



**SAANICH PENINSULA
POWER & SAIL SQUADRON**



**A Unit of Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons
Vancouver Island South District**

Promoting safe boating through quality education

THE BEACON

Volume 41– Winter 2011

* * * * *

Contents:

Bridge Officers	2
Calendar of Events – January 2012	3
Calendar of Meetings – January 2012	3
CPS Membership	3
2011 Boating Courses	4
2011 Maritime Radio Courses	5
Exploring the Salish Sea – Sidney Spit	6
Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup	7
A Little Humour	8

BRIDGE OFFICERS

Position	Name	Home Phone	E-Mail Address *
Commander	Tony Kluge	250 656 - 7032	commander
Past Commander / Historian	P/C Ralph Hodd	250 652 - 1715	pastcommander
Executive Officer	Peter Bey	250 652 - 2225	executive
Administrative Officer	Terry Price	250 658 - 8488	admin
Acting Training Officer	Tony Kluge	250 656 - 7032	training
Treasurer	Richard Flader	250 654 - 0608	treasurer
Secretary	Jim Marsh	250 656 - 2135	secretary
Membership / Privacy Officer	Kerry Richardson	778 426 - 0890	membership
Public Relations Officer	Cynthia Funnell	250 655 - 4442	pro
Communications Officer	Robert Laundry	250 655 - 2656	communications
ATO / Registrar	Richard Funnell	250 655 - 4442	ato
Acting Supply Officer	Terry Price	250 658 - 8488	supply
MAREP Officer	Dave Munkley	250 655 - 3054	marep
Port Captain	P/C Stephen Denroche	250 656 - 6177	portcaptain
Beacon Editor	Vickie Marsh	250 656 - 2135	editor
Webmaster	P/C Bruce Stott	250 656 - 6801	webmaster

* all e-mail addresses are @sppss.org

Meetings of the Squadron Executive Committee (the Bridge) are normally held on the third Thursday of each month at 1900 at the Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club, except in July, August, and December. All members of the Squadron are welcome to attend.

The Beacon is the official newsletter of the Saanich Peninsula Power & Sail Squadron. Starting with this issue, the newsletter will be distributed to members electronically. It will also be posted on the Squadron website www.sppss.org. If you wish to be taken off our e-mail distribution list, please contact the Communications Officer at communications@sppss.org.

Vickie Marsh
Beacon Editor

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – January 2012



Jan 10 Start of Spring Boating Course
Parkland Secondary School
1900 – 2200

Jan 16 Fall Boating Class Graduation Ceremony
Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club
1830 reception, 1900 ceremony

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS – January 2012



Jan 19 Saanich Peninsula Squadron Bridge Meeting
Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club
1900

Jan 22 Vancouver Island South District Meetings
1030 Commanders and Training Officers
1230 District Council

CPS MEMBERSHIP

A Bouquet of Flowers to:



- new members
- members who have renewed
- members who have rejoined

If you have any questions about membership benefits or renewal of membership, please contact the Squadron Membership Officer by phone or e-mail:

Kerry Richardson

☎ 778 426 - 0890

membership@sppss.org

2011 BOATING COURSES

The Spring Boating Course was steered by Training Officer Jiri Kotler, while the Fall Boating Course was helped by Training Officer Charles Erskine. As in the past, the Boating students benefited from a very knowledgeable and experienced team of instructors and proctors.

Spring 2011 Boating Course Graduates

Cam Ballantyne	Janet Lum
Debra Duncan	Mikki Richards
Brian Gorman	Angela Schreiber
Mark Gorman	Vern Schreiber
Marna Johns	John Weed
Jim Marsh	Lisa Weed
Vickie Marsh	Paul Weed

Fall 2011 Boating Course Graduates

Darlene Alexander	Bob Pronovost
Ron Alexander	Connor Pronovost
Susan Blanchet	Gillian Radford
Ellen Guttormson	Chris Sigurdson
Carol McNichol	Heather Sigurdson
Kyle Michell	Carolyn Stout

Students who pass the Boating exam become Regular Members of CPS for one year. Congratulations graduates and welcome aboard!

Many thanks to everyone for
their hard work this past year!

2011 MARITIME RADIO COURSES

The CPS Maritime Radio Course covers basic operations, choice of frequencies, phonetic alphabet, procedural words and phrases, as well as Digital Selective Calling (DSC) and the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).

Spring 2011 Maritime Radio Students

Stephen Graham	Angela Schreiber
Linda Gray	Vern Schreiber
Celia Halprin	Dale Toronitz
Jennifer Hyndman	Susan Totten
Roy Hyndman	John Weed
Robert Kramar	Lisa Weed
Maico Melo	

Fall 2011 Maritime Radio Students

Darlene Alexander	Brett Lumley
Matthew Alexander	Kyle Melanson
Anthony Brogan	Lorne Rosko
JJ Buermans	Chris Sigurdson
Johannes Buermans	Heather Sigurdson
David Calveley	Carolyn Stout
Paul Fussell	Karen Wiggins
Ellen Guttormson	Michael Wiggins
Martin Hazelman	Paul Wiggins
Martin Kinnear	Sandra Wiggins
Todd Koroll	

All of the students who wrote the exam for the Restricted Operator Certificate (Maritime) with the DSC Endorsement passed. Several students had perfect scores of 60/60! Congratulations to all!

