



SHIPMATE

Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary
Central & Arctic Region's
Newsletter



President's Message

The AGM is once again past us and we are all thinking about springtime and maybe even launch time! However, for most of us we are thinking about TRAINING! As you know we are now in the process of changing our training to a split of on the water and in class skills. This requires a large amount of work by your Director and the CCG training department. Your Director must have into the CCG the training records of each and every member by the time you read this. The CCG must submit to the BOD through the Director of Training it's recommendations for the new on the water and in class SAR training. **Please contact your Director if you have any questions on this new directive.**

You will see in this issue photo's of the many members who received recognition during the AGM. Many more could not attend and will be honoured at a local ceremony. Congratulations to all of our members who deserve such worthy recognition. Especially to Norm Lloyd, Tony Buckley, Stu Meeks* and the editor of this newsletter, Irene Jardine. These people were recognized nationally with National awards consisting of a medal and ribbon. Great job!

If you see anyone in our organization that deserves recognition, contact the Toronto office to obtain a nomination form. These are sent into the office routing up the ladder. Anyone can nominate any member. Your fellow members deserve all the plaudits that **you** can give them.

Your Director will have the new business plan in his hands within the next few weeks. Please make a point to discuss this document when you attend your district meetings this spring. It's your organization and we need your input.

Over the next few months I will be trying to attend any invitations I receive to visit your local units and districts. Please come by and say hello. Also, if you are in Toronto, drop by the office and see Oliver and Lamont. They get pretty lonely down there on the beach.

I want to wish you a safe spring and see you soon.

John W. Levantis, C & A President

2003 Board of Directors



Back Row from left to right—Hugh Wyatt, District 6, Andy Maillet, CG Superintendent SAR, Al Johnson, District 8, and C&A Director of OBS, Rick Odale, District 7, Keven Webb, C&A Secretary Treasurer, John Levantis, President Central & Arctic Region,

Front Row—Lou Lochner, District 1 Deputy Director, Jack Kruger, C&A Vice Pres., District 9, Les Reading, District 3, Don Limoges, District 4 and C&A Director of Training, Rudy Mulack, District 5

Absent—Dan Pellerin, District 2 and Eric Doig, District 10.

**Make plans to attend the 25th celebration of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary
August 8, 9, 10 in Kingston
Events will include a special night at Fort Henry for Members and the Public.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF CCGA VESSELS

As was discussed at the recent Joint CCGA National Council Meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, clarification is required on the identification of CCGA vessels, more specifically with respect to three items that are protected under the Trademarks Act.

The three items used inappropriately by the CCGA are:

1. The Canada wordmark, which is the word Canada with the small Canadian flag over the last "A";
2. The white stripe slanting from fore to aft; and
3. The words Coast Guard, Garde cotiere.

As was agreed at the National Council Meeting, Frank Hudson and Robert Petipas have volunteered to develop a National Identification Scheme for CCGA vessels that all CCGA vessels can adopt. It is hoped that this new National Identification Scheme will be developed in the very near future for implementation in early 2003. Once a National Identification Scheme for CCGA vessels has been agreed upon by the members of the National Council, then the vessels can be remarked.

In the meantime, to avoid confusing members of the public and other SAR agencies, etc., the above noted three items should be removed from all CCGA vessels prior to the 2003 boating season.

It is understood that in all likelihood the words Coast Guard Auxiliary/Gardecotiere auxiliaire will be included in the new National Identification Scheme. However, every effort should be made to ensure that the vessel is clearly identified as a Coast Guard Auxiliary vessel and cannot be mistaken for a Coast Guard vessel.

For those regions requiring immediate modification of their existing paint schemes, they should contact their regional Coast Guard representative responsible for CCGA operations for assistance. For CCG vessels where ownership has been transferred to the CCGA it is recommended that Coast Guard give support in the re-marking of these vessels.

Mike Voigt

Manager, Search and Rescue
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Training Courses



The traditional SAR 1 and 2 courses have been phased out by CCG. In their place, will be a SAR Seamanship course and a SAR course. This means that all SAR material in both SAR 1 & 2 courses will be amalgamated into one course. This would include topics such as search areas, search patterns, search procedures and personal safety. Seamanship topics would include Standard operating Guidelines, Towing procedures and any other seamanship knowledge useful in SAR operations.

