

DRY ROT

From the Commander

CAL TRAVER

FELLOW MEMBERS AND BOATERS EVERYWHERE:

There have been some changes in CPS recently, changes that the governing board hopes will make our organization seem more accessible than they feel it has been.

Both of the changes introduced are an attempt to reduce the formalities of CPS, one being the reduction in the number of uniforms and also an easing of the wearing of formal uniforms at various CPS events. This easement has already taken place. For example, at the first national AGM I attended the morning commanders' meeting saw everyone dressed in full regalia, dress blues, white shirt, CPS tie, and black shoes. Only five years later attendees wore denim shirts with no tie and casual footwear.

The other major change has to do with the elimination of the various rank designations that were indicative of the offices held within the local, district and national bridges.

In the past for instance the executive officer and the squadron training officers were Lt. Cdrs. and other officers were either 1st. Lt. or simply Lt

Now they will simply be known by their functions i.e. the training officer will be known as the training officer and the treasurer will be the treasurer, etc.

The only rank designation to remain is that of commander at local, district, and national offices.

These changes do not please everyone, and I admit to having some rueful musings about them but they are in place, and we will all strive to make them work for the betterment of CPS.

The Hamilton squadron has recently purchased informal regalia; shirts, turtle neck sweaters, and vests for starters, with a variety of

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To Register For Boating Classes

or for more information, please call:

HPS Hotline:

905-388-1227

or send us an e-mail at:

boating@hamiltonpowersquadron.ca

AGM NOTICE

HAMILTON: May 11, 2007

NIAGARA: April 18, 2007

**Check out our new apparel
see page 7 for details!**

...from the Commander

other items such as hats, fleece sweaters, and golf shirts that will soon be available.

The prices are great and the product is very good. The supplier guarantees complete satisfaction and will replace unsatisfactory products at no cost.

These items are available now but we have not yet set up the on line store where members will be able to order directly from the supplier.

We hope to get the Niagara District involved in the on line store so that all squadrons will be able to purchase the goods. There is a district meeting this week and a presentation will be made regarding this. If it is a go we will post the information on our website.

The squadron is close to the end of the instructional year with only about five weeks left in the boating and piloting classes which were both well attended; boating with 53 and piloting with 11. There will be a marine radio course with the DSC endorsement at Maccassa Bay Yacht Club on the March 31/07 starting at 0900. There are already over thirty registered so if you want to take it call Ed Conderan to get your name on the list.

The squadron bridge is losing some key people who carried out very important work for us.

Bonnie Hazell is our treasurer and prior to taking on that office she was the squadron secretary for

many years. Bonnie stayed on with us even though she and her husband Bill have not boated for several years. Bonnie served us well and we will really miss her.

We wish Bonnie and Bill all the best and hope one day they will return.

We are also losing our Asst. Training officer Ed Conderan who is involved with Habitat for Humanity and is also going to seek the presidency of the condominiums where he and his wife Debbie reside. We were hoping that Ed would be our next training officer but we wish him well in his new endeavours.

George Williamson is our membership officer and he also instructs our Boat Pro courses for those who want the PCO card. George has a new job, a new house, and a young family and doing both the Boat Pro and the membership is a too little much.

John Nydegger is also moving on, John was our membership officer and this last year he has been the Marep officer. John has been one of the proctors who mark the boating students' homework for the last two years and we are going to miss him too.

The next person who should leave is me. But I may not be able to do so unless someone steps forward. I have been commander for one more year than the usual two year term and it has been adroitly pointed out that I should go.

I have approached a long time

member who was an officer of the bridge some time ago and hopefully he will agree to be the new commander so cross your fingers.

In the past we have made pleas to the members via Dry Rot to become active on the bridge but I believe we have not been very good at informing those who may be interested of what their involvement would mean to them.

There are meetings once a month except June and July. The meetings start at 1900 and are usually over by a little after 2100. The August meeting is typically about 45 minutes of business then we have a Bar-B-Q and socialize. Boy, do we socialize!

Depending on the office held there is a little work to do on behalf of the squadron that one does at home.

The training officer has by far the greatest work load; scheduling courses, obtaining instructors and proctors and that is why there is and asst. training officer.

