

# December 2020 Newsletter

*"So that others may live"*



# A.B.S.A.R.

## Antigua & Barbuda Search and Rescue

Antigua Yacht Club Marina – Falmouth Harbour, Antigua

E-mail: [info@absar.org](mailto:info@absar.org) Website: [www.absar.org](http://www.absar.org)

Medic Station Phone: (268) 720-3992

Emergency Phone ONLY: (268) 562-1234 VHF: Channel 16

### Letter from The Board of Directors

This past year, ABSAR and the rest of the world has had to negotiate and learn to cope during this time of COVID-19. Keeping safety protocols in place to protect our volunteers and patients, while learning how to proceed in this pandemic, has been an enormous challenge.

To our dedicated staff and wonderful volunteers, we would like extend a special thank you. Please know that without you, it would have been impossible for ABSAR to remain operational during this past year. No words can express our gratitude, and we thank you again for all your hard work and for being part of our ABSAR team!

And to our community, we thank you for your support of ABSAR as well as your commitment and care to your fellow neighbors during this global crisis. Whether it was donating food to an organization in need, donating blood when asked, or just wearing your mask, you all did your part in helping our community push through the challenges of this year.

We want to wish you all a safe and peaceful holiday, and we look forward to once again serving our community in the coming year.

**Happy Holidays — ABSAR**

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Moving forward for the upcoming season we are excited to be reinstating our volunteer program and training. Currently we are in need of volunteers who are interested in the following:

**\* Search and Rescue Call Outs**

**\* Emergency Medical Responders**

**\* Medic Station Shifts**

**\* Emergency Vehicle Operators**

Please reach out to us at our Medic Station office at 268-720-3992 or email Marco Bava at [marcobava@gmail.com](mailto:marcobava@gmail.com) for more information.



### Mill Reef Fund

We would like to say a big thank you to the Mill Reef Fund for their \$17,000.00 USD donation

this year for the purchase of replacement tubes for Rescue 1 as well as its new cover. Once again we are extremely grateful to the Mill Reef Club and their members for their constant support of ABSAR.

### Defibrillator (AED) + Epi-Pen

As a reminder, we have an AED and Epi-pen secured to our front door at the Medic Station which is available 24/7 for community emergencies.



### ABSAR 2020 Corporate Sponsors

We would like to say THANK YOU to our corporate sponsors for their continued support and generosity.

#### DIAMOND

Jumby Bay Fund, Mill Reef Fund

#### RUBY

Antigua Yacht Club Marina

#### EMERALD

Antigua Marine Services, Digicel, Premier Motors

#### SAPPHIRE

Club House Restaurant, Axxess Marine, Cloggy's Restaurant

## Join Our 2021 Membership Program

Memberships now available starting at \$260.00 EC.

Contact Karen Mothersill at [karenabsar@gmail.com](mailto:karenabsar@gmail.com) or stop by the medic station at the AYC Marina Resort for more information.

*Jumby Bay Fund*

We would once again like to recognize the Jumby Bay Fund and their members for their continued support of ABSAR and our work in the community. We would not be able to continue our mission without their financial assistance each year.

**2020 Corporate Sponsors:** Our corporate sponsors (listed on page one) donated over \$127,000.00 EC to our operational expenses, which was in addition to the discounted services many already provide us yearly. We realize the need was great this year and we would like to recognize these businesses and organizations and thank them for allowing us to continue to live by our motto "So That Others May Live".

**2020 Membership Program Donors:** This year we had ninety-six businesses and individuals join our membership program which raised over \$109,000.00 EC. These donors included: 11 Platinum, 35 Gold, 28 Silver and 22 Bronze memberships. We are constantly amazed and grateful for our membership donors and their continued commitment to us.

With an annual budget of over \$100,000.00 USD, our members and sponsors have assisted ABSAR in continuing to provide search and rescue assistance as well as medic station services for Antigua and Barbuda.



