



The Mainsheet



OUR GREAT GRADS - Welcome aboard!

Nineteen students passed the Royal City Squadron fall 2008 Boating Course and were awarded membership in the Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons. It's great to welcome our many new members!

A few members have already exhibited an interest in volunteering in a variety of RCS areas.

What a great addition to our RCS community!

Congratulations.



Tytan Bourke



Mark Fedje



Ann Gilchrist



Margaret Harding



Ingrid Kroll



Daniel Legal



Michel Legal



James McFarlane



Aaron Markham



John Newark



Ross Nichol



Paula Olsen



Grant Penner



Neil Tamboline



Paul Turton



Preston Vroom



Lance Wilson



Janice Wood

Wendy Warn -
photo not available



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Commander's Corner



Hello all, and I hope that everyone had a great Christmas and Holiday Season! I hope Santa was kind to you, and that your hopes and goals for 2008 are achieved.

That being said, aren't we all waiting for better weather and temperatures to "go down to the boat" and get it ready? I know that I am in boating withdrawal now, since we used ours so very little last year.

Which brings me to the eternal subject of Boating Safety! While in the last few years, I have not boated as much as I would have liked, some of the mind-blowing behaviour I have observed are as follows:

1. Boats/yachts despite being the burdened vessel, continuing on their course and cutting across the bow of other vessels having the right of way. I am told by other boaters that skippers of the infringing yachts "did not want to have to reset their autopilots" and/or were playing cards or watching TV, etc. Amazing!
2. Many boaters leaving the dinghy dock at Winter Cove after the lamb barbecue, with overloaded dinghies with only a couple of

inches of freeboard, and no life jackets worn. Excuse: "our boat's only over there"; well, still close enough to drown.

3. Elsewhere in this issue you will see a yacht high on a rock, no further description necessary. Maybe I covered that in item #1! Suffice to say that I know that none of our Squadron's boaters behave as I have described, but please tell your friends and also promote our courses to them as much as you can. One disaster prevented or a life saved...

Another extremely important aspect of Boating Safety is having our vessel adequately prepared and properly commissioned with correct safety equipment, and I know that you all will.

At this time, the Coast Guard Auxiliary performs vessel checks however Ontario and Terrace, B.C. squadrons are successfully performing this task for pleasure crafts so that CGA can maximize their resources in search and rescue operations.

In closing, I wish for everyone – SAFE BOATING!



Respectfully submitted
Keith Davies
Commander



Royal City Squadron's February Social Evening St. Petersburg to Beijing by Rail



Presented by **Harold Wright**

Harold is not only an adventurer on the sea, but also on the land. Come and listen to Harold's story of his journey, and see the pictures, of these ancient lands.

Monday, February 18, 2008, 1900 (7:30 PM), at Century House, Moody Park, New Westminster, SW corner of 8th Street, and 6th Avenue.

Student Cruise - Nov. 11, 2007



It was a “dark and stormy night”, and the day wasn’t much better, when an intrepid band of Boating Course students, proctors and instructors ventured forth onto the Fraser River for the student cruise.



Thanks to Harold Wright (*No Hurry*), Patrick Sweetham (*Exodus*) and Don Hudspeth (*Grand Pause*) for donating the use of their boats for the trip.

Photos courtesy of Janice Wood



Anchors and Anchoring - Some Practical Advice



Vancouver West Marine's Lew Forth, recommended carrying three anchor types when exploring the West coast. At the RCS

Christmas Social, Lew entertained the members present with funny stories and practical advice on the capabilities of various anchors and anchoring strategies.

The anchorages of the Pacific Coast are varied - weeds, rocks, mud, sand, gravel – all different bottom composites; and all require different anchor characteristics. Having explored the coast for decades – Lew says he still cannot cover the entire BC coast in a lifetime – he has held (and dragged anchor) in a variety of conditions so his recommendations are based on experience. No single anchor works

well in all conditions, so Lew carries three different types on his boat. He also talked about some tests conducted by West Marine which also produced some interesting results.

In a comparison between the Delta Fast Set anchor and the CQR, the Delta set quicker and held better. The Danforth type anchors don't set in weedy bottoms.

Anchoring Strategies:

- Lew outlined the following anchoring strategies:
- No drinking if there is a possibility you might drag anchor during the night.
- Check the tide height for the lowest and highest tides.
- Check the chart datum where you are anchoring for bottom type and depth.
- Pick a spot sheltered from the wind, weather and traffic.
- Circle around to check depths

and for obstacles – don't go just directly to a spot.

