



Foghorn

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*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.*

Inside this Issue:

Electronic Instructor of the Year.....	1
Commander's Corner.....	1
Canvas Chat.....	2
Boat Show.....	2
Icom.....	3
Gourmet Galley.....	3
District Meeting.....	4
Marep	4-5
Courses and Contacts.....	6

Electronic Instructor of the Year



The ICOM Canada Electronic Instructor of the Year Award was presented to our very own Alan Uren for the entire Eastern Region, at the Annual General meeting this past October. Congratulations Alan; we are very proud of you!

We are very lucky to have Alan teaching the electronic navigation courses again this winter. The series of courses (GPS, Electronic Navigation, and RADAR) began January 29th and will run for 13 weeks. Each course is approximately 4 weeks long, and may be taken independently of each other. It may not be too late to register for Electronic Navigation or RADAR. If you are interested, call 1-888-277-2381 for more information.

Commander's Corner

This cold and snowy winter does not lend itself to boating except for those who are fortunate enough to head south for a little shot of sunshine and boating. But give us a couple of months and we sure hope we will be back in the boat yard doing boat stuff

We are experiencing a good winter with our education classes. We have courses in Boating, Seamanship, Marine Maintenance, SeaSail, Navigating with GPS, Electronic Charting and Radar for Pleasure Craft with great instructors running at present. After the February Boat Show we will be offering another Boating Course as well as the Fundamentals of Weather. Check our website to register for any courses we offer.

CPS has a booth at the Halifax Boat Show, February 19-22 and we hope you drop by to say hello.

Watch the website and your email for upcoming Social Events. Remember to let us know if your email address has changed.

Our AGM and Student Graduation will be Saturday, May 23 so watch for further information to come on this and mark your calendar to attend.

Sarah-Jane Raine
Commander

A good heavy book holds you down. It's an anchor that keeps you from getting up and having another gin and tonic – Roy Blount, Jr.

Canvas Chat

Care and Cleaning of Canvas Goods

Now that you are looking out the window at the snow, it is a good time to service your canvas goods from the boat. Most modern canvas goods are constructed of 100% solution dyed acrylic fibres, coated solution dyed polyester, or laminated coated fabrics. All of these fabrics have manufacturers recommended methods of cleaning and maintenance procedures. Check and see if there is a label on your dodger/Bimini/sail cover/top. This will identify which method to use to clean and waterproof your particular canvas product.

Many years ago, it was very easy to do this as there was only waterproof canvas made of cotton fibres. Now, with the wide range of products available, methods for each product may vary slightly, but cleaning is very essential to long life of the fabric. When dirt and pollutants become embedded in fabrics, they will shorten the life of the fabric, ruin its appearance and become hard to handle.

To help protect your investment and keep those canvas fabrication costs down, you should practice a good maintenance regime. Have your canvas goods professionally cleaned, if possible. It will save you time & money in the long run. When this is done professionally, any repairs will be taken care of at the same time. If you like to get your hands dirty, cleaning a Bimini or a dodger can be fun. Another thing to remember is that if you bring a repair to your local canvas shop and it is clean, well you're all ready in the good books with the canvas shop. It is not desirable to sew something covered in bird droppings and spider nests. This will cost your canvas shop more time and you guessed it, you more money.

So, what's next? Follow the manufacturer's recommended method of cleaning which you can find on line at the manufacturers' web site, on the sewn label or ask the canvas shop. Once you have completely cleaned the fabric, it will need to be re-waterproofed. Be sure to use the correct product. These products are recommended by the manufacturer, so check on the web. I can tell you that SUNBRELLA recommends "303 Fabric Guard" and TopGun recommends "Aqua-Tite". A good canvas shop will sell these products. Follow the directions,

use proper breathing protection and try to do this in a well ventilated spot. Make sure the waterproofing dries for the correct time. Dry to the touch does not mean dry; it has to cure in the fabric to work properly.

The cleaning of clear windows and removal of scratches depends on the type of clear plastic and how bad the dirt or scratch. The windows should always be washed using mild soap and water, rinsed and allowed to air dry.

The other obvious repairs to zippers, fasteners and bindings will have to be done professionally unless you have an industrial sewing machine and the correct tools. Winter is a great time to get a reduced rate at most canvas shops.

So, get off the couch, go to the garage/basement and gather up those canvas covers/tops/dodgers and start getting ready for the happy times of Maritime Boating!

