



Foghorn



www.cps Halifax.ca / 1-888-277-2381

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2012

CPS is a volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing boating enjoyment and safety through training. The Foghorn is the newsletter of the Halifax Squadron, a unit of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons.

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Commanders Corner



Based on our weather we could still be doing some boating. Got a sprinkling of snow today but rain coming again to take it away. Maybe an early spring it is going to be?

The Halifax International Boat Show will be February 23-26. So note these dates so you can visit the show to see old friends and pick up some of those items you cannot do without for your boat.

Our course instructors have been busy teaching courses and you should check out the website, www.cps Halifax.ca to see if there is a course that would be of interest to you.

We have a special anniversary coming up for the Halifax Squadron, this year will be the 50th anniversary of our Squadron. We plan our AGM, graduation and Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, April 28th, 2012. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. Watch your email or mail for information regarding this event.

Our Social Officer plans a Social Event each month over the winter. You will receive an e-blast with the particulars and we hope to see you at some of these events.

Sarah-Jane Raine S
Commander

Volunteers Needed

The Halifax Squadron is looking for a few volunteers in the following areas:

Are you knotty?

We are planning a social event (workshop) to be held on Thursday, January 26th, 2012 called "Knots, Bends, and Hitches". This will be a hands-on interactive workshop with everyone practicing the demonstrated knots. Our facilitator for the seminar would like to have a few volunteers (5 or 6) to assist him with the group demonstrations during the evening. If you are "knotty" and would like to help out, please contact Mannie Laufer at eelauger@eastlink.ca.

Are you into FB?

Halifax Squadron wants to get on Facebook! Anyone who is willing to join our PR team and help establish our FB page and help to keep our Facebook members informed of upcoming events please contact us at PublicRelations@cps Halifax.com.

Are you a Bean Counter?

We are looking for a volunteer to be the Audit Reviewer for the Atlantic District's Financial Statements. This is an annual requirement only for someone to examine the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, the Investment Activity, and supporting documentation of the District. The time commitment required is annually, in April of each year. Please contact the District Treasurer, Kellie Skelhorn at kaskelhorn@eastlink.ca if you are able to help out.

My Summer Adventure in India – Part II (continued from Sept 2011 Foghorn Issue)

After a few days our route took us away from the road, so we said goodbye to our drivers and began to rely on our own two feet. The trucks were replaced by 17 mules handled by three horsemen to carry our gear, and a horse to carry those of us who needed it from time to time. The horse became my new best friend going over the Zalung Karpo Pass at an elevation of 17,500 feet. I decided then that I am really meant to be closer to the sea!!!! For the most part we followed river valleys through the Zaskar mountain range, interspersed with climbs over mountain passes to get to the next valley. We made multiple river crossings, hopping from rock to rock with our capable support staff lending a helping hand. We averaged 18-25 km per day and our longest hike was 11 hours, not by choice, but necessitated by a lack of water at our planned campsite. Flooding last year had caused the river to change its course!



The scenery ranged from brown, barren mountains to verdant pastures sprinkled with flowers. The rivers flowed fast and the water was cold. We saw marmots, blue mountain sheep, some animals that looked like stripeless zebras, and tracks of wolves and a snow leopard. The weather was good to us. Although we all had rain gear, I only needed mine one day for intermittent showers. We were in the shadow of the Himalayas which protected us from the rain falling to the south. The temperature was good for hiking. It warmed up comfortably during the day and cooled off at night. One morning I awoke to find ice in my wash basin!

Our stay at Lower Hankar was enhanced by the villagers we met there. We had brought clothing from Canada to give away and had fun outfitting the children who visited us. We met the sole school teacher who covers all subjects in grades 1-5 with a total of ten students! She lives a two-day trek from her own village, so only goes home for holidays. There are no roads or electricity, but people appeared content and thrive as sheep herders. We had also brought a supply of knitting needles as we heard the ladies needed these for their winter knitting.



After twelve days of hiking and camping we were picked up by new drivers and headed to Leh, a town on the Indus River at an elevation of about 11,000 feet. Our hotel with its peaceful garden provided a quiet oasis, shielding us from the hustle and bustle of the typical town.

Two things stand out about our stay in Leh. One was an early morning visit to the Bhuddist Thikse Monastery, where we heard the conch shell call to prayer and watched while the monks, ranging from small boys to wizened old men, came in to pray and chant. The other was going to the high school in Khaltse, a couple of hours drive from Leh. We had collected money to donate to the school for computers and were treated like royalty when we arrived. The students put on a cultural show of song and dance wearing local dress. They served us snacks and showed us around their dormitories. Most live far from the school so board there. The students were supposed to have started their summer break on Saturday, but waited until Monday as we were visiting that day. Imagine! They lost two days of their holiday because of our visit, and they were glad to see us!! I was impressed with their politeness, enthusiasm, and the respect they showed us and their teachers. The future of India bodes well if all the teenagers are like these!

