



Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron Rideau Ripples Fall 2016



Ahoy from the Commander,

What a great summer we had! The water levels were low which made navigating in our lakes and rivers challenging at times, but the consistently warm and sunny weather more than made up for that inconvenience in my mind. Did you take pictures of your boating adventures? If so then how about selecting a few to share with the rest of us at our annual dinner in March? The slide show of member's photos we ran last year was popular so we will do it again. The pictures should have enough resolution to project onto a large screen so if you have a bunch, then please use a photo sharing website rather than sending them by email, or bring a USB stick to one of our meetings so we can copy them to the Squadron's computer.



We can look forward to free lockage in the Rideau waterway next summer. This is one of the perks Parks Canada is offering to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary. Hopefully it will encourage some of the boaters who abandoned the waterway when the locks operating hours were reduced and fees increased, to use this magnificent system again. In the meantime, how about taking a course to upgrade or refresh your boating safety and navigation skills? Please take a look at the list of courses we are offering in this newsletter.

This year's National AGM and Conference was held in Vancouver at the Sheraton Wall centre. Here is an executive summary of some of the new developments discussed during the conference.



Our teaching methods are transitioning to appeal to the way most people prefer to learn today. Although we usually receive very positive comments from the students who have taken our classroom courses, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to attract students and instructors for them. Online courses are more popular, but we cannot run most of our courses entirely online without sacrificing too much content, so online and in-class course combinations are being developed. This is called blended learning, and an example of this is the new online Seamanship course which has been

run successfully as a collaborative effort by the Ottawa and Britannia- Rideau squadrons. For this course the instructors teach 9 lessons online and another 5 in the classroom. Another technique gaining popularity is inverting the lecture versus the homework; having the students read the chapter text privately, then doing the homework in class under the direction of the instructor.

National is updating the Radar Course, which will include new information on broadband Doppler radar, and radar simulations which are embedded in the PowerPoint presentations. They are producing an “asynchronous” online version of the Introduction to Weather course which students can use anytime 24/7, and which includes links to videos hosted on U-Tube. The Marine Radio course is also being developed this way, but the exams will held at a local squadron.



The fully online CPS Boating basics course to earn a PCOC has been in use for a couple of years now, but some students have been frustrated when taking the exam on the Transport Canada website because it will terminate the exam if not completed within the prescribed time. The Kingston squadron produced a version last April that is web based and self-paced like the National version, but includes a face to face review and the exam with a local instructor. 27 students have taken it so far, and now Court Harkness and Axel Obenauf from Ottawa squadron along with Tom Beaver of Britannia-Rideau are making plans to record similar presentations for the Boating 2 and 3 courses.

In recognition of his efforts to spearhead the creation of Kingston’s improved online Boating Basics course, Past Kingston Commander Bill Corcoran was awarded the prestigious Mary Pritchard award for excellence in electronic education and outreach. He was surprised with this during the Education Department’s luncheon. Well done Bill!

On the water practical instruction was discussed as a potentially popular additional service for us to provide. Some US squadrons do this, as does CYC, and the Windsor squadron. Challenges include ensuring proper insurance coverage, although National will assist, and if we use a CPS owned boat and charge a fee, the boat must meet Transport Canada regulations for a commercial vessel. Windsor squadron has avoided these requirements by providing the instruction on a student’s boat, and the instructor does not touch the controls.

New names were unveiled for our primary boating safety and navigation courses, to better describe their content, and to show the intended progression. Here is what we will now use:

- Boating 1: Boating Basics - Pleasure Craft Operator Card
- Boating 2: Beyond Boating Basics
- Boating 3: Introduction to Marine Navigation
- Boating 4: Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 1 - grade designation P (Pilot)
- Boating 5: Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 2 - grade designation AP (Advanced Pilot)
- Boating 6: Offshore Marine Navigation Level 1 - grade designation JN (Junior Navigator)
- Boating 7: Offshore Marine Navigation Level 2 - grade designation N (Navigator)

We continue to migrate away from naval terms to identify our organization; each local Squadron will be managed by an Executive Committee rather than a Bridge.

