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**CANADIAN MARINE RESCUE AUXILIARY  
(NEWFOUNDLAND) INCORPORATED  
NEWSLETTER**



**SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
CMRA (N) INC.**

The Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary, (CMRA) Newfoundland Incorporated held its seventeenth annual general meeting at the Battery Hotel in St. John's on November 04, 1995. Attending were:-

- Mr. W. Pitcher, President, Director District 5
- Mr. E. Bruce, 1st. Vice-President, Director District 6
- Mr. M. O'Brien, 2nd. Vice-President, Director District 1
- Mr. C. Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer, Director District 7
- Mr. H. Strong, Chairman CMRA National Council, Director District 8
- Mr. E. Saunders, Director District 2 for 1995
- Mr. H. Pittman, Director District 2 for 1996
- Mr. H. Noel, Director District 3
- Mr. M. Marsden, Representative District 4
- Mr. C. Green, Director District 9 for 1995
- Mr. H. Stagg, Director District 9 for 1996
- Mr. W. Collins, Representative District 10

The elected Directors for District 4, Mr. Lloyd Osmond, and District 10, Mr. Chesley Coish, were unable to attend due to other commitments.

Mr. Gary Masson, President of the CMRA in Maritimes region, also attended the meeting. Mr. Masson brought greetings from his region and thanked the President for the invitation to attend the meeting. He noted that these are changing times for the auxiliary members and that the auxiliaries should work close together for the benefit of all.

Mr. Harry Strong brought greetings on behalf of the CMRA National Council and went on to explain the National Council to the members present.

Canadian Coast Guard representatives were:-

- Mr. J. Butler, Director Operational Programs
- Capt. D. Mason, Superintendent Rescue & Environmental Response
- Mr. W. Halley, Supervisor Response, Rescue & Environmental Response
- Mr. R. Coles, CMRA Training Officer
- Mr. N. Chaulk, Systems Engineer, Technical Support Services
- Mrs. D. Noseworthy, Recording Secretary

Mr. Butler brought greetings from Coast Guard and stated that the auxiliary was a very valuable resource and an effective way to deliver Search and Rescue. He went on to talk about the restructuring of Coast Guard and ways and means to deliver a better program at less cost. Mr. Butler assured the members that the restructuring of Coast Guard would have little or no effect on the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary.

Capt. Mason stated it was a pleasure to be associated with the CMRA again and looked forward to meeting everyone during the events scheduled for the weekend.

The election of Officers took place in the afternoon. Mr. Winston Pitcher was re-elected as President; Mr. Edward Bruce was re-elected as 1st. Vice-President; Mr. Marcel O'Brien was re-elected as 2nd. Vice-President; and, Mr. Charles Roberts was re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer.



(L to R) Mr. H. Strong, Mr. M. O'Brien, Mr. W. Pitcher, Mr. C. Roberts, Mr. E. Bruce

The meeting concluded with our guest speaker, Mr. Neil Chaulk, giving a presentation on Differential GPS.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S GREETING

It is with great pleasure that I renew my acquaintance with the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary. When I contemplated leaving my sea-going career with the Coast Guard fleet this past spring, Rescue and Environmental Response was the only section that really interested me. Part of the reason behind this is the strong impression I was left with from my past association with the CMRA. An impression of dedicated, professional individuals who put helping their fellow seafarers above all else.

To say there have been some changes in Coast Guard this past year is an understatement. Search and Rescue combined with Marine Emergencies to form "Rescue & Environmental Response" and Coast Guard parted with the Department of Transport and merged with the Department of Fisheries & Oceans. Through all the transitional changes we have attempted to keep CMRA on as level a keel as possible.

In 1996 we intend to increase our membership along the Labrador coast. This is of particular importance in light of the activity that the crab fishery and mining exploration has generated. Also, some of our members on the NorthEast coast may be contacted by Coast Guard MCTS section regarding utilization of their vessel for VHF transmission tests to determine areas where VHF reception can be improved.