Three and a half weeks had elapsed and my adventure was ending. We flew back to Delhi, did some shopping and last minute sightseeing, then boarded our flight to return to Halifax. After about 20 hours and two sunrises, we were back in our familiar world, with many stories to tell and much richer for the experience. *Namaste. Juley.*

Anyone interested in an adventure such as this may contact me. (Membership officer listed below)

Adventures by Louise White, Membership Officer

Halifax Squadron Bridge 2011-2012

Position	Email Address	Officer's Name
COMMANDER	CPS_COMMANDER@CPSHALIFAX.COM	SARAH-JANE RAINE
PAST COMMANDER	CPS_PASTCOMMANDER@CPSHALIFAX.COM	DAN WHITE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	CPS_EXECUTIVEOFFICER@CPSHALIFAX.COM	KELLIE SKELHORN
SECRETARY	CPS_SECRETARY@CPSHALIFAX.COM	HARRY HENTELEFF
TREASURER	CPS_TREASURER@CPSHALIFAX.COM	DAN WHITE
TRAINING OFFICER	TRAININGOFFICER@CPSHALIFAX.COM	ADRIANA MCCREA
ASSISTANT TRAINING OFFICERS	ASSISTANT_TO1@CPSHALIFAX.COM	ALEK SIMONIC Norman Raine
YOUTH OFFICER	YOUTH_T0@CPSHALIFAX.COM	VACANT
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	CPS_MEMBERSHIP@CPSHALIFAX.COM	LOUISE WHITE
SOCIAL OFFICER	SOCIALOFFICER@CPSHALIFAX.COM	KELLIE SKELHORN
SUPPLY OFFICER	SUPPLYOFFICER@CPSHALIFAX.COM	ROZANNE RAINE
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	NEWSEditor@CPSHALIFAX.COM	JANICE COOK
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER		DAVE HACKETT
PUBLIC RELATIONS	PUBLICRELATIONS@CPSHALIFAX.COM	Alan Uren

CPS Halifax Squadron Pennant has been updated!

Our very own Squadron pennant is now available in new vibrant colours made from a heavier fabric. These can be purchased from the Supply Officer for only \$20. Please call 477-1280 to get yours today before the next boating season begins. Hurry, supplies are limited.

Upcoming January Courses – Register on line at www.cps Halifax.ca

Electronic Charting

The course will explore and expand on the planning, waypoint and route navigation concepts introduced in *Navigating with GPS*.

You will find expanded explanations of the advanced features that make electronic charting so effective, as well as diverse methods for navigating with the latest technology on a variety of cutting edge hardware. This course will enable you to make full use of the positioning and navigational capabilities of electronic charting systems, with practical experience provided by our simulator software.

Topics

- The Challenge of Navigation
- The Global Positioning System
- The Electronic Chart
- Navigating with an Electronic Chart
- The Hardware Chartplotter
- Electronic Charting on a Computer
- Equipment Selection and Installation
- Computer Charting Software

Maritime Radio

The Maritime Radio course teaches emergency radio procedures, as well as everyday operating techniques to you and your family. As well, the course prepares you for the Restricted Operator Certificate (Maritime) with DSC Endorsement examination.

In module 1, you will be taught the uses of marine radios, choice of frequencies, operation, phonetic alpha- bet, procedural words and phrases.

Module 2 covers Digital Selective Calling and the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System, (DSC/GMDSS). All mariners, including recreational boaters, will want to take advantage of the many features and capabilities of this innovative form “automatic” radio.

Secure your lifeline. Be sure that you and your family take the Maritime Radio course

Topics

- Maritime mobile service
 - Procedures
 - Distress communications
 - Urgency communications
 - Safety communications
 - Distress simulations
 - Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)
 - Digital Selective Calling (DSC)
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RADAR for pleasurecraft

This course covers the different types of RADAR equipment, including their capabilities and limitations.

Understand the available features and how they apply to your needs. Learn to navigate using RADAR, and to determine where you are using a RADAR simulator so that you may practice using its many features.

Topics

- The Antenna, the RADAR Beam and the Display Unit
- Interpreting the Screen
- Controls
- Weather
- Navigating
- Collision Avoidance
- Buying a RADAR Unit and installation
- Maintenance

**** 50th Anniversary ****

Mark your calendars

2012 marks the Halifax Power & Sail Squadron's **50th Anniversary!**

Join us on Saturday, April 28th for our Annual AGM, Graduation, and Anniversary Celebrations.

Special guest speakers include Alan and Heather Uren "Caribbean Adventure"

Watch for further details to follow!

Special Presentation: “Caribbean Adventure”

In 2004 Alan and Heather Uren decided to follow a dream: retire early and sail off into the sunset. In October 2009 they set sail from Halifax aboard “Moonlight Maid” on a course for the Caribbean.

Come join us as Alan describes the adventures of sailing 2200 miles to St. Martin via Newport, RI and Bermuda and the lessons learned. It is a tale you won't want to miss.

Halifax Squadron Award Winners

At the National Conference held in Halifax October 19-23, 2011 our Squadron had several winners of Awards and we are so pleased of their accomplishments.



