



Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron
Rideau Ripples
December 2006



TAKE A COURSE!

The boat has been put away and only the memories of the past boating season remain. We can no longer amuse ourselves at the marina by cleaning, waxing, sailing or cruising. What can we do to satisfy our desire to be involved in boating? Take a course. Learn something new. Meet other people who love boats. Become a better boater and a safer boater.

The Ottawa Squadron will offer 9 boating related courses commencing January of 2007. **Course registration will take place at École Franco-Cité, 623 Smyth Road, Ottawa, on January 8, 2007 and January 10, 2007 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** on each night. In addition, registration for all courses can be done through the Squadron's website (www.cps-ottawa.com).

The courses being offered on Monday nights commencing January 15th, 2007 are Boating, Piloting and Marine Maintenance. All Monday courses will start at 7:00 p.m.

On Wednesday nights commencing January 17th, 2007, the Squadron will offer Boating, Electronic NAV/GPS, Seamanship Sail and Celestial Navigation. Again, all Wednesday night courses will begin at 7:00 p.m.

In the Spring of 2007, the Ottawa Squadron will offer Boat Pro courses and VHF courses. The times and locations for these courses will be found on the Squadron website.

A detailed description of the content of each of the courses will be found on the [Squadron Course Info](#).

The Ottawa Squadron invites you to take a course yourself and asks Squadron members to encourage their friends and family to review the courses available and to participate in those courses of interest to them.

On behalf of the Training Department of the Ottawa Squadron, I wish you all a Happy Holiday Season and, the members of the Training Department will look forward to seeing you at the varying courses offered commencing January 2007.

Bryan Carroll, Training Officer

Rideau District To Host CPS Annual Conference 2007



*Boating
Through History
Ottawa 2007*

The CPS Annual Conference will be hosted by the Rideau District at the Ottawa Marriott, located at 100 Kent Street in downtown Ottawa.

The Theme for our Conference will be "Boating Through History: Celebrating 175 Years on the Rideau". This theme will allow for a very wide interpretation of costumes for the PARTY, ranging from "Historic" boating attire to "Bikini's", if you dare.

Preparations are well underway and we have a number of Volunteers who have joined the organizing committee. There is however a need for two important committee members:

A Prizes Sub-committee Chair, and an Entertainment Sub-Committee Chair.

If you are able to assist us with either of these positions, please contact us at the Email address below.

Contact Information:

Email: [P/Cdr Frank W Keating](mailto:P/Cdr Frank W Keating (2007@cps-ottawa.com))
(2007@cps-ottawa.com)

Frank W Keating, AP, P/Cdr
Rideau District Chair
2007 National Conference Committee
Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons





Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron
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The 2006 – 2007 Bridge

Squadron Commander

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Lt James Dean, S

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Social Activities Officer

Fred Cameron
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Rideau Ripples Editor

Steve Lortie
(613) 596-9620

Squadron Events Calendar

Tuesday, 5 December 2006; **Bridge meeting &**

Annual Christmas Dinner. At the

Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island. Dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.



Tuesday, 2 January 2007; **Bridge**

meeting. At the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island.

Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

Thursday, 11 January 2007; **Information Night**, with Marine surveyor Larry Parkinson. Watch web page for details.

Tuesday, 6 February 2007; **Bridge meeting.** At the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island. Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

Saturday, 10 February 2007; Sqn. **Annual Dinner.** At Algonquin College. Guest speaker, Jim MacLeod reviewing their 2006 summer trip up the Saguenay.

22/25 February, **Ottawa Boat & Cottage Show**, Sqn. Participation.

Tuesday, 6 March 2007; **Bridge meeting.** At the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island. Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.



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Squadron Events Calendar cont'd

Tuesday, 13 March 2007; **Information Night**, TBA.

Tuesday, 3 April 2007; **Bridge meeting**. At the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island. Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

Thursday, 19 April 2007; **Squadron AGM**. At the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island.

Tuesday, 1 May 2007; **Bridge meeting**. At the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island. Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

Tuesday, 8 May 2007; **Information Night**, TBA.

Tuesday, 5 June 2007; **Bridge meeting**. At the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island. Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

Thursday, 14 June 2007; **Squadron Graduation & Picnic**. Details to be announced. Please watch web page.

Summer Flashback



New members pledging in at OPSS picnic



Rolley Nantel's Tug A Long in the May Flotilla



Commander's Comments

As winter is fast approaching, everyone is now thinking of the holiday season. It's sad looking around the marina at all the shrink-wrap and tarps as the boats and the docks have been pulled out for the winter. But, we still have our memories of this past summer and our dreams of the one just around the corner.

