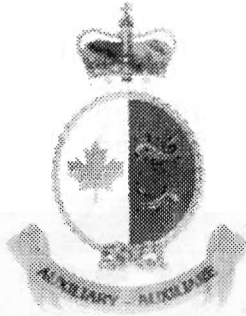


SHIPMATE



VOLUME 3

FEBRUARY 2000

CONGRATULATIONS!! CAPTAIN JOHN HANBIDGE

The first member of the Auxiliary was honoured with his 20 Year Service Award at the '98 A.G.M. held in Feb. '99 in Mississauga. Captain John was instrumental in the December 1978 Incorporation of the "Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary Inc." (CMRA) under the sponsorship of Transport Canada. In January 1997 the title was changed to "Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary" (CCGA). He also acted as our First President of the Auxiliary.



We "Thank You" Captain Hanbidge for having the foresight to recognize a need and for your devoted support through two decades of development of our great organization.

Captain John Hanbidge receiving Award from '99 Pres. Norm Lloyd.

****GOOD INSTINCTS USUALLY TELL YOU WHAT TO DO
LONG BEFORE YOUR HEAD HAS FIGURED IT OUT****

REFLECTIONS 1999

I hope everyone had a successful 1999 and your Christmas and New Years celebrations with family and friends was all you had anticipated.

We have all been part of a historic period. We have left the 20th century behind and began the 21st century. At the same time we entered into the second millennium.

As we reflect back over the last two decades we realize how fast changes are taking place. We have officially changed our name from Canadian Marine Rescue Auxiliary to Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary. We are still the same people doing the same thing, but for some reason the new name sounds more authoritative. Advanced technology has brought us smaller, lighter and more affordable equipment.

During the past three or four years our Region has changed. With the addition of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Western Arctic, we are now known as Central and Arctic Region. As we look ahead changes

are imminent. Expansion into the Eastern Arctic by the Auxiliary and Coast Guard is well underway. With these changes in our boundaries come other changes. We as a board must realize that what works in Lake Ontario does not work in the Arctic and vice versa. Operating procedures, training methods and reporting will have to be modified and we as a board must be prepared to adapt to these changes.

My crystal ball is a bit cloudy and I won't even guess at the future changes that will take place, but there will be many. With the introduction of the boating course, developed by Laurentian Region and other board approved methods, most, if not all of our members will be in possession of their Pleasure Craft Operators Card and thereby set an example for the boating public to follow.

I would like to thank the members for their involvement in the various activities during the past years.

There is another group of very special people that very seldom get recognition. They are our spouses and families. Without their behind the scene support, this organization would probably have sank years ago. Thank You.

Let us all work together for a common cause, "The fellow that is out on the water and is in trouble".

Look well to the future.
Norm Lloyd, President

Boating Safety Program; The Key Message This Year
OPERATOR COMPETENCY!! OPERATOR COMPETENCY!! OPERATOR COMPETENCY!!

The Operator Competency concept was designed to fulfill four main functions for the pleasure craft operator;

1. to be aware of acts, regulations and codes;
2. to respond to emergencies;
3. to act responsibly in the operation of a pleasure craft;
4. to operate a pleasure craft.

The Boating Safety Program is delivered to the entire Central and Arctic Region which is comprised of 65% of the geography and the population of Canada, approximately 2.5 million boats.

SAFETY VIDEO DISTRIBUTION

The Office of Boating Safety has a collection of videos on various topics relating to boating safety and small vessel operations. These videos are loaned to individuals and instructional organizations free of charge. Refer to the OBS catalogue for a complete list of videos available.

These can also be helpful when doing a presentation for financial support to allow potential sponsors to see what the Auxiliary is offering to the public.

HONOUR GUARD INTRODUCED

Members of District 1 had a vision to increase the visibility of the Auxiliary Coast Guard within our Region.



Each Monday evening twelve Auxiliary members, many of them from the COMRA devote 2½ hours developing a Honour Guard we can all be very proud of. Nick Webb a member of the Royal Regiment of Canada color party has accepted responsibility for their training.

