



# The JTCer

V.C. for Valour

Vol. 2 Issue 1 April 2007

Welcome to the second edition of what is hoped to be many of the **JTCer**, the Alumni newsletter of the greatest sea cadet corps in Canada.

It has been awhile since the last newsletter, and it was certainly not my intent to have them so far apart. Life, and the Navy League have taken over, and I find I am just too busy to keep up. As some of you may know, I am completing my term this June as Divisional President, Manitoba Northwest Ontario for the Navy League, which theoretically should free up some time. But, alas I just can not seem to let go, and in March was elected as a National Vice President (Membership) for the Navy League of Canada.

The history and alumni is important to me, so I will hand over the reigns of publishing to our retiring Commanding Officer Susan Chadwick (who soon will have lots of free time) and I will assist in the background. I will also concentrate on the membership, gathering the alumni and the history with John – what I originally wanted to do so many years ago.

So, keep your news, comments and articles coming. Forward anything to [jtcvc@mts.net](mailto:jtcvc@mts.net) If you want to get more involved, let us know – most jobs are up for grabs.

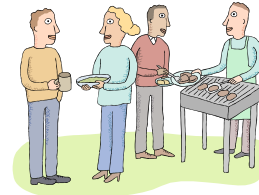
Hope to see you all at some event in the future.  
Lynn



**RCSCC J.T.C.V.C.'s  
87<sup>th</sup> Annual Inspection and Parade**

**Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2007, 18:45  
H.M.C.S. Chippawa**

## Corps BarBeQue / Alumni Gathering



May 31<sup>st</sup> 2007 18:30  
ALL WELCOME

Tickets \$5.00 (includes drink and hot dog)  
Bring your lawn chair  
Bring another alumni member  
Bring a twoonie for a 50/50 draw

For tickets call John Jamieson at 474-1699 or email  
[johnjamieson@shaw.ca](mailto:johnjamieson@shaw.ca) (need to sell tickets in  
advance to assure enough food available)

## *JTC Alumni is now part of Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch*

As printed in *JTC Alumni News Update*, January 11<sup>th</sup> 2007, **Exciting News!!** JTC's Navy League Branch, the Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch passed a motion creating a branch committee called the JTC Alumni. Now our alumni has a "**home**".

Interested alumni members can attend any scheduled branch meeting at Chippawa on the first Thursday of every month at 1915 hrs in room #223 (September to May). Come on out, we want to get our committee up and running.

At the same time we are continuing to gather email addresses of former JTC cadets and officers and the list is growing. Continue to spread the word to all past JTCers, branch members and the many friends of JTC. Let get moving towards celebrating JTC's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Comments, feedback, questions or addresses can be sent to [jtcvc@mts.net](mailto:jtcvc@mts.net) or by phone at 474-1699 (John).



**Cornwell (Wpg) Branch  
2007 Annual General Meeting.**

**Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 19:00  
Room 223, HMCS Chippawa  
ALL WELCOME**

### **The Sea Cadets – Orphans of the Sea**

By Padre Gordon Shields

The world's oldest youth organization, Sea Cadets, began in an orphanage. In 1854 a Naval Chaplain, recently returned from the Crimea, established an orphanage in Whitstable, Kent, England to house the many-orphaned boys, which resulted from the loss of so many soldiers and sailors in the war. Four years later an organization called the Naval Lads Brigade was formed. In 1899, Queen Victoria gave £10 to the Windsor Unit to purchase uniforms, and the date of her gift, June 25<sup>th</sup>, is considered to be the official birthday of the British Sea Cadets.

In 1941, the Navy League trained Sea Cadets for service in the wartime Navy. This became known as the "Bounty Boys Scheme", as each Sea Cadet Unit received a "Bounty" for every boy it trained to serve with the Royal Navy.

In 1975, the first girls were admitted to Canadian Sea Cadets; it was not until 1980 that the girls of Great Britain were accorded the same privilege. Even then the British Corps had limits of 35% of all members in a unit could be girls. This limit was not lifted in Britain until 1992.

