

The Beacon



Saanich Peninsula Squadron



September/October 2005



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

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Donald Rumsfeld is giving the president his daily briefing. He concludes by saying, "Yesterday, 3 Brazilian soldiers were killed."

"OH NO!" the President exclaims. "That's terrible!" His staff sits stunned at this display of emotion, nervously watching as the President sits, head in hands.

Finally, the President looks up and asks, "Exactly how many is a brazillion?"

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The Official Newsletter of the Saanich Peninsula Squadron
A Unit of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons

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Training Officer	Lt/Cdr Ted Meadley	656-1082	training
Treasurer	1 st Lt Colin Nicholson	656-5085	treasurer
Secretary	1 st Lt Kathryn McDougall	654-0207	secretary
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*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 1900 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 Editor, Canadian Power Squadron or Saanich Peninsula Squadron.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Fall greetings to all! This summer a few of our enthusiastic members organized a great corn and wiener roast/picnic at Aviation Museum for Saturday September 10th. My sincere thanks to those who dreamed up this fun event and made it happen. I was away at a workboat rendezvous and missed the picnic, but by all accounts it was a great success! It was our second popular and well-attended social event of the boating season, the first being our Sail-Past Dinner. Our Bridge members are busy thinking up ideas for more social events, and I encourage your timely response to the questionnaire contained on page 7 in this *Beacon*. This is your chance to tell your Bridge what type of social events you would like to see happen.



During our 'summer recess', our Training Department worked behind the scenes to ensure the smooth organization of Boating Course registration and start-up for September 6th. Our Bridge held its first fall meeting on September 15th. Amongst other things, we discussed membership renewals. We noted that each year there are a number of members who choose not to renew. We realize that some members reach the end of their boating days, and choose to let their memberships lapse. But for those boating members who simply choose not to renew, our Bridge would appreciate learning why, particularly if there is some way in which we have failed to meet your expectations or needs. Another concern is the number of *late* membership renewals. National HQ mails out renewal letters early in the spring, offering a discount for early response. They also follow-up with a reminder. Still, renewal just seems to slip some members' minds. If any members intending to renew annual memberships have not yet done so, please do so now! For future years, I strongly encourage all members to renew their membership each spring on a timely basis. It helps planning at National, District and Squadron level, and is also important for keeping membership records current. Although the *Roster* was unfortunately very late in distribution this year, we can only accurately proof-read our squadron's section of the *Roster* before production if we have current membership information.

A Vancouver Island South District Council Meeting was scheduled for Sunday 18 September. Our Bridge has reviewed several discussion points to be raised at that meeting. I will advise you in the next *Beacon* of any significant issues that arise. I will also be reporting to the meeting that our squadron is in *excellent* shape and that we are blessed with a strong, enthusiastic and dedicated 2005 Bridge. I am proud of our team, and very grateful for the excellent talent and support we are so fortunate to have.

In closing, I am sorry to have to tell you that our former Membership Officer, **Lori Pelto** is seriously ill with cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy. She is a fighter and was remarkably positive and stoic when I spoke to her, but she faces a rough road ahead. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Yours aye,



Doug Mitchell

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 20 **Bridge Meeting – 1900 hours** SNSYC. All are welcome.

Nov 16 **Bridge Meeting – 1900 hours** SNSYC. All are welcome.



DO YOU KNOW...

Why Brazil is Portuguese and not Spanish? Pope Alexander VI brokered a resolution to resolve tension between Portugal and Spain in 1494. The treaty established a north/south line or meridian, plotted 1300 miles west of the Azores in the mid-Atlantic. Spain was given the sole right to exploit all lands lying to the west, and Portugal all lands lying to the east until their empires met at a second line of demarcation 180 degrees around the globe. Since Brazil was east of the meridian it became a Portuguese colony.

OR HOW ABOUT...

