



The Foghorn

Newsletter of the Maritimes Division of the
Company of Master Mariners of Canada
www.mastermariners.ca



April 2022

From the Master Captain Marshall Dunbar

Good Day All,

It was great to see the NSCC hold another successful nautical skills competition. Congratulations to all the participants, many thanks to the judges which included Captains' Kehoe and Calvesbert from our Division, and of course all of those who worked very hard to put on this event. Hopefully the 2023 competition will be an "in person" event and our Division can have a physical presence at the event which will benefit all.

BZ to the NL and Labrador Division who also recently held their successful nautical skills competition.

These types of events show off the skills of future deck and engine room officers.

I wonder if something similar could be developed for the deck ratings out there who may be considering working towards becoming a deck officer. That is the route that I and many of my peers took to becoming command qualified and is still a viable option and one that has to be encouraged. Hoping that all companies look internally for candidates and support continued education for all their employees.

I was fortunate enough to attend a meeting of The Canadian Institute of Marine Engineering (CIMarE) on March 17th with Bud Streeter as guest speaker providing a very interesting talk on Decarbonizing Marine Shipping Clean Fuels for a Greener. It shows how far we have come and how far we need to go to meet goals being set by both the industry and its regulatory bodies.

I believe that the combined efforts of the MMC and CIMarE can provide a tremendous amount of experience and influence on how our industry in Canada reacts to new and ongoing issues (alternate fuels, the Arctic, autonomous shipping

and ensuring we have **crews** for our ships) in the years to come.

As a side note to the above (**crewing**), our government is looking at increasing the defence spending percentage of GDP to 2% as per NATO request. With that, the armed forces and the RCN continue to struggle to meet recruitment and retention numbers. It is time for them and our industry to look at the new age groups (Millennia's ages 26-41 and then the Gen Z ages 10-25) as the next group(s) we need to target as a succession to us / me the Baby Boomers! For most international shipping companies they just move on to the next available resources to fill their crewing needs(Filipino - Eastern Europeans - Chinese - ??), but for Canadian flagged vessels we do not have that luxury.

It is time to start the next generational recruitment drive and attract persons who would be interested in a career that provides unlimited opportunities and professional fulfilment for those that may follow that path.

The St. Lawrence Seaway has started their 2022 season on March 22nd. This waterway system is a major mover of goods and is within a short distance of over 100 million citizens of Canada and the USA. It provides opportunities both for USA and Canadian seafarers, along with all the workers that support this system. Let's hope they have a successful and safe season.

We are slowly and cautiously working back towards in person meetings and hopefully this will happen for the meeting in May, but not in time for a larger public event like the Battle of The Atlantic ceremony at the Maritime Museum of The Atlantic. The event may not occur, as it last did in 2019 but it is something that we can all personally take note of at a smaller and personal scale. Take time to remember and thank all those who served during this period and hope that we all do not have to live through those times again.



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Lastly, I would like to remind all to attend (virtually) the Maritimes Division AGM which will be held at 1300 LT Wednesday April 13th. It is one to attend as you can vote for and select who represents you locally, nationally and discuss concerns at all levels.

Thanks to everyone and safe sailing.

Marshall



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Meeting

Our AGM will be held on April 13th. Please note that this will be a ZOOM meeting in order that our Divisional Master can participate. Marshall will be overseas at that time. And the time will be 1300 ADT to accommodate the time difference.

The current (elected) executive is:

Master – Capt. Dunbar.
Deputy Master – Capt. Doug Roe.

Positions which are appointed by the board:

Capt. Greg Wilkie as Treasurer and
Capt. Jim Calvesbert as Secretary..

Divisional Council members (elected) are:

Captains Alan Knight,
Stu McLea, and
Ed Kehoe

We will be seeking to elect an Assistant Deputy Master which would give us an alternate if both the Master and Deputy Master are not available to attend a meeting or event and also add another person to help out within the Board of Directors. We are happy to announce that Captain Tony Potts has offered to stand for election to that position.

If you are interested in participating in any of these positions, please notify Capt. Dunbar or Capt. Calvesbert as soon as possible.



Our March Meeting Highlights

Guest Speaker
Capt. Adam Parsons,
Director of Marine Operations and
Harbour Master

Port of Halifax Control System



This new system covers all operations from authorizing arrival to final invoicing and involves all users and service providers with the port.

