



THE PORT LOG

The Journal of The Company of Master Mariners of Canada
Vancouver Division

Issue 3 – October 2008

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PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MAIN CONTACTS 2007- 2008

Directors

David Bremner	Master	604-738-0161
	email: theda@telus.net	
Phill Nelson	Deputy Master	
Tony Crowther	Asst. Deputy	604-542-9156
	Web Site	
Jack Bishop	Treasurer	
David Myerscough	SVI Group	
Ieuan Lampshire-Jones	Social/Tech.	
Andrew Law	Secretary	
Ray McKay	At Large	
Don Rose	Technical	
Don Tranter	Membership	
Dave Whitaker	'From the Bridge'	

Officers

Dorothy Hickman	Office Manager
Thelma Bremner	Newsletter
	email:theda@telus.net

NATIONAL COUNCILLORS

David Bremner, Tony Crowther, Brian Johnston

VANCOUVER DIVISION MEETINGS

1. The Divisional Council meeting is held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1200hrs.
All Members are welcome at these meetings – come and participate in any discussions.
2. Every Tuesday is brown bag lunch from 1030hrs to 1330hrs. (except during summer months when the office is manned on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays). Come and join us.

VICTORIA GROUP MEETING

The third Wednesday of each month at 1200hrs – contact – David Myerscough 250-477-0743 if you wish to attend.

VANCOUVER ISLAND MEETING

The fourth Tuesday of each month – 1100hrs - 1300 hrs. in the Harbour Commission office – Front St. Nanaimo BC

1. TECHNICAL NIGHT Thursday, October 23, 2008 At the Mission to Seafarers.

TOPIC: Marine Life of the Pacific Northwest

A slide and video presentation by Mr. Bernard Hanby.

Mr. Hanby is one of our foremost underwater photographers having snapped over 30,000 frames of every living thing that swims, crawls or sways on the BC Coast. Along with biologist Andy Lamb he produced a well known book "Marine Life of the Pacific Northwest." Over the course of some 35 years he has noted and catalogued many changes to the marine population. In 1989 he and Mr. Lamb started the Marine Life Sanctuary Society to establish protected area along the coast.

1730hrs.	No Host Bar
1800hrs:	Dinner
1830hrs.	Presentation by Mr. Hanby

Cost: \$30.00 per person –Ladies & Guests welcome.

For reservations contact:

D Bremner 604-738-0161 – e-mail: theda@telus.net

T Crowther 604-542-9156 - tonycmariner@shaw.ca

Members are asked to give notice of cancellation by Tuesday Oct. 21 2008 to avoid charges for meals not used.

2. ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE

Date: November 11th 2008

Place: Sailor's Point, Waterfront Park, North Vancouver (next to Pacific Marine Training Campus)

Time: 1045am –

A short Service of Remembrance will be held and wreaths laid by The Company & other groups. Everyone is welcome to attend.

After the service coffee will be served in the Seamanship Room of Pacific Marine Training Campus.

3. PUB LUNCH
Place: Le Bistro Chez Michel
224 West Esplanade, North Vancouver
Date: Thursday, NOVEMBER, 20th 2008
Time: 1200hrs. (space available from 1130hrs.)

Menu - your choice. Have what you wish.
Ladies & guests welcome- There will be a ladies table.

In order to reserve space please indicate if you wish to attend by Wednesday, November 19th 2008

Contact:
D. Bremner 604-738-0161 e-mail theda@telus.net
T Crowther 604-542-9156 – tonycmariner@shaw.ca

4. CHRISTMAS PARTY
Saturday: 6th December 2008
Time: 1830 to 2230hrs.
At the Mission to Seafarers
401 East Waterfront Road, Vancouver

Menu for Xmas Dinner
Caesar Salad, Garden Salad with Mushrooms
Roast Turkey
Pineapple Glazed Ham
BC Salmon
Potatoes, Wild Rice, Mixed Vegetables
Fresh Fruit Plate
Trifle and Pastries
Coffee or Tea

Free Parking
Buffet – No Host Bar – Wine served with Dinner
Raffle

Tickets- \$30.00 per person (number limited-book early)
Ladies & Guests welcome.

For tickets/reservations contact. –
D. Bremner 604-739-0161 e-mail: theda @telus.net
DorothyHickman 604-298-9456
e-mail: dorothyrh154@telus.net
(no cancellations after 4th December 2008)

MASTER'S REPORT

DIVISIONAL AGM - SEPT. 6 2008

As I reach the end of another year as your Master I sense that, looking ahead, there will be a fundamental change of direction of The Company in the next few years. Up until now we have been a non-political, non-union, non-everything organization. As a result we are seen by our younger members as a social group dedicated to discussing our most important roles

in the last wars. This cannot continue if we are to move ahead and play an important part in our profession.