### ABSAR Volunteer of the Year

During the past year, we have relied heavily on our dedicated core volunteers, who have each sacrificed their time willingly to assist others. We feel this level of commitment should be acknowledged, so each year we will recognize a volunteer as an appreciation for their commitment to our mission statement. This year, we have chosen Carol Archer for her exceptional service to our community and our ABSAR team.

Carol has been an ABSAR volunteer since 2016 and has been committed to helping others by providing excellent patient care in a professional and positive manner. This year she attended to over seventy patients in the Medic Station as well as assisted in a water rescues. She is a team player and is always willing to support her fellow team members however she can. Carol is a retired registered nurse in the United States and has been practicing nursing for the past twenty years in both major trauma centers and smaller emergency rooms.

Her professionalism during this challenging year has not gone unnoticed by her fellow team members, and we would all like to congratulate her on this achievement.



# ABSAR

Antigua & Barbuda Search and Rescue



**Mission:** Antigua & Barbuda Search and Rescue is a team of skilled volunteers dedicated to providing free search and rescue services as well as first responder services to our local community.

**Motto:** So That Others May Live

**Vision:** Continue to improve our services and technical skills - set and build meaningful partnerships with our maritime community

**Values:** What we expect of ourselves and our team of volunteers:

- **Service to Others:** Serve our local community by helping those in need
- **Integrity:** Be honest - treat others with respect and serve with honor
- **Personal and Professional Excellence:** Continue to better ourselves and our skills for our team and those we serve
- **Sense of Team:** A passion to succeed together – we trust each other to make the right decisions and are committed to work as a team
- **Effective Communication:** Communication is key to a successful team – we value open lines of communication with each other and the community and appreciate appropriate feedback



### EXPIRING MEDICATIONS ???

Drop them off at the Medic Station and ABSAR can put them to good use.

### BE A BLOOD DONOR

Send an email to [karenabsar@gmail.com](mailto:karenabsar@gmail.com) to join our donor list



### Calendar of Events

(all events subject to change and may be modified to take account of government advisories and protocols)

#### 2020

Talisker Whisky Atlantic Race (leaving L Gomera)	December 12
Budget Marine High Tide Series	December 19-20
AYC Boxing Day Barrell	December 26
Nelson's Pursuit Race	December 31

#### 2021

AYC Round the Island Race	January 16
Jolly Harbour Valentine's Regatta	February 12-14
RORC Caribbean 600 Race	February 22-26
Antigua Sailability Super-Sunday	March 7
Superyacht Challenge Antigua	March 10- 14
Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta	March 31- April 6
Oyster Regatta	April 18-22
Peters & May Round Antigua Race	April 24
Antigua Sailing Week	April 25-30
Dockyard Day	May 1
Mike Piggott Jr. Memorial Classic	May 21
A & B Sport Fishing Tourney	May 22-23
Francis Nunes Jr. Fishing Tourney	September 25

### 2020 Statistics to Date:

Medical Cases .....	309
Miscellaneous Walk-Ins .....	450+
Emergency Response Vehicle Calls .....	32
Search and Rescue Assists .....	4
Rescue Boat Launches .....	6
Emergency Beacon Activations .....	2
Regattas/Events Supported .....	7
Fire Assistance .....	1

**About ABSAR** A.B.S.A.R. is a registered non-profit organization that has been in existences since 1998. Our organization is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, ready to assist with medical emergencies, marine and aerial search and rescues, as well as with marine based fires. We have a base at the Antigua Yacht Club Marina in Falmouth Harbour and our medic station is open 5 days a week. Our ambulance is used to transport patients to the hospital and to various doctors on island. Our two Rescue RIBs can be launched within minutes in the event of a callout. Our organization is run by a group of dedicated volunteers. ABSAR is funded through donations and through their annual membership program. Copies of our Antigua registration and our latest financial report may be obtained from our office.

**Directors:** Jonathan Cornelius, Julie Esty, Michael Kirk, Dave Martin, and Tracey Meagher.