Yours Aye,
Dave Hickey MFC CC



Dodger of Nancy May

If you haven't dropped a tool over the side, you are a lucky person, indeed - Annon

Boat Show



Exhibition Park, Halifax, N.S.

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, Feb. 19, 2009 12 noon – 9 pm
Friday, Feb. 20, 2009 10 am – 9 pm
Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009 10 am – 6 pm
Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009 10 am – 5 pm



Save on boating equipment from manufacturers of premier nautical equipment.

Did you know that benefits from CPS corporate sponsors can more than cover the cost of our annual membership?

One example is with ICOM Canada, where there is a 5% member discount on equipment upon presentation of a valid membership card at participating retailers.

Check out their website at www.icomcanada.com for a list of retailers in our area.

And for a complete list of all member benefits, go to www.cpsboat.ca, click on membership and then member benefits.

A small sailing craft is not only beautiful, it is seductive and full of strange promise and the hint of trouble.....E. B. White

Gourmet Galley

Maritime Salmon

For those of you brave enough to bbq in the winter



1 cup Regular BarBQ Sauce
1 Tbsp Dijon mustard
3 Tbsp maple syrup
4 salmon steaks or fillets (4 oz each)

MIX BarBQ Sauce with maple syrup and Dijon mustard until well blended.

POUR over salmon steaks or fillets in shallow glass or plastic dish; cover. Refrigerate up to 1 hour to marinate. Remove salmon from marinade; discard marinade.

PREHEAT barbecue to high heat. Grill salmon 10 to 15 min. or until flakes easily with fork, turning after 5 min.

Thanks to a CPS member for this recipe. Do you have a favourite you would like to share? Simply email newseditor@cpshalifax.com

If you haven't confused a true direction for a magnetic direction, you haven't navigated much.....Anon

CPS Atlantic District Meeting

The Atlantic District meeting was held at the Hotel Moncton on Saturday, November 8, 2008. The meeting was well attended (32), with good representation from the Halifax Squadron (Marlon Lewis, Rozanne Raine, Norman Raine, Kellie Skelhorn, Dave Hackett and Louise White).

In addition to the business meeting and following a general presentation, a parallel session was organized by Adam Baker focused on the CPS's Web Based Administration System (WBAS). Dave Hackett represented Halifax at this.

The minutes and various committee and Squadron reports will be available on the District web site for review (<http://atlantic.cps-ecp.org/>). Highlights follow.

In general, the District is in good financial shape, and enjoying excellent support from members and the 12 squadrons active in Nova Scotia (4), New Brunswick (5), Prince Edward Island (2) and Newfoundland (1). The Atlantic region has a high level of participation in the National program, with a disproportionately high number of awards and citations.

Halifax Squadron appears to be unique in that we reported a 14% increase in enrollment in our courses while all of the other squadrons reported downturns, a trend seen nationally. This was attributed (by us!) to a combination of an excellent selection of courses, wonderful instructors, and a superb marketing campaign.

One of the new initiatives is a revival of the Marine Information Reporting (MAREP) program, a joint effort on the part of CPS and the Canadian Hydrographic Service (see article in this issue). Actually, it is more of a revitalization of a program that has been in existence since the early 70's. A District MAREP Officer was appointed at the meeting to coordinate Atlantic involvement in this important program (Steve Benson of the Avalon Squadron, Newfoundland).

It was not all good news however, and two squadrons, Nepisiguit (northern NB) and Bluenose (South Shore, Nova Scotia) reported that they were not "going concerns" and will require support from the Atlantic region.

All are looking forward to a good year on the water in 2009.

Marine Information and Reporting

Marlon Lewis

Executive Officer and MAREP Hydrographic Officer, Halifax Squadron

Marlon.Lewis@dal.ca

In the course of sailing or cruising local waters, it is not uncommon for mariners to discover that their current Hydrographic Chart or Sailing Directions does not always correspond exactly to current conditions. Some landmarks noted on the chart may have disappeared, newly submerged hazards may not be plotted, or marine facilities may have been altered from the time of publication. The Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons (CPS), in partnership with the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS), has put into place a program where these observations can be reported and incorporated into the next generation of marine publications. The program is called **MAREP**.

MAREP is short for **MAR**ine information **REP**orting. The purpose of the **MAREP** program is to permit CPS and the CHS to ensure the reporting of discrepancies on Charts, to update and to make qualified recommendations towards improving nautical information on Charts and other CHS publications, including Small Craft Guides, Sailing Directions, Tide and Current Tables, etc. In this way, we can contribute to the safe enjoyment of boating by all. It is hoped that CPS Member participation in the **MAREP** Hydrographic Program will lead to improved

accuracy in these publications, to the benefit of not only CPS Members but the general boating public on chartered waters throughout Canada.