The expired flares disposal program proved to be very successful this year, with 36,450 flares collected across Canada. Several hundred of these were collected by OPSS during our event in August at The Chandlery, organized by Terry Hamilton with help from Ken Kendall.

Our Squadron received honourable mention for membership retention once again during the National awards ceremonies, and our Rideau District achieved several awards from the National Recreational Vessel Courtesy Check committee for performing the highest number of RVCCs in these areas:

1st place for a district: Rideau

Most improved squadron: Kingston

2nd place for an individual (88): Bob McGill, Kingston

3rd place for an individual: Bruce Harris, Britannia-Rideau

The 1st place for an individual went to James White of the Port Albernie squadron.

At the National AGM these OPSS members were re-elected:

Cathie Johnstone, to continue as the National Executive Officer

Nancy Richards S, to continue as the National Secretary

Linda Hamilton AP, returned to the National Awards and Flags Committee

And these OPSS members were shown deep appreciation for their past service:

Don Tanner CN, retired after 4 yrs as the Assistant National Financial Officer

Monique Pelland AP, retired after 3 yrs as the National AP course director

Nick Baets CN, retired after 3 yrs on the National Environmental Committee

We can continue to be proud of the exemplary work our squadron members do for the benefit of our national organization.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming Christmas dinner and Bridge (Executive Committee) meeting with Santa on December 1. Please visit the squadron website at ww.cps-ottawa.com and click on the Squadron Events page for more info and to find the registration link, or you can call me at 613 489-2202 and I'll see that you are registered.

Robin Craig, CN
Ottawa Commander

The 2016 - 2017 Bridge

Squadron Commander	Robin Craig, CN
Immediate Past Commander	Terry Hamilton, <u>JN</u>
Executive Officer	Court Harkness, <u>JN</u>
Admin Officer	Christopher Friesen
Financial Officer	William Moyle, <u>JN</u>
Educational Officer	Axel Obenauf, <u>JN</u>
A/Educational Officer	Court Harkness, <u>JN</u>
A/Educational Officer	Richard Gregory
A/Educational Officer (VHF Radio)	Peter Dalton, S
Educational Supply Officer	Marjorie Ladouceur
Communications Officer	Nancy Richards, S
Environmental Officer	Nick Baets, CN
MAREP & safety Officer	Kenneth Kendall, S
Mailing Officer	Marjorie Ladouceur
Membership	Guy A. Ladouceur
Public Relation / Marketing Officer	Donald Partridge, <u>AP</u>
Assistant Public Relation	Jason Ladouceur
Regalia	Marjorie Ladouceur
Rideau Ripples Editor	<i>Philip Harris, N</i>
Secretary	Chantal Ladouceur
Social Affairs (Committee Chair)	Terry Hamilton, <u>JN</u>
Webmaster	Philip Harris, N

*_**

Squadron Examiner	Court Harkness, <u>JN</u>
Squadron Financial Review	Don Tanner, CN

Why not help your Squadron and volunteer as Bridge Member or assistant!

Squadron Events Calendar

- **Thursday, Dec 01, 2016 - Christmas Dinner and BRIDGE MEETING** - Verona Pizza House (previously Louis' Steak) 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend. As per last year, the Christmas dinner will be \$31.
- **Jan 05, 2017 - Bridge Meeting** - Verona Pizza House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend.
- **Feb 02, 2017 - Bridge Meeting** - Verona Pizza House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend
- **Mar 02, 2017 - Bridge Meeting** - Verona Pizza House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend .
- **Mar 25, 2017 - Annual Dinner** - At Algonquin College - more info later.
- **Apr 06, 2017 - Bridge Meeting** - Verona Pizza House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend
- **June 19, 2017 - Squadron Annual Picnic - RCMP Campgrounds** - watch website for more details

