezvous 2005 - Centre Block - Parliament Hill

Bob Wootton, Bill Brown, Doug Hain, Bill Graham, Reg Kowalchuk, Ross Connell, Gil Hutton.



UNTD Rendezvous 2008 - East Block - Parliament Hill
Dave Tildesley, Bob Duncombe, Bill Rompkey, Peter Milsom

Upon his retirement in 2011, Bill and the Old Oars parlayed their now extensive contact list into holding very well attended semi-annual "Nooners" at BYTOWN. These events continue under the stewardship of Pete'Oar Milsom.

In the Oration for his LLD Degree, much was made of Bill's skills as a chorister and pianist, from his student days to the present and his contributions to the Music School. Each of the Old Oars events was capped off with Bill tinkling the ivories in a group sing-along from the UNTD Song Book. Bill and indeed the rest of us were looking forward to a repeat of that in St John's in 2018. There will no doubt be a sing-along anyway and it will be in Bill's memory.

Bill was not the only Rompkey to contribute to Memorial, the Province, the Navy and the Country. His younger brother Ron, UNTD CABOT '61, became a Commander and CO of CABOT from 1984-88, a PhD and Professor Emeritus at Memorial, a prolific and important author and was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2003. Ron crossed the bar in 2014 at the age of 71.



Ron and Bill Rompkey - CABOT Mess Dinner - 2009

Bill's family held a Memorial Reception in Ottawa on March 27th and a funeral service and interment was held in St John's on March 31st.

Battle of the Atlantic Place - Halifax, NS

In January we received a message from Gary (Garrett) Reddy [ROUTP CABOT 1972] asking if we could make known to our subscribers, the current information regarding the proposed Battle of the Atlantic Place in Halifax.

This is the ambitious yet achievable effort to get SACKVILLE permanently housed indoors as the centerpiece of a Battle of the Atlantic interpretation centre.

The current state of CNMT Sackville will be no mystery to most of the UNTDA cadre, with many involved as Trustees and others who've served at the highest levels of that organization. It never hurts to remind and refresh the information and so the links below are recommended to readers:



Main website:

<https://www.battleoftheatlanticsociety.ca>

Battle of the Atlantic Place Prospectus:

https://media.wix.com/ugd/eaf808_4e5055fca77646a9a4b04f12d6390e45.pdf

A 2 min video on the Project.:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTtJEUa44>



Gary Reddy

This is a project dear to Gary's heart as he himself has had a substantial Reg Force career starting in 1977. He has served in various capacities in HMC Ships SAGUENAY, OTTAWA, MIRIMACHI, ATHABASKAN and PROTECTEUR.

He qualified as a Clearance Diving Officer in 1982 and in that capacity was the last CO of HMCS CORMORANT in 1996 and in 2002 was CO FDU(A) and in 2003 was CO CFS ST JOHN'S.

UNTD and the Cold War

On page 4 of the December 2016 Newsletter we reported on the unique activities of two Nigerian UNTD Cadets from the 1950s. One of those was "Theophilus Uzochukwo Chukwuemeka Okonkwo" who ended up having an unhappy experience in Russia, which in turn had the Russians intimating that the UNTD program was a US inspired weapon of the Cold War.

Bob Lee sent a comment on that article to Grant Thompson both of whom were [YORK 1954] and had both at different times wondered whatever had happened to Okonkwo. Grant was able to produce a picture of Okonkwo and Bob Lee in QUEBEC on a 1955 Cruise. (see below)



Okonkwo and Bob Lee - HMCS QUEBEC - 1955

We know what happened to Bob Lee and Grant Thompson ... they both became prominent physicians. The ultimate fate of Okonkwo remains a mystery.

Bill Thomas presented with the SMV

In the June 2016 Newsletter we reported that Bill Thomas, immediate past President and current Webmaster of the UNTDA, had recently been awarded one of the first of the newly promulgated Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

The medal was finally presented to Bill on January 25, 2017, by Fred Eisenberger, Mayor of the City of Hamilton, ON, in the Council Chambers as the first order of business for that day. (see below)



Mayor Fred Eisenberger

Bill Thomas

More on Royal Roads Raids

Peter Hyde [DONNACONA 1957] writes:

"I was amused at the recent Newsletter story of the UNTD raid on Royal Roads in 1949, because as a UNTD cadet I was at Royal Roads for training with other UNTD cadets for two summers (1959 & 1960).