While attending the Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons National Conference and Annual General Meeting in October, I met with Squadron Commanders from across the country and we all shared ideas and compared notes on topics such as course registration and member retention. Although our squadron is in good shape, if you can think of anything that we can do to help keep our members, please come and talk to me. I am always open to new ideas and it is also good to hear what we are doing that is working as well, so please let us know.

There were 15 members of Rideau District at the National Conference and we were all actively promoting the 2007 Conference that will be held in Ottawa next fall and hosted by our district. We have 65 people pre-registered and plans are well underway for a fun filled conference. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. The conference will be held at the Marriott Hotel located at 100 Kent Street in downtown Ottawa, 24 - 28 October 2007.

I am sure there are many well-worn pages of marine catalogues laying around as "helpful hints" for gift ideas. In our house, you can never have enough "boat stuff", yes, including boat shoes. (I am forever being reminded of the number of boat shoes I own.) Another gift idea that may be very useful would be a course. Our training department has put together a comprehensive line up of courses for the winter



session. Take a look in this issue for the details. We can provide gift certificates for all courses that would make a great stocking stuffer.

I am often asked what trip Jim and I have planned for next year. The truth is, we really don't know, but it will likely keep us closer to home than this past summer. We have the entire winter to think it over and I am sure that no matter where we go it will be enjoyable.

Jim and I wish you all a Happy Holiday Season and hope to see you soon.

Safe Boating

Cathie Johnstone, Commander

Rearranged Letters

DORMITORY

When you rearrange the letters: DIRTY ROOM

PRESBYTERIAN

When you rearrange the letters: BEST IN PRAYER

ASTRONOMER

When you rearrange the letters: MOON STARER

DESPERATION

When you rearrange the letters: A ROPE ENDS IT

THE EYES

When you rearrange the letters: THEY SEE

GEORGE BUSH

When you rearrange the letters: HE BUGS GORE

THE MORSE CODE

When you rearrange the letters: HERE COME DOTS

SLOT MACHINES

When you rearrange the letters: CASH LOST IN ME

ANIMOSITY

When you rearrange the letters: IS NO AMITY

ELECTION RESULTS

When you rearrange the letters: LIES - LET'S RECOUNT

MOTHER-IN-LAW

When you rearrange the letters: WOMAN HITLER

SNOOZE ALARMS

When you rearrange the letters: ALAS! NO MORE Z'S

A DECIMAL POINT

When you rearrange the letters: IM A DOT IN PLACE

WINTER 2007 COURSES

Course Registration Nights

Monday 8 January 2007 and Wednesday 10 January 2007 At [École Franco-Cité](#) from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. each night.

On line Registration is available [here](#)

Monday Night Courses - starting Monday 15 January 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

- Boating
- Piloting
- Marine Maintenance

Wednesday Night Courses - starting Wednesday 17 January 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

- Boating
- Seamanship Sail
- Celestial Navigation
- Electronic Navigation
- Navigating with GPS - **tentative start date of Wednesday 14 March 2007**

SPRING 2007 COURSES

Boat Pro courses are offered at various Ottawa Public Library Branches throughout Ottawa, during the months of March, April, and May 2007. See Schedule on next page.

VHF will be offered, details TBA

Boat Pro: The Boat Pro course provides you with the opportunity to prepare for your Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) exam. Clearly the best of the PCOC seminars available, this highly acclaimed 3 session course was one of the first to be accredited by the Canadian Coast Guard. Boat Pro is a great introduction for your family to boating safety, operation and navigation.



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Rideau Ripples - December 2006



Boat Pro Schedule Spring 2007

VENU - OTTAWA LIBRARY

Branch	Day	1 st Class	2 nd Class	Last Class
Centrepointe	Tues	6-Mar-07	13-Mar-07	20-Mar-07
N Gloucester	Wed	14-Mar-07	21-Mar-07	28-Mar-07
Orleans	Thurs	8-Mar-07	15-Mar-07	22-Mar-07
Beaverbrook	Tues	10-Apr-07	17-Apr-07	24-Apr-07
Cumberland	Tues	17-Apr-07	24-Apr-07	1-May-07
Manotick	Thurs	12-Apr-07	19-Apr-07	26-Apr-07
Greenboro	Wed	9-May-07	16-May-07	23-May-07
Ruth Dickinson	Tues	15-May-07	22-May-07	29-May-07
Blackburn Hamlet	Thurs	17-May-07	24-May-07	31-May-07

Fees: Adults \$55.00, Students \$45.00.

