

2007-8 Course Start Dates

Boating:	Tuesday, September 25, 2007 Tuesday, January 22, 2008
Weather:	Wednesday, September 26, 2007
Maritime radio :	Monday, November 26, 2007 Monday, January 21, 2008 Monday, March 31, 2008
Extended Cruising:	Wednesday, January 30, 2008
TIME:	1900
WHERE:	Room 252 Forest Hill Collegiate Institute 730 Eglinton Avenue West at Bathurst
REGISTER:	On the web site for all courses

Past Chief Bill Booth 1919 - 2007

Members of the Toronto Squadron mourn the passing of one of our longest serving members. Bill joined the squadron in 1955 and was active until his death September 3, earning the huge total of 51 Merit Marks.

Bill was one of our youngest Chief Commanders. He served from 1963 to 1965, and after his term of office he became one of the mainstays of the Training Department.

In effect, it was Bill and his Editorial Review Committee that did the bulk of the work in determining the content of all CPS courses, writing the course notes, drafting the exams, and keeping the course materials up to date. He devoted himself to that work for some 20 years after his stint as Chief Commander.

CPS Web Site - Member Area:

In order to access the Member area of the national web site, you need to register. This is not the same registration that you may already have for the old Members Moorings. It is a completely new system and requires everyone to register a profile. Once you are registered, you can access all of the hidden Member areas and you may, at any time, update your personal information in the national database. This will be a huge help to the Squadron in keeping member information current.

It is important that member information be up-to-date. (Email addresses are constantly changing - be sure your's is current). We shall henceforth email the Gangplank to members who provide their email address.

Where previously it was the task of the squadron membership officer to keep track of this information, it is now in the hands of the individual member. Please log on and register as soon as possible.

(Note: content from the old Members Moorings is gradually being reformatted for the new site. In the meantime, the moorings is still available using your existing log-in information).

TRAINING

Another training year about to start, with your Squadron well set to provide a series of courses for the boating public.

Following upon the national decision to include a one-year membership in the Boating materials cost, we have raised our fee to \$245 per person. This still represents excellent value for a 12-week course backed with excellent materials and, of course, instructors who have 'been there, done that'. We also host a graduation pub night for all students, to which the general membership is invited.

A new appointment to the training staff is **Christine Biggs**, Boating graduate 2007, who has taken on the demanding task of assistant training officer responsible for registrations and administration. Christine will also act as a proctor during the Boating course. She graduated with top marks from a recent Instructor Development course. We are pleased, also, that she has registered to attend the national conference in Ottawa.

Bob Robertson, who recently relinquished his post as treasurer, will be the Boating Chair and lead instructor for the fall course. Bob is also hoping to attend the Ottawa conference. **Humphrey Carter** will be the lead instructor for the winter series.

Joni Alexander will again present her popular **Fundamentals of Weather** course starting in September – a “must” course for all boaters, and we encourage members to consider taking this course this year.

Ken Goodings has prepared a series of 3 sessions for the **VHF Maritime Radio** certificate – the ROC(M) certificate is a legal requirement for all boaters using a VHF radio.

Wanita Gray, who actually belongs to the Ajax Squadron but whom we consider one of our own, has agreed to present **Extended Cruising** again in January 2008.

We would like to offer courses for the **Pleasure Craft Operator Card** in the early Spring and are on the look-out for an instructor to lead the series – probably either a full day weekend at a community centre, or 3 evenings at the school. Contact Tony Cook if you would like to volunteer. There are other courses we would like to offer, such as the new **Electronic Charting** seminar – we need someone to take ownership of such a course. Could that be you?

Many others devote their time to instructing and leading within the training department. We are always in need of enthusiastic proctors to assist students in class. Volunteer, gain your Merit Mark and work towards that distinguished Life Member designation. Or just simply enjoy the experience.

