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JANUARY **NEWSLETTER**

*Marystown Volunteer Fire Department
January 2020*

In January 2020, the Marystown Fire Department responded to several emergency calls, acknowledged the year past, held the Annual General Meeting and regular elections, were presented with new Fire Helmets, acknowledged a departing Firefighter, completed maintenance and inventory, conducted training and pre-incident planning, put new equipment in service, and recognized the ladies auxiliary following their elections.

Our Department completed the following in-house training during January: Equipment and Vehicle Familiarization, Driver-Operator, and Pre-Incident Planning at Sacred Heart Academy and Marystown Central High School.

On Friday, January 3rd at 6:42AM, the Fire Department was notified of a two-vehicle Motor Vehicle Accident(MVA) on McGettigan Boulevard in Mooring Cove. Unit #1 arrived on the scene, along with Engine #3, and no further response was required from us. Traffic Control was provided until the arrival of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police(RCMP), while a crew remained at the Fire Hall on stand-by. Marystown Ambulance also attended to the scene. We returned to the Fire Hall around 7:45AM.

On Tuesday, January 7th at 2:55PM, we received notification of a residential Fire Alarm activation at 19-21 Stapleton's Road from Liberty, the alarm monitoring company. The response was cancelled upon arrival of an Officer on scene, as the activation was confirmed to be false. All incoming Firefighters were notified, and Engine #3 and Rescue #4 were cancelled en route.

2019 was another busy year for our Fire Department. Our Firefighters spent approximately 670 hours responding to seventy-one(71) emergency calls, categorized as follows: Alarm Activations = 31; Motor Vehicle Accidents = 10; Reports of Fire/Smoke = 10; Structure Fires = 7; Carbon Monoxide Reports = 4; Pole Fires = 4; Vehicle Fires = 3; and Brush Fires = 2. This compares to sixty-two(62) emergency calls in 2018. In addition to emergency response, Firefighters had

over three thousand(3000) hours training combined from weekly drills and various training courses. While emergency response and training account for the majority of duties for our Firefighters in any given year, many hours are also devoted to other work around the Fire Hall, and committee work such as Fire Prevention, Fundraising and the Junior Firefighters. Community involvement is important to us too and we are proud to partake and support as much as is reasonably possible. Thank you to our Firefighters for their dedication and sacrifices, along with their families who support them in what we do! We want to say a thank you to our town council and the community for your unwavering support too. Our Firefighters are here to serve you 24/7/365, and in the event you need us, call 911!

On Saturday, January 11th at 5:30PM, the Fire Department received notification of a commercial Fire Alarm activation at 1 Columbia Drive. 3 Officers and 6 Firefighters responded to Sacred Heart Academy with Unit #1, Ladder #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Upon arrival and meeting with a key holder, the activation was confirmed as a water flow alarm, which was found to be related to broken piping on the top story of the primary-elementary school. The sprinkler system was shut down to allow for maintenance work and clean-up efforts. The RCMP also attended to the scene. We cleared the scene and returned to the Fire Hall at approximately 6PM.

Firefighters gathered for the Annual General Meeting and Elections for 2020 on Sunday afternoon, January 12th. Following the completion of the regular Department business meeting, elections were conducted. 2020 is the second year of the 2-year term for Officers, but a by-election was held to fill a Lieutenant position previously held by George Shave - thank you for your dedication to the position George, and we look

forward to continuing to serve with you. Jordan Hannam was elected into the position and joins fellow Officers, Fire Chief Alex Coady, Assistant Fire Chief Justin Nolan, Captains Wayde Clarke and Justin Bolt, and Lieutenant Arthur Allen. The election of the Executive, Committee Chairpersons and Liaison is outlined below: Fire Department Chairperson - Justin Green, Treasurer/Firefighter Assistance - Terry Price, Secretary/Public Relations/Policy and Changes - Justin Bolt, Fire Prevention/Family Events - Jordan Hannam, Social Room/Firefighters Banquet - Mark Coady, Fire Hall and Training Grounds - Rodney Nolan, Muscular Dystrophy - Walter Vallis, Fundraising - Richard Nolan, Heritage - Jerry Hanrahan, Junior Firefighters - Paul Snook, and Liaison for the Firefighters - Terry Mallay. Congratulations to all members who have accepted new positions or are returning to positions they held previously, and thank you to those who have previously served with commitment and dedication to an elected position(s). We look forward to serving you, the public, again this year!

