



SOUTHCOAST WIND AND WAVE

Port Dover Power and Sail Squadron

Vol.2 Issue 1

February 2008

FROM THE COCKPIT

By Thor Olsen

“Tempus fugit” for all of us, the Toronto Boat Show in January is over. Many of us go there and dream about winning the lottery so that we can pick out whatever one of the boats, which are there, that we would like to buy. Usually we can satisfy ourselves with a small purchase of something that we definitely need for our own little craft at home. Anyway, keep on dreaming because you never know.....

The training courses are progressing , the VHF course is over and Navigating with GPS course has started in March. We are planning on offering the other two Electronic navigation courses in the fall as well as the Navigating with GPS course. The other ones are the Electronic Charting and Radar. We have decided that anyone taking all three courses will be offered a discount on the third course taken. With the electronic equipment coming down in price, with even radar in the \$1200 to \$1500 range, many people are installing this type of equipment in there vessels. It would be good to know exactly what they are capable of doing for you, out on the water and not just be another ‘toy’.

Our second annual Caribbean Winterlude gala held on Jan.17/08 at The Brig was not as successful as last year. There were a lot of people who were either on vacation or had other commitments. We will have to determine if it would be something to schedule again next January. Marg Whitehouse and her group of volunteers put a good deal of time and effort into making this a successful event.

DO WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

Again I would ask people to send us their e-mail address. We continue to spend money supporting the Post Office when it could be spent on other events for the membership.

If you are getting mail and have e-mail, **please ,please ,please** give it to us. We will not share it with anyone else and it will make it a lot simpler to get info out to you, the members. Thanking you in advance. Go to website and send to :
Commander Port Dover Squadron or Executive Officer (See Web-site)
<http://port-dover.cps.ecp.org/>

Bridge Members

Commander – Thor Olsen

Past Commander – Kim Pullman

Executive Officer – Bob Crane

Public Relations Officer – Marg Whitehouse

Training Officer – Peter Barrett

Treasurer – Marilyn Korobka

Secretary – Deb Crane

Membership – Peter Klement

Auditor – David Kilpatrick

Electronic Communication

Officer – Gene Bystryk

Port Captain – David Kilpatrick

MAREP Officer – David Kilpatrick

BoatPro Testing – Chris Guiler and Wayne Long

All the Training Poop

By Peter Barrett

The Boating Course is completed, and the VHF course is also completed. The Navigating with GPS course has begun March 19/08. We would like to have the Fundamentals of Weather course offered in the fall but because the instructor would be coming from out of town, there would have to be enough people in the course to make it viable. Contact Peter Barrett as soon as possible by e-mail (pfbarrett@sympatico.ca) or phone (519-583-1346). We need time to confirm with the instructors that they will be required. So do not leave it to the last minute to indicate your interest in taking any courses.

2009 Niagara District AGM

Our Squadron has volunteered to hold the 2009 Niagara District AGM. We hope to make this a great event as it is the 60th Anniversary of the Port Dover Squadron and the 50th Anniversary of the Niagara District. We will need volunteers for this gathering. It is being planned for May 8-10, 2009. We are trying to have several events during the two to three days that this will take place. Those with or without experience in hosting this type of event are welcome. Please contact Bob Crane at B.Crane@sympatico.ca to volunteer to help make this a memorable time.

Port Dover Power and Sail Squadron Website

If you have not visited the Port Dover Squadron website lately, it is well worth a peek. Kim Pullman, our Past Commander has taken on the job of updating and improving our website. He has surpassed all expectations and I think anyone visiting the site will be impressed by the new look of the whole set-up. Go to <http://port-dover.cps-ecp.org/>

NOMINATIONS

If you or anyone you know is interested in being a Bridge Officer please put your name or that of someone interested forward by contacting the secretary Deb Crane at B.Crane@Sympatico.ca or call at 519-583-1967. We are always looking for new talent with fresh ideas to help improve the Squadron and help us grow. Do not be afraid that there is too much to do or that you haven't got the time as by even taking on a less involved position can help the rest of us.

