

DRY ROT

Watching the Weather with Some Frequency

We all know that while boating on our beautiful Canadian waterways, we should always keep a “weather eye”. But how many of us also think to keep a “weather ear” as well?

Even though we are not cruising warm southern waters with the luxury of weather faxes and the safety of cruising nets, we have a few tools at our disposal that can give us a heads up to impending changes in the weather.

The first obviously is to always monitor channel 16. For not only is this the hailing and emergency frequency, but important changes to marine forecasts will be announced on here as well. (Including cancelled warnings-it’s not always bad news!)

The second place to keep your weather ear tuned is to the continuous marine broadcast. If you are concerned about possible deterioration in the weather, 16 can be monitored on the vessel radio and the weather frequency on a hand-held radio. In previous articles we discussed the plain language forecast and the MAFOR code, and how to properly understand them. But there are a few other ways to utilize this information. If you are boating in the Port Dover/Long Point area for example, and the weather is moving west to east, check and monitor the forecasts for western Lake Erie. You’ll know what’s coming your way hours before it arrives and is announced in the marine forecast for your area. Sailing the Hamilton/Toronto corridor? Pay attention to the forecasts east of you.

All of us who enjoy the waters of the Hamilton Bay and corresponding southern Lake Ontario shoreline are very aware how fast foul weather can hit us coming over the escarpment. Part of the problem is elevation-we can’t see it coming, and because it may be localized it won’t necessarily be given significant attention on the marine weather frequencies.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1-2 Watching the Weather
- 3 Cowan Insurance
- 4 Social Events 2009/10
- 4 Bridge Meetings Schedule
- 5 SeaBreeze
- 6 Recipe
- 7-8 60th Anniversary Report from Commander
- 9 Bridge Listing
- 10 Members Benefits
- 10-11 West Harbour Waterfront Recreational Master Plan
- 12 Fall 2009/Winter 2010 Courses

FRIDAY, NOV. 27th, 2009 HPS – 2nd Annual HAUL OUT Party

MACASSA BAY YACHT CLUB
Bring your best chilli to enjoy FREE admission and compete in our
Chilli Cook-off!

Tickets **\$13** pre-paid by
November 10, 2009 or
\$15 at the door
RSVP by November 10, 2009

Ticket includes: chilli, lasagna,
salads & buns, cake, & pastries,
coffee & tea, door prizes & raffle.
– Cash Bar all evening –

WEATHER WATCHING

08/03/2007



Well here is what we do when plying the waters in our sailboat Bella Maria. I have a small handheld VHF & UHF transceiver. Now I am a HAM Radio Operator (amateur radio), but UHF & VHF receivers may be purchased from electronic equipment stores like Radioworld in Toronto. If we are out for a day's sail or cruising, and are concerned about potential weather problems coming offshore, we will monitor 128.100 MHz, the Hamilton Airport weather frequency. It is repeated every few minutes and is current. You get very accurate and helpful weather information and observations. The other frequency we may monitor is 125.000 MHz. This is the primary control tower and relevant information and observations regarding lightning, squall lines etc. are relayed to pilots in the area including location and direction in relationship to the airport. Last summer, we found this information timely on several occasions.

The internet can be a good source of information as well, whether still at home thinking about heading out or tucked in at marina using a laptop.

On the Environment Canada website (www.weatheroffice.gc.ca) you can check marine forecasts, warnings and current conditions on the lakes, as well as current radar and satellite.

Another great site is CANWARN (www.canwarnhamilton.ca). CanWarn Hamilton is a group of individuals who volunteer their time to assist Environment

Canada and the community, by monitoring and reporting weather phenomenon as they see it. Most of the volunteers are Amateur Radio Operators, many of them trained by Environment Canada, to spot threatening and dangerous weather related conditions. They report back to Environment Canada any actively occurring weather related events which are not picked up by radar or other instruments. This information is posted on the website, along with warnings, radar, and the wind speed and direction compass from Hamilton Airport.

