

# The Beacon



**Saanich Peninsula Squadron**



**September/October 2006**



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

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## **DID YOU KNOW...**

The infamous pirate known "Blackbeard" was in fact a man named Edward Teach. He was a buccaneer supreme and he caused great fear throughout America. He was killed in a hand-to-hand battle off North Carolina in 1718. He lost his head, which was then attached to the bowsprit of the ship belonging to the Governor of Virginia and later returned to that state as a trophy.

Source: *To Rule the Waves* by Arthur Herman



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*A Unit of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons*

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**\*All email addresses are @ [www.sppss.org](http://www.sppss.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. We also maintain a website [www.sppss.org](http://www.sppss.org).

We suggest you check the site regularly for notices of upcoming events, classified ads, etc. To receive *The Beacon* electronically rather than by mail click

<http://www.sppss.org>.

*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

By the time this Beacon is read, those of you with students in school will be cutting back on your boating activities and those of you who are retired like myself will still be getting out on the water at every opportunity. Whichever the case, I hope that you had a great boating summer; we could not have wished for more sunshine.



For power boaters, it was a somewhat rough and choppy summer on the water; however, it could not have been better for sailboat owners. I remember coming to Victoria in 1998 and being told that sailing in Victoria in the summer was a dead loss; you need a 150% genoa just to drift, let alone sail. If I had heeded this warning I would have spent the summer reefed. One of the greatest sails of the summer was from Schooner Cove down to Porlier Pass on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 28 miles of sailing at near hull speed on genoa alone or wing and wing, all on one tack. Not even Whiskey-Golf got in the way. There was hardly anyone out on the water.

The cadre of authors of *Beacon* articles are few in number with many repeat writers. I thank these members for their creativity and hope that ink will continue flowing from their pens (or fingers over their key-boards). I encourage all other members to submit articles to the Editor of *The Beacon*. These can be educational articles, personal experience articles that recall lessons learnt for other members to gain from, boating jokes, or any other information about boating and boating safety, e.g., quizzes, new marinas or navigational aids. A healthy situation for an editor is to have more articles on file so that any one *Beacon* edition covers a broad range of topics, or, on the other hand, dedicate an issue to aspects of one topic. At the moment, it is generally a rush to get copy from the dedicated few that do submit.

The fall classes are starting in two weeks. There are still some seats available in the Boating class for friends and family members who want or need a base in boating knowledge as well as to obtain their PCOC, and in the Piloting class. I would like to thank in advance the volunteers that instruct, proctor, make their boats available for the student cruise, mark and de-brief exams and the multitude of other tasks that make our education program work.

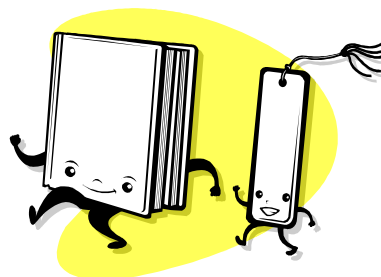
While on the subject of volunteers, I would be remiss if I did not say what a pleasure it is to work with such a keen, able and willing Bridge. Members are welcome to attend Bridge meetings.

As I said in the last couple of issues, please hoist the CPS flag.



John Hudson  
Commander

## OUR WEBSITE HAS MOVED!



Please update your bookmarks

You can now find us on the web at [www.sppss.org](http://www.sppss.org). The acronym stands for Saanich Peninsula Power and Sail Squadron (SPPSS). This new address is easily found without being able to accurately spell "saanich" or "peninsula" and will make it easier for us to communicate the name of the site to others -- who don't live around here.

If you communicate with Bridge members by email, all of the email addresses have changed to @sppss.org as well. But don't worry, all of the old email address and the old web address will still work for the next year or so.

If you have any questions about this, please email our webmaster at [webmaster@sppss.org](mailto:webmaster@sppss.org)

An elderly fisherman wrote to a mail order house the following: "Please send me one of those gasoline engines for my boat you show on page 438, and if it's any good, I'll send you a cheque."

