Battle of Atlantic Gala Dinner

Preparations are well underway for our third annual Battle of Atlantic Gala Dinner, scheduled for April 30, 2015. Once again, our Event Coordinator Tom DeWolf is leading his team consisting inter alia of Ken Bowering, Jay Plante, Tim Addison, John Millar, and Nick Leak. Our branch member and National President, Jim Carruthers, has also been a great support, especially in the critical area of sponsorships. We urge members to make their reservations, while there are still spaces available.

NAC 2016 Conference and National AGM in Ottawa

While I am on the subject of major events, your Board is currently planning on hosting the National Naval Association of Canada (NAC) National Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference in 2016. Our Vice-President, Howard Smith, has volunteered to Chair a Committee for planning and staging the NAC National AGM and Conference in October, 2016. The first critical task is choosing the theme of the Conference. The Theme will be developed in Consonance with the Royal Canadian Navy and approved by the NAC National President, Jim Carruthers and the Commander, Vice-Admiral Mark Norman, CMM, CD, RCN. The Conference plays a major role in raising the profile of the Royal Canadian Navy, which is the principal raison d’etre of the NAC.

One recent development is that the RCN finds it challenging to support NAC Conferences during the summer months, because of other demanding commitments. Therefore, a change of Conference schedule to the autumn, which we implemented in 2014 will make the staging of two major events more feasible. We can only take on these activities, if we have enough members who are willing to pitch in and help. Fortunately, your Vice-President, Howard Smith and your membership Chair have been busy recruiting more Directors for the NAC Ottawa Board. Please contact Howard or any member of the Board, to get more details or to volunteer to assist. Please feel free to give us your thoughts on staging the Conference.

Financial Protocols (Some Considerations on Financial Management)

A special NAC Ottawa Board Committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Bob Hamilton and consisting of Tim Addison, David Hudock, Nick Leak, John Millar, Howard Smith, David Soule, Barry Walker and myself, to develop a series of financial principles and protocols to guide the Naval Association of Canada (NAC). Our proposed Financial Protocols were submitted to the NAC National Board for their review on December 14, 2014. The final approved version of the protocols will be incorporated into the NAC Branch Guidance Manual by the National Executive Director.
They will be of assistance in building the national operating framework needed to reflect the changes in governance. It is intended that this framework will be valuable in addressing financial management, which is fundamental to creating a viable operating base and ensuring a sustainable future. Using these financial protocols as a basis for planning, your Board will be working now to develop our inaugural Ottawa Branch Strategic Plan. We are hopeful of having this finalised by September of this year. The Chairman and Committee are commended for their diligent work.

**Standard Naval Affairs Presentation**

Richard Archer continues to make amendments to his Standard Naval Affairs Presentation, which by my count is now in its 16th iteration, evolving as new challenges present themselves. Richard now has become the Chair of the National Outreach Committee, tasked with spreading the word across Canada of the need for a strong Navy Canada. Wendell Sanford has assumed the duties of Chair at the Ottawa Branch level and is the latest arrival on the NAC Ottawa Board.

**NAC Ottawa Board**

Last summer, our Board suddenly lost a goodly number of its Directors and for a Branch as active and vibrant as Ottawa, this had a significant effect. Thankfully our Bob Hamilton stepped into the breach and recruited four new Directors, Tim Addison, Nick Leak, Howard Smith and Barry Walker. What a difference they have made and what a tremendous contribution to the Board’s performance. While handing out bouquets, I would be very much remiss, if I did not mention David Soule our erstwhile Secretary, Program Coordinator, and heavy lifter of many of the Branch’s administrative tasks. We could not have succeeded without you, thank you. We are currently in the process of introducing the following NAC Ottawa Members to join the Board as Directors: Peter Avis, Josh Barber, Stu Moore, Al Garceau, and Wendell Sanford. Thank you very much gentlemen, we are very grateful for your willingness to perform this service for the NAC.

**ALS Walk D’Feet, Saturday, June 13, 2015**

This year the ALS Society of Ontario (Champlain Region) is again organizing the ALS Walk D’Feet. This will be fifteenth time this event will be held in Ottawa. The Walk will start again this year from the Canadian War Museum at 1 Vimy Place and then proceed along the Park Way - and back (5km). Participants will be registering in the Barney Danson Theatre at 10:00 in the Canadian War Museum and the Walk D’Feet will start at 11:00. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this worthy cause. Those willing to participate are requested to contact Fred Herrndorf by email or at (613)226-2964. NAC Ottawa will again honour its own, Helen Brown, the late wife of Colin Brown, and the late Gordon Moyer. The NAC will register its own NAC Team.

**Super Wednesday or the Spring Luncheon, April 22, 2015**

This not to be missed event, is organized by our very own David Soule. This is where NAC members and their spouses can welcome our warm spring!!! Hope to see you there! If you are coming please let David know either at: [http://navassoc.ca/events/ottawa-spring-super-wednesday-event-swe/](http://navassoc.ca/events/ottawa-spring-super-wednesday-event-swe/) or email at: soule.j7ds@hotmail.com
Canada’s Naval Memorial HMCS “SACKVILLE” 2015 Calendars

Our thanks to NAC Members for their support of the calendars, as the proceeds of the sale will go towards much needed maintenance support for the HMCS “SACKVILLE”. We would also like to thank Captain(N)Simon Page and Ted Parson for their enthusiastic canvassing.

The Museum of Naval History at Port Burwell, Ontario, the Home of HMCS “OJIBWA”

Please put this unique museum on your bucket list for places to see in 2015, the fabled silent warrior needs our help and our support. Speak Up for our Silent Warrior!

NAC Ottawa Awards:

Finally, it gives us great pleasure in announcing the following NAC Awards, for outstanding services to the NAC and the NAC Ottawa Branch, which were recently approved by the NAC National Board. For those, who will attend the National AGM and Conference in Calgary June 25 – 28, 2015, it will be done at the Formal Dinner on Sunday, June 28th. For those unable to attend the NAC Calgary Event, the awards will be made at the Fall Super Wednesday.

• Richard Archer – Gold Medallion;
• Tom DeWolf - Gold Medallion;
• Ken Bowering - Silver Medallion;
• Jay Plante - Silver Medallion; and
• John Millar - Bronze Medallion.

Yours aye,
Fred Herrndorf
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