

The Mainsheet



Fall 2015

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



Words From the Editor

This summer was an unusual one in one aspect: the total lack of rain on the south coast. No boat washing, but we all survived.

The water situation was bad even on the Central Coast – the “Rain Coast”! No boat washing was allowed at most marinas and some even closed the tap for filling tanks during the busiest times. That was a BIG problem for many boaters north of Cape Caution since there was no water to be had anywhere except for Ocean Falls and Prince Rupert, so a lot of boats made the trip up to either of those locations just to fill their tanks.

The hot weather and lack of rain had an effect on wild life on the Central Coast. At least one bear, which normally shies away from population, wandered into a First Nation village to look for food with an unfortunate outcome for the bear.

There are quite a few new developments on the coast this year and some will be covered in this issue of the Mainsheet.

Have a good Fall,Erik.
Email: ve7mdl@gmail.com

From the office of Social Affairs

Hallowe'en social



Come join fellow members, friends & guests for a fun evening at our fall Wine & Cheese!

Wear a costume and win a prize!

Thursday

October 29th 1915 at Century House
620 – 8TH St., New Westminster

December 14th

Student Grad/Wine & Cheese/Food Bank Social. Century House - 1900

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



Pitt Lake Cruise 2015

The week end of September 11, 12, and 13 was Royal City Squadron's annual Pitt Lake Cruise. So it was by a bright, sunny and warm day, that four boats **No Hurry** with Harold and his dog Belle, **Marlowe** with Jim and Dodie, **Exodus** with Patrick and Marie and **Leg a sea** with Lynn and John made their way up the Fraser River, passed under bridges, meandered along the Pitt River to finally arrive around 1700 hour at Red Brick Cove. Our hosts Brian and Marina along with their huge dog Cooper, were on the dock to welcome our little group for the week end. Belle (Harold's black Labrador) was more than happy to have a canine friend to run around with and to let go of her no ending energy.



After everyone got settled nicely, it was time to prepare for the pot luck dinner if we wanted to eat before the darkness came with the shorter days of September. A tarp was mounted to stop the land wind while we were enjoying

dinner at the best table with a view on the magnificent Coastal Mountains. Once again everyone brought more food than our appetite could handle, although we tried our best. After dinner, Brian our host built an enormous bonfire. His excuse was that with the dry summer BC had this year and the ban on open fire he did not have his fill of bonfires and had a large supply of wood just waiting to be burned. But it is well known that Brian always made large bonfires no matter what. After lots of chitchat, stories and laughter done, everyone turned in for the night around 2200 hour.



Saturday morning was just as sunny as the day before. Everyone took care of making their coffee or tea and breakfast and gathered on the lodge balcony for a morning chat admiring the scenery while getting a second cup, could not get better than that. The teams for Bocce were made up and we all agree that the grass needed some more time to dry. I decided to go exploring by kayak the side of the lake too shallow to go with our boat while

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



the rest of the group kept busy reading, cleaning, fixing things... You know the sort of thing you do when you have a boat. I really enjoyed the peace and quiet on the water at this time of the year. Every curve brought a different perspective from the cottages scattered along the shore. Ducks and birds seemed also to enjoy the calm morning after what might have been a busy summer for them too. Some larger fish jumping near my kayak made me wish that I had a fishing line with me. Maybe another time.



The Bocce tournament was officially announced open by Brian our referee. The four teams played a well fought game with cheers and barking of encouragements, so much so that Belle wanting to be part of the game too, got free from her leash and ran with the white ball. In the end yours truly with Harold Wright for partner won this year coveted cup. Hey after more than 18 tournaments it's about time I bring home one of these cups.



After all that excitement it was time for apples and drinks. Harold had all the supply for the BBQ dinner but could not find the dill. No problem, Patrick made his famous Teriyaki sauce instead. Many helping hands made the dinner preparation a breeze. Everyone brought their preferred beverage to accompany steak, salmon, bake potatoes, fresh corn, delicious salads and dessert. Yummy! To finish such a beautiful day another bonfire was lit.

The change in weather brought some wind waves during the night and kept some awake while others just snored through. In the morning, the sun was playing hide and seek with the clouds but the temperature was still warm and comfortable to sit around. We could not leave Pitt Lake without our traditional hot dog roast on the fire for lunch. When we left in the afternoon the wind had build up some nice waves on the lake to make it rocky for the small runabouts that were making their way back home after the weekend but no concern for our group. We made good time on our way back with the tide in our favour. No Hurry and

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



Marlowe made it fine under the Pitt River train bridge as their clearance permitted it, unfortunately for Exodus and Leg a Sea we had to wait a while for the trains to clear the track and for the operator of the bridge to swing it open for us. The rest of the cruise was smooth with the sun making the water sparkling all the way to our dock. If you have not had the pleasure to experience the Royal City Squadron Pitt Lake cruise yet, you should reserve the second weekend of September on your calendar for next year. Thank you one more time Harold to make this cruise happening for over 20 years.

