

GANGPLANK



TORONTO
POWER & SAIL SQUADRON



A UNIT OF CANADIAN POWER AND SAIL SQUADRONS

January 2005



Commander's Report:

Well I hope everybody had a nice holiday and is preparing for the 2005 Boating Season. Before I approach the subject of new year, I would like to talk about the National AGM held last October. The conference was quite productive! Squadrons from across Canada were sharing ideas. . It seems that all squadrons are being faced with similar problems. The concern that our membership numbers are declining was addressed and a brainstorming session was held as to how to attract new members as well as how to hang on to our existing members. There were a couple of good ideas that your bridge will be attempting in the year 2005.

As far as social events, there was a wine tour arranged and I hear that it was one of the best tours that people had been on. The Friday night banquet was captured by Pirates! It was a costume dinner party and the theme was 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. Everyone in attendance had a fabulous time! Your very own Marc-Philippe won a prize for his costume. Your Past Commander was also quite becoming in his costume. David has been part of the planning for the conference and I know that he had been busy. It was a job well done!

As far as what your squadron is up to, we are planning to first and foremost increase the communication to you the members. Watch, you will notice that the Gangplank is going through a facelift. ! Remember

(Continued on page 4)



Bruce and Sue Cameron dressed as pirates at the "Pirates of the Caribbean" dinner during the CPS Annual Conference.

Inside this issue:

PR's Word	2
Member's Story	2
Course description	3
Sailing Adventures	3
Recipe from the Galley	4
Contact numbers	4

IMPORTANT DATES

- **January 18** **Registration Night** (for all courses) at Forest Hill Collegiate 7:00 PM
Boating: January 18 to April 26 (Tuesdays) \$180
Extended Cruising: January 26 to May 6 (Wednesdays) \$100
Global Weather: April 20 to May 25 (Wednesdays) \$100
Marine Radio Seminar: February 7,9,14,16 (Mondays & Wednesdays) \$40
note: all course are from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- **January 15 to 23** **Toronto International Boat Show** held at the National Trade center, Exhibition place (Volunteers needed)
- **January 26** **Holiday get together** at Bedford Restaurant 3080 Yonge Street; N-W corner of Yonge and Lawrence (door prizes, food & drinks)

For more information call Marc-Philippe at 416-466-3551

Call to the Members from the PR Officer

Dear members

My name is Marc-Philippe Gagné and I have been appointed as the new Public Relations Officer for the Squadron. I'll do my best to live up to the title and expect to introduce exciting new events during my mandate.

We have an energetic new board with an aggressive agenda and look forward to your participation.

I would like to create sub-committees to address three main aspects of the organization.

- The News Letter Committee

To facilitate communication to and between members with emphasis on specific columns and forums.

- Event Planners

Strive to optimize inclusion and relevance in organizational activities.

- Charity Volunteers

Volunteering and community fundraising will broaden our public profile. To get involved call me.

I am looking forward to meeting you at one of our activities or meetings.

Sincerely,

Marc-Philippe Gagné

Public relation Officer

Lost at Sea by Terrence Gillespie

Lost at Sea

I've always been a sucker for a beautiful boat. The one that really broke my heart, the one that got away was to follow me for much of my life.

In the mid seventies I worked as a junior for an Architect in London. As there was nothing left after rent and food I spent many of my weekends either thumbing through Europe or wandering the East India docks. I sat below in Chichesters Gypsy Moth at Greenwich awaiting the next knockdown, I commanded the Cutty Sark through countless Gales and I would not have been at all surprised if Dickens were to poke his head around any corner and direct me to the pub.

On one of these Sunday afternoons I arrived at St. Catherines Yacht Basin near the tower bridge hoping to find a boat I'd read about back home. It was a concrete boat built by an architect from New Zealand. Sure enough, she was there. Sadly though the sweet shear apparent in the photos of the book gave way on close inspection to a hull with the patina of a sidewalk and I tuned away before I even got close. When I turned I was treated with a view of the most beautiful port bow I'd ever seen. She was black, beautiful and absolutely otherworldly. Teak decks, mahogany cabin sides, huge ketch rig but everywhere, always breathtaking and hopelessly elegant. I was so in love. She had no markings, no numbers and no matter how many times I fondled her bow or rubbed her stern I could not for the life of

me determine what her hull was built from. I took hundreds of photos and left only to return the next weekend to find her gone.

Years later, back in Canada a new friend came to visit and was taken aback to see my blown up photo of the big black ketch dominating my apartment. "Oh I see they've painted her" he exclaimed. I smiled thinking he must be delusional and explained that he couldn't possibly know the boat, not my boat. He smiled, and we spent a civil evening. Days later he presented me with my very own copy of "The Proper Yacht" by Arthur Beiser. Arthur Beiser, an American physicist had apparently happened on "Minot's Light" one afternoon in a boat yard. He too it seems is a sucker for a beautiful boat, and bought her there and then. I was treated to the second edition of the Proper Yacht for my birthday. I remember how Minot's Light, a 58' Alden Ketch was featured on the cover, on various photo pages and in her own section as "The Proper Yacht". Beiser made his fortune by authoring countless University Physics texts and his teaching continued into his sailing life. He was always interested in the new ways and the proper ways and the best practices. His books Works have become known as the books that launched a thousand ships. They are a bit like pornography. I confess to having read them under the covers with a flash light.

Arthur often told of the right way and the wrong way and the importance of preparation and procedure.

He also talked of practicality and how he

was blinded by his love for Minot's Light. How he was working with Swan to develop a more practical smaller yacht. Traitor I thought, now who's delusional?

