



# The Masthead



Newsletter of The Vancouver Power and Sail Squadron

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## From the Commander's Log By Commander Eardley Beaton



Hooray... Vancouver's fall rains have started again as my 1<sup>st</sup> mate and I found out while putting a new tarp on our boat. Water was seeping in around the windows and hatches, probably caused by the late hot summer drying up the sealants.

What a great group of students we have in three classes on Tuesday nights at PW. We have dedicated instructors, proctors and training officers teaching Boating, Seamanship and Weather. Marine Radio has been completed. *continued on page 2...*

### BRIDGE

2011-2012

(Abbreviated List—Full List on Website)  
[www.vpsboat.com](http://www.vpsboat.com)

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<b>Training Officer</b>	
Glen Hodgkinson.....	604 233-0443
<b>Asst Training Officer — Boating</b>	
Peter Mokkonen.....	604 608-1818
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Lois MacDonald.....	604 266-2582
<b>Secretary</b>	
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Barbara Constantine.....	604 876-0156
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<b>Webmaster/IT Officer</b>	
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Lois MacDonald.....	604 266-2582
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Twyla Graeme.....	604 738-8563

## Upcoming Events

### • Monday, November 19 - Sequitur and Beyond

Join Past Commander Michael Walsh and his Admiral Edi Gelin in Puerto Montt, Chile, as they prepare their cutter-rigged sloop *Sequitur* for the continuation of their voyage. Follow them through the remote Patagonian channels to Tierra del Fuego, around Cape Horn and onward up the South Atlantic. Share their stories of dealing with the wild and unpredictable weather and the equally unpredictable bureaucracies of the region.

### • Monday, December 10 - Christmas Pot Luck!

Cook up your favourite Christmas recipes and come and celebrate the season at this popular squadron get-together.

*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 \$5.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you there!*

By the time you get this Masthead, a Training meeting will have been held to decide what courses we will put on for spring, starting in January. Talk it up and check out our website at [www.vpsboat.com](http://www.vpsboat.com) for details.

Our Student Boating Cruise was held on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, and it was one of the best we have ever had. Paul Heeney, Executive Officer, will give you the full details elsewhere in this issue. We are always so appreciative of those boat owners who provide their lovely motor yachts, their fuel, and their time and stories. I want again to thank Bill Botham, Bruce Buchanan, Robbie Hausch, Ron Jupp, Craig McKeen, Nadia Mudge, Allan Plaustainer and John Steede. Who can forget seeing the entire Steede family involved, what with Sylvia and Nicole proctoring and John and Nadia as captains.

I always enjoy meeting with the other squadrons, and I was at the PMD meeting in early October with some twenty other squadrons from the Lower Mainland. After that, it was off to the CPS-AGM in Edmonton

where I met squadrons from St. John's, NFLD, to Sooke, BC, representing some 26,000 members across Canada. Some of the highlights included: honouring the completion of a five-year term on the Governing Board by our own Peter Girling and seeing our PC Art Rendell take over on the Board; hearing the results of a large national survey that will result in many changes for CPS in the next few years; learning about new Boating courses that are coming, as well as some online, to meet the competition; seeing the introduction of Walter Kowalchuk as our new Executive Director. The next AGM, in Toronto next October, will celebrate CPS's 75<sup>th</sup> year.

Squadron Night will be Nov 19<sup>th</sup> at FCYC, and I hope to see you there. Then in December we have our Christmas Pot Luck on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Get out your best recipes for that one!

Eardley Beaton, Commander  
VPSS

## Squadron Night, October 15th

Bruce MacDonald presented to a small but enthusiastic audience on the history of the Good Hope Cannery at Rivers Inlet, built in 1985 by Henry Bell-Irving. People later gathered around the author to share stories and to buy signed copies of his book, *The Good Hope Cannery: Life and Death at a Salmon Cannery*.



Programs Officer Barbara Constantine thanks Bruce for his riveting talk.



