Upcoming Events

**Saturday, April 11 - Bilgewater Bash!** - Get ready to party on April 11 at The Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. Read on for additional event information and ticket details below in this Masthead.

**Monday, April 20 - Student Mini Grad & "The Risks and Rewards of Buying a Yacht"** - D/C Shirley Shea will be on-hand to swear in 30 graduates of the Boating Essentials students from our Spring class. David Worland from Grand Yachts will also join us to give away all the secrets of boat buying (ok, maybe not all, but maybe a few). See further in this issue for more details.

**May 1 to 3 - Bowen Island Cruise** - This event is open to both boat owners and non-boat owners alike, so if you don't have your own boat, please enjoy the ride on the Bowen Island Ferry from Horseshoe Bay to Snug Cove. Then it will be just a short walk down to the dock or up to the tower. We hope to see you there!!

**May 22 & 23 - PMD Annual General Meeting** - At the Executive Plaza Hotel, Coquitlam. See below in Masthead for more details

**June 6 & 7 - Men's Cruise** - Are you a guy? Do you have a boat, or know someone with a boat? Then join the Men's Cruise coming up this June. Details below in this Masthead.

**July 3 to 5 - PMD Rendezvous** - Join us for fun and games at Snug Cove, Bowen Island, for this summer's rendezvous. See below in Masthead for details.

*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. We look forward to seeing you there!*
From the Commander's Log....

It's hard to believe — cruising season is almost upon us! We have enjoyed a good spring season of educating members of the general public on safe boating through our course offerings, and participated in several boat shows. This is a big year for us, as next month marks our 60th Anniversary as Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron!

We have some fun cruising activities coming together for this year, and I encourage you to come out and enjoy spending time with your fellow members, even if you do not have a boat! Be sure to read further in this edition of the Masthead for more details.

I would also like to encourage you to attend our Bilgewater Bash, on Saturday, April 11 at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club Jericho, if you haven't already purchased tickets. This is an annual formal event where we get to let loose a little, and enjoy the fellowship of our members. Buffet dinner, dancing, DJ, door prizes and the infamous Bilgewater Bash punch. Be sure to check for details in the pages below!

Our mission as a squadron is threefold: To provide safe boating education to the general public, to foster fellowship among members, and to establish partnerships with organizations interested in boating. Above all, we have a passion for safe boating, and encourage all boaters to educate themselves on what it means to enjoy boating in a responsible manner. We are all volunteers, in a non-profit organization. Have a skill? Why not give back, and have a little fun doing it? Please contact me by phone, text or email and let me know! I'd love to hear from you.

Jeff Booth
Commander
778-386-5828
commander@vpsboat.org
Secretary needed to join VPS Bridge!

We need you!

The position of Squadron Secretary mainly involves reliable attendance at Bridge meetings and a few hours per month to prepare the minutes. The work requires basic word processing, e-mail and web navigation skills, and an understanding of squadron regulations and standard rules of order for running business meetings. It is an excellent way to contribute to the smooth running of the squadron without requiring a lot of effort or time.

Some of the things you'd be doing:

- Take minutes of squadron meetings (the Bridge meetings are on the last Monday of each month except July, August and December, and the Squadron AGM in May).
- Prepare the Notice of Meeting and agenda for the Squadron AGM.
- Prepare a Bridge contact list and squadron calendar of events, and keep it up to date.
- Conduct squadron correspondence (of which there is very little).
If you've been wondering how you can get involved, and contribute to this amazing organization, this is it!
Please contact your Nominations Committee (info below in Masthead) or Commander Jeff Booth at 778-336-5828 or commander@vpsboat.org.

JOIN US FOR SQUADRON NIGHTS!

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 20.

The Risks and Rewards of Buying a Yacht

There are many intricacies involved in buying a yacht. It can be very time consuming and involves searching, learning about designs and developing expectations, narrowing the search, preparing the offer, negotiating, inspecting, repairing, licensing, training, insuring, mooring, transferring, clearing loans and mortgages and liens, and ensuring clean legal title. What else?

