

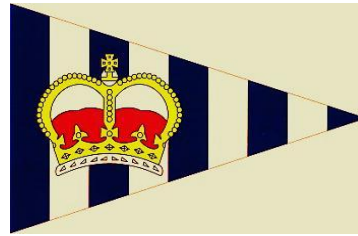
ROYAL CITY SQUADRON MAINSHEET

Events of late spring and summer and those to come. Articles of interest,
stories and pictures of our members socializing

Fall 2011

Commander's Corner

Well here we are in October and our summer boating season has drawn to a close. I trust everyone had a great and uneventful boating season. If anyone knows of a captain who deserves the bent prop award, please let me know of the story involved. I know we have had a few inter squadron cruises, which I hope some of you have managed to attend. Mid July saw the Pitt Lake cruise with five boats in attendance and one dingy. Although the weather was not conducive to our World Cup Bocce Ball competition, everyone seemed to cope with the constant rain. Saturday evening's meal was prepared by everyone participating in the cooking of the delectable steak and salmon, together with the scrumptious vegetables and salads. I would like to thank Harold Wright for once again organising the Pitt Lake cruise.



Past/Upcoming Events

September was our busy time as we had the fish fry event on Sunday the 18th (many (68) people attended)! Our fall boating course commenced on September 13th.

The social is on October 24th in the Spruce Room at Century House which is located corner of 8th Street and 6th Avenue, north of Moody Park (See Details and Reminders this edition). The wine and cheese/food bank social will be on December 19th, Century House, Spruce Room. Further details on the above socials to be communicated by email broadcast and the telephone committee.

Alan Barlow
Commander, RCS



Social Events

RCS Pitt Lake Spring Cruise

Five intrepid mariners journeyed up to Pitt Lake this year on the weekend of July 15-17. Harold Wright in "No Hurry", Marie and Patrick in "Exodus", Sara and Thomas/ Samantha and Harold, (Sam's father as guest), in the Gordon M, John Roscoe in "Leg a Sea" with guests Commander Alan Barlow and Susan Barlow, Eleanor and Keith with our guests in "Four Square", and Leona and Erik in the tender to "BC Girl"



Patrick and Marie left on Thurs. July 14, Harold Wright left at 0800, but wouldn't admit as to which day! Roscoe and Davies left around 0930, slogging against the 8 knot current of the outgoing tide,

and arriving early evening, The "Night Riders", the LawrencePallmann's and the Glover's arrived at 2200, after leaving work. Congratulations on your night navigation!

Leona and Erik Skovgaard arrived on Sat. in their tender, and were graciously accommodated for the night by Patrick and Marie on "Exodus".

As we know, our Pitt Lake weekend is an occasion for socializing, and comraderie with great food and refreshment, and this year was no exception.

We had a really great Pot Luck Friday evening dinner under the canopy at the end of the dock, just great!



John Roscoe had brought a box of cookies, and left them temporarily on the aft deck of "Four Square". With "cookie Monster" Davies lurking nearby, talk about the fox guarding the henhouse!

The weather was not the greatest on Sat., however by no means did this diminish the fun we had, visiting and sharing "boater's tales". It's amazing what we come up with...

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Later on we had "Happy Hour" and appies and then our great barbecue supper again under the canopy. The steaks and salmon, sides and fixings' were great as usual! Our barbecue

Chefs did a great job. Strawberries and Ice Cream were featured for dessert. Mmm, Strawberries that tasted like Strawberries, (from Westham Island), delicious!).

The usual beach fire was available to us on both nights, although in a slightly different location, due to high waters.

This meant that the weenie roast took place on Sunday morning with beautiful weather at the end of the dock, and as usual was just great.

With such an amenable and friendly group, did we let the poor weather and one of the largest freshets in years, (yes, in July!), bother us?

Heck no, I'm pleased to report that there were no incidents or accidents, and on the cruise back to our home marinas, we were running at 15.5 knots. Should have brought the water skis!

Many thanks to Harold Wright, the annual organizer of this event, and procurer of most of the supplies, thanks a lot, Harold!

Thanks also to John Roscoe for providing the cookies and the delicious Strawberries.

