

# TELEGRAPH



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## WINTER 2018

### From the Bridge



#### President's Report January 2018

Shipmates;

This is a repeat of the "State of the Club" report I gave at January's General Meeting, which let the membership know what went on over the period of January to December 2017. It includes our naval traditions (being the Naval Club of Toronto), social activities, upgrades to the Club, and where the largest sums of money were spent. All money amounts are approximate. Actual amounts are in the Treasurer's report or his books.

#### January (1 outside rental of the Club)

January 1<sup>st</sup>, this Executive took over and the Club, carrying on with tradition, held the Levee.



The 15<sup>th</sup> was the General Meeting where galley equipment was discussed: ovens were repaired, and a thermostat was required for the flat top (cost about \$300).

On the 21<sup>st</sup>, a very successful Burns's Supper was held with 55 in attendance.

The 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, there was a thorough cleaning of the galley: the hood and vents were cleaned professionally for insurance purposes (cost approx. \$xxx). The rest of the galley was torn apart and emptied of everything. The bulkheads and deck were pressure washed and de-greased, along with the appliances. Everything that had been taken out of the galley was then washed and put back in place. This was done, basically, by four members of the Executive.

#### February (2 outside rentals)

February 4<sup>th</sup>, we combined the Club's Birthday, Valentine's Day, Flag Day and Family Day together to have one big, huge, good-old Canadian BBQ and winter gathering. This was a great day (a little cool for Dave and me) with about 50 members and guests in attendance!



On the 8<sup>th</sup>, HMCS YORK's Band played a recital in the club. This, unfortunately, was not well attended by our members. These young sailors are our future! They support us. We should be supporting them.



**March** (1 outside rental)

The 19<sup>th</sup> of March was our General Meeting and St Paddy's Day party. This was attended by 35 members and some guests dropped in after the meeting. The food was great, and everyone enjoyed themselves. The membership authorized the Executive \$XXXK to replace galley equipment, as repair would be too costly.

**April** (no rentals)

The Club held its first Pasta Supper. Not a bad turnout for our first kick at the cat; 37 hungry bodies were in attendance. We made a small profit of about \$XXX, plus the bar take.



**May** (no rentals)

The 7<sup>th</sup> of May, we celebrated our victory in the Battle of the Atlantic. There was a good turnout of Club members and guests for the Parade and reception afterwards. The Bar did well!

14<sup>th</sup> of May we did not have the General Meeting as there was no quorum. (It was the first non-meeting in a long time.)

The last week in May our new galley equipment was installed at a total cost of \$XX,XXX.XX. This was about \$XXX more than anticipated as there had to be replumbing of some of the gas pipe. The unserviceable pizza oven was taken out at the same time.

The galley equipment and installation came in \$X,XXX.XX under budget! We were ahead of the game!

**June** (1 outside rental)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> of June saw the Club's first real use of the new galley. We had our first-ever Steak Night, attended by 57 hungry diners. A great evening was had by all! We made a profit of about \$XXX and the bar also did well.

In the beginning of June, it was noticed that there was water leaking into the basement from the east wall of the building. Checking outside, it was noticed the cement board was cracked and coming away from the wall, causing a leak, and getting ready to fall off the wall. This had to be fixed to stop the leak and prevent more damage to our property. This came at a cost of \$XXXXXX. I thought, "Well, we are still \$XXXXXX under budget, so this is a good thing."

**July** (no rentals)

July 1<sup>st</sup> was Canada Day. It was a great day to celebrate our nation's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. Dave and I cooked 42 hamburgers and 25 hot dogs! Unfortunately, the count of members and guests was lost after 35 but there were more. The bar again did well.

As in the past, the Club was closed on Saturdays in July.

**August** (1 outside rental)

On August 12<sup>th</sup>, the Club held its August Banyan. This event was not as well attended as it was the year before, however, there were about 30 members and guests. The costs were covered, a small profit made, and the bar did okay.