Photo courtesy Paul Heeney

# Some Wind, Some Rain, Much Fun!

## A beautiful day for a student cruise (despite the weather)

Everyone was crossing their fingers, hoping that Environment Canada had it wrong. The October 27th early morning marine forecast for Strait of Georgia--south of Nanaimo called for rain and winds to 20 knots from the northeast. Unfortunately, the prediction from the weather office was bang on.

Still, the wind and rain did little to dampen the enthusiasm of those taking part in the Fall 2012 Student Cruise.



Photo courtesy Paul Heeneey

Jakob Perry and Kate Young taking bearings

A flotilla of eight boats, manned with skippers, proctors and 42 students, set sail mid-morning from Coal Harbour, paused briefly at the Burnaby Shoals marker, then headed east to Bedwell Bay.

The cruise is unique to our squadron. It provides an opportunity for the students in our Boating course to put theory to practice. Suddenly, TVMDC and 60D Street are no longer just letters and numbers.

Armed with charts, dividers and handheld compasses, bearings are obtained and plotted, fixes are determined and log entries made. And it all happens so quickly compared to the classroom!

Predicting speed is one thing, but what happens when there's a strong current and the wind picks up? And what about passing under that railway bridge? Will we safely make it when the tide is high?



Photo courtesy Paul Heeneey

Student Jason Tanner on the foredeck of *Nimpkish II* (Blue Haven in the background)

One test saw the skippers stop their vessels between Roche Point and Admiralty Point. The new crew members had to scramble to plot a fix and compare it to the GPS reading obtained by the captain. Most of the student fixes were extremely accurate, although in one case the misreading of degrees of longitude on the chart placed *Deora* 60 nautical miles due west of Port Moody (looks like we'll be having lunch just west of Parksville).

The fleet then headed up Indian Arm past Deep Cove and into Bedwell Bay where *Nimpkish II* provided the anchor so the others could raft up.

*continued next page...*

And that's when the rain let up, giving everyone a chance to wander from boat to boat, to compare equipment and layout, to gaze in awe at some of the woodwork, but best of all, to hear some wonderful stories from the skippers.

- Bill Botham, *Deora*
- Bruce Buchanan, *Blue Haven*
- Robbie Hausch, *Molly Brown*
- Ron Jupp, *Nimkish II*
- Craig McKeen, *Seakeen*
- Nadia Mudge, *Skylla I*
- Allan Plaustainer, *Hopara*
- John Steede, *Daruma*

Once again, a special thank you for your incredible generosity.

Paul Heeney, EO, PRO  
VPSS



Photo courtesy Paul Heeney

Proctor Michael McLeod goes over a point of plotting with students Laurie Jenkins and Jose Vergara



Photo courtesy Nadia Mudge

Raftup in Bedwell Bay



Photo courtesy Paul Heeney

Skipper Bill Botham and Dave Atchison upon hearing *Deora's* position was on Vancouver Island.

Hamid Abdolkarimi sneaks a peek as *Deora* is rafted to *Nimkish II*



Photo courtesy Paul Heeney

## More Great Photos...



Student Fugiang Wei onboard *Daruma*



Yoga enthusiast Glen Hodgkinson demonstrates the correct method of handling a bumper while in triangle pose



Craig McKeen brings in his recently refurbished *Sea Keen*

Photos on this page and next courtesy Marko Kostadinovic



How many engineers does it take to start a windlass?



A typically sunny autumn day in Bedwell Bay (*Hopara* in the foreground, *Deora* in the background)

## Mustang Life Jacket Safety Alert

### Some PFDs may not inflate properly

Mustang Survival has issued a warning about with some recently manufactured floatation jackets. The problems are occurring with the Hydrostatic (HIT) units used in some inflatable personal floatation devices. In some cases the jacket does not inflate at all, while in others there is a delay. The jackets were manufactured in April and May of 2012.

The following products are affected:

MA7214 HIT inflatable re-arm kit

MD3153 Deluxe inflatable PDF with HIT

MD3154 Deluxe inflatable with HIT with harness

MD3157 Inflatable work vest with HIT

If you have purchased any of these models in the past few months, the company asks that you go online to [www.mustangsurvival.com/HIT](http://www.mustangsurvival.com/HIT) or phone a customer service representative at **1-800-526-0532**.

