



THE NEWSLETTER

Of The UNTD Association of Canada



HALIFAX REUNION EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2004

EDITOR Robert Williamson

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Former members of the UNTD tour HMCS HALIFAX, FFH 330 in dockyard as part of the national reunion on Friday July 2. From left to right they are Bob Duncombe (Ottawa) HMCS Discovery 1955-58, Eric DeBecker (Toronto) HMCS Donnacona 1953-6, David McLay (Kingston) HMCS Star 1946-50, Fred Lee (Hamilton) HMCS Star 1957-60.

Cover Story on page 2.

Photo by Bob Willson, Toronto

2004 HALIFAX REUNION

The organizers of the 60th Anniversary UNTD Reunion (in its 61st year) had to be pleased with the attendance. 140 guests, including 80 former officer cadets (14 from the west and 1 from the USA). Logistically it was an ideal number for bus charters and activities. Gil Hutton was in his energetic element trying to keep everything running efficiently.

The Meet and Greet at the Royal Artillery Park Officers Mess overflowed onto the patio, the attendance augmented by locals who came just to renew old acquaintances. The evening ended with a bang as most registrants made their way to the waterfront to witness the marvelous Canada Day fireworks. There was lots of room as the waterfront promenade now extends from HMCS SCOTIAN to the Ocean Terminal.

Next morning the highlight of the dockyard tour was a visit to the frigate HMCS HALIFAX and submarine HMCS CORNER BROOK. On the frigate, it was fascinating to hear the crew talk about their Persian Gulf experience in 2001. Boarding a foreign vessel with a high freeboard is daunting enough without having to deal with a hostile crew, barbed wire fittings, electrified railings and high pressure hoses. The cox'n of the submarine told the visitors that the RCN purchased four RN Upholder class submarines at bargain basement prices when the RN decided to switch to nuclear powered boats for their speed and unlimited range. Canada opted for the quiet running Upholder class with a small crew of 48. A coating of acoustic tiles makes the Canadian subs super quiet. VICTORIA & WINDSOR have completed their one-year refit to Canadian

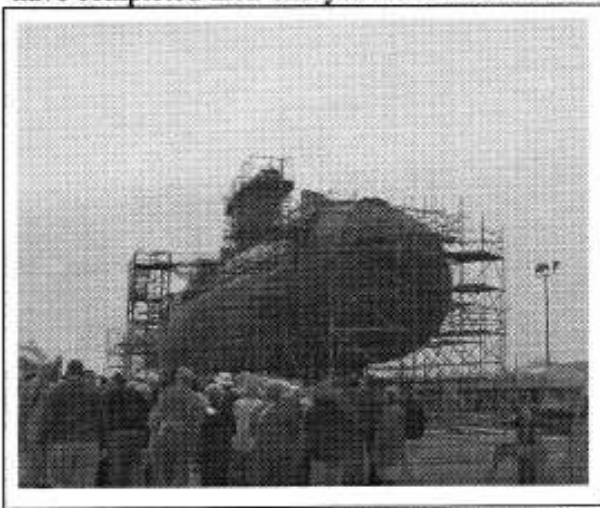


Photo by Robert Morris

HMCS CORNER BROOK in refit July 2, 2004

configuration, while CHICOUTIMI undergoes the process in the UK. The lunch venu aboard the crowded ship was wisely changed to the Junior Rank's Mess in Stad. One participant was heard to say, "If they had served food like this when I was in the UNTD, I would have joined the Regular force". There was more food at the sumptuous Tattoo buffet dinner and VIP treatment as a Scottish piper marched us to our Tattoo seats in the Halifax Civic Centre. We were given a public address welcome and later invited to stand and be recognized along with all those who had served their country in uniform.

