



SOUTHCOAST WIND AND WAVE

Port Dover Power and Sail Squadron

Vol.2 Issue 3

Winter 2008/2009

FROM THE COCKPIT

By Thor Olsen

It has been a while since the last newsletter but there are many things happening. The year 2009 is the 60th anniversary of the Port Dover Power and Sail Squadron. There are very few squadrons that can claim that distinction. The Squadron was initiated by Jack Maytham and a few other members of the Port Dover community. There have been many firsts for which these individuals are responsible. It has been a proud heritage that they began for which we should be thankful. The traditions of volunteers teaching safe boating have been passed on from each bridge to the next. We can only hope that we can live up to the examples these initial members have set.

There are going to be some special events that will be taking place over the next couple of months. First, there will be the Squadron AGM and Graduation taking place on April 24th. This will be at the Erie Beach Hotel starting with registration at 1745. There will be a talk by Lisa and Scott Marr about their sailing trip on the west coast in B.C. You can order your dinner there before the festivities begin. We will be honouring the Graduates of this year's Boating Course, Advanced Piloting Course, Fundamentals of Weather Course, VHF, and GPS courses.

We will be sending out invites to all former Commanders that can be reached and hope they are able to attend.

We are hosting the District's 50th anniversary AGM on May 8 and 9 at the Port Dover Yacht Club. The Chief Commander will be attending and we hope that as many of you as possible can attend. There will be some interesting talks at this event.

DO WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

We are still asking for your up to date e-mail addresses so that we can reduce our costs and kill fewer trees

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 – Trudy Smelko

Training Officer – Marg Creighton

Treasurer – Marilyn Korobka

Secretary – Deb Crane

Membership – Rick Simmons

Internal Auditing – Jeffrey Allgood

Electronic Communication Officer – Gene Bystryk

Port Captain – David Kilpatrick

MAREP Officer – Colleen Simmons

All the Training Poop

By Marg Whitehouse

This fall we offered a variety of courses to the members of the Squadron. These included Boating, Advanced Piloting, Fundamentals of Weather. During the winter we offered Navigating with GPS and VHF More and more courses are providing DVD's in the training package. These help in providing more detail and in some cases, interactive items that allow the student to see how things work. We will soon be advertising for the classes that will be offered this coming fall. KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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. There are links to other sites which can help you if you are traveling to the U.S.A., looking for boat insurance or other information Go to [www.//port-dover.cns-ecb.org/](http://www.port-dover.cns-ecb.org/)

2009 Niagara District AGM

Our Squadron has volunteered to host 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 hoping to make this AGM an exciting and memorable occasion.

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.

The 60th Anniversary of PDP&SS

Remember that the Squadron will celebrate its 60th anniversary this year. This is no mean accomplishment as there are very few Squadrons that are older than us. If you have suggestions on how we can make 2009 a special year, let us know your ideas for events or any other things to help people be more aware of the Squadron and what it does.

Contact any Bridge member with your ideas. See the website for names.

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 Fallfest 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 Trudy Smelko at 519-426-9614 or e-mail smelko@xplornet.com.

From the 50th Anniversary Write-up on the Port Dover Power & Sail Squadron in 1999

EARLY HISTORY OF POWER SQUADRONS

-from early minutes of the Port Dover Power Squadron-

In the early 1930's, Canadian Yachtsmen, who sailed the International waters in the Detroit area, found United States Clubs, and the Detroit Yacht Club in particular, the center of boating activities for these waters. As a result, many Canadian sailors from the Border Cities joined the Detroit Yacht Club.

It was in these friendly surroundings that they met enthusiastic members of the United States Power Squadrons, and learned of the navigation course and other allied courses of the United State Squadrons. However these courses were open only to United States citizens.

In 1935 the Windsor Yacht Club and many of the Canadian members rallied to the support of the new Windsor Club. During the winter, courses were instructed and examined by the U. S. P. S. A group of Canadians passed the Junior Piloting examination, and founded the Windsor Power Squadron. In doing so they formed the nucleus of what was to become the Canadian Power Squadrons.

By 1939 Windsor Power Squadron had blossomed, and word of its work had spread to Sarnia and London in Ontario, where new Power Squadrons sprang into life.

Officers from these three Squadrons met in Chatham, Ontario, on October 14, 1941 and it was there the Canadian Power Squadrons were born. A Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, Lecture courses were Standardized and steps were taken to secure recognition from the Dominion Government.

Canada had been in the Second World War for over two years by this time and the ranks of the Squadrons were badly depleted by the enlistment of members in the Canadian Armed Forces. Eligible members were so scarce the Canadian Power Squadrons almost expired before properly seeing the light of day.

In 1946, following the cessation of World War II hostilities, the Squadrons began to come back to life. A large new Squadron was organized in Toronto, Ontario. Another in Halifax became the first salt-water unit. The fires of Squadronism were being kindled anew.

CANADIAN POWER SQUADRONS

-official charter-

The Dominion Government finally granted the Canadian Power Squadrons an Official Charter in 1947, whereby the organization was registered under the Companies Act. The following year their copyright was granted making the flag of the Canadian Power Squadrons official.

After the formation of the Canadian Power Squadrons in 1947 in Toronto the number of Squadrons was small, and all administration was handled by volunteers in private homes.

THE FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The first Annual Conference of Canadian Power Squadrons was held in Toronto, at the Royal York Hotel in 1949. Representatives were present from Windsor, London, Toronto, Hamilton and PORT DOVER. The event was a huge success. It was November 26, 1949, that Port Dover Squadron received its Charter. (See separate entry of Charter and Charter members).

An integral part of the meeting was an exhibition of navigational aids and other pieces of equipment of interest to delegates in attendance. This coupled with a photo contest aroused considerable interest. It established a pattern, as well, for future Conventions adding a whole new dimension to Squadronism.

By 1950, the urge to study and acquire proficiency in boating skills had become so great among members of the Squadrons that a Training Department was formed, headed by a Director and a representative from each existing Squadron.

In 1951 the Port Dover Power Squadron hosted the Canadian Power Squadron Convention. A banquet and dance were held at the Norfolk Golf and Country Club in Simcoe. The Chief Commander and his Lady, of the

United States Power Squadrons were our special guests. It was a most enjoyable occasion.

By 1955, the first Squadron on the West Coast was established. Vancouver Squadron received its Charter. The following two years witnessed phenomenal growth, as six more Squadrons came into being.

Canadian Power Squadrons acknowledge a deep debt to the United States Power Squadrons for continued help in connection with our training programs, both at the inception of C.P.S., and to the present. There has always been a close liaison.

October 2, 1965 the Port Dover Power Squadron hosted the Niagara District Conference at the Erie Beach Hotel. Chief Bill Booth was the Officiating Officer.

CHANGE OF NAME

November, 12, 1985 The Canadian Power Squadron received Letters Patent to add 'Sail' to their title, thus becoming the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons. Shortly thereafter a letter was sent to each of the Squadrons notifying them of the official change of title. Squadrons then changed their title to Power and Sail Squadron. The Squadron in Port Dover became the **PORT DOVER POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON.**

In April 1997, The Brant Squadron and Port Dover Squadron co-hosted the Niagara Conference. The Sunday lunch was held at the Erie Beach Hotel followed by a tour to the new Port Dover Coast Guard Station. Those in attendance also went aboard the SPRAY the newest of Coast Guard rescue vessels. District Commander Holvey was in attendance.