



# Rideau Ripples



The newsletter of the Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron

## From the Commander's Helm Station:



**A**s winter approaches, or some may feel that it is already here, I had this discussion with my wife last week. She claimed that winter didn't start until December the 21<sup>st</sup>, I suggested that if there is

snow on the ground and temperatures have hit freezing that perhaps it has already arrived. Well, as it turns out, we are both right or perhaps her more than I. The Farmer's Almanac answers this question in terms of seasons and I quote, "Each season has both an astronomical start and a meteorological start. It sounds complicated, but trust us, it's not! The astronomical start date is based on the position of the Sun in relation to the Earth, while the meteorological start date is based on the 12-month calendar and the annual temperature cycle." So, in the case of winter the astronomical start date of winter is Friday, December 21, 5:23 P.M. EST and the meteorological start date is Saturday, December 1st. Based on this, at the time of this writing, winter is still approaching although there is snow in my driveway and the temperature has dropped below the freezing point.

The last two months have been busy ones for the Squadron's ExCom with the occurrence of the National Conference and AGM, which by all reports was very successful, for the details see Guy's article.

We have been working on the dissolution proposal from Outaouais Squadron and sent our squadron's motion and the minutes from the meeting to our District Commander to be prepared for presentation to the Board of Directors meeting December 11<sup>th</sup>. If approved Outaouais Squadron will dissolve and merge with the Ottawa Squadron. We also have a proposal by Jacques Boudreault from Outaouais to establish a French Training Cell within the OPSS organizational structure to accommodate the inclusion of French language course delivery by OPSS. We have accepted this proposal and welcome Jacques and Réginald Guilbert to the Ottawa Squadron as members and instructors. Réginald Guilbert will act as French Education Officer and Jacques Boudreault as the French Education Administrator.

Be sure to read Guy's article on the Social Events planned for the near future and especially plan to join us for the Christmas Dinner on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The boats are put away for the winter and the Christmas season is fast approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hopefully I will see many of you at the Christmas Dinner on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Court Harkness  
Commander  
Ottawa Squadron

## **The 2018 – 2019 Executive Committee**

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Executive Officer	Tom Beaver, S
Financial Officer	William Moyle, JN
Educational Officer	Axel Obenauf, JN
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A/ Social Activities	Venetia Moorhouse, S
A/ Social Activities	Chantal Ladouceur
Webmaster	Robin Craig, CN
Squadron Financial Review	Michael Crawford

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**Please check the website for updates and latest information:**

[cps-ottawa.com/events.html](http://cps-ottawa.com/events.html)

Guy A. Ladouceur (613) 824-9490  
Social Activities (Committee Chair)

You have any ideas or a topic for an Information Night, please drop me an e-mail [social@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:social@cps-ottawa.com) and we can work together to make it happen!

## **Squadron Events Calendar**

**December 06, 2018** - Squadron Dinner with Santa. & Mrs. Claus - Open to all members, family and friends. For details [click here](#). To register [click here](#)

**February 07, 2019** - Executive Committee Meeting - Verona Pizza House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend.

**February 21-24, 2019** - Ottawa Boat Show - EY Centre - Volunteers will be required - More info to come.

**March 07, 2019** - Executive Committee Meeting - Verona Pizza House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend.

**March 30, 2019** - Squadron Annual Dinner - Algonquin College - More information to come after the festive season.

## Scuttlebutt

By Robert Dandurand, P

### How and why did hurricanes first begin receiving names?

While people have been naming major storms for hundreds of years, most hurricanes were originally designated by a system of latitude-longitude numbers, which was useful to meteorologists trying to track these storms. Unfortunately, this system was confusing to people living on coasts seeking hurricane information.

In 1950, a formal practice for storm naming was first developed for the Atlantic Ocean by the U.S. National Hurricane Center. At that time, storms were named according to a phonetic alphabet (e.g., Able, Baker, Charlie) and the names used were the same for each hurricane season; in other words, the first hurricane of a season was always named "Able," the second "Baker," and so on.

In 1953, to avoid the repetitive use of names, the system was revised so that storms would be given female names. By doing this, the National Weather Service was mimicking the habit of naval meteorologists, who named the storms after women, much as ships at sea were traditionally named for women.

In 1979, the system was revised again to include both female and male hurricane names.