This brings us back to the "weather ear". Seeing as most of the reporting is done by HAM Radio Operators, by monitoring 146.805 MHz or 443.250 MHz you get to hear first hand any impending and occurring severe weather conditions before they are collected and reported to the public by Environment Canada.

Boating, whether by power or sail can be a relaxing, fun and enjoyable recreation. However, bad weather is a reality that can dampen our fun, or sometimes threaten the safety and well being of ourselves and our guests. It is therefore important that we use every means reasonably available to us, to get the most out of our boating experiences, and ensure that all of our stories and memories are safe and happy ones.

– Warren Hyde

COWAN INSURANCE

Insurance Q & A courtesy Cowan Insurance :

Here at Cowan, we believe in answering questions and sharing information so we can all learn from each other.

Feel free to email Cowan Insurance with your questions and/or stories! They will be published in future newsletters (and you will be kept anonymous if you choose).

Dear Carla:

What are the deductible options under my CPS policy?

Dear CPS Member:

The deductible is a percentage of the boat & equipment value on your policy. The choices are 1%, 2%, 3% or 4%. For example, if your boat is worth \$50,000, you can choose from a \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500 or \$2,000 deductible. The higher the deductible, the lower the premium.

Dear Carla:

In reviewing my boat insurance renewal, it refers to me having a “reducing deductible”. Can you please explain this to me?

Dear CPS Member:

A “reducing deductible” means that your deductible is lowered by 10% per year that you are claims-free.

For example, you set up a new policy and you choose a deductible of \$1000. On renewal, if you haven’t had have any claims, your deductible will reduce to \$900 (10% less). The following year, it will be \$800 (20% less) and so on. The maximum reduction of your deductible is 50%.

We encourage you to ask us any insurance-related questions. Please feel free to email me: carla.lettenbauer@cowangroup.ca

ARE YOU GETTING A DISCOUNT ON YOUR HOME & AUTO INSURANCE?

You should be. CPS members have access to discounted group insurance rates. Find out how much money you can save.

Contact Aviva Traders at 1-877-787-7021 or visit www.avivatraders.com/cps.

*Sunrise at Mill Lake
(N E Georgian Bay)*



HAMILTON POWER & SAIL SQUADRON

SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR - 2009/10

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 2009

HPS - 2nd Annual HAUL OUT Party

6:30 pm at Macassa Bay Yacht Club
Chilli Cook-off, Lasagna, Salads & buns,
Cake, & pastries - coffee & tea

Cash bar all evening – door prizes & raffle

Tickets **\$13** pre-paid by November 10, 2009 or **\$15** at the door
RSVP by November 10, 2009

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 2010

HPS - 4th Annual Pizza & Wing Night

6:30 pm at Macassa Bay Yacht Club
Cash bar all evening – door prizes & raffle

Tickets **\$12** pre-paid by February 16, 2010 or **\$15** at the door
RSVP by February 16, 2010

Guest Speaker: tbd

SUNDAY MARCH 2st, 2010

HPS - Annual Spring Breakfast

9:00 – 11:00 am - **Royal Hamilton Yacht Club**

Tickets **\$12** – Buffet style breakfast including coffee, tea, juices –
assorted pastries & sliced fruit; eggs, bacon, sausage, home-fries &
toast; pancakes & syrup, warm fruit and whipped cream.

RSVP by March 15, 2010

Guest Speaker: tbd

FRIDAY APRIL 23rd, 2010

HPS - Graduation & 61st AGM

Macassa Bay Yacht Club

Hot dinner buffet at 6:30

Graduation Ceremony at 8:00 pm and AGM @ 9:00 pm

Tickets **\$20** prior to April 16th and **\$25** at the door

RSVP by April 16th, 2010

Tickets can be reserved by calling
Glynis Hornsey at **(905) 527.1606**,
through the **Hotline: (905) 388.1227**
or purchased during classes

Hamilton Power & Sail Squadron Bridge Meetings

Bridge Meetings
1900 to approx 2100

*All members are
invited to attend*

Nov 09, 2009

Jan 11, 2010

Feb 08, 2010

Mar 08, 2010

Apr 12, 2010

May 10, 2009

All meetings are at Macassa
Bay Yacht Club

Interested in volunteering?