In a short time he received the following reply: "Please send cheque. If it's any good, we will send the engine."

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- Sept 12     **Boating Class registration** and 1<sup>st</sup> lecture  
All courses info <http://www.sppss.org/courses.htm>  
register on-line! <http://www.sppss.org/registration.htm>
- Sept 21     **Bridge meeting** - 1900 hrs at Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club  
see Calendar page: <http://www.sppss.org/calendar.htm>
- Sept 17     **SPPSS BBQ/Picnic and Boating Swap Meet** 11:30am - 4:30pm  
Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club  
for information: <http://www.sppss.org/notices.htm#bbq>  
SIGN UP for FUN VOLUNTEERING on our [sign-up sheet!](#)
- Sept 22-23 **Casual Cruise to Maple Bay Marina and Pot Luck Supper**  
for information: <http://www.sppss.org/notices.htm#cruise>
- Nov 5       **Fall Student Cruise** - Anyone who would like to skipper their boat in the  
fall student Cruise, or anyone who would like to proctor on the cruise, please  
contact: Bill Miller 656-5190 or [beemer@telus.net](mailto:beemer@telus.net)

## BULLETIN BOARD

Our WEBSITE has a NEW ADDRESS!! <http://www.sppss.org/>. The old address will automatically forward to the new one but please do use the new! Please visit our website for complete information

**Call for speakers for our Lecture Series** - Do you have a special nautical interest or adventure that you would like to share with your fellow SPS members? How would YOU like to be a guest speaker in our Lecture Series? Please give us a call or email us. We look forward to hearing from you and continuing this series for everyone's enjoyment and learning. Click here for information: <http://www.sppss.org/notices.htm#lecture>

**Speaking of our Lecture Series**, the [editor of Pacific Yachting Magazine](#) will be our [guest speaker in November!!](#) Which topic would you prefer he discuss - Recent Trans-Pacific Sail or Recently released book on Salmon Farming? **Please take our poll on the front page of our website:** <http://www.sppss.org/>

## EXCITING LECTURE - BOOK NOW!

Our first two lectures were informative and fun, well attended and enjoyed by all!! We are looking forward to more great lectures and we already have a date confirmed for November!!

- . Peter Robson, editor of Pacific Yachting Magazine, will be our guest speaker!
- . Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club, 1949 Marina Way, North Saanich
- . Monday November 20<sup>th</sup>
- . Lecture begins at 7pm, 1-1/2 hr duration (depending on Q&A period)
- . Forum - PowerPoint-slideshow, talk, question/answer period
- . **FREE** lecture, parking, fun

We ask you to **reserve your seat now** so that we can better plan for this event: Please confirm your attendance by contacting Laura Parker, Communications Officer, by email [communications@spps.org](mailto:communications@spps.org) or phone 656-8646

Peter has given us two options to vote on for the topic of his lecture - his recent Trans-Pacific sail OR about his recently released book on salmon! Which topic would you prefer? Go to our website now and vote: <http://www.spps.org>

In late October/early November Hugh Richards, one of your fellow squadron members, will be continuing the talk / slide-show presentation on his world sailing adventures. He spoke at the last Boating Class Graduation and had everyone in stitches, so we didn't get too far on that track!! Watch for details on our website and upcoming communications!

Do YOU have a special nautical interest or adventure that you would like to share with your fellow SPS members?! How would YOU like to be a guest speaker in our Lecture Series?! Go to our website now and check out the details: <http://www.spps.org/notices.htm#lecture>

Submitted by  
Laura Parker, P  
Communications Officer



## **Our Marine Environment...**

One of our communication objectives is to keep you informed on important environmental issues. The following are the first in a series of articles. You are welcome to comment or contribute at [warrenf@shaw.ca](mailto:warrenf@shaw.ca) or 250 655 0149.