The tour of Halifax on Saturday morning was conducted by 3rd generation Haligonian, Blair Bede. He focused on the Titanic and Halifax Explosion, pointing out that they shared a tragic continuity. John Barnstead, Deputy Registrar of Deaths in Halifax improvised a remarkably efficient system for identifying 209 Titanic victims brought to Halifax. Ironically, the same system was used in 1917 to identify 2,000 bodies after the Halifax Explosion. There were also a number of stories about the hurricane that hit Halifax last year. We saw the 31 story Fenwick Towers where most of the windows were blown out. The greatest destruction occurred in Point Pleasant Park where the giant, shallow rooted trees toppled like domino pieces. When we arrived at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and HMCS SACKVILLE, it was nice to see that the old Keiths Brewery across the street had been saved from the developer's demolition ball and converted into a market.

After cocktails that evening, 120 guests sat down for a reunion mess dinner in the beautiful Harbour Front Dining Room of the Casino Nova Scotia Hotel. The round tables did not lend themselves to a formal mess dinner style and so each table was identified by the name of a ship or training establishment associated with the UNTD. The head table chose the name MAGNIFICENT as Cmdre Bennett, Cmdre Cooper, Cdr Bob Willson an LCdr Gil Hutton had all served on her. President of the dinner, Bob Williamson, established the theme for the evening – "anecdotes of how the UNTD changed your life". The response was enlightening and amazing. The surprise guest speaker was Rear Admiral Glenn Davidson, CMM, CD, who himself was a graduate of the UNTD system (called NROUTP in 1970 when he joined) and rose to the position of Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic in 2002.

The church service at King's College Chapel on Sunday was superbly conducted by our own Rev. Canon Bill Thomas. Every seat was filled – an indication of the high regard in which Bill's Service is held and he did not disappoint. His Order of Service pamphlet was a work of art that made a beautiful UNTD souvenir. The service was adapted from the Naval Prayer Book used by the RCN from 1936 to 1967 (the UNTD years). Particularly moving was the Naval Prayer which everyone knew by rote and the following two prayers.

Prayer for the University Naval Training Division

Almighty God, in whom all wisdom dwelleth, we pray thee to guide and protect the training establishments and ships of our Navy. Bless all their members, past and present; all who bear rule or teach therein, with all who learn or serve. We thank Thee for our common life in the University Naval Training Division; for thy gifts of friendship, happiness, and knowledge. And we pray that we, together with all those who have passed through such training, may so serve our generation on earth as to be fitted for thy eternal service in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Departed

We bless thy holy Name, O God, for all thy servants who, having finished their course, do now rest from their labours, remembering especially those who we now name before Thee, either silently or aloud, (here you may add your own petitions).... Give us grace, we beseech Thee, to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfulness, to Thy honor and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The role call of names or petitions was long and heart rending, emotionally charging the atmosphere of the chapel as the names of former UNTD leaders such as Herbie Little, Noel Langham and Don Bethune were called out. The list of former cadets was topped by Jack Kilgour, President of the UNTD Association, who worked so hard to bring the reunion to fruition but died only a few weeks before he could participate.

Another highlight of the service was the music of the chapel organist, Dr. Walter Kemp, director of the massed choirs at the Tattoo. One minor disappointment was the absence of Pusser Rum at the Up Spirits following the service, an omission deeply felt by the thirsty chaplain.

Continued on page 8 >

REACHING THE TOP

It has been the theme of this newsletter and several UNTD publications, such as Bob Williamson's "UNTiDy Tales" and Jim Speight's "UNTIDIES Bonding a Nation", that many UNTD graduates have reached the top of their profession including government ministries and naval command. It appears that we can add two more names to that growing list – Rear Admiral Glenn V. Davidson, CMM, CD, Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic and Minister of National Defense, the Honourable William Graham.

Rear Admiral Davidson was born in Truro, Nova Scotia in 1952. He attended the University of King's College in Halifax, enrolling in the Naval Reserve at HMCS SCOTIAN in 1970. By then the UNTD had been re-designated NROUTP Naval Reserve Officer University Training Program. Upon graduation he joined the Regular Force in 1974, specializing in navigation and air control.