We are currently
looking for:

Executive Officer,
Supply Officer,
Assistant Pro,
Public Relations Officer,
Communications Officer
(e-mail account & hotline),
Historian

Also if you are interested
in helping out with
instruction at our
classes contact us.
Vicky 905-628-0645

SEABREEZE

The fall training schedule is ramping up and we expect a larger than normal influx of boaters applying for their PCOC cards. All boaters are reminded that now it is a requirement to have a Pleasure Craft Operator's Card.

This summer's boating weather... let's not go there! At least there were no major storms on the water. In August, passing through Durham a week after the devastating tornado, where a young boy was killed, you could clearly see the well defined path of destruction which followed the ravine along the south side of the town. There was debris everywhere, an imploded home and trees astonishingly defoliated. Weather is a dominant factor in our lives (or at least it should be factored into our plans), especially on the water. We need to remain vigilant.

Wow! On May 30, the 60th Anniversary Celebrations of our Hamilton Squadron have come

and gone. Through the magnificent efforts of our Commander and many others, a spectacular reception and the presentation of our Anniversary Yearbook was held at Royal Hamilton Yacht Club. It was a delight to see so many of the faces of the people who have guided our Squadron through the years. The kind words of visiting dignitaries and invited guests were very inspirational indeed, making one proud to be involved with this prestigious organization. We will long remember this event! There are copies of the Yearbook still available. Please contact P/C Marney Warby to obtain your copy.

Another event was the Annual Sailpast and Blessing Of The Boats held at Royal Hamilton Yacht Club on June 6th. The band from the HMCS Star and a colour party of cadets from RCSC Lion were in attendance adding to the tradition of the ceremony.

– Mike Kott

Sail past June 6/09



Sail past June 6/09

PRODUCT REVIEW

– Mike Kott

I have reviewed many different things over the years like marine electronics, books, restaurants, marinas etc., but this time it's whisky! I am not much of a drinker, but have been known to have the odd tot or two once in awhile. It's been out for some time, but during the past summer we came across this very fine product called Forty Creek, which is made just down the road at Grimsby Ontario by Kittling Ridge

Distillery. I once considered Crown Royal as the best, but Forty Creek has it beat for smoothness and certainly price. It is crafted by John K. Hall, a first generation whiskey maker.

With the Christmas season approaching far too quickly, here is a recipe for you that was strongly recommended by my sister. It was originally found in an LCBO booklet "Food Drink and Holiday".

WHISKY-SPICE BREAD AND BUTTER PUDDING

Serve this luscious dessert with scoops of vanilla ice cream, or dollops of lightly whipped cream.

Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C).

Serves 6 - 8.

Ingredients:

1 cup (total), of dried cherries, dried blueberries, raisins, or a mixture of same.

1/4 cup (50mL) Scotch whisky.

1/4 cup (50mL) packed brown sugar.

1 tsp (5mL) pumpkin pie spice (optional).

4 day old croissants, cut in half horizontally.

1/2 cup (75mL) softened butter, plus extra softened butter for greasing.

2 cups (500mL) whole milk.

3 eggs.

1 tsp (5mL) vanilla.

Method:

1. In a shallow dish stir together dried fruit and whisky; set aside to soak for 30 minutes. In a small bowl, stir together brown sugar and pumpkin pie spice.
2. Preheat the broiler to high. Arrange croissants cut sides up about 4 inches from broiler. Broil until lightly toasted. Spread butter over cut side of each croissant, dividing evenly.
3. Lightly butter an 11 X 7 inch (2L) baking dish; arrange 4 croissants butter side down in dish. Drain fruit, reserving whisky. Sprinkle fruit and half of the sugar mixture evenly over the croissants in dish. Arrange remaining croissants butter side up on top of fruit; sprinkle with remaining sugar mixture.
4. In a 4 cup (1 L) liquid measuring cup, whisk together milk, eggs vanilla and reserved whisky until well combined. Strain through a sieve into baking dish, drizzling evenly over croissants, let stand for 30 minutes, occasionally pressing down on croissants to ensure they are well soaked.
5. Bake dessert uncovered for 40 to 50 minutes until puffy, golden brown and crisp. Let stand for about 5 minutes before serving.

