



Rideau Ripples



The newsletter of the Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron

Commander's Message



It's that time of the year again when our boats have been winterized and we patiently wait until Mother Nature allows us to launch again. This long break lets us celebrate land bound events and concentrate on our search for deals on accessories and parts for next season.

I recently attended our National General Meeting in Windsor where Ottawa and the Rideau District were very well represented by Axel Obenauf, Terry and Linda Hamilton, Tom Beaver, Guy and Marjorie Ladouceur and Cathie Johnstone. I found that there was a general upbeat and positive mood as CPS moves into a period of change and modernization in the coming months. We will keep you posted on the re-branding and new course offerings as they become available.

On a high note, the Rideau District received the Mary Pritchard Award for excellence in distance education, which is the direction our courses have taken.

Everyone is invited to our End of Year/Christmas gathering planned for the 14th of December. The detailed invitation is in this newsletter. Join us to refresh old friendships, make new ones or simply create great boating connections.

Robert Menard
Ottawa Squadron Commander
commander@boatottawa.ca
613 720 5058



**Merry
Christmas
And a
Happy
New Year**

The 2023 – 2024 Executive Committee

Squadron Commander	Robert Menard
Immediate Past Commander	Court Harkness, SN
Executive Officer	V A C A N T
Administration Officer	Guy Ladouceur
Financial Officer	Dale Rabbie
Educational Officer	Robin Craig, CN
Membership Officer	Terry Hamilton, JN
A/Membership	Joan Feltham, AP
Secretary	Robert Dandurand, P
Communications Officer	William M. Hall, P
Public Relations	V A C A N T
Marketing Officer	V A C A N T
Regalia/Mailing Officer	Marjorie Ladouceur
Rideau Ripples Editor	Robert Dandurand, P
RVCC Coordinator	Peter Hansen
Social Affairs (Co-Chair)	Mara Zarins
Webmaster	Robin Craig, CN
Squadron Financial Review	David Root

Squadron Events Calendar

Bridge Meetings

2023

- 14 December

all are welcomed to attend and participate live or virtually



Fly Your CPS-ECP flag proudly and promote our organization by networking with your dock mates and anyone on the water!



Squadron Mailing Address

Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron
6901 Bilberry Drive,
Ottawa ON K1C 2E8

Cdr Robert Menard
613 720 5058

Please check the website for updates and latest information:

boatottawa.ca/events.html

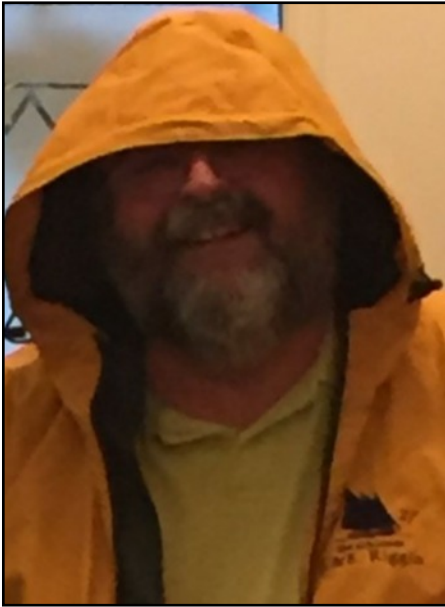
Quote — Unquote

You have any ideas or a topic for an Information Night, please drop me an e-mail commander@boatottawa.ca and we can work together to make it happen!

“Docking successfully always occurs in private and a docking failure is always in full view.”

Anonymous

Scuttlebutt



By Robert Dandurand, P

Bruce Kelly, chair of the marketing committee, advised that the new CPS-ECP branding would require a complete rethink of the organizational structure of CPS-ECP. The present objectives are to modernize the CPS-ECP name, cater to a younger audience and abandon the organization's military language and vocabulary. The overall goal is to make CPS-ECP the first choice for boating Education in Canada. The legal name of the organization will not change, but we will add a new brand name and graphics. The decision on a new brand name is well under way and has been reduced to a couple of names and graphics. Once the final recommendation is reached the Board will be asked for approval and then all domain names will be secured. The plan is to unveil the new brand name publicly by May 2024 during Safe Boating week. Reported, post National AGM, by Membership Officer Terry Hamilton.