At the beginning of August, the dishwasher died on us. We had the repairman in and he changed the motherboard. After a two-week wait, it was up and running again just like new, at a cost of \$XXXXXX. So, subtract that from being under budget for the galley and we have \$XXXXXX left - still ahead of the game.

Well, not long afterward it was noticed that the termites were back! They were found eating around our walk-in cooler, and beams in the basement. The Orkin man was called in to eliminate the problem at a cost of \$XXXX. Subtracted from the leftover from the galley and the cost was still \$XXXX - under budget.

The Bridge Club was in on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of August.

**September** (no rentals)

The Bridge Club was in 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 of September.

The 17<sup>th</sup> of September was a General Meeting where the Club approved \$XXX for the installation of security cameras and a new walk-in fridge.

The cameras were installed and work great! The cost was \$XXXX, leaving \$XXXXXXXX.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> of September we had our September BBQ and Corn Boil. This was another enjoyable event with about 40 members and guests showing up to partake. Again, a small profit was made, and the bar did well.



It doesn't rain, but it pours and near the end of September, the accounting laptop died, and we had to purchase another one, as without it we can't keep our financial records up to date. The price was just over \$XXX (out of another pocket though).

**October** (2 outside rentals)

The 28<sup>th</sup> of October was Oktoberfest at the Club. We had 38 diners. This was a great evening with lots of food and good company. We covered our costs, made a profit, and the bar did well!



October was also the month that we put the deposit for our new walk-in fridge (just in time, as the health department was starting to make noise about our old one). The deposit was \$XXXXX, leaving us \$XXXXX.

**November** (1 outside rental)

November 11<sup>th</sup> the Club held its annual Remembrance Day ceremony. This was held after many of our members attended other ceremonies around the City. The turnout of the membership was very good. The Navy was well-represented, and later in the day, members of the local garrison dropped in. It was stated that "our ceremony is so much more civilized because we are inside and warm." The bar did well.



The 16<sup>th</sup> of November saw the tear-out of the old walk-in. We had two surprise expenditures: a new floor for the walk-in, and the electrician who had to rewire for the compressor and fans. These costs came out to be \$XXXXXX, which left us with a balance of **minus \$XXXXXX**. (If we take away these unexpected expenses, we would have been ahead by \$XXXX.)

All this construction made an absolute mess of the Club that had to be cleaned up! I put out a call for a work party for the 18<sup>th</sup> of November. The turn-out was great! The Club was cleaned, dusted, vacuumed, and the decks scrubbed. Many thanks (in no particular order) to S/M's Saul Glass, Ken Kilgour, Robert Kilgour, Alex Kerr, Mark MacPherson, Luke Cain, Beth Scott and, in the galley, S/M's Sue McLennan, Charlie Ross and Bill Middleton.

The General Meeting in November did not happen as there was no quorum. This meant no Club business could be conducted and the elections could not be held.

The 29<sup>th</sup> and the Christmas season started with the Club being decorated.

## December (2 outside rentals)

The 1<sup>st</sup> of December saw the end of the Christmas decorating. The Club really looked festive this year! Many thanks to L/M Alan Simpson, and S/M Jojo Colson!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> of December was the Club Christmas party. I was worried because it started off a little slow but, by later afternoon, it picked up. We had about 40 members and guests show up. The bar did well.

To add to the "State of the Club" report from the January General Meeting, for this edition of *the Telegraph* I had

to add in our Robbie Burns Supper, as it was a great success!

The evening started at about 1700 as guests started to arrive. After about twenty or so were aboard, I started my hunt for volunteers to take part in the entertainment for the evening. I was quite surprised at how easy it was to get them! (The Haggis Party was *very* easy, as most know they get a shot of **good whisky** after they have carried out their duties!) The evening began at 1835. All the diners were seated, and I gave the welcome speech, as is customary on a Robbie Burns evening, and the HAGGIS was marched on. Andrew Bennett, our piper for the evening led, followed by our secretary and address-giver S/M Sue McLennan, S/M Bob Russell carrying the Haggis, and S/M Gil Darnley bearing the ceremonial Pusser Dirk. Finally, S/M Brad Boyle was entrusted to bring the Scotch (a very important job).