60th Anniversary



Greetings to Hamilton Members,

Well it certainly has been a different summer and fall in Ontario – some areas getting too much rain, devastating tornados and the cool weather that stayed around in our normally hot and humid months.

It is the time of year when we get our boats ready for storage and decide what stays on and what comes off the boat. Please remember to take all your flares off, check all your liquids, and remove what is flammable if possible.

In this issue, we have included some photos of the Hamilton Power & Sail Squadron's 60th anniversary – held May 30/09 at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club. We had over 60 people in attendance, with 12 of our past commanders and an original charter member Frank Hewett. It was a lovely day with dignitaries speaking of HPS efforts over the 60 years and presenting commemorative plaques. We were honoured to have the following in attendance, Commodore of RHYC Rodger Metcalfe, MP David Christopherson, MPP Sophia Aggelonitis, City of Hamilton Councillor Bob Bratina, Cst. Rob Hardy – Hamilton Marine Police, Michael Vollmer from Cdn Safe Boating Council, E.O. Bill Alan Niagara District presented us with a plaque from



COMMANDER REPORT



C/Cdr Harry Cole. Cdr Dave Bull from Port Dalhousie, also gave us greetings from their squadron and a certificate. We also had the Halton Marine Police vessel dock and the crew joined in the celebration for a while but left shortly after arriving to attend to a call.

The following past Commanders were in attendance, P/C Winston Webb, P/C Matthew Rowan, P/C Merry Best Green, P/V/C Ralph Probert, P/R/C Marney Warby, P/R/C Ron Warby, P/D/C Richard Smith, P/D/C Percy Brown, P/C Ian Bailey, P/C Lidia Beresticki, P/C Rick Crook, and P/C Cal Traver. We were also honoured to have one of the original charter members with us, Frank Hewett. At this reception we handed out our 60th anniversary book, which looks wonderful and has pictures from our past to present. I would like to thank all those of the committee who put the issue together, Mike Kott, Percy Brown, Glen Carruthers, Walter Plater, & Glynis Hornsey.

Special thanks to our graphic artist, Binda Traver for her creative work on the cover. If you are interested in receiving a copy call Marney (see the ad in this Dryrot).

A Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) is now required by all recreational boaters across Canada. There are approximately 10 million boaters in Canada and to date, only 2 million have their cards.

As of Sept 14, 2009, in some areas of Ontario law enforcement has zero tolerance.

Our local marine police officers will be enforcing compliance on boaters not able to produce the card; fines start at \$ 265.00.

Across Canada there has been an increase in inspections of boats and those who have a VHF radio are being asked to produce their Maritime Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC)(M). The newer VHF has a GMDSS button, which requires additional certification. Law enforcement on the waterways can be local police

officers, OPP, RCMP, Canadian Coast Guard, and Conservation Officers.

HPS Members who took the boating course years ago, but did not apply to grandfather in by Dec 2008, can no longer get the PCOC without writing the exam. There are mixed messages that a photocopy of your boating certificates may suffice for showing your boating knowledge. Before risking a fine next year, check with your local law enforcement.

Winter months are the ideal time to take the PCOC exam or your ROC(M), or update to the VHF GMDSS. Ironically when I speak with people that do not have the PCOC they think we (CPS) are the bad guys enforcing it. In volunteering for 10 years with CPS Hamilton and answering the phone hot line, I know that many people got their cards with other agencies and can not find the organization or phone number and call us hoping we can get them a replacement card. Our CPS headquarters has a great database and can replace lost or stolen cards very quickly only if the PCOC was obtained with CPS.