We remain committed to conducting as many CMRA Search & Rescue training exercises as possible. It is our belief that through exercises our members will be in a better position to respond. This has once more been confirmed through the feedback we have received by members who have partaken in our exercises this past year.

On behalf of Mr. Lorne Humphries, Regional Director General DFO and Mr. John Butler, Director Operations CCG, I would like to wish all members and their families a safe and successful 1996.

*-----Oh, was there ever sailor free to choose,  
That didn't settle somewhere near the sea?-----  
kipling.*

Capt. D.W. Mason  
Superintendent,  
Rescue & Environmental Response.

## AUXILIARY TRAINING

The number of members of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary trained in 1995 are as follows:-

Course	Members trained
Standard First Aid	5
Administrative & Operational	51
Pre-Acceptance Interviews	42
SAR Exercises at Arnolds Cove, L'anse au Loup, Englee, and Lewisporte	19
<b>TOTAL TRAINED</b>	<b>117</b>

The crews of thirteen auxiliary vessels participated in the exercises. Rescue Unit 103 from Gander participated in the exercise at Lewisporte and a simulated medivac was carried out with each auxiliary vessel.

Administrative and operational training will be carried out in 1996 in order to reach new members and those who may have missed previous training. At the annual general meeting it was decided to offer an Advanced First Aid course, aimed at members who operate further distances offshore. The first course has been completed and eight members have been trained in Advanced First Aid. The Standard First Aid course will be offered depending on the demand. During 1996 it is planned to conduct a number of SAR exercises, and an attempt will be made to conduct one exercise in each of the ten districts. Directors in each of the ten districts will be asked to assist in getting three or four auxiliary vessels to participate in the exercises planned for their district.



Auxiliary vessels "Alwyn Todd" and "Brenda & Michael II" took part in the exercises conducted at Englee.





## SAR INITIATIVES

Each year the National SAR Secretariat sets aside money to award to projects that would benefit the Search and Rescue organization in Canada. CMRA (Newfoundland) have again been fortunate in that funding for additional strobe lights and first aid kits were approved. We now have a supply of the above mentioned items as well as rescue throw bags that will be issued to new members upon joining.

Newfoundland Region was also granted \$50,000.00 to produce a search and rescue video.

The video will demonstrate what a SAR incident involves in both resources and planning from its beginning to its completion. The video is based on an actual Newfoundland SAR incident. Work on the video has started and it will be completed by the end of March, 1996.

The CMRA Loan Video library put in place last year was not used to the extent we thought it would be. Only a few members requested videos. This year the Fleet Systems video library has made available

videos that might be of interest to CMRA members and they are added to our list. You may borrow these videos to view individually or in groups. To obtain these videos please contact the Training Officer by calling our toll free number 1-800-563-6158. We will send you the video/s you request as well as a stamped self-addressed envelope for you to return them when you are finished viewing them. The following is a list of videos that are available:-

1. Guide to Weekend Cruises
2. 12 Volts Made Easy
3. Haul Out
4. GPS Navigation
5. Powerboat Navigation
6. Radar Navigation and Collision Avoidance
7. Rules of the Road
8. VHF Made Easy
9. Weather to go Boating
10. Medical Emergency Video
11. Fire Prevention
12. Personal Floatation Devices
13. Visual Distress Signals
14. Improve your Sailing Skills
15. Sailing in Heavy Weather
16. Sailing with Confidence
17. Fishing Boat Stability
18. Buoyage System A
19. Meteorological Conditions at Sea
20. Part 1 - Fire Prevention
21. Part 2 - Basic Firefighting
22. Helicopter Assistance at Sea
23. Connecting a Tow at Sea
24. GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System)
25. Marine Diesel Engine Maintenance
26. Marine Gas Engine Maintenance
27. Spring Commissioning
28. Winterizing Your Boat
29. Basic Navigation Rules of the Road
30. Loran C: A Navigator's Approach

