



Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron  
Rideau Ripples  
December 2007



### Commander's Comments

*I trust that all your Christmas shopping is done and that you are completely relaxed in anticipation for taking some time off with family and friends. Yeah! Right, and what planet do I live on!! I don't know about you, but for me it seems like the 2007 CPS National Conference, which was just fantastic, has wrapped up and that I got the tarp on the boat just before the snow started to fly. Now I find myself coordinating my holidays with Lindy's so that we can have some time off before we get ready to do some serious shopping damage at upcoming winter boat shows. It seems more and more that the norm of the day is that we have less time for ourselves ..... Just can't get these lyrics out of my head, "time keeps on slippin, slippin, slippin into the future".*

*When I reflect back over this past year I have to say that your Bridge Officers have really out done themselves. Each and everyone volunteer their time to make our Squadron one of the finest in Canada. Many hours are spent teaching, proctoring, attending meetings, organizing fun events for everyone, ordering supplies for our courses, keeping track of memberships, and just helping out where and whenever something needs to be done. They do all this and have lots of fun at the same time. We are truly lucky to have such a fine group of dedicated people.*

*The 2007 CPS National Conference held in Ottawa in October was a wonderful success based on feedback from those that attended. Members are still talking about how much fun they had. A fantastic Conference, which I think really put Rideau District on*

*the map. To Frank Keating, Conference Chair and his whole team a BIG THANK YOU including kudos to a job extremely well done from all the members of the Ottawa Power & Sail Squadron.*

*This was my first Conference and I met a lot of boaters from across Ontario and from shining sea to shining sea. Every region in Canada has a lovely boating area where people enjoy the sport to the fullest. I can highly recommend attending these Conferences, and don't forget to visit all the different hospitality suites.*

*I attended the Squadron Commander's meeting and you guessed it, the hot topic was the results of the Branding Name contest. At that meeting, the voting process was modified to include a "none of the above" category. I also attended the CPS AGM where I voted on two motions. The first motion was to increase membership fees by \$3 and was passed by 2,217 votes in favour out of a total of 2,311 votes.*

*The second item wasn't really a motion but was a consultative view into the selection of one of the three finalists for a new Brand Name from: "CPS-ECP", "Nautique Canada", or "CPS Nautique". At the Squadron Commander's meeting a clear majority of Squadron's across the country did not like any of the choices presented and consequently the vote at the AGM was modified to add a "none of the above" category by leaving the voting ballot blank. The results of this vote were 1,791 blank ballots out of a total of 2,324 votes (or ballots), which means that none of the three finalists were selected and the search for a new Brand Name continues .....stay tuned.*

*Remember that \$20 refund program for Squadron members and current boating course students who attended the 2007 CPS National Conference and took the full meal package. Well, 25 people met the criteria and have a cheque made out to them. If you missed attending our previous Info Night, your cheque is in the mail.*

*Bill Kerr has been appointed as our new MAREP Officer. For your info, some open Officer positions are for Regalia, Advertising, Public Relations and Marketing....hint, hint,hint. Our new Membership Officer, Guy Ladouceur has developed a project that is targeted to get back those expired/outstanding Squadron members. An update will be forthcoming when he has completed this project. Our Social Officer, Fred Cameron is busy organising speakers for our Info Nights, which continue to have good*



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attendance. Our last Info Night was a Member appreciation night which meant no admittance fee for Squadron members.

Here is a neat gift idea. Consider giving a boating course gift certificate to someone special this year for Christmas. Contact us at [commander@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:commander@cps-ottawa.com) and we will arrange for a personalised gift certificate for a boating course for that someone special.

Hope you and yours have a wonderful holiday season.

**Merry Christmas**  
&  
**Happy New Year**

Gord Abry, *AP*; Commander  
[commander@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:commander@cps-ottawa.com)




