

From Training to Mutual Aid in the Month of April

**By Justin Bolt
Secretary/Public Relations**

In the month of April the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department welcomed two new members. The new members are Justin Green and Shane Simms.

On April 6th and 7th, the Fire Department hosted a Defensive Firefighting Course. Participants came from Torbay, Grand Bank, Grand Le Pierre and two of our newest members from our department. The theory instruction was delivered by Chief Alex Coady with the help of Assistant Fire Chief George Shave and Firefighter Justin Bolt on April 6th. The next day participants completed the practical part of the course and Lieutenant Paul Snook and Firefighter Jordan Hannam also assisted. Participants learned things from basic fire department operations to fire extinguishers and ground ladders.

At 7:35AM on April 8th, the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department received a call for Mutual Aid from the Garnish Volunteer Fire Department. The request was to assist with fighting a fire at the Lions Club in their community. One officer and 3 firefighters responded from Marystown with Engine 2 and Mobile 5. Despite the tireless efforts of both departments the Lions Club building was a total loss. Efforts from both departments prevented damage to surrounding structures. Our members returned to our hall around 11AM.

During the week of April 8th-12th, firefighters Rodney Gleason and George Gouzvaris attended Hazmat Awareness and Operations training instructed by Fire and Emergency Services. The training was held in

Grand Falls-Windsor and consisted of both theory and practical training.

On April 15th, at 3:55PM, a call was received for a grass fire at a residence on Villa Marie Drive in Creston North. 4 Officers and 8 Firefighter's responded to the call with Engine # 3 and Rescue Unit # 4. The fire was extinguished shortly after arrival.

Also, In April, our department loaned Engine #2(Pumper) to the Grand Bank Fire Department while their first run pumper was down for repairs. It's at times like these when we all have to pull together and help our neighbors in the Fire Service.

Kiewit Offshore Services, the community's largest employer, recently donated approximately three thousand pounds of scrap copper wire to the department. The members cleaned and salvaged all material which could be used to return funds from recycling. This was one of many recent donations that have been received from Kiewit. Money generated from the recycling helps to fund emergency equipment purchases. The fire department would like to express thanks to Kiewit for their generosity once again.

April 21st-27th was Volunteer week. As part of the weeklong celebration our department participated in two events. On Monday, April 22nd, our members took to the streets of Marystown with our sirens and horns sounding in all of our vehicles as part of the Newfoundland and Labrador "Let's Make Some Noise" Event for volunteers. Following the drive through town, the department provided the firefighters with coffee and finger foods as a small token of appreciation for their volunteer efforts. On Wednesday, April 24th,

Assistant Fire Chief George Shave and Captain Justin Nolan attended the Town's Volunteer Appreciation Night.

The department did training in Vehicle Extrication, Ventilation, and SCBA/Smokehouse during the drill nights in April.

The Marystown Volunteer Fire Department serves approximately 5400 residents from the centrally located Fire Hall. The Fire Department has 30 very dedicated firefighters and a fleet of 2 Pumpers, 1 Aerial, 2 Rescue Vehicles, 1 Pick-up, 1 SUV, a Hovercraft and a Hazmat Unit. Visit our website at www.marystownvolunteerfiredepartment.com or you can also visit us on Facebook and Twitter.



Picture 1. Defensive Firefighting Course Participants.



Picture 2. Garnish Lions Club Fire