Be proud of your heritage – and remember the epitaph of Boy Cornwell V.C. – "Thou hast set my feet in a large place."



## ***JTC Alumni Gathering February 8, 2007***

By John Jamieson

On the very cold evening of February 8<sup>th</sup>, thirty-one JTC alumni members gathered at HMCS Chippawa. We bravely mustered on the main deck and formed up into two divisions as part of JTC's ships company. We proudly joined the corps for their Colours Ceremony and march-past singing "Heart of Oak". I was told that it was quite a sight. I personally was glad that we were able to give the salute while marching past in threes and not in line. Although that left turn into line would have been very entertaining, the corps's parade officer Lt. Joe DiMartino thankfully took pity on us old timers and made it easier for us to do. I really enjoyed watching the faces of the cadets as we proudly marched past and hope that someday they too can have the opportunity to experience the pride and honour that I felt. I thought it was a most memorable experience and would like to thank Lt. Susan Chadwick and the rest of JTC's ships company for allowing us the opportunity to relive that special moment.

Exhausted after the "strenuous" march-past and singing we were able to gather again in more "comfortable" surroundings. In the Wardroom the bar was opened and the festivities continued. Moving around the room I had the opportunity to meet alumni members from a variety of eras. Some had joined the corps as far back as 1951 and some had recently aged out as recently as 2002. It was quite the example of the ages and eras represented by our alumni.

Here is a list of the alumni members that attended: Don Wilkinson, Denise Sandulak, Sandi McLeod-Hill, Hal Perkins, Joyce Bolton, Rick Maskiw, Randy Trapp, Ian McLeod, Laurie Gregory (Kakoske), Chris Thomson, Val Thomson, Jim Palmquist, Travis Tulyk, Fred Dowling, Hartley Klippenstien, Allen Zaleski, Ryan McDougall, Bob Webb, Lyla Bilton, Hugh Walker, Joel Jamieson, John Jamieson, Sarah Wilson, Ian Jackson, Lynn Hawkeye, Gerry Trapp, Barry Webb, Norm Sparks, Don Bullee, Larry Schenkeveld and Ben Neufeld.



We had a table setup on the side of the wardroom where some members displayed some of our corps memorabilia. I brought my JTC 50th anniversary/year book. Susan Chadwick brought some photo albums. Hartley Klippenstein brought a binder full of pictures of his experiences in the corps and at H.M.C.S. Quadra in the 1950s. Lynn Hawkeye brought a book by Colin Walker entitled "J.T. Cornwell V.C. and the Scouts 'Badge of Courage'" which is a fabulous history book about Jack Cornwell and mentions our Winnipeg sea cadet corps and shows our cap tally. Don Bullee brought in a postage stamp of Jack Cornwell's Victoria Cross that was recently issued in England and Lynn had one issued in approximately 1918. We had some old and new sea cadet training manuals and of course some old corps pictures. These are just a few examples of the memorabilia that our members bring to alumni gatherings.

During the evening we gathered together for some pictures, toasts and laughs. As hard as I tried I couldn't get anyone to ring the bell. We had a 50/50 draw and Randy Trapp won the prize and donated the money back to the corps. We issued Randy a tax receipt with special thanks for his donation. Scattered amongst the room some alumni members wore blue and gold corps jerseys. It was commented upon that next time we have a

march-past it would be great if all of the alumni could be wearing these jerseys. Perhaps the next time we gather Debbie Walker can come from BC and wear hers. By the way Debbie your big brother Hugh bought one too.

I have lots of pictures thanks to Helen Marakovits and would like to thank some other Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch executive and members for helping. Pat Lumsden, John Marakovits, Alf Northam, Jim Kliever, Wilf Yunik and Michelle Courchene, all of your efforts are greatly appreciated. Again a big thanks to Lt. Susan Chadwick and her wardroom for making all of the alumni feel welcome.