Following our Annual General Meeting, the Fire Wrens dropped by to present us with new fire helmets which were purchased from their annual donation in 2019. The new fire helmets, which also have built-in track lighting, replace a critical piece of aging Personal Protective Equipment(PPE) for our Firefighters. In addition to the new PPE, there will be a couple of changes. Lieutenants will now wear red with the Captains, and Firefighters will wear yellow. The change from black to yellow helmets for the Firefighters will increase visibility of Firefighters on incident scenes too. Thank you to our ladies auxiliary for your tremendous support, as always!

Thank you to Gage Gillingham for his service to our Department and the community, as work commitments take him away at this time. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours!

On Tuesday, January 14th at 11:48AM, we received notification of a commercial Fire Alarm activation at 1 Columbia Drive. Fire Chief Coady arrived at Sacred Heart Academy in Unit #1 just moments after the activation, and confirmed the activation to be a false alarm due to repair work from the incident on Saturday. Engine #3, Rescue #4 and all incoming Firefighters were notified and the response was cancelled.

On Saturday, January 18th at 12:57PM, we were notified of a two-vehicle Motor Vehicle Accident(MVA) by 36 Marine Drive. 4 Officers and 10 Firefighters responded to the scene with Ladder #1 and Rescue #4, while Engine #3 was on stand-by. Upon arrival, it was determined that extrication

was not required, but our crew assisted Marystown Ambulance personnel and helped the RCMP with traffic control. We returned to the Fire Hall around 1:20PM.

On Monday, January 20th at 2:01PM, we received notification from 911 regarding a two-vehicle MVA on Creston Boulevard. Upon arrival of an Officer on scene, it was confirmed that Fire Department response was not required and all incoming Firefighters were cancelled.

We recently placed a powered window saw kit in service for in town MVA responses, and another will be put in service soon for out-of-town responses. The equipment will allow us to be more efficient when removing glass is required during an accident response. Thank you to the public for the continued support of our fundraising activities, which make purchases such as this possible!

On Friday, January 24th at 1:24PM, we were notified of a 2-vehicle MVA on Route 210 - The Grand Bank Highway. 3 Officers and 4 Firefighters responded to the scene with Unit #1, Engine #3 and Mobile #5, while a crew remained on stand-by in town. Extrication was required on one vehicle to remove a patient, and we also assisted Marystown Ambulance personnel who took all involved to the Burin Peninsula Health Care Center(BPHCC). The Winterland Fire Department and the RCMP also attended to the scene. We returned to the Fire Hall around 2:20PM. Great collective effort by all responding agencies!

Our ladies auxiliary, the Fire Wrens, met on Sunday, January 26th for their Annual General Meeting and Elections for 2020. Congratulations to the Fire Wrens Executive for the current year: President - Victoria Bolt, Vice-President - Makaila Farrell, Secretary - Stephanie Keating, Treasurer - Geraldine Martin, Public Relations - Jennifer Shave, and Liaison - Peggy Clarke. Wrens members also include Nicole Keating, Kyla Nolan, Jessica Vallis, Jennifer Burke-Nordby, Audrey Mallay and Beth Anne Emmink. We look forward to working with all of you and thank you for your awesome support to our Department year after year! Check out the Fire Wrens website page, under the About tab on our website, for their history and more. They're also on Facebook - Marystown Fire Wrens and Twitter - @MYSTFireWrens!

Did you know the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department has a Heritage Museum? The Gerard J. Kelly Memorial Firefighters Heritage Museum is located at the rear of the Fire Hall on McGettigan Boulevard. Under the direction of Chairperson Jerry Hanrahan, the Heritage Committee preserves the heritage of our Fire Department and provides a showcase of the past.

This room can be viewed at your request or anytime there are Firefighters at the Fire Hall - we look forward to seeing all visitors!

To schedule a demonstration, presentation or tour, call us at (709)279-2226 or email marystownfiredept@nf.aibn.com



Picture 1. Presentation of new fire helmets from the Fire Wrens



Picture 2. Motor Vehicle Accident on Route 210

The Marystown Volunteer Fire Department serves approximately 5400 residents from the centrally located Fire Hall at 97-105 McGettigan Boulevard. The Fire Department has 30 very dedicated firefighters and a fleet of a Fire Chief's Vehicle(Unit #1), 1 Ladder Truck(Ladder #1), 2 Pumpers(Engine's #2 & #3), 2 Rescue Vehicles(Rescue's #4 & #6), 1 Pick-up Truck(Mobile #5), a Hovercraft(Rescue #1), Hazmat Unit & Antique Pumper(Engine#1). Visit our website at www.marystownvolunteerfiredept.com, or you can also visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MystVolFireDept and Twitter @MYSTVolFireDept.

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