It is hoped to have these courses in place by mid 2003. New members will likely be expected to take both courses. Existing members may qualify for "grandfathering". Although these standards have not been set, I would expect that members who have had courses in recent years and / or have had SAR taskings / on water exercises would likely qualify.

The reasons for these changes in training is that, in the first instance, there is a very wide range in the level of training between SAR crews and the second instance, a potentially serious liability issue exists if CCG tasks crews who do not meet some basic standard. The fact is that the CCGA has operational vessels in various districts with absolutely no SAR training. In other instances, crews may only have SAR 1. Within a short while, all crews will meet minimum "check off" standards.

I am quite sure that some "seasoned mariners" may find these changes a little tough, but I would hope that, if for no other reason than the betterment of the organization, we all work toward a proven level of SAR competence.

Don Limoges
Director of Training



2003 Rescue Challenge Canadian Naval Base at Catarauqui Kinston, August 9th,

Similar to 2002, the rope challenge seen for the first time will be continued in 2003, with some alterations. A new mystery event should be expected. Other traditional challenges include Navigation (Chart work), First Aid, On Water activities, Pump Operation and line / ring toss.

Last year, teams from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 10 participated. Although the challenge demands a significant commitment in time, it would be nice if all districts could muster a team.

For more information contact Don Limoges, Coordinator
705-549-8321
dlimoges@thunderstar.net

DISTRICT 3 News and Views

A number of significant events for District 3 took place at the CCGA AGM held in January. Not only was the AGM well attended by participants from across the Region but the District was also well represented with at least ten Members in attendance.

Leslie Reading was re-elected to the position of District Director. Irene Jardine received an Administrative Excellence Medal. A total of 22 Members were recognized with certificates for 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service to the Organization.

Among those being recognized for long term service were Stephen Robertson of the "Contender", Tim Crawford of the "Cemba" and George Chase, Thelma -Lee Parsonage, Past President and Past District Director John Parsonage and Wayne Tracey for 20 years of service. A Well Done to all for your time spent on Auxiliary business.

With the CCGA entering its 25th year in 2003 we in District 3 particularly wish to recognize Lawrence Swift, Bruce Anderson, Neil Jardine and Harold Thompson for their long term service of 25 years to the organization. Lawrence Swift has molded many of us in the CCGA through a large number of training classes, exercises and other CCG/CCGA sessions. Bruce Anderson, Neil Jardine and Harold Thompson are currently members of the SARU out of Sarnia on lower Lake Huron yet their SAR activities predate the CCGA to the days of coast guard rescue agents and the "Miss Jan" even before the CCGA and the CMRA. Many of us have never even heard of rescue agents and some do not know what the acronym CMRA means. Again, well done folks.

District 3 had a training program all lined up in late 2002 for implementation in 2003. Hopefully by the time the Members read this issue of "Shipmate" a revised training program will be well in place for not only the District but the entire Region thanks to a cooperative effort between the CCG and CCGA.

The training program will see a new SAR Course and on-water qualifications as part of the training process. Member training, qualifications and activity will play a large role in membership enrollment for current and future members of the CCGA. Your District Director and District Training Coordinator will keep Members informed of the changes and requirements.

Members who have not done so, or had their Unit Owner/Unit Representative, do so on their behalf should contact the District Director and provide him with their qualifications for membership asap.

A District Meeting is expected to take place prior to the boating season. All are welcome to attend. Details will be provided to Unit Owners/Unit Representatives.

The District is also planning to expand the number of Units by forming a Boating Safety Unit to serve the District. Membership would be open to those involved in OBS type work for the CCGA but not attached to any other Unit in the District.