The **MAREP** Hydrographic Program was established in 1971 as a joint effort of CPS and the CHS; there is a complementary program (Cooperative Charting Program) between the U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Power Squadrons. The CHS is the branch of the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans responsible for charting Canada's 131,650 nautical miles of coastline, the longest of any country in the world. With such an enormous mandate, they welcome the participation of the volunteer reporting network coordinated by the CPS.

Under the **MAREP** program, mariners are requested to report any significant deviations or discrepancies from current publications that may impact safe navigation or cruising. Examples include:

- Submerged objects - depths;
- Obstructions in and above the water;
- Landmarks;
- Private aids to navigation;
- New marina facilities;
- Navigable channel information, width/depth, etc.;
- Information affecting Sailing Directions;
- Suggestions for chart improvements.

Note that information concerning navigation aids that are observed to be off station, with lights out, or missing should be communicated directly by radio and/or telephone to the nearest Coast Guard Office immediately. Not everything is suitable for reporting; in short, if it does not contribute to safety on the water, or as a means of location, or enhance the usefulness of the chart, it should not be reported.

How does it work? CPS members who wish to report an observation can request or download a MAREP form from the CPS website (www.cpshalifax.com/Marep.php), on which the observation is recorded, along with exact location, depth of obstruction etc., as well as with other useful information such as the date and time, and the appropriate chart number and edition. These forms can be submitted electronically or by mail to the Squadron **MAREP** Officer for review. The forms are then forwarded to the District **MAREP** Officer who checks and evaluates the observation against the up-to-date District CHS publication, and if warranted, forwards the report to the regional CHS office. Here, any reports which require immediate action are promptly handled via "Notices to Shipping" or "Notices to Mariners". Others are filed until the publication or area is scheduled for revision. Many reports are issued as corrections to Small Craft Guides or Sailing Directions prior to being placed on the charts.

Further details can be found in the **MAREP** Hydrographic Manual which is posted on the CPS Halifax web page (www.cpshalifax.com/Marep.php).

The Halifax squadron has not had a **MAREP** Hydrographic Officer for some time, but the program is now underway in the Halifax region, an activity which is entirely appropriate for one of the most important ice-free harbors in the world. Fundamentally, it is our collective responsibility as safe boaters to report anything that is not represented on our current charts and marine publications, and this provides an efficient way to do so. The Halifax Squadron may organize **MAREP** activities for the community (in warmer months!) which would not only be helpful, but could be a lot of fun as well. With your participation, CPS can further boating safety on the water and improve safety for all boaters and shipping.



CPS Halifax Squadron

For further information and registration, please go to our website:
www.cps Halifax.com
 or contact: 1-888-277-2381

Course	Start Date	Duration	Prerequisite	Fee
Marine Radio (VHF) with DSC Endorsement **	Sat, Jan. 31 st , 12noon to 4pm	Sun, Feb 8 th , 12:30 to 5:30pm	none	\$60 member \$65 non-member
Fundamentals of Weather	February 24, 2009 7:00 pm	11 weeks	none	\$125 member \$150 non-member

Course	Start Date	Duration	Prerequisite	Fee
Electronic Navigation* package	January 29, 2009 7:00 pm	13 weeks*	none	\$195 member \$225 non-member

***Register for all three electronic navigation courses: GPS, Charting, and RADAR and receive a special package price; or alternatively the courses may be taken individually:**

Navigating with GPS*	January 29, 2009 7:00 pm	4 weeks*	none	\$75 member \$85 non-member
Electronic Charting*	February 26, 2009 7:00 pm	4 weeks*	none	\$75 member \$85 non-member
RADAR for Pleasure Craft*	March 26, 2009 7:00 pm	5 weeks*	none	\$75 member \$85 non-member

Course	Start Date	Duration	Prerequisite	Fee
Boating Course (Spring 2009)	March 5, 2009 7:00 pm	15 weeks	none	\$200 non-member Includes 1 yr membership

Location: All courses will be held at Captain William Spry Community Center, Halifax, Nova Scotia except Marine Radio.

****Marine Radio (VHF) with DSC Endorsement will be held at 45 Knightsridge Drive, Stn #7, Clayton Park Fire Hall, Halifax, NS**

Halifax Squadron Bridge 2008-2009

Position	Email Address	Officer's Name
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