

HISTORIC NAVAL SHIP ASSOCIATION (HNSA) AWARDS – AGM 2015

The HNSA recently held its AGM in San Pedro, California in the retired Battleship USS Iowa, where we were represented by Life Trustee and former commanding officer LCdr Sherry Richardson. We (CNMT) nominated four of our most deserving Trustees for awards, and all four nominations were successful.

Ted Kelly, Director of the Battle of Atlantic Society, has received the Casper J. Knight Award for his outstanding work over the past three years on the Battle of the Atlantic Place Project. This award is named in honor of one of the founders of the HNSA and former director of the cruiser USS Olympia. It is the highest award the Association can bestow. It is given to individuals or organizations who have contributed in a major way, usually over a considerable length of time, to the preservation and exhibition of historic naval ships, and to the goals and work of the Association.

Wendall Brown has received the William J. Diffley Award. This award is named in honor of the former executive director of the USS ALABAMA Commission and former president of HNSA, Captain Bill Diffley. It honors departing directors of HNSA Fleet Member organizations who have contributed in some great measure to the success of their museums. Wendall's dedication to the ship, as commanding Officer for 9 years and continuing involvement with technical issues, is well known and he is most deserving of this award. The William J. Diffley award was previously presented to Max Corkum in 1991 and to James Bond in 1995, for their work with HMCS Sackville.

Bert Walker has received the HNSA Educator's Award. This award recognizes a Fleet staff member who has performed at a superior level in furthering the education program of the organization. Bert has developed a comprehensive guide-book entitled "The Way of the Ship: HMCS Sackville" which is a great resource for our interpretive guides and new members. He has also developed an excellent illustrated lecture that he has presented at many libraries in HRM, the South Shore, and at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on several occasions. Bert is also a keen tour guide and a recruiter of new members. He recently returned from a trip to Europe where he visited many WW II naval sites to back up the research he has done for his guidebook and lectures. He strives to improve the quality of these educational products, which have been delivered in support of the Project and the Trust, and have been very effective in achieving outreach to communities in Nova Scotia.

Pat Jessup has received the Dr. John C. Fakan Communications Award for her performance as Director of Public Affairs. This award is named in honor of the former President of the USS Cod Submarine Memorial and Chairman of the Communications Committee of the Historic Naval Ships Association. The award recognizes an individual who has contributed his or her skills and knowledge in furthering and facilitating electronic communication and collaboration between member ships and museums. Also, this award recognizes the creative use of electronic communication in the area of marketing one's museum to individuals, organizations and companies outside the HNSA network. This includes her dedicated work as Editor of "Action Stations!" our quarterly newsletter which has grown into a highly-regarded magazine over the past three years. In addition, she maintains a very active Twitter site with over 2150 followers

world-wide, many of whom “re-Tweet” interesting items about Sackville, Halifax Harbour activities, Canadian naval and historical news, etc.