The treasurer has only one busy time of the year and that is at registration when students bring payment for the courses. Other than that the treasurer should not have to do more than about 30 minutes at home per month.

The membership officer keeps the squadron records and enters into the list new members, members who move, facilitates transfers of members in and out of the squadron etc, etc.

The Marep officer's responsibility

is to report to the Coast Guard or to the hydrographic service any changes to aids to navigation or any hazards that may appear.

There is a progression of sorts through the various offices. I became commander after only four years on the bridge. Not everyone aspires to be commander which I have always thought strange. I have had the honour and the privilege of being commander of one of the original squadrons in Canada. I believe there are only three or maybe four that are older.

I have represented Hamilton at three national annual general meetings, one in Toronto, one in Winnipeg, and last year in Vancouver and those were wonderful experiences that were made available to me just for being a volunteer like the other bridge officers.

But the best of all is what we do in the classrooms. We are dedicated to making recreational boating better and safer for everyone and my own personal satisfaction is derived from helping the students who are having a bit of a struggle; "kindred spirits of mine".

There is a good feeling to be had for contributing time to further our purpose. The pay is lousy but it's a great job and we do make a difference.

We need a treasurer, a membership officer, an assistant. training officer, a Marep officer and a commander.

Come aboard. We are good crew and we are going right far.

PAINT FOR SAIL & POWER

Amount	Size	Manufacturer	Description
13 cans	1/2pints	Interlux	Poly-blue
64	1/2 pints	Interlux	Yacht enamel-black
8	1/2 pints	Woodmate	Gloss finish-teak
6	pints	Interlux	Trowel cement
48	pints	Interlux	Brightside poly seattle-gray
6	pints	Petit	Seam compound-white
9	pints	Epiglass	HT901 epoxy solvent
5	quarts	Interlux	Multithane primer (2 part)
2	quarts	Interlux	Topside-white
1	quart	Interlux	Poly-oregon buff
6	quarts	Interlux	Aluminum
2	quarts	Interlux	Burgundy
101	quarts	Interlux	Brightside poly-teal
6	quarts	Woolseys	Clearglass spar wood finish
24	quarts	Interlux	VC liquid speed
1	quart	Interlux	Uva liquid laminate clear
40	quarts	Ferrocon	Primer procoating
2	quarts	Interlux	Anti fouling reducer
1	quart	Sikkens	Oplosser dissovant
5	350 mg		Vinyl seat & fender spray
11	350 mg		Battery terminal cleaner spray
22	350 mg		Clean coat varnish spray

Prices

Quarts	Pints	1/2 Pints	Spray cans
\$ 5.00	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.50

Contact: KAN-BRO

New and Used Boating Supplies

Barry at (905) 689-5730 Or Ralph at (905) 689-0242

E-mail rkessler@cogeco.ca

Thanks to Des Wood for his informative report and talking about “The Big Splash” coming soon. I must commend Des and his Proctor’s approach to teaching the Boating Class. Rather than cramming the chart work later on in the course, they have introduced it earlier. Judging by the questions and the general buzz, this method seems to be working well. Another simple idea is setting up a table, allowing students to practice their knots, ably assisted by Marney Warby.

The Cider night at the Boating Class was a great way for students to communicate with the Bridge members. Students got a chance to meet those behind the scenes and get some sense of the organization required to put on our courses.

The Pizza and Wing Night at Macassa Bay Yacht Club was a blast. There were over 116 people signed in to partake of the great grub, libation, conversation and the enjoyable presentation put on by Les Armstrong and Hugh McCully. The pictures of Georgian Bay and the North Channel certainly got me revved up and looking forward to another summer there. Thanks to Ruth Lewis and her team of helpers for a most enjoyable evening.

On reviewing Debby Conderan’s article, it reminded me of when I was a neophyte in boating. Debby mentioned that she will be using her charts for a long time; very wise indeed. After a grounding incident many years ago in the Bahamas, I resolved never again to move a vessel in unfamiliar waters without consulting the appropriate charts. Debby has seized this lesson early in her sailing career. Thanks Debby for your honest observations. A sign of maturity is to recognize one’s short comings, then take remedial action. Boating is a constant learning experience. We can all benefit by taking more courses, or a refresher course, or better yet, share your knowledge by helping out at our classes or on the Bridge.