One night during one of those two summers, I think it was 1959, a group of ROTP cadets who were stationed on a DDE in Esquimalt, were obviously annoyed that we were very comfortably settled into their winter home accommodations, and decided to conduct a raid on us !

Unfortunately for them, they were not very capable sailors and had not checked the times of the high and low tides. When they sneaked away from their ship in Esquimalt under cover of darkness, they paddled over to the College and pulled up their boat on the beach at the Lagoon.

They snuck up to the rear of Nixon Block (where I was billeted) and crept into a cadet cabin and surprised two sleeping cadets by covering their faces with blankets. They then grabbed the unsuspecting cadets, wrapped them in their blankets, tied ropes around them, and carried them out the back entrance into the nearby woods and tied them to trees. They returned to do the same to more cadets but were unable to continue their raid.

They were discovered by the night duty watch cadet on rounds who heard noises and went to investigate. When he saw the poor UNTD cadets emerging from the woods, looking half dazed, he raised the alarm. The intruders fled quickly to their vessel, BUT as they had ignored the effect of the tide which had gone out since they left it, they couldn't move the heavy boat into the water and were forced to flee over land, making their return by car or taxi, I presume. They were put on charge when they returned, as I understand it, and their vessel was subsequently returned to their ship."

Wally Troup [CATARAQUI 1948] writes:

" Enjoyed references to the [1949] raid by UNTD cadets on Royal Roads. I too, was on that raid. As I recall, it was great fun !"

UNTDA Newsletter Archived at U Manitoba

The Cover Story in the last Newsletter was about the presentation of the framed picture of the UNTD Proficiency Trophy and a copy of UNTDy Tales to the President of the University of Manitoba.

As reported, both items were immediately logged into the University Archives. As a courtesy, David Frayer sent a printed copy of that Newsletter to the Archivist, Shelley Sweeney. She immediately logged in that Newsletter itself to the same Accession number: A2016-113, requiring Dave to fill in and sign an additional Donation Form, post-facto.

She did add in a handwritten message to David though: "Nice meeting you at the ceremony. It's an interesting group !"

The Admiral's Flag Caper

Adhering to the principle that "confession is good for the soul", Bill Brown [CHIPPAWA 1959] adds this story to the long list of documented UNTD Cadet capers.

Part 1: Securing the Prize

Our first summer of UNTD training was 1960. Huron Division had been assigned to HMCS Stadacona in May for its first of three six-week rotations - six weeks in HMCS Stadacona, six weeks in HMCS Cornwallis and six weeks in the frigates at sea. We were billeted in G Block.

Dennis Mills (U-1040, Cataraqui) and I spent the Victoria Day long weekend taking in the Apple Blossom Festival in the Annapolis Valley. We returned to Stad late Monday evening, May 23. We decided that the removal of the Admiral's flag would be a challenging caper, and we decided to attempt it that night. It was raining with a light gusty wind. We felt that these weather conditions worked in our favour: between gusts the wet flag would hang close to the mast making its removal less visible. And the rain would keep most personnel indoors.

We had set ourselves a challenge indeed. The flag of the Flag Officer Atlantic Coast flew from a twenty foot mast on the roof of the Atlantic Command headquarters building in HMC Dockyard. The headquarters building was a four story brick building. Spot lights mounted on the building's roof illuminated the flag at night. Gates to Dockyard were manned by Commissionaires who checked all persons entering and leaving.

By showing our ID, we knew that gaining entry to Dockyard would be no problem. But, to reduce the risk of questions by Commissionaires on gate duty at our short stay, we planned to enter Dockyard at one gate and leave by another. We decided that by wearing dungarees we would be less visible in the darkness and would avoid soiling our civilian clothes. So, we packed this change of clothes into our small duffel bags.

Once inside Dockyard, we made our way to the rear of the Atlantic Command headquarters building. The basement windows had deep window wells. We used one of these window wells to provide cover while we changed from civvies to dungarees. In order to gain access to the roof, we had to jump up to grab the lower rung of a metal fire escape ladder mounted on the outside of the building. As I climbed the metal ladder, I remember looking in one of the windows of a dimly lit room. Inside, oblivious to our presence on the outside wall, were radio operators at their desks - doubtless communicating with ships at sea.