Fees include course materials, Pleasure Craft Operators Certificate (PCOC) examination, and the PCOC card.

Course starts at 18:30 and runs to 20:30. Arrive one half early on the first night to complete registration process.



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Take that line and ... No Don't Pull On It!!!

Do you like to help your neighbour dock their boat? Do you appreciate people standing by on the dock as you ease your boat back into its slip? We all agree a little helpful assistance is appreciated.

Here are few hints for a stress free docking.

What not to do and why not to do it:

- ✓ Never pull hard on a line unless it is necessary or the skipper has requested that you snub it. As soon as you pull on the line the skipper no longer has control of the boat. This is especially true of a bow line. Usually the first line ashore it should be held loosely until a spring or stern line is ashore and made fast.
- ✓ Never yell at the skipper or any crew on board unless your arm or leg is caught between the dock and the boat. Yelling is distracting to the skipper who is concentrating.
- ✓ Never push on the top part of the boat's railing. You could injure yourself if it lets go and you can damage the boat by loosening the base of the railing. If you have to push - push along the sheer.
- ✓ Assess the situation. One or two people are all it takes except under extreme circumstances. Too many people on the dock can cause confusion and make the skipper nervous.

What to do and why to do it

- ✓ Remain calm. Being nervous or anxious doesn't help you, others on the dock, the skipper or the crew.

Reproduced with permission; Author: Village Quay Marina - Quay Notes August 2006 [via member Gord Abry]



Follow the progress of Derek Hatfield & Spirit of Canada

[Spirit Of Canada](http://www.spiritofcanada.com)





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Canal 175th:

The year 2007 marks the 175th anniversary of the opening of the Rideau Canal, North America's oldest continuously operating waterway. The purpose of Rideau 175 is to create a year long celebration of the culture, heritage and uniqueness of the Rideau Canal in communities through which it passes from Ottawa to Kingston.

The "Rideau175" website is brought to you by Friends of the Rideau and Parks Canada. Jointly, these two organizations are working together to bring you all the necessary information needed to plan for and celebrate the Rideau 175.

We foresee creating a wide-ranging list of activities and events that will take place throughout the Rideau corridor in 2007. No matter when or where you arrive something exciting will be happening that year that will surely please you and your family.

Hopefully, by celebrating this important landmark with us you will learn more about the canal's history, appreciate its uniqueness as well as respect and preserve its cultural and natural heritage now and for future generations.

Although we are still designing this big celebration, we invite you to follow the link below to learn more about the festivities anticipated for 2007. More information will be posted as soon as possible. Visit us often!

<http://www.rideau175.org/>



Most boaters are already environmentally conscious, because every aspect of boating – fair winds, sunshine and sparkling, clean water – seems to go hand in hand. However, if you are a boater who hasn't given much thought to your effect on the environment, the Enviro Boater Guide from the CPS website should provide some interesting reading.

[Enviro Boater Guide](#)

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VERY FEW HOURS OF USE SINCE SURVEY

Contact: AL Syberg – 613-797-7297

YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE TO WEAR YOUR ... LIFE JACKET, DO YOU?

I had the misfortune of ending up in the Ottawa River on Tuesday, July 11th.

While the weather was hot, and the water pleasant, this was not a planned swim. I like swimming, and I am rather good at it, however, I was not planning to go





swimming quite at that time. I was getting ready to start my 16:00 security shift and decided I would scoot over to my boat to see if I could find my sunglasses which had gone missing. Because I was in a rush, I decided to "borrow" the temporary Wolf Cub replacement, that little aluminum boat we have been using since Docks In. After all, I was just going for a quick run to the boat, I had my security to do, I did not have the time to run to the shelter to pick up a lifejacket. I was in a rush...

So off I go, zooming over to the boat (I may be a sailor but I do like going fast, plus, I WAS in a hurry), tied the boat, found my sunglasses, jumped back in Wolf-Cub II and off I went back toward shore. Then I leaned forward to pull on a loose line, letting go of the tiller for half a second.

WHAM! The tiller kicked to port and the boat went into a vicious starboard spin at about 200 mph! I thought I had just steered into a giant blender! Before I could grab the tiller and cut the gas the boat had filled with water and rolled over! It took maybe two seconds all in all!

