



# ACTION STATIONS



HMCS Sackville Newsletter

April - May 1994



Sackville Landing name plates have been mounted on the twin posts at the entrance to Sackville Landing, Lower Water Street, Halifax. The name plates are a gift of the Bond Family. LCdr James Bond, CO of HMCS SACKVILLE, liaised with the City of Halifax for the installation of the name plates. The Sailor Statue is shown in the background. (Herb Warman photo)

## CNMT 1994 Annual General Meeting Program

The following program for the CNMT 1994 annual general meeting has been approved by the Board of Directors:

### Friday, 1 July

- 0900-0945 Registration and Meet & Greet, Sea Room, Stadacona Wardroom Officers Mess, CFB Halifax
- 0945-1200 AGM in the Nova Scotia Room (opposite Sea Room)
- 1200-1330 Lunch in the Sea Room (cash bar); lunch: \$10
- 1330 7th meeting of National Council, Nova Scotia Room
- 1400-1600 Trustees visit Interpretation Centre and SACKVILLE for tours and presentations
- 1930 Attend 1994 Nova Scotia International Tattoo, Halifax Metro Centre. (A block of 200 tickets has been reserved for Trustees and guests. Tickets will be issued at time of registration to those who have ordered them)

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## Canadian Naval Memorial Endowment Fund Launched

The Canadian Naval Memorial Trust (CNMT) has launched the Canadian Naval Memorial Endowment Fund to ensure the long-term maintenance and operation of HMCS SACKVILLE, Canada's Naval Memorial.

Commodore Charles Westropp, chairman of CNMT, says the establishment of the endowment fund will enable individuals and organizations to support the aims of CNMT through a program of planned giving.

Since 1985, CNMT and the Department of National Defence have made significant contributions in time and money to restore, maintain and operate SACKVILLE. However, the current and long-term maintenance and operation of the 52-year-old ship will require substantial resources to enable the Last Corvette to "sail smoothly" into the 21st century. "After extensive discussions with our own members and other parties, we have finalized the objectives, organization and operation of the endowment fund and the details of the planned giving program," Commodore Westropp said.

Planned giving is a bequest of your choice that is planned today and provided at a future date to an organization or cause that you believe in and of which you are proud. As a charitable donation, planned giving can take a number of forms including: life insurance, gift annuity, gifts of property, securities and cash. For each planned gift there is a significant tax benefit.

A planned gift to the Canadian Naval Memorial Endowment Fund will help ensure the long-term maintenance and operation of SACKVILLE. It will be a permanent reminder of your remembrance of the contributions and sacrifices of those who have served their country in peace and war.

A planned gift can be in one of a number of forms, including:

**Bequests in a Will:** Your will is an important document. It directs how the assets you have built up over the years are to be distributed. Your estate is distributed according to the

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THE CANADIAN NAVAL MEMORIAL TRUST, FMO HALIFAX, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3K 2X0



## Raymond Burr's Support Recalled

The name of Raymond Burr, the distinguished Canadian-born actor who died in 1993, has been entered in the In Memoriam Book in HMCS SACKVILLE.

Cdr Tony German, author of *The Sea Is At Our Gates*, reminds members of the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust of Mr Burr's "strong feelings for this country and...deep regard for our Navy and for SACKVILLE."

Tony writes: "In 1985 in the late stages of assembling the 75th anniversary documentary film history *The Sea Is At Our Gates* (which I co-wrote with Roman Bittman who was also the director) we discussed who we should get for the voice-over narration. Roman was doing some advance work in Toronto for the shooting of a new Perry Mason film. He expected to see Raymond Burr there shortly and offered to ask him. We thought it was a very long shot, noting our limited budget. But Raymond said yes he'd do it for "scale" plus a dollar (and)...rather than doing it in a convenient sound studio, he'd come to Halifax where the film was being edited.

"I arranged the studio for the week of the 75th anniversary celebrations and put then Commodore Fred Mifflin of Maritime Command in the picture. Fred...recognized the contribution Raymond was making, met him and his partner Robert Benevides at the airport, toured them around the Dockyard, showed them SACKVILLE and told them the ship's story. Raymond, as all who have seen the film know, did a superb job of narration. In fact he had to work extraordinarily long and hard with endless self-imposed repetitions to ensure the narration was completely unmarred by a severe bout of bronchitis.

"He was deeply impressed with SACKVILLE up there in Bedford Basin with the review fleet and the determination of the old salts to restore her completely. That fall we met again in Toronto, viewed the finished film with Joe Clark, Ron King, Roman Bittman, etc and Raymond offered to go on a cross-Canada fund-raising tour (in support of the Trust)...

