



# The Masthead



Newsletter of The Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron

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October 2012

## From the Commander's Log By Commander Eardley Beaton



Our Fall Boating course has started with a bang!

Your Squadron Training Officer (STO) Glen Hodgkinson will give you the full story elsewhere in this issue; however, I was very pleased with the large registration of students, up some 40% over the Spring and 2011 Fall classes. Very positive news! Glen, Lois, and their instructors and proctors are really busy. And don't forget Twyla, Marilyn, and Dave for all their work with registrations.

*continued on page 2.....*

### BRIDGE

2011-2012

(Abbreviated List—Full List on Website)  
[www.vpsboat.com](http://www.vpsboat.com)

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#### Asst Training Officer —

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#### Asst Training Officer —

##### Advanced & Electives

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P/Cdr Marion Pearson.....604 228-0183

#### Programs Officer

Barbara Constantine.....604 876-0156

#### Environment Officer

Bill Blancard.....604 931-5153

#### Public Relations Officer

Paul Heeney.....604 669-3909

#### Webmaster/IT Officer

Peter Bennett.....604 817-4165

#### Newsletter Officer

Maureen Phillips.....604 739-2166

#### Past Commander

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#### Cruisemaster

Lois MacDonald.....604 266-2582

#### Historian

Dennis Steeves.....604 263-4276

#### Change of Address or Membership Inquiries

Twyla Graeme.....604 738-8563

## Upcoming Events

### • Monday, October 15 - The Good Hope Cannery

If you've cruised to, or fished at Rivers Inlet, you've seen the Good Hope Cannery. Built by Henry Bell-Irving in 1895, and once one of the largest salmon packers in BC, it's now a sport fishing lodge that draws guests from around the world in search of giant "tyee" spring salmon.

**Bruce MacDonald**, author of *The Good Hope Cannery: Life and Death at a Salmon Cannery*, joins us with some fascinating tales. **After his presentation, we want to hear *your* stories after boating to River's Inlet, so come prepared to share your tips and memories.**

### • Monday, November 19 - Sequitur and Beyond

Don't miss the surprising sequel to **Michael Walsh's** September 2011 presentation. After sailing around the "Horn," Michael and Edi's next challenge is the inland waterways of Europe.

*Past, current and incoming Power Squadron members are all welcome at Squadron Nights, held at the False Creek Yacht Club on the north shore of False Creek under the Granville Street Bridge. The doors open at 7:00 pm, the event begins at 7:30 pm, and the cost is \$5.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you there!*

The efforts too of Public Relations Officer (PRO) Paul Heeney with Lawn Signs and the Wooden Boat Festival certainly helped to alert potential students to sign up for our courses.

Squadron Nights are held on the third Monday of most months at the wonderful False Creek Yacht Club...make sure you have given us your e-mail



Photo courtesy of Dennis Steeves

Etheleen looking relaxed and happy (just before the rush).

address so we can advise you what programs have been arranged by our creative Programs Officer, Barbara Constantine. These special social nights are arranged to give all of you, our members, the chance to speak with us and tell us what type of programs you want. We charge only \$5.00 admission, so we subsidize the rental to allow us all to get together in a pleasant setting with good parking...all across from Granville Island. This past month, Barbara arranged for Jeff Coté to speak on

electrical systems, and we had some 45 members in attendance. This month we will hear all about the Good Hope Cannery at River's Inlet...what a wonderful history of the early days on the B.C. Coast.

The CPS-AGM in Edmonton, October 17-21, will give us an update on our coast-to-coast pleasure boating organization. Take a look in the October edition of Canadian Yachting West, from pages 70 to 94, and you will see all the structure that it takes to involve us in the many areas of safe boating beyond the Training, which of course is so important. I will try to get as much information as feasible and report to you next month.

The Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup on September 15 turned out to be disappointing. Bill Blancard put a lot of effort into setting up his signs and providing goodies for our members to volunteer, but few turned out for the event. He will report elsewhere, but I have to say the poor response may indicate our membership just hasn't got the time or interest to continue our participation in this worthwhile project. Please let Bill know your views on this at [gonefishin2@telus.net](mailto:gonefishin2@telus.net).

We need Welcoming Committee/Cashier persons at our Squadron nights. We have had great service from Twyla Graeme, Marilyn Atchison and others, and they rightfully need a break. Last month, the problem was that I thrust Etheleen into it, and with the rush of people between 7:15 pm and 7.45 pm, it was difficult for one person to greet, make change, tear off a ticket, and suggest a name tag. We forgot the tickets and, worst of all, in the rush, the Beatons forgot to pay. (Double in October). If you would like to help, please send me an email to [beatonsbeat@shaw.ca](mailto:beatonsbeat@shaw.ca) or call 604-734-4900.