District 3 Director
Les Reading

2003 Invitation from District 9

District Director Jack Kruger has confirmed that District 9 will once again be inviting to CCGA members from C&A's South to participate in their RCMP Boat Operators Course in June/July. Although there hasn't been a date confirmed yet interested members may submit their names to:

Jack Kruger—1-867-874-6129 or jack.kruger@rcmp-grc.ca or krugers@nt.sympatico.ca as soon as possible. Ideally they would like to see a relatively junior member (recently joined) who not only shows an interest in Travel but in Learning



District 2's Bill Sager (right) was one of the two fortunate gentlemen to have the honour of experiencing a Training Week at the Hay River Coast Guard Station in N.W.T. in June 2002.

At this years AGM he took the opportunity to thank Jack Kruger (left) for allowing him to get an understanding of life North of 60.

New Appointment Announced



Effective January 01, 2003, Basil "Jerry" Jones has accepted the position of Deputy Director and Don Mertes has accepted the position of District Training Coordinator.

Hugh Wyatt

NEW TRAVEL RATES effective Oct 1, 2002

Breakfast	\$10.95
Lunch	10.85
Dinner	30.45
Incidental	17.30
Composite	69.55
Mileage (one rate only)	43.5 cents per KM



AND THE SHIP'S BELL TOLLED...

During the Canadian Coast Guard Security Patrols in early fall, a Memorial Service was held on board the C.C.G.S. SAMUEL RISLEY on Monday, September 16th, 2002, upon the waters of Lake Superior. The Memorial Service was for the men on board the Canadian Government Lighthouse Supply and Bouy vessel LAMBTON that went missing, with a loss of twenty-two lives, in April of 1922.

The steel-hulled LAMBTON, built at the Canadian Government Shipyard at Sorel, Quebec in 1909 was 108.0 feet in length, 25.1 feet in beam, and 12.7 feet in depth.

During the shipping season of 1921 the Sault Canadian Canal remained open until December 15, waiting for the LAMBTON to lock through, with the lightkeepers and assistants on board, from Lake Superior. Due to the lateness of the season and heavy ice the LAMBTON was unable to reach her home port of Parry Sound and wintered at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

The LAMBTON left the Canadian Sault at 1030 (10:30 a.m.), Tuesday April 18, 1922, with lightkeepers, assistants and supplies for the upcoming navigation season and sailed into Whitefish Bay. Light ice was reported in Lake Superior and upbound vessels expected no trouble. A severe wind storm, out of the northwest, struck the Sault on Wednesday, April 19, 1922, at 2030 (8:30 p.m.).

The steamer GLENFINNAN reported she last saw the "LAMBTON at 1400 (2 p.m.) on April 19, forty miles out from Whitefish Point heading for Caribou Island." On April 23 at 0630 (6:30 a.m.) the downbound Canadian steamer VALCARTIER reported sighting wreckage "about 25 miles southeast of Michipicoten Island and 15 miles east of Caribou Island." Neither the LAMBTON or any of the souls on board were ever seen again.

The Memorial Service was held at 47° 24.222' N and 085° 37.795' W - 18.5 miles south of Michipicoten Island and 8.44 miles northeast of Caribou Island RACON.

Captain Paul Beasley of the C.C.G.S. SAMUEL RISLEY had ordered the ship stopped and the memorial service began at 0055 (12:55 a.m.).

"We are gathered here tonight to remember the names and honour the memory of the Captain, crew, lighthouse keepers and assistants, who on board the Canadian Government Lighthouse Supply and Bouy vessel LAMBTON, gave their lives in the performance of their duties.

Lost upon these waters in April 1922, your supreme sacrifice will not be forgotten. To this, the men and women of the Canadian Coast Guard and the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary toll the ships bell, in your honour."

After the reading of each name, the Ship's bell tolled... Twenty two times, once for the Captain and crew as well as the Lightkeepers and Assistants.

The SAILOR'S PSALM was read.

"They that go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters; these men see the works of the Lord and his wonders in the deep. For at His word the stormy wind ariseth which lifeth up the waves thereof. They are carried up to heaven and down again to the deep; their soul melteth away because of the trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.

So when they cry unto the Lord in their trouble. He delivereth them out of their distress. For he maketh the storm to cease so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they are at rest; and so He bringeth them unto the haven where they would be."

