



# The Admiral's Log

Official Newsletter of the ADPNA

Summer Issue 2008



*Admiral Desmond Piers Naval Association*

*Member*

*Royal Canadian Naval Association*

**Patron-in-Chief Mrs. Janet Piers**



Rear-Admiral Desmond W. Piers DSC, CM, CD, DscMil, Klj, RCN (Ret'd)  
(photo as LCdr. Piers, Commanding Officer HMCS Restigouche 1941)

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## *Admiral Desmond Piers Naval Association*

### 2008 Slate of Officers

President	Milton Williams	(902) 543-4997
Imm. Past Pres.	Martin Field	(902) 527-2660
1st Vice President	Stephen Daubs	(902) 624-8677
2nd Vice President	Leo Sampson	(902) 354-5027
Secretary/Membership	Martin Field	(902) 527-2660
Treasurer	Elmer Mason	(902) 543-4168
Master-at-Arms	Ivan Foote	(902) 644-3629
RCNA Director	Jerry Sigrist	(902) 543-6763

### Committees:

Entertainment	Ronald Lepage	(902) 543-2390
Supply Officer	Dave Heming	(902) 543-7054
Historian	Ronald Lepage	(902) 543-2390
2010 Get Away	Richard Halliday	(902) 685-2342
Bursary Chairman	Gordon Crouse	(902) 477-5197
Webmaster	Martin Field	(902) 527-2660

Chaplain	Larry Truelove	(902) 354-2901
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Sick & Visiting Committee	Bridgewater	Dave Heming	(902) 543-7054
	Lunenburg	Moe Legault	(902) 634-3285
	Liverpool	Larry Truelove	(902) 354-2901
	Chester	Bob Whiteside	(902) 275-4910

### Board of Directors

Jerry Sigrist (Chairman)  
Maurice Legault  
Doc Halliday  
Martin Field  
Ivan Foote  
Larry Truelove

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### Royal Canadian Naval Association - National Executive.

President (interim)	Blaine Barker	North Bay Br. RCNA - North Bay Ont
Imm. Past Pres.	John Sullivan	Montreal Quebec
Exec. Vice Pres	Ken MacAskill	Thunder Bay Naval Vets - Thunder Bay Ont.
Vice Pres. (Mbship)	Blaine Barker	North Bay Br. RCNA - North Bay Ont.
Treasurer	Harold Quick	Sault Ste. Marie RCNA
Exec Secretary	Gerald Sigrist	Admiral Desmond Piers NA, Bridgewater NS
Recording Sec.	Don Spiece	Brant Naval Vets, Brantford ON
Parl. & Vets Affairs	Richard Halliday	Admiral Desmond Piers NA, Bridgewater NS

### Area Vice Presidents

British Columbia	Joe Duffy	Penticton NVA.
Maritimes	Gerald Sigrist	Admiral Desmond Piers Naval Association
NW Ontario & Man	Francis Ross	Man. & North Shore NVA, Sudbury ON
Prairies	June Greig	Edmonton RCNA
S. Central Ont.	Douglas Sephton	DEMS Association
SW Ontario	Gerry Coulter	London Naval Veterans , London ON
National Supply Officer	Don Spiece	Brant Naval Vets Brantford ON, 519-753-8904

## Message from the Bridge

### *Thoughts for the summer*

*Well the Gardens planted and the weeds are growing now just keep the lawn mowed and the weeds pulled. Sounds like a typical summer routine for many.  
Enjoy the Harvest of your labours.*

Do you remember when the ships crews competed against each other in the whalers? Who hollered stroke and who pulled the oars? Working together, the oarsmen managed to keep the vessel moving at a fairly good clip. Shipmates, this is the way the Admiral Desmond Piers Naval Association likes to do things. Shipmates working together, helping in many ways to keep the Naval Traditions well and active.

Since the last news letter we have had our Battle of the Atlantic dinner and participated in a Red Rally to support our Armed Forces doing their DUTY. We have said farewell to shipmates who have completed their tour of Duty on this earth and now serve in the Light of Heaven and sail upon Still Waters.

ADPNA has supported the Sea Cadets by giving out Trophies, Bursaries and attending Parades for Bridgewater "RCSCC Niobe", Lunenburg "RCSCC Neptune", Shelburne "RCSCC SAXON" and Chester "RCSCC Llewellyn". We encourage cadets to excel and do well in Cadet training, personal life and in academic efforts.

Your ADPNA Executive members have organized an information session that will have taken place by the time this letter is published. We have invited all Legions in the Bridgewater and surrounding areas, all persons that have served the Canadian Military, Merchant Mariners and members of the RCMP serving and retired to attend the Information Session from Veterans Affairs.

