Upcoming Events

Weekend of September 6-7 - Keats Island Rendezvous at Plumper Cove - See 'Cruisemaster's Corner' for more details.

Monday, September 15 - Squadron Night - Come join us for a fun and interactive high-tech evening with the UBC Sailbot Team, who will be speaking about their unique vessel and their recent high-profile win at the annual International Robotic Sailing Regatta in San Francisco. They will also be performing an on-the-water demonstration of the boat's capabilities to sail itself, viewable from the FCYC observation deck. Come meet some of the rising stars of autonomous marine navigation, home-grown in our own backyard.

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!

From the Commander's Log....

Summer cruising season has been in full swing. District PRO Isabela Booth and myself have been cruising aboard Main Attraction as we complete our "Great Clockwise Circle of the Salish Sea". Our voyage started in the southern Gulf Islands at Cabbage/Tumbo Islands, and has carried us through Winter Cover, Poet's Cove, Ganges Harbour, Thetis Island, Newcastle Island and Boho Bay. We will continue north to Jervis Inlet before returning home after Labour Day.
Our Fall courses are now scheduled; Training Officer John Steede has done an excellent job in organizing all the details necessary for preparation. We have also been keeping a close watch on the teacher’s strike. Should the strike continue into our September boating course start dates, it will prevent us from using the Prince of Wales High School for classes, as we have always done. This will force either a delay in running our classes or a change of location. Details will be broadcast should this be necessary.

Special thanks to P/C Eardley Beaton for continuing his tireless dedication by agreeing to organize our squadron’s participation in the Wooden Boat Festival. We need more volunteers like him, as well as the terrific crew he mustered! The timing of this event was the same weekend as the Pacific Mainland District’s Annual Integrated Cruise & Rendezvous at Telegraph Harbour, which Vancouver Squadron was hosting. Myself and Public Relations Officer Don White were tasked with making the Rendezvous an enjoyable event for all who attended from our district. The event was well organized and fun. Read below for details in PRO Don White’s report below.

Volunteering is at the heart of our organization. The desire to give back to our organization shows pride in the work we do, teaching safe boating and promoting camaraderie with members and students. We do it because we care. We are passionate about safe boating; because safe boating education is the first step in enjoying recreation out on the water, and because boating safety and education saves lives. Please consider giving us some of your time and energy. I would love to hear from you!

Jeff Booth
Commander
commander@vpsboat.org

Join Us for Squadron Nights!

Our next meeting will be Monday, September 15, after our summer break.

Join us as we learn all about sailbots! (no, that isn’t a typo for sailboats)

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 False Creek 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!
Executive Officer, Roger Middleton:

Digital Media Campaign
The digital media refresh continues as a new website is being developed by this year's bridge. It comes with a fresh, new edge-to-edge look, and many new features which we're designing to keep you more informed and involved. I hope that you have already noticed the new email format for notices, which we've been using since late June, and that you find it easier to read. For the Bridge, this new email tool provides us with many useful statistics and allows us to keep track of the progress of any particular email message (how many people have read the message, clicked on links, etc).

Courses and Venue
With the start of the school year now in certain jeopardy, and the word given today that teachers will not be legislated back to work, I would like us to consider trying something new. The Jericho Sailing Centre (JSC) hails itself as Vancouver's Ocean Community Centre and has kindly offered the use of its space in the event of a prolonged teacher's strike, so that our courses can continue uninterrupted. I firmly believe that there is much cross-pollination potential for both VPS and the JSC, and that we would be wise to use this location above other non-marine community centers and venues, should we decide to use an alternate location. The JSC arguably has the largest group of new boaters and marine recreation enthusiasts in Vancouver, and are exactly our target market. I was once one of their hundreds of dinghy sailors who dreamed of sailing keelboats one day, except that I had no idea where to start. Once I learned about VPS, I took my first official boating course and the rest is history. For the record, I love power boats too.

It is not my intention to persuade the Bridge to replace our traditional home at Prince of Wales School, but rather augment our training capabilities with a flexible year-round location where courses can also be offered during the day, on weekends, and throughout the summer if we wish. I strongly believe in this concept and its usefulness in teaching new boaters about their new favourite activity. Imagine, being able to show students the chart for Burrard Inlet in the classroom, and then walk out on the attached balcony to actually show them features such as the flashing pattern of the light at Point Atkinson, the dolphins at Spanish Bank (not the mammal kind - and why they are there, which is easily viewed at low tide). JSC’s management is fully behind forming a new partnership between our two well-established organizations.