Ron Hayward’s forthright article in the last Issue of Dry Rot was most appreciated. Ron’s easy manner in describing his and his wife’s experiences on the water



Above: Cider Night with Winter Students

Below: Pizza Night & Great Lakes Presentation



and the complimentary words about the training he received in our classes is a nice perk for all of us volunteers at HPS. A bit of advice I might pass on to Ron: When maneuvering near large ships, remember “Might Is Right”! Thanks again Ron.

This is the last Dry Rot until September. I wish all students success in their courses. To everyone, have a safe summer on or beside the water.

—Mike Kott

To the Members, Hamilton Power and Sail Squadron:

TAKE NOTICE: that the Annual General Meeting of the Hamilton Power and Sail Squadron will be held at Macassa Bay Yacht Club, Friday, May 11, 2007 at 2030 for the purpose of:

- receiving and, if thought fit, approving the reports of the Officers of the Squadron
- receiving and, if thought fit, approving the Financial Statements of the Squadron for the twelve month period ended March 31, 2007, and the report of the Squadron Auditor thereon;
- considering and, if thought fit, adopting any resolutions that may be submitted
- electing the Officers of the Squadron
- appointing the Squadron Auditor
- considering such further and other business as may properly come before the Meeting.

Under Squadron Regulation 12.1, any further nominations must be made by way of a petition in writing signed by not less than five (5) members of this Squadron who shall confirm the consent of their nominee to stand for election. The petition must be filed with the Squadron Secretary not less than two (2) days prior to the date of this meeting

Dated this 22th day of March, 2007

Debby Conderan
(signature on file)
Squadron Secretary

The Hamilton Power and Sail Squadron Nominating Committee Nominates the Following Members for Squadron Officers for 2007-2008

Squadron Commander	Cdr Cal Traver
Immediate Commander	P/C Richard Crook
Executive Officer	Vicky Grimshaw
Training Officer	Des Wood
Assist Training Officer	(Vacant)
Secretary	Debby Conderan
Treasurer	(Vacant)
Membership Officer	(Vacant)
Public Relations Officer	Vicky Grimshaw
MAREP/Environ Officer	(Vacant)
Supply Officer	P/R/C Ron Warby
Entertainment Officer	Ruth Lewis
Communication Officer	(Vacant)
Editor Dry Rot	Mike Kott
By Laws & Protocol	P/R/C Marney Warby
Historian	P/V/C Ralph Probert
Regalia Officer	P/R/C Marney Warby
Boat Pro Co-ordinator	George Williamson
Port Captain Hamilton	P/C Murray Thompson
Auditor	Frank Lauinger
Halton Police Serv Liaison Officer	Rob Garland

Report of Nominating Committee

Hamilton Power & Sail Squadron

1) The Squadron Nominating Committee nominates the following Members for election as Squadron Officers for 2007/2008.

Commander (Cdr)	Cal Traver	Copetown, ON	905-628-0645
Executive Officer	Vicky Grimshaw	Copetown, ON	905-628-0645
Training Officer	Des Wood	Ancaster, ON	905-304-5136
Asst. Training Officer	TBA		
Secretary	Debby Conderan	Stoney Creek, ON	905-643-0499
Treasurer	TBA		
Membership Officer	TBA		
Public Relations Officer	Vicky Grimshaw	Copetown, ON	905-628-0645
MAREP/Enviro Officer	TBA		
Supply Officer	Ron Warby	Hamilton, ON	905-389-5719

2) The Squadron Nominating Committee also nominates the following Members for election as Squadron Officers, who, if elected, will have the duties indicated next to their names assigned to them by the Squadron Executive Committee pursuant to Squadron Regulation 6.2.1. (d):

Communications Officer	TBA		
Entertainment Officer	Ruth Lewis	Hamilton, ON	905-317-3453
Regalia Officer	Marney Warby	Hamilton, ON	905-389-5719
By-Laws & Protocol	Marney Warby	Hamilton, ON	905-389-5719
Boat Proficiency Officer	George Williamson	Burlington, ON	905-592-1107
Historian	Ralph Probert	Burlington, ON	905-637-8726
Port Captain	Murray Thompson	Burlington, ON	905-681-8641