Rozanne Raine, our Supply Officer won the Officer of the Year Award for Atlantic Canada and received her plaque along with a Fortress Marine Anchor engraved with her name.



ICOM Canada Volunteer Electronic Instructor of the Year was won by Dave Hackett for the Eastern Region. Dave received a plaque along with an ICOM AIS Sender and Receiver which will fit into his sailboat just great.



The Ref Reid Award was presented to Norman Raine. The award is presented to the Boat & Engine Maintenance instructor having the most successful class during the preceding year. Norman has won this award once before.

We also had winners in the Conference Competitions and would recommend that other members of the squadron consider entering these competitions which are open to all members each year.

Under the Crafts division Norman Raine won second place with a scratch built boat model.

Heather Uren won second place under the Visual Arts-Photography with her photo of "Christmas Lights – St. Lucia".

Alan Uren took first place under New Media-Digital Presentation for his entry of "Caribbean Adventure 2009".

Congratulation goes out to these members of the Halifax Squadron.

HALIFAX
INTERNATIONAL
BOAT SHOW



February 23-26
Exhibition PARK

The Alderney and Halifax Squadrons of CPS will have an Exhibitor's booth at the Halifax International Boat Show. Please be sure to drop by and visit your fellow members. Show hours are:

Thursday February 23 12 noon – 8:00 p.m.
Friday February 24 12:00 noon – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday February 25 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday February 26 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A Technical Tip – submitted by CPS member Emanuel Laufer

"I was out sailing with Bob, a friend of mine. Bob's a physicist. We were motoring at the time. The knotmeter was reading 4.3 knots, lower than the GPS which showed 4.9 knots. "There may be a current", I offered. We turned 180° and, sure enough, the knotmeter was still reading 4.3 knots but now it was reading higher than the GPS, which only showed 4.2 knots. "There's a current", I said, "but the knotmeter could still be out". Silence for a few seconds, and I could hear the gears grinding in Bob's head. "Simple", he said. "We've got two equations, two unknowns. I can do this in my head." Another brief silence, then, "You need to add 0.25 knots to the knotmeter reading at this speed, to correct it."

Now, for readers who enjoy high school math, that's the end of the story. For those for whom high school math is more of a chore than a pastime, here's the bottom line: If you can make a good guess at the current set (direction), motor either upstream or down at a reasonable cruising speed. Note the knotmeter reading, and the GPS speed-over-ground reading. Now, turn about 180°, adjust the engine if necessary to get the same knotmeter reading, and again note the GPS reading. Finally, add the two GPS readings and subtract twice the knotmeter reading. Divide by 2. The result is the amount you have to add to the knotmeter reading to correct it at this speed.

The knotmeter instructions will explain how to adjust the thing to correct it. If twice the knotmeter reading is greater than the sum of the GPS readings, then your knotmeter is reading high, and you'll have to decrease the indicated reading. And if you want to know, the current must be just one half of the difference between the two GPS readings. There are other ways to calibrate your knotmeter or to measure current, and I'm sure the instructors in Boating, Seamanship and AP will deal with these at some point in these courses."

Our PCOC online course is now live on the CPS-ECP Website. It can be viewed by visiting <http://www.cps-ecp.ca/card.html>

There is a limited time introductory offer for those wishing to take the course online. The discount code is **237304** and valid from **January 14th to February 15th 2012**.



**Halifax Power & Sail Squadron
and Armdale Yacht Club**
*are pleased to present the second in our
joint Monthly Workshop/Speaker Series*



**Halifax Power & Sail
Squadron**

www.cpshalifax.ca
1-888-277-2381

Social Officer
Kellie Skelhorn
SocialOfficer@cpshalifax.com

Armdale Yacht Club
www.armdaleyachtclub.ns.ca
(902) 477-4617

Entertainment Chair
Terry Hill
[Entertainment@
armdaleyachtclub.ns.ca](mailto:Entertainment@armdaleyachtclub.ns.ca)

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Mark your calendars for our  
upcoming dates in 2012:

- **Wednesday, February 22nd** - "The Changing Climate and the Maritimes" with Richard Zurawski
- **Thursday, March 29th** - Workshop "Fun with VHF"
- **Thursday, April 26th** - Guest Speaker
- **Thursday, May 31st** - Workshop "Anchoring"

The second is a hands-on,  
interactive workshop to be held on  
Thursday, **January 26th** @  
Armdale Yacht Club

**"Rope, Knots & Bends"**  
with Emanuel Laufer

**Please bring a piece of line roughly  
5' to 6' long for practising**

Location:  
**Armdale Yacht Club**  
75 Burgee Run  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Time:  
**6:30pm** - Meet & Greet / Cash bar  
7:00pm - Seminar begins

To see a full training calendar for CPS  
courses, please visit the Halifax Squadron  
website @ [www.cpshalifax.ca](http://www.cpshalifax.ca)



**FREE Admission ~ No RSVP  
required ~ CASH BAR**

**Weather Cancellations will be posted on [www.cpshalifax.ca](http://www.cpshalifax.ca)**