His training eventually resulted in his assignment to Directorate of Naval Requirements in NDHQ in 1986 dealing with the TRUMP and CPF projects. After command of HMCS KOOTENAY and a posting to the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, he was appointed Commander of Maritime Operations Group Two.

When promoted to Commodore in 1997, he was appointed Director General Naval Personnel in Ottawa. He assumed command of Maritime Forces Atlantic in 2002.



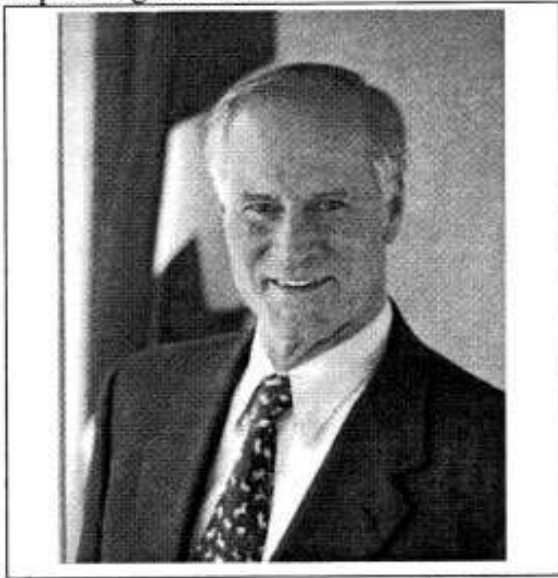
Photo by Bob Wootton, Ottawa.

Admiral Davidson addresses members of the UNTD Reunion Dinner in Halifax.

William Graham joined the UNTD in the 1960s. He graduated from the University of Toronto with a bachelor of arts (honours) and bachelor of laws degrees. He received a doctorate from the Universite de Paris.

Prior to being elected to Parliament in 1993 he was a professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, where he taught international law and law of the European Community.

In 2002 he was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and then Minister of National Defense in the present government.



DND Photo

The Honourable William Graham

In the Feb. 2004 UNTD Newsletter it was reported by Neil Goodwill CD, CERA (Rtd.) that **Vice Admiral Duncan (Dusty) Miller CD** was a UNTD in 1968 in HMCS CHIGNECTO.

Ken Nason and Bob Willson helped us track down Dusty Miller in Halifax. He and his wife Ann operate a B&B at 6010 South St., B3H 1S7. Dusty said that he was a ROTP cadet mixed in with the UNTD for sea training.

When he attended Bishop's University in Lennoxville, Quebec, there was no UNTD so he signed up for ROTP instead. Since there was no naval establishment handy, he did his officer winter training with the army in Sherbrooke. He spent his 3rd summer on CHIGNECTO with UNTDs as Chief Goodwill reported. Considering that the ROTP program was Herbie Little's creation as a by-product of the UNTD, it shows yet again how the UNTD played an important role in developing naval leadership in Canada.

ADDENDUM TO THE BOB BANKS STORY

As a former UNTD cadet 1945 to 1949, I read Bob Banks story on the beginning of the UNTD with great interest. But what really excited me is the fact that now I know about the artist whose painting of the Sackville adorns the top of my fireplace.

Let me explain how I came into the possession of that painting. In 1985, I was employed at the head office of Domtar in Montreal when the head of the Fine Papers division, Roger Maltby, asked me to come up to his office. He knew that I had a naval background and informed me of a poster that Domtar was putting out in honor of the Canadian Navy's 75th anniversary. He then gave me a copy of the poster and my choice of a print of one of the 5 paintings commissioned by Domtar for the poster. I chose one of the numbered copies of Sackville. That copy, one of 100, is now on Sackville and is just above the Book of Remembrance in the forward upper messdeck.