**The 2007 – 2008 Bridge**

<u>Squadron Commander</u>	Cdr Gordon Abry
<u>Executive Officer</u>	Bryan Caroll
<u>Treasurer</u>	Michael Crawford
<u>Training Officer</u>	Steve Highstead
<u>Assistant Training Officer (Adv/Elective)</u>	Dave Omond
<u>Assistant Training Officer (BoatPro)</u>	Brian Forward
<u>Assistant Training Officer (Supply)</u>	Monique Vallieres
<u>Archivist</u>	Position Open
<u>Membership Officer</u>	Guy Ladouceur
<u>Environmental Affairs Officer</u>	Position Open
<u>Regalia Officer</u>	Position Open
<u>Secretary</u>	Sue Baker, (SN)
<u>Communications Officer</u>	Philip Harris
<u>Social Activities Officer</u>	Fred Cameron
<u>Mailing Officer</u>	Marjorie Ladouceur
<u>MAREP &amp; Safety Officer</u>	Bill Kerr
<u>Rideau Ripples Editor</u>	Steve Lortie
<u>Public Relations / Marketing Officer</u>	Position Open
<u>Past Commander</u>	P/C Cathie Johnstone
<u>2007 CPS Conference Chair</u>	P/C Frank Keating
<u>Squadron Examiner</u>	Jim MacLeod, SN
<u>Auditor</u>	Lt James Dean, S
<u>Webmaster</u>	Philip Harris

**Squadron Mailing Address**

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**Squadron Answering Machine – (613) 567-3265**

<u>Commander</u> Cdr. Gordon Abry (613) 258-9061	<u>Supply Officer</u> Monique Vallieres (613) 741-6444
<u>Social Activities Officer</u> Fred Cameron (613) 745-5188	<u>Rideau Ripples Editor</u> Steve Lortie (613) 596-9620



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**Squadron Events Calendar**

**Tuesday, 4 December 2007 - Christmas Dinner & Bridge meeting** at the Ottawa-Hull Naval Association Mess on Victoria Island. Dinner at 1800 hours, tickets can be obtained from Social Activities Officer for \$17.00. Tickets must be purchased by end of day, Friday 30 November 2007. Meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

**Tuesday, 8 January 2008 - 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, 10 January 2008 - Information Night** with the Cowan Insurance Group. They will be available to answer your questions on purchasing marine insurance.

**Tuesday, 5 February 2008 - 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, 23 February 2008 - Annual Squadron Dinner** at Algonquin College. Details to be announced.

*Fred Cameron, Social Activities Officer*  
[social@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:social@cps-ottawa.com)

**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.

**Fall / Winter OPSS COURSES**

**Registration** - 19h00 to 20h00 Classroom 115  
January 9 2008  
March 3 2008

**Boating:** 13 Evenings  
Wednesdays - Jan 16 to Apr 16, 2008; Room 115  
Mondays - Jan 14 to Apr 21, 2008; Room 115  
Wednesdays - Mar 19 to Jun 11, 2008; Room 106

**Piloting:** 12 Evenings

Mondays - Jan 14 to Apr 14, 2008; Room 106

**Celestial Navigation:** 20 Evenings

Wednesdays - Jan 16 to Jun 4, 2008; Room 106

**VHF Marine:** 3 Evenings

Mondays - Nov 19 to Dec 3, 2007; Room 124

Wednesdays - Apr 2 to Apr 16, 2008; Room 124

Mondays - Apr 28 to May 12, 2008 (French); Rm 115

Mondays - May 26 to Jun 9, 2008; Room 115

**Electronic Navigation:** 8 Evenings

Mondays - Jan 21 to Mar 31, 2008; Room 124

**Navigating with GPS:** 3 Evenings

Mondays - Apr 7 to Apr 21, 2008; Room 124

**Global Weather:** 6 Evenings

Mondays - October 22 to December 17, 2007; Rm 106

**Marine Maintenance:** 10 Evenings

Wednesdays - Jan 16 to Mar 26, 2008; Room 107

**Seamanship Sail:** 12 Evenings

Mondays - Jan 14 to Apr 14, 2008; Room 107

**Boat Pro Schedule Spring 2007**

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Branch	Day	1 <sup>st</sup> Class	2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Last Class
Orleans	Thurs	6-Mar-08	13-Mar-08	20-Mar-08
Centrepointe	Tues	11-Mar-08	18-Mar-08	25-Mar-08
Beaverbrook	Wed	09-Apr-08	16-Apr-08	23-Apr-08
Manotick	Tues	15-Apr-08	22-Apr-08	29-Apr-08
Greenboro	Wed	7-May-08	14-May-08	21-May-08
Blackburn Hamlet	Thurs	8-May-08	15-May-08	22-May-08
Ruth Dickinson	Tues	13-May-08	20-May-08	27-May-08

The courses start at 18:30 and run to 20:30

Course registration Fees: \$50.00 Adults  
\$45.00 Students

The other night I was invited out for a night with "the girls". I told my husband that I would be home by midnight, "I promise".

