



# Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron Rideau Ripples

November – December 2011



## Commander's Comments

The 2011 CPS Halifax Conference and AGM is all over now. Your Squadron was well represented by Executive Officer Terry Hamilton, Assistant Training Officer Court Harkness and I. We attended all possible seminars and networked with all the other participants from across Canada. It was a success and we learned that the rest of Canada is no different and that they have the same issues, concerns and highlights as we do. It was a great opportunity to learn and exchange information.

As we embarked in our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as part of the Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons, we began the festivities by holding Our Commander's Breakfast on October 29, 2011. Thirty-nine (39) people were in attendance. It was a really good turnout and it was great to see so many people re-connecting with our more senior members who had been away for many years. Now let's start working on our next 60 years!



In this part of the country, all our boats should be winterized and put away by now. It is now the season to be jolly. We were lucky enough to have a visit by Santa and Mrs Claus at our December Bridge Meeting and Xmas Dinner. Santa mingled with 30 Squadron members and 7 guests. Santa was quite clear that he will not be bringing new boats to anyone this year for Xmas or delivering them in the spring. There would be no room in the sleigh for children's toys. Santa & Mrs Claus asked me to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

So what is on your list for Santa? Possibly you would like a new ICOM VHF Marine Radio or waterproof binoculars from Weems & Plath? Imagine as valued members of CPS, you get a discount so think about it! How about registering for a course over the winter? The Training Section has been working hard to offer you many great courses. We have a "NEW" course being offered called 'Boat and Engine Maintenance' (*previously Marine Maintenance*). Take a look at the website under Courses; I am sure there is a course for you there. What better way to spend your cold winter if you are not going South to an exotic location than spending it with fellow boaters dreaming of the upcoming great season of boating.

The Squadron will be busy in the New Year with The Ottawa Boat & Sportsmen's Show (February 23-26, 2012) at the new CE Centre located at 4899 Uplands Drive, Ottawa. Why not volunteer to be a Watchkeeper? The next major event will be our Squadron Annual Dinner. This is always the highlight of our Social Events but this year we plan to take it a step further and really commemorate our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Keep checking the website for new events, information nights, etc as we will work to include a few more Information Nights in 2012.

I would like to thank every member of the Squadron who took the time to complete the CPS Member & Client Market Research Survey. I look forward to seeing the results from across Canada and I will keep you posted.

Wow, I'm at the bottom of the page already. I guess all there is left to do is to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year. Hopefully 2012 will bring lots of safe boating weather and maybe a few new toys for the boat. Please take time from your busy schedule to enjoy the magic of Christmas and recharge your batteries!

*Guy*

Guy A. Ladouceur  
Ottawa Commander



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### The 2011-2012 Bridge

Squadron Commander	Guy A. Ladouceur
Immediate Past Commander	Bryan Carroll
Executive Officer	Terry Hamilton, <u>AP</u>
Treasurer	William Moyle, <u>AP</u>
Training Officer	Robin Craig, CN
A/Training Officer (Adv/Elective)	Court Harkness, S
A/Training Officer (Boating Basics)	Court Harkness, S
A/Training Officer (Supply)	Monique Vallieres, S
Communications Officers	Frank Keating, <u>AP</u>
Environmental Officer	Nick Baets, CN
MAREP & safety Officer	Sue Baker, SN
Mailing Officer	Marjorie Ladouceur
Membership	<b>Position Open</b>
Public Relation / Marketing Officer	Donald Partridge, P
Regalia	Joy Moyle
Rideau Ripples Editor	Philip Harris, N
Secretary	Paulette Vineham
Social Affairs Officer	Christopher Friesen
Webmaster	Philip Harris, N
Squadron Examiner	Jim MacLeod, SN
Squadron Financial Review	Don Tanner, CN

### Squadron Events Calendar

**Jan 05, 2012 (THURSDAY) - BRIDGE MEETING** - Louis Steak House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend.

**Feb 02, 2012 (THURSDAY) - BRIDGE MEETING** - Louis Steak House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend.

**Feb 23-26, 2012 (THU-SUN) - OTTAWA BOAT & SPORTSMEN'S SHOW** - 4899 Uplands Drive, Ottawa

**Mar 01, 2012 (THURSDAY) - BRIDGE MEETING** - Louis Steak House 1682 Cyrville Rd. Informal dinner at 1800 hrs, meeting starts at 1900 hrs. All are welcomed to attend.