Since humans started exploring the planet, we've followed the water. Crossing oceans gave way to new discoveries and changed the course of history; chasing rivers opened our horizons. The immeasurable sense of peace that we feel around water is what Nichols (Ph.D., a marine biologist and the author of *Blue Mind*, a book about the physical and psychological benefits of water) calls our "blue mind"—a chance to escape the hyper-connected, over-stimulated state of modern day life, in favour of a rare moment of solitude. Research has long found that humans are pulled toward Mother Nature's blue for, in part, its restorative benefits.

Source:

https://getpocket.com/explore/item/why-being-near-water-really-does-make-us-happier?utm_medium=email&utm_source=pocket_hits&utm_campaign=POCKET_HITS-EN-DAILY-SPONSORED&THEASCENT-2023_11_05=&sponsored=0&position=8&category=fascinating_stories&scheduled_corpus_item_id=59706cc7-3994-42a4-9611-4b281e561d33&url=https://getpocket.com/explore/item/why-being-near-water-really-does-make-us-happier



Nautical flag uses and meanings

• **Communication** – Nautical flags are used to communicate between ships, especially when modern communication technologies are unavailable or have failed. The International

Code of Signals is a standardized system that uses nautical flags to communicate messages between ships. This system uses a combination of signal flags, alphabet flags, and numeral pennants to convey messages. Each flag represents a letter or a number, and the messages are spelled out by stringing together the appropriate flags.

• **Decoration** – Nautical flags are used for decoration, particularly in yacht clubs and marinas. Burgee flags are small triangular flags used to identify a particular yacht club or organization. They are typically flown from the masthead of a yacht or displayed in a prominent location. Many yacht clubs have their unique burgee design, often based on the club's logo or emblem.

• **Identification** – Nautical flags are used for identification purposes. For example, the national flag of a particular country is often flown on ships registered in that country. This helps other ships identify the nationality of a particular vessel. Similarly, boats may fly a specific flag to indicate their affiliation or membership in a respective organization or group.

• **Competitive Sailing** – In competitive sailing, nautical flags communicate information to the sailors. For example, the race committee uses flags to signal the start and finish lines, any changes to the course, and penalties for rule violations. Sailors must understand the meaning of each flag to ensure they comply with the race rules.

- **Tradition** – Nautical flags are an important part of maritime tradition. For example, the practice of flying a flag at half-mast to honour a shipmate who has died dates back to the 17th century. Similarly, the tradition of saluting a passing ship by dipping your flag or burgee has been a part of nautical culture for centuries

Source:

https://asa.com/news/2023/06/14/nautical-flags-origins-uses-meanings/?utm_source=asj&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ASJ_2023_06_16



Feed your boat engines with only the very best you can afford. Old fuel is trouble in store. Don't keep it—feed it to the car or the lawn mower where it is not mission critical. When you pull the cord or press the starter button on a boat engine then you really want it to start.

Source:<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/WhctKKXxCxHrvMMgqlcpWTNNzvqlRQfGpjsZPJ>

TrqqMnzDmxTsnFtZmGbZNRwK nHbTBtzL



A boat's logbook is more than a diary of events. It provides a record of fuel consumption, engine hours, oil changes, water supply, ports of call, visitors, persons contacted, distances and courses along frequently travelled routes, good and bad spots for anchoring, fishing or swimming, and of new friends that were met and any other interesting or critical incidents that occur during a cruise. It is also a semi-legal document that may be referred to in the event of a rescue or other similar accident. It is not mandatory to maintain a ship's logbook, but it is useful to do so.

Entries should not be made in a water-soluble ink, but in ballpoint or other indelible pen, and in chronological order. Errors should not be erased but crossed through and rewritten. Since most skippers are far too busy when under way to make the final entries in the log, it is convenient to make them in a "rough log" instead. A stub of

pencil and a stenographer's notebook carried in a pocket provide a sturdy and convenient way of temporarily recording events as they occur. The information should be transferred to the log as soon as possible, and always by the end of the day. The log provides an interesting historical record of boating life and, in the event of a judicial inquiry, might supply important information



Happy Winter Solstice to all! In the northern hemisphere, December 21, 2023 is the shortest day and the longest night of the year. The sun is at its southernmost point of travel, over the imaginary circle on the globe we refer to as the Tropic of Capricorn. On this day in which a person standing outside at noon in the northern hemisphere, outside of the tropics, would cast the longest shadow. If you are on the Tropic of Capricorn, however, at noon on that day, you would have no shadow at all.



