



Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron Rideau Ripples

October – November 2012



Commander's Comments



Where did the time go, it seems we were just putting our boats in the water a few weeks ago and now we are talking Santa Claus Parades and the other season 'No Boating' for most of us. Let's hope that you were able to make some new friends and memories during the last boating season. The weather was real nice and hot. Marjorie and I had a great summer of boating but it is never enough! We initiated our Grandson Noah to boating on Charleston Lake and the Ottawa River with his Salus Bijoux Baby Vest.

CPS-ECP has almost begun its 74th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting. Unfortunately I am not able to travel at the moment but our Executive Officer Terry Hamilton will be representing me and you at the Squadron Commander's Meeting. Our Training Officer Robin Craig and Assistant Training Officer Court Harkness will be attending the event as well. The Conference is a great place to network and learn of new ways to attract students, retain members, etc. I have attended several conferences now and it has always been a learning experience and meeting new people with the same passion about safe boating. Other members from our Squadron are also at the Conference wearing different hats at the National Level; P/D/C Evelyn Clue, P/D/C Linda Hamilton, P/D/C Cathie Johnstone, P/Cdr Don Tanner and Senior Navigator Nelson

Guillemette. One of the motions that will be presented to the members will be to approve a dues increase of \$5.00 per member and \$2.50 per family member. This increase is a key item in the process to balance our budget and rebuild the financial health of CPS-ECP. I am positive that our members will all come back with new ideas and will share their experience with the rest of us at upcoming Squadron Events.

In 2011, CPS-ECP commissioned a Research Project or Study with the main objectives being to determine why CPS Memberships are not being renewed, why CPS course enrolment is on the decline, and why volunteer participation with CPS is on the decline also. The findings were somewhat predictable but some of the conclusion presented new challenges to Squadron Bridges across Canada. In 2012, a Market Assessment of Prospective Members was conducted and the results are being unveiled at the AGM in Edmonton. The Bridge and I are looking forward to the findings to adjust our approach to advertizing our courses and attracting new members.

The Boating Essentials Course is well under way with only five students. The content of the 'NEW' course seems to meet all the requirements from where the Boating Basics course leaves off and offers instruction in navigation, charting, plotting and a basic introduction to electronic navigation. I would like to thank Instructor Pat McGrath, Proctors Terry Hamilton and Nancy Richards for their assistance. All Associate Members should consider enrolling in the upcoming Boating Essentials Course in January.

Recently, there was a small shuffle on the Bridge, Chantal Ladouceur joined us as our new Secretary and Paulette Vineham became the Administration Officer. The addition of Paulette as the new Admin Officer will assist in Bridge Meetings and the Annual General Meeting. Welcome aboard Chantal and thank you Paulette for accepting your new position.

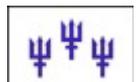
We had snow flurries in October this year and this means Santa will be here soon. The Squadron will have an entry in the Orleans Parade of Lights on Saturday November 24th, 2012. Rolly Nantel has volunteered his 'Tug Along' for the occasion. We are in the planning stages at this time but we will need approx. 5 or 6 more people to walk along with the float distributing candy canes. The distance is approx. 5 kms. Why not join us for this festive event promoting Safe Boating and we will have a Parade Post Pizza Party shortly after. If you are interested, please drop me a line at commander@cps-ottawa.com.

Saturday October 27, 2012 at 0900 hrs at Louis Steak House on Cyrville Rd will be the location of my last Commander's Breakfast. The previous three have been successful and this one hopefully will not be any different. Come and join me for breakfast to reminisce on our first 60 years as a Squadron and maybe plot a new course for the next 60 years. Please register at http://cps-ottawa.com/forms/att_events.html.

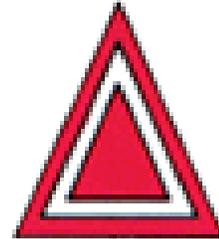
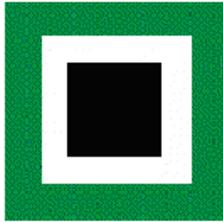
Please be safe and take time to charge up your batteries the boating season is not that far way!

Guy

Guy A. Ladouceur
Ottawa Commander



Commander's Breakfast



Saturday – October 27, 2012 – 0900 hrs
Louis Steak House
1682 Cyrville Rd (near Innes Rd)

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- Come out and have breakfast with Commander Guy. This is will be his last as Squadron Commander.
 - You have questions; well this is the place to get them answered.
 - You will have a chance to make new friends, renew acquaintances.
 - Regalia will be there for you to get your fall and/or winter wear! Maybe buy a Xmas Present for that special someone.
 - There will be draws and surprises.
 - Nice way to start the day amongst friends. Come join us!

LAST CHANCE
REGISTER ONLINE AT

http://cps-ottawa.com/forms/att_events.html

It is never too late!

I know it isn't even Halloween yet but, for the first time in my life, I am going to talk about what you can buy for Christmas. What can you get your favourite boater? Something they will love and appreciate.

We have lots of choices from practical to the insane. There is always the usual like books and magazines. If you are thinking of remodeling your present boat, you could give a book on wiring, refrigeration or any magazine with "Do It Yourself" articles. There are always things to learn and all are fun to read.