**Mar 03, 2012 (SATURDAY) - SQUADRON ANNUAL DINNER** - More information in the near future

Please check the website for updates and latest information:

<http://cps-ottawa.com/events.html>

### Squadron Mailing Address

Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron  
P.O. Box 8481, Terminal 'T'  
Ottawa, ON K1G 3H9

**Cdr Guy A. Ladouceur**  
(613) 824-9490



**EDMONTON**  
**WELCOMES YOU!**  
**CPS Conference & AGM**  
October 17 – 20, 2012  
Celebrating our 74<sup>th</sup> year

## HELP US SAVE MONEY AND STILL KEEP YOU INFORMED!

Your Squadron Bridge strives to be financially responsible. Our printing and mailing costs have been reduced considerably. Before Internet and e-mail, the Squadron was printing and mailing over 400 newsletters, several times a year. Now we are mailing less than 75. You can help us by adding your e-mail address to your profile on the CPS Website. Thank you if you have already done so. If you do not know how to, just send an e-mail to [commander@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:commander@cps-ottawa.com) and he will make sure that it gets added in all the right places so you can get your newsletter electronically and in full colour. Also, if there are two members in your household, give us both your e-mail addresses. This way you can both receive info from the Squadron and CPS Headquarters. Help us keep you informed!



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Enter the draw:

## **Share the News!!!**

Do you have more than one CPS member in your household? Is everyone getting to read our Ottawa Squadron newsletter, the 'Ripples'? We want to save you from having to forward it to all the other members in your household. Please send in the email addresses of everyone else in your household that would like to receive news of Squadron events.

From all new email addresses submitted by Christmas, one lucky winner will receive a pass for 2 for his/her choice of either the Ottawa Boat and Sportsman Show Feb. 23-26 or the Toronto International Boat Show Jan. 14-22.

New Email addresses can be sent to: [membership@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:membership@cps-ottawa.com)



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***Valued Members!***

## ***Membership Renewal and Retention***

At present, our Ottawa Squadron is a large one of 430 paid up members. We, however, are worried about the members who have not renewed their membership. While we understand that many of the Associates Members who received a free one-year membership were interested in only taking the Boat Pro (*newly named, Boating Basics*) to obtain their Pleasure Craft Operator Certificate (PCOC Card), we would like them to still be a part of our group of boating enthusiasts and be entitled to CPS member benefits, and courses at reduced rates. We must commend them for choosing us, the premiere, over all the other card providers.

So, what can our Squadron do next? Just before membership renewal time, CPS sends an E-Mail message to members, if the renewal is not made, CPS mails an invoice. We want to encourage people to stay on as members. We are asking for a few volunteers to call these members and keep them connected with the Squadron and CPS. There aren't meetings to attend, no need for new clothes and certainly you don't need to leave the house to make the calls. It's a win-win situation for everyone. You assist your Squadron; the Squadron retains more members who are entitled to CPS member benefits, and courses at reduced rates.

To assist us with the phone calls, please call me at (613) 824-9490 or e-mail at [commander@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:commander@cps-ottawa.com)

*Guy*

Guy A. Ladouceur  
Ottawa Commander

P.S. What can we do for you, our members? If you have suggestions for social activities or information nights, or any other suggestions please contact me at [commander@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:commander@cps-ottawa.com).



**Okay you computer guru, here is your chance to shine!**

The time has finally come for the Ottawa Squadron to join the Social Media frenzy. We dabbled in it in the past but we must set a course ahead or we will be left at the dock wondering what happened to us.

Many Squadrons across Canada are using Facebook, Twitter, Kijiji, You Tube and Google to advertize their courses, events, etc. We need to do the same now!

This is all new to me and really it is well over my computer knowledge but I know that there is someone out there that understands and would love to assist their Squadron join the 21<sup>st</sup> Electronic Highway Century.

Please call me (613) 824-9490 or e-mail at [commander@cps-ottawa.com](mailto:commander@cps-ottawa.com) if you have the knowledge and some free time to make us look good advertizing our courses, events, etc.



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## Do You Have Moisture In Your Boat?

This is the proverbial question we all have when buying or maintaining a boat. You can have moisture readings done on your hull and decks but what about the interior?