Upon my retirement in 1989, Domtar graciously presented me with the original painting of Sackville. Mind you I had made it quite clear that I would really treasure such a painting if it ever came into my possession! In the meantime, I had managed to obtain a few more copies of the poster as well as a few numbered copies of the other paintings for some of my old veteran Navy friends. Now, you may correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe that the 5 paintings done for Domtar were the following: Sackville, Waskesiu, Haida [picture of which is in the February Newsletter], Ontario and Bonaventure.

After retirement from Domtar, I wondered about the fate of the remaining paintings still in Domtar's possession. I moved down from Montreal to Halifax in 1990 and decided to pursue the matter. After a call or two, I found out that the Company was quite prepared to part with them, but only to an appropriate and meaningful archive. I then got in touch with the Marilyn Gurney, Director of the Maritime Command Museum. I drafted a letter, which she edited to suit her style and, lo and behold, shortly thereafter 3 of the 5 paintings were sent to the Museum. The only 2 missing are those of the Sackville, which I have, and that of Haida which, I presume, may be with the Haida people in Ontario. The Museum also has a copy of the poster, which is now quite a collector's item.

Domtar used the prints of the limited edition paintings as an advertising medium for its Fine

Paper Division. All prints were accompanied with a nice little pamphlet, describing the history of the ship and a brief resume of its painter, namely Robert Banks. In case anyone is wondering about my painting of the Sackville, I have already included it in my will. It is to be donated to the Sackville Trust, and I might do it whilst still living. Should Robert Banks ever come to Halifax, it might be a nice occasion to do a presentation.

Michael G. Thompson
Halifax

Bob Banks replied. I'm flattered that Mike Thompson has a painting of mine over his fireplace! His story of Domtar and the poster is fascinating. So often, after the art is finished, nothing is heard of what the client did with the originals.

The story of the poster began in 1985. Being an ex-navy person, I decided to create a poster of ships of the RCN from its inception. I then wrote letters to various large companies across Canada, hoping that one of them would help me finance production. Two didn't bother to reply, two said "no", and dear old Domtar said yes, they were interested. When they saw the poster, they suggested I do paintings of five of the ships. If you look far down to the lower right-hand corner of the poster, you should see my name. In other words, I painted all of the ships on the poster, and am adding more in my golden (rusty) years. After some years, Domtar gave me permission to make copies of the poster, which I did with some success. Incidentally there was a French edition too.

Report of the Naval Officers Association of Canada Annual General Meeting 2004

The Naval Officers Association of Canada (NOAC) held its 59th Annual General Meeting of 18 Branches in Ottawa on the 6 and 7 June 2004. The National President, Mike Cooper, chaired Board Meetings in the Embassy Hotel and in the Crowsnest of HMCS Bytown Wardroom.

Vice Admiral Buck, Chief of Maritime Staff, gave a general briefing in the Crowsnest on the future development and expanded deployment of the Navy. LCDr Graeme Arbuckle, Staff Officer Naval Heritage, briefed everyone on the preparations for the 100th Anniversary of the Canadian Navy in 2010.

Of particular interest at the meeting was the distribution of the NOAC Endowment Fund Proceeds of \$7,100.00 for 2004.

- \$2,000.00 to assist in the renovation of the Wardroom in HMCS Sackville (The Canadian Naval Memorial Trust "CNMT").
- \$600.00 to assist in the restoration of the Captain's Cabin in HMCS Haida.
- \$2,000.00 to continue the joint NOAC / Navy League of Canada Scholarship Award.
- \$500.00 towards the mailing of the revised edition of "Why Canada Needs Maritime Forces"
- \$1,000.00 to assist the Maritime Awards Society of Canada in publishing the proceedings of their annual seminars.
- \$1,000.00 to the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust to support a National Essay Contest for grade 11 and 12 students.