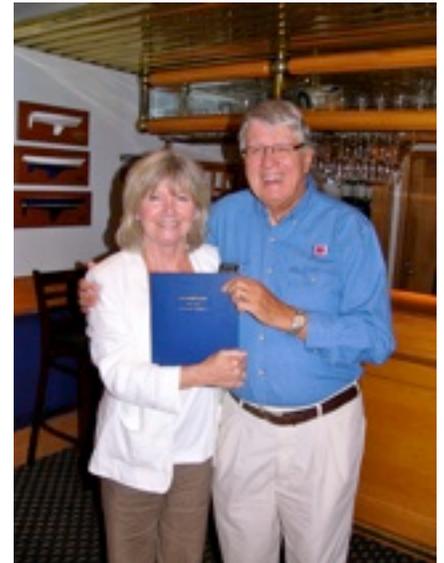
Eardley Beaton

Commander, VPSS



At Squadron Night, Jeff Coté gave a riveting talk on boat electronics that kept everyone sitting on the edge of their seats and wanting to race to their boats and check for leaking batteries.

Eardley Beaton presents a beautifully bound copy of the Masthead issues 2010-2012 to editor, Maureen Phillips, in appreciation for her work.



Photos courtesy of Dennis Steeves

## Strong Enrollment for Boating Classes

Perhaps it was all the sunshine in August and September.

After a miserably cold and wet late spring and early summer, Vancouverites finally had the chance to unhunch their shoulders, walk along the beach and look out at English Bay -- all the while thinking, "I should be the one out there in that beautiful boat."

For 68 of them, the dream was strong enough to sign up for the Boating course. Another dozen are honing their skills, thanks to the Seamanship course. And a further nine are keeping their eye on the sky after enrolling in Fundamentals of Weather.

This year, the Boating course is only being offered on Tuesday nights. With this large a class, proctors are at a premium, and we could use some help.

If you would be willing to donate an hour or two of your time to assist our instructors, please contact either Glen Hodgkinson at [hodge3000@yahoo.ca](mailto:hodge3000@yahoo.ca) or Paul Heeney at [paulheeney@shaw.ca](mailto:paulheeney@shaw.ca).



Photo courtesy of Paul Heeney

Paul Heeney

Public Relations Officer, VPSS

## Wow, the Fall Boating Course is Busy!

We have more than 65 people in our Boating course this fall, and we are all gathered on the one night! Tuesday nights are now filled with lots of eager minds looking for those gems of experience to help them on the water. Our proctors are now settling in with their groups of students and fielding all sorts of questions related to boating here on the West Coast. We will be starting the navigation part of our class this week, and we will be digging in with plotters and dividers to see where we really are on the chart. This term sees a return of some of the instructors of the past, so we look forward to tales from the sea relating to skills and knowledge that our students will need. The staff of the training department is excited to be involved with this great group of people in our Fall courses. We are also looking forward to the Fall Student Cruise, scheduled for the last Saturday of the month. See ya on the water!

Glen Hodgkinson

Squadron Training Officer, VPSS

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## Check for fraying lines...

This is an accident waiting to happen. How long before this boat goes sailing off on its own!



# Senior Minister Defends Coast Guard Closures

## Moore says Vancouver has best protection in Canada

Despite mounting opposition, there is no sign the federal government is backing down from its controversial plan to close the Kitsilano Coast Guard base as well as Coast Guard communication centres in Tofino, Comox, and Vancouver.



Speaking to reporters following his address at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention, Canadian Heritage Minister James Moore defended the Conservative government's decision.

"The reality is that the City of Vancouver and all of British Columbia have more Coast Guard resources, have better Coast Guard protection, than any other port and any other coast in all of the country even with the changes in Kits."

Moore's remarks came after delegates at the convention voted against the closures and called for meetings with the federal government.

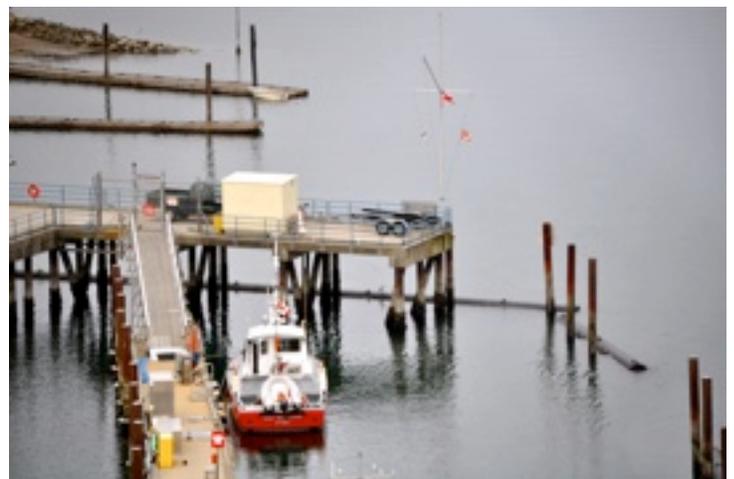
The government insists that boaters will be safe when the Kitsilano base is shut down.

Fisheries Minister Keith Ashfield has promised a new inshore rescue boat station, a \$100,000 funding increase to the volunteer-based Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue, and a new hovercraft stationed at Sea Island.

But a report by the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre, which was leaked to the media, warns that closing the base will result in longer response times from the Sea Island base and "may lead to increased casualties."

Moore said he has since spoken with Coast Guard officials who assured him that response times would not increase.

So far, the only Conservative MP to publicly oppose the closures is James Lunney, who represents the federal riding of Nanaimo/Alberni.



Photos courtesy of Paul Heeney

Paul Heeney

Public Relations Officer, VPSS