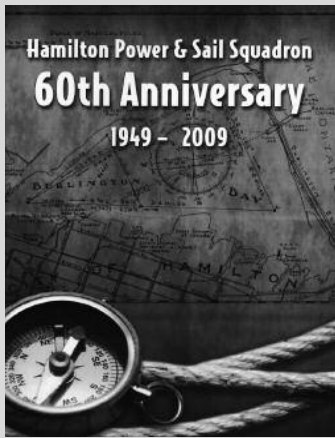
The original intent of changing the law to have a card to boat was started 10 years ago to reduce the accidents of youth on personal watercraft (Jet ski's, etc). Transport Canada is in charge of the federal regulations but does not have a database that tracks how many people have the PCOC.

Please review our Social calendar, we would love to see you at some of the events. We have on Nov 27/09 the Haul Out party at MBYC with a different twist this year – a Chili cook off – so come out and show us your skills – those who enter a pot of chili get their ticket free – so contact Glynis ASAP and get registered 905-527-1606.

Pizza & Wing has also become a favorite, right in the dead of winter to cheer the blues. And in Mar/10 we will have our breakfast at RHYC.

Look forward to seeing you there,

– Cdr Vicky



HPS 60TH ANNIVERSARY BOOKLET 1949 - 2009

As part of Hamilton Power and Sail Squadron's 60th Anniversary Celebrations, your executive has approved and happy to offer to our Members, a special **60th Anniversary Booklet**, sixty years in review from 1949 to 2009, complete with photos, articles, a yearly synopsis of events, and an original 1949 document announcing Hamilton's class registrations.

Since this is a costly endeavour to mail to our Members, you are invited to request your copy.

**Please contact P/R/C
Marney Warby at
905-389-5719
to arrange pick up.**

MOVING?

Please send notification in writing to:

Percy Brown
194 Stewartdale Ave., Hamilton Ontario L8K 4P5

or Email (please indicate "Address Change" in subject line)
cici@nas.net

Old address:

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

Membership _____

Email _____

New address:

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

Membership _____

Email _____



Yes, I would be interested in receiving *DRY ROT* via email in a PDF format.

Hamilton Power & Sail Squadron 2009/2010 Bridge

Squadron	Name	e-mail	Phone No
Commander	Cdr Vicky Grimshaw	cici@nas.net	905-628-0645
Past Commander	P/C Cal Traver	cici@nas.net	905-628-0645
Executive Officer	Vacant		
Training Officer	Barry Courtman	barrycourtman@sympatico.ca	905-387-9220
Asst. Training	Glen Carruthers	gcarruthers@mountaincable.net	905-387-8127
Secretary	Debby Conderan	dconderan@cogeco.ca	905-643-0499
Treasurer	Danielle Bibby	danielle@centreisland.ca	905-807-2628
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Public Relations	Vicky Grimshaw	cici@nas.net	905-628-0645
Assitant PRO	TBA		
MAREP/Enviro	Warren Hyde	cdnprivateer@gmail.com	905-385-5639
Supply	Walter Plater	walter_plater@hotmail.com	905-388-7339
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Liaison Officer	Rob Garland	robert.garland@hrps.on.ca	905-546-4941 x5207
Webmaster	P/C Rick Crook	rickcrook@sympatico.ca	905-627-8954

As member CPS, here are some of the benefits for maintaining your membership

Member Benefits and Partnership Information

Members of Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons learn about safe boating, have a great time together and enjoy the waters. Membership is more than additional courses, friendships and being part of Canada's best recreational boating organization. It also offers the following corporate benefits:

Cowan Insurance Brokers	15% plus for Regular Member
	5 % plus for Associate Member
Delta Hotel	10%
Weems & Plath	25 %
Maritech Industries	25 %
Icom	5%
Canadian Yachting Magazine –	4 issues a year
CPS members receive 25 % off advertising rates	
BoatCan	20%
Canada Propeller	10-20%
	depending on material used in propeller
Caribbean Luxury Skipped Charters	12 %
Choice Hotel Programs	
National Car Rental	

Go to the following website www.cps-ecp.ca
Login and click on Member Services- then click on Member Benefits.



Morning Mist at Mill Lake

West Harbour Waterfront Recreation Master Plan, formerly Setting Sail Plan

Our city of Hamilton has had the city planners working on the West Harbour master plan for the last 10 years or more, which will set the future direction and uses of the waterfront. The advisory group Waterfront Advisory Group (WAG) that I have been on for approx 3+ years just had our final meeting and this plan will now go to City Council for acceptance before the end of Dec 2009 (target date to council meeting of Dec 07/09). Previously I also was a part of the Setting Sail Plan advisory group.

