

# Officer Reports – Sept. 1, 2021

## Commander:

It has been summer, a very hot and dry one, we are still in it, and most of us, hopefully, have been on the water enjoying boats, kayaks, and paddling boards of all kinds. That's the whole idea!

The days are becoming a bit shorter though, and it is time to think again about what courses and seminars our Squadron is going to offer to prospective students on Gabriola, and elsewhere. And to think about further improving our visibility on Gabriola and communicate to the public what we are doing. And to start thinking again about a social event of some kind, sometime?

Since several weeks now, Gabriola Power and Sail Squadron's brief articles about safe boating have been appearing in the Sounder. Agathe Gaulin, our SEO developed this idea and made it a reality a couple of months ago. Several Bridge members authored articles, thank you! Feedback has been positive. We hope this effort can be continued with input from Squadron and Bridge members. Thank you Agathe.

Li Decosas, Gary Small and I had an exploratory meeting about 6 weeks ago about what kind of "learning about boating" our Squadron could offer higher grade students at the Gabriola Elementary School. Something that will appeal to the kids and be useful and instructive at the same time. Rather than being a few lectures, it could be a 4 or 6-week project around boating for example. This could be planned for May and June of 2022. This fall and winter would be used to develop the outline and plan the details. I did contact the school principal, and she would be delighted if we were to offer something. I will advise her during the month of September as to what our plans are. Welcome back from your various cruises!

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean-Pierre Van Praet, Cdr.

## Communications, Privacy, Scuttlebutt Editor:

Scuttlebutt: Next edition will be at the end of August. I'd like to include topics on:

- Educational activities planned
- RVCC results
- Plans for any social events
- Articles on, "My Summer Holidays"

[?] John B – something on our summer weather and climate implications?

\*\*\*\*\*

Communications: Nothing new other than forwarded information to the membership from Sheila Boutcher regarding the flare disposal at Cabela's in Nanaimo Sat Sept 18 1000 to 1600.

\*\*\*\*\*

Privacy: Nothing to report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Butt, AP

## Education:

### **Education Officer Report – August, 2021 - Gabriola Power & Sail Squadron**

Though as most others I've taken time off from Squadron work this Summer, I did manage to accomplish a few things:

- Maritime radio (Roc-M):** I held two Zoom Exam sessions for 4 students (August 4 & August 26) plus one in-person Exam at Silva Bay Marina (July 6) for a single local student, and all passed with high marks. I am now entering all the marks in the national website using the percentile rather than the actual mark, as requested by National. Registration forms and Answer sheets are sent to National office via email. Interesting tidbit: since I'm SEO, we've had 47 Roc-M registrations, with all but 9 having written and passed the Exam. I am maintaining contact with these 9 persons (4 of whom are from Gabriola) to ensure they complete their courses.

- PCOC (Boating 1):** This summer I tutored 2 students with Boating 1 and supervised on-boat exam sessions. Both students passed. As these students purchase and use the *Boating basics* manual that we ordered and have on hand, I then had to register them and enter their marks directly on the national database. Nigel was referred one Gabriola student to supervise the writing of her PCOC exam. Second interesting tidbit: since I'm SEO, we've had 14 *Boating 1 (PCOC)* registrations, with all but 5 having written and passed the Exam.

- Boating Tips column for the Sounder:** I collected the first set of 6 articles in late June then others gradually came in. Thank you: Sean Lewis, Don Butt, Jean-Pierre VanPraet, John Bullas and Gary Small for the well written articles. I now have 15 on file with 7 having been published. At first columns were posted every week but lately they have been missing – last 3 weeks without columns. Don will be reprinting these articles in *Scuttlebutt*. So far, I've received positive feedback from Gabriolans about the informative content of these short articles.

•**Manuals ordered in June:** Bridge members will remember that I suggested ordering a few copies of the Roc-M and the *Boating Basics* (PCOC) manuals as some of our students find it difficult to study the material using the online platform. Also, many want the manual as a reference manual to keep on board their boat. 5 each of the Roc-M & PCOC manuals were ordered and, to date, all the Roc-M manuals have been sold and we have 3 *Boating Basics* manuals in stock. We have agreed to charge \$5 over the cost we pay to National office. Funds have been handed over to our Treasurer for deposit.

On Tuesday the 31<sup>st</sup> a few of us met to come up with a Course proposal for the Fall and Winter 2021-22. Our offering will be similar to the 2020-21 Fall-winter program with the addition of Seminars that will be held via Zoom until we can meet again in small groups. I've received several requests from new Boaters who've recently moved to our Island, for basic instruction in Boating, Navigating, Weather interpretation, Collision regulations, etc.

Respectfully submitted,  
Agathe Gaulin  
Education Officer