Squadron Mailing Address

Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron
P.O. Box 8481, Terminal 'T'
Ottawa, ON K1G 3H9

Cdr Robin Craig
(613) 489-2202

CPS-ECP

National Conference October 24-29, 2017



Please check the website for updates and latest information: <http://www.cps-ottawa.com/events.html>

Terry Hamilton (613) 824-1362
Social Activities (*Committee Chair*)

If you have any ideas or a topic for an Information Night, please drop me an e-mail social@cps-ottawa.com and we can work together to make it happen!

[Check us out on our Facebook Page](#)



CPS-ECP VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Vision – what we are

“A committed community of experienced boaters inspiring others to adopt a safe boating attitude through education and training”

Mission – what we do to achieve our vision

- We teach safe boating practices and proper navigational techniques
- We promote the cause of boating safety by creating a safe boating ethic
- We advance the cause of boating safety in cooperation with other agencies and organizations
- We keep our Member and Volunteer community strong through ongoing social interaction and enjoyment

Values – what keeps us strong

Safety:

- Boating safety is of prime importance
- We encourage the boating experience as a safe and enjoyable recreation

Education:

- Our CPS-ECP Boating Courses are of high quality and provide good value
- We are leaders in safe boating education
- We embrace changes in boating education and practices

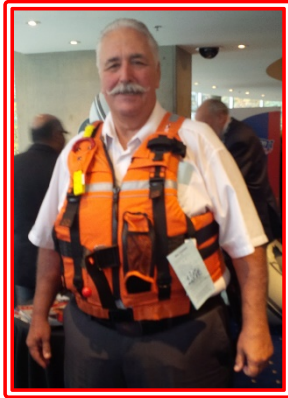
Community:

- We depend on volunteers of all ages, levels of experience and skill
- We enjoy our interactions with our fellow volunteers and members

Environment:

- We believe in boating in an environmentally responsible manner

From the Membership Desk,



Santa is coming! Christmas came early this year for Squadron received at the 2016 Vancouver Conference and Annual General Meeting a National Membership Award *Honourable Mention Certificate in recognition of Initiative shown in Membership Promotion and Retention* for second year. Previously we were awarded the Membership Star Award in 2012-2013-2014. We are not slowing down but the rest of Canada is bringing their A Game. I still think that we have the best members across the country.

Like almost every other Squadrons, we are losing members every year and our courses are not attracting new students like years ago. We are trying to adapt but we need your help. Remember that Knowledge is Power so be our ambassador by promoting our CPS-ECP Courses to your neighbours, dock mates and anyone who has the same safe boating passion as you. Just remember that you are not alone as every member of the Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron and as a matter of fact any CPS-ECP Member has that same desire to make our waters safer for all boaters!

Our membership numbers are fluctuating around the 300 current members mark. Please make my day, Renew NOW! You can renew before you are notified by our National Office either by e-mail or Canada Post. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by e-mail or telephone.

To renew, here four (4) easy ways to do it:

Method 1 Go to the CPS Website www.cpsboat.ca – **Quick Membership Renewal** (No Login required) - Your **Member Number, Last Name and Postal Code** are required to access the electronic invoice and credit card information.

Method 2 Call me (613) 824-9490 - Have your Member Number, Last Name and Postal Code and have your credit card ready. If you cannot find your membership, do not worry, I have it!

Method 3 Call CPS HQ 1-866-277-2628 ext. 0159 Have your Member Number or First/Last Name and have your credit card ready.

Method 4 Mail a cheque as soon as you get your digital/printed renewal to *Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, 26 Golden Gate Court, Toronto ON M1P 3A5!*

Here are some of the benefits listed here and you can also check for new ones at: [Member Benefits](#).