The *Address to the Haggis* and the toast to the Haggis were given and the "Great Chieftain o' the Pudding Race" was piped back to the galley for serving. Once the wee beastie was safely there, S/M Marian MacDonald said Burns's *Selkirk Grace* and our first course of Caesar salad was served. This was followed by the main course of steak pie, "champt tatties" (mashed potatoes), "bashed neeps" (mashed rutabaga), peas and carrots. In between the main and dessert there was a wee bit of entertainment. The first entertainment of the evening was a splendid reading of *To a Mouse* by S/M Evelyn Ferens. The next was a toast to the *Immortal Memory* of Robbie Burns given by S/M Jacqueline Wells. The second entertainment was a rendition of Burns's *Lines to an old Sweetheart* given by S/M Brad Boyle. Then it was *the Toast to the Lassies* given by S/M John Hunter. For the third entertainment, I had chosen Burns's *My Love is like a Red Red Rose* for someone to read, however, when asking around for a volunteer, a guest of S/M Bob Russell (I can't remember his name) had come

prepared with his own book of Burns's poetry and asked if he could recite *To a Louse*, so he did it, Scots accent and all! It made it even more realistic! To end the evening's entertainment, one of our guests, Sara Cain gave the reply to *The Toast to the Lassies*. (At the time of writing, Sara is a proud new Mom of a lovely baby girl, Hunter.) L/M Al Simpson's famous Bread Pudding was then served for dessert.

Many thanks must go out to a lot of people who helped make this evening as good as it was. (I really hope that I don't miss anyone!) First, we had six Sea Cadets from RCSCC Illustrious come in from Brampton to work as servers for the dinner. They did an excellent job! Food was served hot and dishes removed promptly. They were curious, polite and well-mannered. It was a pleasure to have them in the Club. At the end of the evening the Club gave a donation to the Corps which was received by LCdr Nicole Stevenson Monteith, Illustrious's CO. Others that go on the thank you list are: S/M Ron Sakki for setting up the Club's tables and chairs and doing the deck; S/M Debra Shepherdson and S/M Sue McLennan for setting the tables and peeling the veggies; S/M Dave Shepherdson and S/M Bill Middleton were also veggie peelers and performed other tasks to get ready for the evening. Big thanks to S/M Jojo Coulson who was our bar steward for the evening and gave a hand in the galley when she saw it was needed. Last, but by no means least, our chief cook, L/M Al Simpson was responsible for your fantastic dinner! He was in the galley smashing potatoes, rutabaga, making the gravy, and steaming the haggises. He also co-ordinated the plating of the food and getting it out to you. Thanks Al! Great job!

To end my report, I would just like to say that you can see the Executive has kept busy this year carrying on the traditions of the Navy and the Club, working on more improved and, hopefully, fun entertainment, and improvements to the Club to keep it clean, safe, and up to health department standards.

Even though it has been very frustrating sometimes, we all still have our hair!

### **Stay Salty my Friends**

Gord McLennan  
President

### **First Vice-President**

Position vacant because S/M Gord McLennan elected to President

### **Second Vice-President' Report**

Shipmates, Happy New Year!

Paid membership as of 21 January 2018 is:

Life - 4  
Honorary Life - 6  
Naval - 38  
Associate - 10  
Social - 24

It is past that time when membership dues are due. If you have paid your dues, "Thank you!" As per the General By-Law of the Naval Club of Toronto, Article VI, section C (1) states that:

"Annual Dues are to be paid by or before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of each year."

If you have not paid your dues, please pay them as soon as possible. You can come down to the Club and pay them, or you can mail in a cheque. For those of you who have not paid your dues for 2015, you will be moved to the inactive file and will no longer receive Club information, emails and *the Telegraph*.

Thanks, and see you around the Club.