Psalms 107, verses 23 to 30

A bouquet of twenty-two Carnations, one for each person on board, was placed upon the water by Captain Paul Beasley of the C.C.G.S SAMUEL RISLEY. After the heart-felt Memorial Service a moment of respectful silence was observed.

Editors Note:

The name board from the LAMBTON was removed in 1921 to be painted and secured back on the vessel, upon her return. The LAMBTON never made it back to her home port and the unpainted name board may be seen at the Parry Sound Canadian Coast Guard Base. Most of the crew, on board the LAMBTON, were from Parry Sound and Sault Ste. Marie. Both towns were devastated by the loss. In an ironic twist of fate Laverne Kaebisch and Stanley M. Liddle, both from Sault Ste. Marie, were not members of the crew, but the Boys' Naval Brigade, which was formed in 1920. The Boys' Naval Brigade was the forerunner of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Royal Sovereign.





Husband and Wife Recognized for 25years

At the recent AGM District 4 members Don and Jeanette Limoges received Certificates of Appreciation recognizing their 25 years of dedicated volunteerism they are with the Unit 'Sparkey'.

As well as being Director of D4, Don is also C&A's Director of Training and Coordinator of the SAR Challenge

Raising Media Awareness why we no longer want to be one of Canada's best kept Secrets



Lawrence Swift, Communication Officer of the Canadian Coast Guard reminded members that we must all work to make the Auxiliary visible not only to the boating populace but to the general public. It has come time for us to be recognized as a viable service provider, independent of the Coast Guard.

Keeping you Informed

Here are the latest updates on the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Web Site:

Two TV Newscasts about ISAR 2002 have been posted at:
http://www.ccg-gcac.org/gallery/videos_e.asp

Radio Newscast about ISAR 2002 has been posted at:
http://www.ccg-gcac.org/gallery/audios_e.asp

On our Home Page:
http://www.ccg-gcac.org/home/home_e.asp

- * Employees of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Make Donation to CCGA.
- * Robert Petitpas has been presented with the SAR Award.
- * Christmas Message from the Chief Executive Officer.
- * CCGA Introduces Long Service Medal.
- * New Issue of The Auxiliarist has been posted.
- * CCGA 2003 SAR Calendar is available for purchase.
- * Caring Canadian Award presented to Jeff Eggleton.
- * Golden Jubilee Medal Presented to Auxiliarists.

List of ISAR 2002 Sponsors has been posted at:
http://www.ccg-gcac.org/adpartner/sponsors_sar2002_e.asp

List of the TV Partners that Broadcast the CCGA Public Service Announcement:
http://www.ccg-gcac.org/adpartner/tv_sponsors_e.asp

List of the Newspapers & Magazines that publish the CCGA Public Service Announcement:
<http://www.ccg-gcac.org/adpartner/CCGA%20Advertising%20Partners.htm>

François Vézina
National Business Manager
Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary
www.ccg-gcac.org

Irene Jardine Administrative Excellence Medal

Mrs. Irene Jardine is cited for outstanding achievement as the editor and publisher of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Central & Arctic newsletter "Shipmate" for the past four years. Mrs. Jardine has provided an exemplary communication tool to the members of this region who depend on "Shipmate" for vital news and information. Mrs. Jardine assumed this role with no hesitation and has followed it through with both technical and editorial expertise.

Mrs. Jardine has also worked with various members of the Board of Directors and staff and has greatly assisted in the administration of the association.

Irene's dedication, judgment and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary



The above presentation was made by National's CEO Mr. Harry Strong with commentary by C&A President John Levantis.



CCGA 24th AGM
January 10, 11 & 12, 2003
Held at
Stage West, Mississauga, Ont.



Due to the fact that only Unit leaders are entitled to reimbursement of expenses per Treasury Board Travel Directives to travel to the AGM, many members don't realize that you are invited to attend. However daily expenses are payable only to those who attend all sessions. As you can see from the photos above in addition to the formal AGM there are a number of training presentations which members find informative. The AGM is also a wonderful line of communication for all attendees and a true time of bonding and development of friendships. I have personally been planning vacation time to attend since we used to meet in Niagara Falls, a number of years ago.