A good time was had by all. I know that I certainly did. We had some suggestions for some more events, and we are talking about a Saturday gathering in the fall. By having a gathering on Saturday the wardroom can start the party with us instead of after a full night working with the corps.

We are always looking for feedback, comments and suggestions, so please email me at [johnjamieson@shaw.ca](mailto:johnjamieson@shaw.ca) or call me at 474-1699.

Thanks everybody, Stand your Station and I hope to see everybody again soon. Spread the word.





*Reprinted from **On Deck!** the webzine of the Navy & Marine Living History Association*  
<http://www.navyandmarine.org/ondeck/index.htm>

### ***Cape Horn fever***

An illness feigned by a seaman seeking relief from duty.

### ***Damage his pepper box***

To attempt to assassinate the master-at-arms by dropping a round shot on his head from aloft or through an open hatchway

### ***Damn-my-eyes-tar***

An inexperienced seaman who tried to cover his ignorance with blustering or boisterous behavior

### ***Dance at the gratings***

To be flogged formally with a cat

### ***Double the grog tub***

To get an extra ration of liquor by rejoining the line filing past the grog tub while liquor was being issued to the crew.

### ***French leave***

A sailor who absented himself temporarily with the intention of returning to his ship was said to have taken "French leave"

### ***Horse marine***

An insulting reference to a marine by the seamen. A great insult when applied to a sailor, implying he was unhandy or lubberly.

### ***Kiss the wooden lady***

To be forced to stand facing the bole of a wooden mast with arms encircling it and wrists lashed together as a minor punishment. Shipmates were encourage to kick the offender in the buttocks while passing by.

### ***Purser rigged and parish damned***

Said of a man who entered the navy to escape problems ashore; also of a man who entered the navy in a destitute condition

### ***Rosewater sailor***

An incompetent, foppish or unseamanlike officer

### ***White mouse***

A lower deck informer or spy for the master-at-arms

### ***Ship a quarterdeck face again***

After the relaxation of normal shipboard discipline during skylarking or a theatrical performance, officers customarily signified that all rules and regulations were back in force by resuming their customary formal demeanor towards the crew. This was called "shipping a quarterdeck face again."

### ***Skin or Snake***

A tube made out of livestock intestines worn wrapped around the body, esp. the ankles, used to smuggle liquor onto the ship.

### ***Suck the monkey***

To draw liquor out of a cask with a straw. Sailors ashore would partially empty the contents of casks of paint and refill them with alcohol. Once loaded onboard, the contents were allowed time to settle and separate -- pigment sinking to the bottom and alcohol to the top; presumably any remaining turpentine would end up in the middle. Piercing the top of the keg with a straw allowed the men to draw off the alcohol. It is unknown how many men died as a result of drinking turpentine! The phrase comes from the original practice of filling empty coconuts with alcohol, the three dark marks on the coconut resembling the face of a monkey.

### ***Gun decking***

Under certain circumstances drunkenness was not a naval crime. Shore liberty was granted very infrequently and it was expected that many of the men would return to the ship drunk, with clothes torn, and, bearing the marks of fights and riots. The officers of the deck merely recorded the return of each man in the logbook. A man returning in reasonable condition was logged as "CS," meaning clean and sober. A drunk was logged as "DD," which stood for drunk and dirty. A drunken libertyman had one prerogative that had grown up with the practice of granting shore leave. He was expected to conduct himself as best he could in the presence of the gangway watch; but upon reaching the gun deck, he was allowed to curse the officers, the ship, the navy, or any other institution in the vilest language he was capable of uttering with impunity. This practice was called "gundecking" and constituted one of the few ways which the men of the Old Navy had for releasing pent-up emotions.





***"Don't give up the ship!"***

Tradition has it that **Captain James Lawrence** said these heroic words after being mortally wounded in the engagement between his ship, the U.S. frigate *Chesapeake*, and HMS *Shannon* on 1 June 1813. As the wounded Lawrence was carried below, he ordered "Tell the men to fire faster! Don't give up the ship!"

