Subject: VPS Masthead
From: Vancouver Squadron <contact@vpsboat.org>
Date: 2017-12-07 7:36 PM
To: Peter B Bennett <peterbb@telus.net>

Masthead Changes
The Masthead has a new issue date. Submissions cutoff will be the first Wednesday of the month. You can expect to see it in your Inbox on the second Wednesday of the month.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
WHERE EVER THE SEAS FIND YOU!
Wow, I can't believe another month has flown by, and here we are in another holiday season. Time to break out the lights and decorate your boats! We will be dressing up Wings and going for a cruise this weekend. I've not done this with the sails still on before, so this should be interesting! People I meet love seeing the Christmas spirit and boats all lit up. Please consider spreading some cheer, and taking out some friends for an hour or so if you have some time—even better if we can coordinate. We live in a truly magical place on the sea, let's keep it that way... especially if this sunny, warm(ish) weather keeps up.

Please come join us for our last Social Night of 2017. We’ll be starting a little earlier because we’ve brought back the potluck for the holidays! We had some snacks at the last meeting and it went over well, so it was suggested that we try a potluck again... special thanks to Ethel Beaton and Sheila Steeves for taking the lead, and again to Brian Kennedy for keeping these wonderful programs coming, month after month. I’m excited to taste your delicious creations this time around! If you’re not able to cook or bring something, that’s okay too, please still come. The FCYC bar will be open, as usual, and Dominique Prinet will be speaking to us about Celestial Navigation. Dominique has led a very interesting life with many incredible accomplishments, so it should be another fun and interesting evening.

For those of you who missed last month’s meeting, I filled in for our scheduled speaker who has been rescheduled for January, and spoke about my adventures as a rookie whale watch captain. Basically, I walked the audience through a day in the life, with some of the season’s highlights. Some spectacular photos were provided by Andy Scheffler, one of our Wildlife Guides, and photographer extraordinaire. I have included a few below for your enjoyment. I also made a few presentations of awards secured by Vancouver Squadron at the recent National Conference in Charlottetown, PEI:

**Natural Marine National Environmental Award** – Bill Blancard, Environmental Officer  
**Ref Reid Award for Boat and Engine Maintenance Instructor of the Year** – Glen Hodgkinson, P  
**G William Bowman Volunteer Instructor of the Year Award** – Glen Hodgkinson, P  
**National Officer of the Year** – Peter Girling, SN
REF REID AWARD
is presented to the
Boat & Engine Maintenance Instructor

D. GLEN HODGKINSON, P
VANCOUVER SQUADRON
2017
Congratulations to all the winners!

There was one more special presentation of a beautiful ship’s bell to Nadia Mudge, our previous Masthead Editor for her many years of dedicated hard work for the squadron. Thank-you again, Nadia!

At the Pacific Mainland District meeting this past Monday, my suspicions became official. We are once again Canada’s largest squadron, edging out the newly amalgamated North Shore Squadron, by just one member… I know we’ve added at least three more since then too. This time last year they were well ahead of us in numbers. A huge thank-you to Twyla Graeme and John Steede, our Membership and Education Officers respectively, for your continuous hard work in this area, and thank you to all of the students and returning members who believe in what we do here. We truly appreciate your support, and are listening to get you better value for your membership dollar. A number of new benefits have been added recently, so I will be sending out a more detailed note about these in the next edition, but suffice it to say, you can now very easily save way more than your membership fees if you own a boat and/or use the discounted services. Here are some highlights:

SAVE
50% - BoatUS membership
33% - C-Tow Membership
30% - Coleman outdoor products via their online store
25% - Cowan Boat Insurance, and 20% on Home and Auto
25% - Weems and Plath navigation tools and gear
15% - Fugawi marine hardware and digital charts from CHS, Navionics and C-Map
15% - Choice Hotels (Comfort and Quality Inn) stays
10% - National Car Rental
10% - Rona Hardware
8% - Steveston Marine & Hardware

Coming soon
Martin Marine
Up to 30% - Lordco

With the new national computer system coming online soon, we will be working on a new way to make your membership even easier to set up or renew. In the meantime, if it's time for you to renew before we get there, please let me or Twyla know if you need any assistance, and we'd be happy to help you.