VOLUNTEERS

We still need people to help with manning our booth at local Boat Shows and other festivities. This may involve as much as 4 hours of your time once or even twice per year. We also need three or four individuals to be responsible for planning and arranging either the fall Oktoberfest party, the January Winterlude shindig, the Graduation party or the Summer Social. Those volunteering would only be responsible for one of these events so that nine to twelve people would be needed all together. We would like one volunteer to be the assistant public relations person for the Squadron and arrange for the manning of our booth at the various Shows and Exhibitions in the area. Contact Marg Whitehouse at 519-583-3391 or e-mail marg.whitehouse@sympatico.ca.

The National Annual General Meeting

Attended by Thor Olsen Commander Port Dover Squadron

I was fortunate to have been able to attend the 2007 AGM in Ottawa this year. This meeting was the first that I have attended at the National level and I found it very interesting. There was the Commanders' Meeting held on Friday, Oct. 26th from 8:00 a.m. until Noon. There were many items discussed with the one on the "branding issue" being very lively. The Chair of the Committee did a lengthy explanation on the reason for the beginning of a need for branding and the process they had gone through to get to the final three submissions. It was unfortunate that this information had not been available to the squadrons before the meeting. Even with the explanation, there was still dissatisfaction with the three final choices that were presented. It was explained that at the Governing Board Meeting held on Wed., Oct 24th, it had been decided that the procedure used to get the brand name may have been flawed and there would be no vote for the final name at the AGM. It was also decided to take a poll to see if any of the three names had enough popular support so that a further vote could be initiated. It was also decided at the meeting that if people were not in favour of any of the names, that they could leave their ballots blank and that would be considered as a vote for none of the three suggestions. There was no announcement given concerning the results and but the delegates were not favour of the names presented. There was some discussion on the various training courses but much was delayed until the seminar held on the afternoon of Oct. 26th.

The first seminar I attended in the afternoon concerned the new training in electronic navigation. This involved 'Navigating with GPS', 'Electronic Charting', and "Radar'. These courses were discussed as they are what many boaters are now looking for in their training. It was suggested that the three be offered with anyone taking all three getting a discount on the third course taken. The new DVD's being developed for these courses were shown and any student taking these courses plus the Boating course will now be able to take home the DVD for the course as a way to study for the final test and have something to review in the future if required. The Piloting course will be changed to be called Seamanship starting this fall. Eventually all courses will have a DVD to go along with the classroom work so that they will be more interactive and interesting.

The second seminar of the afternoon involved an update on the website and the improvements that have been made. The discussion also involved the problems that have been occurring and the need to get these

corrected as quickly as possible. It was noted that each member of CPSS would require their own e-mail address to access the website. Members of the same family could not use the same e-mail address as the second one to use it would not be allowed access. Thus everyone entering the website, as a member, must have their own e-mail address and password. The website will now allow a lot of work to be done on computer instead of having to phone or write or fill in forms. The work for the officers on the Bridge will be easier as soon as we get familiar with the various sections. It was stated that within the next few weeks that Bridge officers and members would be able to log in and update profiles, STO's could put in exam results, members or the Membership Officer could update membership info including change of Squadron, and merit marks could be put in on-line. This will streamline the flow of information and make the whole membership data much easier to obtain for those who are allowed access to the various sites. The Commanders asked about training on the new system so that Bridge Officers could make use of the various systems being made available on the website. It was made known that each district has had someone trained to do the training for the District Squadrons. In our case this is Donna Lankin and I will have to talk to her about timing for the training for our Bridge Officers.

The AGM took place starting at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 27th. There were several awards given out and Port Dover was given its 14th award for supporting the Canadian Power Squadron Foundation. Many more awards were presented over the course of the morning. There were many delegates there from the U.S. Power Squadron present as well as members of both the Canadian and U.S. Coast Guards. Several areas of business were discussed and the nominations for the new national bridge officers were given and then the new bridge was introduced and sworn into office. After the speech from the new Chief Commander, the meeting was concluded with an invitation for everyone to attend the 2008 AGM in Windsor, Ontario this October.