David Shepherdson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President



## *Treasurer's Chest*

Well Shipmates, it seems that we have the sun shining down on the Club finally. Out of the deep cold of the past weeks we are into some temperatures that, although still not swimsuit weather, are a little bit closer to “bare-able”.

Along with the higher temperatures outside, I have the honour to inform you that the status of the Club's finances has also changed for the better. Last summer's influx of property tax refunds (after five years of reconciling with the City of Toronto) gave us a shot in the arm when we needed it the most. This allowed the general account to stop or slow down requests to the Capital Fund for more money to the Club going. Yes, I know that the capital is our money but the less it is used for day-to-day expenses, the better for the Club's future.

Yes, we spent a lot of money last year, but the majority that came from the Capital Fund went to increase our assets. Much like putting money into the stock market, this allows the Club's overall value to grow. The new Executive always asks for advice from the financial team before pursuing any purchases. We feel this is the prudent way of handling such things. (In fact, Gord paid me a compliment the other week when he said that my method of buying is rubbing off on him and that he is now looking harder for deals when dealing with sellers!)

### *Now to the Accounts*

This year when we looked at the bottom of the income statement there was a noticeable difference. There was no minus sign in front of the figures and, no, it is not a mistake! The colour of the numbers is indeed BLACK. Shipmates, the general account books are balanced and in the black in the amount of \$XXXX.<sup>00</sup>! ☺ We also are starting the year off with a healthy bank balance of \$XXXXX.<sup>00</sup> (which will

soon be eaten up by the tax man and city utilities). All the same, we are starting 2018 off right.

### *Two more surprises came out of 2017.*

Just after Christmas, I received the City of Toronto Tax refund notice for 2017. We will receive \$XXXX.<sup>00</sup> back on the taxes we paid last year. ☺

As well, on 2 January 2018 at the General Meeting, we learned from the Capital Fund that our stocks over 2017 brought in approximately \$XXXXX.<sup>00</sup>, which basically replaced the money we had to spend on the new galley. ☺

Bill Middleton  
Treasurer



### *House Director's Report*

Hello everyone!

I was glad to see the good turn out for Robbie Burns! The entertainment was authentic. After the dinner, we have swabbed the deck and reset the club for other activities. Come down, shoot some darts, play pool, or just have lunch.

Also, I would like to thank Lori Warren, a friend of S/M Julia Sakki for donating our Christmas tree. I hope you had a chance to see it.

Have a good day and see you around the Club!



Ron Sakki  
House Director.

## Sports and Entertainment Report

Ahoy, mates! I hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Here is a list of opportunities you have had to come on down to the Club and enjoy yourself: the Steak Night, Canada Day's BBQ, August's Banyan and BBQ, September's Corn Boil and BBQ, Oktoberfest Supper, Christmas party and the Robert Burns Supper.

During this last year your Executive and Committee have focused on providing a function on most months. This is above the regular recurring meetings, parades and other functions that occur in the Club. Sensibly, we started out slowly with a function that seems to be enjoyed by the membership. We hope that this course has advanced your enjoyment of your Club. As expected, some functions have drawn more attendance than others. Your feedback is always welcome so that we can tweak what we have accomplished and expand on ideas for the future.

In furtherance of this goal we continue to renovate and expand the galley. Each addition and improvement enables us to provide more variety and a higher standard of cuisine. Of course, this does not happen without a lot of background help from many people too numerous to mention. So, I would like to acknowledge the one person who has ensured we were able to carry out our plans - L/M Al Simpson!!! Without his dedication and steady determination throughout the course of the past year in the galley, our ability to provide you with such fine food and entertainments would have been seriously hindered! Let's have a hearty

round of applause for our volunteer Chief Cook Al!



For the future, we will continue on our current course, and we hope to be able to provide an expanded variety of leisure enjoyments for your pleasure.

