

CANADIAN MARINE RESCUE



AUXILIARY

(NFLD) INCORPORATED

Vol. 7

NEWSLETTER

1985

Seventh Annual CMRA Meeting Held in St. John's

Representatives from eight of the ten CMRA districts met in St. John's on November 2 for the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Newfoundland) Incorporated.

The meeting began at 0900 on Saturday, 02 November, 1985. In attendance were:

Mr. H. Strong — President,
Representative District 8;
Mr. H. Pittman — First Vice-President,
Representative District 2;
Mr. C. Normore Jr. — Second Vice-
President, Representative District 1;
Mr. B. Flynn — Representative District 3;
Mr. W. Morris — Representative
District 4;
Mr. E. Bruce — Representative District 6;
Mr. A. Sturge — Representative
District 9;
Capt. P. Troake — Representative
District 10.

Canadian Coast Guard Representatives:
Mr. E.P. Stack — Regional Co-ordinator
CMRA (N);

Mr. R.C. Coles — A/Regional Training
Officer CMRA (N);

Mr. Michel Cimon — National Staff
Officer, Ottawa.

The results of the election of officers for 1986 are as follows:

PRESIDENT —

Mr. Harry Strong;

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT —

Mr. Herbert Pittman;

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT —

Mr. Claude Normore Jr.;

SECRETARY/TREASURER —

Dr. C.R. Lucas.



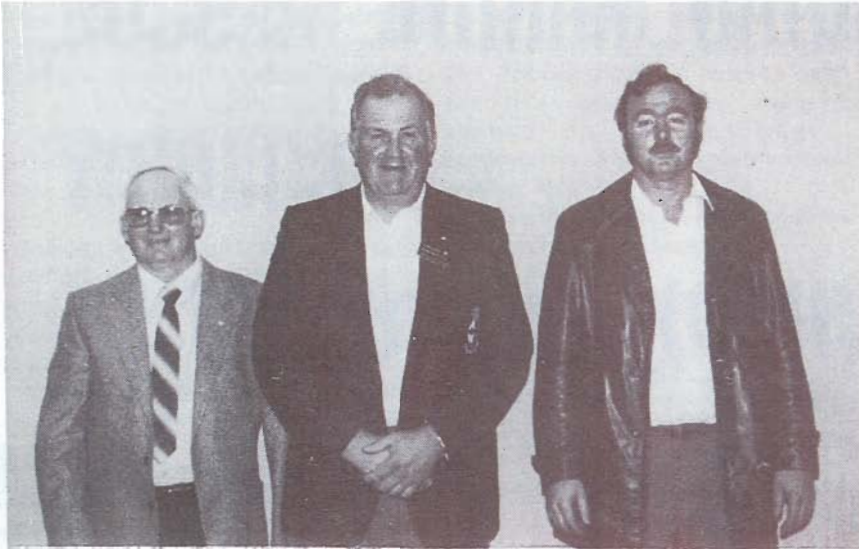
The Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland, The Honorable W. Anthony Paddon, C.M., M.D. was made an Honorary Member of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (NFLD.) Incorporated at the Auxiliary's recent Annual General Meeting. Here we see the President, Harry Strong, Old Perlican, present the Lt. Governor with his membership certificate.

The Board of Directors arrived in St. John's on Friday PM. A tour of the St. John's Coast Guard Radio Station (VQDN) took place at 7:30 PM. Most of the wives attended as well. The tour was well organized and Mr. Dan Ryan, Operations Manager, briefed the group on the stations operation. The briefing, combined with watching the radio operators perform their duties, gave all present a first hand appreciation of how a

typical Coast Guard Radio Station functions.

Mr. Michel Cimon, National Staff Officer, CMRA addressed the Board of Directors and representatives of the CMRA (N) on behalf of Mr. Pierre Boisvert, Director Search and Rescue, Canada. He spoke briefly on the CMRA and its important role in Marine Search

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CMRA EXECUTIVE FOR 1986

From left to right: Mr. Herbert Pittman, First Vice-President; Mr. Harry Strong, President; Mr. Claude Normore, Second Vice-President. Absent is Dr. C.R. Lucas, Secretary/Treasurer.

CMRA Nfld. Inc.

The Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (CMRA) Newfoundland Incorporated was formed in Newfoundland in April, 1979. The purpose was to provide volunteer marine facilities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador to supplement existing government search and rescue resources. The Auxiliary has grown from a base of zero in 1979 to a strength of two hundred and fifteen vessels, twelve radio operators, and over three hundred members in 1985. In 1984 the Auxiliary, in Newfoundland, responded to one hundred and twenty-four incidents and for the period 01 January to 31 October, 1985 it has responded to one hundred thirteen incidents, many of which have directly resulted in lives being saved.

Manager's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my personal thanks to all members of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Nfld.) Incorporated who have helped to make 1985 a successful year.

The roles and responsibilities of the Canadian Coast Guard are very extensive and all of us are continually seeking new and better ways of performing the many tasks demanded by our mandate. However, I personally believe that it may be some time before a new concept or initiative is introduced which will parallel the formulation and official establishment of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary.

Many of you will be aware that during 1984/85 the first functional review of CMRA (Nfld.) was conducted. The findings and observations of the Ottawa-based review team are, indeed, very positive. As a result, senior management is currently assessing ways and means of expanding the future roles of the "Auxiliary".

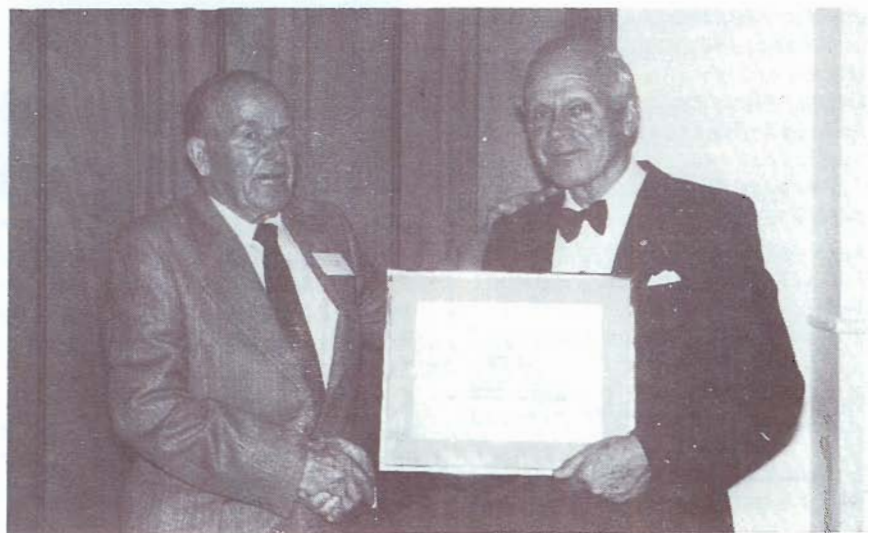
I would like to congratulate the new Executive which was elected at the recent Annual General Meeting. I extend a warm welcome to both the old and, in particular, the new representatives from the various CMRA districts throughout the Newfoundland Region. We have complete confidence that all of you will demonstrate the same degree of dedication, cooperation, and

professionalism as has been provided in the past. Furthermore, let me say that we all fully appreciate that the general membership at large is the real backbone of the Auxiliary. It is your collective local knowledge and voluntary contribution of time and resources which have made the CMRA an invaluable asset in responding to Search and Rescue incidents in

Newfoundland waters.

To all the readers of the CMRA Newsletter and the membership at large I wish smooth sailing and a prosperous New Year.

GEORGE W. LEGGE
Regional Manager
Search and Rescue



His Honor, W. Anthony Paddon, Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland, attended the Seventh Annual General Meeting dinner of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary, (Nfld.) Incorporated. Here we see the Lt. Governor presenting the Canadian Coast Guard Commissioner's Commendation to Capt. Peter Troake. Capt. Troake is well known throughout Newfoundland and is a resident of Twillingate. He was the founding president of the Auxiliary.



At the recent Seventh Annual Meeting of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary, Mr. Lorne Humphries, Director General, Canadian Coast Guard (N) Region presented Capt. Peter Troake of Twillingate with a picture of the founding executive of the Auxiliary. They were Capt. Troake, President; Mr. Austin Sheppard, Vice President; and Dr. C.R. Lucas, Secretary/Treasurer. The then Minister of Transport, the Honorable Otto Lang, is shown presenting the President with the Incorporation Certificate.

