

Heave To!



November 2010 - Welcome Aboard



Commanders Corner Cdr Ossie Ianni, AP

What a fantastic summer for boating! I hope you had a safe, enjoyable season.



Mike Schauteet accepts the 2010 WOD Participation Award from DC Chris Schooley. Sarnia Squadron hosted another successful Western Ontario District AGM, with the appointment of Chris Schooley, to District Commander for his second term.



Congratulations to Mike Schauteet and Murray Long, WOD AGM Co-Chairman, and their volunteers. Chris Schooley also represented Sarnia at the National AGM, Nanaimo, B.C. (see page 4 for his article)



Special Congratulations to Jeff Evans, W.O.D. Volunteer of the Year. Eric Greaves accepts the award in honour of Jeff.

Waterway Enforcement ~ Myths or Reality

Sarnia Squadron was pleased to invite a panel of Enforcement Experts to the Western Ontario District AGM training session. Each Officer explained the mandate of their Agencies in protecting our waterways. They enlightened the audience with "Real Life" stories and situations experienced in the performance of their duties. They allowed our delegate's to field questions and any concerns that your membership may need clarified in reference to waterway enforcement.



Thank you, to the following participants.

**Transport Canada,
Office of Safe**

Boating:
Boating Safety Officer,
Wayne Atkins

OPP Marine Unit:

Constable,
Steve MacNally

RCMP Marine

Enforcement:
Officer Darcy McKeown

Ministry of Natural

Resources:
Conservation Officer,
Dirk Stuyck

Join us as a volunteer. Looking for something to do? Help us promote safe boating.

We are currently looking to fill Bridge positions for 2010 - 2011.

Please contact me to see how you can make a significant contribution by volunteering a few hours monthly. We have current vacancies for Youth, Environment, Supply Officers and Newsletter Editor

With Christmas and New Year round the corner, it's the time of the year to be merry and joyous.



Upcoming Events

- 29th Annual Sarnia Kinsman Christmas Parade of Lights, December 04
1800—2000 Hrs
- Maritime Radio Course
December 14 & 16
1900—2100 Hrs.
Contact Dave Sidenberg
519-491-9733
- Late December Early January Registration for 2011 ~ Winter Courses
- Squadron Express
Toronto International Boat Show
January 15, 2011
- 523rd Detroit Boat Show
February 12-20, 2011
Cobo Centre
- London Boat, Fishing and Leisure Show
February 25-27
- Western Ontario District Meeting, SYC, 1330 Hrs
Sunday March 6, 2011
Hosted by Sarnia
- Sarnia Squadron AGM
May 05, 2011, 1800 Hrs., SYC





On the Rocks!

Mike Baker AP, Sarnia Squadron

I was listening to Mike and first mate Anne, reminisce about their past boating seasons in the North Channel. They now moor "Unplugged" at Harbour Vue Marina, Little Current. Here are the Baker's stories of two boating incidents that Mike, was directly involved in assisting boaters in distress.

Boat on the Rocks

In early August my wife & I accompanied by friends in two additional boats traveled into an area in the North Channel for which the charts are not reliable. We had previous experience in those waters. The area of our anchorage was an east-west channel. While exploring by dinghy we discovered an area of shoals at the east end of the channel that was not noted on the charts.

Due to personal commitments and a long range forecast of high winds, we returned several days later to our dock some 2 hours away. Soon after returning I heard an emergency VHF radio call to the Coast Guard from a sail vessel that had blown aground in that area. The report was that there were strong westerly gusts.

The vessel relayed its accurate position during its distress call which I overheard at the marina office. The

marina owner-operator acts as the Auxiliary Coast Guard Rescue Service. He was unfamiliar with this specific area but knew that I had been there recently.

I declined his offer to accompany him but used his charts to pinpoint the exact location. Using his onboard chart plotter I laid out a navigation course through the rocks and shoals.

A successful rescue was accomplished within four hours.



Sail Boat without Power

In late August while docked at our marina in Little Current, I was alerted to the sound of anchor chain being lowered in the shipping channel. A sail boat had broken down in high winds within sight. I waved at the boat to get the captain's attention. Over the VHF radio I could barely hear the call for help saying "battery weak, try cell phone number..."

I could see the vessel approximately 100 yards off the stone break wall with the wind blowing it into it. I contacted

the Coast Guard via VHF radio and performed a VHF relay, using my cell phone to make contact with the boat.

