

# THE BEACON



SAANICH PENINSULA SQUADRON



"PROMOTING SAFE BOATING THROUGH QUALITY EDUCATION"

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2007



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

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Volume 37 Number 5 September / October 2007

**The Official Newsletter of the Saanich Peninsula Squadron**

A Unit of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons

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**\*All email addresses are [@sppss.org](mailto:@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, August, 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, stories, classified ads, etc. or to download *The Beacon* electronically.

*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

Labour Day has passed and kids are back in school. To many people this will mean the winding down of their boating activities while to others it will mean the better winds of winter for sailing. It has not been a summer that most people will want to remember due to the frequent cloud days and greater than expected precipitation. Never the less, it is hoped that members did get some enjoyable boating. After the excellent write up by Gilly Maycock in the last Beacon, it is hope that more members will send in their boating experiences to Beacon Editor, Laura Parker ([editor@sppss.org](mailto:editor@sppss.org)).



The good fall news is that our Boating Course class is over subscribed with 31 students. They were all accepted as on any individual teaching night, not all students are able to attend. Again I would like to thank all instructors, proctors and other support staff for making the course happen. On a disappointing note, only two students showed any interest in the Advanced Piloting Course in spite of earlier enthusiasm from Piloting graduates. A thank you to Cliff Cunningham for his willingness to teach.

The Student Cruise is coming up on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> with the briefing on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at North Saanich Middle School, 10475 McDonald Park Road. The Student Cruisemaster ([studentcruise@sppss.org](mailto:studentcruise@sppss.org)) would like to get the names of skippers and proctors willing to assist in the cruise.

As I say in all these issues, please hoist the CPS flag.



John Hudson  
Commander



“It is our relation to circumstances that determine their influence over us. The same wind that blows one ship into port may blow another off shore.”

*Quote attributed to Christian Nevell Bovee*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

**November 4<sup>th</sup>** – Student Cruise to Otter Bay, North Pender Island.

**November 8<sup>th</sup>** – Speaker Series – At Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club – 1900hrs

John Hudson, Commander SPPSS – The Making of an Atlantic Voyage – 2007

“Skipper Dr John Eby wanted to get his Beneteau 393 from Sidney, BC to Europe for extended cruising off the Iberian Peninsula and in the Mediterranean. Three friends of the skipper including myself made up the crew. After 3 years of preparation, the journey started on February 24<sup>th</sup> 2007 taking the vessel to Anacortes for trucking to Norfolk, Virginia. We departed for Horta, Azores on May 1<sup>st</sup>, arriving May 23<sup>rd</sup>; and on to A Coruña, Spain arriving 6 days late on June 3<sup>rd</sup> after some unseasonable weather.”

**November 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Speaker Series – At Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club – 1900hrs

Paul Shaw Dinner & Presentation: Mexico’s Copper Canyon:

One of the World’s Great Train Rides through the Sierra Tarahumara.

With Paul Shaw and Deanna House

“Departing daily the “Chepe” train travels from Chihuahua (where the dog originated) through the High Sierra (over 8000 ft.) and ends in Los Mochis on the Gulf of California. Higher, deeper, and much larger than the Grand Canyon, Barrancas del Cobre are as the Mexicans say “what the Grand Canyon wants to be when it grows up”. We had the opportunity to: take spectacular hikes on centuries old trails; incredible bird watching; frightfully steep excursions down into the canyons; meet the ancient, shy, and gracious Tarahumara people; and to enjoy their unique local cuisine.”

**December 6<sup>th</sup>** – Annual SPS Christmas Dinner Party! Mark your calendars!

**January 12<sup>th</sup>** – Speaker Series – At Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club – 1700hrs

Loren Hagerty, Executive Director – South Pacific S.A.L.T.S. Sail and Life Training Society, 1700hrs  
Cocktails

### **PLEASE NOTE: JOINT SPEAKER SERIES:**

At Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club – Their members and our members presenting interesting, informative, and exciting topics!! The club usually offers a delicious, special discounted dinner between 1700-1900 for each speaker series event! If you would like to attend the dinner, please call the SNSYC at 656-4600 to make a reservation. The lectures usually begin at 1900hrs. **To avoid disappointment, always check with the club or watch your email for changes or further information.**