When does a storm receive a name? Tropical storms are given names when they display a rotating circulation pattern and wind speeds of 39 miles per hour (63 kilometers per hour). A tropical storm

develops into a hurricane when wind speeds reach 74 mph (119 kph).

Source:  
[http://earthsky.org/earth/how-do-hurricanes-get-their-names?utm\\_source=EarthSky+News&utm\\_campaign=f922552ac9-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2018\\_02\\_02&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c643945d79-f922552ac9-395197485](http://earthsky.org/earth/how-do-hurricanes-get-their-names?utm_source=EarthSky+News&utm_campaign=f922552ac9-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_02_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c643945d79-f922552ac9-395197485)

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New research shows that **being on the water can make you happier** and healthier, and that simply being near the water delivers cognitive, psychological and social health benefits. According to Dr. Wallace J. Nichols, a marine biologist and the author of *Blue Mind*, a sense of calm, peacefulness, unity and happiness are all associated with water.

When you're on a boat, he says, the good hormones (dopamine, serotonin, oxytocin) go up, while stress (cortisol) goes down. The mere sight and sound of water increases brain and blood flow. Boating, says Dr. Nichols, helps us relax and reconnect.

He says that **boating triggers a restful state of mind**, providing the means to get outside of our daily routines and allowing our brains to reset. Simply being on a boat, he says, promotes physiological and psychological changes affecting overall health and wellness, awe and wonder, creativity and play, and happiness and relaxation.

Source:  
<http://cruisingodyssey.com/2018/08/14/boating-is-good-for-your-brain-your-health-and-your-happiness-new-research-says/>

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The Canadian marine industry, in 2017, generated \$2.3 billion.

The Canadian branch of the National Marine Manufacturers Association publishes annual sales statistics for the previous year. This highly detailed compilation of data provides a clear picture of the dominant trends in the nautical industry.

A heavy trend in the industry: outboard powered boats rose 4.3% in 2017 alone, but engine manufacturers also had their best year in a long time. Sales growth was 20% higher in 2017 compared to 2010 with a total of 40,826 engines sold for sales of \$321 million. Speedboats now account for 25% of the market in Canada.

While the average power of all engines sold was 46 hp in 2010, it rose to 58 hp in 2017 for an average value of \$7,800. Half of the turnover of the engine manufacturers is materialized by engine sales of over 100 hp.

In short, more boats are powered by more and more powerful engines.

While sales declined by 2.5% for the total sale of boats, it sold more units, 39,000 in all, an increase of 4.7%. Unsurprisingly, Canadians remain enthusiasts of small aluminum fishing boats, with this sector posting a 4.8% increase.

The aluminum hulls carved out the lion's share of the outboard propulsion market with 78.7% of the market for an average selling price of \$19,000.

The other category showing good health: the aluminum pontoons, whose popularity continues to grow. They jumped 8.9%.

PWCs were the growth leaders with a substantial jump of 12.8% in sales.

Inboard propulsion wakeboard boats rose 2.3%. They occupy 12.75% of the market with sales of \$ 255 million.

The average cost of units sold was \$ 50,000, down 6.8% from 2016.

At the other end of the spectrum, large units, mainly motorboats but also sailboats, generated as much as 40% of total sales.

Source:  
[https://www.escalenautique.qc.ca/nouvelles\\_detail/427/](https://www.escalenautique.qc.ca/nouvelles_detail/427/)

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**SQUADRON CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
**VERONA PIZZA HOUSE, 1682 CYRVILLE RD**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2018, 1730 HRS**

Everyone is cordially invited to join us for our Annual Squadron Christmas Dinner. The Executive Committee has agreed to eliminate the December meeting to allow more time for socializing and exchanging Season's Greetings.



Once again, Commander Harkness was able to invite Santa Claus and Mrs Claus to visit us early. Bring your camera and get your photo taken with Santa and Mrs Claus. What a great idea for your Xmas Cards!

**Serving will start at 1815 hrs and we would ask that you make every effort to be on time! Why not arrive at 1730 hrs and mingle with your boating friends and/or make new ones!**

**Roast Turkey Dinner - Traditional Holiday Style \$32.00 per person.**

Salad bar, 6oz Turkey (White and Dark) served on bed of Seasoned Stuffing, topped with gravy. Your dinner comes with Mashed Potato side dish and Assorted Steamed Vegetables, and Whole Cranberries. For dessert, apple pie and coffee will be served. The price per person includes all taxes and gratuities.