Well the hours passed and the margaritas went down way too easy. Around 3 a.m., a bit loaded, I headed for



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home. Just as I got in the door, the cuckoo clock in the hall started up and cuckooed 3 times. Quickly, realizing my husband would probably wake up, I cuckooed another 9 times. I was really proud of myself for coming up with such a quick-witted solution [even when totally smashed], in order to escape a possible conflict with him.

The next morning my husband asked me what time I got in and I told him "midnight". He didn't seem upset at all. Whew! got away with that one!

Then he said, "we need a new cuckoo clock". When I asked him why, he said "well last night our clock cuckooed three times, then said "oh shit", cuckooed 4 more times, cleared its throat, cuckooed another 3 times, giggled, cuckooed twice more, and then tripped over the coffee table and farted".

### Membership Update

This is my second article for the Ripples as the new Membership Officer. I am STILL really not sure what you are looking for so please bear with me because there will STILL be a lot of firsts in this second article.

In my last article I mentioned that your Squadron has 607 members of whom 460 are current and 147 are either outstanding or expired. Our percentage of Outstanding or Expired Memberships stood at approx. 32%. A month later, after sending e-mail messages and letters to all those with either Outstanding or Expired Memberships, we now have 473 current members, 55 Expired and 66 Outstanding for a percentage of 25.5%. Several Outstanding / Expired decided not to renew and advised me. A few renewed and the rest are still waiting!

The first step in attempting to lower our percentage has been completed. Everyone with an outstanding /expired status have been notified. A lot of you have not made your intentions known. The ball is in your court! I am here to help you and only a telephone call away or e-mail message. If you're still not sure of your membership status, check the label on the envelope you received this "RIPPLES" in and you will know for sure. Please update your status or I would appreciate being advised, and if you feel so inclined would you share with me your reason for not rejoining CPS. The next step and last attempt to have you update your

membership status will be in the February/March/April time frame after which I will be requesting from the Bridge, permission to remove all the members still expired. Any Still Outstanding's at that time will become Expired members more than two years without renewing.

It is easy to update your membership:

BY PHONE - 1-888-CPS-BOAT (277-2628)  
You will require the following information:

- Your old membership number or your First/Last Name
- Your Date of Birth
- Your Postal Code (use the last one we have on record: you can change it later)
- A valid Visa or MasterCard credit card.

IN-PERSON – At any of our Information Nights or Squadron functions. I also instruct the Boating Course so if you send me an e-mail or phone call I will make myself available.

Enough from me but I want to leave you with something an outstanding member sent to me: "Since you took the time to write personally, I do feel you deserve a response".

Please help me reduce our Expired / Outstanding Membership. I await your e-mail message or telephone call!

Guy A Ladouceur, Membership Officer  
[membership@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:membership@cps-ottawa.com)

### Short on Gift Ideas?

As a reminder, Christmas will soon be upon us, and for those who have not completed their seasonal shopping for that "special" someone on their list, we would like to suggest an item from the Squadron Ship's Stores. We have beautiful CPS Women's Brooches at \$12.00. and CPS Lapel Pins at \$8.00 each.

For those who have pennants or CPS Flags that are weather worn, may we suggest an Ottawa Squadron Pennant for \$25.00 or CPS Flags: small (8x13) at \$14.00, large (12x20) at \$16.00.

To purchase any of the above items please see Fred Cameron at the Squadron Christmas Dinner or contact him at the squadron web site: [www.cps-ottawa.com](http://www.cps-ottawa.com).



## Good Advice From the Assistant Training Officer

**T**his message is addressed to those that have passed the Boating Course but have not yet thought about taking a more advanced course. I know that the temptation is to take the Electronic Nav/GPS course next. I am going to try and convince you that maybe you should at least have the Piloting course first and maybe even the Advanced Piloting Course.

Taking the Piloting course should be your next step after the boating course (from a navigational point of view). I am not suggesting that you do not consider the other elective courses. Why the Piloting course? This course teaches you about a lot of things that are going on around you on the water. For instance, it is getting dark out and you see some blinking lights ahead. Next you see a moving red light off to starboard. Do you know what is going on? How to interpret the lights? These are things that the Piloting course will teach you. Things that a GPS or other electronic aids will never do.

