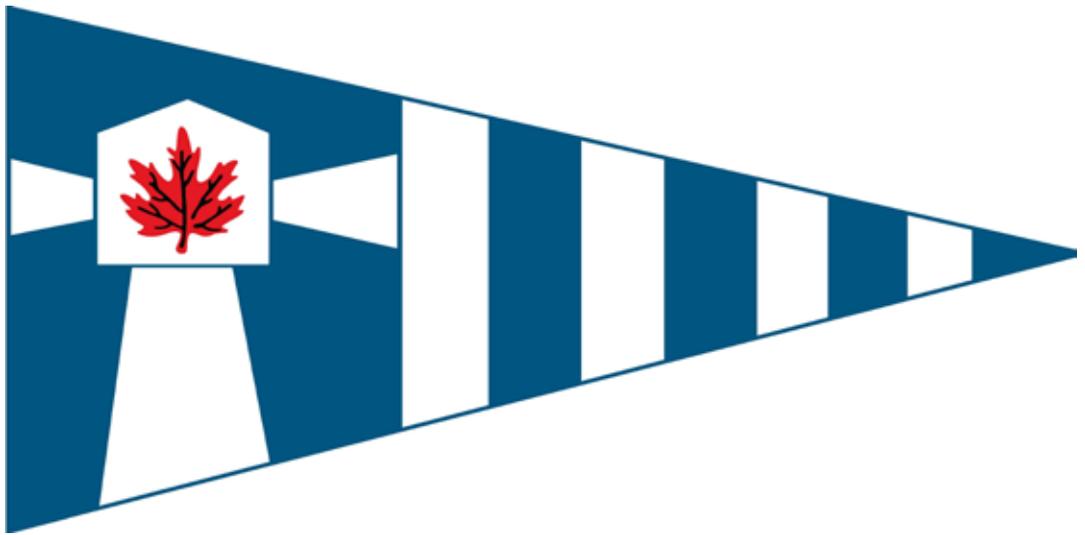


SCUTTLEBUTT



Gabriola Island Power and Sail Squadron

Gabriola Power and Sail Squadron

Boats Ready? Flares OK?

You can still see Bert's voyage at:
<https://www.sailblogs.com/member/seaburban/>

May - June 2021



Your Squadron Bridge 2021 – 2022

POSITION	NAME	PHONE
Commander	Jean-Pierre Van Praet	250 325-3064
Past Commander	Mike Hoeinghaus, <u>AP</u>	250 247-8799
Executive Officer	Nigel Wells	250 325-0052
Educational Officer	Agathe Gaulin	250 247-9714
Secretary	Carole Lemieux	250 247-9889
Financial Officer	Jude Briscoe	250 247-8600
Membership Officer	Elaine Pearce	250 247-7538
Webmaster	Andy Hunter	250 325-0857
Communications Officer & Scuttlebutt Editor	Don Butt, <u>AP</u>	250 247-7804
Privacy Officer	Don Butt, <u>AP</u>	250 247-7804
RVCC Officer	Bob Wood	250 247-7339
Member at Large	Ivan Bulic	250 247-2032
Member at Large	John Bullas	250 739-3295
Member at Large	Sean Lewis	250 325-1857
Member at Large	Li Decosas	250 247-9884
Member at Large	Gary Small	250 247-9884

***Gabriola Power and Sail Squadron
PO Box 71
Gabriola BC V0R 1X0***

***We are a Squadron of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons (CPS-ECP) in
Vancouver Island North District***

<https://www.cps-ecp.ca/contact/squadron-locations/gabriola-island/>

<http://www.vind.ca>

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ISSUE

Thank you to those who have managed to renew your membership. Apparently there have been difficulties renewing Family Members in the new website system. Our Membership Officer, Elaine Pearce will help you so that you can renew via snail mail. Please call Elaine if you are having any difficulties with renewal of your membership - she is ready to help.