- Make sure there is room to swing or room for a stern tie.
- Be aware that a side wind puts 3 times the load on the anchor when stern tied.
- Brief the crew before going to bed on what to do in case the anchor come loose.
- Rig the stern tie to release from one end – don't want to have to cut the line if things go wrong in the night.
- Take bearings.
- Leave enough room to increase rode scope if the weather turns bad.
- Rig a trip line if there is a chance the anchor might get tangled in the bottom.
- Use a kellet to increase the scope if there isn't room to let out more rode.



Continued on page 6

Knotty Words

Unscramble the words to find the knots.

1: L B N O I E W

2: G T E G H E U I G R I

3: S B T H D E N E E

4: C B E D H U L T I H O

5: N D E D H E O E B U T B E L S

6: I G N T O L R C L H H I

Answers on page 8. (No peeking)

A smooth sea never made a skilled mariner.

English Proverb



JOSEPH "JOE" REID 1948 – 2008

Joe became a member of Royal City Squadron approximately 5 years ago and remained very interested in and attending Squadron activities and socials.

Personally, I got to know Joe over the last couple of years and soon grew to like him. I enjoyed his repartee and the good natured verbal shots that he fired at people, including myself. In this regard, it was a measure of the man's character though, because he could take 'em as well as give 'em!

Joe moved a couple of years ago to his mother's (Betty) home in Roberts Creek on the Sunshine Coast. When squadron members visited him they were amazed at how, in fighting the good fight for so long, Joe's attitude was so positive and how he retained his sense of humour. I know he's been an inspiration to me.

Joe was an avid boater and fisherman, although a friend(?) of



his mentioned to me at Joe's Celebration of Life service that "Joe was a lousy fisherman". Joe will definitely haunt you for that, Bob Schell!

Joe's occupation was a heavy duty mechanic and having worked on many makes of engines, I am told he was a very good one. During the latter stages

of his illness, he constructed his own model railway as a pastime. Amazing! Joe's partner, Darlene, mentioned that his favorite saying was "wrecked him, damned near killed him" and I'm certain he had many opportunities during his lifetime to express this phrase!

Betty Reid said that when he was a youngster, Joe would sit on the porch, play his trumpet and drive everyone crazy!

Last September, Joe made a promise and kept it by making a monumental effort to attend our Squadron Fish Fry. A measure of the man...

Mr. Reid, on behalf of all your friends in Royal City Squadron, we miss you already. Our deepest sympathies to Darlene, Betty, and family.

Submitted by Keith Davies, Commander Royal City Squadron



Royal City Squadron Calendar of Events

February 18 - Social Evening

April 1 - Boating Course Exam & Pizza Celebration

April 21 - Annual General Meeting

April 27 - Annual Fun Golf Tournament

May 10 - Change of Watch Dinner

June (TBA) - Pitt Lake Squadron Cruise



A life without adventure is likely to be unsatisfying, but a life in which adventure is allowed to take whatever form it will is sure to be short.

Bertrand Russell



THE MAINSHEET

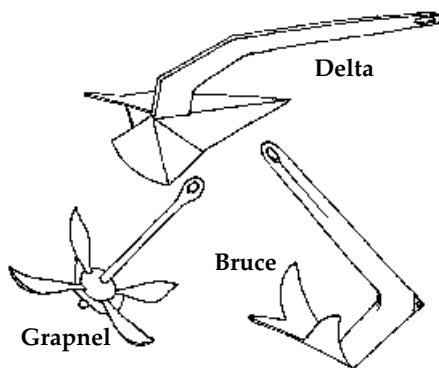
Lew's Anchor Recommendations (Continued from page 3)

Weighing Anchor:

- Sometimes, when weighing anchor, the anchor doesn't come loose. What to do?
- Draw the rode in as far as possible and make it fast. Let the boat's weight pull the stuck anchor loose.
- If it's still stuck, attach a large shackle to a spare rode, or tie a bowline in the spare rode, and let it slide all the way down the anchor rode and over the anchor shank. Motor the boat around (not directly over) the rode and pull it up 180° from the original direction.

Anchor Recommendations:

1. **Bruce** – holds well in a variety of bottoms, particularly sand and rocks.



2. **Delta** – holds well in a variety of bottoms, particularly sand,

rocks, weeds, mud

3. **Grapnel** – really useful for securing to rocky bottoms in Desolation Sound and for making a stern line fast to a shore with no shore-based rings.

A folding anchor, like the Fortress, is a useful backup in that it can be disassembled for storage and quickly assembled when needed. A “rule of thumb” to determine how heavy the normal anchor should be is ½ lb per foot – e.g. a 35' boat requires a minimum of 17 ½ lb. anchor. For storm anchors, go a size bigger.