David Worland will address effective, careful and fun boat shopping and buying. Buyers and sellers must be prudent while still focusing on an incredibly important part of your lifestyle. What are the best practices to minimize risk, and maximize confidence? Can one be this careful and still have fun?

David Worland grew up cruising and racing in all kinds of boats all his life; Lasers and keel boats growing up on Lake Erie; ski boats in the Muskokas; 15 years on a Little Harbor 54 from Cape Breton to Grenada (and many places in between!); a Contest 55 in Europe, and here in BC and Washington; from a C&C 27 and a Limestone 24, to a Fleming 55, a Nordhavn 62, and many boats in between!

Trained in finance and marketing at Wilfrid Laurier University, David joined Grand Yachts in January 2008, after 11 years with another Vancouver and Seattle yacht brokerage, and five years in the corporate world. David was President of the BCYBA in 2013 and 2014 and is an active volunteer on the Certified Professional Yacht Broker Certification Advisory Council.

Squadron Nights provide a great opportunity to socialize with fellow boaters, find out what’s happening in the squadron, and experience fun and fascinating guest speakers. If you haven’t attended before, we meet in the FalseCreek Yacht Club pub. Guests are welcome! Be sure to mark your calendar for the third Monday evening of each month. We look forward to seeing you!
May to 3 - Bowen Island Cruise

It's Cruise time!

The first cruise of the season will at Snug Cove on Bowen Island (Friday May 1 to Sunday May 3, 2015)

To ensure space at the dock, please reserve no later than April 17 by phoning the Marina at 604-947-0707 and letting them know you are with the Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron. (You can book later, space permitting).

Please also let me know if your coming or have any questions (call or text 778-879-9024 or email ingridmclaine@yahoo.com)

All are welcome, whether you're coming on your own boat or by ferry. There is also nearby accommodation available for booking.

For those unable to come over on Friday, come over on Saturday! We are planning a BBQ/potluck on the Saturday afternoon. Please bring your favourite potluck dish as well as something to barbecue -- we have reserved the tower at the marina and may be using it for the BBQ.

Itinerary

Friday Night: Meet up at Bowen Island Pub

Saturday:
Day Hike to Killarney Lake (3 hrs round trip) - plan to bring a lunch
5pm - BBQ at the Tower (beef/veggie burgers provided)
Please bring a potluck dish

Sunday: Breakfast at Eats Cafe at Artisan Square

We hope to see you there!!
Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron Presents

2015 COMMANDER’S BILGEWATER BASH DINNER DANCE

Royal Vancouver Yacht Club
6pm - 12am

All Squadrions welcome! The Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron’s 2015 Commander’s Bilgewater Bash Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, April 11th at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, 3811 Point Grey Road, Vancouver, BC.

Doors open: 17:45, Bilgewater at: 18:00, Dinner at: 19:00, Doors close at: 12:00

Tickets: $80.00 per person (includes the ‘famous’ Bilgewater punch). Door prize draws and dancing to the DJ will follow the delicious RVYC buffet dinner. To reserve your tickets please call Ruth Cuddeford at 604-294-5310 (Mon-Fri 08:30hrs to 17:00hrs). Only 120 tickets are available, so call Ruth ASAP so as not to be disappointed!

March's Meeting Night

Neil Wildman of Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue share some of his stories with us.
What better way to celebrate the arrival of spring than by planning summer fun! The annual Pacific Mainland District Rendezvous has been confirmed for July 3 - 5 at the Union SteamShip Marina at Snug Cove on Bowen Island. Whether you're looking to challenge yourself at the fun events or just catch up with old friends, this is the place to be. Mark your calendars and start inviting friends!

If you're opting to take the ferry over, accommodations are available on a first come, first served basis.