Elaine Pearce 250 247-7538

Courses

Always check the website for details - “Courses and Upcoming Events”

The National website has undergone a major update and is ready to accept course registrations. One should go to the Squadron web site where there is information about the courses and links on the Courses and Workshops page to the National registration pages.

Email or phone Squadron XO: Nigel Wells, nigelwells@shaw.ca or 250 325-0052;

Squadron Educational Officer: Agathe Gaulin, seo-gabriolaisland@cps-ecp.org or 250 247-9714

Commander John Van Praet: johnvanpraet@hotmail.com

<https://www.cps-ecp.ca/contact/squadron-locations/gabriola-island/>

COVID-19

The Squadron is following the guidelines set by CPS-ECP. No meetings or courses are to be held in person. Meetings are held via Zoom or similar method, as are courses. Read the reports from Cdr. Jean Van Praet and SEO Agathe Gaulin for details, and of course, the website. No one knows when the pandemic restrictions will be eased and the normal will again prevail. It is worth noting that any breach of the CPS-ECP restrictions will not be covered by the insurance policy.

Important Renewal Information

Members and officers must use the *primary* member’s account when renewing family memberships, otherwise the expiry date won’t update.



They’re available! The new Squadron pennants to adorn your boat! They do tend to fade like all flags so why not spruce up the appearance of your boat with a new pennant - they look good. Really good! Spruce up your boat for spring. Call Jude Briscoe, 250 247-8600. Reduced price! Call any one of the Bridge/Exec members: phone numbers listed on page 2, “Your Squadron Bridge”.

From the Educational Department Agathe Gaulin - Educational Officer



As our 2020 AGM was pushed back to November 1st due to the COVID pandemic meeting restrictions, my last report covered the period of April 2019 to the end of Summer 2020. I will therefore start this annual report with the Fall 2020 course offerings. As “in person” classes continued to be forbidden due to pandemic social distancing protocols, we continued to promote and offer the very well received online and blended online courses developed by our National Education team.

The radio operator’s certification (Roc-M) and Pleasure craft Operator certificate (PCOC) courses remain the mainstay of our offerings. We continued promoting these courses on our Squadron micro-site of the national CPS website, with our Ferry Hill sandwich boards and regular emails to our Membership. Students register online, take the courses entirely online and, when they feel ready to write the exam, for the PCOC, they write the exam online and, for the Roc-M, they set up a time and date with one of our Examiners to write the exam using Zoom or GoToMeeting web conferencing technology. Students study at their own pace and most of them do very well in the final exams.

A small group, outdoor, physically distanced PCOC review session and exam took place October 22nd 2020 for 4 Gabriola and Mudge Island learners but after that date, all PCOC students were handled by our National CPS office.

For the period between September 2020 and the end of March 2021, Gabriola Squadron has administered 20 Roc-M exams to students who registered and studied online.

In September 2020 it was decided that our Squadron would offer the blended Boating 4 course on Wednesday evenings, starting October 14th. A blended course, in CPS jargon, is one that is offered online using the Moodle learning platform and with the added benefit of weekly check-in and review sessions with an Instructor. Agathe led this course until the end of January 2021 (with a Christmas time break) and she invited Sean Lewis and John Bullis as presenters for specific topics. An advantage of this course option is that we recruit students from across the province. This particular course had 1 Gabriolan, 2 students from Prince George and 3 from Kelowna. All participated actively in all weekly meetings and passed the course with high marks.

In response to an email from our VIN District Education Officer, Alexa Stochmal, requesting more Host Squadrons to offer the Boating 2-3 course, also in blended format, we decided to

accept the challenge and offered it in the Fall of 2020. This course too saw students registering from BC and elsewhere. Our Assistant Education Officer, Nigel Wells, took on the responsibility of this group composed of 4 Gabriolans and 9 learners from “elsewhere” for the same time commitment as our Boating 4 course.

I wish to extend a special THANK YOU to Barry Smith, the Western coordinator of the Online courses, for his enthusiastic support of both Nigel and I as we explored the Moodle platform and navigated the steep learning curve of these online courses.