I believe one of the most important benefit to all CPS-ECP members is the ability to network with a “Community of experience boaters” who share the same desire to be safe boaters and navigate with more safe boaters. Remember she is a “pleasure craft”. If you have any questions or concerns and do not know where to look, please feel free to send me an e-mail and I will either send you on the correct course or find someone to assist you navigate safely.

In closing, I hope that Santa brings you something nautical for Christmas but if he forgets.... Just go out and buy it! Remember to read the instructions before the ice melts. Stay warm in the coming months and tell everyone about CPS-ECP and how it would be so nice of all boaters out there were safe boaters. Easy: www.boatingcourses.ca!

Guy A. Ladouceur, P/Cdr
Membership Officer
“Make My Day, Renew Now!”

Member Benefits

Benefits from our corporate sponsors can more than cover the cost of your annual membership; many more benefits negotiated by individual squadrons (chapters) are also available to members across the country:

CPS GROUP INSURANCE
by [Cowan Insurance Brokers *](#)

BOAT INSURANCE

- Members save 10%
- Additional Savings Available
- Includes Identity Theft protection
- [See more on our tailored coverage \(pdf\)](#)

CANADIAN YACHTING MAGAZINE
Receive a free subscription to [CY](#) with your membership

BOAT U.S.
Half-Price Membership to [Boat U.S.](#), plus access to many more benefits in the U.S. and Canada such as West Marine Chandeliers.

DISCOUNTS
Save 33% with [C-Tow Marine Assistance Ltd](#)
Save 25% on [PORTS Cruising Guides](#)
Save up to 15% with [Choice Hotels](#)
Save \$5 on [Great Lakes Cruising Club School](#) Courses and Webinars
Save \$20 mail in rebate on any 3 Canadian made [Natural Marine](#) Products you buy over a boating season

Save 10% with:

- [RONA Stores](#) in Western Canada
- [Delta Hotels](#)
- [National Car Rental](#) (Canada) Affinity and Association Benefits Program

BOATING EQUIPMENT
Save on boating equipment from premier manufacturers:

- Save 15% on selected PFDs at [SALUS Marine Wear](#)
- WEEMS & PLATH
Order online and save 25% on precision navigation tools and products ordered directly from [Weems & Plath](#).
- ICOM CANADA
Save on high quality radio equipment from [Icom](#).

Safe Boating Partners

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C-TOW

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HOTELS

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Offshore Navigation Course

By Bruce S. D. Harris

Ever wonder how the early mariners found their way around the oceans of the world where no visible land masses could be seen for months on end and mechanical aids to navigation did not exist? In truth some never did succeed in returning. It is true that since the days of Columbus their knowledge of the winds and currents of the Atlantic Ocean in the Northern Hemisphere played a vital role in



ensuring they would once again see home; however as time progressed more viable means of determining Lines of Position, Dead Reckoning and Running Fixes developed to where today electronic mainstays in navigation consist in part to GPS', chart plotters, (charts) and radar to mention a few. At times we also pray that they don't fail us while underway. But truly like many of us curious boating enthusiasts would you not like to pick up a *Sextant* and feel confident that you could have sailed with the best back then? (Scurvy and dysentery are totally different subjects). I can assure you that it is a great learning experience taught by the best and you need not acquire a sextant as they are provided for hands-on learning purposes. We enjoyed every minute of the practical experiences.

Presently the *Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron* under the knowledgeable tutorship of Jim MacLeod and his team are conducting on behalf of CPS-ECP, a *Junior Navigation Course* which focuses on offshore navigation for the recreational boater. Many facets of current offshore navigational electronic tools and software in addition to conventional route planning techniques are covered but of particular interest for this student was learning to substitute visible landmarks with celestial objects as reference points, in point dazzle your partner and friends on a warm summer's evening while gazing up into the stars.

