

From: Bluenose Squadron Executive Team jimpeerless9@gmail.com
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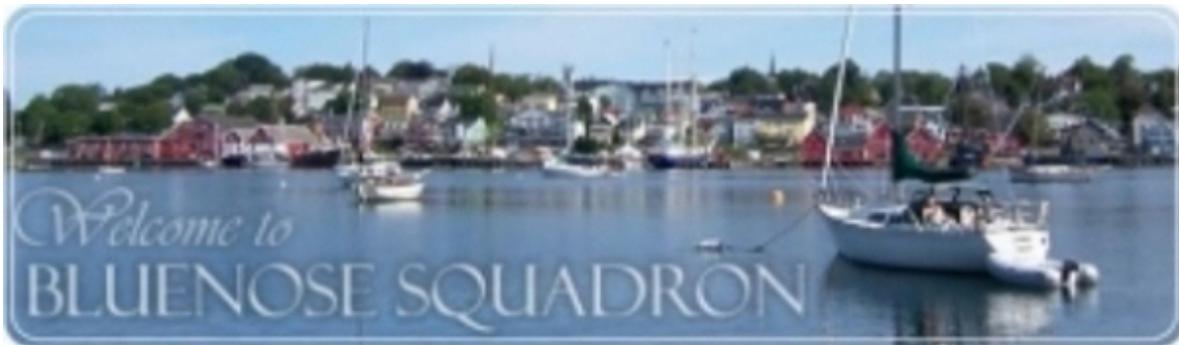
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Serving Western Nova Scotia

Bluenose

Fall 2020 Squadron Newsletter

- Issued October 10, 2020 -



**Canadian Power & Sail:
Over 80 years of service!**

**Bluenose Squadron:
Over 45 years of service!**





What Our Officers are Saying:

Commander, Laura Webber

Please see Laura's comments in 'Commander's Corner' below.

Education Officer, Bob Rutherford

Things have been slow on the Education front lately. A perfect storm came together with our successes in past years resulting in a low tide of course candidates, the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions cancelling all our classroom activities, and too few instructors to go forward with a coherent program. All this then met up with an initiative to run a training program at the District Level. Slowly but surely that is now taking shape. Our own Boating 7 class will start up in February 2021, as will a Boating 4 course run by Alderney Squadron with participation by our instructors Marcel Simard and Allen Bishop. A Boating 2 & 3 Combined course is being considered for a start in the near future. Finally, interest is picking up on the VHF Radio Course which will keep Dan White busy. We are getting comfortable with course delivery online which may well become our norm in the future. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find a full description of our courses. Please take a moment to read up on them and reflect for a moment how we can help you, whether you are just starting out, coming back to the water after a long absence, or just needing to sharpen a skill or two. We stand ready to help in any way we can.

[Bob](#)

Membership Officer, Jim McMillan

The Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons (CPS-ECP) maintains membership information by offering online access to all members at www.cps-ecp.ca.

Each member has a unique username (their e-mail address) and a password.

- if a password is forgotten for the CPS-ECP member login, one can request a “reset your password” email to be sent to the e-mail address saved in the profile.
When you receive the e-mail, follow the link within that e-mail to set a new password for your profile,
- successful login is confirmed when the ‘Primary’ member’s first name appears at the upper right on the main homepage after logging in.
- to start the membership renewal process online, select ‘Membership Renewal’ under the drop-down menu that appears on the CPS-ECP main page near the left side when hovering the cursor over ‘Membership’.

There are two types of members: ‘Primary’ and ‘Family’. A family consists of a ‘Primary’ member plus one or more ‘Family’ members. Here are some important details for family members:

- all members in a family must have unique e-addresses,
- all members in a family must have the same residential address,
- one person in a family will be the ‘Primary’ member who applies for/creates the family membership, and who is responsible for maintaining the family membership when it is time for renewal,
- to create or renew the family membership, the ‘Primary’ member needs to log in to her/his online profile,

As of today, September 28, our Bluenose Power and Sail Squadron has 62 members. Of those members there are 51 Primary members and 11 Family members. I recently (August 27) sent an e-mail message to all members. The message was designed to verify member’s information on file with CPS-ECP. I heard back for 29 members and, of those, most of the information was accurate. Good news! The not so good news is that we have a high proportion of expired memberships. Please renew when you have a chance.