The Coast Guard did not have the home phone number of the marina owner-operator who operates the Auxiliary Rescue unit. Therefore, I walked to the nearby home of one of the marina staff to obtain the number. Contacts were made and the owner-operator arrived at the marina soon thereafter.

I offered him my assistance. As we approached the stricken vessel I attached a line to its bow to maintain its position, at the same time carefully avoiding the anchor. At the same time the captain was pulling up the anchor. These manoeuvres accomplished, I monitored the tow line as the vessel was taken into the marina.

Once secured, we realized that the boat had previously hit a shoal and the motor was damaged. In his attempts to start the motor, the starter shorted resulting in a drained battery. The VHF radio therefore was not able to function.

In addition, we noted at the dock the boat had been taking on water. No lift could be done that day and so arrangements were made for a temporary bilge until the next working day,

53rd Annual Toronto International Boat Show

Put Some Summer In Your Winter... Like Never Before!



Sarnia Squadron is running the Boat Show Express again!

Saturday, January 15, 2011

www.torontoboatshow.com

Put Some Summer in Your Winter at Canada's Premiere Boat Show.

Why pay to park, crawl over snow banks and navigate massive parking lots when you can be dropped off at the door.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST INDOOR LAKE TO WELCOME ON -THE-WATER BOATING ACTIVITIES!!!

The Lake is the place to be for your ESCAPE from WINTER - You've Got To Experience it to Believe it! Over 1

Million Gallons of water will flood the Ricoh Coliseum - The Lake is larger than an NHL rink.

More than 500 exhibitors will display and sell cruisers, runabouts, sailboats, pontoons, fishing boats, deck boats, personal watercraft, jet boats, inflatable's, ...

Due to many inquiries we will again be renting a 56 passenger bus to whisk you away to The 53rd Annual Toronto International Boat Show.

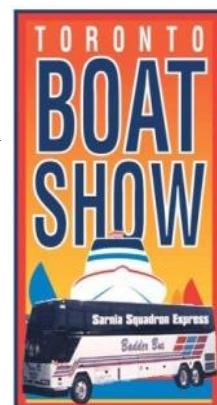
The cost is **\$50.00** including admission, per person. The bus can be found on the NE side of Lambton Mall (New Canadian Tire Parking Lot) at 7:00. We will be leaving at 7:30 a.m. Sharp, so don't be late!

We expect to be at the show from 1030 to 1600. On the return trip, we will stop in Kitchener for dinner at the Mandarin Restaurant, Award Winning "All You Can Eat Buffet". Returning to Sarnia by 2030 Hrs.

You Must Reserve Your Seat so please reserve early by calling:

Joe Huygen
519-312-4076

or
Chris Schooley
519-542-4555





Just Ask John!

Ottawa to Toughen Standards for Operator Card Testing

John Gullick fields many of the calls for information that come to CPS Headquarters in Toronto. He has agreed to share some of the questions and his responses with you.

Q: I hear there are a number of changes coming from Transport Canada that will effect the Pleasure Craft Operator Card programme. Is that true?

A: Yes, we expect a number of changes to take place this fall. Here are comments that were recently made by our Chief Commander Mal Blann: "For many years CPS has promoted the need for the Pleasure Craft Operator Competency (PCOC) program to include more comprehensive information, tougher exams, a mandatory education component, and tougher controls. Transport Canada (TC) has now substantially improved the accreditation requirements for Registered Providers to include a TC approved mandatory training manual covering 256 knowledge requirements (up from 149), a National Card Database, Official Language requirements, and Quality

Management System. TC is also implementing more stringent protocols for on-line testing which includes mandatory education modules based on an approved manual and new 50 question exam similar to what CPS has been using (vs. 36 currently used by other providers). Some Registered Providers are now withdrawing from the program.

We expect to confirm CPS accreditation and initiation of related on-line testing by the fall Conference. PCOC is here to stay and we welcome the enhancements to the program. While the PCOC from CPS will still not be fully adequate for every recreational boater, it will be for many and will provide a good base for further education for all."