In order to provide appropriate moorage, please contact the Union SteamShip Marina directly and mention that you're with CPS Pacific Mainland District. They'll require your vessel length and credit card to secure to your slip. Book early to reserve a spot! You can cancel up to 48 hours prior to the event. They can be reached at 604-947-0707 Ext.1.
If anyone would like to volunteer their time, or has suggestions for fun events, please let me know by emailing izia@me.com

Isabela Booth  
Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons  
Escadrilles canadiennes de plaisance  
Pacific Mainland District  
Public Relations Officer

----- Forwarded Message  
From: Ilona Monahan Ilona.Monahan@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Hi
I believe I have already heard from a lot of your fellow mariners on their safety concerns as well. The Canadian Hydrographic Service is logging all these requests and the tidal group members will be recommending to include imperial and metric in the 2016 books again next year. Unfortunately, the decision is not ours alone, but we will certainly try to make a strong case to put the imperial back into the books.

Thanks  
ILona Monahan  
Tidal Officer, Canadian Hydrographic Service  

Agent des marées, Service hydrographique du Canada  
new office/bureau 613-995-4311, fax 613-996-9053  
ilona.monahan@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2015/16 BRIDGE

SHIPS ARE OPERATED FROM THE BRIDGE….. OUR SQUADRON IS NO DIFFERENT.

WE ELECT OUR BRIDGE AT OUR AGM IN MAY.

This early appeal is to all members to consider stepping up to get involved. Despite having some really good bridge members this current term, lead by Commander Jeff Booth, we still expect that some positions will need to be filled come spring.

PLEASE CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE TO ASK QUESTIONS AND INDICATE WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO TO HELP OUT.

- Chair: EARDLEY BEATON, P/Cdr
  Phone 604-734-4900 or Email beatonsbeat@shaw.ca
- BILL STEWART, P/Cdr
- JEFF BOOTH, Cdr
HELP WANTED

VPSS has an amazing history, and some of that history has been captured in photos over the years. The bridge would like to digitize these photos in order to create digital albums of all the great activities we have enjoyed over the years; to remember members, past and present.

Therefore, we are looking for some volunteers who would be willing to take on this project. If you are interested in helping our squadron to honour those memories, and have some thoughts about how it could be done, please reach out to Commander Jeff Booth or Historian Dennis Steeves, either by phone or email, and let them know.

Be part of a fantastic legacy project honouring Vancouver Squadron’s 60 years of service!
Do you have expired flares?

You can’t light them, throw them in the water or in your household garbage

Canadian Sail & Power Squadron and Steveston Marine & Hardware

are hosting a

Safety Equipment Education and Flare Disposal Day

Learn about required safety equipment, the care and maintenance of that equipment and how to safely and effectively use flares when needed.

DATE: Saturday May 2, 2015

Bring Your Expired Flares !!

PLACE: Steveston Marine & Hardware Stores at all 3 Locations:

Vancouver 1667 W 5th Ave / Richmond 3560 Moncton St / Langley # 201-19700 Langley Bypass

TIME: 9:00am - 5:00pm

In accordance with Transport Canada requirements, flares are approved for four years from the date of manufacture. Typically, this means that you need to replace your flares every third or fourth boating season and dispose of the old ones. If they have expired or will expire during the boating season, you must replace them... it’s the law!
Vancouver Power & Sail Squadron Men’s Cruise

Will be held on June 06 & 07, 2015
Indian Arm

- Make new friends in the boating community
- Lots of money to be won along with great prizes
- Other fun events
- Dinner prepared by Red Seal Chef “Phill”
- Transport Canada Safety Checks available
- Try participating in a navigation exercise and learn even more about your boat
- Visit other boats to see how they are outfitted

Please talk to other members of your Squadron and make them aware of this popular event. Encourage your male friends to join you. They do not need to be CPS members.

Put a crew together today! The more the merrier!

Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron Men’s Cruise Committee

*If you have any questions about this event – call John Steede at 604-230-0848

Click Here to download the Men's Cruise Registration Form
This year is our Vancouver Power Squadron's 60th Anniversary!
Vancouver Power Squadron History

On a June 21, 1978 meeting of the Vancouver Power Squadron, the retired commanders of VPS were asked to briefly outline highlights of their term of office. As D/C (ret.) Bob Thatcher’s association and term of office spanned the actual formation as well as the early years of the squadron, his outline covered this period. Walter Lavey, VPS correspondent to Propwash thought this account may be of general interest, and asked Bob to relate the story, told here.
It started in the fall of 1953 when my friend and business associate Pat Dahle informed me that he was interested in purchasing a boat. Pat was aware that I had been involved with boats for many years and asked if there was a course he could take on piloting and boat handling that would make him reasonably proficient and prevent him from becoming a menace to himself and others on the water. This was a very good question but not easily answered. Books on various aspects of boating and piloting were available and a few courses were held periodically by yacht clubs for members. Yearly courses were held at the Vocational Institute for professional seaman studying for Board of Trade tickets but were not suitable for the recreational sailor or boatman.

Up to this time, those bold enough bought a boat, started the engine and away they went from the dock. One learned mainly by exposure to the sea and picking up information from companions who were probably poorly informed or misinformed. The serious amateur studied on his own but this was for the few who had great determination. There was no course available for the part-time sailor.

At this time, Mr. Lincoln Clarke was introduced to Dahle. Lincoln was a resident of Balboa, California, and was in Vancouver as the chief engineer of the construction company erecting the Royalite Refinery in Kamloops. It was soon learned that Linc was a keen sailor and a member of the Balboa Squadron, USPS. His advice was to seek the local Power Squadron and take the Boating Course. It soon became evident that there was no local squadron. Clarke made some inquiries through his own squadron and obtained a P.O. Box number in Toronto for an organization known as Canadian Power Squadrons. We got a letter away to CPS and asked where and how the course could be taken. It should be remembered that at this stage of the game, all we wanted was to take the course. It never occurred to us that organizing a squadron would be a necessary requirement. In due time an answer was received, signed by Alec Neville, Chairman of Admissions, CPS. Alec informed us that the nearest squadron was at Port Arthur, Ontario. He also advised us that a West Coast squadron would be welcomed by CPS and gave us all information necessary to initiate a study group leading to the formation of a squadron. Alec also advised us that another inquiry recently came from Vancouver and suggested we get together with this person. His name was Tommy Pakenham.
Charter presentation ceremonies were carried out in May, 1955 at HMCS Discovery, after all candidates for membership were presented with their certificates and given the membership pledge.

Tommy was well known to me from a predicted log race to Juneau Alaska the previous year. A telephone call to Tommy confirmed his enthusiasm to form a squadron and thought it was a great idea to work together. A meeting was then held to decide what we were going to do. We had the feeling by now that had a lion by the tail and couldn’t let go. For the record, those in attendance at the first organizing meeting were, Tom Pakenham, Pat Dahle, Lincoln Clarke, Bill McBean (a friend of Clarke) and Bob Thatcher. It was decided to go ahead with the project as there was a great need for the services provided by CPS. Dahle was named chairman, Thatcher became assistant chairman and Pakenham became class chairman. A decision was made to commence a class somewhere in the Vancouver area in the fall of 1954.

Strange as it may seem now, it was not easy finding enough people interested in forming a class. Initially those we approached thought they knew all there was to know about boating. There was a good deal of resistance from the major yacht clubs who saw us as a threat to their interests. The more we were ridiculed the more determined we became and the harder we sold the need for CPS. After months of hard work we has a list of about forty names who said they wanted to take the course.

Arrangements were made by Tom Pakenham to hold a class at HMCS Discovery, starting the first week of October, 1954. Kits were ordered some time before and arrived in September. Dahle, Pakenham and I put up the money for the first kits because they were shipped COD. As I recall, our cost was five dollars each, including Chapman’s (then the textbook required for the course). As an incentive to get people to sign up we agreed to sell the kits at cost. On the first night, 32 of the 40 turned up. Many of them, it seemed to me, to get Chapman’s at a lower cost than regular retail price. Within a month this group had shrunk to about 15 and we became concerned that we wouldn’t have enough to form a squadron after writing the exam.