The CPS-ECP has updated its online system and there have been a few challenges. Occasionally a member may notice information that appears to be inaccurate. If that is the case for you, if you are having difficulty logging in, or any questions at all, please send me an e-mail message. I will try to help.

[Jim](#)

PR Officer, Bruce Kelley

Being new to the Public Relations (PR) role in the Bluenose Squadron, which I understand also has some marketing responsibilities will have its challenges. I have

had advertising and promotional roles as well as marketing and strategy roles in other organizations during my working career, however, that was before social media was one of the key ways to reach an audience. Communication principles haven't changed significantly but the delivery of the communication strategy sure has changed over the last several years.

CPS is, itself, going through some major changes and at the provincial and squadron level we need to understand how those changes will impact our Squadron. On top of that there is the impact of COVID-19 which has turned everything on its ear, especially the delivery of courses and other in person activities like our safety audits.

All that said: my plan over the fall and winter is to develop a marketing and communication plan that we can execute in the spring and summer of next year. In order to build a relevant plan, member input is crucial. I would be happy to hear from any members about their ideas and issues related to marketing and communications. Also, if anyone has some experience and knowledge related to social media and would like to assist me I would be pleased to have a discussion with you. Thanks.

[Bruce](#)

RVCC Officer, Marcel Simard

There is nothing to report since CPS-ECP National has decreed that recreational vessel courtesy checks should not be done during the pandemic states of emergency.

[Marcel](#)

We interrupt the newsletter for this questionable photo: Many would say that our Bluenose Members are normally smart optimistic people. Assuming that this photo is for real, the people towing this boat are certainly optimistic if not a little short of *Smart*. Makes you want to be there to see the launch doesn't it? Would be a good chance to record some 'fail' video!





Now, back to our regularly scheduled Squadron Newsletter...

Secretary, Newsletter & Microsite, Jim Peerless

I hope you enjoy these newsletters in which we try to provide useful and timely information with a little humour thrown in. I know that at least half of our members are frustrated with the renewal process and the new IT system in general that has been laid upon all of us by CPS-ECP National. Can't say that I blame them at all for that! Some are even refusing to use the new online renewal and features. All squadrons are experiencing similar reactions to their handling and imposition of the new IT system. I think that, if they ever get the IT issues corrected, the system will be pretty decent. I just want to remind everyone that your 'Bridge' is comprised of volunteers who give of their time and energies to keep Bluenose Squadron functioning here at home in western Nova Scotia. They want to be part of a dedicated group of volunteers who care about boating safety. If possible, please put your frustrations with the new system aside and continue to support your executive (the Bridge) wherever you can. Thank you for your continued support!

Jim

Help to keep our Squadron healthy! You can do so by forwarding this newsletter to anyone interested in adding to their boating knowledge.

Now here is another good reason to keep an eye on your moored vessel!



Canadian Power & Sail Free Monthly Webinar Series

Celestial Navigation in a Nutshell

This seminar on this traditional and reliable offshore navigation method, was written by a skilled navigator, for the boater who wants to do some serious offshore cruising, maybe even challenge a transoceanic crossing, and needs a Plan B to back up his electronic navigation equipment. While by no means a full celestial navigation course, this is an excellent introduction to the two celestial navigation courses offered by Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, and covers all the basics.

Please register for Celestial Navigation in a Nutshell on Oct 14, 2020 8:00 PM EDT at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1256696017928636687>

Tropical Weather for The Winter Boater

Many boaters like to spend all or part of their winters sailing in tropical waters, and no doubt wonder what sort of weather they might encounter. The meteorology behind winter weather in the Tropical Zone is very much different from that which we experience here in the mid-latitudes. This seminar gives us a quick review of mid-latitude weather, and then explains the differences that we would find in the tropics, and why they are different.

Please register for Tropical Weather for The Winter Boater on Nov 11, 2020 8:00 PM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2008965380978722319>

Tides and Currents

Anyone who does all or most of their boating on our oceans, must have an intimate knowledge of the natural cycles of the tides, and the sometimes dangerous currents they can generate. This seminar cannot cover every detail of tides and currents, but is an overview of tidal basics and is an excellent primer for the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons courses, Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 1 and Level 2. Inland waters, such as the Great Lakes do not experience tides, but there is a short section in the seminar dedicated to the "seiche," a natural, irregular phenomenon, that causes tide-like changes in water levels in these waters.

