



The

# Helmsman

DECEMBER 9, 2015

FALL/WINTER ISSUE

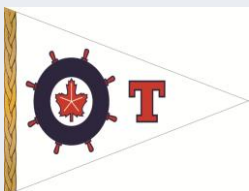
## *Words from the Upper Deck*

*With our boats now safely stowed away for the long winter ahead, it is time to think of what we want to do next season. Things like where do we want to go, what we did right, how close we were to being boarded by Marine Safety Units, what we saw others do that almost led to disaster at sea and what we need to do to ensure the next boating season will be safe and enjoyable for ourselves and those we meet on the water.*

*RCAF Trenton Squadron is planning to have some informative boating safety seminars (at a cost of \$5.00 per member) during the winter months. These will be presented at CFB Trenton Yacht Club, weather permitting, beginning in January 2016. We are certain that you will not only find these seminars informative but enjoyable.*

*Our annual **Christmas Wine and Cheese** get together will be held on Monday, **December 21st, from 1900HRS at the CFB Trenton Yacht Club**. We have a guest speaker for this event. Douglas Barton, a retired Detachment Commander of the Ontario Provincial Police, will share some of his experiences during his 33 year career related to marine safety. We hope that you will put this event in your calendar. There will be a small cover charge and your first glass of wine is on us.*

*Our RVCC (Recreational Vessel Courtesy Check) coordinator, Phyllis Durnford, is already in the process of planning for the 2016 boating season. She is looking at providing these free boating safety checks (approved and provided on behalf of Transport Canada) to Yacht Clubs and Marinas from CFB Trenton west to Port Hope Marina/Yacht Club. This is a very aggressive plan for which volunteer inspectors will be needed. If you would like to help us and be provided with a training session, please let Phyllis know.*



We have just completed our Basic Boating (PCOC) course and have moved on to the Boating Essentials Course. These will be followed up with the Maritime Radio Course. For those individuals interested in either the Electronic Navigation Course or the Seamanship Course please be sure to register, either on-line or by phone.

As most readers of this publication know, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons provides safe boating education and offers only Transport Canada accredited operator competency courses at locations across the country. These accredited courses are accepted as proof of competency in United States waters by the US Power and Sail Squadrons (USPC). One of the many advantages of taking our CPS Courses.

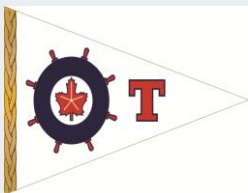
Our squadron revenue comes solely from our boating safety courses as well as from any social events that we may present for the benefit of our members and fellow boaters.

As CPS is a volunteer organization our strength is in our volunteers. Currently, our Squadron is seeking volunteers to help us with training/education as well as with other areas. If you would like to help us help fellow boaters, please volunteer with us.

There are a number of advantages to being a CPS member other than knowing you are helping a nationally recognized boating safety organization. Boating "how to" resources such as how to buy a GPS, how to fly flags, how to correctly transport and trailer your vessel, how to put on a floatation device in the water are just a few. There is also tons of information available to boaters such as how to file a sail plan, vessel licensing, and entry to the US. These are just a few of the items available to you from the CPS National website. Other advantages to being a CPS member include reduced course costs, reduced housing and boating insurance costs, immediate replacement of the PCOC and Maritime Radio cards to name a few.

Please help us by volunteering your time to help other boaters. And once again, we want to recognize CFB Trenton Yacht Club who, with their support, makes it possible for us to bring these safe boating initiatives to the boating public.

John Brewster, Commander



# ***RCAF Trenton Power & Sail Squadron***

Bridge 2014-2015

Commander: John Brewster

Past Commander: Ken Mugford

Education Officer: John Brewster

Secretary: Wayne Keays

Financial Officer: John Fear

Public Relations Officer: John Fear

Membership Officer: John Dodson

MAREP Officer: Ian Brant

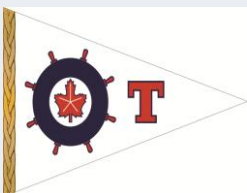
District Representative: John Fear

RVCC Coordinator: Phyllis Durnford

Webmaster: Michael McMahon

Helmsman Editor: Kathy Keays

New Member : Henry Marr



***Email: [rcafTrentonCPS@gmail.com](mailto:rcafTrentonCPS@gmail.com)***

***We are on the web: <http://www.cps-ecp.ca/RCAFTrenton/>***

## *Get on Board!*

**Take your boating skills up a notch this winter with one of these essential Safety Courses**

### **Maritime Radio – BEGINS FEBRUARY 29, 2016**

This course will prepare you to write the exam for the Restricted Operator Certificate (Marine) with the new Digital Selective Calling (DSC) Endorsement.

