



The Signal



West Coast Summer BBQ

courtesy of Wilf Lund and Eric Waal

What has become the regular summer BBQ was held in the Venture Gunroom on Sunday, 27 August, 1200-1500. The menu was BBQ'd hamburgers and chicken burgers with the usual fixings; salad, chips and lots of duff. There were 70 persons in attendance. The event was organized and executed by the Classes of 61 and 62. Namely Ed Vishek, Ken Scotten, Eric Waal and Wilf Lund. Weather was excellent as usual.



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Review: Far Distant Ships, by Joseph Schull

by Mike Moore, Class of '57

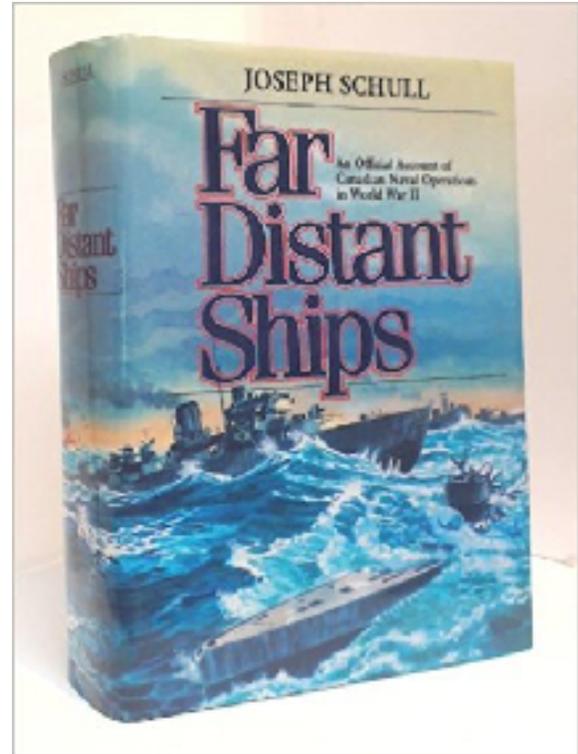
We all had a copy of the 1950 published version of this book and many of us read it cover to cover during the fifties. It was on my cabin bookshelf and referred to often, usually to research some subject raised during our social time.

In 1987 there was a second publishing. I revisited 'Far Distant Ships' in 1990 around the time that peace broke out with the fall of the Berlin Wall and the subsequent melt-down of the defence industry. I had time on my hands as I was between jobs. I mined the book with highlighter and pencil.

Just this summer, 2017, I took the book off my shelf and read it again still mining with highlighter and pencil with more comments to make. It was as exciting as reading a good novel. We knew many of those mentioned, and we knew many more who had served with them making it even more personal.

A work-mate of mine at Raytheon was aboard *HMCS Athabaskan* when she was torpedoed and sunk on 29 April 1944. He was a radioman and was getting a breath of fresh air when the torpedo hit and blew him into the water. He spent the rest of the war as a prisoner of war. Jim had a beautiful large painting of *Athabaskan* in his office and attended frequent reunions of his surviving ship-mates regularly.

Haida was with *Athabaskan* off the coast of France raising hell with the Germans when the torpedo struck. *Haida* now rests in Hamilton as a memorial; a very worthwhile visit.



**“You’ve got to be very careful if you don’t know where you’re going,
because you might not get there.” — Yogi Berra**

WORLD TIME

by John Cameron, Class of '59

Suppose we were to turn our back now on the Canadian proposer* of the 24++ time zones now in place in the world, and on daylight-saving time, and just adopt Greenwich, England as the STANDARD.

In STANDARD, Toronto is five hours different from Greenwich. So if it's 16:00 here, it's 21:00 there. And it's already tomorrow in Australia.

Then along comes the idea of changing even some of these time zones twice a year: Daylight Saving Time. What started as a "standard" has become a bit of a time-nightmare. Look, for example, in any atlas, at the International Dateline. It looks like a series of joggy lines — a few of them even straight — created by a committee of thirty, speaking fifty different languages, after a 48-hour Greek wedding they'd all attended.

Why can't we just have ... a *World Time*. Greenwich will do.