Their services are available to all within our Region pending travel arrangements. The Honour Guard is unfunded, therefore each member besides dedicating their time also covers their own uniform and travel expenses.

I hope everyone has the opportunity to view these fine ladies and gentlemen on parade.

THEY ARE GREAT!

LETTER OF RECOGNITION

The Port Colborne and District Conservation Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to the natural resources of the local area. Fundraising is done through the holding of two fishing tournaments. For the last 7 years the club has held an International Walleye Tournament with 200 teams involved and up to 800 participants. The spectator crowd is estimated at 3000 the second tournament, is a Professional Bass Tournament held the last 3 years and this tournament has had about 50 entries and 100 participants all trying their luck on Lake Erie. This tournament has a spectator crowd of 10,000 through the weekend with the organization of these two tournaments and all it's participants this puts a lot of boats on the waters of Lake Erie throughout the summer months. There are bound to be problems encountered on the lake, and history has shown this to be true. Many of these participants are eager to get out on the waters and try their luck, as we all know Lake Erie itself could through up some heavy waters in a very short time making things difficult for many of these boaters. The Port Colborne and District Conservation Area is working hard to even increase the tournament participants as well as create some tourist interest in the fishing potential here in Port Colborne. The attention these fishing tournaments have been receiving has been nothing short of phenomenal, and a bit overwhelming.

One of the blessings we have here in Port Colborne has been the Port Colborne Marine Rescue Unit (POCOMAR)! This group has assisted our organization in keeping the tournament as safe as possible, and has also assisted many of the boaters in trouble, whether it is engine

trouble or even a boat going down. At the time of the writing of this letter we had a boat with engine trouble on both days of the recent Walleye Tournament, and a wife desperate to find her husband again the POCOMAR group located the boat on both occasions.

As far as the Port Colbourne and District Conservation Club is concerned we feel the POCOMAR group is an essential service required here in Port Colbourne with the running of these two tournament series, as well as the many other boating activities now taking place in and around Port Colbourne.

THANK YOU POCOMAR!

Mike Hili
P.C. & D.C.C. Director

Bright's Grove Daycare & Nursery School

November 1, 1999

Dear Irene, Andrea & Jamie,

Thank you very much for coming out and celebrating our 10th anniversary with us! It was absolutely incredible that you came out and set up your fantastic display truck, answered all sorts of questions, and generously gave out all kinds of helpful materials, colouring books and tattoos.

It was very nice of you, Andrea to spend an afternoon entertaining so many of us, dressed like Pukta! It was very fun having you all dressed up and going on the hayride, shaking hands and hugging the children. We all just LOVED it!

There were so many positive responses from parents and visitors as to how well informed and helpful the information you provided was to them. The children loved the fun Pukta provided and the older ones enjoyed the "hands-on" displays.



We cannot thank you enough for the fun you added to our fall fair. It was absolutely wonderful meeting all of you. You added a lot to our fair, and we felt it was a successful event. Thank You for being a part of our day and we hope you enjoy the enclosed photos as a little memory from that day.

Sincerely,
Colleen Loewen
Board of Directors

WHEN OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS, DON'T COMPLAIN ABOUT THE NOISE.

It's great to see that our message is getting out there and well received.

SEARCH and RESCUE, RCC in TRENTON

Contact numbers:

EMERGENCIES: 1-800-267-7270. This will
give you a direct contact with one
of the controllers.

GENERAL INFO: 613-965-3870 or 613-965-3875

MEDIA: 613-392-8854

Meet the Man! Dan Coultis, Supervisor RCC
Trenton. He and his staff are the hub
around which all SAR taskings are based.



** THE CONTROL CENTRE OF YOUR LIFE IS YOUR ATTITUDE **



Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary National
Chief Executive Officer

HARRY STRONG

Showing us the way into the new
Millennium.

Mr. Strong travelled from his home in
Newfoundland to attend our '98 AGM.
He brought with him insight into where
the CCGA is headed and ideas for how
we shall get there together as a
strong vibrant organization.

