



MARINE INSTITUTE
Centre for Marine Simulation

Recreating the Bartlett Voyage

**A Simulation of the Historic
1909 Voyage of the Roosevelt**

Centre for Marine Simulation
Marine Institute of Memorial University
July-August 2009

Celebrating Bartlett 2009

Celebrating Bartlett 2009 is a project to make Captain Bob Bartlett better known in his home province and throughout Canada. Born in Brigus in 1875, he is considered to be the greatest ice captain of the 20th century. Bartlett earned his place in history on Robert Peary's famous North Pole trek of 1909. This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of that expedition and Bartlett's incredible 50 year career. Celebrating Bartlett 2009 is a project of the Historic Sites Association of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Marine Institute's Centre for Marine Simulation is an important partner in the 2009 Bartlett program. Visit www.bartlett2009.com for more information.

Captain Bob Bartlett: Our Greatest Mariner

"Captain Bob" as he was known internationally in the first half of the 20th century, is one of Canada's greatest historical figures. Bartlett's career as captain of numerous Arctic voyages is unparalleled in the history of Arctic exploration. He is also recognized for his contributions to Far North scientific research during the 1920s to the 1940s.

- Born 1875 in Brigus, Newfoundland. Died 1946 in New York City.
- Made more than 40 far north voyages, travelling more than 400,000 miles.
- Best known for taking Robert Peary within 133 miles of the North Pole in 1909.
- Recognized for incredible heroic action during the 1914 Karluk expedition.
- Rescued the ill-fated Crockerland expedition in 1917.
- Received the famed Hubbard Medal, 1909 - one of only 34 recipients since 1906.
- One of 23 Legendary Canadian Heroes named by Library and Archives Canada.
- Made 20 scientific research voyages into the Far North.
- Worked for the Smithsonian, American Museum of Natural History, National Geographic, and many other institutions.
- Received the Royal Geographic Society's Award in 1910 at Albert Hall, London.
- Received the Royal Geographic Society's Back Grant, 1918.
- Received an Honorary Doctorate Degree in the United States, 1920.
- Received a Special US Congressional Medal for polar expeditions and science, 1945.
- Commemorated by the Explorers Club of New York.
- Designated a National Historic Person of Canada in 1969.
- Commemorated by Canadian Coast Guard's naming vessel CCGS Bartlett, 1969.
- Hawthorne Cottage, his family home located in Brigus, NL, designated a National Historic Site of Canada, 1978.
- Commemorated by Memorial University of Newfoundland

The Roosevelt, 1909



The 1908-09 Peary Polar Expedition on the Roosevelt is one of the most famous Arctic voyages in history. It was the final attempt by expedition leader Robert Peary to go down in history as the first person to reach the North Pole. The Roosevelt was commanded by Captain Bob Bartlett, the 1908-09 expedition being Bartlett's 3rd attempt with Peary. Peary was an experienced Arctic explorer who adapted his methods and equipment for maximum results. Peary also knew that his greatest chance of reaching his goal of 90° North lay with Bob Bartlett.

Bartlett sailed the Roosevelt farther north than anyone had sailed before. Then began the journey over the ice and again Bartlett was instrumental as an experienced ice navigator. He led one of the sledge parties and broke trail for Peary to the latitude of 87° 48' North. It was at this point that Peary ordered Bartlett back to base camp. Peary went on towards the pole and later claimed that he reached 90° North on April 6, 1909.

On the return from the Arctic, Bartlett sailed the Roosevelt to Battle Harbour, Labrador where Peary held a press conference to announce details of his quest. Reporters from the United States and Canada gathered at Battle Harbour and, from the Marconi station there, sent out stories around the world with news of Peary's success.

The Simulation

The Bartlett 2009 celebration presents the perfect opportunity for the Marine Institute to showcase its facilities, equipment and expertise by opening its doors to the public and demonstrating its marine simulation capabilities.

In partnership with the Historic Sites Association, the Centre for Marine Simulation is simulating an Arctic Expedition on the Roosevelt with the help of Captain Bob Bartlett. The production of this simulation will be facilitated by the Rabbittown Theatre Company and performed by Mr. Aiden Flynn.

This expedition places you on the Roosevelt as it travels north in icy waters off the coast of Greenland and into Battle Harbour Labrador where Peary announced to the world that he had reached the pole. You will experience a part of Newfoundland and Labrador history.

The Centre for Marine Simulation

The **Centre for Marine Simulation** (CMS), an industrial response unit at the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland, is internationally recognized as Canada's most comprehensive research and training facility for marine simulation and technology. Simulation technology allows individuals and teams to encounter dangerous and life-threatening situations in perfect safety, and to develop the necessary judgement and response skills. In essence, simulator training provides 'artificial experience' to mariners thereby improving their performance and reducing the risk of a human error induced accident.

Through the use of simulation services and the development of specialized simulation technology, CMS assists the maritime and offshore industries in mitigating the risk of accidents, in accelerating training and improving performance, and in testing new equipment designs. CMS's particular areas of expertise include the modelling and simulation of harsh maritime environments; human performance in moving environments, simulation of offshore oil and gas operations, and waterway risk analysis.

All CMS facilities represent the world's latest developments in marine simulation and include: a full mission ship bridge simulator mounted on an aviation motion base; a full mission ballast control room simulator with motion base; a full mission propulsion plant simulator with audio system; an electronic navigation simulator; two dynamic positioning simulators; two remotely operated vehicle (ROV) simulators; a liquid cargo simulator; a process control simulator; a fast-time simulator; a lifeboat launching simulator; an on-line navigation instruments simulator; and a global maritime distress safety system simulator.

HERE BE DRAGONS

Written and performed by
Aiden Flynn

With assistance from
Brad Hodder
Sean Panting
Brian Bishop

Produced by



Aiden Flynn is an actor, playwright, director, and producer from St. John's, NL. He is the founder and operator of The Rabbittown Theatre Company. Flynn is debuting a new play titled **The Monk** at The Norstead Theatre Festival in L'Anse Aux Meadows this summer. He will be presenting 2 more one handers this year at The Rabbittown Theatre: **The Death of Balder** (in **Aug**) and **Penning The Carol** (Dec). He is currently adapting **Treasure Island** for the stage as a one hander as well.