Thus, as I write this, it's now 21:00 in New York and Montreal and Boston and Toronto. So what? It's also 21:00 in Helsinki, Beijing, Darwin (!), Mumbai, Paris, Durban, Buenos Aires, Edinburgh, Berlin, Seattle, Seville, Papeete, Oslo ... you get the drift.

Actually, if you give it some thought, the above paragraph IS the state of nature right now. It's a 21:00 World! As a world though, we have chosen to distort that, mightily.

So if we all forget *local*, and adopt *world*, the Vancouver Stock Exchange will no longer open at 07:30 local. It will open religiously at 12:30, every business day. Because, adopting a REAL standard, that's what the time would be THEN, each and every business day, in Greenwich.

So typically, awaken at 12:00 in Toronto/New York/Boston; start work at 14:00, lunch (at noon by the sun) — which is 17:00. Knock off work at 22:00, and turn in at about 03:30, (which we do now... , at 10:30 Toronto local).

No disrespect to Sir Sanford. He did a good thing for the railroads in his day. But have you noticed that airlines run on Greenwich time? Thought so. The Navy always has. This adoption could add significantly — to world GDP! The current system — is a mess.

**Sanford Fleming. He lived within a twenty-minute walk of Craighleith, now home of the Ski Club where I'm writing this. It SEEMS to be about 4 PM — heck, 16:00, local time here. To "Sandy", the railroads needed this move, and for a century, the eventually-Sir Sanford Fleming had a point*

Letters to the Editor

From Victoria, BC

Dear Editor

I regret to inform the members that I was obliged to pass the duties as Chairman of the Venture Reunion Committee, VROC 2019, to the Co-Chair, Eric Wall (Class of '62), for health reasons. I am undergoing treatments for prostate cancer and the hormone therapy and side effects tend to affect one's mental processes and produce inertia and fatigue.

We all appreciate these are the natural result of aging but now really intensified, not a good thing in a leadership role. I start radiation therapy next month. I began the treatment regime in July and it takes about a year before you are totally clear of side effects. I will remain on the committee as a class rep and OPI for the Reunion Legacy Project. The planning for the reunion is well advanced and I am confident "Homecoming 65" will be a memorable event.

Yours aye,

Wilf Lund, Class of '61

Venture Historian

From Victoria, BC

Dear Editor

During Remembrance "special articles" in the National Post was one about "John Kinross Kennedy" who was awarded the VC in WW1!! The article referred to an 89 yr old nephew who lived in California(gave some info on the uncle). This cannot be a coincidence! The nephew must be "Jake" the Navy Pilot who couldn't "walk & chew gum at the same time" (or so the "suspicions go!). Jake was my DO for 2 yrs at Venture (Class of '59). Did you know him? He also served in the Fleet as I believe, on Unification, he did not choose to remain "Air" with the Air Force but reverted to "fishheading"! Also, I do believe his full name is the same as the uncle!!

My request is for his address so that I may send him the National Post article, please.

