



Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron Rideau Ripples October 2008



Commander's Comments

Gord was unable to submit an article this month. He was preparing to attend the 70th Anniversary of the Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons Conference and AGM being held in Windsor, Ontario from October 22 to 25, 2008.

Gord Abry, *AP*; Commander

commander@cps-ottawa.com

Squadron Events Calendar

Tuesday, 4 November 2008; Bridge Meeting at Robbie's Italian Restaurant, 1531 St. Laurent Blvd. Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

Tuesday, 2 December 2008; Bridge Meeting at Robbie's Italian Restaurant, 1531 St. Laurent Blvd. Informal dinner at 1800 hours, meeting starts at 1900 hours. All welcome to attend.

[Please watch the website for upcoming social events.](#)

Fred Cameron, Social Activities Officer

social@cps-ottawa.com

Cowan Insurance Column

Question: What should I do in the event of a claim?

Answer: There are many things to be aware of when making a claim:

- Do what is reasonable and necessary to protect the insured property from further damage.
- Permit the insurance company to inspect the boat before it is repaired or disposed of.
- Advise your broker or insurance company what happened as soon as possible. Include the time and place of the event, a description of the property and the names and addresses of any witnesses.
- Do not assume any obligation. Do not admit liability and do not incur any expense, without permission, unless such expense is incurred to prevent further loss.
- Immediately send any legal papers that are received in connection with the loss.
- Provide a signed, sworn statement of loss within 60 days of the insurance company's request. The claim will be paid within 30 days after an agreement on the settlement amount is reached.

All insurance companies have their own conditions. It is recommended to check with your own company regarding the steps to take after a loss.

If you have any boat insurance questions, please email: carla.lettenbauer@cowangroup.ca
The Q & A's will be included in future newsletters.

Group Home & Auto Insurance

REMINDER! CPS Members have access to Group Home and Auto Insurance rates!

As a CPS member, you have access to exclusive discounted group insurance rates. Contact Aviva Traders at 1-877-787-7021 and tell them you are a CPS member. Or get an online quote at www.avivatraders.com/cps.

IF YOU HAVE ANY GENERAL BOAT INSURANCE QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL
CARLA.LETTENBAUER@COWANGROUP.CA

IF YOU HAVE ANY GENERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE GROUP HOME & AUTO PROGRAM, PLEASE EMAIL
DEBBIE.MCKENZIE@COWANGROUP.CA



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The 2008 – 2009 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>	Robin Craig
<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>	Nick Baets
<u>Regalia Officer</u>	Al Syberg
<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 & 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>Squadron Examiner</u>	Jim MacLeod, SN
<u>Auditor</u>	James Dean, S
<u>Webmaster</u>	Philip Harris

Squadron Mailing Address

Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron
P.O. Box 8481 Terminal 'T'
Ottawa Ontario, K1G 3H9

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

Membership Update

Hoping that you had a wonderful summer and proudly flew the CPS Flag & OPSS Burgee! By the time you read this, your boat will likely be under wraps and put away for winter.

I will not bore you with membership numbers this time. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome aboard all new members who successfully completed the Boat Pro Course and the Boating Course since the last Ripples.

As most of you know being a current member of CPS-ECP has its privileges and you can see what you are entitled to by visiting the CPS-ECP website at <http://www.cps-ecp.ca/public/>.

Here is a quick overview:

- **Boat Insurance:**
- **Members save from 15% to 40%**
- **Associates save up to 5 %**
- **Includes Identity Theft Protection**
- **CPS Group Home & Auto Insurance**
- **Receive Canadian Yachting Magazine (includes PortHole)**
- **Half-price Membership with BOAT U.S.**
- **Save 10% with Delta Hotels, Choice Hotels, Caribbean Luxury Skippered Charter, National Car Rental**
- **National Car Rental (Canada)**
- **Weems & Plath: Save 25% on precision navigation tools by directly ordering from Weems & Plath**
- **MariTech Industries: Save 155 on award-winning boat safety equipment**
- **ICOM Canada: Save on high quality radio equipment**
- **Satellite Communications Sources Inc. – save up to 10% on all Satellite Communications products and, in particular, on SPOT, “the world’s first satellite messenger”**
- **Port Cruising Guides 25% exclusive discount to CPS members.**
- **BoatSell vessel for sale web listing 33% exclusive discount to CPS members.**

Also let's not forget that you can register for any boating courses offered by the Squadron at a lower rate than non-members, you get admission to all our Information Nights at a reduced rate and the list goes



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on.