Although *Chesapeake* was forced to surrender, Captain Lawrence's words lived on as a rallying cry during the war. Oliver Hazard Perry honored his dead friend Lawrence when he had the motto sewn onto the private battle flag flown during the Battle of Lake Erie, 10 September 1813. [William S. Dudley, ed., *The Naval War of 1812: A Documentary History*. vol.2 (Washington, DC.: US Government Printing Office, 1992): 559]

***Cornwell Branch hosts Pasta Dinner Fundraiser***

By John Jamieson

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007 the Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch hosted our first Pasta Dinner event. The dinner was held at Lord Roberts Community Club. We set-up 16 tables in their gym area with red, green, blue and yellow table cloths, our corps display and Italian music. The room looked and sounded great. Our cook, Niko Ottava (a volunteer parent) and his partner Tanya prepared the pasta and served up both marinara and meat sauce with bread sticks. The sauce was provided by Niko's sister from the Toad in the Hole Pub. For desert we served cake donated from McCain Foods. Everyone had good comments about the food and the event. I asked all the guests in the room during my comments and thank you speech if they would come out again and the answer was a definite **yes**. We sold 119 tickets to our officers, cadets, parents, branch members and alumni. The Dinner was a great success with over \$450 profit for the corps.

The whole idea for the pasta dinner came about from a fundraising meeting held last October. The meeting was attended by branch members and interested parents. We were looking for ideas to get the corps and parents together for some fun and to make some money for the corps. We had some interesting discussions and Niko Ottava proposed the pasta dinner idea and that he would provide the sauce and prepare the pasta. The next step was to get someone to volunteer to organize and prepare for the event. Our own alumni member, past CO of JTC and branch member at large **Don Bullee** stepped up and volunteered to do the job. **Larry Schenkeveld** another alumni member, parent, President of the Navy Leagues JRK Millen Branch, and current Chairperson of the City of Winnipeg's Community Clubs Committee then helped acquire Lord Roberts community club for our event. **SLt Scott Yaskiw** a corps officer, gave Don a contact name at McCain Foods for the dessert.

Don then organized the tickets, advertising, sales, distribution, collection, purchasing of supplies, setup, cleanup and reporting of the event. Great job Don, **thanks**.

Niko Ottava with his partner Tanya arrived early Sunday afternoon with sauce and prepared and served the pasta. Great job Niko and Tanya, **thanks**.

Don had a lot of help. **Special thanks and acknowledgement** go out to: Susan Bullee, Pat Lumsden, Alf Northam, and especially to Norm and Lil Sparks who came out and worked on their wedding anniversary **HAPPY BELATED ANNIVERSARY**.

We are very lucky in the Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch and JTC to have great members and volunteers like some of the people named above, that work tirelessly for cadets. If in the future if you as an alumni member might help out with one project or can bring in a contact to help our corps it would be greatly appreciated. Please remember JTC and feel free to contact me by email at [johnjamieson@shaw.ca](mailto:johnjamieson@shaw.ca) or by phone at 474-1699. **Thank you.**



## *JTC Alumni Members attend HMCS Quadra's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations*

By John Jamieson

Last summer some thirty JTC Alumni members attended Quadra's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations held from August 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. It was a fabulous event full of old memories and reunited many old friends.

The event started with a meet & greet Friday night at Courtenay's Coast Westerly Hotel Ballroom. The Quadra Alumni Association's president Dave Yates welcomed all members present and the party was on.

Saturday morning was clear and sunny just like so many mornings that we had experienced when we were cadets and officers standing on that parade square smelling the salt air and looking up at the mountains. Activities started off with a Jetty Jump. I didn't make that jump.

At 09:00 Quadra started with the camp's Ceremonial Divisions. During the march past all Quadra Alumni members were invited to form up in divisions and march around the parade square with some 1000 cadets. That was an awesome experience.