Alas the course is extremely interesting and I need emphasize again it is taught by the best instructors ever. The course infuses an added element of humour along the way which is conducive to making each class a most pleasurable experience. Like a vast majority of CPS-ECP courses a written exam is optional which alleviates any stress for those who wish only to gain the overall insight into this worthwhile course. Look up boatingcourses.ca for the next offering.

Rideau District Sets New Course: Centres of Excellence

By Patty Spencer, Kingston's The Companionway Editor

CPS-ECP Rideau District will trim the sails and set a new course, the Council decided during its meeting October 1st at Treasure Island Marina.

The change will consist of establishing Centres of Excellence where all of the squadrons in the region will pool their skills, materials, and know-how in a kind of 'one-for-all and all-for-one' method of operating.

For example, where historically each squadron has been responsible for providing instructors, course preparation, and examiners for boating courses, the preparation of a course by one squadron will be shared with the others. This might include capitalizing on new technologies, such as online courses. A squadron will still have to locally provide a proctor, say, but the other aspects of the course do not have to be re-invented over and over on a squadron-by-squadron basis.

This shift from squadrons' working in isolation to sharing more resources comes in response to declining membership, reduced enrolment in courses, and challenges in recruiting members to serve on bridges. These factors not only affect the Rideau region, but also squadrons across Canada generally. Sailors are 'aging out', and individual squadrons are scrambling to make do with fewer and fewer volunteers and resources. "If we continue to lose one squadron, then another, then the district could be left with only two or three squadrons," district commander Guy Ladouceur told the council, as he introduced a presentation prepared by Tom Beaver of Ottawa and Bill Corcoran of Kingston.

Tom and Bill, who have been working together on the proposal since June, presented a high level perspective of the concept of Centers of Excellence, which contains elements Tom has borrowed from his professional experience with the federal government. Guy and Past District Commander Bryan Carroll, continue to play key roles in encouraging and vetting the work to date.

The presentation outlined four main themes, or areas where efficiencies could be achieved: in leadership and management, administration and stewardship, member services, and programming (which includes education and safety and environmental awareness programs, the mainstay of our mandate to promote and enable safe, responsible and enjoyable boating).

These themes would be addressed by teams of volunteers. Initially there would be an additional effort required to implement the changes, but ultimately, the efficiencies would result in reduced burden to individual squadrons that are struggling to find volunteer members to sustain their support to the boating community in Eastern Ontario.

The proposal represents an evolution in functionality of the organization, and does not require any structural changes. In fact, many of the thematic areas correlate to already existing roles in the CPSECP. "This is evolution, not revolution," Tom told the council. "It builds on existing structures and human resources."

The presenters emphasized that the Centers of Excellence is not a district takeover; it does not eliminate the district or any squadrons; and it does not combine financial resources into a common pot. "Money will stay within the squadrons."

“We are seeking collaboration and coordination,” the presenters said, “that will allow us to do more with less, and draw talent from a broader community.” Ultimately each squadron would be expected to both give and take in the sharing process.

The Centers of Excellence model does not propose a fixed structure; it permits the creation of adhoc groups as required.

“The five squadrons will operate in their own realms,” Tom said. “We’re proposing that the squadrons and the district work together in networked teams to help support programming and administration, benefitting from the synergies of the others.”

The council unanimously endorsed the high level concept of establishing Centers of Excellence, and volunteers will work on defining a more detailed implementation in the coming weeks. The council reconvenes Nov. 12th to continue its work. In the meantime, Guy, Bryan, Tom, and Bill will continue to flesh out the process to establish the initial teams. If you are interested in learning more about this important effort to revitalize the squadrons of Rideau District please contact your District or local Squadron Commander.