## CALENDAR OF MEETINGS:

**October 18<sup>th</sup>** - Bridge meeting at SNSYC at 1900hrs. All are welcome.

**October 24<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>** - CPS Conference and AGM, Ottawa Ontario

**October 30<sup>th</sup>** - Student Cruise Briefing – see article “Call for Skippers and Proctors”

**November 15<sup>th</sup>** - Bridge meeting at SNSYC at 1900hrs. All are welcome.

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** - VISD regular meeting at Saanich Fairgrounds



## BULLETIN BOARD:

**October 13<sup>th</sup>** – Squadron member Hugh Richards and his wife Christine are giving a talk to the Bluewater Cruising Association (BWCA) at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, 3475 Ripon Rd, Victoria. Their talk will cover the South West Indian Ocean and East Coast of Africa, where Southwesterly busters and the breathtaking Aghulas Current provided a series of new challenges!

**Please Note:** This talk is part of the BWCA Club Night. Their monthly meeting is a short business session followed by a presentation. Doors open at 1900 HRS. Meetings start at 1930 HRS. Visitors are welcome and admission is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members.

**November 24<sup>th</sup>** – Squadron Member Roger Hind would like to remind members to light up their boats and participate in the “Sidney Sailpast of Lighted Boats 2007”!! A skippers meeting will be held at SNSYC November 14<sup>th</sup> at 1900hrs. Roger is involved through Peninsula Celebrations Society and Rotary; contact him at [rghind@shaw.ca](mailto:rghind@shaw.ca) for more information, or go to Tanner’s book store for an application.

## CALL FOR INSTRUCTORS

Do you enjoy teaching? Do you like the idea of working with students and sharing your knowledge and experience while learning yourself?

Are you a boating or marine enthusiast?

The Saanich Peninsula Power and Sail Squadron is looking for volunteer instructors to teach a variety of boating education courses in the fall and spring. In addition to the basic boating course, there are many others offered by the Canadian Power Squadron that you, our members, have expressed interest in. These cover a variety of topics including GPS, radar, weather and others. We can also use more certified radio examiners, which would involve one night at the end of each Marine Radio course to help with the exams.



We could also use guest speakers who would attend specific evenings to share their expertise in certain advanced areas.

Many of you may be thinking that this sounds very interesting, but you can't imagine yourselves at the front of a classroom full of strangers. We are considering offering an Instructor Development course for those just like you, as well as others wishing to further develop their skills. We'd be happy to put this on if we have enough interest. It's not a long course, and can be run in one long day or a couple of shorter days depending upon people's schedules.

If you think this might be interesting, whether teaching a couple of evenings or being a principal instructor on a new course, please contact me to talk about the options. I have found my involvement highly rewarding and believe you will too. You can reach me at my work number - 704-9026, or by email at [training@sppss.org](mailto:training@sppss.org). Thank you for considering the possibilities.

Richard A. Funnell, Training Officer  
Saanich Peninsula Squadron,  
Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons

Direct Tel: 250 704-9026  
Direct Fax: 250 483-1926  
Email: [training@sppss.org](mailto:training@sppss.org)

[www.sppss.org](http://www.sppss.org)

Promoting Safe Boating Through Quality Education

## FALL STUDENT CRUISE: CALL FOR SKIPPERS AND PROCTORS

Hello fellow boaters,

The fall Boating Course student cruise is fast approaching. We have a large class, so will be looking for a number of you to help make this cruise another successful venture!

Dates are:

- October 30, Tuesday – Briefing that skippers and proctors are requested to attend to obtain important instructions
- November 4, Sunday – Cruise day



If you are available on these days, please e-mail our Student Cruisemaster, Carolyn Hole at [studentcruise@sppss.org](mailto:studentcruise@sppss.org) or phone 655-3653, and provide:

- Name and phone number
- Whether you are offering your boat or offering to proctor
- If skippering, name of boat and number of students and proctors you can host - usually 2 or 3 students and 1 proctor (or more if you have a big boat)

Thank you in anticipation of your support!  
Carolyn Hole, Student Cruisemaster

Editor's Note:

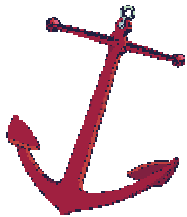
Go to our Social Activity Centre on our website, <http://www.sppss.org/photos/index.html>, to see the fun and learning that goes on during these cruises, for everyone involved! Read an article about one of the cruises: <http://www.sppss.org/library.htm>

