



# TORONTO POWER & SAIL SQUADRON



A UNIT OF CANADIAN POWER AND SAIL SQUADRONS

AUGUST 1999

GANGPLANK



## *Commander's Report:*

The remote peaceful island cottage that we bought years ago to pacify body, mind and soul has now become considerably less idealistic as it is besieged by the vast array of water sport vehicles that have found their way into the arsenal of cottage fun.

Each day brings evidence of thoughtless carelessness from excessive speeding, lifejacket infringements, to seeing children straddled on the bow stanchion of speeding boats. It brings to mind the importance of Power Squadron education and that we still have numbers of people to teach to ensure all of these great water sports are performed with everybody's safety in mind. Then, we can all have fun.

I hope that all members of the Toronto Power and Sail Squadron and their family and friends have had a great summer. I am just sorry that we missed you at the Georgian Bay rendezvous. Jim and Deb McCreary again hosted the event. They must have an "in" with the gods. I phoned them before leaving dreary cloudy Toronto just in case of a cancellation due to weather. Their answer, "No way, The sun is shining, the sky is blue and the water is warm". Thanks again Jim and Deb for a great time. They are also hosting the bridge for our inaugural meeting, on their beautiful boat, which they brought up from the Tortugas.

Fifteen members including myself, who had received a prize-winning gift at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Dance, finally got to enjoy it last night. Rob Brown, of T. Rob Brown Majesty Cruises, had kindly given us a 4-hour cruise around the Toronto Harbour and Ontario Place. The weather was perfect, the food was great and the company entertaining.

Tony and I also spent time at the Canadian Shark Championship as guests of Sail Parry Sound. This is the same group that will be putting their bid in for the sailing championships during the Olympics, (if Toronto's bid for the Olympics is honoured). A lot of ifs, but that does not dampen the enthusiasm of this group. What a great boating venue, the Sound of Parry Sound. Many of you, who boat in Georgian Bay, are familiar with this area and have had the pleasure of the steady winds for years.

Tony and I were also asked to attend the Grand Marshall's Ball hosted by the Parade of Lights. Mayor Mel Lastman

Unless otherwise notified all TPS  
Bridge Meetings will take place at  
1930hrs at the Commanders  
residence:  
253 Cranbrook Ave  
Toronto, M5M 1M8  
416 489 1685

was the Grand Marshall, and the Ball was held at Captain John's Restaurant. What a lot of fun, with Red and White worn by guests to honour Canada Day. The amount of work that has been put into this event for charity, the charity of your choice, is astronomical. Everything is volunteered. People can be amazingly generous. It is an annual event. Make it next year, that you involve yourself by having your boat in The Parade of Lights, always held on Canada Day.

Volunteer, that word again, reminds me to remind you to help out your squadron. There is always a role that you can play. In teaching, in helping with newsletters, in helping with various get-togethers like the rendezvous, in giving us advice or even criticism or encouragement. It will always be great to hear

from you. One way to help right now is to tell your friends, your neighbours about our courses. The course, which everybody is interested in, is the one that will give them the CARD. They can obtain the Pleasure Craft Operators Card in two ways:

Take the 4 week Boat Pro course + exam  
OR  
Take the Boating Course + exam

The next Bridge meeting will be held Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at Outer Harbour Marina.

**Commander Annie Cook, N**

## *from the exec's deck.....*

It is amazing how short our summer can be. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were getting the boat ready for sailing and now we are thinking about getting it ready for winter. I look back on the enjoyment that boating brings and already anticipate sailing in the year 2000.

The fun that we've had though hides the dangers that go with boating. It is hard to think of death when the sun is shining and the winds are blowing in the right direction, but it happens.

In today's newspaper is a story on the search for five missing boaters on Lake Erie. Earlier, a nine year old was killed driving a PWC. All summer tragedies are narrowly averted without the participants realizing how close they came to injury or death. It never happens to "us", always someone else.

I work as a paramedic in the city of Toronto. Daily we see how quickly fun can turn to suffering. You would think that we would be safer than anyone. When working recently, my partner turned out to be a boater. Like myself, he boats on Lake Ontario.

Discussing places we've visited, he told me of his trip from Toronto to Niagara-on-the-Lake. He set out with a road map and a hand compass for his destination, aiming directly for the entrance. He made it, but you can see how any little problem could snowball into a misfortune. Say he didn't find the entrance, he wouldn't know if he was left or right of the Niagara River. Which way would he turn? If he found a buoy, it wouldn't be on his road map. If fog came in, how would he plot his course home? All this was taught in the Boating course. As an aside, in this situation if you are looking for a narrow entrance in the fog, head either left or right of your destination and when you get to land you will know which way to turn.

As the Squadron gets ready for another teaching year, encourage your fellow boaters or colleagues to take a safe boating course. If it has been awhile since you've taken Boating consider taking it again as a refresher. Death on the water is not an accident. Most, if not all, can be prevented.

Hopefully they will shorten winter this year.