Now that we have all put our babies to bed for the winter, what precautions did you do to avoid moisture, and then mould, from gathering inside your boat? Did you cover it? Shrink wrap it? Both of these are great ideas for maintaining a dry interior but what if there was already moisture inside and you have just contained the problem.

Having had a lot of water drained inside our boat one winter, we now use a dehumidifying product. Our problem was from a cockpit pipe which collected small amounts of water which froze then collected more and froze again finally pushing the double pipe clamps off the connection and draining into the boat bilge. Oh by the way, insurance didn't cover it.....ice damage! Don't we live in Canada?

Preparing your boat for the winter is just as important as doing all the summer maintenance. There are a lot of dehumidifying products available today. If you are lucky enough to have power, use a low power plug in one to keep the moisture levels down. If not, buy one of the many box products. They are designed to remove any moisture from the air and will need replacing from time to time. Place them in the most prone places and keep an eye on them. If you have shrink wrapped your boat, put one or two of these in also.

The other good precaution is to have your vessel well ventilated. We pull our knot meter each winter, allowing air to circulate and keeping out animals. They always find ways to warm protected areas! Mothballs, the cedar ones, are good deterrents for these critters. Just remember, they are poisonous so put them in something so you are not touching them.

Hope you did all these things so that next spring will be a happy reunion with your boat..

Boat Legal and Boat Safe

**Sue Baker**

MAREP and Safety



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## Maintain Situational Awareness

Situational Awareness promotes safety and environmental protection

“Situational Awareness” (SA) is a term most commonly associated with the military, especially aviation, where it is defined as one’s awareness of the surroundings. Fighter pilots are trained that SA is crucial to their effectiveness and safety. Anyone who has driven a car is familiar with SA and its implications, particular since the advent of cell phones and other distracting devices. Actually SA is more complex than any of the above examples. While we may talk about having or not having SA, it’s best to think of it as a skill rather than a commodity. Like docking a boat in close quarters in a cross wind. SA is a skill that can be learned, practiced and perfected.

What does SA have to do with protecting the marine environment? Consider the following scenario. Two boaters pull up along a fuel dock. One has music blaring, guests moving about fussing with shoes, clothing and other distractions while the captain spins off the deck fill cap. He takes the fuel nozzle from the attendant and thrusts it in the fuel port and fills his tank while jiggling to the music. Meanwhile the other boater turns off all electrics, has everyone step ashore and attaches a “catch cup” below his fuel vent port. Finally he takes the fuel nozzle from the attendant and pokes it through an absorbent pad before inserting it into the fuel port. Which of these two boaters do you think is more likely to have a fuel spill or another accident? And if an accident occurs, which of these two is more likely to respond in a timely, appropriate manner that reduces harm to others and to the environment? Which of these two boaters displays greater Situational Awareness?

Whether it’s filling up at the dock, performing an oil change or doing some paintwork, many routine activities that boaters perform have the potential to cause physical and environmental harm. Beyond simply “knowing what you’re doing,” as taught in all CPS courses, maintaining Situational Awareness reduces the likelihood of accidents occurring and enables us to respond more quickly and appropriately when they do.

Excerpt from “Boat Green” 50 Steps Boaters can take to save our waters by Clyde W. Ford and Clyde W. Ford. “Situational Awareness and Boating”. Passagemaker Magazine, Nov/Dec 2006.

**Nick Baets**, *Environmental Affairs Officer*



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## TRAINING COURSES FOR 2011-12

### Boating Basics for PCOC

Please Register On-Line!

[www.cps-ecp.ca](http://www.cps-ecp.ca)

<http://cps-ottawa.com/courses.html>



The Boating Basics prepares you for the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) exam. The Pleasure Craft Operator Card is now mandatory for all persons operating a motorized Pleasure Craft in Canada.

This highly acclaimed seminar was one of the first to be accredited by the Canadian Coast Guard and clearly the best of the PCOC seminars available.

Crossing the border? CPS is one of the few providers of safe boating courses that are approved by both the Canadian Coast Guard and the U.S. National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.

Boating Basics is a great introduction for your family to boating safety, operation and navigation.