We climbed onto the roof and made our way over to the mast. We waited for the wind to die. When it did, we quickly hauled down the flag and uncoupled the Inglefield clips. We folded the flag and Mills wrapped it around his waist under his dungarees. Our concern of course was that someone might have seen the flag being hauled down, or might notice that it was no longer there and alert the duty Commissionaires or other duty personnel. Therefore, we needed to move as quickly as possible. (No looking in windows on the way down the fire escape ladder!) We changed back into civvies in the window well and headed for our exit gate. Once outside Dockyard, we hailed a passing taxi and jumped in.

We felt we couldn't bring the flag back to Stad. UNTDs would immediately be suspected once someone noticed that the Admiral's flag was missing.

The Admiral's Flag Caper - cont'd

And it would be difficult to conceal the flag if a thorough search were conducted. My brother, Robert C. A. ("Bob") Brown (U-211, Chippawa), then a third year UNTD cadet serving in HMCS Bonaventure, had a girlfriend (later his wife), Florence Nightingale (really!) living in Halifax. We got the taxi driver to drop us off at the house where Florence and her roommate rented a second floor apartment. We awakened them by throwing pebbles at their bedroom window. They let us in and agreed to take temporary custody of our prize. Mills and I returned to Stad with the satisfaction that Phase 1 of our caper had been a complete success.

The next morning, while marching to classes, I glanced over to Dockyard to see if the Admiral's flag had been replaced. It had not. We waited for ensuing repercussions. There were none. Nothing was said. We began to lay plans for a follow up caper that we hoped would get everyone's attention.

Part 2: Displaying the Prize

After our six week rotation in HMCS Cornwallis and our six week rotation at sea (during which period Florence and her roommate used the Admiral's flag as a bed spread) we returned to Stad for a couple of weeks before returning to our home divisions. We decided that there should be a Part 2 to our caper that would get some attention: displaying the Admiral's flag from the mast on the main parade square at HMCS Stadacona at Friday divisions! We needed an arrangement that would a) allow the flag to fly properly and b) be difficult to remove. Our plan was as follows:

1. uncouple the Inglefield clips on the halyard;
2. knot the halyard above its upper Inglefield clip so that the knotted halyard would pass through the upper pulley under force but would not pass back through the upper pulley once jammed through;
3. attach the upper Inglefield clip of the halyard to the upper Inglefield clip of the flag;
4. attach a weight to the Inglefield clip at the bottom of the flag so that the hoist of the flag would lie along the mast; and
5. having jammed the knot through the upper pulley, leave the rest of the halyard on the ground at the bottom of the flag staff.
6. For added effect, we planned to use a full "quart" bottle of Olands beer as the weight we would attach to the Inglefield clip at the bottom of the flag.

Accomplishing this arrangement would require another risky nighttime exercise. The mast on the parade square was fifty feet or so directly in front of the main entrance to "A" Block, which was the main accommodation block in Stad for non-commissioned personnel. "A" Block was built on a slight rise above the parade square which would afford us some concealment from personnel entering or leaving the building. Around 04:00 Friday, September 9, we executed our flag mounting plan, which worked flawlessly. And, we had done so completely undetected. We looked forward with anticipation to marching onto the parade square later that morning to see our prize on full display.

As we arrived at the parade square for divisions, the ladder truck from the base fire department was securing its equipment after using their extension ladder to remove our prize from the mast. Obviously a few people would have seen our display, but not the entire ship's company as we had hoped.

The UNTDA is 30 years young

As a direct result of the 20th year reunion and Mess Dinner of the 1967 UNTD Graduating Class, held at YORK in (not surprisingly) 1987, the UNTD Association of Upper Canada was soon formed and through an unbroken lineage has morphed into the current UNTDA. The contact lists that were developed for that event were parlayed into the inaugural Membership List that very year. A number of folks from that initial List are still UNTDA Members today.

It was a pleasure to receive last Fall a picture and narrative from 4 of the UNTDA-UC founders as they reconnected in Niagara-on-the-Lake at the home of Terry Fisher, after an absence of many years. See picture below.



left to right: in NOTL - November 24, 2016
Richard Baker (YORK '61), Terry Fisher (BRUNSWICKER '64),
Alec Wright (YORK '65), Doug Broad (STAR '64)

Richard Baker was the inaugural President of the UNTDA-UC and in his writings back then established the core principles of the organization as they were perceived by the members themselves.