Jerry Powers, our Government Liaison Officer, let us know that there are some changes to port operations, boundaries, and regulations, effective October 2017. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the new mini-charts and rules for Burrard Inlet and the Fraser River. Thanks Jerry!

Quick Guide:
https://www.portvancouver.com/marine-operations/marine-recreational-activities/

Full Guide:
https://www.portvancouver.com/marine-operations/port-information-guide/

Last, but certainly not least, I wanted to update everyone on the latest news from UBC’s Trans-Atlantic SailBot, Ada. On Friday, December 1, she was found and rescued by the US Research Vessel Neil Armstrong approximately 200 miles off the Florida Coast, a year-and-a-half after she began her journey. She has literally had an epic adventure; she broke the world record for longest autonomous sail before tragedy struck 800 km into her passage from Newfoundland to Ireland, where she was dismasted in a storm. She managed to continue to transmit her location for several months before communications were completely lost somewhere south of the Azores. Much to the credit of the UBC Naval Architects and Engineers who designed and built her, the hull was found otherwise afloat and intact, miraculously surviving even this year’s intense hurricane season. They are greatly looking forward to seeing her again and obtaining her black box upon the Neil Armstrong’s return to port at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on the 15th. Stay tuned!
Full story here:

Photos:
https://www.flickr.com/photos/ubcpublicaffairs/sets/72157690482477155/with/38817066031/

Media Contacts

If Woods Hole rings a bell for you, it’s for good reason; it is also the home of Dr. Bob Ballard, a professor of Oceanography who has an outstanding track record of discovering hard-to-find sunken ships, such as Titanic, Lusitania, USS Yorktown, JFK’s PT-109, and the German battleship Bismarck...to name just a few. He’s been one of my heroes since childhood. Definitely someone I would love to meet one day!

Cheers, and see you at Monday’s Social!
Rog

Roger Middleton, AP
Commander, Vancouver Squadron

SQUADRON SOCIAL NIGHT
Christmas Potluck & Celestial Navigation
Monday December 11th
Starts Early for the Potluck!

Doors open at 6:00
Dinner at 6:30
Guest Speaker at 7:30

CHRISTMAS POT LUCK DINNER IS BACK

Bring a favourite appetizer, salad, main, or dessert (for 4-6)
Food that can be served warm or room temperature is ideal as we have no kitchen access

COFFEE PROVIDED

Join us at the False Creek Yacht Club for a festive evening of eating and socializing

$5 per person at the door
Cash bar is available for your enjoyment
Our guest speaker in December will be Dominique Prinet.

Dominique has an Engineering degree from UBC, and an MBA from McGill. He flew commercially along the BC coast in the mid-sixties, and continued in the Arctic for many years, on skis and floats. He holds an Airline Pilot license, and used an astro-compass to navigate in the High Arctic. He continued his aviation career as VP of Canadian Airlines in Vancouver, and went to Africa for five years, turning around and managing Air Tanzania.

Dominique is a sailing instructor for all levels at Sail Canada and ISPA, and an Instructor Evaluator for Sail Canada. He also holds a 60-ton Master’s ticket. He was teaching sailing in Vancouver, in class and on water, for 15 years, until 2015. He sailed in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, across the Atlantic with a sextant, in the Caribbean, and along the B.C. Coast. He has published four books: Celestial Navigation and Coastal Navigation (each with a “Course” and an “Exercises” book).

On Monday, Dec 11, his presentation will be: Concepts of Celestial Navigation.