31. Modern Coastal Piloting
32. Handling and Anchoring Your Boat
33. Heavy Weather Power Boat Handling
34. Pleasure Boating: The Basics of Boating
35. Single Side Band
36. Using Marine Electronics
37. Abandon Ship
38. Cold Water Survival
39. Marine Hurricane Preparedness
40. G02 First Aid action
41. G03 Survival at Sea
42. G16 Air Masses & Fronts (Cold Fronts)
43. G38 Recognizing Sudden Illness
44. G39 Hand & Power Tool Safety
45. D03 Aids to Navigation for Boatsmen
46. D11 Automatic Radar Plotting Aids
47. D18 Selection and Care of Rigging Equipment
48. D19 Rigging Equipment Inspecting for Safety
49. E01 Electricity the hidden heat
50. E03 Diesel Engine Crank case Lubricating Oil
51. E05 ABC of Diesel Engine
52. E06 Diesel Engine Fuel Systems D-53-PT.1
53. E07 Diesel Engine Fuel Systems D-53-PT.2
54. E08 Diesel Engine Fuel Systems G.M. Unit Injector
55. E11 Principals of Lubrication
56. E14 Direct Current Generators
57. E23 Practical Marine Electrical Knowledge  
Part 1 Ships Electrical
58. E32 Hydraulics Systems - Hydraulic  
Troubleshooting



### District Directors - 1996

The following Directors were elected to represent their District's for 1996. If you have any concerns feel free to call your District Director.

- District 1 - Marcel O'Brien, L'anse au Loup - 927-5540
- District 2 - Herbert Pittman, Englee - 866-2555
- District 3 - Howard Noel, Woody Point - 453-2458
- District 4 - Lloyd Osmond, Port aux Basques - 695-3003
- District 5 - Winston Pitcher, Burin Bay Arm - 891-1150
- District 6 - Edward Bruce, Long Harbour - 228-2386
- District 7 - Charles Roberts, St. John's - 726-7601
- District 8 - Harry Strong, Old Perlican - 587-2886
- District 9 - Harold Stagg, Wesleyville - 536-2143
- District 10 - Chesley Coish, Hillgrade - 628-5258



DISTRICT DIRECTORS

L to R (Back Row): H. Stagg, H. Strong, H. Noel, C. Roberts, W. Pitcher  
L to R (Front Row): H. Pittman, M. Marsden, M. O'Brien, E. Bruce. Missing from photo is L. Osmond and C. Coish.



Capt. Alex Snook and crewmembers Ray Bungay and Carl Rose of the CMRA vessel Raylene and Francis received the Canadian Coast Guard Commissioner's Award in recognition of their successful rescue of two members from the fishing vessel Jane N. Perry. (L to R) Ray Bungay, Capt. Alex Snook, John Butler, Director of Operations, Newfoundland Region, and Carl Rose.

### Voting Percentages - 1996

The following are the percentage of members that voted to elect a Director for their district for 1996:-

- District 1 - 57% (Decrease of 10%)
- District 2 - 59% (Same as last year)
- District 3 - 70% (Increase of 5%)
- District 4 - 64% (Decrease of 9%)
- District 5 - 79% (Increase of 9%)
- District 6 - 88% (Increase of 18%)
- District 7 - 47% (Decrease of 3%)
- District 8 - 62% (Increase of 8%)
- District 9 - 64% (Increase of 8%)
- District 10 - 58% (Increase of 7%)

District Average - 65 (Increase of 3%)

1995 has been a year of many changes. The Coast Guard has been re-organized and further changes are now occurring as the integration of Coast Guard with Fisheries and Oceans is being finalized. For me, these changes have given me the opportunity to become involved with the CMRA organization. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as coordinator. The Annual General Meeting, the executive meetings, the training sessions, exercises and members dropping in to our new office location has provided me an opportunity to meet many of the individual members of the CMRA. I look forward to meeting many more of you in the up coming year.