A Message from the President

Once again it is time for the preparation of the Annual Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Nfld.) Incorporated Newsletter.

This newsletter is one of the ways which we try to keep our members informed of what is going on in the CMRA.

Our Annual General Meeting took place in St. John's on the weekend of November 1-2, 1985, a report of which you will find elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our membership is slowly but surely increasing. At the present time our strength is 215 vessels and 310 members, however, if you count all the crews, there are over 800 people. The total value of CMRA vessels is in the area of \$30 million dollars. So as you can see, we are a tremendous resource that is available to the Canadian Coast Guard.

Each year we reject a number of vessels due to expired CSI Certificates. I urge you to keep these up to date as they are for your own protection.

On behalf of our Executive, I would like to thank all members of the CMRA (Nfld.) for their help and co-operation in the past and extend special thanks to the

staff of Canadian Coast Guard on your behalf.

HARRY STRONG
President

SAFETY ONBOARD

Of the 8,786 incidents responded to by Search and Rescue in Canada in 1984, 19% of these incidents were attributed to engine failure; and 17% to other mechanical problems.

If a positive attitude toward safety had been realized, plus proper care and maintenance of equipment, a large number of those incidents would never have happened.

Unfortunately, some of us adopt an attitude that if things are working well we are content to leave it at that, however, somewhere down the road we run into trouble.

Some things that we take for granted are fuel filters, condition of brushes on electrical generators, starting motors, etc. Cleanliness of bilges and suction strainers, placement of fire fighting equipment and the condition of electrical wiring. All these have the potential, if not maintained properly, of becoming a major problem. It is difficult for fishermen during the busy season to find time to effect planned maintenance, however, try and put these items in some order of priority and find time to deal with the

ones that are most likely to cause problems. You will be better off in the long run. Pleasure boaters should also ensure equipment is checked on a regular basis.

Take time to check and clean fuel filters. Have a good look around the engine room checking such things as electrical wiring, condition of bilges, and suction strainers, condition of brushes on generators, and starting motors. Make sure fire extinguishers are checked regularly and that they are fully charged and situated so as to be readily available should they be needed. Be thoroughly familiar with all safety equipment onboard and know how to use it.

So far in Newfoundland this year 5 longliners have caught fire resulting in four being a total loss. Get in the habit of checking fire fighting equipment and know how to put that equipment to good use. Above all don't give fire a reason or a place to start. Remember "The Life You Save May Be Your Own".

Drownings Increase in Newfoundland and Labrador in 1985

Drownings in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador during 1985 have, to date, exceeded the total number of drownings for 1984. The victims ranged in ages from four to eighty-three. In most cases the victim was not wearing a lifejacket or personal flotation device.

Of the total number of drownings, to date, for 1985 nine were fishermen. Two were from Portugal Cove; two from Flat Bay; two from Burin; one from Summerford; one from Bonavista; and, one from Torbay.

These drownings further emphasize the need to be safety conscious when operating a boat; to have on board the mandatory safety equipment in good operating condition; and, to be familiar with its use. Get in the habit of wearing lifejackets, especially while the boat is in transit and always wear plenty of warm clothing. Keep in mind that being subjected to the cold water, even for a short period of time, could be fatal.

Alcohol is a common factor in a large percentage of boating accidents. Alcohol not only impairs the boat operator but reduces the survival time should you be subjected to cold water. Always remember that "Alcohol and Boating Do Not Mix".

Seventh Annual CMRA Meeting (cont'd)

and Rescue. He also made mention of SAR Prevention and the increasing role played by the Auxiliary in making boaters aware of existing regulatory and recommended safety standards. Mr. Cimon stressed the importance of the Courtesy Examination Program in this respect.

In closing, Mr. Cimon extended best wishes from the Director of Search and Rescue, Mr. Pierre Boisvert and Headquarters Staff.