One of our small group, Frank Holden, was stricken with a coronary and was in hospital for most of the time. Dahle was forced to drop out due to business pressure. Our instructors were mostly professional sailors and except for a few, confused us more than they taught us. Eventually we instructed ourselves. We finished the term with Clarke, McBean, Pakenham and Thatcher doing the
instructing and review work. The big night arrived and 14 wrote the exam. One of the 14 was Frank Holden who got permission from his doctor to write the exam in hospital. When the results were mailed to us, the required 12 passed and 2 failed. As it turned out, Rolly Ellison, a member of Toronto Power Squadron was transferred by his company to the Vancouver office and became the 13 name on Vancouver Charter. Rolly also supervised the exam under instructions from CPS.

This is how the Vancouver Power Squadron was formed and the beginning of Canadian Power Squadrons on the West Coast of Canada.

A meeting was called and application for a charter was approved, the squadron was to be known as Vancouver Power Squadron. The first executive was elected and took office after the granting of the Charter. The first executive was Squadron Commander, Tom Pakenham; Executive Officer, Bob Thatcher; Administrative Officer, Bruce Taylor; Secretary, Cece Hurd; Treasurer, Jim Hatchett.

The Chief Commander of CPS at that time was Bill Thompson, and he advised us that neither he nor any other member of the National Executive could travel to Vancouver at that time for the Charter presentation. This left us in a position of being fully qualified to form a squadron and nobody able to give us the official blessing. This problem was solved when somebody had the bright idea to ask District Commander Dusty Kemmish of District 16, USPS to preside at the ceremonies. D/C Kemmish was contacted and said he would be delighted to act on behalf of our Chief Commander.

Charter presentation ceremonies were carried out in May, 1955 at HMCS Discovery, after all candidates for membership were presented with their certificates and given the membership pledge. D/C Kemmish was meticulously instructed in a 17-page telegram he received from C/C Thompson. Dusty was accompanied by a group of officers from District 16 and the Seattle Power Squadron. In addition to Dusty, were Reg Harting, Orville Lupton, Rutherford Hayes, Ivan Pinion and some others whose names escape me now. When the serious part of the ceremonies were dispensed with, we had a bang-up party. A close and continuing friendly relationship was established between District 16 USPS and the Vancouver Power Squadron and eventually the three Western Districts of CPS.
It was fun, I wouldn’t have missed it for anything!

This is how the Vancouver Power Squadron was formed and the beginning of Canadian Power Squadrons on the West Coast of Canada. Most of the charter members became very active and within two years we were trying to accommodate classes numbering over a hundred. At first we were overwhelmed, but with help and advice from District 16 and Seattle Power Squadron we gradually brought the organization under control. Through all of this, the energy, enthusiasm and devotion of one man stands out above all the others, Tommy Pakenham, the first Commander of VPS. It was fun, I wouldn’t have missed it for anything!

D/C (ret.) Bob Thatcher, Vancouver Power Squadron

BRIDGE
2014-2015

(Abbreviated List—Full List on our website) www.vpsboat.com

Commander
Jeff Booth.........................(778) 386-5828
Executive Officer
Roger Middleton...............(778) 388-2867
Educational Officer
P/Cdr John Steede.............(604) 274-0087
Asst Educational Officer
Glen Hodgkinson.............(604) 233-0443
Secretary
P/Cdr Marion Pearson.......(604) 228-0183
Programs Officer
TBA.................................
Environment Officer
Bill Blancard...................(604) 931-5153
Public Relations Officer
Don White.......................(604) 221-1510
Webmaster/IT Officer
Peter Bennett...................(604) 817-4165
Newsletter Officer
Nadia Mudge
Past Commander
Eardley Beaton...............(604) 734-3944
Cruise Coordinator
Ingrid McLaine
Historian
Dennis Steeves..............(604) 263-4276
Supply Officer (Regalia)
P/Cdr Don Zarowny.........(604) 267-7442
Change of Address or