The Piloting course introduces you to many new topics as well expanding your knowledge on some of the topics that were covered in the boating course. For instance, the course covers how to keep a log, recognize floating and fixed aids to navigation, how to create fixes, and many more navigational topics. The course also teaches you how to do a lot of things that fall under the heading, seamanship. These include how to tie knots, splice lines and whip the ends of the lines. It also talks about wind and waves, how to anchor and what type of anchor to use for what type of holding ground. The course also talks about hull types and their different types of performance, what propellers are right for what type of boat. There are many more topics covered along with an introduction to electronic navigation. Of course I can not let this opportunity go by without putting in a plug for the Advanced Piloting Course which will be run again in Sept. 2008. For any of you that have taken the AP Course and are thinking about going offshore, you need to expose yourself to the C/N course.

There is a second course being offered this winter. It is the Marine Mtn course. This is a great course that covers many diverse topics. It is a course that at least one person on every vessel should know something about. This course will expose you to the workings of the water systems on the boat, from the kitchen sink to

the head. It also looks at how you store your boat, ie. in a cradle, on stands, or on a trailer. The course also looks at electrical systems, fuel systems and cooking gas systems. Oh yea, I bet you think I was going to leave out the engines. The course looks at all types of engines. Even if you think that maybe you do not need this course because you are an expert in one or two of the above area's, if you were to take the course others in the class may be able to learn things from you while you learn more about the area's that you are not as sharp in.

If you have not already gotten your Restricted Radio Operators certificate you might be advised to take the VHF course. This course is being run in several sessions during the new year.

Dave Omond, Assistant Training Officer

[atoadvanced@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:atoadvanced@cps-ottawa.com)



## Out of Your Comfort Zone

By Sue Baker SN

**T**his is something we all think about but rarely do. Well this past summer, Ted and I decided to cruise Lake Ontario and do it slowly. We can take our time doing things since we are now part of the privileged group of retirees.

On July 12th we took off to circumnavigate Lake Ontario, something that we have done before but never on our own and never for 7 weeks. Thankfully, the weather turned around that day and we had superb skies for the better part of the summer.

Everyone wonders about traveling through the States since 911. We have discovered that they are more than happy to have us come but that life is easier if you do it in person and with the right documents. So we begin our voyage in Cape Vincent, a small upper New York town that has an international ferry dock. Upon arriving at the Immigration and Custom station, by foot from the boat, we present our Passports and our faces. They give us the go ahead to stay our expected time of 3 weeks going in and out of US ports.

We traveled to Sackett's Harbor, Oswego, Little Sodus Bay (where we anchored), Big Sodus Bay, Rochester, Oak Orchard and Wilson before heading back into Canada. We discovered Berry Farms, Cedar Waxwings, \$1 beer, and great places to walk. We met



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people from the States and Montreal traveling like us. Low and behold, there they were at the next port so with each meeting, we became better friends.

We started our trek through Canadian waters at Niagara-on-the-Lake, then Port Dalhousie, where we encountered friends from our very own Club. We were fortunate to spent time with them there plus in 50 Point Marina and Oakville. We laughed and walked; enjoying the reunion (a plus since the skipper was killed in September).

We headed into the Toronto region where we spent a good 2 weeks at different Clubs before steering along the north shore of the Lake. We had the opportunity to meet with various friends and relatives as we went along, some from as far away as BC. We entered the Bay of Quinte and spent a further week there before meeting our Club members for a Rendezvous at Waupoos Marina Labour Day Weekend.

Where is all this going – well, if you don't go out of your comfort Zone, you don't discover things like the Waterfront Trail which goes all the way from Niagara to Kingston. It is a beautiful well gardened trail that travels along the lake shore. We would not have dined with our friend who died; we would not have met some many wonderful people or discovered places where we will go back. We would not have anchored (we have 2 dogs).

GO out of your comfort Zone and take a boating course, or give one as a gift – or go to a place you have never been to before (we do at least one new port every year). Don't forget, you didn't like ice cream until you tried it! Next year, we are going to sail off the west coast of Vancouver Island, now that is out of our comfort Zone but I am sure it will be just as wonderful as the year we did the Queen Charlottes and Prince Rupert.



## Hello from Spirit of Canada

submitted By Bill Kerr

*Spirit of Canada sits peacefully at the dock in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil after 4300nm and a 17 and a half day delivery from Halifax, Nova Scotia.*

We arrived here around midnight local time on Tuesday Nov 13th and sat on the boat for more than an hour contemplating the trip. The Open 60 Spirit of Canada proved a lot more physically demanding than the Open 40 but the performance is very impressive. I am slowly coming to grips with how to run the boat by myself. Because of the grand prix design, the boat trim requires a lot more diligence to maintain maximum performance.

