

# May 2023 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

As this season comes to a close, we would like to say thank you once again to our dedicated team of volunteers and send a welcome to our new ones. These individuals bring a wealth of marine and emergency medical knowledge to our organization and we are forever grateful for the time they sacrifice away from work and home. Our Jolly Harbour base continues to grow and their addition to our team was instrumental in our ability to offer on-the-water support this year for our events as well as marine rescues when needed. We also gained several new Corporate Sponsors this year, including OnDeck, Haas RT, and Indigo Divers. Our Corporate Sponsors are vital to our organization's existence and we consider it a privilege to have their financial support. Please join us in thanking our Team, Corporate Sponsors and Members, all who support our mission of service. **ABSAR Board of Directors**

### ABSAR WATER SUPPORT FOR EVENTS

2023 saw our regatta season back in full swing with ABSAR offering on-the-water support for many events including the RORC 600, Super Yacht Challenge, Antigua Classics and Antigua Sailing Week. Our volunteers spent hours on the water and in the medic station at each of these events to ensure the safety of participants and we are forever grateful for their continued dedication. We also want to thank the restaurants who supported our team members by donating delicious meals, ensuring our volunteers were energized each day. (Cloggy's, Club House, Catherine's, and Lucky Eddi's)



### OUR 2023 CORPORATE SPONSORS

We are excited to welcome three new corporate sponsors to our sponsorship program. Our ABSAR sponsors are vital to our organization and the continued services we offer. These sponsors assist us in the funding of our emergency equipment, maintaining our rescue vehicles, paying for subscriptions such as our satellite phones, cell phones and in meeting our overall operational costs. It has been a privilege to work with them and we thank them for their unwavering support.

**DIAMOND LEVEL**

- Mill Reef Fund
- Jumby Bay Fund
- AYC ANTIGUA YACHT CLUB
- ondeck maritime training
- jolly harbour marina & boatyard
- Antigua Yacht Club Marina

**EMERALD LEVEL**

- CARIBBEAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE
- St James's Club ANTIGUA
- PREMIER MOTORS LAND-ROVER ANTIGUA
- Digicel
- AXCESSMARINE
- HAAS Racing Team
- Lucky Eddi's Sports & Music
- Club House Restaurant at the AYC
- indigo Divers Antigua
- Diving in Paradise



## UNITED KINGDOM MEDICAL STUDENTS



This spring ABSAR was able to offer elective internships to eleven medical students visiting from the UK. These students received hands-on training in emergency medicine as well as rescue boat training, which included a 400 meter swim and rescues with a sea spine board. They were also offered instruction on non-premedical skills in an office setting by our local physician Dr. Sean Blackburn and by several of our ABSAR volunteer medics. We hope their time in Antigua was beneficial to them as we know it was for our volunteers who learned a great deal from these soon-to-be doctors. We wish them the best of luck in their future fields of medicine.

## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

This year ABSAR volunteers have participated in a variety of training in the classroom on the water and in the air. Their courses have included airway management, boat crew transfer training, and aerial spotting practices. Our volunteers have been enthusiastic in attending each week's course with some being taught by our visiting medical students. We would like to thank the Calvin Air Helicopters for teaming up with ABSAR as we were able to conduct a course in helicopter operations and aerial searches with them. We also want to thank OnDeck for their continued support in providing MCA training for our boat crew. We appreciate the time our volunteers commit to these trainings as they make our team more emergency ready. Want to Join Us? Stop by for an application.



## BECOME A CORPORATE SPONSOR

Corporate Sponsorships range from \$5,000 to \$40,000 EC. Sponsors will have their name and logo appear on our website, have their name displayed on our Corporate Sponsor boards in Falmouth and Jolly Harbour and receive recognition in our bi-yearly newsletter.

# ABSAR WISH LIST

- (1) Office Chair (w/ wheels)
- (10) NEW Inflatable Life Jackets
- (2) NEW Igloo Coolers Marine Ultra 72 Qt Cooler
- A sponsor for 2024 ABSAR TEAM T-Shirts

## 2023 – CALENDAR OF EVENTS

North American Jr. Optimist Championship .....	July 2-9
Francis Nunes Jr Fishing Tournament .....	September 23
Antigua Charter Show .....	December 4-9
World's Toughest Row .....	December 12
Nelson's Pursuit Race .....	December 26



**Support ABSAR by attending Quiz Night at Club House Restaurant**

\*\*they are a long standing corporate sponsor who raised over \$5,000 with their quiz night donations last year



### BECOME A BLOOD DONOR

We want to thank our current blood donors and send a big welcome to our **(16)** new donors who just recently joined our list of dedicated donors.

**YOU GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE**

**About ABSAR** A.B.S.A.R. is a registered non-profit organization that has been in existences since 1998. Our organization of dedicated volunteers are 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 receives no government funding and is supported through donations, Corporate Sponsorship and our Membership Program. Copies of our Antigua registration and our latest financial report may be obtained from our office

**Directors:** Jonathan Cornelius, Carol Archer, Marco Bava, Richard Fear and Dave Martin