

The Beacon



Saanich Peninsula Squadron



January 2005



P.O. Box 2122, Sidney, BC V8L 3S6
A Unit of Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons — Vancouver Island South District



The Beacon



Volume 35 Number 1 January 2005

The Official Newsletter of the Saanich Peninsula Squadron

A Unit of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons

Commander	Cdr Gay Miller	656-5190	commander*
Executive Officer	Lt/C Doug Mitchell	656-2959	executive
Training Officer	Lt/C Ron Harris	384-6588	training
Chief Proctor	Lt Dawna Burton	656-6450	chiefproctor
Assistant Training Officer	1st Lt Ted Meadley	656-1082	ato
Student Cruise Officer	1st Lt Martin Russell	658-1048	studentcruise
Treasurer	1st Lt Colin Nicholson	656-5085	treasurer
Secretary	1st Lt Kathy McDougall	654-0207	secretary
Membership Officer	1st Lt Lorri Pelto	656-4462	membership
Public Relations Officer	1st Lt Janice Hayward	384-6588	pro
MAREP Officer	1st Lt Len Burton	656-6450	marep
Supply Officer	1st Lt Jim Milbrath	655-0747	supply
Communications Officer	1st Lt Tony Kluge	656-7032	communications
Privacy Officer	1st Lt Tony Kluge	656-7032	privacy
Beacon Editor	1st Lt Ralph Hodd	652-1715	editor
Course Registrar	1st Lt Colin Nicholson	656-5085	registrar
Environmental Officer	1st Lt George Winn	472-2219	environment
Webmaster	1st Lt Anne McKinnell	475-0053	webmaster
Archivist	1st Lt Ralph Hodd	652-1715	archivist
Port Captain	1st Lt Len Burton	656-6450	portcaptain

***All email addresses are @ saanichpeninsulasquadron.org**

Meetings of the Squadron Executive Committee (the Bridge) are normally held on the **third THURSDAY** of each month at 1930 in the Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club, except in July and December. All members of the Squadron are welcome to attend.

The Beacon is our official newsletter. Members with articles or information should send material to the Editor before the 15th of each month. We also maintain a website www.saanichpeninsulasquadron.org. We suggest you check the site regularly for notices of upcoming events, classified ads, etc.

The contents of this magazine reflect the opinions of the writers and are not necessarily those of the Publisher, Editor, Canadian Power Squadron or Saanich Peninsula Squadron.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

First I would like to wish all the members of our Saanich Peninsula Squadron a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Although most of us have put our boating on hold until better weather, some will be enjoying a day on the water to fish or just to get out for some fresh air.



If the seas are calm we hope to be over at Otter Bay Marina on Pender Island, for New Years Eve. This year we look forward to seeing the Pender Islanders participate at Magic Lake, and then enjoy a nice peaceful evening, on board *Charlotte Time*.

The autumn boating class is over, and the students did very well, with most marks in the high 90's, and 2 perfect scores! Well done, Instructors **Doug Mitchell, Ted Meadley** and **Janice Hayward**. Thank you to all our Proctors, too! Bravo Zulu!

Our students also performed well in the VHF course, taught by **Ted Meadley**. Good work, Ted!

On a sad note, one of our Past Commanders, **John King** died on December 16th. You may recall that John and his wife, Barb, joined the squadron at the dock on the Easter weekend at Telegraph Harbour Marina. John was Commander of the Saanich Peninsula Squadron in 1988-89, with **Barb King** serving as Commander 1989-90. John was dedicated to safe boating. We will miss him.

Cdr Gay Miller

Our Squadron has been asked to do the gate at the Boat Show in the Inner Harbour. April 21-24th, 2005. We hope to get started in organizing the shifts, early in the New Year so set the date on your calendars and please be ready to offer your help, when asked.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Jan 10 **Graduation night** 1900 hours at Sidney North
Saanich Yacht Club. *(See notice below)*

Jan 11 **Boating Course:** Tuesdays - January 11th - April 14th
Registration 1815hours - Class starts 1900 hours

Jan 11 **Marine Maintenance Course:** Tuesdays - January 11th - April 14th .
Registration 1815 hours - Class starts 1900 hours

Jan 12 **Piloting Course:** Wednesdays - January 12th - March 23rd
Registration 1815 hours - Class starts 1900 hours

****All classes will be held at *North Saanich Middle School* which is located on
MacDonald Park Rd and Resthaven in Sidney.

Registration for all classes will be at 1815 hours on first night only. Classes start at
1900 hours and run until 2200hours.