Respectfully submitted,

P/C Rick Crook JN

P/C Hank Brunnader N

Cdr Cal Traver P

3) The Squadron Nominating Committee also nominates the following Member for appointment by the Members as Auditor of the Squadron:

_____ Frank Lauinger	Hamilton, ON	905-522-6530
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4) The Squadron Nominating Committee also advises that:

a) The following Member will serve on the Squadron Executive Committee by virtue of his position as Immediate Past Commander, and does not require election or appointment:

_____ P/Cdr Rick Crook	Hamilton, ON	905-627-8954
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b) Pursuant to Squadron Regulation 9.14.1, the following Members will serve on the Squadron Nominating Committee for 2007/2008 by virtue of their appointment and do not require election or appointment:

P/C Rick Crook
P/C Hank Brunnader
Cdr Cal Traver

Notice to Members:

HPS Apparel

We have been working with a great supplier which carries an excellent product. Recently, we purchased shirts for our officers, instructors & proctors.

As spring approaches we would like to give you the opportunity to purchase shirts, sweatshirts, polo/golf shirts. We will be placing an order by April 16, 2007, so we would need your order by then. Delivery of the shirts will be by May 11, 2007 and available for pickup at the AGM. Other arrangements can be made for easy pickup if you are not attending the AGM.

Here are the details, prices include taxes:

Polo/Golf shirt with logo **\$27.50**
(S-XL)

EZ Care (poly/cotton blend) (\$33.50 2XL-4XL)

Men's Sizes

S-4XL

Women's Sizes

S-4XL

Available Colours:

French Blue, White, Red, Navy, Stone, Butter Yellow

Sueded Fleece 1/4 Zip Sweatshirt

Unisex Sizes

S- XL \$ 54.50

2XL - 5XL \$ 59.50

(superior quality: 80% cotton 20% polyester)

Available Colours:

Sand, Navy, Hunter Green, Black

Long-Sleeve Dress shirt with logo **\$42.00**
(S-XL)

EZ Care (poly/cotton blend) (\$47.00 2XL-4XL)

Men's Sizes

S-4XL

Women's Sizes

S-4XL - Fitted, women's cut

Available Colours:

White, Navy, Red, Tan

Crewneck Sweatshirt (Roundneck)

Men's or Women's Sizes

S-XL \$ 28.50

Men's or Women's Sizes

2XL \$ 33.50

80% cotton 20% polyester

Available Colours:

Red, Navy, Hunter Green, White, Sand



HAMILTON
Shirts will have 'Hamilton' embroidered just below this logo in a colour to compliment the colour of shirt.

Please call Vicky Grimshaw to place order.

Call 905-628-0645 for more details on ordering.

Please note that more HPS apparel will be available shortly **with an on-line purchase through our website!**

Payment will be required upon ordering.

Pickup will on May 11/07 at MBYC

Spring 2007, has sprung and so have HPS Upcoming events,
Mark your calendar's NOW

**HPS Breakfast Buffet/
 Patio Sale** April 22, 2007
 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
 Fisher's Pier 4 Restaurant,
 554 James St. N., Hamilton
Cost \$8.00
 Corner of Wood St.
 Members can bring used boating items for sale or swap. Time to
 clear out those lockers! Come and join us while someone else cooks
 the eggs, bacon, pancakes. Lots of good fun!!!
RSVP by Apr 19/07 - 905-628-0645
or e-mail ruthmlewis@sympatico.ca

RSVP by May 04/07 to 905-628-0645
or e-mail ruthmlewis@sympatico.ca
Safe Boating May 19-25, 2007
Awareness Week
 watch the Hamilton Spectator for more information.

RHYC & HPS Sailpast June 02/2007
 Saturday at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club Come and join in,
 either at the Yacht Club or by boat.