*Reported by
Robert Ascroft*

“Believe me, my young friend; there is nothing — absolutely nothing half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.”

Kenneth Grahame, “The Wind in the Willows” (1908)



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Change of Watch 2008 - Saturday, May 10th

Planning is well under-way for the annual Change of Watch dinner and Boating Course student graduation ceremony. For those who haven't attended past events, the dinner celebrates the outgoing and incoming Bridges along with the presentation to the Boating Course graduates of completion certificates .

Dress is the CPS uniform (blazer, grey slacks, shirt & tie or business suit). For the ladies, a semi-formal outfit.

Planning Committee: The planning committee (*Photo from left to right*) consisting of Commander Keith Davies, Mark Garland, Lyn Garland, Chantal Hudspeth and PRO Officer John Prasad has been meeting since October to make sure the event is successful.

Location: The venue this year is at Roma Hall, 940 Ewen Ave., in Queensborough. On site parking is free and ample. See the map below for its



location.

Dinner: The five course dinner includes appetizers, baron of beef, pasta, and choice of desserts. With the sit-down dinner, we all eat at the same time.

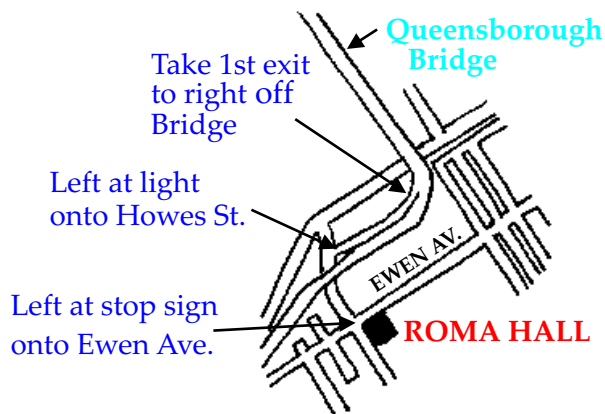
Door Prizes: The committee has been busy canvassing for door prize donations. **If you would like to contribute a door prize, contract John Prasad at 604-524-0080.** Donations are gratefully accepted.

Regalia Sales: This is also the time to get Squadron regalia

and clothing items will be for sale by the Regalia Officer, John More.

Date: Circle **May 10th** on your calendar and get ready for a great time. Cocktails begin at 1800 (6 PM), followed with dinner at 1900 (7 PM).

Tickets: Tickets per person are \$45. The hall capacity limits the number of tickets, so buy yours early - none will be sold at the door. Tickets available beginning in late March from some Bridge officers or contact Commander Keith Davies - 604-540-0852.



Trivia Teasers



A group of jellyfish is called a _____



A group of hawks is called a _____

Answers page 8.

Kudos to Our Members



Louis Juhaz



Mark Garland



John Neilson

Photo: Janice Wood

*Congratulations to: Louis Juhaz and Mark Garland for successfully completing the *Advanced Piloting* course and to John Neilson for successfully completing the *Offshore Sailing/Extended Cruising* and *Marine Electronics* courses.*

*Congratulations to: John and Sue Ottens on their acquisition of a Meridian 41 - *Departure*.*



*The winds and waves
are always on
the side of the
ablest navigators.*

Edward Gibbon

Sweet & Sour Shrimp

- 1 12 oz. Can of pineapple chunks
- 1 6 oz. Can mandarin oranges
- 1 Green pepper, diced
- 1 Medium onion, diced
- ½ cup Ketchup or Tomato sauce
- ¼ cup Vinegar
- 1 T Cornstarch
- 1 lb. Shrimp or Prawns, thawed if frozen



Heat first five ingredients, including their juices to almost boiling. Mix cornstarch and vinegar together and add to pot, stirring until thickened. If not thick enough, add more cornstarch. The amount of juice varies with different cans. Add shrimp and heat through until just opaque inside. Serve over rice or with a rice salad.



*Submitted by
Eleanor Hashimoto*

Check Out the New Benefits Exclusive to CPS Members

Telus Mobility:

Phone plans starting from \$12.55 per month. Selection of free phones, Blackberrys and PDAs. Up to 70% off accessories.

Weems & Plath:

Save 25% on precision navigation tools and products ordered directly from Weems & Plath.

ICOM Canada:

Save 5% on high quality radio equipment.

More information on the CPS website under member benefits:

<http://www.cps-ecp.ca/>

Answers: Knotty Knots

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1: Bowline | 4: Double hitch |
| 2: Figure eight | 5: Double sheet bend |
| 3: Sheet bend | 6: Rolling hitch |

Answers: Trivia Teasers

A group of jellyfish is called a *smack*.
A group of hawks is called a *cast* or a *kettle*.