Another goodie is the needed piece of equipment that you have been talking about for the last while. It might be useful like a better anchor or a windlass, a new game to pass the time away. Last time you spilled your wine when the wind blew it over, I am sure you said "We should replace them". There is a relatively new product for wine, an acrylic stem less wine glass available at Chandleries or wineries. They will not blow over or break – ever!

Among one of the smartest things to give all your loved ones, young or old, is a boating course. Years ago I started to take courses encouraged by a lot of friends. They are enjoying and taught by many very knowledgeable volunteers around the Squadrons. Besides expanding my expertise in boating, I have learned to teach on and off the water. I have taken courses that I wondered if they would ever be used and found that all of them have made me a much safer and more encouraging boater.

It is never too late - to learn.

Consider this most valuable of all gifts – a basic boating or advanced course. Advanced Piloting and Celestial Navigation are a lot of fun. Weather courses are fabulous.

Sue Baker SN MAREP and Safety

Protect the Water's Bottom

Anchoring is an art we can perfect to protect the water's bottom.

Boating makes it possible for us to get to beautiful places; our boat's anchor allows us to stay there. While proper anchoring is taught in the CPS Boating course, it can be harsh on the water's bottom depending on the composition of the river, lake or seabed. Fortunately there are steps we can take that minimize the impact.

The impact of Anchoring

- Lowering and raising an anchor or swinging on an anchor can destroy wide swaths of bottom vegetation, an important habitat for small fish and other marine life.
- Mooring buoys in popular anchorages can help preserve the bottom and allow it to heal and regenerate from previous damage. Especially in areas with coral mooring on a buoy is the responsible thing to do.
- Marine Protected Area's (MPA's) have been designated worldwide where anchoring is either prohibited or tightly regulated. (Example: at the Florida Keys huge fines are handed out if your anchor destroys sea grass area's)

Steps You Can Take

- Know the bottom of any area that you are considering anchoring in. Read your chart and know the chart symbols that specify bottom type.
- Don't anchor over coral, sea grass or kelp beds, if possible. Look for a sandy spot instead.
- Use the proper anchor scope for the depth of water. Don't just let out rode. Read your depth sounder and measure the amount of rode depending on the appropriate scope.
- Use mooring buoys whenever possible.
- Use a marine plant and animal guide to learn about the various forms of life whose habitat you're sharing where you anchor.

Internet Search Terms: "sea grass" boats anchor, anchoring "seabed", "environmental protection" boats

Excerpt from "Boat Green" 50 Steps Boaters can take to save our waters by Clyde W. Ford.

Nick Baets, Environmental Affairs Officer

TRAINING COURSES – SPRING / FALL 2012

Please Register On-Line!

www.cps-ecp.ca or <http://cps-ottawa.com/courses.html>

FALL 2012 COURSE DATES AND INFORMATION

Registration: Online Registration form at the National CPS website

Boating Essentials - *Boating Basics get you out there, Boating Essentials brings you back.*

The Boating Essentials course replaces the old Boating course, for boaters who already have a PCOC from CPS or any other accredited provider. This course continues where the Boating Basics course leaves off and offers instruction in navigation, charting, plotting and an introduction to electronic navigation. Topics include: the magnetic compass, global positioning and charts, navigation, conning, plotting, digital charting, anchoring, lines and ropes, electrical hazards, towing, boating and the environment, and more. The duration is 10 weeks, 1 night per week. Boating Essentials graduates are entitled to regular membership in CPS.

Advanced Piloting – *a necessary course in advanced coastal navigation for short duration trips out of sight of land.*

The new Advanced Piloting course includes an updated and enhanced chapter on Electronic Navigation Tools, composed by our squadron's AP Instructor Monique Pelland. You will be taken out of the realm of conning and visual plotting to coastal cruising out of sight of land: navigating in tidal waters; dealing with winds and current; standing clear of danger; using radar, an autopilot, and other instruments; and determining position by visual observation or with the use of electronic devices. Advance your piloting skills by taking this exciting course.

Course Calendar Fall 2012 and Winter/Spring 2013:

St. Patrick's High School

Boating Essentials 2: Wednesdays Jan 9 to Mar 20

Seamanship: Wednesdays 9 Jan to Apr 10

Advanced Piloting: Wednesdays Jan 9 to Apr 10

Marine Radio 1: Wednesdays Jan 16 to Jan 30

Marine Radio 2: Wednesdays Apr 10 to Apr 24

Marine Radio 3: Wednesdays May 22 to Jun 5

Nepean Centrepointe Library

Boating Basics: Tuesdays Feb. 12th, 19th, 26th

Boating Basics: Tuesdays Apr. 9th, 16th, 23rd

North Gloucester Library

Boating Basics: Tuesdays April 9th, 16th, and 23rd

Boating Basics: Thursdays May 9th, 16th, and 23rd



Robin Craig CN

Training Officer

Help us have safer boating by promoting CPS and our courses to anyone on the dock, the grocery store, the doctor's office. Fly the colours and be proud!

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- ICOM CANADA
Save on high quality radio equipment from [Icom](#).

For more Info, please visit <http://www.cps-ecp.ca/>