The primary purpose was to help maintain camaraderie among ex-UNTD members, by the organizing of get-togethers such as Weepers and Mess Dinners and the distribution of a newsletter and a contact list. Also the acknowledgement that the NOAC fulfilled an entirely different role which the UNTDA-UC therefore need not and should not duplicate. Keeping in mind that at the same time that Richard Baker was UNTDA-UC President he was also the NOAC-Toronto Branch President and most of the UNTDA-UC Board members were also NOAC-Toronto Board Members. They had no problem or conflicts wearing both hats. Ironically in that same time-frame the term UNTD had been briefly revived as the named program for the post-Unification ROUPT. This made it very easy for the UNTDA-UC to acknowledge that the post-Unification Cadets were really a part of a continuum and so were naturally welcomed into the UNTDA-UC.

So here we are 30 years later and that somewhat older, Richard Baker is still with us as are his original core principles. The ranks are a little thinner now but the number of contacts and actual members has also remained surprisingly steady over time.

Alec Wright's UNTD connection goes back much further, to the date of his birth actually. Alec is the grandson of CAPT(N) Jack Baker, who conceived of and founded the UNTD in 1943.

A word from Michael Jewett (CATARAQUI 1962)

"Although I have not participated in UNTD activities for years, I like to think back to all the fun I had as well as the impact on my life. I am 3rd+ generation military but first Navy thanks to my mother who always thought her sons should elevate the family condition!. I have been several times to the San Diego Convention Centre and recall HMCS Saguenay workups when we sailed her from Esquimalt to Slackers [1965]. My first real navigation task was sailing her into San Diego and berthing where the CC is now. I always get a high-up hotel room to look out over the whole harbour where I can see the Nav points coming in. Years later, I had the experience of diving on her off Lunenburg (where she lives on [since 1994] as an artificial reef) and finding my shock cord still hanging in the hangar where I suspended and hid my road bike which I used in Panama as well as San Diego then Halifax.

All good memories which I know each and everyone of us still carry with us."

A few years ago Michael had also sent in a brief message remarking on what he considered his best service to Canada. It was during the time that Paul Hellyer was running as an independent under the banner of his own party [late 1990s]. During campaigning Hellyer had knocked on Michael's door and so was invited in for coffee and a chat, thereby keeping him off the streets of Canada for at least 20 minutes.

Michael is a prominent Uro-Oncologist in Toronto, as a Professor, Surgeon, Researcher, Department Head and Past President of the Canadian Urology Association. He now divides his time between the Princess Margaret Hospital and his Uxbridge farm northeast of the City.

Dick Fadden (ROUPT 1973) to speak at the RCMI

Toronto, Wednesday, May 24, 1830 for 1930

Topic: A difficult world moves to the future.

For reservations contact Susan Cook susan.cook@rcmi.org

Quoting from the Royal Canadian Military Institute advert:

"In the current tense, not to say chaotic, international security environment, Members can look forward to an exciting and informative evening with one of the most senior and experienced Canadian practitioners in the field of national security and defence.

Richard B. Fadden served as the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister from January 19, 2015 to March 31, 2016. Previously he was the Deputy Minister of National Defence starting in May 2013. Fadden served as the Director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service from 2009 until 2013, in which capacity he last addressed the RCMI Membership."

There is a further listing of his pre-2009 Government positions but no mention that it all started as a 1973 NavRes Officer Cadet with subsequent service at DONNACONA and CARLETON and retiring as a LT(N).

The RCMI also plays host to the UNTDA quarterly Board Meetings, with locals physically attending and others teleconferencing in from St John's to Victoria.

Welcome to the UNTD at Queen's - 1943

"This is a word of welcome to all Queen's students. Some of you — the final years in Medicine, the No. 2 Army Course men, the University Naval Training Detachment — are already enlisted in the Canadian forces, and are using your time here to prepare yourselves the better for active service. All other able-bodied men will be in training in one or other of the arms of service of your choice, and all the women will be engaged in war work. The Government has laid down regulations which are definite and specific.

Failure to perform academic work satisfactorily will necessitate the handing of your names to National Selective Service; and we and you must govern ourselves accordingly. This is in keeping with the need for men at the present stage of the world conflict, and with the underlying understanding that university education is only for those who are taking full advantage of their opportunities.

