

## **“THE LINDSAY LETTERS”**

**JUNE 1992**

**ISSUE #3**

Nearly a year (August, 1991) since we last sent out a newsletter and much has happened in the meantime.

As most everyone knows, we have lost another shipmate. Rocco Leonzio was one of the best. After a real battle, he finally gave up the fight. To Elsie and his family we extended the feelings of all his shipmates. Please keep in touch with Elsie.

We have received stories of visits from all over the country. Bernie and Marion covered most of Ontario following the Cornwall reunion of naval veterans in May and called on Les Leek and Laura in Owen sound, Vince and June Callender in Toronto, Jim Veitch in Barrie where they were met by the Callenders and the Chamberlains for an overnight stay at Jim's ranch. Marnie and Ivan headed for the Maritimes after Cornwall to visit their daughter and son-in-law who reside in Fredericton N.B. While they were there they managed to contact Murray Nicholson in St. John's who came up to Fredericton and spent an afternoon and evening with them. Murray is feeling pretty good at the present time and is living with his daughter in St. John's. He also gave Ivan a number of pictures taken aboard the Lindsay that Ivan had never seen before. Needless to say, they are in the photographers where negatives and enlargements are being made. Ivan also contacted Chester Miller from Dalhousie N.B. who arranged to meet Ivan in Chatham N.B. They also spent some time reminiscing. Chester has had a clean bill of health and the doctors says that she does not want to see him for four years. It has been 47 years since Ivan had seen either one of these shipmates. Marnie and Ivan went to P.E.I. and spent quality time with Hampton and Peggy Penny. They have a beautiful place on a beautiful island. Hamp raises beef cattle with the help of their son Peter who is slowly taking over the reins for his dad. After leaving the island, they looked up Wally and Dotty Muloin. Unfortunately Dottie was down with the flu but Wally gave a conducted tour of old Slackers and visited the jetty where the Sackville should have been. A bit of bad luck as she was in dry-dock for her yearly inspection and they did not get to see her. Wally took them to Peggy's Cove and Citadel Hill and you would not know Halifax was the same place with two bridges across the harbour.

Art and Ronnie Moger dropped in on Bob and Helen Casement who were at their summer home north of Montreal after leaving Cornwall. Speaking of Cornwall, we had 17 of our shipmates and wives in attendance for the R.C.N.A. Reunion and they really enjoyed each other's company. Jimmy Veitch had the presence of mind to bring along his electric piano and on the Saturday night upon returning from Cornwall after singing all the way home on the bus that we hired, we all gathered in Bernie and Marion's room. They had the largest and the best room, because the motel owner Bob had forgotten their reservation, and everyone sang until the wee hours. The next afternoon, Sunday, we sat in a circle out on the lawn with Jimmy at the keyboard and again sang ourselves hoarse. We are glad we had our mosquito repellent. We are sorry that some shipmates had to leave early. Unfortunately the accommodations we selected were not the best and left a lot to be desired but as Bob Dioxin so aptly put it, "We are here for a good time not for a long time". A meeting held at Mason, NY. prompted the suggestion that we gather for a reunion of the ship's company in October 93. It will be in Lindsay with Ted Castell being our point man on this endeavour and all are asked to keep in touch with Ted. Since Ted is a member of the Lindsay Legion, he is in a good position to direct the whole affair. Give him your support. More on this later - but it appears to be slated for the weekend after Thanksgiving 93. Keep tuned.

Last November 8th, there was a luncheon held in Oakville, Ontario, and most everyone within driving distance (18 shipmates and wives) in Southern Ontario attended. One feature was the attendance of two more shipmates who were not at the 1990 Reunion namely Henry Williams and Murray Mackness. It was good to see them. The luncheon was a great success and another is planned for November 6, 1992. Jack Tarbutt said he would look after the details so those that can make it, let Jack know as he has to have numbers.

We have not had any recent reports from Sick Bay. All our members who have had medical problems seem to be holding their own with the exception of Gordie Wright who I understand is walking now with the aid of two canes and Libby has had a bout of the shingles. Jim Coleman is waiting to go for radiation on his pituitary gland. He has already had an operation to remove a growth near the optic nerve but it has apparently started to grow again and could affect his sight at any moment. Hang in there Jim, we are all praying for your health to return.

It was noticed however, that in Cornwall Art Moger was the picture of health - trouble is that when you shake hands with Art, you have to reach further. He can't see his shoes without a mirror. Bob Dixon is as fit now as he was 50 years ago - disgusting.

It was also noted at the Cornwall reunion that the whole affair ran without a hitch. The reason? The buffer was there with his clipboard, Lindsay cap, and his whistle with the stainless steel pea that won't rust. The buffer was driven down by Mona and Len Atkins. Len appointed him as navigator for the trip. They crossed the border at Lewiston N.Y. at 11:00 a.m. and the buffer proceeded to misdirect Len for 1 3/4 hours and had Len turning at every corner. Finally Len had to stop for gas. They eventually left Lewiston about 1:00 p.m. While spinning a few yarns in Cornwall, it was learned that Norm Cox, while serving on the Assiniboine had a unique experience. It seems that on one trip into Newfie, Norm set out in the usual fashion to do the town one night. After several hours of carousing he hired a "bum boat" to take him back to his ship on the south side. While ashore, another River Class destroyer came alongside. Norm staggered aboard and proceeded to flak out. Imagine his surprise in the morning when he was awakened by the bosun's pipe "Hands to Station's for Leaving Harbour" only to find he was on the wrong ship. The "bum boat" had delivered him to the Royal Navy by mistake.

Those of you who have traveled to reunions in the past by air should check out both Air Canada and Canadian Airlines. A notice was mailed by Canadian Airlines that veterans who plan to attend a recognized reunion are offered a 30% discount. Check it out and let everyone know.

Up until now, everyone considers that Ivan and his committee who organized our first ever reunion in 1990 are permanent fixtures. This is not so. Everyone is a committee member and as such we propose that we be recognized as the H.M.C.S. LINDSAY REUNION ASSOCIATION. To that end everyone has an equal status and can organize a gathering at anytime - anyplace. He must first, sound out his shipmates as to the feasibility and co-operation. We already have Ted Castell heading up our 1993 reunion in Lindsay. We will supply the necessary letterhead for writing formal letters to legions, newspapers, radio stations, etc. It is hoped that this will be agreed upon.

Thanks to the many shipmates who continue to donate funds to assist in such costs as our newsletter. The actual cost works out to about \$1.25 each. This includes typing, printing, mailing, and supply envelopes.

Have a good summer and keep in touch with all your shipmates and with Elsie Leonzio and Doris Nordin. They are so very much part of our family.

It must be said that the Lindsay crew are born optimists. Imagine - we are all so darn sure that we will all be present in Lindsay in October 1993. In spite of various medical problems that many of our members experiencing - we know we will be there.

**MAY THE GOOD LORD CONTINUE TO WATCH OVER THE CREW OF THE LINDSAY, WHEREVER THEY MAY BE.**

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