



PROMINENT LUNENBURGERS
Remembering the People that Make Us Special
1753-2013

Captain Angus James Walters

b. 9 June 1881 in Lunenburg, d. 12 August 1968 in Lunenburg

Associated Places: Captain Angus Walters' House and Dairy, 37 Tannery Road; *Bluenose* Shed, Smith & Rhuland Shipyard; Captain Angus J. Walters Historic Sites and Monuments Board Plaque and *Bluenose* Historic Sites and Monuments Board Plaque; *Bluenose* exhibit at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic

Contributions: Schooner racing, fishery

To most Lunenburgers Captain Angus Walters needs no introduction. As skipper of the Lunenburg-built racing schooner *Bluenose*, Walters won the International Fisherman's Race Series from 1921 to 1938. This brought him and his crew international acclaim, and invitations to the 1933 Chicago Century of Progress Exposition and King George V's Silver Jubilee. The schooner *Bluenose* has become a symbol of Nova Scotia and Canada, most famously memorialized on the Canadian dime.

Angus James Walters followed his father Captain Elias Walters to sea at age 13. He became a doryman at age 15, and at 24 was named master of the schooner *Minnie M. Cook*. He soon became known as a 'highliner' for his successful fishing voyages.

Walters took up racing in 1920 with the *Gilbert B. Walters*. He lost his first International Fisherman's Race Series, but returned the following year with *Bluenose*, a 143-foot schooner built at the Smith & Rhuland yards by William J. Roue with Walters' advice. For the next seventeen years, *Bluenose* was undefeated in every appearance at the Race Series, and yet still carried out full fishing seasons on the Grand Banks.

In 1939 Captain Walters retired to open the Lunenburg Dairy. He joined numerous local organizations, serving as president of the Fisherman's Union and the Master Mariners Association. He died in Lunenburg at the age of 87.

Captain Walters' accomplishments have been widely recognized. He was inducted into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame in 1955, and in 2009 was commemorated by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada as a National Historic Person of Canada. His home on 37 Tannery Road was bestowed on the Town by Walters' son Bernard "Spike" Walters in 2000. The building is currently offices for the *Bluenose* Coastal Action Foundation, with a room reserved to recognize Captain Walters' significance to the community.



Nova Scotia Archives