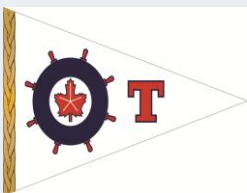
- CPS Member \$80, non-member \$100; \$10 discount for second family member
- Classes start 7 pm Monday, February 29, March 7 & 12, 2016
- Exam March 14, 2016

### **Electronic Navigation – BEGINS MARCH 2, 2016**

This course covers GPS and Electronic Charting. It includes use of boat chart plotters and laptop computers with cruise planning software. Also includes manual, CD, and MAPTECH Chart Plotter software as a learning tool. There will be a practical in-class cruise to develop hands-on skills.

- CPS members \$110, non-members \$135; \$20 discount for second family member
- Classes: Wednesday, March 2 to April 20, 2016

**All classes will be held upstairs at CFB Trenton Yacht Club on Baker's Island.**



**To Register:**

By email @ [RCAFTrentonCPS@gmail.com](mailto:RCAFTrentonCPS@gmail.com) or call John Brewster at 613 970-0309

For more information and descriptions of all our courses,  
visit [www.cps-ecp.ca/RCAFTrenton](http://www.cps-ecp.ca/RCAFTrenton)



## SEAMANSHIP – BEGINS SPRING 2016

The Seamanship Course builds on techniques introduced in the Boating Course.

Seamanship uses traditional navigation, GPS fixes, Way Points, along with the introduction of Deviation, in the three homework cruises, and the examination take home cruises.

This course offers: interpretation of charts, the DR plot, bearings, fixes, running fixes, Collision Regulations, and plotting and labeling in True and Magnetic.

Seamanship explains the hazards of weather, wind, waves, tides, and tidal currents and how to deal with them.

When unforeseen circumstances arise such as man-overboard or medical emergencies, the seamanship course helps the student to acquire the skills to deal with life-threatening situations.

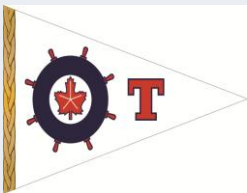
- CPS members \$125; \$105 for second family member
- Classes: **START DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED**

**All classes will be held upstairs at CFB Trenton Yacht Club on Baker's Island.**

**To Register:**

By email @ [RCAFTrentonCPS@gmail.com](mailto:RCAFTrentonCPS@gmail.com) or call John Brewster at 613 970-0309

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# Knowledge is Power

(In case you missed this article by Andy Adams in the December 2015 issue of Canadian Yachting, we are including it in this issue of The Helmsman)

*We've all heard this before but it's especially true when it comes to boating-knowledge is power. It is the power to confidently take your boat out with a load of passengers, go on longer trips, into unfamiliar waters, or even to navigate on your own to distant ports – that is the power of knowledge. The Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, (CPS-ECP) offers a wide range of courses from introductory level to advanced and everything in between.*

*Always focused on boating safety, the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, (CPS-ECP) have been empowering recreational boaters with knowledge for more than 75 years in Canada. Most of their courses are offered through the off-season when Power Squadron members themselves are unable to be out on their own boats. CPS-ECP members volunteer their own time to teach Power Squadron courses so off-season is best. Many courses begin early in the new year. You are just at the right time of year to sign up for a CPC-ECP course and anyone is welcome. You don't have to be a CPS-ECP member.*

*There are two basic types of courses offered by the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons; Required Certification courses as established by Transport Canada and Industry Canada and then Elective Courses for those wishing to increase their skills and knowledge.*

## REQUIRED CERTIFICATION COURSES

### Boating 1: Boating Basics (Pleasure Craft Operator Card – PCOC)

All operators of motorized pleasure craft are required to show proof of operator competency. Everything you need to know for the Transport Canada test is presented in an easy-to-read format that is both informative and entertaining. You can be confident that the Power Squadron's study guide meets all the standards established by Transport Canada's Office of Boating Safety.

As an extra benefit, when you pass the test offered by CPS-ECP, your PCOC is recognized by both Transport Canada and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators in the United States. Contact CPS-ECP to locate a testing facility in your area.

The Boating Basics courses are available in English, French and Cantonese (in select locations) and also online in English and French.

### PCOC for Youth (The Operator Card Seminar, ages 8 – 12)

Anyone in a boat should know how to take the wheel. The approved Boating Basics Handbook and the Student Workbook prepare youth aged 8 to 12 for the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) exam. The Student Workbook is full of activities to assist children in learning the material found in the Boating Basics Handbook.

### Maritime Radio (Restricted Operator's Certificate [Maritime] )

Radio didn't die with the creation of the cell phone! Maritime radio (VHF) is a great way to connect to information and assistance from your location on the water. 911 doesn't work the same way on the water and who in your contact list would really be able to help you anyway? Should you have an on-the-water emergency, a MAYDAY call on the radio can connect you immediately to local assistance and may even give you a chance to be a hero.