"We kept in touch; he kept SACKVILLE in mind and I was delighted last spring to be able to send him a tape of *Lifeline to Victory* with the old vessel under way in the starring role. He had only a short time to live then and as we all know he worked at his profession right to the last with that never-say-die spirit that we all associate with the Last Corvette."



CPO Dick Aldhelm-White helps three members of the 1943 JJ Division HMCS Kings, Halifax to "get into the spirit(s) of things" during their 50th anniversary reunion on board HMCS SACKVILLE. Members of the group were welcomed by LCdr James Bond, CO of SACKVILLE. From left: CPO Aldhelm-White, LCdr Chan Gillis, LCdr Bond, Capt(N) Dan Brownlow and Dr Harry Rowsell. (Herb Warman photo)

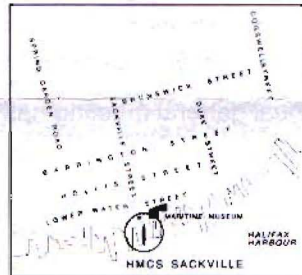


**H.M.C.S. SACKVILLE**  
CANADA'S NAVAL MEMORIAL

### DISCOVER CANADA'S NAVAL HERITAGE

HMCS SACKVILLE, Canada's Naval Memorial, is open to the public June to September and is conveniently located behind the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on Lower Water Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

To visit the restored Second World War corvette and the adjacent interpretation centre/gift shop is to experience and appreciate a Canadian sailor's life at sea during the Battle of the Atlantic.



The Canadian Naval Memorial Trust  
HMCS Sackville  
1961 Halifax, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3K 2X0

A 3 1/2 by 8 1/2-inch bilingual folder to encourage visitors to Nova Scotia and Halifax to visit HMCS SACKVILLE and "discover Canada's naval heritage" has been produced for distribution through tourist bureaus and other outlets in the province and for Trustees attending conferences, meetings, etc. A copy of the folder is included with this issue of Action Stations. Trustees who would like to have additional copies for distribution to friends, relatives, etc are asked to contact the ship for copies.

## We "Post" No Bills

CNMT Trustees often ask "why don't you send us a bill for our annual dues?"

Cdr Don Dixon, CNMT membership chairman, has provided this response:

The major reason is that the Trust is a registered charitable organization and any donation to it affords some tax relief to the donor. National Revenue Taxation have been consulted and have ruled that as our annual donation is "a voluntary transfer of property" an actual bill would be inappropriate. However, they advise that a reminder to Trustees that "annual pledges would be appreciated at this time" would be acceptable.

In light of the above and to minimize the cost, we have chosen not to send a separate reminder to Trustees. We have more than 1,000 Trustees and a single mailing costs approximately \$500 for postage alone. Rather, we time our reminders when other items are being mailed.

Therefore, we have settled on a policy which will see routine reminders published twice yearly, in each issue of Action Stations, annually in the notice of the annual general meeting and in the minutes of the AGM. In addition, any Trustee who has not met his/her annual pledge by October will receive a special reminder. Thus, all Trustees can expect to receive a minimum of four "reminders" a year.

Pledges can be paid at any time, although the earlier in the year the better. This will help ensure that our funds on hand are sufficient to meet expenses.

We all pledged a minimum of \$50 annually. Outstanding pledges may be sent to: Treasurer, Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, HMCS SACKVILLE, FMO Halifax, Halifax, N.S. B3K 2X0.



## Gift Shop Operations

Gerry Etienne, manager of HMCS SACKVILLE Gift Shop, has provided the following update on gift shop operations.

The gift shop was established to provide a service to CNMT Trustees and the public, to promote the Trust and to generate a profit to assist in the maintenance of SACKVILLE.

The gift shop operates from the ship during the winter and from the Interpretation Centre, Sackville Landing from June to September. A significant year-round mail order business is handled.

The opening of the Interpretation Centre created a need to increase gift shop revenues to pay the wages of staff employed during the busy summer period.

The gift shop is operated by four unpaid Trustee volunteers, Gerry Etienne, Ann Eade, Fred Jewer and Bernie Gareau. During the summer, the gift shop employs a manager and two-part-time clerks, usually university students.

Annual sales are now approximately \$30,000. Summer staff wages paid from revenues are \$8-9,000 a season. The average inventory value is \$30-35,000.

The gift shop is now generating a small profit, which for the past year is expected to be \$1-2,000 when the books are closed. The donation boxes in the Interpretation Centre bring in approximately \$2,000 a year which is turned over to the ship and is not included in revenue.

Unfortunately, our dedicated accountant, Bernie Gareau, has indicated he wishes to be relieved of the books due to other commitments and we require a replacement. Volunteers from the Halifax-Dartmouth area with some experience in bookkeeping/accounting and who can contribute 2/3 hours a week are encouraged to contact Gerry Etienne at 434-3456 A.S.A.P.