EXPLORING THE SALISH SEA – SIDNEY SPIT

As many of you know, we live in a fantastic province that is known, internationally, as having one of the most intriguing marine oases in the world. People sail from offshore places, fly in from distant lands, and ferry across the Salish Sea to experience cruising the Gulf Islands. Just take a browse through the well-known Tanner's Bookstore in Sidney and you will find inside a small alcove dedicated to boating with charts, books, maps and more to spark your adventurous soul. Indeed, boating shrinks our globe, for you never know when your plotted course may connect you with a cruising colleague or provide you with the experience of learning more about our marine abundance that is at our finger tips!

For those of you who have explored Sidney Island with its long snake-like curvature of sand that beckons you to wade during low tide, or bask on the creamy white sandy beach where dune grasses wave ever so lightly in an offshore breeze, you know what island riches await you. On several occasions during the warm sunny months we have been lured by the sun blazing through blue skies to bare our arms, rush down to our boat, and escape to this sandy haven. Within 30 minutes of motoring, or 50 minutes of tacking to a 12 knot easterly, the Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club becomes a mere speck in the background as white mooring buoys appear – our carefree nesting ground. Whether rowing the dinghy to the Parks Canada dock, or going ashore to secure line to heavy beached logs, it is always an adventure to walk the trails of stories past, now inhabited by timid Black-Tailed and Fallow Deer that display velvet antlers while nibbling in camping fields. There have been occasions when a bird of prey stares down from a dock pile at young children wading about the low tide sand pool and, in the wood growth, a red squirrel chatters. The rising and falling of the tide never ceases to attract your attention to those beach wanderers who wade back to their dinghy left several hours earlier. The evening is cloaked in peach and yellow hues – a reminder that another day for reading and binocular gazing awaits. No matter how many times you return to this treasured place, there is always something new to photo print into your memory: Remember the time when we were on a broad reach parallel to shore and we heard a “gulp” and looking around we caught a glimpse of a pair of Harbour Porpoises taking a breath till the roar of a whale watching skiff powered with enormous speed ushered their black dorsal fins to dive deep! Then there was that 5:55 am return to port when we noticed a determined Pacific Harbour Seal who wrestled with a red mass in its mouth and – while keeping a respectful distance – we watched in awe as it disappeared and resurfaced shortly thereafter with a long reddish arm with creamy white round cups. Yes, the Giant Pacific Octopus was part of the Circle of Life in this marine environment for both seal and several gulls close at hand to help in “clean up”. Amazing!

Kerry Richardson
Membership Officer

GREAT CANADIAN SHORELINE CLEANUP



The second annual Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup took place at the end of September this year. Again, the objective was for various squadrons to get out and pick up litter from the beaches in our areas.

Throughout the whole year we can document:

- How much garbage we have collected. We can measure volume in the number of bags we can fill up and we can measure weight.
- What type of garbage are we finding?
- How many beaches or marine areas did we clean up collectively?
- What did we learn about the impacts of garbage on our water-ways and marine life?
- What can we do to reduce the amount of waste, or eliminate it entirely?

While cruising feel free to enhance your collection with garbage floating in the water. Catch it before it even reaches the shore!

Remember to dispose of garbage in appropriate facilities. Many items are of a toxic nature and we want to minimize damage to landfills as well. Contact the CRD at 250-360-3030 or e-mail them at hotline@crd.bc.ca for advice on disposing of problem items or visit www.crd.bc.ca/waste/hartland for more information. Pacific Mobile Depot takes styrofoam and other items at several locations in the Greater Victoria Region.

Photos and documentation will form the basis for a report that can be shared throughout the District. So let's do our part, have some fun, and have a friendly competition to see which squadron can remove the most litter from our beaches!

Let's be part of the solution and provide an example for boaters and others who use our beaches and marine areas.

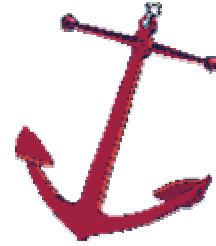
*Charlotte Gorley, Secretary
Vancouver Island South District*

CLASSIFIEDS

GUIDELINES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS:

Saanich Peninsula Power & Sail Squadron will accept personal advertisements from members for publication in **The Beacon** and 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)



Please advise editor@spps.org if you want to place an ad, and also when your article has sold or been taken off the market.

A LITTLE HUMOUR

Everything I Need to Know About Life, I Learned from Noah's Ark

One: Don't miss the boat.

Two: Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Three: Plan ahead! It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Four: Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

Five: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Six: Build your future on high ground.

Seven: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

Eight: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were onboard with the cheetahs.

Nine: When you're stressed, float a while.

Ten: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

Eleven: No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

* * * * *