This year we were fortunate to have representatives from Protexion Ltd, known to most of us as Buoy-O-Boy



Oliver Carroll



Keven Webb



President—John Levantis



Bouy -O- Boy
Rep.



**International Search & Rescue
Competition
Saturday, October 5, 2002
Milwaukee, Wisconsin**



**Central & Arctic Region's Team
WINNERS
Of the
"ON THE WATER" EVENT**



Competitors from District 2

**Ivan Hansen
Brad Yarema
Bob DeAthe
Jason Black**



**Congratulations !!!
Your team made all
members within our Region
PROUD**

International Search and Rescue 2002

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary hosted the third annual event between Auxiliary teams from the United States and Canada demonstrating various exercises in the Search & Rescue field. ISAR 2002 features events that are designed to test the volunteers' ability to plan, communicate and execute a Search and Rescue (SAR) Mission.

APPRECIATION EXPRESSED

On behalf of the Central and Arctic team, thanks so much for your support! It was good to see some friendly faces from CCGA Central and Arctic as well as the Canadian Coast Guard in attendance.

We had a fantastic time at the ISAR Competition.

Though the boating season is winding down, we can't wait to get back out on the water next spring to practice the skills we learned training for the games.

Thanks Again,
Ivan, Jason, Bob, and Brad

Retiring Director of District 5 Norm Lloyd Exemplary Service Medal



Mr. Norm Lloyd is cited for outstanding achievement while serving the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary for 25 years as a unit owner, SAR instructor, Director and President of the Central & Arctic Region for a two year term.

Mr. Lloyd led the expansion of the region into the territory of Nunavut and contributed to the establishment of the Auxiliary in this area.

Norm has spent a lifetime in service to boating safety in Canada and due to his efforts the Auxiliary has been able to achieve it's goals in saving lives across the region.

Norm's dedication, judgment and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Mr. Anthony Buckley Operational Merit Medal Recipient

Mr. Anthony Buckley is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as a member of PARA in Pickering, Ontario for over 20 years. He has served as a coxswain, Unit Representative, a member of it's Board of Directors and currently serves as District 1's Training Officer.

Mr. Buckley has given a lifetime of service to the Auxiliary and has maintained an outstanding level of performance in his many and varied duties.

Tony's dedication, judgment and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary.



Mr. Stu Meeks Operational Merit Medal (Posthumous)

Mr. Stu Meeks is cited for outstanding achievement while providing SAR facilities and service to the Bay of Quinte area of Ontario for over 40 years. He is a founding member of the CCGA C&A Association and currently has two vessels in his unit. His unit has saved countless lives over it's history and that is due to his powerful leadership.

Mr. Meeks has provided sage advice for many Directors and Presidents over the history of the Auxiliary and has contributed significantly in the ability of the organization to meet its goals.

Stu's dedication, judgment and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Stu. Meeks, recipient of the Canadian Coast Guard Exemplary Service Medal. Mr. Meeks passed away on December 17, 2002. The Medal will be presented posthumously to Ginger White.

Our deepest sympathy to the Meeks family.

The above presentations were made by National's CEO Mr. Harry Strong with commentary by C&A President John Levantis.

LET ME INTRODUCE OURSELVES

Central Ontario Association of Boating Safety Specialists COABS for short

We were having a rendezvous at the Port of Orillia with Richmond Hill and Newmarket Power Squadron – it was a beautiful weekend and we had just enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast when a gentleman by the name of Duff Dwyer approached us and asked if he could have a few minutes of our time. He talked- we listened (that's the way it is with Duff). Somehow, in his 10 minute spiel, he convinced 6 of us that the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary was a great organization and with our CPS background we were naturals. So... we said sure, why not and the rest is history. That was back in 1998. Our training was completed in January 1999 and we became (silently) the first CCGA inland water group in Canada. Our activities consist of PCCC's, presentations and displays only. Now 6 people cannot cover much ground so as we attended boat shows etc. to spread the boating safety word, other people started asking questions and so we grew. In 2001 I was asked to take on the responsibilities of District Co-ordinator, which I did. Henceforth we needed more volunteers. By 2002, we are 34 members strong with more members waiting to join.