### **Regulations: “Don’t pump that head....”**

*An up date on waste discharge regulations.*

The proposed new sewage discharge regulations may have a major impact on all recreational boaters.

On June 16, 2006 the federal government published in the Canada Gazette Part I, new proposed sewage pollution prevention regulations that will affect all small vessels with heads installed.

B.C. currently has three sewage pollution prevention regulations in place, two of which apply to smaller (under 400 GRT) vessels—The Pleasure Craft Sewage Pollution Prevention Regulations, applicable to pleasure craft, and The Non-Pleasure Craft Sewage Pollution Prevention Regulations, applicable to smaller non-pleasure vessels.

The two “small vessels” regulations, drafted in the late 1980s, permitted individual provinces to ban the discharge of sewage into designated environmentally sensitive bodies of water. Currently, B.C. has 17 designated “no-discharge” zones. This means the current regulations only restrict sewage discharge in a few designated areas in B.C. waters.

From 2004 to 2005, following meetings with several boating related groups, Transport Canada agreed to accept the recommended reduction in the distances from land for the discharge of sewage from four miles to one mile for treated sewage, and from 12 miles to three miles for untreated sewage.

Transport Canada would not accept the recommended prerequisite of availability of pump out facilities, the recommended exemption of “record keeping” for small vessels, nor the changes to operational testing of marine sanitation devices (MSD’s).



On June 17, 2006 in the Canada Gazette Part I, the new Regulations For The Prevention Of Pollution From Ships and For Dangerous Chemicals were published. Division Four contains the sewage regulations. Transport Canada had accepted the recommended reductions in distances from land for discharge of sewage for the smaller vessels; however, the regulations also mandate that sewage be discharged at a speed of at least four knots.

Other recommendations made by pleasure craft representatives were not accepted. The problems that exist are significant. Assuming the definition of “from the nearest land” can be interpreted literally, some of the problems include:

**PUMP OUT LOCATIONS? RECORD KEEPING & HEAD TESTING.**

*News Flash. As of “The Beacon” copy deadline August 22/06, I have just been informed that the west coast of Vancouver Island will be “ the nearest land” point of reference. Therefore the no dumping zone will be from 3 miles off the west coast of the Island to the main land... the entire inside water region.*



*"To help you keep current on this and other issues please go to our web site [www.sppss.org](http://www.sppss.org) and click on 'Environment' "*

For details & more information on the regulations, visit the Canada Gazette web site, [www.canadagazette.gc.ca](http://www.canadagazette.gc.ca). Boaters concerned about the impacts of these regulations can write to Mr. Tom Morris at Transport Canada ([morrist@tc.gc.ca](mailto:morrist@tc.gc.ca)). Copies should also be forwarded to the Honorable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport ([cannon.l@parl.gc.ca](mailto:cannon.l@parl.gc.ca)) and to your local Member of Parliament. The deadline for comments September 17/06.

Information courtesy of Norm Dyck and Pacific Yachting magazine.

## CPS-ECP National Conference 2006, Vancouver

### Seminars & Sessions of interest:

#### Location “A”

1. Internet Marketing for CPS Squadrons & Districts **1330-1500**, - Michael Dunn  
Learn about using the Internet for marketing and how it may be used by the Squadrons and Districts Communications Seminar.
2. Marketing/PRO/Membership ‘Ride the Tide’ – **1500-1600** – Jeff Evans  
Attend and learn about the latest initiatives to attract the students and promote the courses to the public.

#### Location “B”

1. The MAREP Program and Canadian Hydrographic Services **1330 – 1430** – Len Burton and David Jackson.  
Learn about the importance of marine reporting and the services provided by Canadian Hydrographic Services; What they need, what they don’t need and, how to report.
2. Electronic Communications & Keeping Members informed – **1430-1530** – Lawrence Lau  
Come and learn about the importance of keeping members involved and what is new in electronic communications.
3. Environment Initiatives for today’s Boater – **1530-1630** – Jacques Hebert  
Learn about the Environment and Safe Boating.