**Lt/C Bruce Cameron**

## *and, from the training department ....*

Another summer has come and gone. I can't believe it! So here we are planning a new season in boating. Not much has changed over the summer. I hope that everyone had a great time on the water.

Now, as the leaves will begin to change and the days start to get shorter, how are we going to keep from being depressed when we can't have the wind blowing through our hair and the sound of water lapping against the sides of our boat.

While "here I go again!" - Why not pass on this fabulous knowledge. I hope that we can have as successful a year as we did just past.

We have been approved again for the fall at North Toronto Memorial Community Centre. However our night there has been changed. The Boating class will now be taking place on a Wednesday night from 1900 to 2130 hours. In addition we will be holding classes at Forest Hill Collegiate, and will still be held on Tuesday evenings.

I am hoping that for this fall we will be offering *Boating*, *Boat Pro* and as well, one of the elective courses. I cannot at this time indicate which one it will be. This is where you come in. I will be attempting to call most of the members to see if I can get more of you involved.— It is the only way that this squadron will survive.!

It may only be one night of your time. Is this too much to ask? It cannot always be the same people all of the time. We are all busy in our lives, I understand this as much as anyone

but it is only one night. PLEASE, think about it?

I will be looking for people to teach a lesson, come and help with a class, give me a hand with getting *Boat Pro* running smoother and, new this year, I am going to attempt to provide a list of names so students can call and get help with a course. If anyone has any other ideas I can't wait to hear them so please, feel free to give me a call.

I encourage you to get involved and help get through those winter blahs! Pass on your accumulation of knowledge so that others also help to keep our waterways fun and safe for the next season! Now is the time, especially with the new legislation. Looking forward to seeing you out to some of our classes.

**Respectfully, Lt/C Susan Cameron JN**

### **FALL SESSIONS**

*(see dates below)*

- *Boating (Wednesdays at North Toronto Memorial Community Centre)  
1900 hrs to 2130 hrs*
- *Boat Pro (Tuesdays at Forest Hill Collegiate  
1830 hrs to 2030 hrs*
- *Registration at Forest Hill Collegiate  
Room to be posted at the school entrance.*

## *'99 calendar*

TPS Bridge	September 9
Course Registration	September 14
YWD Council	September 15
Boating Class starts	September 22
Boat Pro Class starts	September 21
YWD Conference Reps & Training Officers.	September 22
TPS Bridge	October 14
YWD Cdrs & Execs & Council	October 20
CPS AGM, Niagara Falls	October 13 to 16
TPS Bridge	November 11
TPS Bridge	December 10
Boating Exam	December 15

## *from the food for thought file.....*

*Taken from an article on the CPS website: <http://www.cps-ecp.ca/>  
According to a recent study by BOAT/U.S. Marine Insurance.*

**Swamping** (taking waves over the sides or back of the boat) causes 30 percent of all boat sinkings on the open water. *Seaworthy*, a newsletter published by the BOAT/U.S. Marine Insurance Program, found that for every boat that sinks underway, four boats sink at the dock

- *Through-hull leaks caused 18 percent of open-water sinkings.*
- *Raw water cooling system and exhaust leaks were responsible for 12 percent of the sinkings.*
- *Missing drain plugs another 12 percent.*
- *Boat groundings because of navigational errors were responsible for 10 percent of the sinking*
- *Six percent sank because of hull splits when they slammed into waves or another boat's wake.*

“Transom height - the height of the boat in the stern - is the single most critical reason boats are flooded in open water. People with low-transomed boats should be very conscious of weight distribution on the boat, and avoid storing heavy items in the stern. It's also important to make sure the cockpit drains are open, not plugged with leaves and other debris.”

Seaworthy has a free brochure, "Why Boats Sink (And How to Keep Them Afloat)," available online at [www.boatus.com](http://www.boatus.com)

### **AN EVERDAY SURVIVAL KIT**    courtesy of 1st Lt David Agnew

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Toothpick   | - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others.                             |
| Rubber Band | - to remind you to be flexible, things may not always go your way, but will work out. |
| Band Aid    | - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's.                       |
| Pencil      | - to remind you to list your blessings everyday.                                      |
| Eraser      | - to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's okay.                          |
| Chewing gum | - to remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything.                     |
| Mint        | - to remind you that you are worth a mint to your family and friends.                 |
| Candy Kiss  | - to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday.                         |
| Tea Bag     | - to remind you to relax daily and go over that list of your blessings.               |

*“ To the world, you may just be somebody... but to somebody, you may be the world”*

### **BOATING REGULATIONS: Fines for infractions**

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| • Age/horsepower requirements:                     | \$ 250                 |
| • Competence of Operators requirements:            | \$ 250                 |
| (except for 12-16 years, Young Offenders Act max.) | \$ 100                 |
| • Small Vessel Regulations                         | heavy fines will apply |
| • No PFD infractions:                              | \$ 200                 |

For more information see:  
<http://canada.justice.gc.ca/ftp/en/regs/chap/c/c-38.7/sor96-313.txt>



## BRIDGE 1999-2000

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**WEEKEND ON THE WATER  
SEPTEMBER 10, 11 & 12,**

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