Many of the older members grew up in an age when several large well-established companies set the standards for our profession. Unfortunately the onset of flags of convenience and one-ship companies signaled a steady decline in the authority of the Master and the importance off the well-known international standards of the International Maritime Organization.

Recently this has come home to roost in the form of regulations such as the Migratory Birds Act, by which Masters are considered guilty of violating the act, if there is an indication that their vessel is suspect of a spill.

Another worrying aspect of life at sea is the Criminalisation of Seafarers. In recent years there have been many blatant examples where Masters and Mates of vessels have been imprisoned for many years pending litigation on pollution incidents involving the ships. In the case of the Hebei Spirit the men are still in custody even though the courts found them not guilty of any offences. They are simply detained pending a possible appeal.

Obviously we must change. We must stand up and support these members of our profession. We cannot sit back and let an honourable profession be trampled on simply by environmental concerns. We must stand up and be counted.

It is a fact that many of our members including myself have been away from the sea for a considerable time and find it difficult to understand some of the newer innovations. It is here that our younger members must step forward and take up the challenge. There has been a great deal of reluctance in past years for such members to become involved in the running of The Company. Yes, it takes time but the rewards of participating are well worth the effort. If we can help restore the respect of the Master Mariners to its rightful place in society we must do so.

When we ask for volunteers for the Divisional Council I hope some of you will take up the challenge.

Now, having given you my worries on conditions facing Master Mariners today, perhaps I should now report on the last year's activities of the Vancouver Division.

In November we had an excellent power point presentation by our member Captain John Horton. Then in December we had a very successful Xmas Party which was well attended. I would thank those members who provided various items for the raffle. In January we had a very pleasant pub lunch at the Bistro North Vancouver and in February our member Captain Tony Crowther provided us with an on site description of the installation of large off shore oil equipment. In March we had a very enjoyable pub lunch at Tug Boat Annie's Pub on the Fraser River. In April we held one of our special

Divisional Council Meeting/Special Events to discuss the changes involved in the New Canada Shipping Act. Our member Captain Phill Nelson provided an update on this and it was followed by an excellent presentation by Captain John Yeung of Ship Safety on the new certificate structure. Unfortunately we had to cancel the technical dinner planned for June 19th as it coincided with the Mission barbecue.

In July I had the pleasure of hosting the Directors and their wives at a BBQ at my home. The weather was very good and afterwards we enjoyed the final night of the fire-works from the front deck.

Financially, there is not a great change to report. Our treasurer, Captain Jack Bishop keeps us on the straight and narrow and I thank him sincerely for his efforts.

Footnote: As you can see in the following report of the Meetings at St. John's times are changing and The Company is looking at ways to enhance its profile. At present the Division is in talks with Nautical Institute regarding a joint seminar on Risks presently facing Masters. If you are interested in joining the team please call me as soon as possible. 604-738-0161

REPORT ON THE AGM & NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS 4TH & 5TH October at St. John's, Nfld.

The 159th National Council Meeting was attended by 12 members. Following acceptance of the previous minutes Captain I Lantz gave details of a report on Human Resource - Marine. The findings agreed with a previous conference finding that this subject was a "Burning Platform" and recommends that a National Council be set up.

A discussion of a Strategic Plan determined that there was little progress at this time. Captain J. Calvesbert has volunteered to take up this program and will be in contact with Divisional contacts.

Our new web-site is up and running under its web master but the membership section is not up yet and will require that Divisions update their section of this.

The slate of officers for the coming year was agreed unanimously for presentation to the AGM for acceptance.

A discussion of the By-Law amendment regarding Cadet Membership agreed that an outline for a Mentoring Program should be prepared for discussion in the January 2009 National Council Meeting.

The meeting closed with a discussion and motion to the storage of our Archival Records at Vancouver Archives.

AGM – THE COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF CANADA FOUNDATION

Before breaking for lunch this was held. After a short financial review Captain J. Greenway was re-elected as Chairman, Captain Cathy Rogers as Treasurer and there being no change in the Divisional Masters from last year they were re-elected as Directors.

41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This followed the usual form and commenced with a discussion and acceptance of the proposed By-Law Amendment. This was followed by reports by the National Master & Divisional Masters. Divisions were generally in good financial shape and doing well. Newfoundland & Labrador Division now have 30 members.

Captain Ratch Wallace then presented a number of reports - The Secretary's Report on behalf of Captain Ireland who is stepping down after many years in that role. He followed that with a Membership Report on behalf of Captain Kooka and a Captain G.O. Baugh financial report on behalf of Captain Whitelaw. The Treasurer's Report submitted by Captain Whitelaw was passed to the next National Council Meeting for discussion. Captain J. Greenway – Education Chairman reported that the Foundation received nine applications last year and awarded two scholarships to two cadets each of \$2000.