HPS Graduation/AGM May 11, 2007
Cost \$ 20.00
 Macassa Bay Yacht Club,
 80 Harbour Ft., Hamilton
 (No charge for AGM only)
 (beside Bay Front Park, limited seating) CASH BAR
 Dinner Buffet – 6:30 pm, Graduation Ceremony – 7:30 pm,
 AGM – 8:30 pm

HPS Annual Christmas Nov 23/07
Dinner/Dance Cost \$25.00/person
 Marquis Gardens CASH BAR
 1050 Rymal Rd E, Hamilton
 Book early and dance the night away.
 Cocktails – 6:30 pm, Dinner – 7:15 pm

**Courses
 being
 offered:**



COURSE TITLE	DATES & TIMES	FEES	LOCATION / HOW TO REGISTER
VHF Course <i>(Maritime Radio)</i>	March 31/07 9:00 am to 4:00 pm	\$ 75.00 (complete with manual & CD) \$ 40.00 DCS endorsement only	Macassa Bay Yacht Club Please call Des to pre-register at 905-388-1227 or 905-304-5136
Boat Pro <i>(1 day seminar)</i>	April 15/07 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	\$ 75.00 (\$65.00 for spouse/family member) This course is for the pleasure craft operators card.	Canada Marine Discovery Centre Please call Des to pre-register at 905-388-1227 or 905-304-5136
Navigating with GPS <i>(complete with a manual & CD)</i>	This course will be offered at a later date.	TBA	Location TBA Contact Des for more information, or check our website at www.hamiltonpowersquadron.ca

The Other Side of the Bay

Moving from Mississauga to Hamilton a year and a half ago was very disconcerting. I knew my way throughout all of Mississauga and much of Toronto. I knew that south was the lake, and I could always orient myself knowing that. But now I live in Stoney Creek at Fruitland. I live right on the water. Water is south. Not any more and that has created a problem for me. For the first year I didn't go anywhere without a map (not a chart, a map!) I had the worst time remembering that the lake was now north. There weren't so many problems with east and west, but that north/south thing was hard for me.

Because we live right on the lake, of course we had to get a boat. Ed, my husband, had always wanted to sail, so it seemed like the perfect opportunity. Last year we heard about the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron and thought it would be good for us to take the course. And it was good for us, in the long run. But those twelve weeks were overwhelming for me. Not only was the course material new to me, but at that time we hadn't yet bought a boat, so I was a "boating virgin" in every way.

The course instructors and proctors seemed to be very nice people, but they spoke a strange language. It took me weeks to figure out just how big an 8 - 12 metre boat really is. And then of course, it has specific lights on it for different purposes! However, I hung in there. I learned a map is called a chart; I learned the different beacons and buoys; I learned the best way to take a boat out and bring it back to the dock.

(Ed learned that lesson the hard way, but that's a whole other story).

Then came charting. There was a little plastic compass that was supposed to help me find direction. I couldn't find north or south on land so I was really a mess on water. And added to finding north, there is variation and deviation. A few of us had to have extra tutorials from Commander Cal to clear up the mess our brains were in. And finally it sunk in. I could chart!

We were asked to serve on the Bridge (it's the organizing committee, but doesn't Bridge sound better?) Ed is the Assistant Training Officer and I am the secretary. We also come out to proctor for the Monday night classes, and soon we will try teaching one of the lessons. We are having fun. BUT, I found out that I have forgotten a lot that I learned last year. There are so many things I learned that I have to put into practice this summer on our boat. It's a 25 foot O'Day - I have no idea how many metres that is. But I'm looking forward to it, armed with the knowledge I got from CPS.

I'm to the point now where I can get myself to the local malls and back; in and out of the harbour at Newport; to Bridge meeting at Macassa Bay and Westdale for classes. I don't use a map anymore, but I will continue to use charts for a long time. However, when people talk about James Street North, I still want to head up the mountain.

—Debby Conderan

Fellow Members, A Note from the Editor:

We appreciate your articles, comments and pictures. We are trying to publish our Dryrot newsletter four times a year. Therefore the next cutoff date for

submission is Aug 23, 2007. Please e-mail your articles, etc. to **mike.kott@hwc.org** We look forward to hearing of your adventures over the boating season.



Training Activities 2007

Des. Wood, Training HPSS

We are just about nearing the mid-way mark in our 2007 Training Season and hopefully through the nastiest part of the winter. If not already here, the milder weather is heading our way and getting out to Westdale on Monday evenings will be a much more pleasant experience. Further, the thoughts of spring and getting the boats ready for the 'Big Splash' is just around the corner. The excitement and anticipation is beginning to BUILD!