Thanks for your continuing support of the Central & Arctic Region.

** THE REALLY HAPPY PERSON IS ONE WHO CAN ENJOY THE SCENERY
WHEN HE HAS TO TAKE A DETOUR **

DID YOU KNOW ???

The set fine for not having an approved P.F.D. is \$200.00 per
person. In Ontario there is also a victim fine surcharge which
is applied to the fine along with a \$5.00 provincial court charge.

Under the Contraventions Act you can not be jailed for failure to
pay the fine. The fine will be collected through civil litigation.
You can also have any associated license revoked.

FLARE DEMONSTRATIONS

Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary members are not permitted to conduct
pyrotechnic distress flare demonstrations. The CCGA does not have
the required insurance to cover such an event. CCGA may assist
the Coast Guard personnel with flare demonstrations as crowd
control, literature distribution, etc.

** HOPE ONLY TURNS INTO REALITY WHEN FOLLOWED BY ACTION **

DISTRICT 2 LAUNCHES 3 NEW VESSELS IN 2000

Three of the community units in District 2 will plan to launch new vessels in 2000. These exciting new enterprises are the culmination of several years of hard work and effort on the part of the units and their supporters. Endless hours went into the planning, the design work, the fundraising and finally the actual building of the vessels.

The story behind each one is different but the end result was the same, a need for a better well designed vessel that the crews could have confidence in when performing taskings. GAMRU and POCOMAR will have sister boats built by the same boat yard, Dovercraft. The vessels are steel, 34½ ft. long with a 11½ ft. beam. There will be some minor differences between the 2 vessels to suit individual unit requirements. Both vessels will be powered by inboard diesels. GAMRU will realize the dream of owning it's own vessel after 10 years of operations using either CCG loaned RHIs of a privately owned vessel. POCOMAR will replace a smaller, single engine vessel that has outlived it's use. Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit's (HBRU) older 22 ft. Galaxy will retire in favour of a 26 ft. metal vessel.

Peter Graham, A / Director District 2

DISTRICT 3

All went well in District 3 this year. Unfortunately we didn't hold our annual BBQ, but are looking forward to restarting the tradition next year.

Thanks to the Officers of Boating Safety (OBS) for attending a large number of events in our district and even sharing the responsibility for a border line presentation with District 2.

"Welcome Aboard" Butch Dompierre will once again be our District Training Co-ordinator. So look forward to hearing from him regarding upcoming courses. He's in the process of organizing OBS, SAR 1 & II and a course which offers the Operator Boating Proficiency Certificate. I encourage every CCGA member to take the Proficiency course offered. Also complete or up-grade training as required.

Congratulations Butch, on a great job on behalf of OBS at the Cleveland Boat Show in Ohio.

Anyone wishing to do, or have done for them an OBS presentation remember to contact our District Safety Co-ordinator Neil Jardine 1-519-864-1465. Book early so not to be disappointed.

I have some equipment on hand for distribution to Units within District 3. If you want to forward a wish list, please do so by fax at 1-519-677-4403.

John Parsonage, Director

DISTRICT 9

This has been a year of diversity for District 9. Starting with the Division of the Territories creating two new entities, the Northwest Territories and Nunuvut. Although reducing the size of the NWT it has resulted in what I believe a more cohesive and effective District and we kept the "polar bear" license plate to the chagrin of the east.

Although our taskings virtually doubled this year so too did our drownings. The settlement of Aklavik lost four people this summer in two incidents of the Beaufort. The remaining three were spread between Hay River, Yellowknife and Fort Simpson. Our thanks to the USCG from Alaska who conducted the search for three bodies between Herchel Island and the Alaskan Coast. (I know where our next District meeting will be with the new CGA/USCGA MOU). Man, do they have their.....together no to mention equipment.