Here is a list of upcoming events:

Saturday 10 February – Club birthday, Valentines, National Flag, and Family Day combined party

Tuesday 13 February - Whiskers (second Tuesday of the month)

Saturday 10 March - St Patrick's Day Supper

Tuesday 13 March - Whiskers

Wednesday 14 March - HMCS YORK Band Recital

As you can see there is plenty of opportunity for you to partake and enjoy yourself with your shipmates.

I look forward to "sea-ing" my mates more often this year!

Charles Ross  
Sports and Entertainment Director



## **MV Asterix arrives in Halifax ahead of sea trials**

January 22, 2018 TRIDENT News

By Ryan Melanson, Trident Staff



The RCN’s new interim AOR, the converted commercial container ship MV Asterix, has now arrived in Halifax and is alongside at HMC Dockyard ahead of sea trials set to begin later in January. Converted by Davie Shipbuilding in Quebec and now leased by the RCN from Davie’s sister company Federal Fleet Services, the ship is the result of Davie’s Project Resolve, a 24-month process that saw the vessel stripped to its keel and rebuilt in a modular fashion. It is now equipped to support RCN operations with key military equipment including the OSI Integrated Tactical and Navigation Systems, L3 MAPPS Integrated Platform Management System and Hepburn Replenishment-At-Sea Systems. “The delivery of this ship is an innovation showcase for Canadian industry and marks an important new era in Canadian maritime power, for it once again allows the Royal Canadian Navy to independently deploy globally for combat, peacekeeping and humanitarian operations,” said Federal Fleet CEO Spencer Fraser after the arrival of Asterix in Halifax. The ship was initially alongside at the Halifax Seaport, near the location of Federal Fleet’s Halifax shore office, and then berthed at HMC Dockyard as of January 8. The ship is owned and operated by the private firm, rather than the Government of Canada, meaning Asterix will sail with a civilian master and crew of 36 civilian mariners, who will be joined by roughly 115 CAF Mission Specialists from the newly stood up Naval Replenishment Unit (NRU) Asterix. Led

## **Last Post**

*The following shipmates recently crossed the bar ...*

### **Naval**

S/M Jack Hughes, - Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

S/M Muriel McAlister - October 2<sup>nd</sup>,2017.

### **Social**

S/M Norma Kilgour - December 6<sup>th</sup>,2017

Details are published on our website.

*For though from out our bourn of time and place,  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.*



*Alfred, Lord Tennyson*

## **NAVAL COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **HMCS YORK ASSOCIATION UP AND RUNNING**

The long-awaited YORK Association has been established and has its own website. For those former YORKERS please visit and sign up at [www.yorkassociation.ca](http://www.yorkassociation.ca) there is a minimal cost to belong to the association which goes to the planning and the achieving of YORK’s history for all to see and learn about our proud past.

by unit CO LCdr Jason Walsh, NRU Asterix will be responsible for RAS and any other work dealing with CAF equipment, including flight operations. Other features of the ship touted by Davie and Federal Fleet Services

include the ability to land all RCAF helicopters including the CH-147F Chinook, four RAS stations rather than just two, an at-sea hospital facility with operating theatre, an at-sea intermodal handling area, and a fully redundant extra electrical power plant and propulsion system. The ship is also capable of being fitted with a range of active and passive selfdefence systems. “We set out to build an innovative, modern design of a naval support ship with the latest, state-of-the-art systems that would be fully compliant to meet Canada’s international and NATO commitments yet also provide a purpose-built platform for responding to humanitarian crises,” Fraser said.

Because the vessel remains privately owned and leased by the government, it will not be commissioned or receive the HMCS title. The contract with Davie currently allows for five years of service, with an option to be extended to 10 years. Davie has also expressed interest in selling the ship to Canada in the future, which would allow for commissioning and a full crew of RCN personnel. It’s expected that Asterix will join the Atlantic Fleet by the end of January to begin trials ahead of its sailing to support fleet operations and exercises later this year. Plans are for the supply ship to sail to the west coast and deploy to the 2018 Rim of the Pacific Exercise

## Funny



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