For full details regarding any CPS courses please see our web site at
www.saanichpeninsulasquadron.org ****

Aug 5-7 **VISD Rendezvous:** Otter Bay Marina, North Pender Island

Aug 21-24 **Victoria Boat Show** - Victoria inner harbour.

Aug 26-28 **VIND Rendesvous:** Pages Marina, Gabriola Island

A Bit More About Graduation Ceremonies Jan 10, 2005

Lt/C Doug Mitchell, our Executive Officer and owner of *Forest Ranger II* will speak about "**Forest Ranger Launches - A Maritime Heritage**". In this 15 minute talk, Doug will give an overview of the fleet of launches formerly used by the B.C. Forest Service to patrol and police coastal logging operations up until the early 1980's. He will then show a 15 minute video about the **Ex-Forest Service Vessel Squadron**, and its special reunion/rendezvous held at the Vancouver Maritime Museum in 1995.

It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.

SQUADRON MESSAGE CENTRE

PROCTORS URGENTLY NEEDED for the Spring Boating Class commencing Tuesday, January 11th - April 14th. Chief Proctor Dawna Burton would appreciate the assistance of at least six Proctors for this Class. If you have been a Proctor in a previous class - or are interested in being a Proctor for the first time - we would welcome your volunteer help during the Spring Session. This is a great way to refresh your own knowledge of boating safety and help new students at the same time!

If you are able to assist, please call Dawna at 656-6450 or e-mail chiefproctor@saanichpeninsulasquadron.org

INTEREST IN OUR SQUADRON has been expressed by people at IOS. **Craig Lessels, Al Schofield** and **David Jackson** were invited on the student cruise but Craig was the only one who didn't have any commitments that day and was therefore able to join us. He commented that although, he made the very charts that we use, he had no idea of how to plot a course on one. He was very impressed with the calibre of our training department and how they put together such a great course, and student cruise.

Len Burton was contacted, by Al to inform him that, after his meeting with Len a few weeks ago, the next *Boating Course* is now booked well in advance for the CHS Chart tour.

Craig and Dave, who will be doing the tour, will take the students from the last Boating Class through MCTS, on a date to be determined. This will only be available to those students who join the squadron upon passing the course - a sort of "signing" bonus.

Al is also arranging a tour for the *Marine Maintenance Course*, through their ship repair and machine shop at IOS. We have many opportunities at IOS, thanks to Craig getting involved with our Squadron. These tours will ever enhance what is taught in our *Boating* courses.

Len Burton MAREP

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

2004 brought the following new members to our squadron: **Welcome to all of you.**

Don and Cheryl Armstrong (transferred in from Ladysmith squadron)
Jim Barber Brian McKenna
Lauri Barker Dan and Tami Mayer
Peter Bey Anne Marie Middleton
Barry Chunik Laura Parker
Alan and Donna Dickinson Ken and Kathy Phillips
Christine Falk-Duquesnay Bob JoyceStewart
Richard and Cynthia Funnell John and Diane Thorp
John Hartley Brian Thompson
Barry and Nelson Hill Winona White
Simon Kendall Lyle Widdifield
Jim Knowles Mike and Patricia Wilson

From the December 04 graduating class ten more new members are being processed. Graduation ceremonies on January 10th will likely bring more new members.

At the beginning of 2004 we had a total of 297 members and now we have a total of 289. Some members have moved or transferred to other squadrons, but some others have found themselves **struck from the membership roles because of unpaid dues.** As this could be an oversight we would like to advise you how the process works.

- . By July un-renewed members are struck from the current membership database.
- . You may renew your membership anytime during the year and be reinstated.
- . Your current membership is valid until April 2005.

DON'T MISS THE BOAT

I will soon be starting to update the roster for 2005. **PLEASE** consult the last roster to ensure we have your latest information i.e address, e-mail, phone number, boat size and name. What we see is what you get! If there are any changes you wish to make to your information please advise ASAP.

Lorri Pelto - Membership Officer

Phone 250-656-4462 or e-mail membership@saanichpeninsulasquadron.org

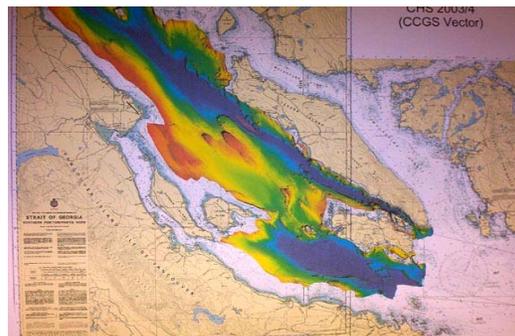
THE FALL BOATING COURSE - 2004

On Tuesday, September 14, 2004 the fall **Boating Course** commenced at Sidney North Saanich Middle School.