Yours aye,

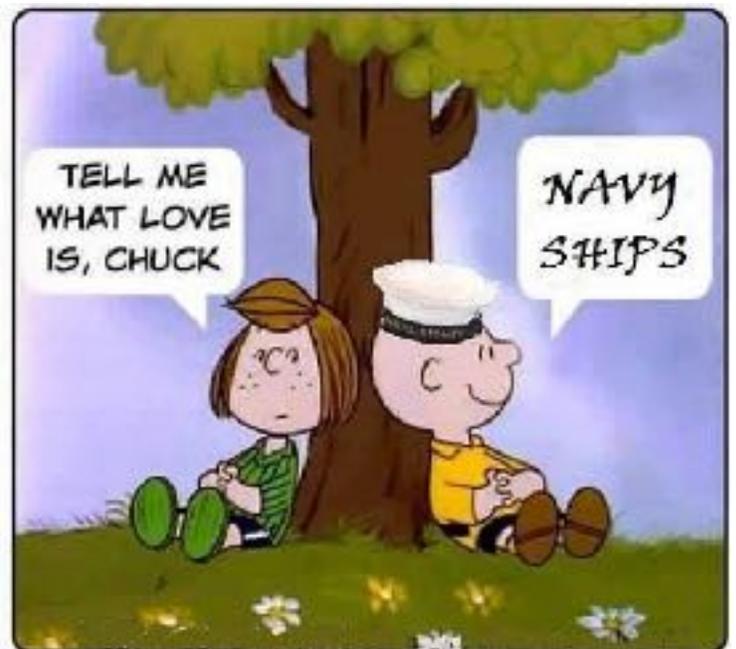
Stan Brygadyr, Class of '59

Dear Stan

Yes, I read the article and I'm pretty certain the 89-year-old nephew is, indeed, John Kinross Kennedy, aka "Jake". The data I have in the register is as follows: 4921 Birch St, Newport Beach, CA 94955-2522; tel (949) 955-2522; e-mail kinrosskennedy@gmail.com. I would think NP should have sent him a copy of the piece, but I'm sure he'll be happy to hear from you — he continues to support *Venture* and receives the link to the *Signal* whenever it comes out (next one mid Dec, or as soon as I restore all my documents and desktop icons after fiddling too much with the egregious "icloud").

Cheers

U's Editor



Letters to the Editor (cont'd)

From Sidney, BC

Dear Editor

I hope you are well, and thanks for your continued good works on The Signal.

These photos of the Hampton-Gray Memorial at Sailors' Point North Vancouver were taken in May 2017 at the Battle of the Atlantic Service. Since Hammie was not a Venture Grad and has no connection, they may not be appropriate for The Signal. M. Anne George, PhD is a Niece of Lt Robert Hampton-Gray, RCN, VC, DFC, who George Plawski and I met at the Battle of Atlantic Service on May 7th where Anne laid a wreath in her Uncle's memory. Her daughter, Mary, had intended to lay the wreath, but was unable to do so on the day.

It was an excellent Commemoration Service with several politicians, naval participants headed by the CO of HMCS Discovery and CANCOMPAC, a band and sailors from a warship from Colombia, Sea and Navy Cadets and the public.

The attached pictures show the wreath ... at Sailors' Point (one has Vancouver skyline as background, the other is close-up), and one of the wreaths from the service. The last picture is, L to R, Lt George Grant, RCN (Ret'd), Lt George Plawski, RCN (Ret'd), M. Anne George, PhD, niece of Lt Hampton-Gray, RCN, VC, DFC and Col Jack McGee, CF (Ret'd). George presented the wreath representing Naval Air Veterans along with Dick Dunn of the RCAF.



Yours Aye,

Jack McGee, Class of '60

Dear Jack,

Many thanks; I think most of our Ventures know all about Robert Hampton-Gray, VC. I live a block from Sailors' Point in North Van and go most years in May (sometimes in the company of my classmate Ian Follis, who plays in the band), depending on the weather! For those in the Vancouver area, especially the North Shore, it is well worth your time and effort to get there. Regret I was only able to squeeze in one photo, but you get the idea.

Cheers

U's Editor

Reunion Reminder — only two years to go to 2019!

We will have a complete Reunion update in our Spring 2018 *Signal*. Most of the info is in our June 2017 edition; contact your Class Rep with your intentions re attendance. And keep an eye on the Venture website: www.hmcsventure.com

Register Changes

Class of '56

Bob Ferguson email ferg.robert1@gmail.com
 Bernie Lynch, 35 Passmore Avenue, Orangeville, ON L9W 4K4; tel (519) 942-9673
 Gordon Macey, 10148 Resthaven Dr, Sidney, BC V8L 3G6
 Russ McGee, 3304 Chemoy Rd. Chemainus, B.C. V0R 1K2

Class of '57

Dale Paul email dalepaul8@gmail.com

Class of '59

Tom Wolder email tmwi@sympatico.ca
 Bob Burney, #58-1885 Tappen Notch Hill Rd, Tappen, BC V0E 2X3

Class of '60

John Nethercott
 email nethercott.carol@gmail.com

Class of 63-II

Gary Fullerton, 310-20861 83rd Ave, Langley, BC V2Y 2C4;
 e-mail ironpeddler@telus.net

Class of '64

Roger Lavoie, 906 Mobley Rd, Tappen, BC
 email rslavoie@gmail.com
 Michael Creighton email mcjcreighton@gmail.com

Class of '65

Norm Lovitt, 9 Baxter Drive, Guelph, ON N1L 0G4

Class of '67

Don Lucas email don_lucas@icloud.com

In Memoriam

Mike Hurford, Class of '59

Ted Loney, Class of '56

Ron Walker, Class of '56

Ray Irwin, Staff

Red Storey, Class of '56

Glen Urquhart, Class of '65

Amory Shields, Staff



The President's Report



With the summer over and grandchildren back in school, the West Coast Reunion Committee has been meeting again. I'll leave the announcement of changes to the Committee chairman, with a major update in the Spring of 2018.

