

# CANADIAN MARINE RESCUE



## AUXILIARY

## (NFLD) INCORPORATED

Vol. 9

NEWSLETTER

1987

### NINTH ANNUAL CMRA MEETING HELD IN GANDER

The following personnel met in Gander on November 7, 1987 for the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Newfoundland) Incorporated. The meeting began at 0830 on Saturday, November 7, 1987. In attendance were:

- Mr. H. Strong — President
- Mr. H. Pittman — First Vice-President
- Mr. C. Normore — Second Vice-President
- Mr. M. O'Brien — Newly Elected
- Dr. C.R. Lucas — Secretary/Treasurer; Newly Elected
- Mr. G. Hynes
- Mr. W. Morris
- Mr. W. Pitcher
- Mr. E. Bruce
- Mr. W. Broderick
- Mr. H. Moulard — Newly Elected
- Capt. Peter Troake — Immediate Past President of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Nfld.) Incorporated
- Mr. J. Eddy — Auxiliary Member
- Ms. Eileen Penney — CASARA Representative.

Representatives from Canadian Coast Guard included:

- Capt. A.F. Mountain  
Acting Director, Search and Rescue, Ottawa
- Mr. L.C. Humphries  
Regional Director General, Canadian Coast Guard  
Newfoundland Region
- Capt. George W. Legge  
Regional Manager, Search and Rescue  
Newfoundland Region
- Mr. E.P. Stack  
Regional Co-ordinator  
CMRA (N) Inc.
- Mr. R.C. Coles  
Training Officer, Rescue Auxiliary  
Newfoundland Region
- Ms. D. Greenslade  
Recording Secretary



#### Founding President of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Nfld.) Incorporated Joins a Unique Group of Canadians

At a ceremony, held in Ottawa on 28 October, 1987 Captain Peter Troake of Twillingate was invested as a member in the "Order of Canada". Captain Troake was the Founding President of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Newfoundland) Incorporated and was nominated by the Auxiliary for the award. Captain Troake has given a lifetime to marine activities, however, he is primarily known for his over twenty years as Captain of the "Christmas Seal". During this time he became a legend to the people in the coastal communities by encouraging and assisting them to avail of the medical services afforded by the Christmas Seal which was, primarily, responsible for the elimination of Tuberculosis throughout Newfoundland. In all his endeavours Captain Troake's service to his fellow man has been exemplary.

We extend a very sincere "Congratulations" to Captain Troake for a well deserved recognition.

The results of the election of officers for 1988 are as follows:  
 President ..... Mr. Harry Strong  
 First Vice-President ..... Mr. Herbert Pittman  
 Second Vice-President ..... Mr. Harvey Moulard  
 Secretary/Treasurer ..... Dr. C.R. Lucas

**Some remarks by Acting Director, Search and Rescue to the 9th Annual General Meeting, CMRA (N) Inc.**

Capt. Art Mountain, Acting Director Search and Rescue, attended the 9th Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary (Nfld.) Incorporated. He expressed thanks for being invited and stated how gratifying it was to see so many people interested in the same thing; namely, helping a fellow mariner in trouble. He recounted his involvement with the Auxiliary in its formative years and how pleased he was at the progress it has made. He wished the CMRA (N) every success and offered his support in every way possible so that it would continue to play a supporting role to the Canadian Coast Guard both in Search and Rescue operations and helping to educate the marine public in safety practices and procedures.

**Manager's Greetings**

On behalf of Mr. Lorne Humphries I would like to extend sincere appreciation to all of you within the CMRA (Nfld.) for your efforts during 1987. All of us at the management level have the highest respect for the dedication, co-operation, and professionalism of the members of the CMRA and their families.

Perhaps one of the most visible roles of the Coast Guard is that of Search and Rescue. Over the years it has been clearly demonstrated that without the voluntary contribution of the Auxiliary many more lives would have been lost in the Newfoundland marine community. It is your group effort which has helped to maintain this high level of visibility and respect accredited to the Canadian Search and Rescue organization.

Many of you will be aware that during the past summer the Government undertook a study into fishing vessel safety. The report has been released and a strategy is being developed to ensure that early, decisive, action is taken to implement the recommendations of the report. As a result, the CMRA will once again be called upon to assist the Coast Guard, so that, collectively, we can reduce the number of tragic accidents which still occur annually. We are confident, however, that your enthusiasm and dedicated assistance will be forthcoming, as we try together to increase the level of safety awareness in the operation of small fishing vessels.

I would like to congratulate the new Executive which was elected at the Annual General Meeting in Gander. Also, I wish to extend a warm welcome to all of the new members and representatives from the various CMRA districts throughout the Newfoundland Region who joined the CMRA in 1987. The efforts of everyone who helped to recruit new members are sincerely appreciated. Your local knowledge and continued support are required to make 1988 another highly successful year.

