

# TELEGRAPH



Naval Club of Toronto, 1910 Gerrard Street East, Toronto, ON M4L 2C1 Tel: 416-924-2811

[info@navalcluboftoronto.com](mailto:info@navalcluboftoronto.com)

[www.navalcluboftoronto.com](http://www.navalcluboftoronto.com)



## FALL / WINTER 2018

### From the Bridge



### President's Report January 2019

Shipmates;

The Fall/Winter *Telegraph* is a few weeks late coming out because it was missing my article. This is unusual as I am normally after everyone else to get theirs in on time. The Secretary and the Editor have been on my case, so here it is.

Things that have gone on around the Club since the last *Telegraph*:

- On June 16<sup>th</sup> we had another successful Steak night. The only hitch was the baked potatoes were slow to cook but the steaks and everything else were good, or at least, no complaints. The number of attendees was down from last year though (maybe the date?).
- On July 1<sup>st</sup> we celebrated Canada Day! The sun was out, and the new BBQ awning came in handy, so Dave and I didn't have to worry too much about our tender skin getting burnt! There were hamburgers and hot dogs flying off the grill at one point! Inside, in the cool, the celebrations were going well with all kinds of SWAG (stuff we all get) to be won. So, all-in-all, a good day, but again not as well attended as last year. (It couldn't have been the date!)

- The Club closed on Saturdays for the summer as it has for the past couple of years. Many people are away, or at the cottage during this time, so we save a few precious dollars.
- In August we had the Club Banyan. The turnout was good but could have been a bit better. Those who checked out the website and did the research with the hints I gave, came down in their party shirts, so the gang looked pretty good!
- In September we had the Corn Boil. It was another successful event, but again, not as well attended as in the past (date?).
- In October we had our Oktoberfest dinner. Again, a little smaller than last year's crowd (date?) but, still a good time. A "Blue Card Meeting" was called on October 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss proposed amendments to the Club's By-laws and ratify motions made at the November 2017 meeting. **There was no quorum!!** The business requiring naval membership approval is still unfinished.
- In November, we had our annual Remembrance Day Ceremony in the Club. There was a good turnout with about 100 people in and out throughout the course of the day. We also had the local MP and local MPP in attendance. Later in the day after other obligations, Rear-Admiral Donovan, Director General Future Ship Capability, and Commander Walter Moniz, Commanding Officer HMCS YORK and several other sailors from YORK dropped in. Again, a good day. The 18<sup>th</sup> of November was the Club's general meeting with elections. To say the least, I was very disappointed with the turnout! This is the second time in two years that we have not had a quorum for elections, and the second time that I can find in the last 14 years that there was no quorum for a Blue Card meeting. The Club cannot be run or taken care of without your support and participation.

I thank all members who took time out of their busy schedules to come down to the two meetings that weren't, and to all who have supported Club events over the last year.

"KEEP SALTY"!

Gord McLennan  
President

### First Vice-President Report

Position vacant.

### Second Vice-President's Report

Shipmates -

Welcome to Winter! I would like to start by welcoming three new Naval members - Albert Kipping, Naylor-Jay Langley, and Craig Nicks; two new Associate members - Dana Leisk and Kevin Wareham; and four new Social NV members - Dorothy Leisk, Anthony Shein, Dan Springer, and Jeremy Johnston-Kaye.

Our membership is now:

Life - 4  
Honorary Life - 6  
Naval - 70  
Associate - 16  
Social - 23  
Social NV - 10  
Total – 129 members

The 2019 membership cards are ready and at the bar. Feel free to drop in the Club and see Jo-Jo or Beth to pay your dues and maybe have a wet.

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 1st of January of each year."

Yours,

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



### **Treasurer's Chest**

As another year has come to a climax, you're going to hear something that seldom comes out of my mouth. Over the past year, the Club has had its ups and downs when it comes to the finances, but again we have survived. Even with furnaces breaking down and rooves leaking in the memorial room and the galley, repairs to the beer coolers, the purchasing of a new compressor for the beer on tap, and the large withdrawal from the Capital Fund, we still have our heads above the waterline.

More repair work must be done early in the New Year. It was discovered that fixing the leaking roof would be a larger job than had been anticipated because there are four layers of shingles on top of each other. We will never be able to repair the leaking problems fully unless we remove all the layers of rooves in order to replace the other half of the lower roof. This also requires the removal before, and the rebuilding of the apartments' patios after the repairs. This work must be completed in a shorter period than previously thought. We are aware of an even more massive bill for the work that still must be done.

On a good note, the general operating accounts have stayed within the forecasted budget for the fourth year in a row. Yes, we still show a loss over the year, but this was budgeted for last January (in fact, I budgeted for a loss of up to \$70,000.00 for this and next year). By the way, this year it will be under \$60K.

Some members have heard about a proposal for free property taxes for Legions. Over 80% of cities and towns in Ontario, and most regions of Canada, already have a refund policy for Legions and clubhouses for veterans. This policy returns most, if not all, of the property tax charged for the clubhouse usage. Three years ago, I applied for this refund and was granted it a year later for a restitution in excess of \$48,000. Every year since

then, we have had 69% of the property taxes returned. Last year we paid \$5,800 to the city of Toronto and had \$3,900 returned. The refund letter has already been approved for refund of at least the same amount for 2018 (we still must pay property tax on the apartments).