Our season begins with our District Meeting in March. This is the time to go over any new regulations, discuss any problems we had with PCCC's or shows etc. This is also when we get out our marina book and start planning our strategies for the summer. Our work begins on the long weekend in May and we average at least 2 or 3 marinas every weekend, sometimes more. We also cover 4 major boat shows in Orillia, Barrie, Gravenhurst, Poker Run in Penetang, Fishing Derbies in Kincardine and Owen Sound. We also assist CCG at Toronto Boat Show, Sportsman Show, and Cottage Life Show.

In 2002 we attended 5 events/presentations, at least 18 marinas and 6 shows.

Are we having fun yet? Of course we are. We have an extremely enthusiastic hard working group of BSSers who keep me on my toes constantly wanting to be out there spreading the word about boating safety.

In November 2002, we collectively made a decision to become a unit. Our name is Central Ontario Association of Boating Safety Specialists. **Just call us COABS** for short (much easier to remember), and we are looking forward to another busy summer. We sincerely hope that we are making a bit of a difference for all of CCGA SAR personnel so your life gets a bit easier.

If by our diligence in boating safety, one life is saved then our work has been worthwhile. Hope to see you all on the docks.

Nancee Adams, DBSC District

Congratulations on forming the CCGA's 1st Inland Water Group in Canada



This is our newsletter!!

If you know of someone that you would like to see recognized, please forward the information either to

Shipmate directly

Or thru your District Director

We look forward to hearing from each District in the next issue.

25Year Recipients in District 2 Honoured at recent AGM



Pictured above- Retiring 2 Director Austin Gilbert presented Mr. Ted Phillips of the Tinker with a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedication of 25 years to the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary C&A.

Members also receiving this honour are Mr. Peter Graham, GAMRU, Mr. Richard Harrison, TOWARRF, Mr. Dick Stam, Emerald Bay and Mr. Maurice Stevens.

Planning to Enjoy Retirement



Retiring District Director Norm Lloyd and his wife are planning to enjoy the relaxed side of boating from now on.

Although Mrs. Lloyd chose never became an official member, we thank her for her hours of dedication which allowed Norm to volunteer for 25 years.

Our Loss will be Pacific Regions Gain



The members of Central & Arctic Region wish all the best to retiring District 2 Director Austin Gilbert.

He and his family have relocated to British Columbia. Austin plans to continue to be a part of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary by becoming a member in Pacific Region.

While serving Central & Arctic Region Austin served on the Executive Committee, Publications Committee and on the Equipment Committee.

Amazing Technology soon to be Available



SAR Simulation Training by Bill Wood

During the Sunday morning workshop presentation, members present were very impressed by the level of abilities of the computer program developed by Bill Wood

He has been diligently creating a program to aid in Search and Rescue. In the future he plans to make this capability available to members through the CCGA, C&A.



Canadian Coast Guard Members

Mark Gagnon, Dave Northmore, Dan Coultis and Andy Mailett were on hand at the recent AGM to share their knowledge by answering questions concerning upcoming changes and proper protocol.

Urban SAR Role of Volunteers



Alan Thomas Jr. of the Toronto Fire Services enlightened members at the AGM of our counter SAR program.

He is the driving force behind HUSAR (Heavy Urban Search And Rescue)

For more information on the volunteer work of the HUSAR's
athomas@toronto.ca

United States Coast Guard
Auxiliary National Conference
was held in September
in Orlando, Florida

Attending on our behalf was Central & Arctic's President John Levantis and his son Aaron



*CCGA 25th Anniversary
June 8, 9 & 10 in Kingston*



Dual Recipient Honoured

Steve Daoust, Superintendent of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary was awarded the Commissioner's Commendation and the CCGA Exemplary Service Medal at the CCGA Newfoundland Annual General Meeting on October 19, 2002

Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety

Faye Sinclair
Office of Boating Safety

For the year 2002, the Office of Boating Safety (OBS) had to manage its operations and strive to uphold the same levels of service to clients while operating under budget cutbacks. Despite the funding pressures, the Boating Safety Specialist (BSS) Program remained a top priority and strong component of the Canadian Coast Guard, Office of Boating Safety program. We continued to book and track events that were attended by the Auxiliary and other BSS partners, distribute boating safety promotional and printed material and conduct a limited number of training sessions.