Under these conditions we welcome you warmly to Queen's. We ask you, as we ask ourselves, to do all that lies in our power to secure a victory and a peace that will lead to an ampler and fuller life not only for Canadians, but for our fellow citizens of the whole world."

Robert C. Wallace - Principal - September 28th, 1943.

In clarifying the situation for students, Dr. Wallace stated, "No man who is two or three years older than the average college age may remain without permission from the National Selective Service. Any student who has been out of school a year or more may not register without special permission. Students are permitted to come to the University for one year in any faculty; but there is no guarantee that they will be allowed to finish their courses. The names of all who fail to meet the academic requirements in the mid-term or final examinations will be submitted to National Selective Service authorities.

Later in the year the N.S.S. will name certain fields in which students may be allowed to continue." Quoting the government, Principal Wallace went on to say that all incompetent students "must be ruthlessly weeded out." "This," he continued, "may seem to be harsh treatment, but we must realize that Canada has been in a favored position regarding education in comparison with other countries."

"Eight Queen's men, connected with the U.N.T.D., were on active service with the Royal Canadian Navy on the East Coast for approximately three months during this summer.

In May of this year, about 35 Queen's students, including the above-mentioned eight, departed for Deep Brook, Nova Scotia.

There they had two weeks of intensive field training and route marches in the beautiful Annapolis district. From there many of them went to Halifax for a further week's training, which consisted of familiarization with ships and docking facilities. At the end of their training, all but the eight returned home. These eight remained for the duration of the summer. They were Arthur Holloway, Dalton McIntyre, James Orr, Lorne Page Beverley Pearson, Philip Garlough, all of Science '44, and Bob Osborne, of Arts '46. Later they were joined by Harry Gove, of Science '44.

Garlough and Pearson took a course on torpedoes and spent about ten weeks at sea on minesweepers and destroyers, while McIntyre was on a destroyer for the three months. Osborne passed the summer at an officer selection depot. The rest spent most of their time in Halifax at the maintenance base. However, they managed to put in three weeks at sea with a corvette."

UNTDA 75th Anniv. Reunion in St John's, NL September 9 - 12, 2018

Originally announced in June 2013, enthusiasm for this event remains unwavering. In excess of 50 former UNTDs/ROUTPs have signified their intentions to attend and with the majority being partner-accompanied and adding in local CABOTS, this puts potential attendance into triple digits.

With 18 months still to go, Bob Jenkins and his intrepid team of CABOT UNTDs have started to put flesh on the bones of this project.

Potential items on the program include, with varying degrees of certainty depending on interest:

A Meet and Greet with registration at the Crow's Nest Club on Sunday, September 9th, probably from 1600 - 2000 with cash bar and free finger foods.

A half-day Tour of St. John's.

Visit and Luncheon at the [Suncor Energy] Fluvarium in Pippy Park.

Visit to Memorial University's Marine Institute for hands on viewing of their Bridge/Navigation Simulator.

Visit and Dinner at "The Rooms" (Provincial Museum, Archives and Art Gallery).

Mess Dinner or Dine the Partners at HMCS Cabot on Southside of St. John's Harbour.

Function at Memorial University with possible presentation on the significant impact the UNTD has had on the University and the Province.

Visit to CFS St. John's, a brand new multi million dollar facility.

Visit to National Research Council's Ice/Wave Tank facility at Memorial University.

A Boat Tour from Bay Bulls to Bird Island Bird Sanctuary.

A bus tour "around the Bay" to Cupids and Brigus.

A tour of the Johnson Geo Center and Signal Hill National Historic Park Interpretation Centre.

Possible Reception at Government House. Request made and awaiting appointment of new Lieutenant Governor in early 2018.

A visit by an RCN vessel during our Reunion has been requested and awaiting response from Admiral Lloyd, Commander of the RCN.

A block of rooms have been confirmed for the Delta in St. John's but can't be accessed until a minimum of 12 months or so in advance.

The NAC AGM-Conference scheduled for October 19 - 22, 2017 in St. John's will be attended by any number of UNTDAs, both local and from away and that event can hopefully serve as a dry-run for our 2018 Reunion.

Many famous people have attended events in St John's. These would include John Cabot, James Cook, VADM Nelson, numerous 19th and 20th Century Arctic explorers, the famed Corvette, Frigate and Destroyer crews from WWII. So do attend in 2018 to include yourself in their illustrious company.