PortControl supports port operations and financial processing of vessel calls and facilitates the digitization of the departure and arrival of ships, dock planning, and cargo handling. It is a userfriendly system with Real-Time operational monitoring and reporting capabilities. The system is integrated with AIS satellite services to include real-time vessel movement in Halifax including crossing harbour limits and berthing, which provides better visibility and more automation.

Vancouver and Saint John have initiated similar systems which respond to their particular needs.

Public access to the system is available at:
<https://www.portofhalifax.ca/port-operations-centre/#!/>

Other discussions took place around the topics of future in-person meetings and ceremonies, possible dinner meeting at Armdale Yacht Club, June get-together at Juno Tower, and potential effects of wind



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farms on ships radar. We are always looking for guest speakers and discussion topics.



Women in the Seafaring Industry

Ed. Although we missed the official Women's Day which was March 8, here is our contribution highlighting our National Treasurer, Captain Cynthia (Cindy) Brown.



Having grown up on the back of my dad's fishing boat, I felt like an old salt on my 18th birthday when I joined the CCGS Griffon for my first sea-training phase. The bewilderment of the Chief Officer escaped me. I fully credit this spunk to my father's mentoring philosophy of, "you have to learn to do it sometime."

As a proud member of the Canadian Coast Guard College class of 1984, I set sail out of Maritimes Region - icebreaking, buoys and lots of SAR calls on the Alert. I loved the job, the uniform and the red and white ships.

For family reasons, I left the coast guard a few years later and found a new gig at the Nova Scotia School of Fisheries in Pictou teaching fishing master navigation courses. It was a perfect balance of staying engaged in the industry and being at home with my growing family. And grow it did - to the current

complement of ten children and six grandchildren.

A large crew demanded a large fleet and I have been privileged to fish as captain and crew with my father, my husband, my sons and my daughters.

A 25-year reunion at the CCGC challenged me to invest in upgrading my marine education. With a friendly reminder from my husband that "you will be 50 in five years with or without a degree"- I enrolled in the Bachelor of Maritime Studies program at Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador. I loved the studies and so continued to complete a Master of Maritime Management at Memorial in 2015. During this time, a new opportunity arose which led to an almost nine-year stint at NSCC Nautical Institute as lead faculty of navigation and eventually academic chair.

One of the highlights of this work, was collaborating with industry partners on events such as the annual career fair and skills competition. Of special note was the participation of the Master Mariners of Canada which included many old friends from my coast guard days.

Although I had followed a much different voyage plan, I was inspired by their camaraderie, professionalism, and enthusiasm to encourage and support young mariners. In 2019 I was honored to be asked to join their ranks as national secretary.

Since my retirement from NSCC Nautical Institute in June of 2021, I've been busy lobster fishing and working part time as a manager for fisheries with NSCC.

But my most important title is from my four-year-old grandson - "Grammie with the Boats".

It's not just an industry, it's a way of life - so who knows what's next!



Annual Dues Renewal Time

If you haven't yet renewed, you're currently in default. Please contact our Treasurer, Capt. Wilkie at:



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MaritimesTreasurerandMembership@mastermariners.ca

This account is now setup to receive Interac E-Deposits, no password needed.

Our annual dues run from January 1st to December 31st and they remain the same as last year. Full membership has been reduced this year and is now \$240 and Over 65 is @120 and cadet membership is \$20.



Marine Education and Training (MET)

Capt. Jim Calvesbert
Chair, National Education and Professional Development

In the latest issue of The Nautical Institute's "Seaways" there is an excellent article entitled "Are We On Track" and one paragraph struck me as something which we should be considering. Here it is:

"Over time, knowledge that has been useful gradually loses close ties to practice as it becomes more tightly integrated with a body of scientific knowledge – a process that is known as 'academic drift'. Monitoring academic drift is critical to ensuring the skills of maritime professionals are aligned with the changing needs of the industry. Maritime Education and Training (MET) must evolve to provide training, and retraining, that is relevant to practice."

Master Mariners of Canada has worked with Transport Canada in the past in the development of new navigation exams and Ice Navigation. In today's ever changing world, it is important that we continue with this contribution to MET.

A recent communication with TC Headquarters in the office of National Marine Safety Program drew a rather cool response. As a result, communication with the Canadian Institute of Marine Engineering (CIMarE) has been undertaken with the idea of making a combined approach to Transport Canada offering the services of both organizations toward ensuring that "academic drift" is addressed.

We will be looking for input toward this effort in the future and if you are interested in being part of the MMC team, please contact me.