Raft up
The annual False Creek Raft-Up was a success with four boats and one tender. Several members participated and were wined and dined in style aboard our Commander's lovely vessel, Main Attraction. A fun time was had by all, well into one of Vancouver's legendary summer evenings! Looking forward to making this event bigger and better for next year!

Training News

Sign up soon for Advanced Courses!

Maritime Radio Operator
Two convenient ways to obtain your Marine Radio Operator's Certificate to suit your schedule:

Three evening classes: October 9, 16, 23, 2014
or,

**One all-day class:** Saturday, November 1st, 2014

(Both classes offer the same certification)

**Seamanship**

13 weeks—September 16-December 9, 2014

**Sailing**

8 weeks—September 18-November 6, 2014

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**Cruisemaster's Corner**

*by Cruisemaster Lois MacDonald at cruisemaster@vpsboat.com*

- **Weekend of September 6-7 - Keats Island Rendezvous at Plumper Cove**

Come and join us for the annual Squadron Rendez-vous at Plumper Cove (NW side of Keats Island)

**Marine Facilities:** Dock ($2/m/night); several mooring buoys ($10/night)

**Activities:** The format is different this year, as there is no water taxi service available to take us over to Eastbourne in order to enjoy the afternoon/early evening at Doug Puddifant's place -- a special thanks to Doug for hosting the event for the past several years.

This year, a potluck dinner will be held at the marine park -- a matter of a few meters from the dock area. The afternoon can be spent wandering the shore, hiking in the marine park, playing badminton, or relaxing. There may also be the possibility of having a campfire on the Saturday night -- any musical instruments will be welcome!

We look forward to seeing you there.

For further information please contact Lois MacDonald, the cruise coordinator at cruisemaster@vpsboat.com

**See you all there!**
To my fellow squadron members. I am asking for volunteers to participate in the 21st Annual Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup. Your family and friends can also attend.

Fun times are had at this event, meeting new friends, a great view of the city and mountains, and even the right to brag about the most unusual item found!

In case of inclement weather, bring some rain gear and shoes or rubber boots. Supplies such as latex gloves, garbage bags, sharps containers, pencils, and clipboards for recording your results will be provided.

We have a limited supply of tongs to pick up the garbage, so if you have your own tongs or gloves, please bring them along.

Coffee and refreshments will be provided. Bring a lunch if you want to stay and picnic at the beach afterward.

**When:** Saturday, September 20, 2014  
**Where:** Jericho Beach East Area from Alma Street to Jericho Sailing School - Meet at Jericho Beach East Concession Area  
**Time:** Registration and orientation is at 0930 hrs. Cleanup will happen 1000 to 1500 hrs.

There will be a table set up with signs showing “Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup” near the concession stand.

**A Brief History**  
The Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup is part of the International Coastal Cleanup, held nationwide each September. It began in 1994, when two staff members of the Vancouver Aquarium organized this cleanup and now it has grown and expanded nationally. A major sponsor of this event is Loblaws Companies Limited.

**Cleanup Results for 2013**  
11 trash bags and 1 recycling bag filled with over 42 kg (or 107lbs) was collected. Once again, the number one litter item picked up was cigarette butts -- over 640 of them.

For further information or to volunteer, contact  
Bill Blancard, Environment Officer, VPSS at 604-931-5153

Thank you and hope to see you there!
This year’s Cruise started with boats arriving in Bedwell Bay on Friday evening and rafting to Daruma.
There were a total of 8 boats and 19 people who enjoyed a fabulous rain-free weekend. Saturday’s events started with 6 vessels participating in a predicted log race, running a course of 9.13 nautical miles and included 6 control points.
Following the race, everyone tied up to Don White’s dock at Coldwell Beach, Indian Arm, for a fantastic New York steak dinner, prepared and cooked by Red Seal Chef Phill Mudge.

On Sunday morning, breakfast of pancakes & sausages with copious amounts of coffee were cooked by our Past Commanders, with help from the crowd.
Following breakfast, there was a quiz for all the things boaters should know, as well as what to do in the case of emergency. After the quiz, we had presentations for the winners of the predicted log race.

The results were amazing! We had two first-time participants: Commander Jeff Booth and Albert Van Tongeren. There has never been such a tight race, and all boats completed the course with errors of no more than 5%.
In fact, our Commander, Jeff Booth, stole the show and accomplished something that I have never seen before, winning the following:

- **Eldon McLennan Trophy** (first presented in 1969) for the best novice score.
- **Standard Oil Trophy** (donated by Standard Oil in 1959) as winner of the Predicted Log Race.
- **“All-A-Wet” Trophy** (donated by Alouette Squadron in 1958), which is awarded to the highest scoring commander in PMD for the predicted log race.