I will tell you that Wilf Lund has stepped down in order to deal with some health problems. Eric Waal has taken over. Wilf will still have input into the planning and will remain the Class Rep for the Class of 1961. If you know Eric Waal, you know he will do an excellent job.

The West Coast BBQ this summer was a success. Although the number of attendees were slightly down, food, drinks and good company were enjoyed by all.

We are experiencing our first storm of the winter season: wind and rain. It's a sign that all of the snowbirds will be disappearing to warmer climes. As we age, there are fewer snowbirds, mainly due to health issues, daring to fly or drive south. Try staying home this winter. Just don't go out on slippery days. For exercise go to a mall and walk indoors.

It's surprising who you meet in the malls. I've met friends whom I haven't seen for years and they tell me they walk the mall three times a week. This particular friend is one who I met as a Sea Cadet while on a summer course at Shearwater in 1956. He was at Royal Roads when I was at Venture, two years behind me in flying training then met again in Shearwater. When I went to Edmonton in the 70's, he was at Cold Lake. Funny enough, when he retired and went to work demonstrating helicopters for a German company, he lived in my home town in southern Ontario. It's funny how you keep running into old friends in funny places and find out they have the same old age problems that you have. Anyway, keep healthy and fit. Only two more years until the next reunion. Hope to see you there

Aye,

*Ed Vishek, Class of '61,
 President*



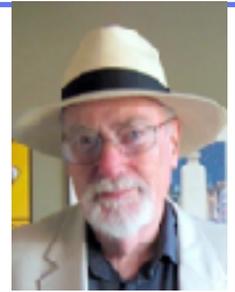
Naughtical Terms*

To “broach to”

To incline suddenly to windward of the ship's course against the helm, so as to present her side to the wind, and endanger her losing her masts. The difference between *BROACHING TO*, and *BRINGING BY THE LEE* may be thus defined: suppose a ship under great sail is steering south, having the wind at NNW, then west is the weather side, and east the lee side. If, by any accident, her head should turn round to the westward, so as that her sails are all taken aback on the weather side, she is said to *BROACH TO*. If, on the contrary, her head declines so far eastward as to lay her sails aback on that side which was the lee side, it is called *BRINGING BY THE LEE*.

Courtesy of our distinguished past/past/past President, Joe Cunningham.

The Editor's Corner



Here we are again, approaching yet another festive season — we don't say “Merry Christmas” any more, but I'm going to say it anyway and follow it with “Happy New Year!”. We are escaping the rain and wind in Palm Springs for a week, hanging out with our son as he and his partner prepare to present us with a grandchild in January — a happy occasion for everyone. We started our family quite late compared to many classmates, so we will be up to two, with a third coming in February, courtesy of daughter in Victoria.

Much more in the next issue, spring of 2018, about the next Reunion — now less than two years away, so contact your Class Reps re attendance. This may well be the “last” big one, so let's make it a biggie.

Many thanks to those intrepid souls who have contributed copy to this *Signal*. The more the merrier, guys — I always try to fill eight pages and it's *your* newsletter, so it won't continue without your input. Photos are always welcome, as well as nostalgia pieces, jokes, book reviews (see Mike Moore's reflections on Shull's *The Far Distant Ships*) at p. 4 and whatever!.

Aye,

Gordon Longmuir, Class of '57, Registrar and Editor of the Signal

Distribution of *The Signal*

As of this edition, 462 copies distributed.; 406 electronically via the website or direct e-mail; 56 by snail mail. To addresses in: Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Thailand, the UK and the USA.