Here is a bit more information about Mal's comment on the more stringent on line testing protocols:

For on-line testing a person will no longer just be able to challenge a test. They will have to log on for a defined period of time and go through a series of learning modules. At the end of each module they will have to answer a short quiz which they must pass before they can go on

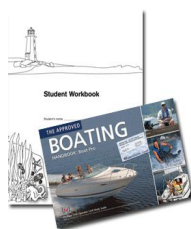
to the next module. When they have successfully completed all the modules they can then challenge the 50 question test. Can people still cheat the system? Yes, but it will be much harder to do and there will be much more learning going on and that is what is most important. Transport Canada just field tested a number of new tests in both French and English and is in the process of refining them. The new CPS course is just about finished its final review and we expect the new national PCO Card data base to be functional later this year.



All in all a number of welcome changes. Operator Competency have had their Pleasure Craft Operator Cards accepted even though they represent a level of proficiency far below the International standards. It seems to be the official Canadian Government logo on the PCO Card that does the trick.



Take a Winter Course: New and Updated Courses Available January Registration, Call Training Officer Reed Pletch 519-542-0585



**All New...
Boat Pro for
Youth, aged 8-12 :**

The Approved Boating Handbook and the Student Workbook prepares

kids for the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) exam.

The Student Workbook is full of activities that assists children to learn the material found in the Boating Handbook.

Whether your child takes the class or simply uses the kit as a study guide, upon successful completion of the exam, they will receive a one-year complimentary Associate Membership to CPS

**For Course Details
Call Eric Greaves 519-786-5212**

**We are now accepting
Registration for:
January ~ February 2011 classes.
Call Reed Pletch 519-542-0585.**

Calling All Boating Graduates

We have interest in the following:

****Navigating with GPS**

****Fundamentals of Weather**

****Seamanship Sail**

For Course Description and Cost Please visit our web site. If there is interest we require a minimum of four students for any available course.

Starting: January / February 2011

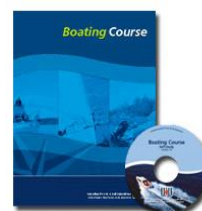
Calling All Boat Pro Graduates

Receive a **15% Discount** on

The Boating Course (15 weeks)

Whether you are interested in powerboats, sailing vessels or kayaks, this course is for you!

The Boating Course provides in depth boat operation and safety training. As well, you will experience the challenge of plotting and navigation.



Successful completion of the accredited midterm exam will allow you to receive your Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC). By passing the final Boating Course exam you will join Canada's largest association of recreational boating enthusiasts with the benefits of a full CPS membership.



Sarnia Power and Sail Squadron

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Squadron Contacts



2010 CPS National AGM

Nanaimo, B.C. October 21-23, 2010

D/C Chris Schooley



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Canadian Power and Sail Squadron holds a National AGM yearly and this event is hosted by a different district each year. Two years ago our district Western Ontario had the pleasure of hosting the event in Windsor the birth place of CPS to honour the 70th anniversary of our organization. This fall the event was hosted by Vancouver Island South District in the scenic city of Nanaimo! What a beautiful location to hold such an event for the nearly 300 dedicated boating volunteers that annually attend the National AGM.



Depending on your official capacity when you attend you can spend almost the entire four days and evenings in meetings but also on the Friday many seminars are held to inform the attendees of the latest news in the CPS world. Seminars that were held on the Friday afternoon included ones on Marketing, Membership, RVCC, and What's New in Training. Squadron Commanders who attend the Squadron Commander's meeting

held on the Friday morning also have the opportunity to question members of the national bridge on a wide variety of topics that are of interest to their membership.



WOD won the "Evolution of Change Award" from the Marketing Committee for our Roll Up Banner Program. This was submitted by NTO Joe Gatfield and resulted in the district winning a generic Roll up Banner that can be used at all District Functions as well as be borrowed by the Squadrons. Much of my time in Nanaimo was spent in Governing Board Meetings. District Commander meetings and the AGM but as you may surmise by the pictures that some sight seeing did take place before the meetings and a good time was had at the Friday evening theme dinner.



Sarnia Squadron's Annual Christmas Parade Participation



Volunteers Required

29th Annual Kinsman Christmas Parade of Lights

Candy Canes & Christmas Carols Saturday December 4th

6:00 p.m. Sharp!

Come out and help decorate the CPS "Howard Peck" demonstration speed boat. We need to decorate and apply 1000 lights to the boat and truck.

You have a great opportunity to bring your family, especially children and walk the entire Kinsman Christmas Parade with our float, and larger than life mascots Pukta and Buckles. All that you require is to wear a life jacket and have fun waving to the crowd.

For Information, Please contact Jeff Evans 519-869-6284