Where the name “America” came from? All the old explorers were searching for a westward passage to the Far East – Cabot in the north and Columbus in the Caribbean. A Florentine navigator Amerigo Vespucci followed the coast southward as far as the Rio de la Plata in 1501. The new continent was soon named after him – thus “America”

SPPS PICNIC & CORN ROAST

Saturday Sept 10th we had our first picnic and corn roast. This was an event that Ron Harris, Janice Hayward, my wife, Dawna and I had talked about for the past two years. "All our Squadron members worked together", then put together a great day. Everyone pitched in and helped out. It was



truly a team effort. On behalf of our Squadron, I would like to thank **Bill & Sally Fisher**, curators of the **B.C. Air Museum** who kept the museum open from 16:00 to 21:00 to allow tours through their facilities. Everyone enjoyed the museum. Thank you also for the use of the grounds where we held the picnic.

I arrived an hour early to start the set up. Within minutes of my arrival, I was joined by **Colin and Loraine Nicholson** to whom I say a great big "Thank You"! *Since becoming a member, I have noticed Colin and Loraine are always the first to arrive at every function to help get it underway.*

Members started arriving shortly after and all pitched in to shuck corn. The cooking pots were filled with water and the burners lit. Next on scene was Saanich Peninsulas "**Iron Chef**" **Cliff Cunningham** who quickly took command of the galley.



With corn and hot dogs on the boil, we filled our plates, and settled back to enjoy each others company and reflect back on last summers cruising adventures. Commander **Peter Simpson** from the **Brentwood Bay Squadron**, and their Squadron Members joined our festivities.

Our picnic was now well underway.



Our Membership often tries to think of different ways to get an event going for everyone, and a corn roast seemed a great way to do just that. How to get new members involved is subject that comes up at every SPPS Bridge Meeting.

We had a great turn out. New members had an opportunity to acquaint themselves with members who have been in the squadron for many years. We even had students from the fall boating class attend. We had tours of the museum, games for the kids and the "*Iron Chef*" **Cliff Cunningham** who put on an outstanding presentation in knot tying.

To the members who attended, and especially those who helped make this picnic and outstanding success, "Thank you, it was a fun day"!

Len Burton -
MAREP Officer



Did Someone Say FISH?

A Game Warden stopped a man with two buckets of fish. He asked the man, "Do you have a license to catch those fish"?

The man replied, "No sir...don't need one, these are my pet fish".

"Pet fish!?" the Warden asked.

"Yes sir! Every night I take these here fish down to the lake and let them swim around for a while. I whistle, they jump back into the buckets and I take them home."

"That's crazy, fish can't do that!" said the Warden.

The man looked at the Game Warden for a few moments and said, "It's not crazy, I'll show you".

"Okay," said the Warden, "Do it!"

The man quickly poured the fish into the lake and stood and waited. After several minutes the Game Warden turned to the man and said "Well?"

"Well what?" the man responded.

"Well when are you going to call them back?" the Game Warden asked.

"Call who back?" the man asked.

"The FISH" yelled the Warden.

"What fish?" the man asked.



SPECIAL EVENTS

ACTIVITY SURVEY

HELP US HELP THE MEMBERSHIP!

Following the very successful Squadron Picnic and Corn Roast (see pg 4-5)
we would like to organize more events and social activities.

Here are a few of our ideas:

1. Talent Night
2. Murder Mystery Night
3. Casino Night
4. Dinner/Dance
5. Boaters' Swap Meet
6. Lecture Series - w/members and non-member guest lecturers
7. Monthly dinner at SNSYC
8. Weekend Boating Rendezvous
9. Boat Rally
10. June - "Bon Voyage" picnic
11. September - "Après Cruise" picnic
12. Summer Dingy Races
13. Meet & Greet w/entertainment
14. YOUR IDEA _____



Please choose any activity or submit something new. Then...

1. **E-mail your choice** to: communications@peninsulasquadron.org
2. Indicate your choices or suggestions, **tear out this page and mail to:**
Laura Parker, #307-2341 Harbour Rd., Sidney, B.C., V8L 3X8
3. **Please respond by October 15** so the Bridge can start making plans for your next fun activity.