We hope to have a great turnout so please **REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** as places are limited on Santa's knee! **You must be registered by Monday, December 03, 2018.** E-mail / call me or please use this link <http://cps-ottawa.com/events.html>.

*Guy A. Ladouceur, P/Cdr*  
*Social Activities Committee Chair*  
613-824-1362  
[gladoun648@rogers.com](mailto:gladoun648@rogers.com)



## From the desk of the Social Affairs



Imagine I docked my fishing machine there on two separate weeks in May and August this year. The photo was taken a few days ago at the Great Spirit Lodge Resort on Lake Temagami. Yes, this is my happy place even when the water is hard!

I asked a few questions in the last newsletter and only received one query.

We will continue to have our meetings in the evening, but the December and January meetings are being cancelled.

Santa Claus and Mrs Claus will join us on December 06, 2018 for an evening of fine food and mingling, networking, getting re-acquainted with old friends and making new ones. Watch for the mistletoe!

Our next big event is the Ottawa Boat Show - February 21-24, 2019 at the EY Centre – Bruce S.D. Harris will be looking for Watchkeepers and members to help set up the booth. This year, we would like to give a different experience to the Show goers. If you have any new ideas, please

send them to me or Bruce at [pr@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:pr@cps-ottawa.com).

Our Squadron Annual Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 30, 2019 at Algonquin College. The room has been booked and the menu will be decided in January 2019. More information in the next Newsletter.

The Squadron Annual General Meeting will be held in April 2019. More information later on the date, time and location.

The Annual Picnic & Graduation will remain in June. Mark your calendar – Monday, June 17, 2019.

If you have any ideas or would like to help us, please contact me.

Guy A. Ladouceur, P/D/C  
Social Activities Chair  
[gladoun648@rogers.com](mailto:gladoun648@rogers.com)  
(613) 824-9490

## Knotledge

*By Robert Dandurand, P*

Marlinspike involves the general knowledge of knots, bends, hitches, splices and care of rope. Marlinspike seamanship shows your skills and knowledge (knotledge!) as well as helping to keep you and your boat safe and secure. By circumstantial evidence we know that earliest man had material with which he would tie knots. That might be 300,000 years ago. The oldest known boat found in a peat bog in Denmark is a mere 8000 years old. The first actual knot found is the sheet bend. The actual knot is 9,000 years old, yet we still use exactly the same sheet bend to make up fishing nets today. As soon as man ventured

onto the sea, rope and knots have been at work.

As soon as a piece of rope acquires a specific use aboard a boat, it becomes a “line” with a specific name. You are already familiar with the most common modern materials from which line is made: nylon, polyester, and polypropylene. I say “modern” because, in the beginning, there was manila (made from a plant belonging to the banana family). As a rope it is smooth, glossy, strong, flexible, very durable, easy to handle, and has a very high resistance to sea-water rotting. It is the most common natural fibre in use at sea.

Then there was sisal, from the pineapple family. The fibre is taken from aloe leaves. It is very

brittle, swells more than manila when wet and its hairy surface is rough on the hands. Coir is the fibre of the coconut, half the weight of manila and roughly one-sixth as strong. It floats and can stretch to almost twice its original length so it is used for towing and harbour springs.

Hemp, jute, flax, and cotton round out the “ancient” rope materials. Natural fibre lines are used for tying off fenders, securing chafing gear, and other small stuff like signal halyards, heaving lines, lead lines and securing loose items.

*Source: G.L. Danton, The Theory and Practice of Seamanship, Routledge & Kegan Paul Ltd, London, fourth ed. 1972, p409-411*



# “Quote, unquote”

"Our days are stolen by our constant grasping at the phantoms of future happiness as we think about living - rather than living itself - trapping us in our yesterdays and tomorrows"

author James Baldwin  
Across Islands and Oceans (2012)



## The 2018 National Conference is over now!

Rideau District hosted the 2018 CPS-ECP National Conference and Annual General Meeting at the Marriott Hotel 100 Kent Street, Ottawa between October 17-21, 2018.