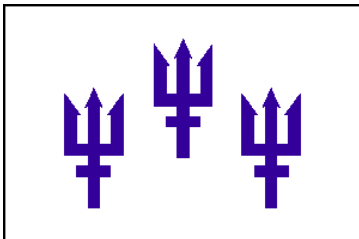
Members will help staff the CPS booth at the **In-water Boat Show** at Ontario Place, September 14-16.

Tony Cook,
Training Officer
(416) 486-9819
sto@torontopowersquadron.org

Christine Biggs
Assistant Training Officer
(416) 405-8146
asto_admin@torontopowersquadron.org

Much has happened since the last newsletter in April. Following another strong showing in class sizes, our training department held a successful graduation party at the Granite Brewery with over 40 guests in attendance. During the event we welcomed many new members, volunteers and friends. All members are welcome to attend these events, so be sure to join in next time.

At our May AGM your Bridge was bolstered by the inclusion of Christine Biggs as ASTO/Admin. Christine brings with her organizational experience and much enthusiasm. Most recently we appointed a new Treasurer, Darren Payne, who will be taking over from Bob Robertson. Bob will concentrate his efforts on what is a key to maintaining our core training function as Boating Chair. Thank you Bob for your good work and dedication as Treasurer.



Highlights from the past five months include migration to the new CPS website, the "Re-branding" name change contest and the unresolved issues associated with it. This is a very bold, yet important change in direction for this organization in which we encourage our members to take an interest. It will shape the future identity of CPS as we keep pace with the ever-changing demographics.

As we enter the fall season of courses, I invite you to become involved by helping in the classroom or offering your expertise in promoting new course options. I would further encourage our long-standing members to reach life-member status by simply giving of some time to earn your Merit Marks.

Along with many Bridge members, I will be attending the National Conference in Ottawa this fall. I feel that we will come away with a better understanding of the current issues facing CPS as a unified squadron. You too are invited to attend.

Randy Boccia
Commander



Randy Boccia, Barry McQuilian, Bob Robertson, Christine Biggs, Tony Cook

Every cloud has a silver lining

Last January Aubrey and Judy Millard, members of the Toronto Power and Sail Squadron, were on the second day of a 1200 mile passage from Antigua direct to Cuba on board Veleda IV, a 1978 Ontario 32, when Doug Caldwell, a crew member who had joined from Toronto, scalded his wrist and Veleda had to divert to St. Croix. He then returned to Toronto where he was well cared for and the scald healed up with no scarring or limitations. He was given a batch of dressings to protect the wound between debriding sessions as it was healing. However he had many dressings left over after it was healed and gave them to the Millards on their spring visit to Canada to donate to a medical facility on their travels.



There is a large international cruising community at their favourite anchorage at Hog Island near Woburn on the south coast of Grenada. On Tuesday July 27, they made a donation of the packages of medical dressings for the Woburn Medical Station to Nurse Pansy Francois, who then gave them a tour of the facility. The medical station was re-commissioned by the Basic Needs Trust Fund Programme in February of this year after damage from Hurricane Ivan which devastated Grenada a few years ago. The rebuilding was funded by the Government of Grenada, the Caribbean Development Bank and the Canadian International Development Agency. However the station is still short of

some equipment and furnishings. The Millards returned later in the day to donate an electric kettle and a gas regulator and hose for the cooker, which they noted were needed.

Thanks also goes to Deborah and John Gerber of Sea Witch, long time liveaboards located at Hog Island, for the information about the needs of the station and for transportation to and from the facility. The Millards would encourage more cruisers to donate to worthy causes in communities in which they anchor or hunker down in marinas in addition to just buying groceries and supplies as their contribution to the economy.

PS - They never did make it to Cuba as they had to divert to Jamaica due to steering problems, and enjoyed the courtesy and support of the Royal Jamaica Yacht Club in Kingston. They are currently wintering over in Venezuela

Judy and Aubrey will be back in Toronto for the month of April 2008. and will be available to make presentations on their travels. TPS hopes to feature the Millards at a member evening presentation. Aubrey is preparing a presentation on "Living the Dream" to go along with the book he has started to write about their travels.