Rideau District Facts and Figures -

- There are 966 members of CPS-ECP in the Rideau District
- Membership has been declining at a rate of about 10 percent per year
- As many as 75 percent of boaters taking CPS-ECP courses are not members of the organization, and do not support it through membership or volunteerism
- In most Rideau district squadrons, bridge members are filling more than one position
- Rideau district has five squadrons serving the Eastern Ontario area, roughly bounded by Kingston-Mattawa-Ottawa-Hawkesbury-Cornwall
- Two squadrons turned in their warrants to the national parent organization in the past five years

TRAINING COURSES OFFERED IN OTTAWA

Courses	Season	Dates Offered		Weekday	Location
		Start	Finish		
PCOC Online (Kingston Squadron)	OPEN	Starts	Anytime	At your Leisure	Exam administered by local Squadron
Boating 2: Beyond PCOC	2017 Winter	17 Jan	21 Feb	Tue	St. Patrick's High School
Seamanship	2017 Winter	18 Jan	25 Apr	Wed	St. Patrick's High School
VHF – Maritime Radio 2	2017 Winter	18 Jan	01 Feb	Wed	St. Patrick's High School
Marine Maintenance	2017 Winter	28 Feb	09 May	Tue	St. Patrick's High School
Boating 3: Introduction to Navigation	2017 Winter	01 Mar	Apr 5	Wed	St. Patrick's High School
Introduction to Weather	2017 Spring	01 Mar	05 Apr	Wed	St. Patrick's High School
Solar & Battery Seminar	2017 Spring	01 Mar	08 Mar	Wed	St. Patrick's High School
VHF – Maritime Radio 3	2017 Spring	05 Apr	19 Apr	Wed	St. Patrick's High School
Electronic Navigation	2017 Spring	12 Apr	24 May	Wed	St. Patrick's High School
VHF – Maritime Radio 4	2017 Spring	17 May	31 May	Wed	St. Patrick's High School

Note: **Tuesday night** courses are offered by **Britannia-Rideau** and **Wednesday night** courses are offered by **Ottawa Squadron**

To Register: www.boatingcourses.ca

Who we are

Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons is a non-profit organization which has been educating and connecting boaters for over 75 years.

Recognized as the largest organization of its kind in the world, per capita, CPS-ECP is a nationwide organization of recreational boating enthusiasts with over 20,000 active members. We are accepted as the foremost educational boating authority in Canada, a consultant with Canadian Coast Guard and an advisor of aids to navigation for the Canadian Hydrographic Service, through the MAREP/Marine Reporting Programme.

Rideau District, with over 1,000 members, is comprised of five squadrons: **Britannia-Rideau, Brockville, Cornwall, Kingston, Ottawa.**

Our Mission

To increase awareness and knowledge of boating safety by educating and training members and the general public, by fostering fellowship among members, and by establishing partnerships and alliances with organizations and agencies interested in boating.

Membership Benefits - See CPS-CEP website for full listing

Canadian Yachting magazine – Complimentary quarterly subscription

Vessel Courtesy Checks – Complimentary checks to ensure you have the required safety equipment on board

Squadron Activities - social and information functions. These facilitate social networking and camaraderie between boaters

DISCOUNTS

- Pleasure Craft Operator Card and VHF card [replacements](#)
- BOAT INSURANCE by [Cowan Insurance Brokers](#) *(see CPS-ECP website for details)
- MARINE ASSISTANCE -33% discount with with [C-Tow](#) Marine Assistance Ltd. In Ontario, coverage area is the Canadian waters of Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, the St. Lawrence River, and Georgian Bay. 24 hour emergency towing plus additional member benefits.
- [Boat U.S.](#) Membership - Save 50%

BOATING EQUIPMENT- Save on boating equipment from premier manufacturers:

- WEEMS & PLATH - Order online and save 25% on precision navigation tools and products. ICOM CANADA--Save on high quality radio equipment.

How to Join - Contact a squadron representative near you:

Britannia-Rideau	membership@boatottawa.ca
Brockville	commander@BrockCPS.ca
Cornwall	chaputlb@sympatico.ca
Kingston	kps.memb@gmail.com
Ottawa	membership@cps-ottawa.com
Rideau District	membership@rd-cps.ca

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