The NOAC was represented at the unveiling of the "VR" Memorial in the RNVF Club in London, England. The NOAC made a financial contribution to the Memorial, which commemorates the gallant service of the Naval Volunteer Reserve in the Second World War. It was also recorded that the NOAC presented an oil painting of HMCS Sackville to the Crowsnest Club in St. John's, Newfoundland. Annual prizes were given by the NOAC to the top students in the Junior Officers training program at Naval Officers Training Centre Venture (MARS) and the Fleet School Halifax (MARE)

A new core activity, "Guardianship of Our Naval Heritage", was added to the charter of the NOAC. The NOAC will seek out and preserve articles and memorabilia of historical interest to the Navy. Items received are directed to appropriate Naval or Military Museums.

At the conclusion of this AGM, the NOAC National Office was transferred to Ottawa under a new Executive Director, Robert (Bob) Nixon, (613) 234-9711, email noacexdir@rogers.com. The retiring Executive Director, Duncan Mathieson, was applauded for his diligent and capable performance of 12 years. Admiral Buck presented him with a Maritime Command Commendation and the NOAC awarded him a Gold Medallion and a Lifetime Membership in the NOAC.

The next Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held in **Hamilton, Ontario**,

9 – 12 June 2005. Information on the 2005 Conference may be obtained from the Executive Director, Bob Nixon, or the NOAC National Website, www.naval.ca

Membership in the NOAC is open to all retired and serving Naval Officers and anyone who supports the objectives and policies of the NOAC.

Bruce Hayes, NOAC National Director Communications.
(behayes@rogers.com)

IN MEMORIAM Jack Kilgour

Jack Kilgour, President and Treasurer of the UNTD Association of Canada passed away quietly on Saturday June 12, 2004 after a long battle with cancer. Jack was the driving force behind the Halifax Reunion in 2004 and ironically recommended that it be delayed one year to ensure good planning and the best possible venue. We all know how much Jack was hoping to attend the reunion but it wasn't to be so.



Jack Kilgour, 2002

Photo by Robert Williamson

In 1946, Jack Kilgour enrolled in Mining Geology at the University of Toronto. He joined the UNTD in 1948 and served from 1948 to 1951. In 1948, he went to sea aboard HMCS New Liskeard. He remarked of being on shore patrol duty in Bermuda. It was not an easy task getting the crew back to the ship following shore leave.

Following graduation and after a postgraduate year of Soil Mechanics (1951), he joined the firm of H G Acres Consulting Engineers, working on the Fanshaw Dam project in London, Ontario.

He later moved to Photographic Surveys, working on an airfield at Aklavik on the Arctic Ocean, a proposed dam in Jordan in the Middle East as well as various sites in North America. In 1959, he started his own consulting engineering firm, Associated Geotechnical Services Ltd. in Toronto. It became well known in the GTA with many local municipalities, provincial and federal agencies using their services. He trained many young engineers and technicians, who went on to greater things. Practicality and integrity were his driving principles. Jack particularly enjoyed designing and constructing dams and worked on Conestoga, Wildwood, Parkhill and W. D'Arcy McKeough dams in southwestern Ontario. He retired and sold the business in 1991.

On a day sail aboard a visiting naval ship, Jack met and chatted with Doug Hain, an executive member of the UNTD Association of Canada. This sparked a renewed interest in the naval community and in 1997 when UNTD treasurer, Norm Balfour retired, Jack was happy to take over the job. In 2000, Jack stepped up to the Presidency and was a chief organizer for the UNTD West Coast Reunion in Victoria.

It was through his UNTD associations at HMCS York, that he heard about the need for volunteers for Friends of HMCS Haida. Then through Andy Irwin, he accepted the job as treasurer of NOAC Toronto Branch in 1999, adding treasurer of Haida as well. He was also a member of the Naval Club of Toronto. Jack thoroughly enjoyed doing this work and the camaraderie that went along with it.

Ken Kilgour

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

July 9, 2004

Ahoy!