To all the readers of the CMRA Newsletter and the membership at large my very best wishes for fair winds, following seas, and a prosperous New Year.

GEORGE W. LEGGE  
 Regional Manager  
 Search and Rescue

**CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OF AUXILIARY VESSELS**

During the past year a number of Auxiliary vessels have changed hands. Some of these vessels were sold, others condemned.

We must remind all Auxiliarists that when an auxiliary vessel changes hands the Auxiliary Co-ordinator must be informed. Remember you applied for membership in the Auxiliary and offered your vessel. After acceptance by Coast Guard, you and your vessel are listed in the Marine Rescue Sub-Centre. If you acquire a new vessel you must make an application the same as you did for the first vessel. If you have sold your vessel she ceases to be an auxiliary vessel unless the new owner decides to make application for membership.

If you have any questions on this extremely important matter, or if you have changed vessels, please call, collect, 772-4074.



*James Eddy, Catalina, being presented with the Commissioner's Commendation by Capt. Art Mountain. Mr. Eddy is the skipper/owner of the Auxiliary vessel "Lilly Maria" which rescued the fourteen man crew from the FPI Trawler "Zidani" which was lost in the entrance to Catalina on 30 October, 1986.*





*Michael White, Catalina, being presented with the Commissioner's Commendation by Mr. Lorne Humphries. Mr. White was the crewman of the Auxiliary vessel "Lilly Maria" which rescued the fourteen man crew from the FPI Trawler "Zidani" which was lost in the entrance to Catalina on 30 October, 1986.*

## **A Message from the President, CMRA (N) Inc.**

As you are all aware by now our Annual General Meeting was held recently in Gander, Newfoundland. We were privileged this year to have Capt. Art Mountain in attendance. Capt. Mountain has recently been appointed Acting Director of Search and Rescue in Canada. As this was Capt. Mountain's first visit to our meeting we welcome him and wish him well in his new position.

I would also like to congratulate Mr. Ronald Coles on his appointment as Training Officer (CMRA Newfoundland). Mr. Coles has been acting in this position for some time and is well known to most of you.

This past year, 1987, has been a very busy one for me as your President. The number of meetings has increased dramatically. As some of you already know we are in the process of negotiating a new agreement with Coast Guard. This agreement will run for five years and should be signed by the end of March, 1988.

I am sure you have heard of a recent report on Fishing Vessel Safety conducted by Coast Guard. As we are practically all fishermen I suggest everyone obtain a copy and read it. I am sure if the recommendations of this report were put into practice a lot of lives may be saved.

Our membership is steadily increasing. We have, as of 30 September, 1987, 262 vessels compared to 239 in 1986, and 384 members compared to 359 in 1986.

During 1987 we have trained a number of our Auxiliaries as Courtesy Examiners. They would be pleased to do Courtesy Examinations of boats in their area. Please call the office at 772-4074 with your requests.

Thank you to all Auxiliaries and Coast Guard staff. I extend to you and your families best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year.

HARRY STRONG  
President  
CMRA (N) Inc.

## **TASKING CMRA FACILITIES**

There are two ways in which CMRA facilities may be tasked:

- (1) The primary method of tasking is by the Marine Rescue Sub-Centre (MRSC); and,
- (2) CMRA facilities may also be tasked by what is termed "Self-tasking".

### **Tasking by MRSC**

The facility owner is contacted by the MRSC either by radio or telephone, and is briefed on the case. An incident number is allocated which ensures that the Auxiliaries is on Authorized Activity, is covered by insurance, and is entitled to reimbursement.

### **Self-tasking**

The Auxiliaries takes it upon himself to respond to a situation. For example, he sees a distress flare. In this case the Auxiliaries member must contact the MRSC as soon as possible, by whatever means available, pass on all the pertinent information, and obtain an incident number. Status reports are to be passed to the MRSC as soon as practical and on a regular basis until the case is closed.

If you receive a call from the owner/operator of another vessel to the effect he is having a problem; for example, broken down, fouled propeller, etc., report the problem to the MRSC, by any means available. The duty SAR Controller will task you. The same procedure must occur if you are in port, however, if lives are in danger respond as you see fit. We emphasize the need to use the proper procedure because failure to do so could mean that you could be operating on your own and, therefore, not entitled to insurance coverage or reimbursement.

These guidelines are provided to protect, you, the Auxiliaries.

## **Courtesy Examinations of Fishing Vessels 15 GRT and Under and Pleasure Craft up to 20 GRT**

Members of the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary, along with SAR Prevention Officers, conduct Courtesy Examinations of Fishing Vessels 15 GRT and under and Pleasure Craft up to 20 GRT. During 1987 we saw an increase in the number of Courtesy Examinations compared with 1986, however, there is a need for further increase.