The one-hour presentation explains the basic concepts of Celestial Navigation: determination of latitude from a noon site and Polaris; determination of longitude with a precise time-piece; general case where the boat is on a circle of position centered on the Geographic Position of the sun; introduction to the Almanac, the Sight Reduction Tables, and the Marc St Hilaire method.

*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!*
The Vancouver Boat Show IS COMING!! Are you ready?

Consider volunteering at the District Booth - contact Cdr Roger for more details

To sign up for the Skippers Club and get Boat Show tickets at discount prices, go to:

http://www.vancouverboatshow.ca/show-info/newsletter/

November Social Night
Photo Gallery

Congratulations to Peter Girling on National Officer of the Year. Well done indeed!!
Congratulations to Bill Blancard, our Environmental Officer, winner of the Natural Marine National Environmental Award
Thank you Nadia Mudge, for all your hard work as the Masthead Editor!
Congrats to Glen Hodgkinson, winner of both
National Volunteer Instructor of the Year
- AND -
Boat and Engine Maintenance Instructor of the Year
Unfortunately, we found no confirmation that the Carol Ships Parade was planned for this year. Let us know if you hear otherwise!!

Three carol ships-related events that are scheduled for 2017 are the following:

**Saturday, December 2, 2017** – Shipyards Christmas Festival: free Christmas-y activities at the Shipyards in North Vancouver between 4:00 and 7:00 pm on 2nd. Featured at the event is a 65-foot-tall Ferris wheel, artisan market, the lighting of the city’s official Christmas tree and live entertainment with *The Beauty Shop Dolls, Windsor Senior Chamber Choir* and *Seymour Dance School*. Carol ships will hopefully make an appearance at the event, but no guarantees.

**Friday, December 8, 2017** – Carol Ships at Barnet Marine Park: the Carol Ships are expected to make an appearance offshore by the Barnet Marine Park at 8181 Barnet Road in Burnaby on December 8th between around 8 and 8:30 pm. It’ll be a pretty low key event, although the concession stand will be open (weather permitting).

**Saturday, December 9, 2017** – Carol Ships Shoreline Celebration: a small free community event at Deep Cove’s Panorama Park in North Vancouver that features a bonfire, music, craft activities for kids, and (hopefully) boats with Christmas lights motoring around out on the water between 7:30 and 9 pm on December 9th.
We are still looking for an Executive Officer, a Secretary and a Financial Officer!

Can you keep legible notes? Want to add up the numbers for the Squadron? Know someone who does??

In order to keep the Squadron alive and kicking, we need more support for our Bridge.

Contact our Commander Roger Middleton or our Past Commander Jeff Booth to get more information!

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Education Officer Report
written by John Steede

Boating 2 & 3

Boating 2 exam on November 14, was written by 15 students, with 3 to write at a later date. All that wrote passed achieving marks above 80%, with 93% of the class above 90% and one of Elizabeth’s students getting 100%.

The Student Cruise was held on November 18, with 16 out of the 18 students that signed up, participating. The four boats were: Deora, skipper - Bill Botham; Pterides, skipper - Terry Heselton; Tonda, skipper - Bob Harris; Daruma, skipper - John Steede. The
day started off very wet in the early morning, but cleared up by the time the students arrived at 0830 and remained dry for the remainder of the day. It was a great learning experience for everyone, and would not have been possible without all the help of our instructors & proctors. A special thanks to all our skippers who generously volunteered their boats, fuel, and time, to give our students a learning experience of a lifetime! Dave Atchison for organizing the students with the boats.