Excerpts:

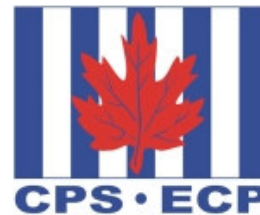
- "The Student Cruise is always a lot of fun. We try to keep things light and positive and fun for the students." *Len Burton.*
- "I found it so much easier the second time around as a proctor... It really is in my brain now!" *Annemarie Middleton.*
- "... It is understanding that they can not gain in any other way. Or to quote a student on our boat a number of years ago, 'Damn! This "stuff" actually works!'" *Ted Meadley.*
- "These are rewarding cruises." *John Hudson.*







## AND THE SURVEY SAID...



I would like to thank all the members who have participated in our marketing survey this year. Because you took the time to fill out our questionnaire, we have retrieved some valuable information. It is this type of first hand information that enables us to provide just the right mix of offerings. Our goal is to advance your boating knowledge requirements, enhance your hands-on boating skills, keep you up to date with current squadron news, help ensure you are a safe boater, and provide social opportunities to make new friends while sharing your passion of boating with others.

The winner of our survey contest of one free squadron course is David E. Campbell. We extend our congratulations to him.

Again, on behalf of our squadron, we thank you, our members for taking the time to help us, help you. We will continue to provide challenging programming, interesting opportunities, and fun activities for your enjoyment. Here are the survey results for your perusal.

Regards,

John Hudson  
Commander SPPSS

## SURVEY SUMMARY

- ◆ 24% of SPPSS membership responded to the survey
  
- ◆ Education course preferences are in the following order:
  1. Piloting
  2. Fundamentals of Weather
  3. Marine Electronics
  4. Marine Maintenance
  5. Finding Your Way with GPS
  6. Seamanship Sail
  7. Advanced Piloting
  8. Celestial Navigation
  9. Extended Cruising

◆ Social activity preferences are in the following order:

1. BBQ
2. Holiday Party
3. Guest Lectures
4. Swap Meet
5. Cruises
6. Dockside Wine & Cheese
7. Do-It-Yourself Forums
8. Fishing/Crab Tourney
9. Canoe/Kayak Rendezvous
10. Water Skiing/Snorkeling/Scuba Rendezvous
11. Navigational Boating Rally
12. Seafood Cook-Off

◆ How you heard about us:

- 37% from other members
- 30% from our website
- 27% Other
- 24% Word of Mouth
- 10% Advertising

◆ Bridge Officer: 21% are interested in serving as a bridge officer.

◆ Proctoring: 51% are interesting in proctoring/helping students or teaching voluntarily.

◆ The Beacon Newsletter: 67% of respondents want an electronic colour copy they can print out themselves. 33% of respondents want to receive a black and white hard copy mailed to their residences.

## ANNUAL BBQ AND SWAP MEET:



Thanks to those who brought their big smiles and cheerful attitudes. Our BBQ burgers, corn and hotdogs tasted just as delicious in the rain. Actually, it just sprinkled on us. We owe a special thanks to our soon-to-become famous grill kings, Cliff Cunningham, Warren Franklin and Richard Funnell who provided lots of action in the BBQ pit. It was also a good place to huddle and keep warm around the fire. ☺



While we enjoyed our lunch buffet filled with a variety of salads, veggies, treats and one gigantic carrot cake, we exchanged summer boating stories. We moved inside the yacht club and continued the fun. Speaking of the Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club, we do want to acknowledge their outstanding hospitality and we are fortunate to be able to work together with such a great group of people. Our Commander John Hudson made an appreciative presentation to Paul Shaw of the SNSYC. It was well received. Following lunch John also made a special tribute to Cliff Cunningham, as his Piloting class got top marks in VISD! Congratulations Cliff!



Members brought interesting items to sell, buy, trade and — well — auction. Yes auction. Toward the end of the day our auctioneer Bill Miller did a fine job auctioning off several items that were donated by squadron veterans Joyce and Ray Berry, our Environmental Officer Warren Franklin and others. This allowed us to raise some funds for squadron events.

We were even able to auction off remaining supplies from the day to cover expenses. People got some great deals, so you can imagine what we're thinking of doing next year Think auction! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it; thanks for making it so entertaining Bill!