For the Boating class of '07 this will mean putting into practice all the great stuff they have learned throughout this past winter.

As mentioned in the last *Dry Rot*, we are quite pleased with results of the registration efforts, particularly for Boating. Our current enrollment for the Boating course now stands at 53 students (due to some late registrations) and 9 for Piloting.

The good news is that student enthusiasm, participation and interaction seems to be quite high. This may be due in part to the increased time spent on chart work and the ongoing participation of the proctors involved in this process.

A date has been set for the first VHF course. It will be held at Macassa Bay YC Sunday March, 31. We are scheduling an 0900 start time because of the time required to complete both the VHF and the Digital Selective Calling (DSC) components of the course.

It would appear that this course will be quite heavily subscribed and a date will be set for another session.

Arrangements have been made with the Marine Discovery Center to have our one day Boat-Pro course there on Sunday March 18th. This particular session is quite well subscribed with a possibility of 12 to 15 students in attendance.

Because of last minute cancellations and the low

subscription rate for the February PCOC Training the session was not held. Most of the students have been rescheduled for the March session.

Again, this venue has proven to be an excellent environment for this type of training and a great place to promote CPS and the Hamilton Power Squadron in particular. Further, both the administration and staff at the Center have proven to be very cooperative and supportive of our efforts.

Just as a reminder to Squadron members who have boating family members and friends who do not have their Pleasure Craft Operators Card (PCOC) as yet. We strongly recommend that you encourage them to contact us to register for this or one of the other courses that we will be offering this year. Keep in mind that the PCOC card is mandatory by September 2009. It's coming faster than you think!

Other courses planned for later in the year are VHF and possibly GPS. More on this later.

Now that spring and the new boating season is close aboard maybe you would be interested in brushing up on what's happening in the Squadron and your boating knowledge in general. What better way to accomplish this than to proctor or teach a particular section of the course. Thus, share with others your knowledge and experiences on the water or, docking and undocking for that matter!

If you are motivated along these lines in any way, please don't hesitate to give me a call or send me an email.

Call to register
Des Wood, 905-388-1227 or 905-304-5136
Or e-mail boating@hamiltonpowersquadron.ca



To: The Members of Niagara District

Report of the Niagara District Nominating Committee February 15, 2007

The District Nominating Committee nominates the following Members for election as District Officers for the year 2007/2008

Commander (D/C)	Darryl Lankin	Brantford, On	519 759 4475
Executive Officer (D/Lt/C)	Jim Brown	Campbellville, On	519 854 0693
Training Officer (D/Lt/C)	Garry VanZandt	Fort Erie, On	905 871 3628
Admin Officer (D/Lt/C)	Bill Allan	Kitchener, On	519 576 0749
Secretary (D/Lt)	TBA		
Treasurer (D/Lt)	Sharon Reeve	Wilsonville, On	519 443 6449
Public Relations (D/Lt)	TBA		
Marep Officer (D/Lt)	Diane Allan	Kitchener, On	519 576 0749
Membership (D/Lt)	Allan Shuh	Cambridge, On	519 249 0402

The District Nominating Committee also nominates the following for appointment by the Members as District Officers, with the rank of District Lieutenant, who, if elected, will have the duties indicated next to their name assigned to them by the District Executive Committee pursuant to District Regulation 10.2 (b)

Electronic Comm (D/Lt)	Donna Lankin	Brantford, On	519 759 4475
Youth Officer (D/Lt)	Brian Elder	Simcoe, On	519 426 0478
Port Captain (D/Lt)	Jennifer Neustaedter	St. Catharines, On	905 641 1491
Environment (D/Lt)	Adrian Dwyer	Waterloo, On	519 747 3895
Instructional Techniques (D/Lt)	Ken Budd	Guelph, On	519 654 3481
District 6 Liaison (D/Lt)	Jeff Eggleton	Fort Erie, On	905 871 4111
Bylaws and Protocol (D/Lt)	Brian Elder	Simcoe, On	519 426 0478
Historian (D/Lt)	Les Armstrong	Burlington, On	905 637 2270
Flag Officer (D/Lt)	Percy Brown	Hamilton, On	905 544 5070
Asst DTO West Region (D/Lt)	Bruce Holden	Guelph, On	519 836 7178
Asst DTO Mid Region (D/Lt)	Percy Brown	Hamilton, On	905 544 5070

The Nominating Committee also nominates the following for appointment by the Members as Auditor of the District.