Please register for Tides and Currents on Dec 9, 2020 8:00 PM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/670555165254500367>

Note: Registration includes receiving a link to the recording of the Webinar (viewable for 1 month) and the ePub of the seminar, whether you are able to attend or are prevented from attending (Webinar is full or you are unavailable).



Boating Education is our thing; Benefit from our courses!

Just getting started? We have just the course for you. **Boating 1** will get you out on the water with your **Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC)**. Every boat operator must have a **PCOC** by law. Don't leave the dock without it.

Want to do it safely, smoothly, and properly? We have a pair of courses that do just that. **Boating 2 and 3** are full of useful information on all aspects to enrich your boating experience and keep you safe while out there on the water and get you back home again.

Got a VHF radio on board? Or perhaps Santa left one under the tree last Christmas? The law requires anyone operating a Maritime Radio to have a **Restricted Operator Certificate (Maritime) (ROC(M))**. Our **Maritime Radio** course covers this particularly useful communication system to ensure safety and security on the water.

Planning on doing some coastal cruising? Polish up on your chartwork and navigation skills with our **Boating 4 and 5** courses. These courses are designed to progressively cover the science and the art of navigation in the coastal environment.

Thinking of going offshore? Perhaps even crossing an ocean or two?

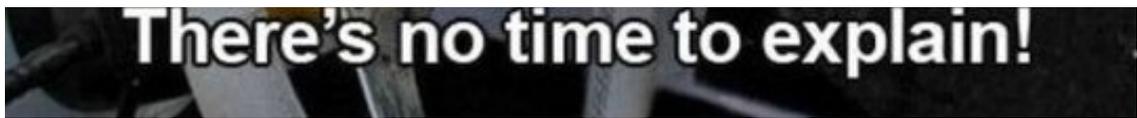
Our senior pair of courses **Boating 6 and 7** cover the things you need to know before you go. In addition to discussing the plethora of electronics available to the offshore navigator, we teach the use of the sextant to determine your position by sun, moon, planets and the stars.

Course Delivery Our preferred method of delivery is face-to-face in a classroom, but for the foreseeable future, we must rely on courses delivered on-line, or for some courses, we have a self-study option with tutorial assistance. Please contact the undersigned to discuss your educational requirements, and how we can best meet them.

Squadron Educational Officer

Bob Rutherford at 902-440-0312 or at <bobpatch69@gmail.com>





For the convenience of readers, here again is the current list of CPS-ECP courses:

Required certification courses:

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

Boating 1 - Boating Basics (Pleasure Craft Operator Card known as 'PCOC')

Boating Series Courses:

Boating 2 - Beyond Boating Basics

Boating 3 - Introduction to Marine Navigation

Boating 4 - Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 1

Boating 5 - Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 2

Boating 6 - Offshore Marine Navigation Level 1

Boating 7 - Offshore Marine Navigation Level 2

Elective Courses:

Electronic Marine Navigation

Radar for Boaters

Boat and Engine Maintenance

Extended Cruising (Living on a Boat)

Sailing

Introduction to Weather for Recreational Boaters

The more knowledge you have, the more enjoyable boating becomes.

Be advised that CPS-ECP National is starting to list courses in their 'course catalogue' that are done online. Such courses will connect you with an instructor/mentor who will help you work your way through the syllabus. These online versions of our core courses are quite useful during these COVID times and for people who cannot attend the classroom versions either for reasons of their location or time available. Our Squadron receives some of the fees paid by students if our instructor(s) are involved.

QUIZ TIME



Which of the following phrases is incorrect usage on the VHF Radio?

1. "Over and Out."
2. "Do you read me?"
3. "Seagull calling Calyso, come in Calypso."
4. "Can anyone give me a radio check? Over."
5. All of the above are incorrect.

And a piloting question:

A _____ is when two charted objects create a line of position that can be used for navigation.

The correct answers can be found at the end of this newsletter. Look for this



ship's wheel:



Commander's Corner

This has been quite a year to



This has been quite a year to rejoin our Bluenose executive. *Fantastic* because of the other two new Bridge members; they have great backgrounds, expertise and ideas. *Difficult* because of the slowdown and restrictions of COVID 19. Also the difficulties that you are probably tired of hearing about with the new IT system that National is STILL trying to implement. I guess with only a small paid staff and a huge national organization to overhaul, it will take a while.