In October 2020 I participated in the CPS-ECP National Conference offered entirely online, using the Teams meeting app. I participated in the Education, IT and Environment sessions and garnered important information as to future offerings and orientations from CPS. A major take-away of this Conference is that CPS is now championing environmental stewardship as a key element of our Boating education programs.

In closing, I would like to suggest that, in planning for the “post-COVID” realities, we reactivate our Education committee this Spring and move forward with choosing, promoting and planning the set of courses and Seminars that would interest our two main clientele groups: the new boaters and the “experienced but wanting to upgrade skills” boaters. This committee, comprised of: Jean-Pierre, Myself, Nigel Wells, Sean Lewis and Gary Small, will have to look at the demand for hosting more of the online and blended Boating courses and Seminars and decide on our capacity to deliver these. Offering such courses is a way of maintaining our income as a small Squadron. We have the instructional and boating expertise on this Island so let’s harness it and keep our Squadron “on the map” as an active Teaching Squadron.

Respectfully submitted,
Agathe Gaulin

**PS. Please note Agathe’s email contact for all CPS-ECP Squadron activity
seo-gabriolaisland@cps-ecp.org**



**So ...
You’ve been eating hot dogs and McChickens all your
life, but don’t want the vaccine?**

**Because, you say:
“I don’t know what’s in it!”**



From the Wheelhouse* John Van Praet - Commander



It has been quite a year! Our last (virtual) AGM was only five and a half months ago, the COVID 19 virus is still making our lives difficult, but at least we are back to a more regular date for our AGM, i.e., in the month of April.

THANKS

Last November I said thanks to a lot of people for all the work they did. I again do want to say thanks to each and every one of them, because each little bit does help a lot!

Thank you, Ivan Bulic, John Bullas, Bob Wood and Don Butt for your discussions and lots of work resulting in the development of a Draft Proposal for a (Virtual) Recreational Vessels Courtesy Check Programme.

Thank you Agathe Gaulin for your continued dedicated commitment as Educational Officer, offering self-study online Radio and PCOC courses, and organizing the blended online Boating 4 course and the final exam for it. Merci!

Thank you to Nigel Wells for your dedication as Executive Officer, FaceBook Administrator and Assistant Educational Officer. The Blended online Boating 2+3 course was you! Thanks!

Thank you, Elaine Pearce, for your non-relenting work as our Membership Officer (cum problem solver). Thank you for your service on the Nominating Committee! Thank you also for your work encouraging our members to donate to People for Healthy Community on Gabriola.

Thank you, Carole Lemieux, for all the clear and precise minutes of meetings that always appear on time! (come neap – or spring tide!)

Thank you, Andy Hunter, for keeping us on track and on schedule in your work as our webmaster! (and for finding the trophies!)

Thank you, Don Butt for your energy and work whenever needed, communications to the Squadron members, publishing Scuttlebutt always on time, communicating with VIND and National, participating in committees. Thanks.

Thank you, Jude Briscoe, for your ongoing work as our Financial Officer, and your much appreciated

input in problem solving.

Thank you, Mike Hoeninghaus, for your ongoing support as Past Commander and for getting the Nominating Committee to do its work and produce its report!

Thanks last but certainly not least to you Bert ter Hart for your presentations via the Vancouver International Boat Show and for People for a Healthy Community on Gabriola, about your circumnavigation and rounding of the 5 Southern capes solo, using only traditional navigational instruments. And congratulations with the well-deserved OCC Barton Cup, which salutes your exceptional and challenging voyage!! We are proud to have you!

SUMMARY OF SQUADRON ACTIVITIES FROM NOVEMBER 1 2020 TO APRIL 14 2021

After the AGM of November 2020, the Squadrons activities continued in ways different from pre-COVID years, but ways we had become accustomed to already in 2020. Specifically, the online blended Boating Courses were continued and completed by our Educational Officers Agathe and Nigel, with assistance from other Squadron members. And the online self-study PCOC and ROC(M) courses continue to be offered.