Auditor	Pat Faux	Ancaster, On	905 304 7757
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The District Nominating Committee also advises that:


a) the following Member will serve on the District Executive Committee and the District Council by virtue of his position as Immediate Past District Commander and does not require election or appointment:

Past District Commander	Sharon Reeve	Wilsonville, On	519 443 6449
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b) Pursuant to District Regulation 9.15.1, the following Members will serve on the District Nominating Committee for the year 2006-2007 by virtue of their position, and do not require election or appointment.

P/D/C (Chair)	Sharon Reeve	Wilsonville, On	519 443 6449
P/D/C	Les Armstrong	Burlington, On	905 637 2270
D/C	Darryl Lankin	Brantford, On	519 759 4475

Respectfully submitted,


P/D/C Sharon Reeve


P/D/C Les Armstrong


D/C Darryl Lankin

WEATHER EYE

How often do you hear around the marina, complaints or jokes regarding the inaccuracies and inadequacies of the weatherman? The weather did not turn bad as predicted, the lake without warning became windy and rough, or boats got hit with some unexpected squalls. Well, the problem may be more with the forecast being used and not with the forecaster at all.

Many boaters when considering heading out on the water for the day, turn on their radio or television at home and listen to the weather. This can be a critical and dangerous error to make. The weather forecast that is being broadcast is in fact a fairly general forecast for the local area on the land, not the water.

Seasoned sailor Peter Trueman was once quoted as saying "One of the problems that people have with the Great Lakes is that we call them lakes...We're talking about water surfaces of something like a quarter million kilometers-that's oceanic levels. If we thought of the Great Lakes as inland seas, we'd probably treat them with more respect."

This is an insightful and relevant observation. Would boaters listen to their favourite radio station to check the weather before heading out on the Gulf, or heading down the Eastern seaboard?

Environment Canada broadcasts continuous marine forecasts on the VHF, and the same information is available by telephone, faxes, weather radio as well as on their website. Hamilton Power and Sail Squadron has a direct link to this site.

The "plain language forecast" that is provided through all these means is exactly that, observations and synopsis for a 24 hour period (but constantly updated as needed) using basic phrasing and terminology that we are all familiar with. The weather information covers not only all the Great Lakes, but breaks the lakes down to regions. Information given includes temperatures, visibility, wind speed and direction, precipitation, wave heights and warnings if required.



But a much more accurate and detailed forecast that is very simple to use but seldom understood or utilized by recreational boaters is the MAFOR code that is given after each plain language forecast.

The MAFOR code is a series of numbers that breaks down the forecast to more precise time frames, wind shifts, wind speeds, wave heights and forecast weather. My experience has been, that not only is this forecast incredibly accurate and trustworthy, but so precise that there have been times that forecast shifts or changes have occurred within minutes of the predicted time.

The MAFOR breakdown is available from Environment Canada, as well as numerous web pages that can be found by doing a quick internet search. All one has to do is write down the numbers as they are given, then using a copy of the codes which can be easily kept handy check the forecast. Using a handheld VHF radio at home or going online are two easy ways of checking the forecast before heading down to the marina.

But the responsibility of the boater does not end there. All boaters should keep their VHF radio on while they are out on the water in order to be aware of any significant changes in the forecast or any warnings to be heeded. As well, if the weather is moving from east to west, and you are boating on the western end of a lake, listen to the forecast for the eastern side as well to give yourself advanced warning as to what is headed your way.

Bear in mind that marine forecasting is based on data gathered from the middle of the lake as well as ship's observations, and that local conditions may vary slightly due to topography etc. if you are boating near shore.

Here are 6 basic questions to ask yourself when checking the weather before heading out.

1. What is the current weather?
2. Are you listening to the correct forecast?
3. What are the general weather features?
4. What marine warnings are in effect or forecast?
5. What is the forecast trend-worse, the same, or better?
6. What are your local conditions?