All this with an overall error of just 2.7%! Phill Mudge, a seasoned racer and recipient of several trophies in the past, took second place with an overall error of 3.56%, and received the “**Victor Botfield Trophy**” (originally donated by Canada Packers in 1966 and re-dedicated by Dennis Steeves of Vancouver Squadron in 2008) as runner-up.

The “**Coldwell Beach Trophy**” (donated by White Spot) was first presented in 2010 at Coldwell Beach, which has been the site of our Stag Cruise for several years and made available to us by Don White. This trophy is presented each year to the winner of a contest during the Stag Cruise (created by the cruise committee), and this year it was won by Christopher Steeves.

The weekend ended after a final clean-up, then a sailpast and salute to our Commander on board “Main Attraction”.

This year’s committee consisted of John Steede, Phill Mudge, Dennis Steeves, Dennis Waunch, Allan Plausteiner, Neil Gammie, and Jerry Powers. Thank you to all who helped and contributed!! Of course this entire weekend was made possible only through the generosity of Don White.
Without his dock to tie up at, it would not be the fun event that it is. Don has been inviting us back for the past 7 years, and we cannot thank him enough!

Until next year!!!

- John Steede

*Pictures courtesy of Dennis Steeves and Jerry Powers*

*More to come soon!*
On June 14th, Commander Jeff Booth volunteered his boat and crew for Boat for Hope in False Creek.

Arrrrrrrrgh, matey!

From left to right: VPSS members Don White, Albert van Tongeren, Jeff Booth

If you'd like information on getting involved for next year, check out [www.variety.bc.ca/boatforhope.htm](http://www.variety.bc.ca/boatforhope.htm)

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Ladysmith Cruise 2014, July 11 - 13
We had a wonderful weekend at Ladysmith Maritime Society Marina! Great weather, excellent facilities, and terrific companionship. The three squadron boats that attended have agreed to cruise there next summer even if we are the only vessels again.

*Waterfront Condo* (Beatons), *Wanderer* (Steeves) and *Weбегon* (Zarownys) arrived early and stayed a day or two longer. We also had some folks without a boat attend: Karen Lubin from Nanaimo, Marion Pearson and Jim Orr from the mainland, and Don and Susan Mercer from Ladysmith. We missed our cruise coordinator, Lois MacDonald, who couldn't make it due to crew problems.

The marina's new Visitor Reception Centre was opened in the spring of 2012. The marina offers 900 feet of guest moorage, and the reception centre offers showers, laundry facilities, and a common area outside for gatherings and BBQs. You can get breakfast and lunch at the café in the centre as well. For exercise, take the uphill walk into town for shopping and supplies.

This is a community project intended to promote tourism and the conservation of wooden boats, which are on exhibition in the attached museum. The society is governed by a Board of Directors, one of whom is our esteemed audit committee chair, Betty Pearson.

Betty and husband John were key to organizing this cruise. On Friday night, the Society organized a catered dinner for all the guests moored at the marina: A salmon dinner with all the trimmings for $15.00, including dessert. On Saturday night the squadron had a potluck BBQ on the outside area and used the BBQs provided. Sunday morning, Betty and John invited us to their home in Saltair for a pancake breakfast.

Betty is a remarkable member of the boating community. She is Past Commander of Burrard Squadron and Mount Brenton Squadron, Assistant Training Officer for Vancouver Island North and Past President of the Ladysmith Maritime Society. We thank Betty and John for their help, and for John's excellent blueberry pancakes!

Will we see you there next year?

- Don Zarowny
Pacific Mainland District Rendezvous, August 2014

This year’s PMD rendezvous, hosted by Vancouver Power Squadron, was great fun, and we had over 20 boats, skippers, family, and friends attend the event. We were very fortunate to have had beautiful, sunny weather for the whole weekend, and the Telegraph Marina on Thetis Island was a wonderful facility. Owners Ron and Tara, and staff, made us feel welcome at their resort.

Commander Jeff Booth, aboard Main Attraction, hosted the welcome BBQ on Friday evening while District PRO Isabela Booth welcomed the arriving boaters at the registration tent. On Saturday there were lots of fun and activities, including model boat building for the kids (big and small), which led to a competitive sailing race. The winners - Jasper, Don, and Amelie - were interviewed, TV style, by NorVan Squadron members John Christie and Linda Aylesworth.