Follow the continuing adventures of VeledaIV at www.searoom.com/veleda

Digital Selective Calling

The Digital Selective Calling (DSC) project is completed and DSC service is now available throughout the Canadian waters of the Great Lakes. The system is currently operating in Initial Operating Condition (IOC) and will be commissioned in September after which the system will be in a Full Operating Condition (FOC).

For information on DSC, read the article at http://www.searoom.com/dsc_info.html

Emergency beacons

The International Cospas-Sarsat Program will terminate satellite processing of distress signals from 121.5 and 243 MHz emergency beacons on February 1, 2009. After this date, mariners, aviators and other persons will have to switch to emergency beacons operating at 406 MHz in order to be detected by satellites.

To prepare beacon users for the end of 121.5 MHz frequency processing by satellites, the FCC in the United States has prohibited the use of 121.5 MHz EPIRBs as of January 1, 2007.

The implication of this Cospas-Sarsat decision is that users of beacons that send distress alerts on 121.5 and 243 MHz should switch to beacons operating on 406 MHz if they want the alerts to be detected and relayed by satellites. Meanwhile, anyone planning to buy a new distress beacon needs to be aware and take the Cospas-Sarsat decision into account.

America's Cup 2009

Just 22 days after the magnificent outcome of the 32nd America's Cup, with Alinghi's victory in Valencia, the Swiss Defender led by Ernesto Bertarelli, together with the Société Nautique de Genève and ACM, have made public most of the details for the 33rd edition of the oldest trophy in the world of sport.

Following a new agreement with the Spanish state, the Valencia Regional Government and the Valencia Municipality, the Host City for the 33rd America's Cup will be Valencia. The event will take place in 2009, between May and July, with two pre-regattas to be held in 2008. One of them will be in Valencia in July and the other one in another European country in the autumn. They will be raced on the existing America's Cup Class (Version 5) boats. Details at: <http://www.americascup.com/en/>

Canadian Safe Boating Awards

This awards program is now in its 10th year, recognizing the efforts of individuals, companies and organizations towards safe boating in Canada. The CASBAs, as they are known, are awarded each January at the time of the Toronto International Boat Show. Nomination categories and forms for the awards are to be found at www.csbc.ca the website of the Canadian Safe Boating Council. Deadline for nomination is November 2, 2007.

Bridge Officers 2007-2008

Commander	Randall Boccia rboccia@rogers.com	416-580-3691
Treasurer	Darren Payne	416-781-9982
Public Relations	Barry McQuillan	416-487-5036
Training Officer	Tony Cook sto@torontopowersquadron.org	416-486-9819
Asst. Training Officer	Christine Biggs asto_admin@torontopowersquadron.org	416-405-8146
Boating Chair	Bob Robertson	(416) 489-3945
Past Commander	Susan Cameron	416-694-8015

Vacant positions include Secretary and Membership - if you are interested in helping with either of these functions, please contact Randy Boccia.

Visit us on the Web at www.torontopowersquadron.org

Bridge meetings - Third Monday of each month at the Golden Griddle, Yonge & Lawrence.

All members are welcome to attend.



Annual CPS Conference and AGM

Members of the Bridge, along with other Squadron members who also serve in a National or District capacity, will attend the Annual Conference, to be held this year in Ottawa, October 24 -28, 2007.

Your Commander carries the votes of the Squadron to the Annual General Meeting. Any member is entitled to make his or her opinions known on matters that will come before either the Governing Board or the actual AGM. This year will see such matters as Uniforms, Membership and an updated identity for the organization debated and voted upon.

To read the procedures of the Governing Board, Operating Committee and others, visit the Member areas of the national website (see item on page 1). Prior to the AGM, all matters and motions that are to be brought to the meetings are posted on the Members' site. Again, if you wish your Commander to take your opinions to the Commanders' meeting, or at any time to the District Council, contact Randy at the above phone/email, or attend the September Bridge meeting.

Apart from the business meetings, your officers will attend intensive training and other meetings designed to keep them informed about CPS developments.