



H.S.

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

NEWSLETTER



EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CMRA (N) INC.

The Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary, (CMRA) Newfoundland Incorporated held its eighteenth annual general meeting at the Mamateek Motel in Corner Brook on November 02, 1996. 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. H. Pittman, Director District 2
 Mr. H. Noel, Director District 3
 Mr. W. Snook, Director District 4
 Mr. D. Best, Representative District 10

The elected Directors for District 9 and District 10 were unable to attend.

The following 10 year members also attended a portion of the meeting:-

Mr. D. Paul, District 5
 Mr. E. O'Brien, District 1
 Mr. R. Normore, District 1
 Mr. H. Rideout, District 10

Canadian Coast Guard representatives were:-

Mr. R. Browne, Director Marine Programs
 Capt. D. Mason, Superintendent Environmental Response
 Mr. W. Halley, Supervisor Response
 Mr. B. Stone, Supervisor Marine Rescue Centre
 Mr. R. Coles, Training Officer CMRA
 Mr. G. Lacey, Prevention Officer
 Mrs. D. Noseworthy, Recording Secretary

The election of Officer's 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.



Back Row (L to R) Mr. W. Halley, Mr. H. Strong, Mr. C. Roberts, Mr. R. Coles

Front Row (L to R) Mr. M. O'Brien, Mr. W. Pitcher, Mr. E. Bruce

DISTRICT DIRECTORS - 1997

The following Directors were elected to represent their District for 1997. 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 - Wesley Snook, Hr. Breton, 885-2422
 District 5 - Winston Pitcher, Burin Bay Arm, 891-1150
 District 6 - Edward Bruce, Long Hr., 228-2386
 District 7 - Charles Roberts, St. John's, 726-7601
 District 8 - Harry Strong, Old Perlican, 587-2196
 District 9 - William Broderick, St. Brendan's, 669-3226
 District 10 - Chesley Coish, Hillgrade, 628-5258

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary, (CMRA) Newfoundland Incorporated celebrated its 18th year of successful operation at its Annual General Meeting in Corner Brook on November 02, 1996. During the dinner a number of 10 year certificates and pins were presented to deserving members. I personally congratulate those members and their families.

The Auxiliary's membership has increased to a total of 605 members with 378 vessels registered with a total value of over 88 million dollars worth of rescue vessels in support of Search and Rescue in Newfoundland. The number of incidents participated in from January 1 - December 31, 1996 were 157 with 188 vessels utilized.

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Mr. Fred Mifflin, summed up the importance of the Auxiliary in his address at the National Council Annual General Meeting in Ottawa by saying: "More than efficiency and effectiveness, this is the stuff of heroism - acts that speak to the heart of our communities, acts that reinforce the safety of loved ones". He went on to say "As Federal Minister I have first hand knowledge of the important role Auxiliary volunteers have played, and will continue to play, in what I believe is one of the most unique and cost-effective partnering operations in marine Search and Rescue in the world".

Our Auxiliary can be proud of its contribution to society and we, along with those we help/serve, reap the benefits.

Thank you to the Executive and Directors, to the Coast Guard staff, as well as all our members and their families who make the Auxiliary the success it is. With all of us working together the CMRA will continue as a strong and effective organization for many years to come.

Winston Pitcher

President CMRA (N) Inc.

CMRA COMES TO THE RESCUE OF BIRD HUNTER IN CONCHE

The role of the CMRA in Newfoundland and Labrador continues to be vital to providing an effective and efficient SAR response capability. SAR case N96-0523 on December 12, 1996 is typical of their importance.

At 17:45 LT a bird hunter was reported overdue from Conche in a 17ft. fiberglass speed boat. The lone hunter had left earlier in the day for his last hunt of the year. He had very little gas and few shotgun shells. His intentions were to use his gas and shells and return to pull his boat out of the water for the season. He had been seen around noon following the CMRA L/L "Foley and Brothers" approximately 5 nm southwest of Conche.

SAR operations commenced immediately and 4 CMRA vessels were called upon quickly to

search the area. Weather conditions were not bad at the time, however, forecasted winds threatened to make the situation much worse later into the night. Search areas were allocated to CMRA L/L "Foley and Brothers", "Marjorie & Ralph", "Brenda & Michael II", and the "Alwyn Todd". They were joined later into the evening by CCGS Harp and CCGS Ann Harvey.