At the same time, our national Mentorship Program will be a further means of assisting cadets and serving officers to maintain currency.

Capt. Cindy Brown, our National Secretary, and Capt. Eben March, NL Division Master, are leading this program which has been listed as: *The Master Mariners of Canada is a strong supporter of mentoring within the organization.*

Mentoring can be a formal process for a specific period of time whereby an individual member is assigned to another member based on shared interests and industry experience. Mentor selection would largely be based on their work career biography. This formal process would require a simple application process and typically involve regular contact and planned interactions.

Mentoring can also be an informal process. Identified mentors would be available to answer questions or provide advice in an informal manner. This informal process would not necessarily involve ongoing or frequent contact with the same individual and may involve several individuals at small group events.

If you feel that you would like to become a mentor, please provide the following to Capt. Cindy Brown CBrownMMC@outlook.com: a 5-6 line bio outlining your:

- marine education
- highlights of your experience and expertise
- your current career status.



Piracy lives!
Editor

I was visiting the "Contship Leo" (2008, 9957 GT, 148 metres) at the beginning of March and took the following pictures. Given her low freeboard and small size, she would make an



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easy target for pirates. In the first picture you can see the metal grates secured along the cargo hatches for installation along the rails and in the second picture is metal grating that can be locked to delay access to the superstructure.



Search and Rescue branch of the Canadian Coast Guard.



- **Poseidon**, Olympian god of the sea and king of the sea gods; His Roman equivalent is Neptune.



Port of Halifax Expansion Activities



Did You Know?

That title reminded me of the Statler Brothers song – “Do you know, you are my sunshine.....”

But really, here a couple of ancient Greek gods related to the seagoing community:

- **Palaemon**, a young sea god who aided sailors in distress. Maybe he should be the symbol for the



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PSA Halifax LP is pleased to announce a significant investment in two additional Super Post-Panamax ship-to-shore container gantry cranes. They will be due for delivery in early 2023 to its Atlantic Hub terminal located at Canada's east coast. The new Super Post-Panamax ship-to-shore cranes will offer enhanced outreach (24-wide) capable of spanning the largest vessels being deployed along the North American east coast. The cranes will be added to PSA Halifax's main berth alongside five existing Super Post-Panamax units.

In addition to a previous announcement by the Halifax Port Authority, this will lead to a major expansion of capacity at the south end container terminal.

A release from HPA says it will be infilling the basin between Piers A-1 and B at Ocean Terminals beginning in May/June 2022, all while taking advantage of the boom in construction in the Halifax area.



Georges Island is open for tours this year



How's This for a Superstructure Paint Job



CSL Welland 2022

Created by four Canadian artists, and inspired by Greek artistic traditions depicting sport, the colossal 16-by-14 m mural depicts four runners in motion, created in the run up to the Niagara 2022 Canada Summer Games, for which the shipping line is sponsoring the torch relay.



NSCC 2022 Skills Competition Results

While there's nothing quite like coming together in person, NSCC found a virtual solution to engage industry and showcase the talent of the students. This work is incredibly important to facilitate sea placements and future employment opportunities. A special pat on the back goes to the cadets who went the extra mile to compete when the pandemic has already created so many challenges. There were four teams of 4 cadets with a mix of navigation and engineering cadets: Bretons Privateers, The Buoys, The Castaways who came second overall, and the winning team was The Fear Knots comprised of Todd Sampson, Sheldon Rose, Kate Dodson, and Boyd MacIntyre.



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The event sponsors are critical to the ability to put on this competition. Among them were—Algoma as the Master Chief Sponsor, and Atlantic Towing, Atlantic Pilotage Authority, Canadian Institute of Marine Engineers, CSL, **Master Mariners of Canada**, Marine Atlantic, and Ocean Groupe.

There were a number of industry judges representing the Atlantic Pilotage Authority, **Master Mariners of Canada**, Canadian Institute of Marine Engineering Atlantic Branch, Atlantic Towing, and Algoma Central Corporation.



Did you miss the St. Patrick's Day Irish Stew take out luncheon?

Fear not, you can take advantage of the April 21st Lasagna take-out sponsored by the Halifax Port Authority.

Pre-book with the Mission:
Pick-up time: 11:30-1:00. Please place orders in advance and set up a pick-up time.

Call Helen at 902-422-7790 or 902-456-1658 or email: hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca



F.W.E. for this edition

Capt. Jim Calvesbert, Editor