An excellent book put out by Environment Canada called Wind, Weather & Waves is an excellent resource both on understanding marine weather and forecasting.

The following is a list of sources for marine forecasts:

- Marine Radio (VHF) channels 21B and 83B
- Weather Radio (VHF) 162.400, 162.475, 162.550
- www.weatheroffice.com Marine Weather and Text Forecasts

Here is a sample of the marine forecast for Lake Ontario taken March 15, 2007. Research the MAFOR codes, and decipher the forecast.

Plain Language Forecast

Lake Ontario, Wind southwest 10 knots veering to northwest this evening and to north near midnight. Wind veering to northeast 15 Thursday afternoon.

Scattered showers and risk of a thunderstorm becoming a chance of wet snow overnight then becoming fair early Thursday morning. Waves 1 metre or less. Outlook: Moderate north easterlies increasing to strong.

MAFOR

Lake Ontario: 11500 11700 14800 11800 11110.
Good luck, safe boating, and always keep a weather eye out.

—Warren Hyde

HPS Breakfast Buffet/ Patio Sale

April 22, 2007
10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Fisher's Pier 4 Restaurant,
554 James St. N., Hamilton
Corner of Wood St.

Come and join us while someone else cooks the eggs, bacon and pancakes. Lots of good fun!!!

Cost \$8.00 ☞

&≥

Members! Bring in your used boating items for sale or swap.
Time to clear out those lockers!

RSVP by Apr 19/07

905-628-0645

or e-mail

ruthmlewis@sympatico.ca



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To: The Members of Niagara District,
Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TAKE NOTICE that the 48th Annual General Meeting of the Niagara District, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, will be held at the Leander Boat Club, 50 Leander Drive, Hamilton, On, on Wednesday, April 18th, 2007 at 1900 in accordance with Section 11.1, Article XI of the Niagara District Regulations for the purposes of:

- a) receiving and, if thought fit, approving the reports of the Officers and Committees of this District;
- b) receiving and, if thought fit, approving the Financial Statements of the District for the 12 month period ending March 31, 2007, and the Report of the District Auditor thereon;
- c) electing the elective Officers referred to in Section 9.1 of these regulations including such District Lieutenants, as in the opinion of the District Executive Committee are necessary for the administration of the affairs of the District during the year in question;
- d) appoint an Auditor for the District year then current;
- e) consider such other business as may be brought before an Annual

General Meeting;

The District Nominating Committee report is attached to, and forms part of this notice.

Dated February 15th, 2007 at Kitchener, Ontario

Schedule	Cost
1845 Registration	\$10 per person
1900 Dinner	
2000 Call to order	

D/C D. Lankin has set the uniform of the day as Blues & Grays

Hamilton Power & Sail Squadron 2006/2007 Bridge

Squadron Commander	Cdr Cal Traver	P	905-628-0645
Immediate Past Commander	P/C Rick Crook	JN	905-627-8954
Executive Officer	Vicky Grimshaw	P	905-628-0645
Training Officer	Des Wood	S	905-304-5136
Assistant Training Officer	Ed Conderan		905-643-0499
Secretary	Debby Conderan		905-643-0499
Treasurer	Bonnie Hazell	P	905-689-6690
Membership Officer	George Williamson	AP	905-592-1107
Public Relations Officer	Vicky Grimshaw	P	905-628-0645
MAREP/ Environmental Officer	John Nydegger		905-389-8830
Supply Officer	P/R/C Ron Warby	AP	905-389-5719
Entertainment Officer	Ruth Lewis		905-317-3453
Communications Officer	Bonnie Hazell	P	905-689-6690
Editor Dry Rot	Mike Kott	S	905-529-8339
By Laws & Protocol	P/R/C Marney Warby	AP	905-389-5719
Historian	P/V/C Ralph Probert	N	905-637-8726
Regalia Officer	P/R/C Marney Warby	AP	905-389-5719
Boat Pro Coordinator	George Williamson	AP	905-592-1107
Port Captain Hamilton	P/C Murray Thompson	AP	905-681-8641
Halton Police Services Liaison Officer	Rob Garland		905-546-4941 x5207