Clara and I got home last Wednesday night July 7 thru the Ottawa airport after a 2-hour drive back to Kingston. We had a great time at the UNTD reunion on the East Coast. It was great seeing everyone who was able to get there. I feel there was a good balance and mix in the program of events and activities in Halifax, which is a 'good port-town' for doing these kinds of reunions. Bravo Zulu to all the organizers (Gil Hutton, Bob Willson et al for all their hard work on everyone's behalf! We enjoyed good venues, pubs, grub, music and seafood!

No one really changes, but rather we mellow a little, like a glass of vintage wine or port.

Everybody's sense humour and mutual enjoyment have really held up over the years. Clara enjoyed experiencing the reunion 'right on location' and got a sense of the shipmate camaraderie that the UNTD was all about.

At the end of the tour, there was a general agreement to add a UNTD component into the NOAC gathering that's scheduled for next year in Hamilton. 'Star' or 'GLTC' aka the old 'Great Lakes Training Center' in Hamilton is where HMCS Haida is located (similar to the Sackville in Halifax). I would certainly like to plan on attending while we still have the time and ability to rally and enjoy ourselves. Sadly, some acquaintances have already 'passed on'.

Regards
Ron & Clara Paquin
Chippawa '63

July 10, 2004

Dear Editor

Wendy and I want to say how very much we enjoyed the UNTD gathering for the 60th Anniversary Reunion and the opportunity of meeting everyone again.

As Newsletter Editor please note that the e-mail address shown on the Reunion materials is no longer correct. My new e-mail is: underhills@highspeedplus.com I should like this change to be communicated to the members of the Association so that I may receive any communications that are sent my way. I would also like to receive the newsletter by e-mail if that is possible. We expect to be home in Victoria by the 20th of July.

Gerry Underhill
U-75697

From: james.paterson
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2004
Subject: Halifax and all

Dear Cadets and Cadet "Captains". Great to see you at Stad. It seemed like old times all over again but I didn't miss morning PT at all.
Jim

From: Smith.AHC@forces.gc.ca
To: dmathieson@saltspring.com
Subject: Starshell Vol. VII, No. 26, Spring 2004
Date: 27 May 2004

Duncan - Just received the excellent article on the UNTD in Starshell. I was a UNTD member from 1952 to 1954 at HMCS SCOTIAN but then

the Navy found out that I was colour blind and so I transferred to the Canadian Army and served for 38 years. The article does not mention that the UNTD also provided officers for the Canadian Army. Beside myself one that should be mentioned is Lieutenant-General Jim Fox who was one of the finest officers ever to serve in the Forces.

Colonel Harky Smith (Retired)

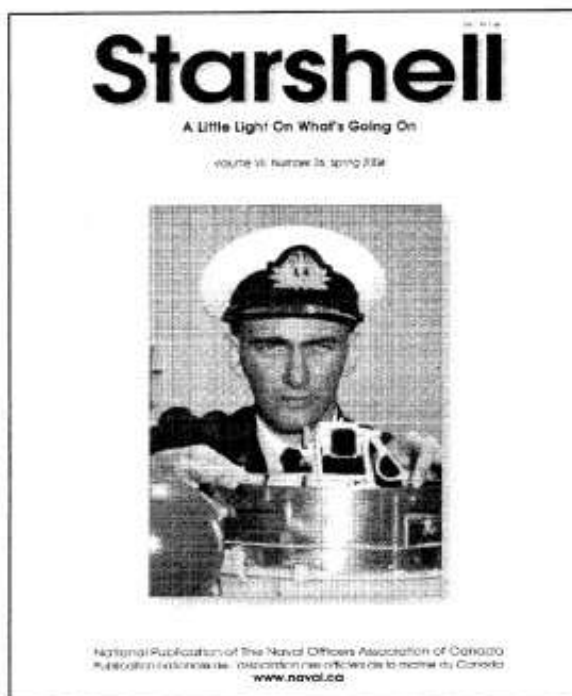
June 7, 2004

Dear Editor

I read with great interest your article on the UNTD in Starshell. I have many fond memories of my time with the UNTD including Royal Roads where many pranks were played.

