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OCTOBER **NEWSLETTER**

*Marystown Volunteer Fire Department
October 2021*

During October, the Marystown Fire Department continued online public education, had annual ground ladder testing completed, had a successful Fire Prevention Week, held our Monthly Membership Meeting, continued the Junior Program, responded to emergency calls, hosted our 50th Annual Firefighters Banquet, conducted training, participated in the annual Walk for Autism, supported a fundraiser for the Friends of Daffodil Place, returned to emergency operations during a local COVID outbreak, and promoted our heritage.

Our Department completed the following in-house training during October: Water Supply, Pump Operations, Vehicle Fire, Foam Application and associated outcomes, Fire Hose, Hose Lays and Loads, Hazardous Materials, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and Searches.

Fire Prevention week 2021 kicked off on October 3rd and ran until October 9th. "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety" was this years message. The Fire Prevention committee, headed by chairperson Shawn Allen, started the week with the annual Fire Prevention Parade around town on the afternoon of October 3rd. It was great to see everyone along the route!

From October 4th – 7th, Firefighters participated in web conferencing with classes at Scared Heart Academy to provide fire safety education. Thank you to the school for helping us continue our efforts virtually! We also partnered with Burin Peninsula Brighter Futures and Marystown Central High School for fire safety promotion – thank you all!

On October 7th at 1:44PM we received notification of a Structure Fire at 25 Water Street West. 5 Officers and 13 Firefighters responded with Ladder #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Upon arrival on scene, a small fire was located and extinguished at the rear of the structure, while Firefighters also completed a search of the structure to ensure all occupants were out safely. Then overhaul operations were completed. Once completed Firefighters cleared the scene, returning to the Fire

Hall. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Marystown Ambulance and Newfoundland Power also attended the scene.

On October 8th, Firefighters and Sparky the Fire Dog did outside visits at the local daycares. While it was raining, it didn't dampen the excitement and we were happy to see everyone!

Congratulations to all the winners of our Fire Prevention Week Contest at Scared Heart Academy drawn on October 8th as well! Winners in each grade received a Sparky the Fire Dog bag and a mini-Sparky. Recipients were as follows: Kindergarten – Paige Hannam, 1 – Konner Edwards, 2 – Lilly Hickman, 3 – Lily Whittle, 4 – Keisha Mendoza, 5 – Emma Fiander, 6 – Jesse Emmink and 7 – Mackenzie Francis. Smoke alarms were also won by Jayden Handrigan-Stone and a Carbon Monoxide (CO) by Amber Walters. Grade 7 student Mackenzie Francis will also be Fire Chief for a day at a later date!

We held our 50th Annual Firefighters' Banquet in our 54th year of service on Saturday, October 9th, in adherence to COVID restrictions and guidelines. As always, the evening began with dinner, followed by greetings from Mayor Keating and MHA Dwyer, along with and the Fire Department Annual Report from Chief Bolt, and concluded with the presentation of service awards, donations, certificates and tokens of appreciation. The following Firefighters received service awards: Firefighter Derrick Keating with twenty-five (25) years of service, Firefighter George Shave with twenty (20) years of service, Captain Jordan Hannam with ten (10) years of service, and Firefighters Troy Mayo and Mark Coady each with five (5) years of service. Congratulations and thank you all for your commitment and dedication to the Department and our town! Honorary Member awards were presented to Alex Coady, Adrian Murphy and Kenneth Rideout – congratulations and thank you for your contributions. Fire Chief Bolt extended appreciation to Gage Gillingham and Blake Colbran for their past service to the Department and Town of Marystown, as they

departed since the last banquet. Firefighters Jody Nolan, Rebecca Soper and Jared Synard were recognized as the new members of the Department since the last banquet, along with Junior Firefighters who were in attendance. Tokens of appreciation were also presented to the Officers, Executive and Committee Chairpersons in recognition of their work over the past year. Assistant Fire Chief Justin Nolan presented Chief Bolt with a gift from the membership too. During the Fire Department Annual Report, Chief Bolt acknowledged that the Department is having a busy year. The Department responded to 85 emergency calls since the last banquet, 72 to date in 2021. Firefighters participated in weekly Training Drills, courses and meetings, engaged in Department activities and events such as Fire Prevention, Maintenance and the Junior Firefighter Program, and Muscular Dystrophy and Department fundraising efforts also took place. We remained involved in the community, but with the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic activities of our Department remained less than usual over the year and adherence to regulations for the pandemic were followed. The Muscular Dystrophy Committee, led by Chairperson Walter Vallis, presented the annual donation for Muscular Dystrophy Canada in the amount of \$3,000 - Thank you to the public and businesses for continuing to support this important cause! Thank you to the Shriner's and Danny Fitzpatrick for their donations too! Fire Wrens President Victoria Bolt presented \$7,000 on behalf of the auxiliary as their annual donation. Thank you to the Wrens, we truly appreciate all the support you provide us! Like always, donations such as these assists with new equipment purchases and upgrades for the Department. The following Fire Wrens were recognized for their years of service: Geraldine Martin with twenty-five (25), Nicole Keating with twenty (20), and Kyla Nolan and Victoria Bolt each with five (5). Congratulations to all and thank you! The Wrens also received tokens of appreciation for their efforts. There was no Melvin Lambe Memorial Award recipient this year as there wasn't a family member of a Firefighter graduating, but we would like to thank the Lambe Family for their continued involvement and support. We extended appreciation to our families and partners, the Town of Marystown, MHA Dwyer, NL Fire Services, affiliated community organizations like the Lions Club, community emergency services, surrounding Fire Departments, sponsors, and all businesses and residents of Marystown and surrounding area. St. Gabriel's Hall was recognized for the wonderful meal and hosting the event, along with Chairperson