The good news for our regular and new customers is that we are reducing several items of inventory and are now offering these items at close to cost, including the Jensen print, item 071 in the enclosed price list, for \$2, and our souvenir plates, numbers 121, 131 and 141, at only \$9.

## Information On Sub Nets, Booms Requested

CNMT member Alan Ruffman of Geomarine Associates, Halifax, N.S. has found a signature of the World War Two Halifax submarine net on the floor of Halifax Harbour. This has led him to seek maps, photos and technical data on WW1 and WW2 Halifax submarine nets and booms. He has come up with little information. Can Trust members help him?



Cdr Vic O'Connor, left, and Dr Harry Morton, two of the 'senior' members of CNMT, view the In Memoriam Book in HMCS SACKVILLE. The book, contained in a specially-designed case in the upper mess deck, records the names of deceased shipmates and friends of CNMT Trustees. The In Memoriam Book provides a personal way to contribute to CNMT in memory of a shipmate or friend. Tax creditable receipts are issued for all donations. (Herb Warman photo).



## Canada Remembers 50th Anniversary Activities 1994-95

The Government's Canada Remembers program, commencing in 1994, will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the major events leading to the end of the Second World War.

With Veterans Affairs Canada as the lead agency, supported by the Department of National Defence, the mission of the Canada Remembers program is to encourage Canadians to remember those who rallied to the cause of restoring world peace during the Second World War.

Canadians everywhere are encouraged to organize or get involved in activities and events which recall the spirit of the times.

An extensive program of local, national and international commemorative events and activities will be carried out in 1994 and 1995, with the 1994 activities highlighted by ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of D-Day on June 6.

In Halifax-Dartmouth area, veterans, Navy, Army and Air Force units and other organizations will participate in a ceremony in downtown Dartmouth Sunday, June 5 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of D-Day. HMCS SACKVILLE will be open to the public at her Sackville Landing berth and ceremony participants and residents on both sides of Halifax Harbour will be encouraged to visit the Last Corvette, Canada's Naval Memorial.

The national D-Day commemorative program in Ottawa will be conducted June 1-6. Other events of note include the HMCS HAIDA D-Day commemoration ceremonies in Toronto Sunday, June 5.

For overseas ceremonies, a 200-member Canada Remembers Contingent has been formed which includes a guard, band and flag party representing the three services. The contingent will participate in various ceremonies in U.K., France and other locations. HMCS TORONTO, one of the new Canadian Patrol Frigates, will represent the Navy in the overseas ceremonies.

SACKVILLE will support the Canada Remembers program with displays in the ship during the period the ship is open to the public.

He is aware of Tucker's comments in *The Naval Service of Canada*, Vol 11. He would like information on any other charts, photos, technical specifications or manuals that members are aware of, including definitions, e.g. "in 1939 the Halifax net was 'two lines 3" R.U., 8'-0" mesh A/S Net." Does anyone know what "R.U." was? Alan's address is P.O. Box 41, Halifax, N.S. B3J



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laws of the province in which you reside. In your will you can leave a lump sum, a percentage of your estate or the residue of your estate to the endowment fund for the maintenance and operation of HMCS SACKVILLE. There are significant advantages to the taxation of your estate if you make a bequest to a charitable organization.

**Life Insurance:** After the original purpose of a life insurance policy has been met (raising a family, paying off a mortgage, etc), there is an opportunity to put the existing policy or a new policy to work in support of the endowment fund. Both existing and new policies may be donated to the fund and all premiums or the cash surrender value of the policy are eligible for tax credits as charitable donations.

**Gift Annuity:** If you are over 55 years of age, you can give a donation to the endowment fund and receive a percentage of the money for yourself as long as you live. A gift annuity is like an investment; on your death the principal amount of the annuity is paid to the fund and your estate receives a tax benefit.