2023 CPS National Annual General Meeting



Mary Pritchard Award Photo
by Patrick Lavelle



Mary Pritchard Award



Marj, Guy, Axel, & Robert



Terry & Linda
Hamilton

THE MARY PRITCHARD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN OUTREACH EDUCATION

It is over 20 years since the inauguration of the Mary Pritchard Award and I am very appreciative of the continued progress to enhance this aspect of education in our Organization. We have seen so many technical advancements in bringing boating education to the public and our members over these years, and we as a volunteer group have participated in many of these innovations.

Although our Award is in recognition of Distance Education, we have always appreciated the value of in-class learning as the method preferred by many people, and believe that it can go hand in hand within our programmes – our hybrid type classes have indeed addressed the best of both worlds.

Our recipient this year has truly embodied the team spirit that enhances any project and endeavour. For the past 10 or more years, this team has worked together, at times bringing in members from other Districts and the National level for further support.

I am delighted to announce that the 2023 recipient of the Mary Pritchard Award, is Rideau District.

Starting out with developing and delivering the online version of Boating 4, and encouraged by the satisfaction of the experience expressed by those completing it, as well as at the instructor level, it was decided to expand the online programme. The National Educational Dept also supported the online course, which was then offered nationally. By 2018, 8 Squadrons were offering the Rideau online version of this course. The rest is history!

The innovation of the 'blended learning' approach which focussed on providing students an online version of the course manual, an assortment of practice exercises and skill testing quizzes and video - with weekly online sessions that focussed on homework review and a Q&A session rather than lectures with PPT, remains as the preferred delivery approach. The Rideau versions were merged into the Moodle platform.

With the assistance and encouragement of talented members from outside the District, wholly believing in the product, the course offerings have expanded and continued to do so.

The Rideau team has changed over the years and new members are contributing members. Many thanks go to all these volunteers for their commitment. Thanks also to the CPS Foundation for the support they have given to the online initiative.

May I ask D/C Axel to come forward to accept the Award on behalf of the Rideau team. Congratulations, and thank you to everyone

P/C/C Doreen Hinksman, AP

Sponsor, The Mary Pritchard Award for Excellence in Outreach Education

October 2023

Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons



Escadrilles canadiennes de plaisance



Tom Beaver

The Rideau District Annual Picnic

Monday, June 17th, 2024



The Planning is in its early stages, we have the date picked and the location is guaranteed!

The Picnic is organized by the Ottawa Squadron, but it is open to all the members of the Rideau District in Brockville, Kingston and our own Squadron. Family members and possible members are invited to attend. As in the past, everyone attends for free to have a great day, good food and mingle with everyone and maybe go home with an article from the Auction.

The Plan is to organize a Picnic like we did in 2012. The total of attendees was 106. The best we ever organized!

This means mark your calendar <> Monday, June 17, 2024 <>

A personal e-mail will be sent to all the Past Squadron Commanders, Life members and long-time members of the Ottawa Squadrons now and past which includes those from Rideau Lakes, Oiseau Rock, Cornwall, Britania, Brockville and Kingston.

The weather will not affect us because this will be 12 years since 2012 and we know how to organize a Picnic!

For any other information, please contact dmo-rideau@cps-ecp.org – Guy LadouceurThe Rideau District



Learn more than just the ropes with CPS-ECP

You can't get where you're going if you don't know how to get there. CPS-ECP offers instruction on marine navigation, VHF radio, GPS, radar, docking, anchoring, boat and engine maintenance, weather, the Operator Card and more.

Upcoming Boating Courses - Online

Near Shore Navigation Level 1 - starts in January

Do you know what to do if a boat on fire calls you for help? Can you deal with emergencies on your own boat? You will learn how to cope with these situations as well as many other aspects of boating.

Practical Weather for Boaters - starts in January

This course provides boaters with the tools to interpret weather reports and "read" the sky and water for optimum boating safety.