In 1995 the CMRA responded to 140 of the 433 (32%) of the Search and Rescue incidents in the Newfoundland Region. The CMRA, your organization, provides the Coast Guard with boats and skilled operators. There are 368 boats and 576 members in the CMRA (N) Inc. Having CMRA members in many of the coastal communities in the Newfoundland Region is very helpful to the Rescue Centre. When the Rescue Centre receives a distress call there is a good chance that the closest vessel to the area of the incident is an Auxiliary vessel. Your skill and dedication makes the waters of the Newfoundland Region a safer place for mariners. On behalf of the Canadian Coast Guard and all mariners I would like to thank you for providing this valuable service.

Wayne Halley  
CMRA Coordinator



## The President's Report

The 17th Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary was held in St. John's on November 4, 1995. We were pleased to have as guests: Mr. John Butler, Director Operations, Canadian Coast Guard; Captain David Mason, Superintendent, Rescue & Environmental Response; and, Mr. Gary Masson, President, CMRA (Maritimes).

Special thanks to Mr. Neil Chaulk, Systems Engineer, Technical Support Services, for his presentation on Differential GPS.

During the dinner ten auxiliary members were presented with ten year certificates. I would like to personally congratulate and thank these members as well as those who received their ten year awards but could not attend the dinner.



Winston Pitcher, President CMRA (Nfld.) welcomes Gary Masson, President CMRA Maritimes to the 17th AGM

The CMRA (N) Inc. has experienced another successful year. Our membership has increased to 570 members and 368 vessels.

The Auxiliary plays an extremely important role in search and rescue operations, participating in 130 incidents to October 31, 1995.

From a resource perspective the CMRA provides a total value of over 149 million dollars worth of rescue vessels in support of search and rescue programs. An Audit Services Bureau estimated that for every dollar of expenditure the Coast Guard receives approximately thirty dollars of services from the CMRA.

Seeing the good-will and also the efforts made by our volunteers makes me proud to be a member of CMRA (N) Inc. and even more proud to be your president. New members are welcome at any time providing they meet the criteria.










In closing I would like to thank the executive, directors, and all members for their continued contribution to the Auxiliary over the past year and look forward to working with them again in the coming year. Many thanks as well to the Coast Guard staff for their support.

I wish all CMRA members a successful year in whatever they choose to do.

*Remember: Awareness is a major key to success, keep your radar finely tuned. You never know where a good idea will come from or how far it will take you.*

Winston Pitcher  
President  
CMRA (N) Inc.

### REMINDERS

-  Our toll free number is 1-800-563-6158.
-  If you are involved in a Search and Rescue incident make sure you notify the Marine Rescue Centre as soon as possible.
-  Let us know if you sell your boat.
-  Let us know if your boat is winterized or out of the water.
-  Let us know if you have made changes to your boat to increase its value.
-  Let us know if you are fishing/operating in an area away from your home port.
-  Send in your renewal form.
-  Send in your voting form.
-  Order from our video loan library list.

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

## CMRA NATIONAL COUNCIL

In order to keep members informed of the structure of CMRA the following is a brief explanation of the operations of the CMRA National Council.

The National Council is made up of the President's of each CMRA region with one vote for each region. An independent Chairperson is elected. The Chairperson has no vote. The Immediate Past Chairperson is also an ex-officio member of the National Council. The present Chairperson is Harry Strong, CMRA (Nfld.) and the vice-Chairperson is Gary Masson, CMRA Maritimes.

The National Council meets at least once a year, but may meet more often if required. Items of National or common interest is discussed, some of which include: national training guidelines; membership guidelines; funding requirements; future of CMRA in the new Dept. of Fisheries & Coast Guard.

At the present time the National Council is engaged in a study to determine if it is possible to raise funds privately to supplement government funding. As you probably are aware government funds are getting tighter all the time while demand for service is increasing. Some members may be contacted about this study.

On behalf of all the members of the National Council and indeed your fellow auxiliaries all across Canada I extend to members of CMRA (Nfld.) best wishes for the coming year and a safe boating season.

Harry Strong  
Chairperson CMRA National Council