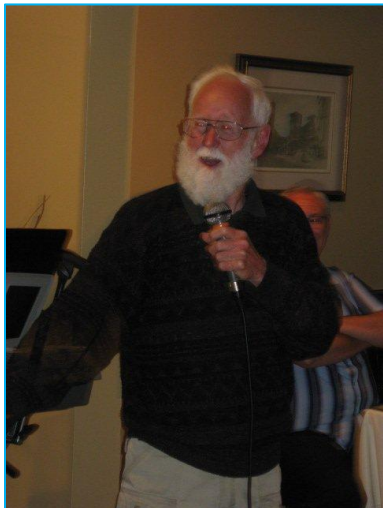
Respectfully submitted,

Keith Davies,
Executive Officer and Acting PRO/ Socials
Officer



Induction of Harold Wright into the Power Squadron hall of lifers

There was a little celebration aimed at surprising Mr. Wright for being a dedicated, hardworking, knowledgeable and long-time member of the power squadron.



And surprised he was and we think, happy. Naturally this had to be followed by a lot of eating and drinking, dancing and merry making which was also very successful!!



Commander Alan Barlow has some words to set things in motion...



Attendance was tremendous. Everyone made home port safely.

Port Browning Integrated Summer Cruise

By Friday afternoon Aug. 26 some 22 boats from six squadrons, (Royal City, White Rock, Langley, Pender, Capilano, and Bellingham, WA.) Converged on Port Browning Marina, N. Pender Island.

Royal City was well represented with four boats attending, (Patrick and Marie on Exodus, Glen and Barb on Balaena,, and a very pleasant surprise, Richard and Rhonda Tompkinson on a Capella, travelling up from La Conner WA, and Eleanor and I on Four Square.)

Later Friday afternoon a communal “meet and greet” at the end of the dock, with a great offering of pot luck appies for all was enjoyed.

As the evening drew closer, the magical sound of “the skirrl of the pipes” was heard as a Pender Island squadron lone piper trooped along the docks. You had to be there.....

On Sat. morning people swapped stories, went out to catch crab or fish, went to the pub for breakfast or lunch, walked up to the Driftwood Shopping Centre and/or watch the parade.

Later on Sat. afternoon, the highlight of the weekend: on the field opposite the marina buildings, a pot luck supper/barbecue was held, again this year culminating with a current movie being shown outdoors on a canopy screen. With popcorn being served during the movie yet!

The food and refreshments were excellent, and the movie was great too.

All good things come to an end, and on Sunday morning after coffee chats, boats started departing Port Browning for home ports or continued cruising.

A big hats off to **Langley Squadron** for organizing another great integrated cruise. **White Rock** has volunteered to organize next years, location not yet confirmed.

I can heartily recommend that other RCS members consider the integrated squadron cruise in their plans for next year.

Keith Davies, RCS executive officer



Articles

TO GO OR NOT TO GO-THAT IS THE QUESTION

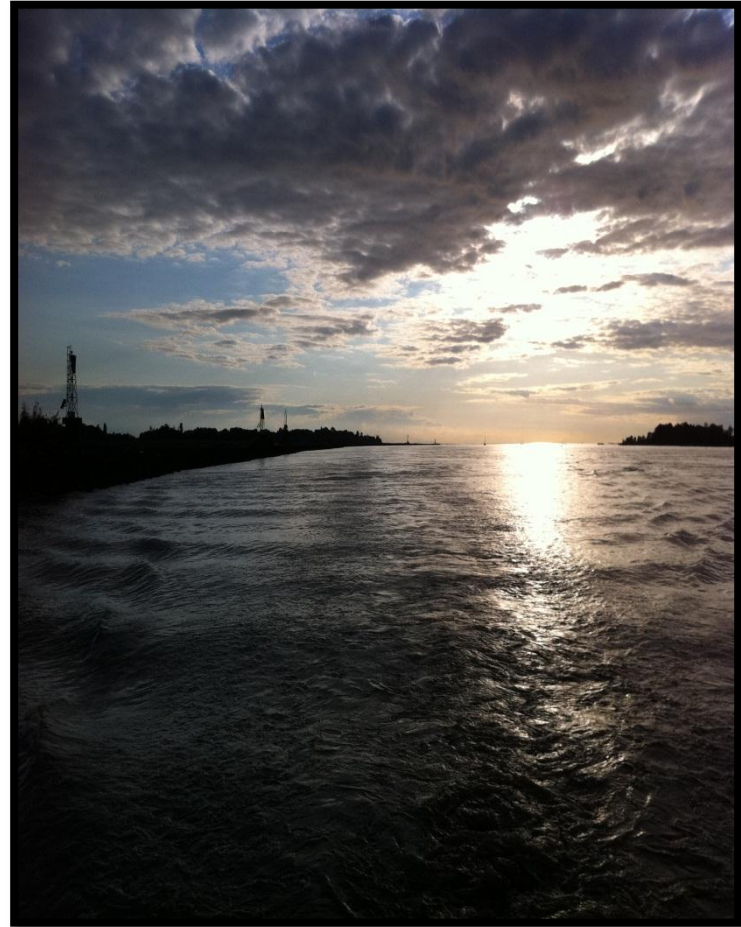
Recently Sara e-mailed me to ask if I could contribute to the newsletter. At first I couldn't think of anything and then a couple of articles in the newspaper jogged my memory. The first was about a Cigarette Boat travelling at night in the North Arm of the Fraser winding up on top of a log boom. The second was about a vessel towing a tube on Osoyoos Lake that resulted in a death. Both of these involved night time, alcohol and lack of attention.