Since becoming a member of Saanich Peninsula Power Squadron I have been involved in many facets of the Saanich Peninsula Squadron. The *MAREP and Port Captain* responsibilities are only part of what I enjoy doing - BOATING SAFELY!

Proctoring in a boating class is not only a reward in itself, but one gets to observe the students evolve into more safety-conscious boaters. At the end of the **Boating Course** we hope the students will also become members and pass on their newly acquired knowledge to a future class. Proctoring is a wonderful way of reinforcing your own knowledge. You always come away with something new.

The Fall Boating Class 2004, like all previous Boating Classes, appeared quite overpowered on that first night. They had their *Course Introduction* and then ended the night with the all-time favorite - tying knots. They progressed through *Mandatory Equipment, Collision Regulations* and homework, homework, homework! Then they were introduced to *Charting*, which, at first, can seem as overpowering as tying knots did on the first night. Through the **Institute of Ocean Sciences** the students had an introduction into how the charts that they were working on, were produced. Tour guides **Dave Jackson** and **Craig Lessels** introduced us to their world of Oceanography.



They saw how charts are made and hopefully they came away with an appreciation of how involved and complex the process of making a chart is.

The following Sunday our students had the opportunity to go on a Student Cruise to Otter Bay. This was not only a chance to apply newly acquired skills from class, but also to apply these skills by charting a course to Otter Bay. The skippers and proctors had been on this training exercise many times before. They are **ALL** past **Boating Course** graduates. Students had an opportunity to learn from the skills these skippers had learned from years on the water.



We had sailboats and we had powerboats which ranged in size from 24 feet to 50 feet but we all had one thing in common - no matter the size of our boat - we all believe in boating safety and boating safely.



We fought fires!

We learned how to dock and undock and how to anchor with the right amount of scope. The Coast Guard answered our questions.



Then before we knew it, we were on our way again for a “bow and beam bearing” for Shute Reef and the final leg of our cruise. The Student Cruise ended as it began with calm water throughout and with the sun setting in the western sky we headed home. What a Great Student Cruise!

Saanich Peninsula Power and Sail Squadron is one of the best qualified and dedicated groups of instructors to be found. They come from diverse backgrounds, including even a past Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy, and are former students who have taken advanced courses and instructor training. The class Proctors are all past graduates of the **Boating Course** and **Advanced CPS Courses**. They have one goal - to teach safe boating. Hopefully, students come away with a different perspective on boating safely. The students most definitely come away from the **Boating Course** with a competent level of understanding of charting and the buoyage system.



After successfully writing and passing the **Boating Course**, the graduate class have a graduation ceremony at the Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club. This night is for the boating class students who have worked so hard to attain an extremely high level of competence in boating. By then they will also realize that the minimum PCO card is just an entry level that does not even come close to the **Boating Course** standards.

They will be encouraged to join CPS and the Saanich Peninsula Power Squadron. After all the long hours of study one would think, "Why would I want to join CPS"?



Reflect back on that first night when you approached the registration desk to take this course. Some of you were a little apprehensive, some confident in the skills that you already had from years on the water. Each and every one of you will now have the knowledge to apply what you have learned in this class to your future boating endeavors. From now on you will look at boating from a different perspective. Now that you are reflecting on it, think about all the hours that went into preparing each and every facet of the course from which you just graduated. From your instructors to the class proctors, ALL gave up their evenings and a Sunday, for you to apply what you had learned through on-the-water training, using their boats. And let's not forget the other skippers who volunteered their boats, their time and their fuel for you to learn from them.

It is an important and fulfilling part of being a CPS Member - passing on knowledge to new students. There is absolutely no remuneration for teaching these classes, only the pride one can take in teaching boating safety to the highest standards of CPS.

Len Burton - MAREP

A couple were boating along the shoreline of Saltspring Island for several miles without saying anything. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither wanted to concede their position. As they passed a meadow full of mules, goats and pigs the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?"

"Yes", replied the wife, "In-laws".

COMING AND GOING

Where Did I Come From?

A little boy asks his "Daddy, how was I born?"

His dad replies, "Ah, my son, I guess one day you will need to find out anyway!"



"Well, you see your Mom and I first got together in a chat room on MSN. Then I set up a date via e-mail with your mom and we met at a cyber-cafe. We sneaked into a secluded room, where your mother agreed to a download from my hard drive. As soon as I was ready to upload, we discovered that neither one of us had used a firewall, and since it was too late to hit the delete button, nine months later a blessed little Pop-Up appeared and said, "You've Got Male!"