I do want to mention that Carolyn Hole's homemade cookies were a big hit again this year! Also, notable thanks goes to Anne McKinnell for her event web mastery and Laura Parker for the supplies and communications, and of course Ralph Hodd for keeping our event finances intact.

We would love to see even more members turn out for our events; we put these on for you! Stay tuned for new upcoming notices for our annual December Holiday Party. You can look forward to many unexpected joys, new programming and lots of holiday cheer.

A special thank you to our volunteer BBQ/Swap Meet team in alphabetical order:  
Cliff Cunningham, Norah Franklin, Warren Franklin, Richard Funnell, Ralph Hodd, Carolyn Hole, John Hudson, Isobel McCready, Anne McKinnell, Gay Miller, Bill Miller, Laura Parker and Kathy Philips.

Here are some more pictures from the day! Enjoy!



Cynthia Funnell  
Public Relations and Special Events Officer



***Will you look at that. They're all dragging their anchors except us.***

Cartoon Credit: "The Real Joy of Sailing" by C.S. Henry, 1992, p47

Mmmm... boating etiquette at its finest?! Read Cynthia Funnell's article on boating etiquette, "Enhance Your Boating Experiences" in this issue!!

## ENHANCE YOUR BOATING EXPERIENCES

There are many ways to enhance your experiences on the water. One way is to make boating friends. The other is to be aware of basic boating etiquette. **Are you a considerate boater?**

I've gathered a few tips that'll enhance your boating experience, help you make friends with your marine neighbors while becoming a considerate boater.

- Pass vessels slowly and keep your wake to a minimum. You are responsible for your own wake and any damage done by it. Always enter anchorage and mooring areas at very slow speeds.
- The first person in an anchorage has the right to determine the swing radius. Keep a good distance from other anchored boats, winds change promptly and anchor lines tangle quickly if too close.
- Remember when swinging at anchor — power boats, fin-keel sail boats and full-keel sail boats all react differently to wind and current and swing in different directions.
- When tying up, keep your noise to a minimum; turn down your lights and VHF radio. Be careful what you say, noise carries over the water clearly. Most boaters retire early so they can set out for early departures. If planning to BBQ, anchor downwind from your neighbors.
- If for any reason you need to use a spotlight, be careful not to shine it on your neighbors.
- When using your dinghy at night or before sunrise, use your oars and not your outboard.
- When fueling up be prompt at the dock, pay and leave. Don't stay at the fuel dock while getting groceries, supplies, and bait. Others are waiting to fuel. Move your boat to guest slippage.
- Wear non-skid deck shoes.
- When you see a boat arriving, ask if you can lend a hand and take their lines.
- If the skipper doesn't provide a run through of the emergency equipment, procedures and supplies, ask for one and become familiar.
- Know the "right-of-way" rules, if for some reason you feel you are being challenged for the right-of-way, always give way to the other vessel.



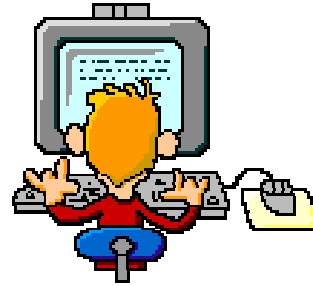
- If you see a boat that appears to be in trouble, ALWAYS stop and render assistance; law requires it. You will want someone to stop and help you if needed.
- Vessel heads are different than toilets on land, use only a minimum amount of toilet tissue and never flush anything other than toilet tissue.
- Do not debate a skipper's instructions, he/she has the final word and they expect prompt action from their orders. Do what is requested and when requested. Your safety and those on board is the paramount concern.
- Do not bring or consume alcohol without inquiring about the particular policy of the skipper's boat. Ask first.
- Never bring illegal drugs or substances aboard anyone's boat. There is zero tolerance, if found, the Coast Guard can and will impound the boat.
- Offer to assist with cleaning up at the end of the cruise. There is usually one-to-two hours worth of work including organizing equipment, washing the entire boat with soap and water, removing trash, cleaning decks, dishes etc.
- Bring a smile, have fun. Any questions, just ask us. Email Cynthia Funnell at [pro@sppss.org](mailto:pro@sppss.org).

By Cynthia Funnell  
SPPSS Public Relations & Special Events Officer

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Just another reminder: we are pleased to offer you a choice of delivery options for "The Beacon", the official newsletter of the Saanich Peninsula Squadron.