A few years ago I got to wondering about Minot's Light. I called John Alden in Boston. The older guys remembered. Beiser had sold Minot's Light and after a few false starts she was being restored by someone in California. "What about Arthur?" I asked. "Is he still sailing?"

As it turned out, Arthur had replaced Minot's Light with a smaller swan 48, had her properly fitted out and headed back to his island home in the south of France. "...but the boat never made it" he said. Not exactly sure but he was somewhere near mid atlantic when she started taking on water and in minutes she was gone. "To this day" he said, "nobody knows what happened. What an enormous tragedy I thought at first, but know when I think about it, Arthur is still my Guru and that incident is probably the most important lesson he ever taught. At least to those of us who are paying attention.



Course description

The Boating Course

It contains expanded, detailed boating-safety information, the challenge of plotting and navigation skills, and the interaction with other boaters. Successful completion of the examination(s) at the end of the entire course will provide you with the opportunity of Regular Membership and all its associated benefits, along with the PCOC.

Extended Cruising

This course focuses on the aspects of the environment that the offshore sailor must understand to maximize the enjoyment and minimize the risks for their crew and vessel.

Global Weather

The Global Weather Course is designed for those who wish to make ocean crossings or for the student who would just like to gain a more in depth knowledge of meteorology. It consists of six chapters: Equilibrium in the Atmosphere, General Circulation, Air Masses, Extra Tropical Cyclones, Tropical Cyclones, Forecasting.

Maritime Radiotelephone (VHF)

This seminar consists of two modules:

Module One:

Introduces the student to Maritime Mobile Service, Regulations and Procedures. Students are taught the uses of marine radios, choice of frequencies, operation, phonetic alphabet, procedural words and phrases.

Module Two:

Covers Digital Selective Calling and the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System, (DSC/GMDSS).

Successful completion of this course will qualify the student for a "Restricted Operator's Certificate (Maritime)" ROC (M), with DSC endorsement.

Paul & Sheryl Shard's Sailing Adventures ... on SeaRoom

Hi Everyone!

nov2004.htm

Greetings from the Lycian Coast, a wild mountainous forested region of southwest Turkey where Paul and I are enjoying some great late-season cruising.

We've just updated our web site with lots of new photos in a newsletter about our recent adventures which include diving on a sunken ancient city, tips on what foods to stock up on before sailing to Turkey, as well as facts and figures on the costs of marinas.

Hope you drop by...

www.searoom.com/shard/

DVDs Make Great Christmas Gifts

If you are looking for some great "warm-you-up" Christmas gifts don't forget to visit our secure online store to order our DVDs in time for the Holiday Season -

The perfect gifts for the sailor or adventurer (or anyone needing a cure for the winter blues) in your family.

Sunny destinations, crystal clear water, exotic cultures and fascinating people await...

www.searoom.com/shard/bvidео.html

Visit us at the Toronto International Boat Show January 15-17 2005 If

you're in the Toronto area in January, please stop by to see us at the Toronto International Boat Show where we'll be conducting seminars and doing book signings:

Sat. Jan 15 3:00-4:00 pm
Sun. Jan 16 2:00-3:00 pm
Mon. Jan 17 3:00-4:00 pm

We'll be updating our Shows and Seminars



Page with locations and times of other presentations during our visit home this winter.

www.searoom.com/shard/seminar_info.html

Thanks again for your e-mails. We appreciate your comments and love to hear your news!

Recipe from the Galley

Bronze Salmon Zinfandel

8 ounces fresh salmon
 1 teaspoon Cajun seasoning
 1 tablespoon peanut oil
 1 ounce smoked salmon pieces (diced)
 1 ounce scallions (diced)
 3 ounces tomatoes (diced)
 1 ounce capers
 3 ounces White Zinfandel
 2 ounces heavy whipping cream
 2 ounces whole butter
 Fresh ground black pepper
 3 ounces mashed potatoes

Sprinkle the seasoning on the fresh salmon. Heat a cast iron pan to smoking. Cook salmon lightly on both sides (prepare salmon to temperature-i.e.: medium rare, medium, etc.....). In a separate pan, add with peanut oil and scallions, tomatoes, capers and smoked salmon. De-glaze with White Zinfandel. Add heavy cream and butter. Reduce until thick rich consistency.

To prepare the final dish, put the mashed potatoes in the center of plate. Place salmon on top and place sauce on the side of salmon (like a moat)

Bon appetit!

(Continued from page 1)

that this is your squadron and it is working because of the volunteers. We are always looking for people to help.

Regarding the year 2005, the new boating season is coming soon. How better to make the winter go faster than to take one of our four courses ! The Registration of all courses will be held at the Forest Hill Collegiate January 18 at 19:00 hours. Also, you are invited to The Toronto Squadron Holiday Party January 26 at the Bedford Restaurant. It is a good time to meet with the new bridge officers and get involved. The International Boat show is back in Toronto and as usual, there will be a CPS booth. For those who wish to help, the entrance to the show is complementary provided that you be present at the booth for few hours

We have arranged a tour, February 6, at the construction site of Derek Hatfield's new open 60 sailboat. A bus will leave Toronto to go to Concord and a snack will be served on board. Make your reservation as soon as possible since there is limited space only. Check our Web Site (www.torontopowersquadron.org) for more information or call Marc-Philippe at 416-528-2449

Respectfully submitted,
 Susan Cameron

Bridge 2004–2005

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Our Mission

To increase awareness and knowledge of safe boating, by educating and training members and the general public, by fostering fellowship among members, and establishing partnerships and alliances with organizations and agencies interested in boating.