If you have a maritime radio on your boat, anyone on board using it must have a Restricted Operator's Certificate [Maritime], (RCO[M]) so this course can be a family affair! In addition to emergency radio procedures, you'll discover the advantages of everyday operating techniques; the many uses of maritime radios, choice of frequencies, operation, phonetic alphabet, procedural words and phrases, as well as Digital Selective Calling and the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (DSC/CMDSS).

This course is offered in classroom or through self-study. The complete package with CD will prepare you for the ROC (M) with DSC endorsement exam. (Exam must be taken in person)

### Maritime Radio (DSC Update)

This seminar is for holders of Restricted Operator's Certificate [Maritime], (ROC [M]) issued before January 1, 2005. Learn about the new digital communication channels offered on new VHF maritime radios and their use in an emergency situation. Digital Selective Calling could save your life.

## ELECTIVE COURSES - EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE

***The Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, (CPS-ECP) offers a series of courses that build on the basic courses required by law all the way up to the knowledge a boater would need to cross the ocean. Generations of CPS-ECP volunteers have been sharing their experience with new and seasoned boaters, helping them prepare for both everyday and emergency situations.***

*The courses are arranged to conveniently enable you to build on your boating knowledge. The following is a list of courses in the CPS-ECP boating series which are generally offered in a classroom setting. You can take these either for your own interest, or you can take a testing component if you wish to have proof of proficiency. Some segments and topics are presented in seminars or even online.*

Check [www.boatingcourses.ca](http://www.boatingcourses.ca) to find out what's happening near you:

- *Boating 1: Boating Basics (PCOC)*
- *Boating 2: Beyond the PCOC*
- *Boating 3: Introduction to Navigation*
- *Boating 4: Seamanship*
- *Boating 5: Advanced Piloting*
- *Boating 6: Junior Navigator (Part I of Offshore Navigation Program)*
- *Boating 7: Global Navigation (Part II of Offshore Navigation Program)*

#### Boating Essentials (Boating 1 and Boating 2)

Boating Essentials will take you to the next level in your boating education. Technology has changed the way we navigate but in order to use a GPS or chart plotter effectively, you should understand the use of paper charts and coastal navigation. Boating Essentials greatly increases your knowledge over PCOC and is the foundation course leading to higher levels.

#### Boating 3: Introduction to Navigation

The third course in the CPS-ECP Boating series explores navigation further, learning how to plot and label on paper charts, what the skipper should be doing before setting out, how to handle a boat under sail and far more, including optional topics that could be offered depending on your personal interests. These include tides and currents, canals and locks and collision regulations.

#### Sailing

If you want to learn more about sailing the Power Squadrons have a course that covers different sail rigs, sail plans and hull types, sailing at different points of sail, handling heavy weather and storms, and far more.

#### [Boating 4: Seamanship](#)

In the earlier Power Squadron Courses you learned what to expect and how to plan for it. Seamanship helps you prepare for the unexpected emergencies including adverse weather, medical emergencies, knot splicing and more.

#### [Boating 5: Advanced Piloting](#)

Canadian Yachting readers know that we frequently publish stories of our readers who have chartered a boat in the Caribbean or even sailed their own boat down south. If you already have the foundation skills from Boating 2 and Boating 3, Advanced Piloting is the next step.

#### [Boating 6: Junior Navigator \(Part I of Offshore Navigation Program\)](#)

The number of individuals who will sail their own boat all way across the ocean is actually quite surprising. We learned of one gentleman who was in his 80s before he decided to discontinue his annual summer trip from Canada to England, single-handing his own 29 footer! Junior Navigator is a course you should take in preparation for any significant voyage out of sight of land.

#### [Boating 7: \(Part II of Offshore Navigation Program\)](#)

This is the second of two courses in the Offshore Navigation program for the recreational boater. While new electronic navigation equipment is important, the art and science of celestial navigation is still a valuable asset as well as something you might enjoy for its own sake.

### [COURSES OF GENERAL INTEREST FOR BOATERS](#)

***The Power Squadrons recently reached out to boaters asking what information they wanted and the following are new courses that anyone might find interesting.***

#### [On the Water: Boat Handling](#)

Once you have your PCOC, this course will put you in an actual boat on the water and our instructors will show you how to manoeuvre a boat in close quarters, leave and return to the dock and properly anchor a boat. Come with just your PCOC and Power Squadron volunteers will introduce you to handling a boat on your own.

### **Electronic Navigation**

GPS technology provides additional safety and can help make navigating much easier. This program will help you learn about handheld and built-in GPS and chart plotter instruments familiarizing you with the many features and capabilities of these devices.