We look forward to hearing from you soon

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Since the beginning of April, I have received “weekly” updates on membership renewals from CPS Headquarters. A total of 92 members renewed in April; another 82 in May. But only 26 more members renewed in June, July and August combined. According to the Headquarters updates to August 31, the Squadron currently has 200 paid-up members – 154 Regular, 44 Family and 1 Regular Associate.

Our own database numbers, last reported in the May/June issue of *The Beacon*, suggest that the Squadron had 302 members on August 31.

Regular 216
Family 61
Regular Associate 3
Lady Associate 12
Junior Associate 3
Life 5
Dual 2
Total 302



As Lady Associate, Junior Associate and Life members do not pay annual membership dues, these numbers are not included in the weekly updates from CPS Headquarters. Nevertheless, it appears that as many as **80 Squadron members have not yet renewed** their membership for 2005/06.

You can renew by mail, telephone banking, personal internet banking, or online through the CPS secure credit card server at <http://cpsdues.cps-ecp.ca/>. And... please let me know of any change to your mailing address, phone number or e-mail address so that we can keep our membership contact information up-to-date.

Please welcome these new “rejoin” and transfer members to the Saanich Peninsula Squadron!

Mark and Jennine Lovick (former members of Prince George Squadron)
Hugh Richards (former member and P/Cdr of Juan de Fuca Squadron)
Jim Jordan (member of Ottawa Squadron)

Tony Kluge - Membership Officer

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Regal Cutty 22' fully loaded **\$2,500 OBO**
If interested phone David for details 544-1333

FOR SALE: Windlass - never used **\$400 OBO**
Simpson-Lawrence (rope or chain)
Contact Ralph Hodd 652-1715 or ralphhodd@telus.net



FOR SALE: Pacific Yachting Magazines 1976-1996 - **\$35.00**
Including 1/2 binders
Contact Mike Litwin 658-1151 or mlitwin@coastnet.com

FOR SALE: GOLD BAR 1986 32' Fairline **\$85,000 OBO**
Gold Bar is a fly-bridge cruiser, extra large swim grid. Two new (2002 - 300 hrs) Mercury 300HP 300 MAG MPI Horizon V8 5.7 litre gas engines and Bravo 2 legs with Micro Commander Mathers electronic controls plus warranty. All in-cabin amenities, many navigational aids, and improvements. Moored at Sooke. Contact George/Lynn Voro 250 598-1284 or vooro@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Portable BBQ with small **tank** and **fittings** for bottle - **\$25.**
Contact Ken Clarke - 656-9251

FOR SALE: Anchor chain - 3/8 inch, BBB, galvanized, about 60 feet. **\$2/foot**
Will cut to order.
Contact Ken Clarke - 656-9251

Please advise editor@saanichpeninsulasquadron.org re classified advertisements

The End is Nearer Than You Think!

A local priest and rabbi were fishing on the side of the road. They thoughtfully made a sign saying, "The End is Near! Turn yourself around now before it's too late!" and showed it to each passing car.

One driver that drove by didn't appreciate the sign and shouted at them, "Leave us alone, you religious nuts!"

All of a sudden they heard a big splash. They looked at each other and the priest said to the rabbi, "You think we should just put up a sign that says 'Bridge Out' instead?"

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

FROM THE SQUADRON STORES - Regalia and Supplies

Staedtler Navigational Protractor - \$6.00

Staedtler Rulers 40 cm. Long - \$3.25

Men's Neck Tie - \$25.00 Ladies Brooch - \$10.00 Card File - \$22.00 Ladies Scarf - \$21.00



Member Flags: Small 8x13 - \$8.00 - Large 12x20 - \$9.00

Window Decal's - \$1.25

Licence Plate Surround *Volunteers Teaching Safe Boating* - \$12.00

Lapel Pin - \$6.00

Supply Officer D. Burton 656-6450 Dawna2@shaw.ca