For the 2003 season, we anticipate offering the new "Train the Trainer" session to CGA Boating Safety Specialists. This course will allow qualified CGA members to teach the OBS 1, Pleasure Craft Courtesy Check course to other Auxiliary members, either as a refresher course or as a course to new recruits. Dates are to be announced.

One of the areas most affected by the budget reduction where we are not able to maintain the same level of service is the Boat Show Program. In the past, OBS attended all major boat shows located within our region. However, for 2003, the only boat show that we are able to attend is the Toronto International Boat Show (January 11-20, 2003) which is being financially supported by the Ottawa OBS office. OBS C&A is, as always, looking forward to working with Coast Guard Auxiliary for this show. A staffing grid was distributed during the last week of November to DBSC's in districts 1, 2, 3 and 4. Members in these districts who had an interest in working the show were asked to contact their designated DBSC, who in turn, were to contact Greg Meaker of the OBS. The Edmonton boat show also has been confirmed as a booking for the CGA. The contacts for this show are Jack Kruger (CGA District 9) and Ian Salisbury (CG). If other opportunities arise for us to attend additional boat shows, we will look forward to CGA participation at these shows as well. If further shows are added to the roster, we will distribute staffing grids with dates and locations to DBSCs, who will, in turn, notify the CGA members.

We look forward to another year and thank you for your continued support and participation in the program.

Notice to Individuals using CG Vehicles

Unauthorized individuals travelling in Coast Guard Vehicles are not covered under the Coast Guard Insurance plan.

Question; What if I want to take my teenager with me to be Putka at an OBS presentation?

Bob Sonier of Marsh Canada advises that dependent children 15 years of age or older and who are acting as volunteers assisting their parents in an authorized activity with the CGA are covered as class II and are insured for up to \$100 000 of accident insurance while being passengers in a government vehicle.

I hope this answers your questions.

For more information contact:

- David Northmore
- Canadian Coast Guard Search & Rescue
- Coast Guard Auxiliary Coordinator
- Tel 519 383 -1964



*Make a Team with Two Fellow Members
And Plan to Compete
in
Central & Arctic's Rescue Challenge 2003
to be held in conjunction with
the 25th Anniversary of the Auxiliary
August 9-10
In Kingston*

*For more Information contact Don Limoges
705-549-8321 or dlimoges@thunderstar.net*

COAST GUARD STRETCHED TOO THIN: OPPOSITION COMMITTEE
WebPosted Thu Oct 31 07:34:02 2002

ST. JOHN'S--Funding for Canada's coast guard has been slashed so deeply it can no longer fulfill its mandate of search and rescue and environmental response, said a committee of opposition senators and MPs.

The group, which also includes members of the transportation workers union, examined coast guard resources across the country. They're expected to call on Ottawa Thursday to hold a public inquiry into coast guard funding. The coast guard has struggled to operate since it was taken over by the Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans, said committee member Senator Pat Carney.

The cuts have been so severe that at times only 20 per cent of the waters off the West Coast are covered by radar, said Carney. Coast guard workers on the East Coast are also worried, said Newfoundland Tory MP Loyola Sullivan.

"All of them will express concerns about tightening up the financial side of it and the cutbacks that result because of it," said Sullivan. He said a ship used as an ice breaker and patrol vessel sold last year has yet to be replaced.

Public safety net eroded: Carney
Carney said a public inquiry is necessary.

Again I invite all members to take a minute to do what "shipmates" do best, share your knowledge, your fellowship and of course brag about our successes. It is in feeling that we belong to something worthwhile that we all grow and develop both personally and as an organization.

I'd like to 'Thank' those involved with my nomination for the Administrative Excellence Medal. I am very honoured to be a recipient.

If you know of someone within our membership that you would like to nominate for special recognition please contact your local Director. See our website for more information

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

**Please send all articles to: SHIPMATE
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RR 3, Oil Springs
Ontario, N0N 1P0**

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