After the ceremonial divisions Quadra's officers, staff and course cadets performed the Ceremony of the Flags. They had a hundred cadet band and a hundred cadet guard with two forty cadet gun crews. It was an excellent ceremony and I saw quite a few JTC cadets in the ranks. Next we had a BBQ lunch beside the breezeway (yes the breezeway is still there). There was a dedication of the new Tye Building (Tye Hall was torn down a few years back). The new building is now

located where the old A Block used to be right beside the east side of the parade square. Quadra itself has faced many changes over the years, and there are plans for many more.

At 15:00 two YAG's took out 90 alumni for a hour & half cruise out of the harbour around the spit and up to Tree Island. Being one of the first Quadra trained Boatswain Engineers, it was especially memorable to go down into the YAG's engine room and listen to the roar of the engines and the smell of the diesel. We arrived back just in time to get in line for the second Jetty Jump. My son Joel and I jumped together into that freezing ocean (it hasn't changed) and we tried to sing Heart of Oak. It was the quickest version ever sung.

The celebrations ended with a formal 50<sup>th</sup>



Anniversary Dinner held at the Florence Filberg Center where some 400 alumni members gathered for cocktails, dinner and a great speech from Commodore R. R. Blakely. The celebrating went well into the night. It was a great party.

It was a great pleasure and honour to have

been reunited again with many old friends and alumni members. Special thanks to the organizing committee for pulling off such a wonderful event.

Many JTCers who were there are missing from the photo. Try this web site for more pictures <http://www.quadraalumni.com/> or go to [http://www.cadets.net/pac/quadra/2006/images/gallery/intro\\_e.asp](http://www.cadets.net/pac/quadra/2006/images/gallery/intro_e.asp)

Back Row L – R  
Lorne Palmquist, Mike Trump, Kerry Knight, Steve McNair, Craig Perkins, Gary Payne.

Middle Row L – R  
Rob Bogoski, June Kircaldy, Bob Webb, Dave Blain, Joel Jamieson, John Jamieson, Tim Dolinsky, unknown.

Front Row Seated L – R  
Slim Summerville, Ted Lofto



## Naval vocabulary/Navy Lore Explained: Brass Monkeys

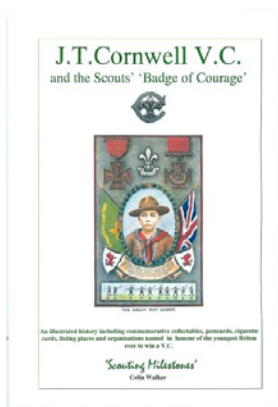
Every sailing ship had to have cannon for protection. Cannon of the times required round iron cannonballs. The master wanted to store the cannonballs such that they could be of instant use when needed, yet not roll around the gun deck. The solution was to stack them up in a square based pyramid next to the cannon. The top level of the stack had one ball, the next level down had four, the next had nine, the next had sixteen, and so on. Four levels would provide a stack of 30 cannonballs. The only real problem was how to keep the bottom level from sliding out from under the weight of the higher levels. To do this, they devised a small brass plate ("brass monkey") with one rounded indentation for each cannonball in the bottom layer. Brass was used because the cannonballs wouldn't rust to the "brass monkey," but would rust to an iron one. When temperature falls, brass contracts in size faster than iron. As it got cold on the gun decks, the indentations in the brass monkey would get smaller than the iron cannonballs they were holding. If the temperature got cold enough, the bottom layer would pop out of the indentations spilling the entire pyramid over the deck. Thus it was, quite literally, **"cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey."**

## John 'Jack' Travers Cornwell, V.C.

Known throughout his life as 'Jack', Cornwell was born in Clyde Cottage, Clyde Place in Leyton, Essex on January 8th 1900. Jack had an elder half-sister Alice, born in 1890, an older brother Ernest Edward, a younger sister Lily, and younger brothers George and Arthur Frederick. At least one of these brothers were to become 'stand-ins' for Jack in pictures of him painted in 1916.