I was particularly interested in the reference to my father Cmdre. Brock. I am looking for information on his role in the RCN [VR]. He received a CBE and I have been attempting to find the citation. Any leads you can provide to me for researching more information about Dad; my Uncle Capt Eustace Brock or my cousin R.Adm. Jeffry Brock would be much appreciated. Again thanks for writing the article. I will keep it for posterity

Rees Brock <flbrock@shaw.ca>



The cover of NOAC Starshell that featured a five-page article by Bob Williamson, entitled "UNTD An Incomparable Experience". The Starshell editor selected the subject as a promotion for the UNTD Halifax Reunion.

ANNUAL REUNION MESS DINNER

NAVAL MESS DINNER FORMAT & Brief AGM

Wardroom HMCS YORK Saturday, November 20, 2004

Reception on the Quarterdeck 1830 / Roast Beef Dinner with Yorkshire Pudding 1930

Dinner Wines & Port, Tariff \$TBA.

Guest Speaker TBA

LETTERS continued

June 2004

Dear Editor

Congratulations on your UNTD article in Starshell for May - I note that you were a diplomat, but didn't pull any punches. Thank you for mentioning my book in the bibliography.

Cheers

Jim Speight

HALIFAX REUNION continued

Lobster Supper

By Gil Hutton

About 40 people participated in the post-reunion activities after Up-Spirits on Sunday July 4. They proceeded to Hubbards, Nova Scotia on St. Margaret's Bay for a lobster supper at the Shore Club. Once a popular dance hall and drinking establishment, it still looks the same but is now famous for its lobster suppers.

Arriving about 1730, the group participated in the Lobster Races after securing some suitable liquid refreshment. These crustacean competitions are hilarious and have to be seen to be appreciated or even believed. Numbered lobsters are placed at one end of a shallow, water-filled wooden box. Each lobster has a jockey or beater who encourages the lobster forward by beating the wooden floor of the tank behind his lobster with a pole. The lobster can't be touched. The effort to urge the lobster in the desired direction of the finish line is frustratingly funny, as the lobster has no concept of what is required. The beaters try frantically to convey their intentions, the spectators scream encouragement while those who placed bets, groan with incredulity as the lobsters wander crazily in all directions. The proceeds of over \$300.00 dollars went to charity.

After a delicious dinner of fresh South Shore lobster the group wound its way back to Halifax along the picturesque shore of Mahone Bay.

The post reunion side trip to Lunenburg will be covered in the Spring 2005 newsletter.

The UNTD Association of 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; Phone (905) 383-6084 or e-mail cdrbob@worldchat.com

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<http://www.untd.org/>

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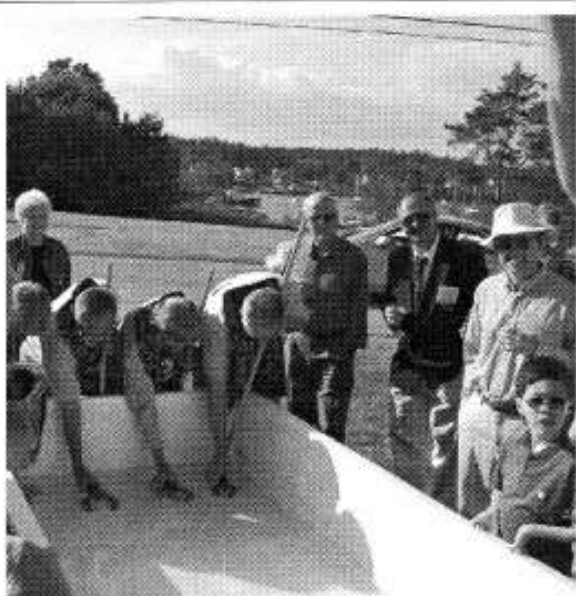


Photo by Robert Morris

Lobster races at the Shore Club at Hubbards