#### Location “C”

### Training Department Presentations

1. What’s New in Electronic Navigation **1330-1430** – Morton Biback  
One of the hottest topics for today’s boater, attend to see what is new in electronic navigation.
2. Kids Can be Leaders in the Family’s Safe Boating Education **1430-1530** – Carole Murray  
Come and learn how children can be leaders in safe boating.
3. Down to the Sea with Seamanship **1530-1630** – Cliff Miller  
Learn the latest with Seamanship to get you home safely.

## BOOK NOW FOR THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

This is advance notice regarding the Seminars that will be held at the 2006 National Conference.

These will be held Friday, October 27th at the Marriott Pinnacle Hotel (the Conference site). Check the National website [www.cps-ecp.ca](http://www.cps-ecp.ca) for more information regarding the Conference. Remember, if you only wish to be there for the Seminars and the AGM, there is NO cost to attend. The only costs in attending are to those social events listed on the Registration forms.

You will notice that the 2nd Seminar of the day (Friday, Oct.27th) will be conducted by **D/Lt Len Burton** of Saanich Peninsula Squadron in company with **Dave Jackson** of the Canadian Hydrographic Service at Pat Bay and I can attest to it's importance and a that it will be a highlite of the Conference.

I highly recommend that those who can attend this Conference do so, especially considering that the next National Conference that will be held on the West Coast will be in Nanaimo in 2010.

Regards,  
P/D/C Don Lassey



### Did You Say Deaf?

A man and his wife went on a four-day luxury cruise. The wife was slightly more than gar-rulous. In fact, she never shut her mouth.

She talked at breakfast, while they were lounging on deck, at lunch, at play, and all through the night. But he was used to it and accepted his lot in life.

On the fourth morning, the man and his wife were standing at the bow of the ship when a lurch caused the wife to fall overboard.

A crew member, seeing her bobbing up and down in the water, ran to the husband and said, "Sir, your wife has fallen overboard!"

The husband said, " Oh thank God, I thought I had just gone deaf!"

## The Club Tunicate AKA “Sea Squirts”...

Are very small animals that attach themselves to boat hulls and marina floats and can grow to nearly 8" in length.

Date: June 17, 2006 The Club Tunicate (*Styela clava*) has been identified as an invasive threat and The Puget Sound Action Team (PSAT) has asked NW boaters to help to keep it from spreading.

Puget Sound has several native species of tunicates, but these new invasive species have no natural predators and thus threaten commercial and recreational shell fishing and aquaculture.

Club tunicates resemble a small wooden club. Boaters can see photos of ClubTunicates on the following web site: [www.wainvasivespecies.org](http://www.wainvasivespecies.org). The Club Tunicate prefers shallow water in protected bays. They attach themselves to boat hulls and marina floats. They can grow to nearly 8" in length.

Once they attach to a surface they do not move, unless of course they attach to a boat, which does move. When attached to a boat, they can move to new areas, reproduce, and potentially establish themselves in a new location.

Boaters can help in several ways.

- Keeping the bottom of your boat clean.
- Applying antifouling paints to the boat bottom as directed by the manufacturer.
- Learning to identify the Club Tunicate (see the web site) and reporting sightings of the Club Tunicate online or by phone to 1-800-54-SOUND.



**For more information, see the web site listed above. On the web site under "Publications" you can find a printable reference card with photos and the reporting phone number.**

**This is what they look like.**

*Photo by  
Simon  
Geerlofs*



A close-up picture taken from the web-site [www.wainvasivespecies.org](http://www.wainvasivespecies.org).



## HOW FAR HAVE I DRIFTED?

For sailors, when the wind has died, have you ever wondered how far or how fast you are drifting? If your GPS is set to degrees and minutes (readable to a thousandth of a minute) as opposed to degrees, minutes and seconds, the following pertains.