Any thoughts, suggestions, initial or reconfirmation of intentions will be gratefully accepted by Bob Jenkins at: rjenkins@nl.rogers.com

UNTDA Dine The Partners Mess Dinner June 29, 2017 - Victoria, BC

Russ Cape, UNTDA Van Isle Rep, has recently sent the message below to the West Coast UNTDA Contact List:

"Last April, we had a very successful Mess Dinner to install two Honorary Life Members into the UNTD Association. This year we are having a Dine the Partners mess dinner to celebrate Canada's 150th Anniversary. The theme will be "Canada and the Sea". Michael Hadley (DISCOVERY 1954) will be giving a short talk to commemorate the occasion. He and his wife have a new book entitled Spindrift – A Canadian Book of the Sea which is being published as a Canada 150 project.

The mess dinner will be held at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club in their Cadboro Room. It will feature a three course dinner, prime rib with a glass of wine, and port. There will be a no host bar before and after the dinner. The venue is superb with great parking. Start time is 1800 for 1900. We are proposing relaxed rules or at least one potty break. We will be asking for permission for mess dress with miniatures. Otherwise the dress would be "Black Tie", a dark suit or navy blazer. The tariff is \$80 per person. We can accommodate 60 to attend the dinner. It is open to ex UNTDs, ROUTPs and other NROC programs, and civvy ROTPs. While it is a Dine the Partners dinner, it is open to singles.

Please pass the message along to anyone not listed with whom you are in contact. This is true especially of post-1967 cadets. We would appreciate any new contacts that you can provide to add to our mailing lists.

As with last year, we will have copies of Bob Williamson's UNTiDy Tales, a 424 page collection of history, sea stories and escapades about UNTD cadets from 1943-1968. It is available for \$20 and can be bought at the dinner.

I have set up a bank account to enable payment by Interact e-transfer. Please remit \$80 (per person) for the dinner by e-transfer to me as recipient: Russell Cape - russcape@shaw.ca at CIBC. Use UNTD2017 as the security answer. Add \$20 if you want a prepaid copy of UNTiDy Tales. There should be a message section on the transfer, please list your place card data: given and last name (and partner's names), the reserve unit you joined and year, and U number if you had one.

Please note that the event could fill up rather quickly. To be fair, it will be a "first come, first served" event. The priority will be based on the date of the money transfer or an e-mail to me followed by a cheque within 10 days."

Dr Michael Hadley is well known in UNTDA, NavRes and larger academic, historical and literary circles. Ret'd as a CAPT(N), he was CO of MALAHAT from 1974 - 78. His previous contributions in whole or in part include:

Count Not the Dead: The Popular Image of the German Submarine.
U-Boats Against Canada: German Submarines in Canadian Waters.
Tin-Pots and Pirate Ships: Canadian Naval Forces and German Sea Raiders 1880-1918.
A Nation's Navy: In Quest of Canadian Naval Identity.
Citizen Sailors: Chronicles of Canada's Naval Reserve, 1910-2010.

Russ Cape can be contacted directly at: russcape@shaw.ca

UNTDA Regalia available:

After a long absence, UNTDA Ties and bullion Blazer Badges are now available.

Ties: \$35 + \$5 shipping.

Blazer Badges: \$25 + \$5 shipping.

(were sold out in October, a new batch is on order).

Lapel Pins: \$5 - includes shipping.

Contact Bill Thomas at: wctpts@cogeco.ca

Ball Caps: \$15 + variable shipping.

Contact Andy Shaw at andy56@telus.net

UNTDA Archives Update:

The UNTDA Master List database is continually receiving information from a wide variety of sources.

As of March, 2017 we are accumulating data on 8,302 individuals. Of those, 7,127 are UNTDs from the 1942-1968 period, 986 are ROUTP+ from 1969 to the present and 10 are Honorary UNTDAs.

179 are closely associated with the Programs such as Founders, Staff, Trainers etc.

From the UNTD/ROUTP group, 910 are known to have crossed the bar and 613 are on the UNTDA VIP List.

Lists are updated frequently and are available on the UNTDA website, on the Members Page:

<http://www.angelfire.com/on2/UNTD/members2.html>

and on the In Memoriam page:

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The UNTDA Webmaster maintains a growing collection of Obituaries, also available on the In Memoriam page.

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