Just recently District 9 received \$52,000. from NWT Municipal and Community Affairs via a NIF grant to facilitate the implementation of a VHF repeater system around Great Slave Lake. This is a milestone as up until now only the Yellowknife and Hay River areas had VHF coverage. Hay River and Yellowknife Units are managing the project and will install seven repeaters providing coverage from the North Arm to Fort Reliance. Yellowknife is taking on the public awareness and educations aspect of this venture.

Over the winter Hay River Ground SAR (which is a version of the CGA, hell they are all the same people anyway) will be travelling across the lake on snowmachines to set up the first two existing CCG Racon towers. The remainder will be done using our vessels next summer. The repeaters have already been purchased from Northern Transportation Company Ltd. in Hay River who will also supply the technicians for the installation.



Our gain, in the form of the rather large and stately Ian Salisbury who opened shop in Edmonton with the Office of Boating Safety. Ian is well known in District 9 and he brings with him a vast amount of knowledge. Certainly is nice not to hear the standard phrase: "Hi, I'm from Sarnia, I'm here to help". Just kidding Ian, eh well, Peter has a sense of humour or does he?

District Training was a resounding success this past year with Two

Boat Operators/SAR I courses in Hay River, SAR I courses in Inuvik, Yellowknife and next month in Fort Chipewyan. Yellowknife participated in a joint CGA/Fire Department exercise in Yellowknife Bay involving a House boat fire and the transporting and operating of fire equipment. As well keep your eyes tuned to "North of 60" as the Yellowknife Unit participated and I understand "starred" so to speak in one of the upcoming episodes. Well at least the boats you'll see are authentic!!!

A very successful joint CGA/Yellowknife Ground SAR/CASARA exercise was held in the North Arm of Great Slave Lake. True to form they got "blasted" by the weather leaving people stranded on shore and having to overnight. This was about as realistic as one could get.

Yellowknife has acquired a surplus Zodiac 733 hurricane from CCG in Ontario. It should be delivered in early spring. This provides a much needed asset for their Unit to cover the north side of the Lake.

Inuvik in it's first full year got well Baptized. Two lengthy searches on the Mackenzie Delta and Beaufort Sea quickly identified a number of problems in communication and supply. These guys were living in tents and sleeping in boats during the three day searches. No marinas for a warm shower, food and more importantly fuel. We now have improved communications in the form of a portable MSAT and avionics radio onboard. We also got our first "jet boat" registered in Inuvik. The other one I have here in Hay River.

The world championship Jet Boat Races were held in Hay River this spring and our Unit participated (not in the races) by providing recovery support. My God could we have fun with the new A2 rates on these babies!!

Our newest Unit Fort Chipewyan, Alberta is up and running and to say the least consists of a very impressive group of people. We went down via our Police Plane (no charge for District travel Marion) and participated in a training session for two days. The new RCMP boat got baptized and we left with a feeling of confidence in this **group**. They clearly have their.....together.

I would like to thank C/Supt. Bill Sweeney, Commanding Officer RCMP, "G" Division for his support of the CGA and the partnership concept that is working. He believes in this and has spread the word to other C.O.'s in Western Canada. He has provided not only the use of the RCMP vessels in our MOU's but as well the use of "CFMPA", our Police plane to transport instructors and other CGA personal to the various Units for training and exercises. (No bitching about mileage rates up here!) Thanks Bill. As well I want to express my appreciation for the outstanding cooperation we continue to receive from Hay River CCG. This is how it is supposed to work and does up here.

Where are we going in the next millennium? Straight ahead with our training, projects and yes, INLAND EXPANSION.

Jack Kruger, Director

BACKGROUND ON PUKTA

The word Pukta (pronounced pook-to) means "Floating" and comes from the Inuktitut verb puktaaq which means 'to float'.

The idea for Pukta was initially developed in 1996 under the Small Boat Safety Awareness Program by Sue MacDonald the PDO. The idea for a polar bear as the mascot was developed and a contest ran on the internet to name the mascot. The contest was open to all persons in the North West Territories. As a reward for winning the contest Sarah Ittinuar of Rankin Inlet received PFD's and floater suits for her family.

