From the Commander’s Log
By Commander Bill Stewart

As your outgoing commander, I want to bring to your attention the fact that our Squadron marks its 57th year of teaching safe boating and is run, as you know, by very dedicated volunteers. These people, from our proctors to instructors to our Bridge members, have all put in a considerable amount of time, and this has made our Squadron a continued success over all these years. We will recognize these people at our AGM May 14th with a Merit Mark representing a minimum of 20 hours of service to our Squadron.

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Upcoming Events

• June 2 - Cruise to Bowen Island (see page 4)

• June 9 & 10 - Stag Cruise (see page 5)

• June 18 - Student Graduation (with special guest presentation)

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 only $5.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you there!
Vancouver Squadron is well known for teaching the boating course and other elective courses. We have been fortunate to be one of the larger squadrons in Canada that continue to have reasonable class sizes.

But I must tell you that our class sizes have been reduced over the last five years. This is not just our Squadron but is seen on a national basis. As you know, we traditionally have offered the boating course on Tuesday and Thursday nights in the same week. So for the first time in many years, we will be teaching now only one night a week.

CPS National has changes coming up in the type of courses offered. There will be “Boating Basics” (Pleasure Craft Operator Card) and “Boating Essentials,” more like our existing boating course. We will keep our membership informed as we learn more about these upcoming course changes and when they will take place.

To continue our success in teaching the many courses offered, we must find new volunteers from our membership or from other sources who are willing to step up and help to keep our Squadron running strong for many more generations to come.

Being involved is very rewarding, and I know from personal experience you will not only meet really nice people and make new friendships and share boating experiences, but you can continually attend the various courses over and over again, and this will keep your navigational skills sharp. So I do encourage you to think of your Squadron and give back some of the time that was given to you by other volunteers during your learning experience in the Boating course.

An area of great success in our Squadron is our student cruises, and these always prove to be a highlight to our Boating course students. I can’t thank our volunteers enough for spending all day on a Saturday helping our students practice their new navigational skills. And I would particularly like to thank our skippers who not only donate their time but their boats, with no cost to our students.

Since we have been producing our Masthead newsletter electronically over the last year, this has made a tremendous financial savings to our squadron.

We continue to promote the visibility of the Squadron by attending The Vancouver Boat Show, the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, the Vancouver Wooden Boat Festival, and The Sportsman Show.

Our squadron has cruises coming up and our annual Stag Cruise will be held June 9. Please see pages 5 for details.

I wish to extend a vigorous and heartfelt thank you to all the members of our Squadron who have contributed their time, energy, and enthusiasm in many different capacities throughout the 2011-2012 year and thereby ensured our success.

I also thank the current Bridge members and other special people for their advice, counsel, assistance and support.

I want to thank our incoming commander, Eardley Beaton, for accepting such an important position. I will always be available to pass on my commander’s experiences and be in full support of your leadership.

On behalf of the Squadron, I would also like to thank and welcome those Squadron members who have agreed to stand for Bridge positions for the upcoming year and wish you all a tremendous success.

In closing, as I step down, I wish you a great boating season and a safe time out on the water.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Stewart
Outgoing Commander, VPS
Squadron Nights...
Monday, April 16

Just when we thought there was nothing new to learn about the RMS Titanic, Past Commander Ian Campbell joined us to discuss his life-long fascination with the disaster and some of the insurance-related issues of cruising. Before you head off on a cruise ship, it's important to read the fine print about the cruise line's liability in the event of a mishap.

Barbara Constantine
Programs Officer

From the blog of Sequitur, May 11, 2012

We have come 6307 miles from Cape Horn. We are now just shy of 16° North, in the middle of Hurricane Alley with just six weeks to go before the start of the season. Our insurers require that we be north of 31° North by the end of June, so we still have some voyaging to do. Our current thoughts are to continue by way of Saint Croix, Puerto Rico, Turks & Caicos and the Bahamas to Florida and then north to at least Brunswick, Georgia.

Hopefully, along this 1500-mile route we can find some decent weather, some proper sailing conditions, some pleasant anchorages and some repairs for our windlass.

Michael Walsh and Edi Gelin
http://www.sailblogs.com/member/sequitur/
Cruisemaster’s Corner
by Cruisemaster Lois MacDonald at cruisemaster@vpsboat.com

Cruise Weekend: June 2-3 – Snug Cove, Bowen Island

Must reserve space by May 18; please phone the Marina directly at 604-947-0707 (and say you are with the Vancouver Power & Sail Squadron group).

If you want to go over on Friday, you can book depending on availability.

Please arrive by 1:00 pm.

Non boat-owners are very welcome – come on over by ferry and meet us at the dock!

Potluck dinner on Saturday evening.

Monday, July 16: Raft & Potluck

Raft-up in False Creek near Spruce Harbour Marina

Informal – meet around 5:30-6:00ish pm with your favourite appy.

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Rendez-vous Weekend: August 18-19 – Plumper Cover, Keats Island

Please watch for further details in upcoming Mastheads.

For further information, please contact Lois MacDonald at cruisemaster@vpsboat.com
The Vancouver Stag Cruise

Will be held on June 9 & 10, 2012
Up Indian Arm

Hone the skills that you learned in the Power Squadron classes

Try participating in a predicted log race or a sailing competition

Please talk to other members of your Squadron and make them aware of this popular event and encourage your male friends to attend.

Put a crew together today!!

Registration form on the following page

Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron Stag Cruise Committee
REGISTRATION FORM
VANCOUVER POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON

STAG CRUISE

JUNE 9 & 10, 2012
RENDEZVOUS (0900 TO 1200) BEDWELL BAY, INDIAN ARM
COMMITTEE BOAT “DARUMA” --- Communication Channel 68

Destination for the week end: Lat 49 degrees 23.728’N, Long 122 degrees 53.159’W
(Please arrive for tie up after 1345)

SATURDAY:
Predicted Log
Sailing Competition
Draws & Prizes
Steak Dinner

SUNDAY:
Sausage & Pancake Breakfast
Trophies
Sailpast – Salute to Cdr.

Fee ONLY $60 PER PERSON (ALL-INCLUSIVE)
$50 WITH PRE-REGISTRATION BY JUNE 01, 2012

NOTE: To ensure that a steak and space is reserved for you and your party please complete and mail the
following registration form no later than June 01 (Please provide your own dishes and eating
utensils.)

REGISTRATION FORM ... PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

SEND TO: John Steede
7191 Anvil Crescent
Richmond, BC V7C 4E7

Phone: 604-230-0848
E-Mail: sjsteeede@shaw.ca

Skipper’s Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________
Squadron: __________ Telephone: _______ E-Mail: _______________________
If bringing boat, Boat Name: ________________________________________________
Power: Sail: Length: _______ Beam: _______ Draft: _______
Crew Members’ Names: ______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

I would like to enter: The Predicted Log Competition Yes _____ No _____
Sailing Competition Yes ____ No _____
I would like to be an observer in: The Predicted Log Competition Yes ____ No _____
Sailing Competition Yes ____ No _____

OUR REGISTRATION FEE ENCLOSED: ____________________________ X $50.00 = TOTAL:

MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO “VANCOUVER POWER & SAIL SQUADRON”
Cash Preferred