### **Radar for Pleasure Craft**

The latest recreational radar systems are affordable and offer impressive capabilities. This course helps you understand the available features and how to apply them to your needs.

### **Boat and Engine Maintenance**

From spark plugs to bottom paint, this course can help the DIY boater to save costly labour expenses, prevent on-board problems and help you live the dream of owning, maintaining and using your boat without great expense.

### **Introduction to Weather**

This course provides you with the tools to find and accurately interpret weather reports and forecasts and to develop sound judgement for optimum boating safety.

### **Extended Cruising (Living on a Boat)**

Extended cruising provides you with a deeper understanding of the skills necessary for confident, safe passages and it is an essential first step in understanding the elements of the “long-distance passage” lifestyle.

### **Marine Electrical Maintenance**

Learn how to maintain electrical systems in your boat properly and safely.

## **IN CONCLUSION**

*The Power and Sail Squadrons have a long and illustrious history of empowering recreational boaters through knowledge. I have taken their courses myself. The courses are interesting, the instructors are typically excellent and as an additional benefit, you are very likely to meet new friends who share your interests.*

*Operating in both official languages, the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, (CPS-ECP) are active in every province of Canada. You're certain to find courses of interest, offered near you!*

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## *Get 'in the know' with Phyllis...*

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The good news about the 2015 RVCC season is that we ensured 41 boaters that their boats were safe! You might ask why that's news. It is news because since we did that well this year, think of what we could do in 2016!

To do more in 2016, the big thing will be the numbers of CPS volunteers who want to do the training (2 hr seminar and some 'on water' practice) and get in on the opportunity to help other boaters to stay safe on the water.

We could, theoretically, provide RVCC processes along the lakeshore from Port Hope to Trenton. There are marinas and yacht clubs to be explored and involved in an RVCC presentation, for FREE. No cost to them. We could increase our RVCC numbers, but that is not the main driver. Safety on the water is the driver. Engaging and talking with other boaters, about their boats and safety equipment, sharing stories of times when safety equipment kept them safe, while enjoying summer weather, sounds like a good combination to me!

Please consider becoming an RVCC volunteer with the squadron. The time commitment relates to how many clubs and marinas want to have us do an RVCC process with them. How many we can do depends on how many volunteers receive the training.

The more, the merrier! Many hands make light work...I could go on but you get the picture I'm trying to paint. Come join us!

Phyllis Durnford  
CPS RCAF Trenton RVCC

## *Membership has its privileges....*

Hi Everyone,

You are receiving this email because you have asked me to keep you in touch with occupying Binnacle Island. Binnacle Island is available to members in good standing of the USPS and CPS.

Please feel free to print the attached PDF request form and share with other members that you think may be interested in a week at Binnacle Island. Members interested in a week at Binnacle Island should fill out the request form and mail or email it back to me. I will file it away and give interested members a call after February 16th and let them know if their requested week is available and if not, what weeks are available.

Here are two links, one of the live web cam that looks out at the Beaurivage anchorage from Binnacle Island north bedroom and one that is the weather station on the roof of Binncale. Hopefully they will stay up and running through the winter.

<http://clients.scherzisystems.com:9999/binnacle/>

<http://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=IONTARIO1009>

Warm Regards,

Jim Scherzi  
Syracuse Sail & Power Squadron  
Co-Chair Binnacle Island

**Attention CFB Trenton Power Squadron Members**

**Should you have an interest in making a reservation at Binnacle Island for the 2016 Season, please send an email request to:**

**Email: [rcafTrentonCPS@gmail.com](mailto:rcafTrentonCPS@gmail.com)**

## Start your Holiday Celebrations off right with these Amazing Party Snacks !!!

### *Cranberry Dip*

#### Ingredients:

- 1 pkg fresh cranberries
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup apricot jam
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 pkg cream cheese

#### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Combine cranberries with sugar in a baking dish and bake in the preheated oven for 20 minutes.
3. Remove from oven and stir in jam and pecans.
4. To serve, pour over room temperature cream cheese. Serve with buttery crackers.

### *Easy Cheese Ball*

#### Ingredients:

- 2 pkgs cream cheese
- 1 pkg Ranch Dressing mix
- 2 ½ cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 1/2 cup chopped pecans

#### Directions:

Mash cream cheese in a bowl. Mix in the Ranch Dressing mix and cheddar cheese. Shape into a ball. Roll in the chopped pecans. Refrigerate covered until ready to serve.



Annual Christmas Wine & Cheese

Monday, December 21st, 2015 @ 7:00pm

CFB Trenton Yacht Club

RCAF Trenton Power and Sail Squadron  
is pleased to announce  
guest speaker Douglas Borton.

As our guest speaker he will share some of his experiences, during his 33 year career with the OPP involving marine operations including marine safety, enforcement and investigations