COVID 19, which had resulted in cancellation of all in person classes, elimination of Public Events in large numbers and our participation in them, and elimination of socials continues to complicate our lives, even now that vaccines have arrived. The Squadron earlier switch to self-study online courses for Radio and PCOC and blended online Boating courses, with many students from Calgary to Vancouver to Cowichan to Nanoose, has proven successful. However, we still can have no social activities and there are no large number public events. This situation has prompted our Squadron to study how we can adapt further and find a way to start offering virtual RVCCs (Recreational Vessel Courtesy Checks).

The Ocean Cruising Club, based in London, U.K. awarded its premier award, the OCC Barton Cup, which salutes an exceptional or challenging voyage or series of voyages, to Bert ter Hart, s/v Seaburban. This non-stop, unsponsored, solo circumnavigation via the five Capes was conducted entirely without the use of GPS or other electronic aids to navigation. Bert ter Hart is now working on presentations and two books about his exceptional achievement.

The issues with the new IT system at CPS-ECP National are still not resolved. National is working hard at it and the situation is slowly but surely improving.

Education

Online self-study PCOC (Boating 1) and ROC(M) Radio courses have been highly successful and are ongoing. Our Squadron's B2+3 and B4 blended online courses have now come to an end.

Membership

Our March 26,2021 membership is 65 including 2 life members

CPS National IT system

The problems with the new IT system are gradually being solved by National, so the situation is getting better. Still, our Membership Officer and Financial Officer report ongoing problems.

CPS has purchased Microsoft 365, based in the cloud. This includes TEAMS for online meetings. We are now in a transition period from web-based information to cloud information. Our Squadron has not used TEAMS for meetings yet. This will be reviewed with the new Bridge.

Squadron's micro-site on CPS National website

Our microsite is being updated regularly by our webmaster with focus on courses offered, Bridge Officers contacts, Minutes of Meetings and Reports, upcoming events and Newsletter Scuttlebutt.

Gabriola Squadron FaceBook page

Our FaceBook page is being updated regularly by our FaceBook administrator
Communication with the Public at Large

An article and advertisement about the Gabriola Power and Sail Squadron appeared in the Sounder of March 17. The article focuses on the fact that our Squadron was created by Gabriola people and continues to be here for the Gabriola people, to help people enjoy boating while staying safe. It highlights the educational role that is our raison d'être and encourages people new to boating as well as experienced boaters to take a Squadron course or seminar to upgrade their skills. It provides information on how to register for a course and whom to contact. It reviewed our participation in public events and outlined the benefits to be had by CPS-Squadron membership.

Socials

Our Squadron has had no socials since our last AGM of November 1, 2020. Still, Elaine Russell, Chair of our Social Committee encouraged everybody to donate-as Squadron members-to the food bank managed by People for a Healthy Community (PHC) on Gabriola. Thank you, Elaine!

Recreational Vessel Courtesy Check - Going Virtual

The Gabriola Squadron sees the RVCC program as an important service that reaches large numbers of boaters.

A draft proposal for the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons to initiate a nationwide virtual Recreational Vessel Courtesy Check (RVCC) program has been developed by Bridge Members Ivan Bulic, Bob Wood, Don Butt and John Bullas in March and April. The draft proposal and where to go from here will be discussed at the first Bridge Meeting with the new Bridge 2021-2022

Traditionally the RVCCs have involved a local Squadron volunteer boarding a boater's vessel while alongside a dock or boat ramp. The volunteer checks safety equipment and other requirements, identifies any problems, and discusses boating safety issues. Education and safety are key, and no are penalties involved. With the advent of the Covid19 crises in 2020, the CPS suspended its in person RVCC program.