For more information contact:

David Allester (Navigation)
d.allester53@gmail.com

Court Harkness (Weather)
court.harkness@gmail.com



Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
Escadrilles canadiennes de plaisance
1-888-CPS-BOAT | boatingcourses.ca

CPS-ECP Rideau District

Brockville, Kingston and Ottawa Squadrons

www.boatingcourses.ca



Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons



Escadrilles canadiennes de plaisance



2023 Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



1025 Grenon Avenue – 12th Floor Banquet Room & Terrace
6:30pm to 10:00pm Thursday 14th December, 2023

RSVP BY: Noon, Sunday, 10th December via email to Guy Ladouceur dmo-rideau@cps.ecp.org
Please let us know even if you cannot attend.

RSVP EARLY! We are limited to a capacity of 60 people!

PARKING: Handicap parking front or rear of building. Ample parking on the street and limited parking on the property due to site construction. **The building managers ask that we use street parking as much as possible**
FRONT OR REAR ENTRY: Ring 333...and if you forget...lookup Menard or call 613 720 5058
You must use one of the elevators that are side by side.... the lone elevator does not go up to the 12th floor

WINE TASTING by Sheldon from THE WINE GARDEN (thewinegarden.ca) served throughout the evening.

BUFFET Finger foods like meats, cheeses, bread, crackers, chips, tacos, veggies, dips, grapes, salmon.....

DESSERTS.... some of them will be sugar free.

DRINKS ...hot or cold

Mingle, sit at a table or relax on a comfy couch.... you can go back for seconds or thirds...

Commander Robert guarantees that no one will go home hungry.

ALL OF THIS IS COMPLEMENTARY

You are guests of the Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron!

Won't you join us and share a few stories and meet fellow boaters.

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING THE LESS FORTUNATE:

You can bring unwrapped gifts for the Ottawa Firefighters Toy Mountain
OR Non-perishable foods for the Ottawa Food Bank



Ottawa Food Bank
La Banque d'alimentation d'Ottawa

This is our first Christmas Function where we invite our entire membership and volunteers!

We want to get to know you and for you to get to know us!

We are all boaters and we're pretty sure one of us can answer your most challenging boating questions.

Join us to refresh old friendships, make new ones or simply create a great boating connection.

Merry



Christmas!

Ho Ho Ho!

From the Desk of the District Membership Officer and the Chair of a few Committees!!!



It is that time of year where I really do not have any ideas of going boating or fishing till next spring. My fishing machine has been put away a few weeks ago like most of your pleasure crafts. It is the weekend, and I am trying to write a short article but that is not my style. So here it is:

My adventure with CPS-ECP started in 2005 and I got involved in Membership in 2008 and never looked back since but most of you know that already. Over the years, Membership has changed many times, and it has left some of you scratching your head at renewal time. Do not feel bad because I worry about that all year.

After 15 years of many hours helping members, students wanting

to be members, I am still thinking how I can help you. This time I am not going to bore you any statistical tables because we are doing well as a District and the Ottawa Squadron.

National Officers are trying to tell me that for MEMBERS it is easy to renew their membership with the “Auto Renewal Enabled” feature. They may be right but for some reasons some of you are experiencing trouble. I can give you three (3) ways to help you, but the easiest method for you is to send me an e-mail at dmo-rideau@cps-ecp.org with your name, phone number and a time you want me to call you. You and I will have your membership renewed in less that 15 minutes. This also goes for anyone who are not sure when they should renew or have not renewed for some time.

As for our thirty (30) Life Members (Thank You for your Services and the hundreds of volunteer hours for twenty years), we know that they must renew but they cannot utilize the “Auto Renew Enabled” feature. Last year many of you renewed by yourself but I assisted as many of you to renew your membership. All I need to know is that you are still living at the same address or the new one, your e-mail address, phone number. If I do not have your e-mail address, I will call you. Once I have that I get in touch with my CPS-ECP Member Services Associate Liz. She does miracles for me every time I speak to her on the computer!