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 Wilf Lund ('61) - Venture Historian and Chair, 2019 Reunion: (250) 598-5894; wilflund@telus.net

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 1959: Tom Essery (250) 477-9321; tessery@shaw.ca
 1960: Pierre Yans (250) 592-5997; pjyans@shaw.ca

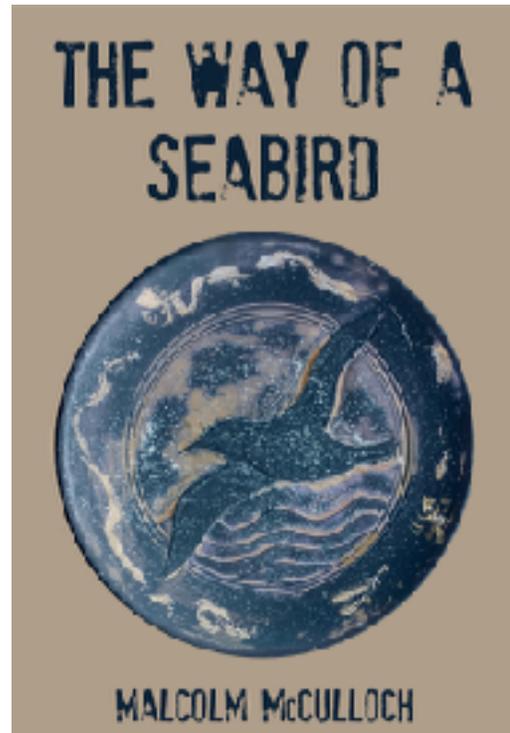
1961: Wilf Lund (250) 598-5894; wilflund@telus.net
 1962: Eric Waal (250) 477-1425; ebwaal@yahoo.com
 1963-I: Russ Rhode (250) 642-0086; russal@shaw.ca
 1963-II: Tim Kemp (250) 494-5043; timkate@shaw.ca
 1964: Gord Oakley (250) 544-1616; gordon_oakley@telus.net
 1965: Graeme Evans (250) 361-2646; gbevans@shaw.ca
 1966: Ross Beck (613) 492-0130; patross@rogers.com
 1967: Errol Collinson (250) 704-0048; erroni@shaw.ca
 Staff: Joe Cunningham (250) 360-0450; josephcunningham@telus.net

***NB: Class Reps are members of the Executive**

Buggins wishes all Ventures, your families and friends the happiest Christmas and the most prosperous and *healthy* New Year!



Malcolm McCulloch, Class of '61, has published a unique memoir that will interest many Ventures. If you wish to receive a FREE copy, please e-mail Malcolm directly at malcolmmcculloch999@gmail.com>



Visit Canada's Naval and Military Museums

Esquimalt Naval & Military Museum, CFB Esquimalt (Naden) Victoria, BC V9A 7N2
Telephone: (604) 363-4312
www.navalandmilitarymuseum.org

Vancouver Naval Museum, HMCS Discovery, P.O. Box 43595 RPO Alberni, Vancouver, BC V6G 3E2;
Telephone (604) 837-6691

The Naval Museum of Alberta, HMCS Tecumseh, 1820 - 24th Street S.W., Calgary, AB . T2T 0G6
Telephone: (403) 242 - 0002

The Naval Museum of Manitoba
HMCS Chippawa, 1 Navy Way
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4J7

HMCS Haida National Historic Site,
Pier 9, HMCS Star, 658 Catherine St,
Hamilton, ON L8L 8K4 Telephone
(905) 526-6742; www.pc.gc.ca/eng/hn-nhs/on/haida/index.aspx

Musée Naval de Québec, 170 rue
Dalhousie, Québec, QC G1K 8M7;
Tele-phone: (418) 694-5387

Shearwater Aviation Museum,54
Bonaventure St, Shearwater, NS B0J
3A0
www.shearwateraviationmuseum.ns.ca

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic,
1675 Lower Water Street, Halifax,
NS B3J 1S3; Telephone (902)
424-7490;
www.maritimemuseum.novascotia.ca

The Canadian War Museum, 1 Vimy
Place, Ottawa, ON K1R 1C2; Tel:
1-800- 555-5621
www.warmuseum.ca

The Canadian Aviation and Space
Museum, 11 Aviation Parkway,
Ottawa, ON K1K 2X5; Telephone
(613) 993-2010
www.casmuseum.techno-science.ca

HMCS Sackville—Canadian Naval
Memorial Trust, PO Box 99000, Stn
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www.hmcssackville-cnmt.ns.ca

Maritime Command Museum, 2729
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www.pspalifax.ca