A second year with no RVCC program could negatively impact the CPS by potentially increasing the risk of otherwise preventable on-the-water accidents and mishaps, and decreasing

the public presence and visibility of local Squadrons. The current situation, however, can be seen as an opportunity for the CPS to explore new ways of providing RVCCs to both CPS members and the general boating public as has already been done with the online provision of PCOC and other courses

Scuttlebutt

Don Butt has continued his great efforts in publishing Scuttlebutt, without fail, COVID or no COVID19, thank you Don!

Vancouver Island North District (VIND) meetings

We attended the virtual VIND meetings of February 7 and March 28,2021

Bert terHart's post solo circumnavigation

Thanks last but certainly not least to Bert terHart for his presentations via the Vancouver International Boat Show and for People for a Healthy Community on Gabriola, about his circumnavigation and rounding of the 5 Southern capes solo, using only traditional navigational instruments

Respectfully submitted,
Jean-Pierre Van Praet



COVID Times

This poem was written by a classmate in the 1960 graduating class, U of T Meds. He is an award winning cardiovascular surgeon and friend, Bernie Goldman, OC. With permission:

THE COVID STREET DANCE

I walk down the street-and my heart skips a beat
'Cuz someone is coming toward me!
Cars parked in tight -I move to my right
But he is still coming toward me!
There is nowhere to hide-so I edge to the side
And there's a jogger coming toward me!
I forgot my mask -and there's no one to ask
When I hear a cyclist behind me!
They're both huffing and puffing
I don't stand a chance -I'm going to die
Doing the *Covid street dance!*

I solve my riddle - by walking out to the middle
To find 3 teens coming toward me!
They are gaffing - and laughing
No masks in sight - I can't go left and can't go right
But they see my concern – and they all make a turn
Not just away –but ask if I'm OK
I appreciate the thought-it's time that I have bought
To give me the chance -to face another-
Covid street dance

The Squadron AGM, April 18, 2021



Thanks to technology we can hold meetings and do some educational work. Here's the group attending the Squadron 2021 Annual General Meeting, Sunday afternoon, April 18. The former AGM had been delayed several months because of the pandemic, and this AGM was held by "Go-to-Meeting". We were honoured to have VIND Commander, Wayne Smiley who pledged in the new Bridge, the CPS-ECP Chief Commander, Peter Bolton from Comox, who brought us an update on National happenings, PDC Ion Barnes, District Educational Officer, Alexa Stochmal, who has been an immense help in keeping us updated in educational matters, and Barry Smith of the Prince George Squadron who is key in coordinating the online courses, providing assistance with participating Squadrons.

Members present: Jean van Praet, Agathe Gaulin, Don Butt, Mike Hoeninghaus, Elaine Pearce, Nigel Wells, Bob Wood, Ivan Bulic, Andy Hunter, Jude Briscoe, Carole Lemieux, John Bullas, Sarah Bullas, Richard Strachan, Georgette Duhaime, Bob Derksen, Sean Lewis, Gary Small, Li Decosas.

Also in attendance was the representative from the Bohm family, **Astrid Bohm** from Ontario, daughter of the late Rudy and Frieda Bohm. The Bohm family has been a regular generous supporter of the Squadron

See further details, two pages on..



Congratulations to the Award Recipients

The Arthur J. Nielsen Award

This was an original award honouring the first Commander of the Squadron, 1996. Originally recognizing the student with the highest mark achieved in the former “Boating Course” it is now given for top mark in the Boating 2-3 course. This year it is awarded to Gabriolan Debbie Erdos. Congratulations, Debbie.



The Windchime Award

This award was donated by the late Past Commander Hugh Sproule, who passed away earlier this year. Hugh was the spark plug that started the Squadron in 1996. It is to honour



outstanding work in the Educational aspect of the Squadron. This year it is awarded jointly to Squadron Educational Officer, **Agathe Gaulin** and to Executive Officer, **Nigel Wells** for their outstanding educational work in virtual learning necessitated by the pandemic. Congratulations Agathe and Nigel.