The CPS Conference and AGM are being held in Windsor, Ontario October 22-25, 2008 celebrating 70 years of Excellence. Marjorie and I are packing our bags. This will be our second Conference and are looking forward to network with other members from across Canada to learn ways to better your membership needs. I am aware of several Notices of Motion with regards to membership that will impact on the way we will do membership renewal in the future.

In the next issue of the Ripples, I will report on the Conference and the decisions regarding membership.

Just an idea Spend one night a week expanding your boating knowledge by reading your course notes or even better enroll in an elective or advanced course.

Keep an eye on our upcoming Information Nights by checking the website at <http://cps-ottawa.com/events.html>.

It could be a cold winter so get involved in your Squadron!

Guy A Ladouceur, Membership Officer
membership@cps-ottawa.com

Membership Roster Changes

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

If you have any changes regarding your membership, i.e. change of address, name, phone number, e-mail address or boat name, mooring, etc.

Please contact Guy A. Ladouceur
(613) 824-9490 or e-mail him your
information at
membership@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 ripples@cps-ottawa.com to be considered for publication.

Upcoming Courses

VHF Course #1: Mondays, 17 November to 01 December 2008

(This course is open to the public)

Course Content: includes a CD with sample exams and a DSC simulator

- **Module 1:** The phonetic alphabet, Correct radiotelephone-operating procedures, and Emergency radio calls
- **Module 2:** Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) using Digital Selective Calling (DSC)

Marine Maintenance: Mondays, 12 January to 30 March 2009

(This course is open to the public)

Course Content:

- Seasonal maintenance and repairs to wooden, fibreglass and metal hulls
- Maintenance for electrical and mechanical systems
- Spars, rigging and ground tackle
- Fire and safety protection
- Moorings and berths
- Trailers
- Tools and fittings.

Piloting: Mondays, 12 January to 20 April 2009

Boating Course: Wednesdays, 14 January 2009 to 15 April 2009

Seamanship Sail: Wednesdays, 14 January to 14 April 2009

Course Content:

- Spars and rigging
- Sails
- Theory of Sail Action
- Balance Under Sail
- Getting Under way
- Under Way
- Sail Trim
- Piloting Under Sail
- Cruising Under Sail - Day Sailers
- Cruising Under Sail - Keel Boats
- Sailboat Racing
- Fire Extinguishers and Fire Safety



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Electronic Navigation: Mondays, 26 January to 30 March 2009

Course content:

- Basic Navigation (a quick review using traditional methods)
- GPS System (configuration, accuracy)
- LORAN-C, Waypoint Navigation (navigational computer, averaging, waypoint vs. DR)
- RADAR Navigation (closest point of approach, electronic bearing, range measurement, collision avoidance, target identification, simulation usage)
- Electronic Charts (vector vs. raster charts, interfacing, and simulator usage)

Please visit the [courses section of the OPSS website](#) for general info and more detailed course info.

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We offer added benefits to members of the Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons

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www.cowangroup.ca/marine/
or call 1-800-268-BOAT
(1-800-268-2628)

We care about what you care about.

Toll Free: 1-800-268-BOAT (1-800-268-2628)
Email: marine@cowangroup.ca
www.cowangroup.ca/marine/

Member Benefit Update

Maritech Industries, CPS Partner in Safety, and CPS are pleased to announce that CPS members can now purchase Maritech Industries products at a new and improved discount rate of 15% instead of 10%.

[Click here](#) to Download or Browse the 3.8MB PDF Safe Boating Equipment Smart Choice catalogue (CPS login required).

Enter CPS Member code "CPSsafetyafloat" at check out when shopping at:
<http://www.powerboatsafety.com/default.asp> .

