



The Foghorn

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



February 2022

From the Master Captain Marshall Dunbar

Good Day Everyone,

Welcome to 2022 and trust all enjoyed the holiday season, even if we were at reduced numbers for social gatherings. We were lucky enough to have the annual holiday dinner at the RNSYS before numbers were reduced. For those that were away at sea, the people at home waiting for you truly appreciate the valuable service that you provide.

During January we had both our Divisional meeting and the National Board of Directors meeting. I would say that the same topics came up at both meetings and below is a recap with some comments on the topics.

1. Membership and dues. The membership is slowly declining and with that, less dues are generated. To survive, to flourish and keep dues steady or lower them we need to grow the membership. We all have friends and colleagues who could be possible members. Please discuss with them about joining and the reasons for doing so. They will benefit in many ways, you will benefit as it helps us with dues and all of us will benefit as it will provide a united voice for command qualified members. Also consider talking to your employer as they may want to become a corporate member.

2. Mentoring is something that we all have enjoyed over our careers and at times we only realized later on that it occurred. As an organization we do strive to mentor promising mariners and that occurs in the workplace, at nautical schools and through meeting colleagues at meetings / functions and discussing the challenges we encounter. Consider reaching out to a nautical school and see if you can help a cadet, a junior officer or someone who is at command qualified level.

3. We are a volunteer organization and always need members to assist. Captain Jim Calvesbert has worked hard as the Editor of The Foghorn for quite some time and is looking to hand over the editors pen. Social media has become an important source of news and at attracting possible members, along with generating interest in our organization within the industry. If you have that skill or interest in helping out

with these platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter) then please let us know. There are always other things on the go that need assistance and your time would be appreciated. Reach out directly to us or attend a meeting and see how you can assist.

I hope to hear from you or see you at a meeting this year.

All the best and hoping for a great year for all.

Marshall



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Meeting

February 9th, 2022 beginning at 1900 ADT by ZOOM with instructions to be sent later. Maybe next month we can all get together in person again.



Ice? Where?

Living in the Halifax area and looking over the open water harbour, we often forget that others are not so fortunate. Thankfully, the Canadian Coast Guard in its' 60 year under that name, is out there working to ensure that ships can make it into various Canadian ports.





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Annual Dues Renewal Time

As everyone is aware, 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.

E-transfer is the easiest method and can be sent directly to our Treasurer, Capt. Wilkie MaritimesTreasurerandMembership@mastermariners.ca is now setup to receive Interac E-Deposits, no password needed.

"The Master Mariners of Canada represents command-qualified mariners"

Or possibly,

"The Master Mariners of Canada represents command-qualified mariners in all categories"(or some such wording)

What are your thoughts? Let me know at jim.calvesbert@gmail.com



"My homework is stuck on a boat because of international-supply-chain-related port delays."



Wonder why people think they have to be Master Mariners to join MMC?

The first line on our one pager indicates that MMC say that. Also, on our website. "The Master Mariners of Canada represents command-qualified master mariners"

(if you are a Master Mariner you are command-qualified).

Perhaps the word master should be removed and should read:

CCGS Hudson Decommissioning

One of our divisional members, Capt. Sam Arnold, was the Commanding Officer who brought CCGS Hudson back to Dartmouth from St. John's for decommissioning.



It is appropriate that this occurs during the 60th Anniversary of the Canadian Coast Guard which traces its history back to pre Confederation.

The "Hudson" was an offshore oceanographic and hydrographic survey vessel operated by the Canadian Coast Guard. The ship entered service in 1963 with the Canadian Oceanographic Service, stationed at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, called CSS *Hudson*. The ship made several significant scientific voyages, among them the first circumnavigation of the Americas in 1970. The ship was transferred to the Canadian Coast Guard in 1996 and decommissioned in 2022 due to non feasible upgrades and issues. A replacement is not scheduled for delivery until 2024-2025.



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New Position for Capt. Chris Hall

As of Feb 14th, Capt. Hall, our past National Master and Vice President and Harbour Master of the Port of Saint John, will be taking over from Michael Broad as President of the Shipping Federation of Canada. Congratulations Chris!



Are Mariners Ready in Case of War?

A very though provoking article written in 2019 but becoming even more important today. Even though it was written in regard to the U.S. Merchant Marine, it also applies to the Canadian state of readiness.

In this article he questions and responds some of the following:

What is the Merchant Marine?

I don't have a clue.

Am I aware of the various requirements of commanding a ship in time of war?

I don't have a clue - I haven't been trained.

Would my family be looked after if I was injured or killed during time of war?

I don't know.

Would I be willing to command a ship during time of war?

Because no one can answer any of the questions that I put forward in the article, I DON'T KNOW

Read the full article by Capt. John Konrad in gCaptain [Editorial: Admiral, I Am NOT Ready For War \(gcaptain.com\)](#) Jan 30, 2022



Mission to Seafarers, Halifax

Even though there are COVID restrictions in place, the Mission is still providing full services to the visiting seafarers. Shopping trips on their behalf if their company doesn't permit them to

have shore leave, arranging for vaccinations, and just providing a friendly place where they can relax if they are granted shore leave.

All of the operations of the Mission depend upon volunteers and fund raising. One of the fund raising activities is the luncheons which are put on during the year. During COVID time, this have become take-out style but are still as mouthwatering. St. Patrick's Day, March 17th will be a nice one to try out. Look for more information at

<https://www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca/>



F.W.E. for this edition

Capt. Jim Calvesbert, Editor



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