Now for all you members who have been renewing for many years without any issues, these are some information you may need to be reminded of:

- Regular Membership is \$60.00 annually and Regular Family Member is ½ the Regular or \$30.00 annually.
- Regular break-down equals to \$45.00 National - \$10,00 Squadron and \$5.00 District. 50% for Family.
- Life Members you are not charged for renewing but must renew to maintain their information current.
- “Auto Renewal Enabled” is a new feature for Regular Member. It is easy to set-up, just read the renewal steps carefully and you will be registered automatically for next year. You will receive an e-mail message 30 days before your renewal date and on the date of renewal your credit card will be debited your membership. Presently approximately 25% are using it Nationally and we are 26% as a District. It works well for Regular Members!
- At your renewal time, you will receive a reminder e-mail 45, 30, 15 days, the day of and 15 days after your renewal to inform you that your renewal is due. Some of you have indicated that it is too many times so the easy way to stop the e-mails, renew at the 45-day reminder and they will automatically stop.
- Remind your friends that if they enroll in any of our courses before they become members, they can receive a 25% discount once he / she successfully complete the course and apply for membership before 60 days after the course.

That is all for membership but if you have any questions, send me an e-mail at dmo-rideau@cps-ecp.org!

I hope to see you at the 2023 Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION. Our Commander Robert and his family have spent many hours planning the event. Please register as soon as possible!

Guy A. Ladouceur



The Ottawa Boat and Outdoors Show

February 22-25, 2024!

The Planning has already started when I attended the 2023 CPS-ECP National Conference and Annual General Meeting in Windsor ON last month.

I was lucky to be able to rub elbows with the organizers of the Toronto International Boat Show (January 19-28, 2024) and Salon International du Bateau de Montréal (February 08-11, 2024) during that time. I also learned information from the National Education Officer and the National Marketing Committee Chair with what they plan to unveil to attract attendees to our booth.

Since Windsor, I have participated in very informative virtual sessions. This is not my first Boat Show, but I am learning some new tricks from these meetings.

Here are some ideas:

At the present time, the Squadron has approved a larger booth (10X20 compared to many years at 10X10). Attempting to get a booth next to the RCMP & OPP as they attract large crowds so we will be in the right area.

- Use of the Boating Simulator Virtual Trainer and the Maritime Radio Simulator,
- Looking to provide information to the youth boaters.
- Expanded our material that we display.
- Have the latest courses available, membership and boating information available.

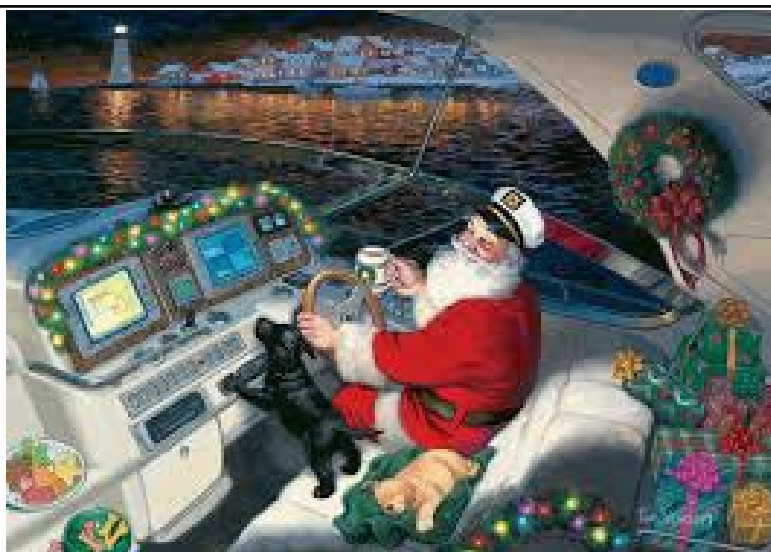
We want to offer a new delivery of our products.

So, we are looking for volunteers, if you would like assist, please send me an email at dmo-rideau@cps-ecp.org.com and we will talk. If you volunteer, you get free access to the Boat Show either before or after your stay at the Booth.

There will be more information coming. If you have never volunteered for our Show, please send me your e-mail and I will add you to the list of volunteers. For those with experience, I will get in touch with you in the next few weeks for your availability and new ideas you might have for the Show.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Guy
Guy A. Ladouceur



Local Supporters



MARINE SUPPLIES

One of Canada's Largest Selection of Marine Supplies Since 1982

Free Shipping on most orders over \$99 before tax!



THE CHANDLERY

www.thechandleryonline.com

367 Poulin Ave, Ottawa ON K2B 5V2

613-820-7642

THE SAM GROUP

Uniforms, Sportswear, Safety, Promotional Items

THE SAM GROUP

www.thesamgroup.ca

111 Colonnade Rd, Nepean ON K2E 7M3

613-727-0446