Fortunately, CMRA "Brenda & Michael II" located the hunter 2 nm from Conche. He had broken down earlier in the evening and began rowing towards Conche. "Brenda & Michael II" transferred the hunter safely to Conche. After paddling all evening he was hungry and tired but otherwise in good condition.

Needless to say this hunter was happy to be safely home and thankful for the CMRA in the area. No one is more thankful though than the SAR Controllers at the Marine Rescue Centre in St. John's. Time and time again the CMRA is the resource of opportunity during a critical SAR operation. Last year for example, 39% of all SAR cases were attended by a CMRA unit. Quite often they are first on scene and help to bridge a very important gap between the commencement of a search and the arrival of the other dedicated Marine or Air units. In many instances they are the only resource available and is extremely successful in prosecuting SAR incidents. Their local knowledge, Marine experience, Seafaring talents and professional conduct in discharging SAR responsibilities makes them one of our greatest SAR assets.

CMRA NATIONAL COUNCIL

1996 was an exciting year for me as Chairman of the National Council. For the months of October, November, and December I was asked to work in Search and Rescue Headquarters, Ottawa. My purpose was to draw up a plan to expand the Auxiliary into inland waters. This is an ongoing process and you will hear more about it as the project progresses. As you will agree this was quite an experience.

During this time several events took place that will have an impact on the future of the CMRA. For the first time in our history our Minister, The Honorable Fred Mifflin, attended our National Council meeting. Mr. Mifflin made two significant announcements at that meeting, namely:-

(1) The name of the auxiliary will change from Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (CMRA) to Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA). This is in the process of being done and should be completed by 31 March, 1997; and,

(2) Minister Mifflin also promised a substantial increase in our funding for the next five years. Our new Contribution Agreement is presently being drawn up.

These two items alone will increase the profile of the CCGA.

In September, 1996 I was invited, along with Steve Daoust, our Superintendent of the CCGA in Ottawa, to attend the National Conference of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. This was quite a large conference and was held in Baltimore, Maryland. It was a great experience for both of us to attend the conference.

As we look forward to 1997 I wish all members of the CCGA in Newfoundland Region a safe and prosperous 1997.

Harry Strong

Chairman CMRA National Council

MARINE RESCUE SUB-CENTRE

MRSC is the focal point for Marine Search and Rescue in the Canadian Coast Guard, Newfoundland Region encompassing the Island and extending 200 nm seaward from the Island and Labrador.

The Centre was established to enhance the role of the Canadian SAR System by providing expertise, improved communications and local knowledge and to coordinate incidents in conjunction with the Rescue Coordination Centre at Halifax.

We are staffed by 6 Coast Guard Officers working 12 hour shifts at the Centre on the 3rd. floor of the Coast Guard Base, Southside Road, St. John's. The following are the Controllers who you will be working closely with during the prosecution of a SAR case: Mervin Wiseman, Clarence Peddle, Wes Pretty, Dan Frampton, Ward George. The acting supervisor is Brian Stone.

Our mandate comes from the Canada Shipping Act and controllers are delegated the authority to initiate, coordinate, and terminate Search and Rescue incident responses.

During the past year the Department of Fisheries and Oceans vessels have become part of the Coast Guard fleet as a result of the amalgamation of DFO and Coast Guard. We presently have 7 primary vessels and 9 Secondary SAR vessels.

In a typical year statistics would be 600 actual cases, 500 lives saved, 20 lives lost, and 150 of the cases would be classed as distress incidents. This is twice the National average.

As members of the Auxiliary I would like to congratulate you on a job well done in the past and look forward to working alongside you in the future. We would like to extend an invitation for any member to stop by and introduce yourself and take a tour of the Centre.

Let us know as soon as possible when you are the point of contact for an incident. Our toll free number is 1-800-563-2444 or through any Coast Guard Radio Station.