We were very fortunate to work with a group of very dedicated volunteers:

Tom Beaver / Jacques Boudreault / Paul Brown / Bryan Carroll / Karen Craig / Robin Craig / Robert Dandurand / Suzanne Demers-Oligny / Andre Dubois / Joan Feltham / Réginald Guilbert / Sandy Haggart / Linda Hamilton / Terry Hamilton / Carol Harkness / Court Harkness / Bruce SD Harris / Kathleen Hopkins / Valerie Hume / Cathie Johnstone / Frank Keating / Marjorie Ladouceur / Carol Maclellan / Jim Macleod / Rolly Nantel / Rebecca O'Reilly / Axel Obenauf / Lynda Obenauf / Patrice Oligny / Donald Partridge / Stephen Petruska / Nancy Richards / David Root.

A word from our National Conference Committee Chair Tracie Berekoff:

*"I would like to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication in running a successfully smooth and fun conference. Everything went off without a hitch with only very minor fires to put out.*

*This conference was one of the easiest conferences I've had due to all of you working so well together and having everything covered. It was awesome to work with you all and I hope to do it again one day.*

*Pat yourselves on the back...you certainly deserve it. Congratulations and well done!"*

A surprising fact, I received from our National Office from the CPS-ECP Photographer Don Butt: "The current count on the views on the photos of the Ottawa Conference is up to 116,316! More by far than in any previous years where the count got to 100K after a year." If you want to view the photos, please refer to:

<https://dbutt.smugmug.com/CPS-ECP-Ottawa-2018/>.

As I write this article, reflecting over the last two years of planning, I am very proud of what we all accomplished working together and as Tracie mentioned we organized a fun conference. As a bonus, we celebrated CPS-ECP 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from the Summit Room graced by beautiful sunshine looking at our wonderful & colorful Ottawa-Gatineau landscape.

It was an honour to serve as your 2018 CPS-ECP Conference Local Committee Chair,

Guy

Guy A. Ladouceur, P/D/C

2018 CPS-ECP Conference Local Committee Chair





# 2018 CPS-ECP National Conference

OTTAWA, ONTARIO OCTOBER 17 – 21, 2018

To view all 380 photos, go to:  
<https://dbutt.smugmug.com/CPS-ECP-Ottawa-2018/>



OPSS members staffing the Registration desk



Rideau Nautical Modellers exhibited



Ideas were shared



Live entertainment: Spitfire 91



Well attended



Many of our own received recognition

## From the Desk of the Education Officer

Wow! Who knew we were going to have snow this soon! Just the other day I was wondering if the Marina, where I keep the boat, has had enough time to do all the necessary things to winterize and arrange for storage.

Winter/Spring is the perfect time to be thinking about our course lineup. Starting in January we will be offering a variety of courses (see schedule included in this issue) from Boating 2, 3, Maritime Radio, Boat & Engine Maintenance and perhaps even a seminar or two: we have something for you. With regard to seminars, let us know what your interests are. We may have a seminar or course for that.

As it is also the Holiday Season. Giving the gift of one of our courses will solve that age old problem of “what do I get for Joe”? Start with a PCOC – Boating 1 course, for that new or prospective boat owner. Or, for someone who has recently passed their PCOC, a Boating 2 – Beyond Boating Basics. Perhaps something as basic as a CPS-ECP Membership, and all its benefits, will fill that stocking.

In closing, let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Joyous and Peaceful New Year.

Axel Obaneuf

## ***Our boating courses help with:***

### **what you need to know:**

- Boating 1: Boating Basics (PCOC)  
Online
- VHF Maritime Radio (3 evenings)  
In Classroom Starts February 13, 2019  
In Classroom Starts April 3, 2019

### **what you should know:**

- Boating 2: Beyond Boating Basics (6 evenings)  
In Classroom Starts January 23, 2019  
Online Starts January 10, 2019
- Boating 3: Intro to Marine Navigation (8 eve.)  
In Classroom Starts March 20, 2019  
Online Starts January 22, 2019

### **what you want to know:**

- Boat & Engine Maintenance (10 evenings)  
In Classroom Starts March 20, 2019

### **what you might like to know:**

- Boating 4: Near Shore Marine Navigation  
Online Starts February 21, 2019
- Boating 7: Off shore Marine Navigation 2  
Online Starts January 7, 2019

**Go to**

**[www.boatingcourses.ca/Ontario/Ottawa](http://www.boatingcourses.ca/Ontario/Ottawa)**

***to register***

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