The Rudy and Frieda Bohm Memorial Award

This award was originally established in memory of the first proctor in the Squadron, Rudy Bohm, who was a great help for the early Boating Course students with individual learning. His wife Frieda was a constant supporter of the Squadron, appearing at our annual meetings and social events until her passing two years ago. The Bohm family has continued the tradition of support of the Squadron.

The award is to recognize exemplary boating activity on the water consistent with CPS-ECP principles and this year recognizing former Squadron Educational Officer, **Bert terHart** for his amazing achievement of solo non-stop circumnavigation by traditional navigation methods, together with his shore team who supported him throughout his voyage:

Bert's wife, **Nani terHart** - instrumental in many months of preparation for the voyage, and constant support to keep hope and spirits alive especially in near impossible conditions

Bert's sister, **Leah terHart** who maintained contact, provided public relations and saved Bert from starvation near Rarotonga by persuading the authorities to do the right thing and bring him food along side as he sailed by.

John Bullas, retired meteorologist, who spent hours daily analyzing the weather data, advising on courses to ensure Seaburban remained afloat.

Don Butt, who hosted a blog to document Bert's daily log, with photos.



Leah terHart



From London Squadron

London Squadron member, Gaurav Shinde, plans on attempting a feat similar to Bert's. He has said he knows Bert personally.

Gaurav is going to do an event for London Squadron on June 24th at 1600 Pacific time. Anyone wishing to attend his presentation can be invited.

His website is: www.gauravshinde.com. Email: sail34@hotmail.ca to be entered on the list to receive the link to the June 24 event when it is available.

Chuckle Time

Gabriola caught a nasty rash March 29 this year



For those weddings cancelled due to COVID-19. God is giving you a second chance to think about it.



The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.

Surprise! Surprise!

It was an Apple.

But with extremely limited memory.

Just 1 byte.

Then everything crashed.

Please don't attempt these hugs at home...



Who would've thought one day we'd be smoking weed at a family gathering, but the illegal part would be the family gathering. 🤔

With Tongue in Cheek

We all know not to drink alcohol when under way. So there must have been one whale of a storm tied up at the dock when it reached Force 12

The Beaufort Scale Revisited*

Force 0: Sails hanging limp. Tiller tends itself.

Force 1: Beginning pressure on sails. If sheet is eased out, the tiller still tends itself.

Force 2: Sails flapping in the breeze, and boat drifting to leeward. Sheets must be tightened and one hand put on the tiller. As the wind fills the sails, the boat heels. Case of beer must be placed on cockpit floor.

Force 3: The beer may be knocked over and must be supported or held in hand.

Force 4: Empty bottles rolling against each other on cockpit floor. Must be thrown over side.

Force 5: All beer streaming behind boat must be hauled in.

Force 6: Nobody can hold onto more than one beer at a time.

Force 7: The case of beer slides back and forth on cockpit floor. One person must be appointed to sit on it.

Force 8: Bottles can still be opened by one person. Beginning of difficulties pouring into the mouth without spilling.

Force 9: Bottle must be held with two hands. Only experts can get the cap off by themselves.

Force 10: Two people required to open bottles. Empties must be thrown to leeward only. Very difficult to find mouth. Some teeth may be knocked loose.

Force 11: The beer tends to foam out of bottle. Very difficult to drink. Lips split and teeth fall out.

Force 12: All open bottles foam. Impossible to drink. Temporary abstinence may be required.

Anonymous source

*“The Beaufort Scale or Beaufort Wind Force Scale is a system for estimating wind strengths without the use of instruments, based on the effects wind has on the physical environment. The behaviour of smoke, waves, trees, etc., is rated on a 13 point scale of 0 (calm) to 12 (hurricane)”

We say thank you to all who have generously supported us:

WE THANK THE BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS LISTED BELOW FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF OUR SQUADRON'S ACTIVITIES.



Mr. & Mrs. Don Powell

Sandi Winter

Dr. Bob Rooks

SEE OUR SQUADRON SPONSORS BOARD IS AT EVENTS AROUND THE ISLAND