**Boating 1 (Boating Basics)**

Commenced on Thursday November 16 with 16 students registered, exams are on Dec 07

**It is time to start thinking of our Spring Courses starting January 13, 2018**

Consider a Christmas gift for children, grandchildren or friends

- Boating 4 Near Shore Marine Navigation, level 1(Seamanship) 11 weeks - Jan 23,2018
- Boating 2 (Beyond the PCOC) & 3 (Introduction to Navigation), 12 weeks - Jan 23,2018
- Boat & Engine Maintenance, 10 weeks - Jan 23, 2018
- Marine Electrical Systems, 8 weeks - Jan 25, 2018
- Boating 1 (Boating Basics - PCOC) 4 weeks - April 05, 2018
- Maritime Radio, 1 day - Saturday Feb 03, 2018
- Maritime Radio, 1 day - Saturday March 03, 2018
- Maritime Radio, 1 day - Saturday April 07, 2018
- Maritime Radio, 1 day - Saturday May 05, 2018

Registration beyond the cut-off date (14 days prior to the start of course) may result in a delay of course materials & there will be an additional shipping cost of $20.00
The Fall 2017 student cruise was a great success. The weather cooperated with the rain holding off until the end of day.

Sixteen students and 9 proctors with four skippers and their boats left the Royal Van Yacht Club, Stanley Park at approximately 0900 hours. Thanks to Dave Atchison for coordinating everything. Boats were: Deora (Bill Botham), Daruma (John Steede), Pierides (Terry Heselton) and Tonda (Bob Harris).

First stop was the starboard marker for Burnaby Shoal. After perusing several points on the paper charts, the students plotted and gave a course to the captain to take them safely under the center of the Second Narrows Bridge.

Approximate times were calculated using 60D=St and then corrected for the flood current. Next bearings were taken to calculate a fix. The students were all amazingly accurate, with their calculated fixes often right on that taken by the boat’s GPS.
After all the chart reading, calculating, bearings and plotting, we all arrived in Bedwell Bay to raft up for lunch.

Deora moving into position to tie on the starboard side of Pierides

Everyone brought their own lunch, but many also contributed other goodies to share as everyone visited each of the boats.
This resulted in quite a feast on some boats!

All the boats rafted: *Deora, Pierides, Daruma* and *Tonda*

John put his dinghy down so that we were able to get the group shot
We also saw how NOT to anchor!

We finished the day with a relaxing cruise back and a chance for everyone to admire the wonderful scenery before docking back at the RVYC docks around 1500 hours.

Everyone enjoyed the cruise and thought it was a great learning experience as well as being fun. “Today was worth the price of the whole course” (quote from a participant)
Bent Prop Award
We would love to resurrect the Bent Prop Award at the Bilgewater Bash!

Most of you have a story or two, cringe worthy but laughable, entertaining and embarrassing. Stories you tell at the dock, at the pub and at the Squadron Nights. Maybe it's something you did, something your dock neighbour forgot to do or something you saw come undone!

We'd like to hear them too! Share your stories with us. We'll post them here. Add a picture if you have them. The best one will be up for our Broken Prop Award at the Bilgewater Bash next spring!

Email them to editor@vpsboat.org

A Perfect Christmas Present!!

Vancouver Squadron has lots of types of courses starting in January. One of our most popular courses is the One Day Marine Radio Course. Give the gift of safe boating education.

Just click on the schedule below for more details.

Makes a great stocking stuffer!
## Vancouver

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>End Date</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boating 2 and 3 Combined</td>
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<td>Boating 4 – Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 1</td>
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## St. James Community Square

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<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>British Columbia</td>
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*Click here to register at BoatingCourses.ca*

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**HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?**

*Click the button to renew*
Commander                      Roger Middleton     604-354-3210
Executive Officer             
Educational Officer           P/Cdr John Steede     604-274-0087
Asst Educational Officer      Elizabeth Zygmunt
Educational Support           P/Cdr Peter Girling
Financial Officer             Les Hausch
Communications Officer        Cara Duffield
Programs Officer              Brian Kennedy
Environment Officer           Bill Blancard
Webmaster/IT Officer          Peter Bennett       604-817-4165
Past Commander                P/Cdr Jeff Booth
Cruise Coordinator            Ingrid McLaine
Historian                     Dennis Steeves     604-263-4276
Supply Officer (Regalia)      P/Cdr Don Zarowny   604-267-7442