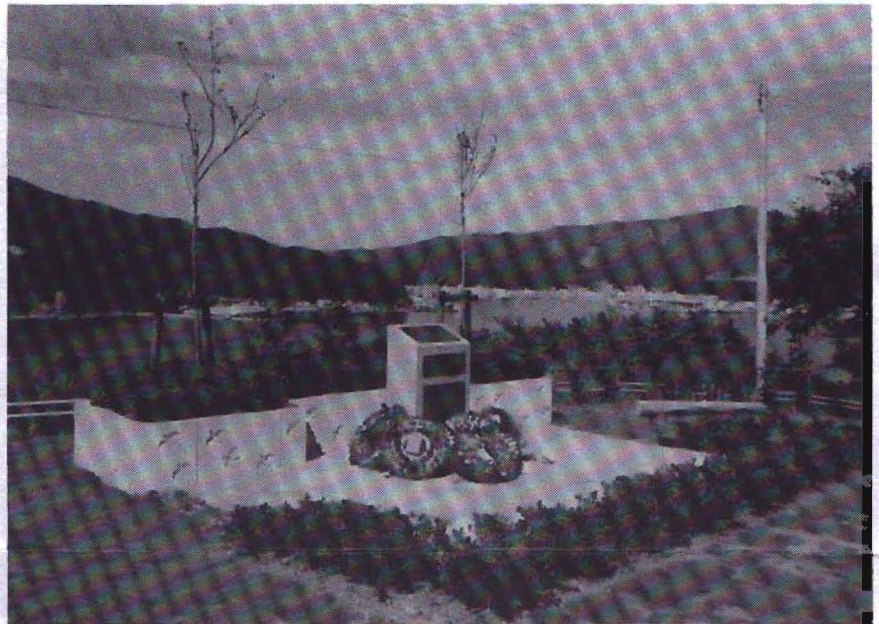
**Gifts of Property/Securities:** Tangible property (real estate, jewelry, antiques, art, etc) can be donated to the endowment fund. The fund reserves the right to retain or dispose of gifts of property. In addition, any securities, including stocks, treasury bills, savings bonds, can be donated to the fund. They also provide tax benefits.

Prospective donors are encouraged to assess their estate and to obtain professional legal, estate planning or financial advice when considering making a contribution to the Canadian Naval Memorial Endowment Fund. Advice is also available on a confidential basis from members of the endowment fund and can be obtained by contacting the Canadian Naval Memorial Endowment Fund, CNMT, c/o HMCS SACKVILLE, FMO Halifax, Halifax, N.S. B3K 2X0.

## West Coast Donations

The restoration of the Chiefs and Petty Officers Mess in HMCS SACKVILLE has been bolstered by donations from the West Coast.

Capt(N) G.H. (Skinny) Hayes of Victoria, a director of CNMT, says the West Coast donations included mess traps, Ditty boxes, uniforms and caps. The various items were largely a donation from the Chief and Petty Officers Association, Esquimalt.



The memorial to Lieutenant Robert Hampton Gray, VC, DSC, RCNVR is located in a park overlooking Onagawa Bay, Honshu Island, Japan. Lt Gray was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for leading a carrier air strike against Japanese naval forces in August, 1945. Herb Warman visited the memorial as a member of a Veterans Affairs Canada group visiting Korea and Japan observing the 40th anniversary of the end of the Korean War. (Herb Warman photo)

## The First and Last Naval Casualties

The 50th anniversary ceremonies and events in 1994-1995 observing the end of the Second World War recalls the first and last members of the Royal Canadian Navy killed in action during the war.

CNMT Trustee Herb Warman of Dartmouth, N.S. has provided background information on Able Seaman Rodney Trevor Woodward of Moose Jaw, Sask, who was the first RCN member killed in action in July, 1940, and Lieutenant Robert Hampton Gray, VC, DSC, RCNVR who lost his life in August, 1945 while leading a carrier air strike against Imperial Japanese Navy forces in Onagawa Bay, Honshu Island.

AB Woodward was born in May, 1920 and entered the RCN as a boy (seaman class) in May 1937. He trained at Naden and in HMCS SKEENA and served in ST LAURENT. In November, 1939 he was sent overseas for a submarine detector's course. He was killed in action in a machine-gun engagement with two enemy aircraft in the North Sea while serving in a Royal Navy anti-submarine motor boat. He was on a three-month extension of his overseas draft at the time of his death. Funeral for AB Woodward was held in Yarmouth, Eng on July 22, 1940.

Lt Gray, a native of Nelson, B.C., was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his heroic action against the Japanese naval forces in the final days of the war. While leading the attack, his Corsair aircraft was hit. With the engine on fire and one of two wing-mounted bombs shot off, Lt Gray pressed home the attack on the escort vessel Amakusa sinking her with his remaining bomb. Unable to control his damaged aircraft, he crashed into the sea and sank to the bottom of Onagawa Bay.

On August 9, 1989 a memorial in honor of Lt Gray was unveiled in a park overlooking Onagawa Bay.

## CNMT 1994 Annual General Meeting Program Saturday, 2 July (continued from Page 1)

A.M. Visit to one of our new ships. Details to be announced at meeting.

1830-2030 Mixed reception on board SACKVILLE for Trustees. Nominal charge of \$10 / person.

For out-of-town Trustees, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Lord Nelson Hotel, Spring Garden Road, at a special rate of \$65 per night (single or double occupancy), plus taxes. Reservations must be made by 1 June to obtain the rate. Call the hotel (902) 423-6331 or their toll-free number

1-800-565-2020 and state you are making the booking under CNMT/HMCS SACKVILLE. A one night's deposit is required.

Further information on the AGM can be obtained by calling the Secretary, Cdr Russ Wilcox (902) 477-5539.