More Member Benefit information on the CPS Member Web site under Member Services.

Sea Jargon

Dolphin – A pile or group of piles driven into the sea bottom to provide a mooring post or protection for the end of a sea wall or jetty.

Cringle – A round metal eyelet sewn into the edge or corner of a sail. The cringle provides a convenient place of attachment for the various lines which control the sail.

Keeping a Weather Eye Out

As a boater, you have fond memories of warm sunny days on the water, enjoying the time and activity with family and friends. Fair skies and fair winds are the desire of every boater but we all know that weather changes and water conditions never remain constant.

Boaters must assess the weather and make a decision before heading out on the water and know how to interpret weather changes while on the water. Sudden changes in weather can occur without warning in many parts of the country. Sudden changes in wind can be particularly dangerous since this can cause a rapid build up of high waves. Many small pleasure craft are not designed to handle any great amount of wind and waves and can be easily swamped or capsized. So, when the forecast is poor, plan to stay ashore. If you are already on the water and the weather appears to be changing and degrading head to shore as directly and as quickly as is safe.

There are a number of ways that you can you obtain



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local forecasts for your local waters. First start by making personal observations of the sky and wind conditions. These observations can be backed up with local forecasts from your newspaper, radio or television news. If you have access to cable or satellite television, specialty weather channels provide detailed forecasts. In many areas across the country, media outlets provide special marine weather forecasts for boaters in their markets. The Internet is also an excellent source of detailed weather forecasts and provides you with weather maps and satellite and radar images. Two of the most popular Web sites are www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca (Environment Canada) and www.theweathernetwork.com.

One the best sources of marine weather whether on shore or aboard, is your marine VHF radio. Current weather conditions, forecasts and warnings are broadcast on channels 21B, 25B and 83B on the Atlantic Coast and Great Lakes. On the West Coast weather forecasts are broadcast on channel 21B and Wx1, 2 and 3. Environment Canada provides their Weather Radio service in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal.

While on the water, it is critical to “keep a weather eye” out. Frequently monitor cloud patterns and sky conditions. If the sky looks dark, the cloud conditions are changing rapidly or there is a shift in the wind you can expect a change in the weather. The best idea is to stay sensitive to the little changes to make sure that you react in time before big changes hit. Summer thunderstorms can strike quickly and quite unexpectedly. Winds and waves associated with thunderstorms can increase suddenly and drastically, creating severe local wind and wave conditions. By being vigilant and listening for static on an AM radio band or observing birds heading for shelter you may be forewarned of a severe weather change.

When changing and deteriorating weather occurs while out on the water, you should take immediate action and head for shore and safety. Having a marine chart on board will allow you to find in a bay, cove or other sheltered location to weather out a storm or wind and wave conditions beyond your boats capability.

Should you find yourself caught in bad weather out on the water, if you don't have them on already ensure that everyone dons a PFD, slow down and proceed with caution. Approach the waves bow-on at a 45 degree angle and keep your passengers and load low in the boat to avoid capsizing.

The key to weather is checking it before you head out and keep an eye on it while on the water. If you feel that there is any risk, don't go. It's every boater's responsibility to “keep a weather eye” and to Boat Safe – Return Safe. Enjoy your time on the water and “have many happy returns.”

Environment Canada

uses some specific specialized terminology in marine weather forecasts to provide boaters with information on the expected conditions:

LIGHT WINDS are less than 15 knots (28 km/h) with wave heights up to 1.5 meters.

MODERATE WINDS are in the range of 15 to 19 knots (28 to 35 km/h) with waves of 1 to 3 metres.

STRONG WINDS or small craft warnings are used to report winds of 20 to 33 knots (37 to 61 km/h) with wave heights of 3 to 6 metres.

GALE WARNINGS are issued when sustained win speeds are 34 to 47 knots (63 to 87 km/h) and may have waves reaching 6 to 9 metres in height.

STORM WARNINGS have continuous wind speeds of 48 to 63 knots (89 to 117 km/h) and wave heights exceeding 8 metres.

To become more weather savvy, consider attending a future “Fundamentals of Weather” course offered by OPSS.