Part of the mandate of CMRA members is to "promote safe boating practices". Members of the Auxiliary must have, at least, the mandatory safety equipment laid down in the small vessel and small fishing vessel regulations. The Auxiliaries should encourage other members of the fishing community, and pleasure boaters, to do the same. For vessels over 15 GRT a current Canadian Steamship Inspection, (CSI) certificate is mandatory.

Courtesy Examinations are a means of ensuring that boat operators have on board, at least, the mandatory safety equipment required by Transport Canada for vessels of their size and to advise owners/operators on the proper use of this safety equipment.

Members of the Auxiliary and SAR Prevention Officers are not involved with enforcement only with educating the boating public. The ultimate goal is to reduce the number of drownings.

For owners of a pleasure craft up to 20 meters in length or fishing vessels 15 GRT and under, a Courtesy Examination of your vessel may be arranged by calling 772-4074.

Think Safety. Make sure you have, at least, all the mandatory safety equipment on board and the knowledge and ability to use it properly.



## DROWNINGS IN THE NEWFOUNDLAND REGION IN 1987

The number, unofficially, of accidental drownings in the Newfoundland Region, from January 01 to December 05, 1987, is thirty-four. Sixteen of these have occurred in boats 18 feet and smaller.

There are regulations governing what safety equipment must be carried in boats. There are courses, lectures, and demonstrations provided, at no cost, on the use and operation of this safety equipment. These lectures and demonstrations are not only cost free, they can be given in your own community. All that is required is the interest of those people using the marine environment.

Search and Rescue facilities are provided to help mariners in distress. It must be stressed that in the majority of drownings, referred to above, all the Search and Rescue facilities in the world would not have made any difference. These people were, unfortunately, fatalities before anyone became aware that they were in trouble. It cannot be stressed too much that the skipper/operator, regardless of the size of boat, is responsible for the vessel and his/her crew. To go out in weather beyond your capability; to overload your boat; to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol; to be without the necessary lifesaving equipment; to be ignorant of the operation of lifesaving equipment; and to operate in areas that are too distant from shore for your vessel are only some of the things that could bring on a catastrophe. Remember marine accidents do not always happen in other communities and to other people. They can happen to any of us.

To all those who operate boats "Think Safety". An extra few hundred weight of fish will not do you any good if you lose your vessel and/or your life in trying to acquire it.



*The Sir Wilfred Grenfell was commissioned on October 30, 1987, at the Marystown Shipyard. She replaces the CCGS Grenfell, a former offshore supply vessel that was acquired in 1979 for Search and Rescue. The Sir Wilfred Grenfell is 68.48 meters in length, has a top speed of 16 knots, and carries a crew of 20.*

## Canadian Coast Guard Ship "Bartlett" Transferred to Central Region, Replaced by Canadian Coast Guard Ship "Ann Harvey"

The Canadian Coast Guard ship "Bartlett", a familiar sight to people in the outports around Newfoundland and Labrador, left St. John's in July to become part of fleet operations in the Central Region. The "Bartlett" joined the fleet in Newfoundland in 1969 and served as an aids to navigation tender until her departure for the Central Region in July.

The CCGS "Bartlett" has been replaced by the CCGS "Ann Harvey". The "Ann Harvey" was christened in July 1987, and assumed her role as an "aids to navigation" tender at that time. The new vessel has a length of 83 meters, a 16.2 meter beam, and a draught of 5.75 meters. She displaces 4,662 tons and carries a crew of 28.

## Two New, 200 Class, SAR Vessels Complement Search and Rescue in the Newfoundland Region

On July 2 and 3, 1987, two new (type 200) Search and Rescue vessels, the "Harp" and the "Hood", were commissioned for Search and Rescue in the Newfoundland Region.

The "Harp" is stationed at St. Anthony and the "Hood" at Twillingate, Notre Dame Bay. These vessels are ice strengthened and designed to provide Search and Rescue services for the marine communities in the St. Anthony and Notre Dame Bay areas.

These vessels are 24.5 meters in length, have a beam of 7.5 meters, and are powered by two 365 HP diesels. Their displacement is approximately 180 tons.

## Lectures/Demonstrations on Search and Rescue/Safety

The Regional Co-ordinator and Training Officer are available to visit your community to conduct marine lectures and demonstrations. Topics covered include the Search and Rescue organization; mandatory equipment for vessels 15 GRT and under; lifejackets and personal floatation devices; liferafts; distress flares; prevention and treatment of hypothermia, etc. You are asked to send your request to:

Canadian Coast Guard  
Search and Rescue  
P.O. Box 1300  
St. John's, Nfld.  
A1C 6H8

or phone 772-4074.

For all correspondence relating to the Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary, please use the following address:

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