If you know me you will likely know that over the years I promoted a river cruise near the end of each Boating class. The cruise involved a daylight trip, a pot luck, and a return in the dark. I remain a strong believer in not only the usefulness of this cruise but its necessity. The items cited above do not directly relate except that they involve two boats being out at night and not prepared for the results.

In the Boating course you learn to identify buoys, beacons, ranges etc. You also learn that they are lighted, have a certain colour, a certain flashing pattern and are found in specific places. No amount of teaching or reading can achieve the effect of seeing the aid and relating it to the chart you have in front of you both day and night. In the case of the range its picking it out on the shoreline, seeing the light pattern and the vessel movement necessary to keep on range. Finding these is not an easy job amid the plethora of lights along the shore. Knowing when to switch to the next range also becomes an exercise.

Some say we should not be out on the river at night. It is too dangerous. I would counter that this is Royal City Squadron. A river based squadron. You WILL, if you keep a boat on the river, be out on the river at night some time despite planning otherwise. Weather, mechanical problems, any number of things can alter your plans and place you on the river at night. I for one would prefer you had some previous experience.

Written by Harold Wright who enjoys fun and safe boating.





WEARING PFD'S ~ SHOULD THEY BE MANDATORY?

Transport Canada is revisiting this question and asking for the boating community's input as to regulating the mandatory use of personal floatation devices for all vessels 6m or less. If you have an opinion, please email your Squadron Commander, Alan Barlow at alan-susan@shaw.ca.

My personal view on this question, based on a recent experience is a resounding YES! Although 'Four Square' is a 10m power vessel, I wear my automatic-inflation PFD when handling the lines, etc. and returning from our 2-week cruise on Labour Day, I learned that it does indeed inflate automatically.

If you recollect, Labour Day was a glorious day – the Strait crossing was a bit bumpy but nothing to worry about and there weren't any seiners in the south arm in spite of the announced opening for that day so life was good after a terrific cruise around the Gulf Islands. When coming into our outside berth at Captain's Cove Marina, I managed to jump off the deck onto the dock however before I could tie the midline down, the wind shifted and pushed the boat away from the dock taking me with it.

Keith heard my frantic cry of "I'm in the water!!" but no one else heard my cries for help. As the boat drifted into the middle of Deas Slough, I went completely underwater and when I came up, POOF, my PFD automatically inflated! I was still clinging to the line frantically wondering how I was going to get myself out of this situation and was rather startled when the life vest did its thing.

We eventually got me around to the swim grid and attached ladder and I managed to tie the boat down on our next attempt, complete with the drowned rat look! I am now a firm believer in the use of PFD's regardless of the size of your vessel and if you have an automatic inflating one, all the better as you may be caught in a situation where you don't have the ability or wherewithal to manually inflate the unit.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Hashimoto, Past Commander

Reminders and Details

Royal City Squadron's Oct. 24th Social

Don't miss a 30-40 minute audio visual **presentation by F. John Roberts, accredited marine surveyor.**

John's presentation will be on the topic: "what marine surveyors look for in an insurance survey on board your vessel"

Also check out John's firm's web site at: www.marinesurveyor.com/allpoints

Century House, Spruce Room, 620 Eighth St. New Westminster, at 1930, 7:30 pm

Look forward to seeing you there!!