OPSS Boating Basics - Schedule 2012				
Library Branch	Day of Week	First Class	Second Class	Last Class
Nepean Centrepointe	Tuesday	13-Mar-12	20-Mar-12	27-Mar-12
North Gloucester	Thursday	15-Mar-12	22-Mar-12	29-Mar-12
North Gloucester	Tuesday	10-Apr-12	17-Apr-12	24-Apr-12
Nepean Centrepointe	Monday	16-Apr-12	23-Apr-12	30-Apr-12
Nepean Centrepointe	Tuesday	08-May-12	15-May-12	22-May-12
Manotick	Wednesday	09-May-12	16-May-12	23-May-12
North Gloucester	Thursday	10-May-12	17-May-12	24-May-12

Courses start at 18:30 and run to 20:30. Arrive at 18:00 on the first night to complete the registration process. Fees include course materials, Pleasure Craft Operators Certificate (PCOC) examination, and the PCOC card.

**Course Price:** \$60.00 for adults and \$50.00 for students. (Photo ID required).

Payment may be made in Cash, Cheque, Visa or MasterCard.  
Please make cheques payable to "Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron".

Challenging the Boat Pro EXAM to get your **PCOC**, \$30.00 - Available on Lesson # 3 of any course.

Nepean Centrepointe	101 Centrepointe
Manotick	5499 South River
North Gloucester	2036 Ogilvie

**Boating** Course # 2: **Wednesdays 11 January to 11 April 2012** – Primary \$225.00, Secondary \$165.00 (example spouse sharing course materials with primary) and \$165 for all CPS Ottawa Associate Members

**Seamanship:** **Wednesdays, 11 January to 11 April 2012** – Complete Course: Manual/Instruction/Exam. Primary \$150.00. For non-members, please add \$45 to the course price



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### A NEW Boat and Engine Maintenance Course

CPS recently announced the introduction of a new Boat and Engine Maintenance Course to its line-up of boater education programs. This name is new too - this course was formerly known simply as Marine Maintenance.

CPS –Ottawa has chosen to present the 12 week course in the 2012 winter term. Weekly Wednesday evening classes start on January 11th at St. Patrick's High School - Alta Vista Drive at Heron Road. The course is open to both CPS members and the public and does not require any prerequisite courses. More information and on-line registration can be found on the CPS-Ottawa website.

Boats include equipment and machinery systems that range from simple to sophisticated with ever increasing computer "black boxes" thrown in to add mystery. When any of this stuff "acts-out" it can be challenging for both "start and go" captains and knowledgeable "do-it-yourselfers" to diagnose the faults and then to perform or direct the repairs. A good understanding of how the machinery works and how it behaves when it doesn't work are the first steps to diagnosing and correcting problems.

The course covers both inboard and outboard gas and diesel propulsion systems and maintenance in significant depth. Whole boat operating systems and maintenance are addressed together with off-season works and winterizing. Lotsa good stuff for an inquisitive captain or an aspiring do-it-yourselfer .

The course materials are excellent and the teaching aids look great. Much can be learned that is both new and relevant from the both the course materials and the varied experiences of all the class participants.

If you have ever wondered what's that noise or why doesn't it work – come for the course - the knowledge gained may help you figure it out.

### Maritime Radio Course

The Maritime Radio course teaches emergency radio procedures and everyday operating techniques.

I have a cell phone so why VHF? Many boaters do have a cell phone. So what's the phone number of the closest boater/Coast Guard when you are in trouble?

VHF radio is for boaters. It is a general broadcast system used by boaters, and it's function is to enable you to call for assistance, call on behalf of someone else requiring assistance, report hazards such a floating trees/logs, get the latest weather reports and of course contact and talk to other boating friends.



OPSS –VHF MARITIME RADIO – SCHEDULE 2012			
ST-PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL – 2525 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa			
Day of Week	First Class	Second Class	Last Class
Wednesday	18-Jan-12	25-Jan-12	01-Feb-12
Wednesday	21-Mar-12	28-Mar-12	04-Apr-12
Wednesday	23-May-12	30-May-12	06-Jun-12

**Course Price (Modules 1 & 2):** \$70.00 (Manual/Instruction/Exam.)

**1st Night:** arrive at 1830 hrs to complete the registration

Payment may be made in Cash, Cheque, Visa or MasterCard.

Please make cheques payable to "Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron".



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Rideau Ripples  
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