Where am I going?

Ralph returns from the doctor and tells his wife that the doctor has told him he has only 24 hours to live. Given this prognosis, Ralph asks his wife for sex. Naturally, she agrees, and they make love.

About six hours later, the husband goes to his wife and says, "Honey, you know I now have only 18 hours to live, could we please do it one more time?" Of course, the wife agrees and they do it again.

Later, as the man gets into bed, he looks at his watch and realizes he now has only 8 hours left. He touches his wife's shoulder and asks, "Honey, please just one more time before I die?"

She says, "Of course, dear," and they make love for the third time. After this session, the wife rolls over and falls asleep. Ralph, however, worried about his impending death, tosses and turns until he's down to 4 more hours. He taps his wife, who rouses. "Honey, I have only 4 more hours. Do you think we could.....?"

At this point the wife sits up and says, "Listen Ralph, I have to get up in the morning...you don't!"

A FISHING STORY

While on our annual boating trip this year in the Knight's inlet area, we spent some time halibut fishing. One beautiful sunny day we headed out to the chosen area with calm waters, the correct tide, and all the fishing gear perfectly set up ready to go. Upon arriving we dropped the lures and waited in eager anticipation for the BIG ONE. Who knows how long this "waiting" lasted? My husband said, "Not long", I say, "Hours!" (men are definitely from Mars).

The action began! Lorne grabbed the fishing rod, yelling for me to pull my line up and get the harpoon ready and anything else he thought he might require. Over the next 45 minutes our nice peaceful time was transformed to a wild, noisy, confusing, chaotic time, complete with exclamations of "What could this be on the lure"?

Of course, the first thought was that we had a very large halibut on, but as the minutes ticked away, it ranged on to a grey whale, a dolphin, a barn door, a crab trap - you name it. Finally something broke the surface and on closer examination what was hooked was none other than a skate with the lure precariously snagged on a very large wing. The skate was 3 feet by 5 feet in size with an estimated weight of between 120lbs and 140lbs. It was beautiful and eerie.

At the same time, we were able to release it safely and watch it swim away. A very tired mate said to me, "Wasn't it beautiful?" and "What a lot of "bay scallops" those wings would have produced".

My understanding of the "bay scallop" mention is: Apparently some of our finer dining establishments offer bay scallops on their menus and they are actually pieces of skate wings....ouch!

I am very happy to report that we did eventually land a halibut, (male) around 96 lbs and were able to offer pieces to fellow boaters.

It strikes me that the next time you order bay scallops at your favourite eating establishment, you will remember this story.

Submitted by Lorri Pelto



OUR FIRST ON-OUR-OWN SAILING EXPERIENCE

Ralph and I had arranged to have a wonderful two week sailing trip to Desolation Sound with our very experienced sailing buddies – they in their boat 37' sailboat and we in our 28' sailboat. The deal was that we would sail to a destination every day and then raft together for dinner every night so half the food was on one boat and the other half on the other boat. The destination would be determined during the course of the day and conveyed by radio. What a plan!

On day three of our holiday we were separated by a nasty storm on our way from Nanaimo to the Sunshine Coast and also lost all radio contact. Ralph and I managed to get across and into a small private harbour the other side of Pender Harbour and our friends were ????? Once away from the coast and nestled in a little private cove we were suddenly faced with having to throw our anchor for the first time and fend for ourselves without the encouragement of our friends. We had lost all radio contact due to the mountains, of course and there was the situation of the pancake mix on one boat and syrup on the other. Another sound plan!

The next day we motored around to Pender Harbour figuring we would surely find our friends but they were not there, although someone had seen their boat in another anchorage. Three days later after searching all the anchorages in the area and with help from the Coast Guard and a HAM radio operator in Port Hardy we heard that they were fine and had been seen in Nanaimo. The message that we were okay had also reached them.

Off we went to Nanaimo, in hot pursuit, but missed them by one day so decided to simply take our holiday and go “where the wind blows us”. We spent the remainder of the two weeks exploring the islands and meandering back to Brentwood Bay. It was tremendous fun and we learned a great deal.

We did what every novice sailor does at least once in these waters – attempt to navigate a narrows against the tide. The Tide Tables where, of course, on the other boat and after nearly getting dumped by a speeding cabin cruiser who, at breakneck speed, got through Gabriola Passage but totally swamped us, we decided to turn around and wait out the day at a little private island where, thankfully, we met other sailors who did have Tide Tables and could advise us when to leave. Another lesson learned. We were fine after that without any more “adventures”. It was one of the best holidays we can ever remember having.

