Our spring training courses have all finished, except for Boating Basics, which is scheduled for April 8 and just five registered so far. Under STO Peter Girling we have had a very satisfactory set of courses with good response: Boating Essentials - 26; Fundamentals of Weather - 18; MRO - 20. For the March Student Cruise, 22 Boating Essentials students and proctors were invited aboard lovely boats from RVYC at Coal Harbour and we proceeded to Bedwell Bay. Along the way, many exercises were

### Upcoming Events

**Monday, April 21 - Student ‘Mini’ Grad and Guest Speaker**

We hope you’ll drop in to our monthly social evening to extend congratulations and a warm welcome to the newest VPSS members. Details about the guest speaker will be emailed to you shortly.

**Weekend of May 2 to 4 - Cruise to Snug Cove** - See inside for more details.

**Monday, May 12 - BBQ & AGM** - Due to the long weekend, the BBQ and AGM will be held on the 2nd Monday instead of the 3rd Monday of the month. Join us as the Bridge members are acknowledged for all their efforts on our behalf, Commander Eardley Beaton steps down from two successful years at the helm, and Jeff Booth assumes the role. When the applause dies down we’ll all enjoy a fantastic BBQ. Hope to see you there.

**Monday, June 16 - Cruise the Fraser River** - You have driven under it, driven over it, feared it and respected it… but have you cruised on it? Author and Royal City Power and Sail Squadron teacher, Erik Skovgaard, has cruised and lived on the Fraser for over 25 years. He’ll be on hand to share insights, tips and fresh water tales.

Past, current and incoming Power Squadron members are all welcome at Squadron Nights, held on the third Monday of each month. We meet 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!
completed, especially dealing with current at the Second Narrows Bridge. The Boating Essentials exams were administered by PDC Nancy Gibson, and she and Peter do a very thorough job. I didn’t win the little bet on the shortest time it would take for the first student to finish, as I think it was 37 minutes when the exam crossed the marking room threshold, and I guessed it would be longer.

Our next fun social is the Bilgewater Bash took place on Saturday, April 5 at the RVYC (which will have happened by publishing date - see further in the issue for pics), and our first cruise of the year will be to Snug Cove, May 3 and 4.

We’ll have a Student Grad at our April squadron night on April 21 at False Creek Yacht Club, and then our AGM/Change Of Watch (COW) is Monday, May 12 at FCYC.

Finally, at the Milltown Marina Open House on March 15, the large banner from the PMD locker that we had around the canopy tent looked great! We were pleased to have Byron Buie from Fraser Squadron join us inside the huge storage building that kept everyone dry in a real downpour of a day. There were many enquiries about all CPS courses, as they said some 500 people attended the event.

Eardley Beaton

PMD needs one or more volunteers to help out on Saturday, May 24 at the District AGM. It is from 0800 to 1400 at the Executive Inn, Coquitlam. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Eleanor Hashimoto, (604) 522-3448.

JOIN US FOR SQUADRON NIGHTS!

This month’s meeting will be Grad Night! Come out to meet and congratulate our newest members!
March’s Meeting: Green Boating with Michelle Young
Milltown Marina Open House

Many thanks to Eardley Beaton, Dennis Steeves, Lois MacDonald, Barbara Constantine, Nelson and Sheila Giles, as well as Byron Buie from Fraser Squadron, for putting up and manning the booth on short notice!
Please join us for a community event to launch:

Safe Boating Awareness Week
Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:30am

During this event, members of the boating community across Canada will simultaneously inflate their life jackets and wear their foam P.F.D.s to promote boating safety.

Vanier Park, West Boat Ramp
Join us and participate in our Ready, Set, Wear It! Launch

Last year, there were 189 Ready/Set/Wear It events worldwide, with 5,774 people inflating and wearing their lifejackets. With our 2013 benchmark set and more countries eager to join us, Ready/Set/Wear It is poised to blow last year’s record out of the water.

Boating Safety Awareness Week runs this year from May 17 to 23, 2014.
Cruisemaster’s Corner

by Cruisemaster Lois MacDonald at cruisemaster@vpsboat.com

• **May 3-5, 2014 weekend at Snug Cove**
The first cruise for the 2014 weekend will be to Snug Cove on Bowen Island, from Friday, May 2 to Sunday, May 4. To ensure space at the dock, **please reserve no later than April 18 by phoning the Marina** at 604-947-0707 (You can book later, space permitting).

For those unable to come over on Friday, please come over on Saturday. Please bring your favourite potluck dish as well as something to barbecue -- we have reserved the tower at the marina and Exec Officer Jeff Booth will be Grill Master Extraordinaire on the Saturday, late afternoon.

This event is open to both boat owners and non-boat owners as you can get to Snug Cove easily by taking the Bowen Island Ferry from Horseshoe Bay.

Hope you can join us!!

If you have any questions, please contact Lois MacDonald at cruisemaster@vpsboat.com

Congratulations to longtime member and proctor, Peter Mokkonen – proud new captain of a 32’ sailboat. We know you’ve waited a long time for this, Peter, and we’re delighted for you!
Bilgewater Bash!

Let Bilgewater Bash 2014 begin!

So many great prizes!

Our Commander’s wife, Etieleen, samples the “bilgewater”
See you all again next year!
Lifejacket World Record Day
Help break the world record!

Boating safety is in for a world of change. Join boaters from around the world to raise safety awareness and set a new world record for Lifejacket World Record Day.

Celebrate Safe Boating Awareness Week by:
Joining us at our Ready Set Wear It event in Vancouver
Location: Vanier Park
Date: Saturday May 17th, '14
Time: 11:00 am

Be sure to arrive early and bring your Lifejacket!

Or...create your own event!
For more info about events, visit csbc.ca

Canadian Safe Boating Council
Conseil canadien de la sécurité nautique

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