After many months of preparation, we left Halifax on the 27th of October, the Ecover B2B required that we travel non-stop and without assistance in order to

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qualify the new boat for the upcoming race.

The 4300nm course proved challenging with a number of routing options requiring decisions.

The sailing conditions proved straightforward with just a couple of unpleasant nights of upwind sailing with the boat slamming down the waves. It is hard to believe how noisy it can get below when you are trying to get a bit of sleep. The boat has also hit a best speed of 26kts with just main and jib so we are pleased with the performance.

The crew on board consisted of myself, Patianne Verburgh and Damien De Pas. Damien did the Mini Transat (transatlantic in a 6.50 meter open class boat) in 2001 and is a great asset on board. Damien is an avid environmentalist and his own sailing programs fit well with ours, as he is involved with education programs that teach children about environmental issues.

To find out more about him and his sailing experiences, visit [www.bleuvoileoceanique.com](http://www.bleuvoileoceanique.com).

We quickly settled well into a routine of watch keeping and maintenance work and the 17-day trip passed quickly. There have been a few expected breakages onboard, but the delivery and time on the water proved a great testing ground for the upcoming race to France. The plan at this point is to leave the boat in France for the winter months and then deliver it back to Toronto to fulfill the many sponsorship sailing events.

This means that I will have more than 12,000 nm on the boat before the start of the Vendee Globe in November 2008.

We celebrated crossing the equator in the usual way with a salute to Neptune. After crossing into the southern hemisphere, it was a straight sail past Recife at the bulge of Brazil and then southwest into Salvador at about 13 degrees south. The trade wind warmth and sailing conditions were a welcome condition from the woolly caps and boots that were donned to leave Halifax. The sun and deep blue water are very motivating.

One disturbing aspect of the trip here is that in 17 days of sailing, we saw only three dolphins. This seems almost impossible as in the race around the world in 2002, there were almost daily visits of some sort from these fantastic animals.

Currently the rest of the Open 60 fleet are racing south

engulfed in a close battle in the Transat Jacque Vabre. We expect to see them here in Bahia in about 3 days. We are really looking forward to seeing the rest of the fleet and getting the job list done for the Ecover B2B race back to France. It will be a great day when we have qualified the boat for the Vendee Globe.

Another word of thanks to our sponsors.

Racing and representing Canada at this level of competition requires financial sponsors and one of the most important parts of my job is to support and recognize those special people and companies that support us. We have many sponsors to thank including the 5000 individuals that have put their name on the hull of Spirit of Canada as well as the more than 45 corporations that have made in-kind or financial contributions.

Recently VELUX Canada increased their support for Spirit of Canada and their support greatly helped us in the upcoming Ecover B2B. Also, increased support from The Caritate Foundation and Earth Rangers allowed us to proceed with preparations to date.

To all of our sponsors, thank you.

And to everyone, please support our sponsors in every way that you can. Without them, Spirit of Canada would not exist.

Stay tuned for further updates as we prepare for the Ecover B2B.

Take care,  
Derek.



*Your Bridge wishes you all a very  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New  
Year!*



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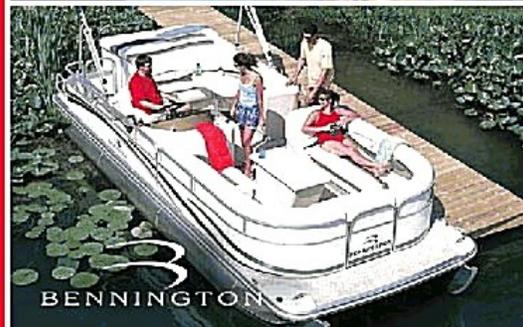
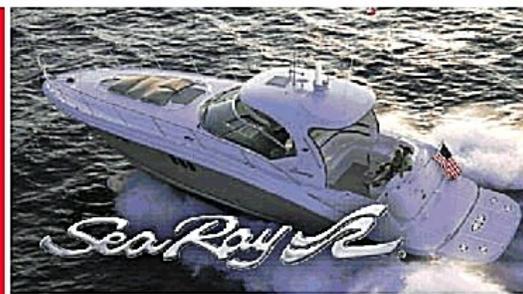
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