The Lt. Governor of Newfoundland, W. Anthony Paddon, was special guest at the Auxiliary dinner. Also in attendance were the Director General, Canadian Coast Guard (N) Region, Mr. Lorne Humphries; the Regional Manager Search and Rescue (N) Region, Capt George Legge; and representing Search and Rescue Headquarters, Ottawa, Mr. Michel Cimon. The Lt. Governor presented Capt. Peter Troake with the "Commissioners Commendation" for his contribution to the Marine community. His Honor made reference to Capt. Troake's wide marine experience, especially as the Captain of the "Christmas Seal" from 1951 to 1971. Mr. Lorne Humphries presented Capt. Troake with a picture of the founding executive of the CMRA (N). They included Capt. Troake, President; Mr. Austin Sheppard, First Vice-President; and Dr. C.R. Lucas, Secretary/Treasurer. The Auxiliary President, Mr. Harry Strong, presented the Lt. Governor with a framed certificate making him an Honorary Member of the CMRA (N). The Lt. Governor expressed his thanks and guaranteed those present that it would hang in a prominent location.

Change of Fishing Location Addition of New Equipment

If you change your fishing location it is imperative that you notify the Marine Rescue Sub-Centre immediately. As you are aware all the information concerning your boat, fishing location, etc. is kept on a card at the MRSC. In order that the response time be kept to a minimum it is essential that the Controller know where auxiliary members are at all times.

Should you change fishing locations or add any new equipment to your vessel contact the MRSC and make them aware of the change.

Lectures/Demonstrations on Search and Rescue/Safety

interested in a presentation on Search and Rescue; how it works, what is available, plus safety equipment, prevention and treatment of hypothermia, etc., send your request, in writing, to:

Regional Manager, Search and Rescue
Canadian Coast Guard
P.O. Box 1300
St. John's, Nfld.
A1C 6H8
or phone 772-4074

CRESTS

Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary blazer crests are available at a cost of \$8.95. If you require one, send your request with payment in cheque or money order made payable to the Receiver General for Canada to the Regional Co-ordinator at the address below:

Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary
Newfoundland Incorporated
P.O. Box 938
St. John's, Nfld.
A1C 5M3

Reporting SAR Incidents

A large number of incidents to which Auxiliary members respond are initiated by the owner of a distressed vessel making direct contact with an Auxiliarist rather than by the Marine Rescue Sub-Centre (MRSC). When such an incident occurs it is the responsibility of the Auxiliarist responding to notify the MRSC, as soon as possible, of the type of incident and the action taken and to again notify the MRSC when the incident has been resolved.

To contact the MRSC by radio, call the local Coast Guard Radio Station nearest you and have them relay your message. If you are unable to contact a Coast Guard Radio Station possibly another vessel in your area could assist you. If radio contact is not possible, use the telephone at the first opportunity.

To call the MRSC by telephone in the St. John's area dial 772-5151 and outside the area ask the operator for Zenith 07021. These calls are free of charge. By advising the MRSC of your involvement, you will ensure the Coast Guard Insurance coverage and reimbursement will apply.

Incident Report Forms/ Collision, Wreck and Injury Report Forms

Auxiliaries who have been involved in Search and Rescue incidents are to submit an "Incident Report Form" as soon as possible after completion of the incident. This is essential in order to have reimbursement paid. Auxiliarists are encouraged to put as much information as possible in these reports, including the names of people on board the Auxiliary vessel. If you know the twenty-four hour clock, use it. If not, use AM or PM as it applies. Ensure you state the incident number (if known), name and description of vessel assisted, the owner/operator, a summary of action taken, a description of the weather (and ice conditions if applicable), etc. If any injury or damages occur state so briefly in the section on the lower right of the form.

If and when an injury or damage occurs you are required to complete the form "Collision, Wreck and Injury Report" giving all the details and attach it to your incident report form and send it to:

Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary
Newfoundland Incorporated
P.O. Box 938
St. John's, Nfld.
A1C 5M3

VOTING

Each year all Auxiliarists are required to vote for a District Representative. In late September or early October a voting form, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a list of district members, is sent to all Auxiliarists.

In 1985 three hundred voting forms were distributed, however, only one hundred and forty-five were returned. This amounts to only forty-eight percent.

All Auxiliarists must have a say in who the Directors are and that is done only by voting. At the Annual General Meeting the executive is elected from these Directors. If an Auxiliarist does not take the few seconds necessary to write the name of the district representative on his ballot, it would indicate a lack of interest. That, surely, is not the case because you would not be an Auxiliarist unless you were genuinely interested.

Let's have the percentage of votes much higher in the future.