If you prefer to view the newsletter in electronic format by visiting our website: <http://www.sppss.org/beacon.htm> instead of receiving a printed copy of the newsletter, please contact me so that I can remove you from our mailing list.



I'm sorry for the delay, but rest assured I am working on putting the last two issues up onto our website. Hopefully by the time you receive this issue of the Beacon they will be there along with this issue. Thank you and happy reading!



"I have often thought that the people who built lighthouses, and those who kept them, were optimists. A light house is a sure sign that land is near and that someone aloft is keeping a steadfast eye for their safe passage." ~ *Fletcher Cairns*

Safe boating!  
Laura Parker  
Editor, [editor@sppss.org](mailto:editor@sppss.org)



## CLASSIFIED:

**FOR SALE: Starter – Dynamo** for VOLVO MD1 or MD2B. Reconditioned (minus external regulator). Offers. 655-1839

**FOR SALE: 1965 26ft. Brandlmayer Express Cruiser, \$10,000 OBO.** Resembling a Chris Craft boat is Fiberglas over ply, Ford 390 – shaft drive, FWC, keel cooler, natural gas stove, holding tank, god Furuno D/S, new GPS chart-plotter including Achilles w/3.3 mariner. All safety equipment, dishes, pots and pans, etc. Discounted moorage available. Call Ray Scott 656-4828 or email [scottre@shaw.ca](mailto:scottre@shaw.ca)

**FOR SALE: TANZER 26ft SAILBOAT** - Very Good condition. 9.9 Johnson outboard, 2 gas tanks, 6 sails, slab reefing, Compass, VHF, and depth sounder. \$11,500. Call Bernard – 250-539-2831

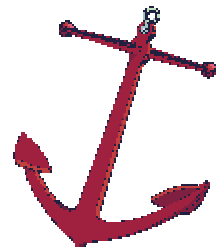
**FOR SALE: Boat House - \$8500 + moorage.** 26'X12', raised roof and loft, new floatation and walk ways, south end of "C" Dock at Van Isle Marina. Please call Dave Kerr 656-3583 or email [dc.kerr@shaw.ca](mailto:dc.kerr@shaw.ca)

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

### Guidelines for Classified Advertisements

At no charge, Saanich Peninsula Squadron will accept personal advertisements from Squadron members for publication in The Beacon and/or on the Squadron website, in the following categories:

- 1) Boats for sale or wanted;
- 2) Marine related items for sale or wanted;
- 3) Assistance required (marine related only).



## **LIST OF ADVERTISERS:**

**All Bay Marine Ltd.**, (P)250-656-0153;(F)250-656-5844; Email: [allbaymarine@shaw.ca](mailto:allbaymarine@shaw.ca)

**BC Yacht Insurance Brokers Inc.**, (P)250-6562668; (F)250-656-2608;

Website: [www.yacht-insurance.ca](http://www.yacht-insurance.ca); Email: [cruise@yacht-insurance.ca](mailto:cruise@yacht-insurance.ca)

**Brown Bros marine Insurance**, (P)250-385-8771 or 250-479-6111;

Website: [www.brownbrosinsurance.com](http://www.brownbrosinsurance.com)

**Canoe Cove Marina**, Office phone: 250-656-5566; Service: 250-656-5515;

(F)250-655-7197;

Website: [www.canoecovemarina.com](http://www.canoecovemarina.com)

**Harbord Insurance Services**, (P)250-656-0111; Toll Free:1-888-450-3982;

Website: [www.harbordinsurance.com](http://www.harbordinsurance.com)

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

**Jensen Marine Supply Inc.**, (P)250-656-1114 or 250-656-1235

**Peninsula U-Brew Winery**, (P)250-655-7121

**Sidney Propeller and Marine Power**, (P/F)250-656-3421; Website: [www.sidneypropeller.com](http://www.sidneypropeller.com); Email:

[sidprop@shaw.ca](mailto:sidprop@shaw.ca)

**Waypoint Marine Ltd.**, (P)250-656-2001; (F)250-656-2008

**Westwind Hardwood Inc.**, (P)250-656-0848; Toll Free:

1-800-667-2275; (F)250-656-9663; Website: [www.westwindhardwood.com](http://www.westwindhardwood.com);

Email: [westwind@islandnet.com](mailto:westwind@islandnet.com)