Keith Davies, Executive Officer and Acting PRO/ Socials Officer

Royal City Squadron Mainsheet

ROYAL CITY SQUADRON CALENDAR OF MEETINGS and EVENTS 2011-2012

MONTH	DAY	EVENT
October, 2011		Fall edition of the Mainsheet
	12	Bridge Meeting - Plaskett Room at 1900
	24	Social - Spruce Room at Century House, 1930
	21-23	National AGM & Conference in Halifax
November, 2011	----	(No PMD Council Meeting)
	15	2011 Merit Marks to Commander
December, 2011	05	PMD Council Meeting - Willingdon Church - 1900
	19	Wine & Cheese/Food Bank Social, Spruce Room at Century House, 1930
January, 2012	----	(No PMD Council Meeting)
	10	Spring Boating Course Registration
February, 2012		Winter edition of the Mainsheet
	06	PMD Council Meeting – Willingdon Church – 1900
	15	Bridge Meeting – Plaskett Room at 1900
	20	Social – Spruce Room at Century House, 1930
	TBD	Student Graduation Night at Me'n'Ed's
March, 2012	----	(No PMD Council Meeting)
April, 2012	02	PMD Council Meeting – Willingdon Church – 1900
	11	Bridge Meeting – Plaskett Room at 1900
	23	Squadron AGM & Change of Watch, Spruce Room at Century House, 1900
May, 2012		Spring edition of the Mainsheet
	----	(No PMD Council Meeting)
	TBD	Student Graduation at Me'n'Ed's Pizza
	26	PMD AGM at Burnaby Mountain Golf Course
June, 2012	11	PMD Budget Meeting – Willingdon Church – 1900
	20	Wrap up Bridge Meeting (Details TBA)
July, 2012	TBD	Pitt Lake Cruise
	Whenever	Boating Time!
August 2012	Whenever	Boating Time!

Copied directly from CPS website:

Member Benefits

Benefits from our corporate sponsors can more than cover the cost of your annual membership; many more benefits negotiated by individual squadrons (chapters) are also available to members across the country:

CPS GROUP INSURANCE

by [Cowan Insurance Brokers](#)*

- Boat Insurance:
Members save from 15% up to 25%
Associates save up to 5%
Includes Identity Theft protection.
- CPS Group Home & Auto Insurance

CANADIAN YACHTING MAGAZINE

Receive a free subscription to [CY](#) with your membership

BOAT U.S.

Half-Price Membership to [Boat U.S.](#), plus access to many more benefits in the U.S. and Canada such as West Marine Chandlerys.

DISCOUNTS

Save 33% with [C-Tow](#) Marine Assistance Ltd

Save 25% on [PORTS Cruising Guides](#)

Save 20% on [Fortress Marine Anchors](#) 2011–2012 Limited Time Offer

Save \$20 mail in rebate on any 3 Canadian made [Natural Marine](#) Products you buy over a boating season

Save 20% with [BOATCAN](#) Computer Boat Sales

Save 15% on selected PFDs at [SALUS Marine Wear](#)

Save 10% with:

- [RONA Stores](#) in Western Canada
- [Delta Hotels](#)
- [Choice Hotels](#)
- [National Car Rental](#) (Canada) Affinity and Association Benefits Program

BOATING EQUIPMENT

Save on boating equipment from premier manufacturers:

- WEEMS & PLATH
Order online and save 25% on precision navigation tools and products ordered directly from [Weems & Plath](#).
- ICOM CANADA
Save on high quality radio equipment from [Icom](#).

Members: [login](#) for the latest list of Corporate and local Membership Benefits, access to the corporate rate codes, and direct links to partner web sites.

* Note: Savings compared with a similar policy from Cowan Group to non-members. To qualify for the CPS Insurance program, it may be required for some boats that a recent marine survey be presented; as a result, not all boats may qualify or restrictions may apply. The CPS Boat Insurance program provides a comprehensive package. Not all proposed competitive policies are as comprehensive as the Cowan Group CPS program; read the policy fine prints of any competitive offer.

** Benefits may change from time to time without notice.

Royal City Squadron Mainsheet



Many thanks to Alan, Keith, Eleanor and Harold for their Mainsheet submissions. Please do not hesitate to share your pictures, stories, opinions or points of interest – email lawpall@shaw.ca or call 604-936-8609- we'd love to hear from you!