A nautical mile is 1852 metres (glossary of *Piloting Course* manual) or one minute of Latitude. Therefore a thousandth of a minute is 1.85 metres or just under 2 metres.

Drift of a thousandth of a minute of Longitude is a little more complex and depends on one's Latitude due to the earth's spherical shape. It can be calculated by multiplying by the Cosine of your Latitude. (0.67 for our 48° Latitude or approximately 1.25 metres for each thousandth of a minute of Longitude)

If you are well and truly becalmed and no current, this is only a crude guide of drift as the calculation of GPS fix does wander in a circle of average 20 metres radius (as can be seen when leaving a Navigation Plotter on while tied to a dock).

## And God Created Woman...

One day three men were walking along and came upon a raging, violent river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea how to do it. The first man prayed to God saying, "Please God, give me the strength to cross this river." Poof! God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours.

Seeing this, the second man prayed to God saying, "Please God, give me the strength and ability to cross this river." Poof! God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour.

The third man had seen how this worked out for the other two, so he also prayed to God saying, "Please God, give me the strength, ability, and intelligence to cross this river," and Poof! God turned him into a woman. She looked at the map, walked to the bridge and crossed in 15 minutes.



## CLASSIFIED

### 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 [vooro@shaw.ca](mailto:vooro@shaw.ca)  
250 598-1284 or [vooro@shaw.ca](mailto:vooro@shaw.ca)



### FOR SALE: **Regal Cutty 22' fully loaded \$2,500 OBO**

If interested phone David for details 544-1333

### FOR SALE: **ALBIN 25 offers on \$27,000**

1973 Swedish-built cabin cruiser well maintained, 1300 hours on new Volvo Penta diesel. Lifelines, depth sounder, VHF, Micrologic GPS, Avon 8' inflatable, Espar diesel furnace, holding tank, new canvas. Bill Morrow 250-656-7826 or [bjmorrow@shaw.ca](mailto:bjmorrow@shaw.ca)



### FOR SALE: **Inflatable Tender and 2-stroke outboard BOTH \$1,700 OBO**

1-1992 bombard AX5000- 10'2" Fiberglass hard bottom inflatable tender  
1-1992 Mariner 9.9hp 2-stroke outboard as new

Please call Martin Russell 883-0101 cell or 658-1048 home e-mail [boattime@telus.net](mailto:boattime@telus.net)

### FOR SALE: **Boat House - \$10,000**

Good location close to shore at Van Isle Marina, C Dock.  
26'X14' with end curtain. Moorage paid up until April 2007.  
Will rent for \$300 per month plus hydro.  
Please call Terry McFall at 250 655-7035 or  
e-mail [exmet@telus.net](mailto:exmet@telus.net)



*Please advise [editor@www.sppss.org](mailto:editor@www.sppss.org) if wanting to place an ad and also when your article has sold or been taken off the market.*

**WOOFs...Well Off Older Folks**

## LIST OF ADVERTISERS

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**Brenna Litwak – Certified Management Accountant** – 250-656-0084  
E-mail [brenna@brennalitwack.com](mailto: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](http://www.canoecovemarina.com)

**Compass Rose Nautical Books** – 250-656-4674 Fax: 250-656-4760  
E-mail [compassrose@telus.net](mailto:compassrose@telus.net)

**Harbord Insurance Services** – 250-656-0111 Toll Free: 1-888-450-3982  
[www.harbordinsurance.com](http://www.harbordinsurance.com)

**Irene Dunic (Holmes Realty)** - 250-656-0911

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

**Joy Hunter Family Therapy**- 250-418-1336 E-mail  
[joy@joyhunterfamilytherapy.com](mailto:joy@joyhunterfamilytherapy.com)

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**Sidney Propeller and Marine Power** – Phone/Fax: 250-656-3421  
[www.sidneypropeller&marinepowerltd.com](http://www.sidneypropeller&marinepowerltd.com) E-mail [sidprop@shaw.ca](mailto:sidprop@shaw.ca)

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