The Slate of Officers as proposed was accepted and is as follows:

National Master	Captain Peter Turner
Deputy Master	Captain Jim Calvesbert
Assistant Master	Captain John McCann
National Secretary	Captain Ratch Wallace
National Treasurer	Captain Andy Whitelaw

It is noted that Captain Whitelaw wishes to step down after many years at the financial helm. Anyone interested in this position is asked to contact the Master or Divisional Masters.

Following this Captain Wallace distributed the Auditor's Report and it was discussed and accepted. He recommended that Karen Grover should continue to audit our accounts and this was accepted.

160TH NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING - 5th October 2008

Captain Wallace read his minutes of the previous meeting. These were accepted. He then tabled the Securities Report. After discussion these were accepted. This was followed by a discussion and final

acceptance of the Operating Statement and proposed budget for 2009. There was considerable discussion on the cost of AGM's, Joint AGM and Conferences. Also discussed was the services we provide or should provide in future to our members and attendance at meetings of IFSMA and CAMM. It was decided that we will hold an Extraordinary Meeting by Teleconference on December 11th for further discussion on this following the Divisional Master's discussions with their councils and members.

A list of honorariums was discussed and accepted with small amendments.

A major item of discussion was the subject of dues and the proposal budget was discussed at length. The Strategic Plan was again brought up and although a loss is anticipated for 2009 it was felt that we should not raise the dues again until we could justify it in increased benefits to our members. It was stressed however that as soon as we commenced implementation of the Strategic Plan a substantial increase must be anticipated if we are to advance as a worthwhile group to be involved with. We need young members who are able to tell us where we should be heading. We have a very large number of seniors and they have special problems but can also provide valuable experience to the group. The dues therefore remain at the 2008 level.

Under other business a number of items were discussed. e.g.

- Protected Area for Right Whales – placards are available and Divisions are asked to support this program.
- Company attendance at Conferences – Captain Hubbard tabled a draft outline of a guideline prepared by Capital Division
- Captain A. Cabot – recognition of his 100th birthday.
- D.P. Training – Newfoundland & Labrador will prepare a paper and distribute it to us for comment.
- The Newfoundland & Labrador Seminar – This was very successful and Captain Tony Patterson presented the Foundation with a cheque for over \$1600.
- Small Passenger Vessel MED Training – we can only lobby where this affects seafarers as a whole and this should be handled elsewhere.
- Homeland Security Checks – More information is required so that we can properly assess how we should proceed.
- Reduction of AGM costs – various suggestions discussed.
- Dues Structure & Non Payment – A difficult subject with no real solution reached at this time.
- CAMM Positions – Captain Wallace explained the system used by the Council of American Master Mariners and it was agreed that we should develop a similar system to make our position on certain subjects known.

All in all I think that considerable progress was made this year. Times have changed and obviously we must change if we are to be a recognized body in the Maritime World.

*Captain DJ Bremner
Master, Vancouver Division*

COINCIDENCE?

Mr. John Cann asked me to do a reading in English at our Church Service in the Cambrian Hall Sunday 11th May 2008, to replace Mrs. Hazel Williams who was unable to do it that day. For some reason I did not choose to read from the English Bible at the Hall, but from a pocket sized volume titled "Sailor's New Testament", which has the White Ensign of the Royal Navy on one side of the cover and the Red Ensign of the Merchant Navy on the other. This little New Testament book was given to my Uncle, Henry Lampshire by his mother Sarah, (my grandmother). He wrote his name and date Nov. 1911 on the Fly-Leaf. He joined the Merchant Navy and took this little book with him throughout World War 1 and until he retired from the sea. I eventually inherited this New Testament and when I commenced my sea-going career in Nov. 1939 I took it with me throughout World War 11 and until I retired from the sea in 1969 to take a position ashore in Vancouver as Marine Surveyor. Today is 11th May 2008. On arriving home after the service something made me check the Family Bible regarding my Uncle. HE DIED 11TH May 1947.

*Captain Leuan Lampshire-Jones
Director, Vancouver Division*

BCIT to receive refurbished SIMULATORS

Ottawa will transfer ownership of three marine training simulators to the province, along with federal funding of \$2,302,000 for modernizing the equipment. When the work is complete, the simulators will go to the BC Institute of Technology's Marine Campus in North Vancouver. The federal government is transferring ownership of a total of ten marine training simulators along with \$7.2 million in funding over a 4-year period with equipment also destined for Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland & Labrador.

Source: Transport Canada

COMPANY REGALIA FOR SALE

- Ties - \$25.00
- Blazer Badges - \$20.00
- Lapel Pins - \$5.00
- Ball Caps – Black or Navy Blue - \$20.00
- Mugs (with Crest) - \$9.00
- Crest (without Plaque) - \$20.00
- Business Cards - \$14.00 per 100
- (plus postage)