Story by Marie Lortie

From the Membership Officer

Effective this summer, National will no longer be providing the 1 year free membership to graduates of the PCOC or Boating Essentials courses. It was proposed that the contact info for new students be forwarded from the squadron Training Officer to the Membership Officer for squadron membership follow up.

Total membership for Royal City is currently at 123 members.

This is a good time to remind everyone that CPS membership has tangible benefits as well as social. See the list of benefits for members in good standing below and the regalia on sale on the last page.

News from the Islands

Baynes Sound

The front page of this issue shows the new cable ferry “Baynes Sound Connector” that has been deployed on the Vancouver Island – Denman run. The ferry runs between Buckley Bay and Denman Island Harbour. Three cables guide the ferry along as shown in the picture below. The middle cable is the driven cable and the two side cables serve to stabilize the ferry.



According to BC Ferries, the new ferry will generate lower fuel emissions and will be cheaper to operate due to the smaller crew.

The cables are normally lying on the bottom, but are picked up by the ferry as it

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



crosses Baynes Sound. The cables are fairly heavy and should not represent a problem for most pleasure craft, but it is still a good idea to keep a distance of at least 100 metres to avoid giving the crew heart attacks.

BC Ferries Update:

BC Ferries has advised that all mariners should exercise caution in transiting Baynes Sound where the new cable ferry is undergoing tests. It has been determined that the cable will present an obstruction to vessels of deep draft when the ferry is in the vicinity of mid channel. A warning light system indicating GO/NO GO situations will be established at the terminus points before the ferry goes in to full operation. BC Ferries will keep us advised on this matter. In the interim, mariners can contact the ferry on VHF 11 or 16 if there is a concern regarding clearance.

The pictures are kindly provided by Bonnie Beck, m/v Dynasty.

Kelsey Bay

Kelsey Bay harbour is one of the less used by pleasure craft. It currently has little in the way of shore facilities; however, funding has been allocated for some upgrades. According to the North Island Gazette, the harbour will get a drive-on loading ramp and washrooms.

The harbour manager can be contacted at 250-282-3623.

News from the North

New Coast Guard Ship

While returning to Kliktsotli Harbour (Shearwater) from Waglisla (Bella Bella) by dinghy we noticed the new Coast Guard ship “Capt. Goddard M.S.M.” moored at the (old) Bella Bella Coast Guard Station. Nice ship with all the toys!



Unexpected Catch

When pulling the prawn trap from a fairly shallow set (250 feet) we found it full of these strange (to us, anyway) creatures. A little query on the radio (ham radio is very useful!) revealed that they were “Squat Lobsters” also known as “Langostino”.

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



After pulling the heads off, we were left with a bowl of these:



A few small prawns were mixed in for size comparison. After boiling briefly in salt water, we peeled and ate them. Another time we added them to pasta with olive oil and sundried tomatoes. Delicious!

Update from the River

Q2Q Bridge

The City of New Westminster has announced the plan to construct a pedestrian and cyclist bridge connecting the Quay and Queensborough. The picture below shows what the bridge may look like. As shown, the bridge will open to allow marine traffic through. As opposed to the Queensborough Rail Bridge, which is normally left in the open position, the Q2Q Bridge will normally be in the closed position, so marine traffic will have to call ahead to open it.



The construction is expected to start in 2016 with completion sometime in 2017.

The Mainsheet



From the Training Department



Training Officer: Glen 604-525-1751.

Advanced Piloting started September 22nd with 3 students.

The Radio course is scheduled for the Spring.

Hydrographics Update

In connection with this ongoing Cape Mudge project, Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) has advised that it is withholding the production of a new Chart 3540 (Approaches to Campbell River) pending range tower construction at Cape Mudge.

A new edition of Chart 3534 (Plans – Howe Sound) is scheduled to be released soon.

The federal government is currently considering a proposal to merge CHS with Public Works Canada in order to create more efficiency within the two groups and to avoid duplication of effort and equipment.

A decision is expected within the next few months.

Coast Guard Update

A new sector light for Cape Mudge has finally been designed, construction plans are in place and property and power access negotiations have commenced. Contractor availability is currently delaying construction.

BC Coast Pilots

BC Coast Pilots have expressed serious concern with the number of recreational boaters and fisherman who have been creating dangerous situations by crossing in front of large ships. As most of you know, a ship's blind spot can extend several hundred metres or more depending on the height of the cargo on deck. If a boater must pass in front of a large ship, pilots recommend they do so at least 500 metres ahead of the vessel. They also recommend that small vessels maintain a clearance of at least 50 metres from either side of the ship. The Pacific Pilotage Authority has

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



R.I.P. AL CUMIFORD

April 28, 1925 – October 1, 2015

We have lost a long time and very dedicated member of our squadron.