Fingers crossed that the outcome is streamlined, user friendly and relevant!

My part so far has been to learn what I can as it comes down the pike and liaison with those doing the work. If you want to contact CPS-ECP for any reason I will be pleased to hear from you.

[Laura Webber](#)



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Changed your email lately? Acquiring a new email address? Please send details to reduce mailing costs and speed communications to your newsletter editor:

jimpeerless9@gmail.com

Note: Please delete any other old email addresses that you might have for our secretary, Jim Peerless i.e. jimpeerless@outlook.com; bluenosesquadron@outlook.com; foxhill@ns.sympatico.ca

Thanks!

Boating Made Safer: There's an App for That!

A new App for setting up a *sail plan* was introduced this year. Have a look at what it offers at www.sailingplan.ca or find the Sailing (Float) Plan app at your iStore. Looks like the creators have tried to make the App very easy to use and that it will enhance boater safety significantly if used. They say that it is "Canada's only automated sailing plan app for small vessel safety."

[Click here for a short video about this app](#)



Taken from their website: "The Sailing Plan small vessel safety app is a fast and easy-to-use tool for creating, filing and sharing sailing plans before heading out on the water. Our unique Automated Escalation System is activated immediately and forwards all sailing plan details to the appropriate contacts - set by the captain. Captains keep their passengers safer any using the app, by managing their outings and keeping emergency contacts informed. The app escalates overdue plans from the server - not the app - so the right people are notified - at the right time - every time. As long as the subscription is active - The Sailing Plan (tm) layers rich, detailed information on any voyage, becoming a retrievable log."

Please note that Bluenose Squadron has no affiliation with the creators of this app but merely feel it is something worth knowing about when it comes to enhanced boating safety.

The Meaning of Membership for CPS-ECP Members

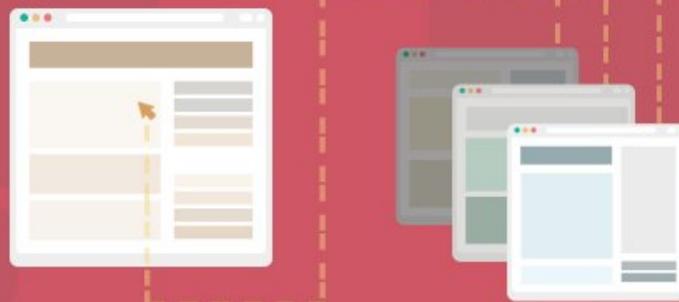
For a comprehensive listing of the many discounts and benefits available to Bluenose Members please click here: [member-benefits](#)

[MEMBER BENEFITS CUSTOMER CODES](#)
(to access the above benefits)

Can be found on the same page as the benefits listed above
i.e. [member-benefits](#)



MICROSITES



Bluenose Squadron has a Microsite

What is a *microsite* anyway? Well, every squadron has one and they are located within the new web pages of CPS-ECP. These microsities consist of a number of information pages for each squadron.

Such things as contact info, executive lists, newsletters, etc. are maintained by the squadron 'webmasters'. I am no webmaster but I am learning how to change and keep our pages up to date. To view the Bluenose pages either click on the graphic above or else go to cps-ecp.ca and click on the CONTACT button. Squadron & District Locations, Province, NS, Show Location, Bluenose at a glance!

CONTACT button - Squadron & District Locations - Province - INS - Show Location - Bluenose et voila!

Jim Peerless, your Squadron *microsite* maintainer.



Bluenose Burgees available: \$30 taxes in. [Dan White](#) has a supply of them. Squadron patches too: \$12 taxes in.





You have reached the end of the Fall 2020 Newsletter. Comments and material for future editions always welcome. Please send them to jimpeerless9@gmail.com or any Executive (Bridge) Officer. Thank you.



The correct answer to the VHF Radio question is number 5. All of the above are incorrect. By the way, 'Over' means I have finished my transmission and expect a response, 'Out' means I have finished my transmission and don't expect a response--you can't both expect and not expect a response!

The correct answer to the piloting question is 'range' or 'transit'.

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