As I started pulling the boat to shore, a helpful member came by followed shortly thereafter by Mike Walker on the barge, laughing his head off of course. I think he figured that this little incident was even more funny than his setting his boat on fire earlier in the season when he decided that a flash arrester was not really needed on his engine.

Seriously however, had the boat hit me in the head, or had the spin thrown me on a moored boat, I could very well have been left in the water with no ability to swim. Being a good swimmer is of no help whatsoever if you are unconscious or have a broken arm or leg. Things could have ended up very badly for me.

This was probably the first time in 10 years that I got into a boat without a life-jacket. What did I learn that day? Two things that I knew already: (1) always wear your life jacket and (2) never rush. Accidents can happen very fast. Doing things in a hurry can cause accidents. Stupid accidents!

Thank you to Mike Walker and Jamie Dawkins for diving to retrieve the engine and for all those brave souls who helped getting it working again. See you all on the water. I will be the guy wearing the bright red life jacket :-)

Editor's note: This is a wake-up call for all of us and we are very relieved that Denis is here to write about it.

Author: Denis Cadieux; RYC

BE VIGILANT WHEN WOMEN ARE ON BOARD

On a lovely day in June, while walking from the bow to the stern of my boat, and while holding on to the stainless steel rail for security, I got the most startling surprise. I received second degree burns to two of my fingers. How could this happen, I asked. There is nothing in my rail to send out an electrical current. The only thing inside the rail is my VHF antenna cable, leading from the radio to the antenna.

It took me some time to figure out what happened. Only after discussing it with Rod Williams did it become clear. He says that women were the cause of this incident, as they are in most cases. Now this requires some explanation. Even after spending many hours trying to convince Del that she was a contributor to my injury, she still is not convinced. So let me try to explain to all of you reasonably minded male sailors out there, what happened and what you can do to prevent a similar injury.

It is a fact that the only cable inside my rail is the VHF antenna cable. It is also a fact that there is no electrical current passing through the VHF cable, unless you are transmitting. Further, the electric current passing through the cable during transmission, also dissipates into the air waves as a signal to receiving radios. However, if there is a break in the cable, and if the break should short out on something like a steel rail, the electric current will pass to the steel rail. Normally this would not generate sufficient electric current to cause the burns that I received. However, if the radio is on constant transmission, there will be a considerable build up of heat, much like the burner on an electric stove. Examination of the antenna connector in the area of the heat revealed that there was indeed a short and this short was pressing up against the steel rail.

Now it just so happened that Del was at the helm where the radio is located, along with a lady friend of ours. Yours truly was acting in his normal capacity as galley slave. Could it be that one of the women knocked the press-to-talk switch on the microphone up against something so it was on constant send? Rod Williams says that that is THE ONLY explanation. All of you sailors out there should take a lesson from this incident and, at the very least, offer close supervision when you have women on board. At least that's the way I see it.



Author Don Jazey; RYC

Editor's Note: Two preceding articles were reproduced with permission from the RYC. Source: August Burgee. [via member Fred Cameron]

RIPPLES CONTENT

If you have any stories, photos or articles you would like to share with OPSS members in the Rideau Ripples, send your submissions to the [Ripples Editor](#) to be considered for publication.



Summer Flashback

Some shots from the ever popular Dinner Cruise hosted by generous OPSS members





Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron

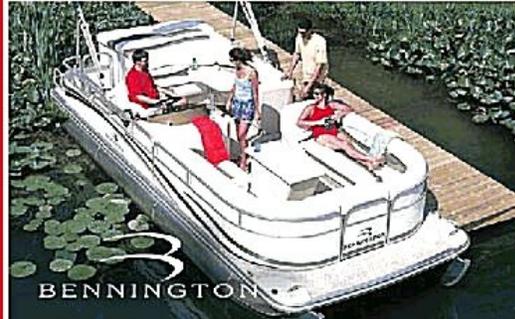
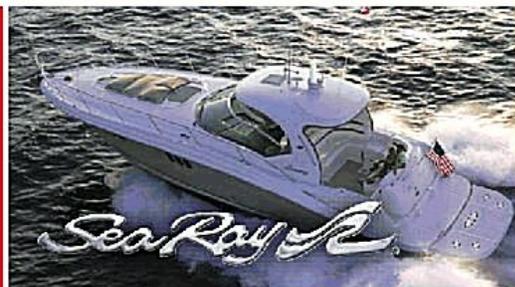
December 2006



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