Shipmates' working as a team gives many rewards and accomplishes good for all. Remember everyone can do something, even if it is just a phone call to encourage other shipmates.

May you all keep well and have a great summer.

Milton C. Williams  
President, ADPNA

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, "62."  
He was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"



ADPNA President Milton Williams and Patron-in-Chief, Janet Piers

From the Entertainment Chairman

ADPNA Annual BBQ – Saturday 2 August 2008  
Place: The MARC (opposite Snyder's Shipyard)  
Time : 0830 – 1830  
Schedule : Breakfast 0830 - 1100  
Games, etc 1100 - 1500  
Main BBQ 1500 - 1700

All members and guests are invited

Menu : Breakfast – anything but Steak and Chips  
BBQ – Sweet Corn, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and Deserts

It would be appreciated if shipmates attending the activities could bring a Pot-Luck Desert for the BBQ

Games by Shipmates Ivan Foote and Donald (Bagsy) Baker will be conducted outside.

Suggestion; bring old pictures you would like to show off.

Half mile down the road, pool will be available, ask Sticky

Have Fun, Enjoy and Relax.

## Games ,etc

By Ivan & Bagsy

A Poker Run will be held with a hand costing \$1.00. Buy as many hands as you like. Proceeds will be split 50/50 between the Association and Winner. Highest poker hand WINS. In case of a tie winner, the prize will be split.

Two card decks (1 Red, 1 Blue) will be sold at \$1.00 a card. Two winners a red and a blue of \$26.00 each if all cards are sold.

Games will be Washers, Quoits, Crib, Euchre and Golf Ball; put your names on the lists provided and a play schedule of elimination will be drawn up for each event. The final winner of each event will receive a prize.

## RED RALLY



Shipmate Richard Halliday, Admiral Maddison and Shipmate President Milton Williams

## 52 Years Ago

### *Senior Officers Change Posts*

Forthcoming changes in appointments of three senior officers of the Royal Canadian Navy have been announced. Captain Desmond William Piers, at present commanding the *Quebec*, will take command May 9, 1956 of the HMCS *Algonquin* with the additional appointments as Captain, First Canadian Escort Squadron, and as Senior Officer in Command of the units concerned.

In his new appointments, Captain Piers will succeed Captain Ralph Lucien Hennessy

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story.

"What's it about?" he asked.

"I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

RCNA Director - Updating the National side of the RCNA.

A National Executive Meeting was held in Brantford, Ontario on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This spring meeting was held in conjunction with the Annual Reunion to help cut down on expenses. As most of the Executive were attending the reunion, it was a good time to hold a meeting.

We were saddened by the Crossing of the Bar of our National President, Shipmate John McGovern, right at reunion time. A number of the Executive was able to attend John's funeral in Windsor, Ontario.

The Executive Vice President, Shipmate Ken MacAskill, of Thunder Bay declined the President's position due to his own and his wife's ill health. Vice President (Membership) Shipmate Blaine Barker was approached and has taken on the Interim Presidency until the next General Election at the 2009 AGM. Blaine has been with the Executive for a number of years. We are certain he will handle the job admirably. I had the honour of swearing him in as Interim President at the reunion.

Parliamentary & Veterans Affairs Officer, our own Shipmate Doc Halliday, spoke at length on the 2010 celebrations being held for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RCN.

There will be many functions taking place. Doc has all the information and keeps up to date on everything - a big job to say the least.

If any of you are planning a vacation in the west next spring, a great idea would be to fit the 2009 RCNA Annual Reunion in your plans. It will be held June 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, in Edmonton, Alberta. Area Vice President (Prairies), Shipmate June Greig, is Reunion Chairperson. June is working very hard to put on a great show. It will be a full weekend with lots of tours and goodies. The City of Edmonton is co-operating big time. For further information and registration forms call me at 902-543-6763.

Hope you all have a great summer. See you at the BBQ, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.—

Jerry Sigrist

### Membership

Membership stands at 132 as of 1 July 2008.

When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use, Grandpa. The mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."





Winter/Spring 1956.

An unexpected and much appreciated honour was bestowed on the cruiser, HMCS Quebec during the ship's visit to Vera Cruz, Mexico, when the C.O. Captain Desmond W. Piers was invited to Los Pinos, the presidential residence, to receive the personal welcome of the President of the Republic, Don Adolfo Ruiz Cortines.

Shown above : Canadian Ambassador to Mexico, Douglas Cole, President Cortines and Captain Piers.