Al was a Canadian armed forces veteran. He was Squadron Commander for the year 1981 – 1982 and again from 1986 – 1988. He served as Training Officer for many years and was actively involved in all squadron functions. In recognition of his dedication, he was awarded the Canadian Power & Sail Squadron's "Officer of the Year Award" in 2010.

He and his lady, Olive Connor, loved boating on board 'Di Anza' for many years and his seamanship exemplified all that our instructors taught in the boating courses.

Al will be sorely missed by many.

In June this year a boat went aground at the top end of Don Island. At the location an old tugboat is aground and only visible at low tide.



The boat was refloated at higher tide with no damage. Keep well clear of Don Island!

Member Benefits

Benefits from our corporate sponsors can more than cover the cost of your annual membership; many more benefits negotiated by individual Squadrons are also available to members across the country. Login to access corporate rate codes, coupons and direct links to partner web sites.

CPS-ECP GROUP INSURANCE

CPS-ECP has partnered with **Cowan Insurance Group** to provide insurance products to its members. Cowan's comprehensive coverage and discounts are available exclusively to you as a CPS-ECP member.

Boat Insurance

- Save up to 25% on insurance premiums
- Reducing deductible if claims free
- Agreed value coverage for your boat
- 12-month navigation (no lay-up required)
- Extended navigation for southern cruises
- [See more on our tailored coverage \(pdf\)](#)

NEW>> Group Home and Auto

- Save up to 20% on both your home and auto insurance premiums
- No additional service charges for pre-authorized payments
- Custom insurance solutions
- Available Canada-wide

MARINE ASSISTANCE

33% discount with **C-Tow** Marine Assistance Ltd. 24 hour emergency towing plus additional member benefits.

MAGAZINE

Members receive six issues per year of Pacific Yachting magazine, which includes Propwash, the Pacific Mainland District newsletter, containing news of other squadrons. (The other six issues are available at the special discounted rate of \$1.83 per issue).

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



REPLACEMENT CARDS

Members receive a discount on Pleasure Craft Operator Card and VHF card replacement.

SQUADRON DISCOUNTS

Get a free **Courtesy Check** to ensure you have the required equipment on board.
Contact your Squadron for details.

Squadrons offer discounts on *selected courses*.
For more information contact your Squadron.

BOATING EQUIPMENT

Save on boating equipment from premier manufacturers:

- **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**.
- SALUS Stock items only (until stock ends)
- **50% off CPS-ECP logo PFD**

DISCOUNTS

- Save 50% **Boat U.S.** Membership
- Save 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
- Save 10% with **National Car Rental** (Canada) Affinity and Association Benefits Program
- Save 10% on the **Online Rope Store**

OTHER BENEFITS

- Regular notification of Squadron activities by email and by phone.
- The annual Roster, which lists all CPS members in Pacific Mainland District, including a listing by boat name.
- The opportunities to further expand your boating knowledge through CPS advanced and elective courses, and to pass on your knowledge through proctoring or lecturing.
- The right to vote and to hold office on the bridge.
- The right to fly the CPS flag. (Police and Coast Guard recognize the CPS flag as meaning the vessel has a knowledgeable skipper).
- The opportunity to make new boating friends and have fun at various squadrons' social events and cruises
- The pride of belonging to a world-class boating organization.

Contact Jeannie Jimenez 604-436-2592 if you need to re-instate your membership.

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



RCS Bridge 2015

Commander:

Glen Blake 604-525-1751

Webmaster:

Leisa Blake 604-444-2684

Secretary:

Eleanor Hashimoto 604-522-3448

Membership:

Jeannie Jimenez 604-436-2592

Past Commander:

Don Swindells 604-720-5170

Treasurer:

Barbara Blake 604-525-1751

Training Officer:

Glen Blake 604-525-1751

Instructors:

John Neilson 604-524-8402

Erik Skovgaard 604-803-3547

Social:

Marie Lortie 604-521-2047

Communications & Phone:

Rita Araki 604-520-0628

Port Captain & Historian:

Harold Wright 604-522-1012

Supply Officer:

David Witham 604-420-2924

The **Mainsheet** is the official newsletter of the Royal City Power and Sail Squadron. It is written by and for its members

Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons(CPS) is a nationwide association of boating enthusiasts, dedicated to improving boating safety through training.

Each year, CPS members teach a variety of courses to concerned boaters in the general public across Canada. CPS is well known for its [Boating Basics](#), which is the primary course offered to the public. The Boating Course is just one of the many [courses](#) offered by Royal City Squadron.

Royal City Squadron

The Mainsheet



PRE-CHRISTMAS BLOW-OUT SALE AT OCTOBER 29TH SOCIAL ALL RCPSS LOGOED CLOTHING (Coal Harbour label)

Golf Shirts for men & women
Red Fleece Blanket (1 left)

Was \$30.00
Was \$20.00

SALE PRICE \$20.00 each
SALE PRICE \$10.00



Royal City Squadron