Mark Coady and the Banquet Committee for a great job organizing. Fred Dodge emceed the event again this year – thank you, Fred. In closing, we thanked all past and present Firefighters, along with their families for their contributions and making the Department what it is today!

Thank you to Newco for their assistance in attaining and providing vehicles for our training purposes!

On October 12th at 9:13PM, we received notification of a Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) at the Route 210/220 intersection. 4 Officers and 14 Firefighters responded with Unit #1, Ladder #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Once on scene, Firefighters found a single-vehicle MVA, completed traffic control activities and assisted Marystown Ambulance. Once the scene was cleared, Firefighters returned to the Fire Hall. The RCMP also attended to the scene.

This month's Fire Safety contest asked the public to tell us what they were doing to help keep their family safe during Fire Prevention Week. Lisa Hodder was the winner, and in her reply to the posting, she said her family talked about the reasons why you should keep your bedroom doors closed while sleeping and the importance of staying low to the ground if the escape paths are filled with smoke. Thank you to everyone who took the time to reply to our post and participate in the contest!

On October 16th at 2:39PM, we received notification of a Vehicle Fire at 56 Marine Drive. 6 Officers and 11 Firefighters responded with Unit #1, Ladder #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Once on scene, Firefighters made quick work extinguishing the fire contained to the vehicle. Firefighters later cleared the scene and returned to the Fire Hall. The RCMP also attended the scene.

Earlier in the afternoon of October 16th, Firefighter Soper attended the Annual walk for Autism as our representative and in continued support of the Burin Peninsula Autism Support Group. Congratulations on your successful fundraising event, keep up the great work!

The next day, October 17th, Firefighters were out in the community again answering the phones and doing other support roles from 1-2pm at the Friends of Daffodil Place – Burin Peninsula live fundraiser. Our members were proud to present a donation of \$1,532 to the fundraiser as well. We are proud to stand with fellow Firefighter/ Cancer survivor Terry Price each year in supporting the cause!

With a rise in COVID cases in our region, we were moved back to Alert Level 3 on October 23rd. Therefore, our Department went into emergency operations mode. While we know this is

a difficult time for our community, we wish for everyone to stay safe and well, we're all in this together!

On October 26th at 12:09PM, we received a Request for Assistance from a resident at 27B Atlantic Crescent. 5 Officers and 4 Firefighters responded with Unit #1, Engine #3 and Rescue #4. Once Officers arrived on scene, they ensured all hazards were mitigated and the crew returned to the Fire Hall.

The Heritage Committee continued to promote our heritage through Throwback Thursday moments.

The Fire Wrens hosted a virtual Fall Fair in October. Thank you to the public for their continued support of the Wrens' fundraising activities!

The Muscular Dystrophy Committee is expecting ornaments for the annual Ornament Sale soon. If interested in purchasing your collectible, contact committee Chairperson Walter Vallis.



Photo 4. Virtual sessions at Sacred Heart Academy.



Photo 5. Structure Fire on Water Street.



Photo 1. Annual Ground Ladder testing.



Photo 6. Outside visits at local daycares.



Photo 2. Annual Fire Prevention Parade.



Photo 7. Thank you Fire Wrens!



Photo 3. Junior Drill on Water Supply and Pump Operations.



Photo 8. Congratulations service award recipients!



Photo 9. Members with Mayor Keating and MHA Dwyer.



Photo 13. Vehicle Fire on Marine Drive.



Photo 10. Vehicle Fire Training.



Photo 14. Annual Walk for Autism.



Photo 11. MVA at Route 210/220 Intersection.



Photo 15. Friends of Daffodil Place donation.



Photo 12. Junior Drill on Foam Application.



Photo 16. Hazardous Materials Training.



Photo 17. Junior Drill in SCBA.



Photo 18. Assistance Request on Atlantic Crescent.

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), & 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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