Submitted by Joyce Hodd

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Raytheon RL70 Radar 7" Monochrome LCD



FOR SALE: Raytheon RC520 Chartplotter 7" Monochrome LCD.

Both items have sea-talk and can be connected together. Will sell both for \$1,000. Each item cost approximately \$1500 new. Contact Ron Harris 384-6588 or h2hzoo@telus.net



FOR SALE: Windlass never used – \$400

Horizontal, circular (low profile) Simpson-Lawrence (rope or chain) for boats up to 38'. Uses standard winch handle.

Phone Ralph Hodd 652-1715 or joycehodd@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Starcraft Chiefton with Dual Axel Trailer – \$11,500

1989 Yamaha 200 hp -approx (200 Hours) serviced 2003
1991 Yamaha 15 hp kicker -approx (20 Hours) serviced 2003
Bennett trim tabs. New interior , wiring, steering gauges, mahogany cabin liner and sides, marine plywood and mahogany decking and much, more. Excellent fishing and cruising boat.



Phone Tracy or Rick Wassing - 652-4400 or taz.cpl.are@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: 1996 3 HP Evinrude outboard motor - \$500

12 hours use only.

Phone Bob or Ruth Jones - 655-4905 or rrjones@islandnet.com

FOR SALE: Smart Alternator Regulator By Cruising Equipment Inc. - \$300.00

Like new condition. Complete with installation instructions and operating manual.

Phone Ted Meadley - 656-1082 or meadleys@shaw.ca

Please advise editor@saanichpeninsulasquadron.org if you want to PLACE or DISCONTINUE an ad.

"We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails."

- caution: continual sail adjustment minimizes sailing time

LIST OF ADVERTISERS

All Bay Marine Ltd. - 250-656-0153 Fax: 250-656-5844

Brenna Litwak - Certified Management Accountant - 250-656-0084
E-mail brenna@brennalitwack.com

Brown Bros Marine Insurance - 250-385-8771 or 250-479-6111

Canoe Cove Marina - Office: 250-656-5566 Service: 250-656-5515 Fax: 250-655-7197
www.canoecovemarina.com

Compass Rose Nautical Books - 250-656-4674 Fax: 250-656-4760
E-mail compassrose@telus.net

Harbord Insurance Services - 250-656-0111 Toll Free: 1-888-450-3982
www.harbordinsurance.com

Jensen Marine Supply Inc. - 250-656-1114 or 250-656-1235

Peninsula U-Brew Winery - 250-655-721

Sidney Marine Supply - 250-656-2013 Fax: 250-656-9954
www.sidneymarine.com E-mail sales@sidneymarine.com

Sidney Propeller and Marine Power - Phone/Fax: 250-656-3421
www.sidneypropeller&marinepowerltd.com E-mail sidprop@shaw.ca

The Boathouse Marine Centre - 250-655-3682 Fax : 250-655-3676
E-mail boathouse@sidneybc.com

Tsehum Marine Ltd. - 250-656-1221 Fax: 250-656-9212

Waypoint Marine Ltd - 250-656-2001 Fax: 250-565-2008

Westwind Hardwood Inc - 250-656-0848 Toll Free: 1-800-667-2275 Fax: 250-656-9663
E-mail westwind@islandnet.com

Advertisers are listed in alphabetical order and not in order of ad size or positioning

IN THIS ISSUE YOU WILL FIND:

Bridge Members Page	page 1
Commander's Comments	page 2
Calendar of Events	page 3
Squadron Message Centre	page 4
Membership Report	page 5
Don't Miss the Boat	page 5
The Fall Boating Course 2004	page 6-9
Coming and Going	page 10
A Fishing Story	page 11
Our First On-Our-Own Sailing Experience	page 12
Classified	page 13
List of Advertisers	page 14

When Sir Francis Drake returned to Plymouth in 1580 (after 3 years) from his voyage in search of the western end of the Northwest Passage, and circumnavigating the world, he learned that his wife, Mary, had accepted a proposal for marriage from another gentleman. At first Sir Francis was "moved with great impatience" but later he "did receive her to his favour".

Translation: *Initially he was royally ticked off...but later he forgave her and they lived happily until the next voyage.*

Source: [The Secret Voyage of Sir Francis Drake](#) by Samuel Bawlf

Saanich Peninsula Squadron CPS
PO Box 2122
Sidney, BC V8L 3S6

CANADIAN MAIL PUBLICATIONS
AGREEMENT # 40042837