At the Oct 15/09 meeting it was obvious that the city still has no intentions to include or give consideration to the two local independent businesses, Brewer's Marine Supply and MacDonald Marine Services. Interestingly, the city has recently been working with the clubs with membership and have included them in their final plans.

Here is the website to review all the documents that have been produced – hopefully in the next couple of days we will have the comments from Oct 15/09 and final master plan on the website, so look for it.

www.hamilton.ca/waterfront-plan

All stakeholders (clubs & independent business) on the waterfront have put money into their structures over the years and all are in relatively good shape, so due consideration should be given to Brewer's & MacDonald's.

There is still a huge challenge for boaters as far as the city plan is concerned because of the lack of availability of marine supplies and recreational marine repairs. In all of the plans to date no location has been allocated for this.

They are increasing the potential boating slips from the current 580 to 750 plus, but they have not identified where the boats will be stored in the winter months, the city has only allowed for the storage of 150 boats – Where are the other 600 plus going to be put?. (The

WEST HARBOUR WATERFRONT RECREATION MASTER PLAN

city's reply to me when I ask, is that they are working on it (& have been for over 2 years) but cannot say exactly where but only that it could be anywhere from Sanford St. Pier to 50 Point)

Both Sandy MacDonald & Robin Brewer expressed their frustration at the meeting, but it was only met with silence from the city planners. Robin from Brewer's told me of the frustration of having customers come in and say "so we hear you are closing -when?" Still, the city of Hamilton has never come directly to either party to tell them what the outcome will be. Both Sandy & Robin have only seen the harbour plans where their family owned establishments have disappeared from the map.

There is still a chance for the taxpayers of the City of Hamilton to express their opinions to their councillors or city planners before the meeting date of Dec 07/09. (Note: Councillors receive short notice and get the documents to review generally the Friday before the meeting on Monday). Therefore it is your opportunity to communicate directly with the councillor in your area and let him or her know how you feel about the proposed waterfront plan.

I encourage you to take the time and review the West Harbour Waterfront Recreation Master Plan, and make your comments, or ask your questions to the following:

**Justin Readman , Acting Senior Project
Manager - City of Hamilton**

Tel: 905-546-2424 ext. 2218 e-mail :

Justin.Readman@hamilton.ca

Or to get a list of **Councillors**

Go to website:

<http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/YourElectedOfficials/>

Don't wait until it is too late to express your opinion on this West Harbourfront Master Plan.

Call me if you would like more contacts or want to discuss it directly with me.

*Vicky Grimshaw 905-628-0645 or e-mail
cici@nas.net*



Looking toward Pier 4 Park from the verandah in the morning at MBYC



A McKiel tug undergoing inspection in Dry Dock at Heddle Marine



CCG Limnos awaiting maintenance at Heddle Marine

Fall/Winter Boating Courses

CALL TO REGISTER

Glen Carruthers 905-387-8127 or
leave a message at 905-388-1227

Or e-mail us at: boating@hamiltonpowersquadron.ca

Challenge Exam Certification available October 31, 2009,

Held at the Macassa Bay Yacht Club from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC)

Boat Pro Exam Only
Challenge Fee:

\$ 50.00

VHF – Maritime Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC-M)

Includes a 2 hour review
Challenge Fee:

\$ 50.00

FALL 2009

GPS Course

(3 evenings)
Tuesdays Nov 03/10/17, 2009
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Westdale High School

\$ 75.00

Seamanship Course

(Prerequisite: Boating Course)
13 evenings
Beginning Nov 03, 2009
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Westdale High School

\$ 225.00

COMING 2010

VHF – Maritime Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC-M)

(Full Day Course)
Jan 23, 2010
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
At Macassa Bay Yacht Club

\$75.00

Boat Pro

*includes Boat Pro Manual
& PCOC*
TBA in Jan 2010

\$ 75.00