Ward George

SAR Controller

VIDEO LOAN LIBRARY

The following videos are available through our video loan library. To obtain these videos please contact Ronald Coles at our toll free number 1-800-563-6158.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S GREETING

In the storied history of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary I do not believe there has been a year with as many changes as 1996. The past year saw the Auxiliary propose to change its name, receive an encouraging endorsement from the Coast Guard Commissioner in the form of a promise for increased funding, and commenced a study for an inland waters Auxiliary component. Also, your President has been appointed as a member of our recently formed "Regional Recreational Boating Advisory Council" where your interests are well represented.

Throughout all the changes there has always been one constant and that is the excellence of effort, dedication, and professionalism of our Auxiliary members in helping fellow mariners in trouble. We in Coast Guard realize that is what our membership has always been about and will insure that this creed continues.

As per past years we remain committed to conducting as many Auxiliary Search and Rescue training exercises as possible. The benefit gained from these types of exercises is invaluable, both for the Auxiliary member performing the rescue as well as the individuals being rescued.

On behalf of Mr. Lorne Humphries, Director General DFO; Mr. John Butler, Regional Director Canadian Coast Guard; Mr. Ray Browne, Director Marine Programs; and myself, I would like to wish all members and their families a safe and successful 1997.

ANCHOR WATCH

*No sun, no wind, the clouds are still,
The dories snug are nested for the night.
Even the sea is slumbering without will
To rore and roar, to prove its thunderous might.
At rest the ship, at rest the sails,
The anchor's bedded down in friendly sands.
But ever restless near the vessel's rails,
The Anchor Watch in wide-eyed vigilance stands*

--OTTO KELLAND--

Capt. D. Mason

Superintendent Rescue, Safety and Environmental Response



(L-R) C. Roberts, M. Harrington, J. Butler

During volunteer week in April, 1996 Mr. Charles Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer of CMRA (N) attended the official opening of Volunteer Week. Mr. Roberts was presented with a plaque commemorating volunteerism by Mr. Michael Harrington, Chair-person for volunteer awards. Also attending was Mr. John Butler, Regional Director of Canadian Coast Guard, Newfoundland Region.

VOTING PERCENTAGES - 1997

The following are the percentages of members that voted to elect a Director for their District for 1997:-

District 1 - 64% (Increase of 7%)

District 2 - 67% (Increase of 8%)

District 3 - 63% (Decrease of 7%)

District 4 - 70% (Increase of 6%)

District 5 - 80% (Increase of 1%)

District 6 - 81% (Decrease of 7%)

District 7 - 57% (Increase of 10%)

District 8 - 68% (Increase of 6%)

District 9 - 60% (Decrease of 4%)

District 10 - 54% (Decrease of 4%)

District Average - 66% (Increase of 1%)

VESSEL INSPECTIONS

✓ FISHING VESSELS 15 TONS AND UNDER

✓ PLEASURE CRAFT

Auxiliary members are reminded of their responsibility to have on board their vessel, and in good operating condition, at least the mandatory equipment required for "Fishing Vessels 15 GRT and under as laid down in the "Small Fishing Vessel Regulations" and "Pleasure Craft" as laid down in the "Small Vessel Regulations".

Vessels offered for use in Auxiliary activities are subject to periodic inspections as set down in the Operational Guidelines. Therefore a representative from the Canadian Coast Guard will be contacting the Auxiliary membership to arrange an inspection. If there are any questions in this regard please call our toll free number 1-800-563-6158.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

W. Pitcher, President

AUXILIARY TRAINING

As in previous years administrative and operational training will be conducted with emphasis placed on new members and members that may have missed previous training seminars.

In 1996 there were two Advanced First Aid courses conducted and a total of seventeen members trained. The seventeen members trained represented one auxiliary member from each of 17 auxiliary vessels that fish great distances offshore. There will be more advanced courses offered depending on the availability of Instructors and funding. A number of Standard First Aid courses will also be conducted.

A number of Search and Rescue exercises will be conducted in 1997. Times and locations will be announced to members concerned. District Directors will be asked to assist in getting auxiliary vessels to participate in the exercises. The following represents total auxiliaries trained in all areas:-

First Aid Advanced course	-	17
Administrative and operational	-	127
Pre-acceptance interview/training	-	42
3 Training exercises	-	14
TOTAL TRAINED IN ALL AREAS	-	200



P/C Jaylin participated in a Search and Rescue training exercise in Conception Bay in 1996

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!