In the next event, participants were able to show off their skills at life-line tossing, ending with a final toss off between Past Commander Art Rendell and new-to-boating Christopher Hunt. Christopher just edged out the win.

For a bit of fun on the lighter side we had the great Canadian Cheese Head Game. Teams of four tossed cheetos onto their team captain's head, which was covered with shaving cream. Commander Jeff Booth's team won with 118 cheetos for the final tally.

The afternoon was filled with stiff competition in the challenging Bocce tournament, while other members filled out their ballots for the Best Dressed Boat Competition. Entrants included John Christie and Linda Aylesworth from Aerie with a "Noah's Water Park" theme; Jeff and Isabela Booth from Main Attraction had a "movie premiere" theme; Don White, Julie and Christopher Hunt from Acadia had a "Sea World" theme; And the winning boat was District Commander Shirley Shea of Miss Emilja, theme of "Blarney Stone".

The day ended with a fantastic potluck dinner, dessert provided by Commander Shirley O'Shea and awards were presented by Jeff & Isabela Booth.

Special thanks to Jeff & Isabela Booth, Julie & Christopher Hunt, and John Christie & Linda Aylesworth for all their help in making this a fun event for all.

- Don White
August Raft-Up in False Creek

We had a good turnout for the raft-up in False Creek on August 17, 2014! Despite fairly heavy rains throughout the day, the skies cleared just in time for the raft-up. It was a beautiful and warm, clear evening with 4 boats -- including Main Attraction, Wanderlust,
Wings and Waterfront Condo. Also joining us was Mezzo Presto, a dinghy rowed over from Heather Marina. Deb Zhou and Rob Murray also joined us, and spoke of their adventures down to Mexico in Avant. As always, there was fabulous food, drink, wonderful conversation and great ambiance. We reluctantly cast off well after dusk to return to our respective marinas.

- Cruise Coordinator Lois MacDonald

*Photo courtesy of Roger Middleton*

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**Public Relations Officer, Don White:**

June proved to be a busy month with a successful Stag Cruise; great weather and fun was had by all. It is becoming apparent that our experienced predicted log crews are now looking over their shoulders and sharpening their pencils, as our new Commander Jeff Booth cleaned up on most of the trophies.

We also had a few members of the Vancouver power squadron participate in the Boat for Hope. The inclement weather was not a deterrent for the pirates this year. Smiles, singing and plenty of Arrrrrhh's shared by all.

CPS Safety Day held in July at ten locations across Canada, one of which was at the Steveston Marine Store on W 5th. Commander Jeff Booth and District PRO Isabela Booth, along with Don White and Murphy Ni from Fraser Squadron, collected and boxed up 1,808 flares for disposal. To advertise, we canvased over 60 marinas, yacht clubs, charter companies, yacht service companies, and community sailing centres. As well, Jeff created a news event for Facebook and Twitter, and an email blast was sent out.

Response from the boating public was exceptionally positive. Many boaters had been holding onto these expired flares for years, not really knowing what to do with them. I believe the oldest flare we received expired in 1976!

Hopefully this will become an annual event so that we can help boaters dispose of the many expired flares still held by the boating public. Many thanks to Salim at Steveston Marine and to all those who helped make this a successful event.
What great weather on wonderful Granville Island at this year’s Vancouver Wooden Boat Show, and our VPSS/CPS booth was a very popular site in the heart of the square. Our morning and afternoon shifts were filled by our dedicated members: Paul Heeney, Bill Blancard, Bryon Hodges, Don Zarowny and Doug Johnson.

This was probably one of the busiest events, and Granville Island was crawling with tourists from all over the world, and we fielded boating questions with visitors from the USA, Britain, New Zealand, and France. Some of those we spoke to have families here and are interested in taking courses. Apart from the many people we referred to VPSS' website for registration details, it was surprising how many were from areas of other squadrons such as Fraser, Norvan, Pt Moody, Burnaby, Sur-Del, Campbell River (to name a few). Many enquiries for Boating Basics (PCOC), Marine Radio, Boating Essentials, and other courses were answered. We also had enquiries for the upcoming Beach Clean-Up as well, and we handed out an array of brochures and balloons to the kids.

Some shifts took an accurate count of visitors up to 25, so with the eight shifts we estimate nearly 150 people stopped by. We all agreed it was well worth it to be a part of a boating community event where everyone knows we are alive and active in boating education.

- Eardley Beaton, P/C
BRIDGE
2014-2015

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

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