It has been a pleasure to serve as the Treasurer of the Naval Club of Toronto over the past six years and I look forward to being able to serve in the future.

Bill Middleton  
Treasurer

### **SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT**

Now that the Christmas season is upon us, I would like to start by wishing a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all of you. This being the last report of the year, I will not give a list of all the functions that have taken place at the Club. You know what they have been and the enjoyment you had while attending them with your mates and friends.

With the renovation of the galley (which consisted of the removal of a pizza oven, new lighting, paint out and of course a brand-new double oven) the Club has been able to utilise the galley more fully to support the many events this year. This has helped the galley staff in obvious ways, and another way that has helped has been the step up of volunteers to help Al in the galley. New blood is always a good thing! Also, I would like to thank the membership for helping in so many ways they are too numerous to list. Many hands have made light of work!

Looking towards the future, we need your help in planning entertainment that you would like to attend. Please let us know! Don't forget that from time-to-time we have occasional outside functions. Some of these events are open to all so don't be shy! Come on out and enjoy!

Here is the list of upcoming events:

January 8 Tuesday - Whiskers

20 Sunday - Club General Meeting

26 Saturday - Robbie Burns's Supper

February 9 Saturday - Naval Club birthday party

12 Tuesday – Whiskers

As always, I look forward to enjoying your company and good cheer!

Cheers mates!

Charles Ross  
Sports and Entertainment Chair

### **HOUSE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Hello from the House Director!

It has been another great year at the Club!

An upcoming item to watch for in 2019 is removal of the tenants' deck on the roof in preparation for replacing the roof.

I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and hope to see you over the Holidays. If you come in, say, "Hi!" to JoJo or Beth.

Ron Sakki, House Director

### **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 archiving of YORK's history for all to see and learn about our proud past.



### **Last Post**

*We are pleased to report that we have not been notified of anyone from our Naval Community that has crossed the bar.*

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*

### **HMCS YORK CHANGE OF COMMAND, SEPT 2018**

A most wonderful Change of Command Ceremony & Parade celebration at HMCS York today



as we bid farewell to outgoing Commanding Officer, Commander Robert Johnston & welcome incoming CO, Commander Walter Moniz.

## HMCS CALGARY, MV ASTERIX RAS IN HEAVY SEA

It was sure a wet one on the RAS deck today! #HMCS Calgary and MV Asterix battle 40+ knot winds and 3+ m seas for a successful refueling before Hawaii.



## ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY PARTICIPATES IN RIM OF THE PACIFIC (RIMPAC)

"Today marks the 77th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The RCN remembers all those who lost their lives and is proud to have stood shoulder to shoulder with our allies during the Second World War.

This year, the #RCNavy was proud of the numerous opportunities to work with the Armed Services of United States of America, our closest ally and friend, including during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC), the world's largest international maritime engagement hosted biennially by the U.S. Navy in and around the waters of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii."



## HMCS PRESERVER

The final 15 metre section of HMCS PRESERVER was broken up in December 2018, concluding an 18-month disposal of the ship. With nearly 1.4 million parts and 8,400 controlled goods certificates verified and catalogued, the storied life of PRESERVER came to an end with the issuance of her final Certificate of Demilitarization on 12 December 2018.



## 10 Reasons Why you might be retired, **CANADIAN NAVY**

1. You've tried flushing the toilet with your foot.
2. Your kids don't look at you with a stunned look when you tell them to take the 'gash' out.
3. You prefer to sleep on the couch, with the TV on an off-air channel.
4. At least one item in your garage is painted ship's side grey. (For a few, it's their cars)
5. Whenever you take a leak, you shout: "Haul taught the Jackstay!!!"
6. When you go to the pub, you tell your wife you're going for a wet with the wingers.
7. You snarl at Airline pilots because of their long hair, and half-finished officer rings.
8. Every time you see a pop machine you look for the Labatt's Blue button.
9. You can hear "Barrett's Privateers" or the "The North Atlantic Squadron" in your head most of the day.
10. Every time you hear a loud noise, you tuck your pants into your socks, and button your shirt up to the top.

M. Grady

## EDITORIAL



It's not too often that I make a comment in our newsletter. I cannot remember if I ever have made comments over the several years that I have had the pleasure of providing you with some interesting articles and commentary.

Today, however, I am asking you to think of what you want from your Club. On two occasions this year I attended meetings at the Club where quorums were not met and the meetings had to be cancelled. One of those meetings was a Blue Card meeting to discuss constitutional changes, and the other was the AGM meeting where elections were to be held to fill positions on the Club's executive. This included that of First Vice President, a position which has been vacant for over two years.

I understand that our membership is getting older and it is difficult to make the effort to attend meetings. Is it time for us to go to two meetings a year - one being our AGM, and the other an update? Think about it. Maybe this is the future of how your Naval Club needs to function to get your participation on how the Club operates.

All I am saying is, it is your Club and the executive need your participation in order to move forward and provide you, the members, the Club you deserve. My thoughts.

Your Editor

Editor: S/M John Anderson (Sparker John)

Email: [yorkmatelot@rogers.com](mailto:yorkmatelot@rogers.com)

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