In total there are four full size mascots in the Coast Guard Central and Arctic Region. These mascots are available for use at safe boating events, presentations, parades and children's events.

Districts 2 & 3 work together at Backus Conservation Area to promote boating safety.



The mascots can be reserved for events by contacting Faye Sinclair of the Office of Boating Safety in Sarnia at 519-383-1983.

CHANNEL 16 IS YOUR LINK TO SAFETY

This is a message that is not reaching some of our boating public. It never fails to amaze me the number of times we are asked 'How do I get help when I'm out on the water?'.

Many boaters now carry cell phones but few carry a charger. They know there is a 1-800-# but wrote it down at home. When an emergency happens do they have time to call home to get someone to call for help. Not likely, *16 the boaters 911 needs to be promoted.

The use of a marine radio is still the 'Safety Link' of choice. Cell phones are definitely better than nothing but can't be heard by others in the area. The monitoring of channel 16 by CCG & CCGA can reduce response time immensely.

STRANGE BUT TRUE NEWS

The Edmonton Journal, 1,10,1999

PORT ALBERNI, B.C. - Jeffery Bockman had a boat full of Bibles but Coast Guard officials say he didn't have a prayer.

Bockman was rescued three times off the west coast of Vancouver Island this summer in his leaky homemade boat. He planned to cross the Pacific to deliver Bibles to Russia.

Instead, he ended up in court charged with failing to observe a detention order under the Canada Shipping Act and with failing to display a conformity plate on his homemade boat.

Bockman was rescued for the first time on June 21, then again a week later. Five days after that, on July 3, he was at sea again. Or, more precisely, almost in the sea.

Bockman's boat, the Winged Queen, had no flares and no lights. It was taking on 180 litres of water an hour when the Coast Guard came to his rescue.

"I was planning on sailing to Russia and bailing all the way," he told Judge Brian Klaver on Wednesday. "I'm from Alberta. I know nothing about the sea." The man told the officer that he planned to carry a shipload of English Bibles to Russia.

On July 9 the boat was placed under a detention order not to be moved from the harbour. Four days later it was gone. The Coast Guard started searching and found Bockman had run aground on a small island. Bockman said he moved so he could dry dock the boat and begin repairs.

He's acquired some flares and lights and still plans to fix the Winged Queen and sail to Russia with bibles.

"Why not bundle them up in boxes and have them shipped?" asked the judge. Bockman admitted he may have to do just that.

OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE SITE

Festival Promotions is now the official supplier of Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary merchandise. They can be reached on the net at <http://www.festival.net/ccga/> . You can also phone them for more information at: 1-800-265-3344, by fax at: 613-723-9449. They also can be reached by writing

FESTIVAL PROMOTIONS
42 Antares Dr., Unit 116
Nepean, Ontario
K2E 7Y4



As we all bid good-bye to the 1900's and embrace the 2000's with fresh hope that our message of SEARCH and RESCUE PREVENTION is reaching those who needed our services in the past. Moving forward let us remember our fellow Auxiliary members who are no longer with us and also their families.

Miss Me -- But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom filled room
Why cry for a soul set free.

Miss me a little -- but not too long
And not with your head bowed low
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me - but let me go.

For this is a journey that we all must take
And each must go alone
It's all a part of the Master's Plan
A step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick at heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrow in doing good deeds
Miss Me -- but let me go.

Ted Cook, Pocomar Commander '88-'93, Training Committee

The name printed was submitted to the newsletter. I apologize to those not recognized. In our hearts they will be remembered.

** I NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU **

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Newsletter allows for the exchange of information between members, directors and the CCG. Thanks to all those who submitted info.. Special "Thank You" to Our new Dad Lawrence Swift for his help and support in getting the newsletter to print. Congratulations to Lawrence and his wife Lori on the birth of their son Wilyam a new brother for Myles and Kevyn.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are that of the article authors and not necessarily represent official Department of Fisheries & Ocean / Canadian Coast Guard policy.

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** NEVER DRIVE FASTER THAN YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL CAN FLY **