The Royal Navy had always appealed to Jack but his parents refused to allow him join up until the outbreak of the First World War. He was 15 when he walked into a local recruiting office, armed with good references from his Headmaster and his employer, and enlisted. His basic training took place at the Keyham Naval Barracks, Devonport, Plymouth and, identified as a willing and smartly turned-out boy, he had the honour of acting as a messenger for the Keyham Sea School Commander. He was a regular churchgoer and was confirmed at this time at Plymouth by the Company Padre. Jack remained throughout his six-month's training with his 'mess' of nineteen other recruits, all officially known as 'Boys Second Class', earning sixpence a week. He undertook further training as a Sight Setter, a highly responsible position on a warship and one which, in the past, was the post of an experienced sailor. With help and guidance Jack, on July 27th, 1915, passed out as Boy Seaman, First Class, J T Cornwell J/42563, proudly drawing his one shilling a week pay.

The book, seen here, is a wealth of information on John Travers Cornwell, his life and dedications. The following is a very very small sample of what can be found.



The book can be ordered for the cost of \$25.00 each. If you are interested, please send your order and payment to Lynn Hawkeye ([Lhawkeye@mts.net](mailto:Lhawkeye@mts.net)) 366 Larche Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R2C 1A6

For an interesting website, please visit: [www.scouting.milestones.btinternet.co.uk](http://www.scouting.milestones.btinternet.co.uk)



**JTCVC Cadets: The next generation....continuing the tradition of excellence!**

Kelli (nee Grant) Novak was a cadet and officer with JTCVC from 1979 to 1988. Kelli also attained the rank of CPO2 in 1983-1984 and was Chief of the Band that year. Upon leaving Winnipeg in 1988 to pursue a Masters Degree in Experimental Medicine at the UofA, she had attained the rank of SLt and had been the Band Officer for 4 years.

Linda Wellwood was a cadet and officer with JTCVC from (1975 to 1989). Linda attained the rank of CPO2 in 1980 and held the position of RPO. Upon leaving Winnipeg in 1989 for a career move to Calgary, she had attained the rank of Lt(N) and had been the Guard Officer for 5 years and Administration Officer 3 years prior to leaving Winnipeg.

Kelli and Linda met when they were cadets together in JTC, and today, they are still good friends, both living in Calgary. Linda has one daughter, Elizabeth, born in January 1993. Kelli and her husband Miroslav Novak (a former Army Cadet and CIL Officer) have two boys, Grant (born May 1993) and Mark born April (1996).

All three of these “next generation” JTCer’s have joined the NLCC Captain Jackson in Calgary. Elizabeth and Grant are in their third year with the corps, Mark just joined last fall. Elizabeth was awarded The Gunner’s Award for overall proficiency in her first year with the corps, and Grant was awarded Best First Year Cadet. In their second year, Elizabeth was awarded Best Junior NCO and the F.R. Ferguson Award for Naval History, and Grant was awarded The Senior Academic Proficiency Award for cadets PO1 To CPO1. This year, Elizabeth is the corps’ Cox’n, and Grant turned down the position of RPO in favor of being the Gunner. Together, they fill two of the top three cadet NCO positions, and make a great team. They both earned their White Sail Level II and their NLC sailing badges this past summer, and are both nominees for the Cadet of the Year for Alberta Division this year.



As an update on the young cadets, not only was Elizabeth Wellwood awarded as Alberta’s Navy League Cadet of the Year, she was also recognized as the Navy League of Canada’s National Navy League Cadet of the Year! Well done to both young cadets. We are sure the good stock training at JTC had a hand in this....

**In Remembrance**

We have lost a few of our members in the last year. All were proud members of JTC and supporters of the cadet programme. We remember them as they sail on.



- Thomas Wetton
- Derrick (Scotty) Jackson
- George Hannah
- Mike Rafferty
- Meyer Cosman

**Keep in Touch**

We need your help in gathering up the alumni of JTC. If you have any contacts that did not receive this newsletter, please send their name and address (email as well) to: [jtcvc@mts.net](mailto:jtcvc@mts.net) and we will take care of the rest.

Although we endeavour to distribute this newsletter electronically, it is not always possible. If you do not have electronic mail, please send us your address.

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