



Halifax Squadron

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 the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons. Halifax Squadron serves Halifax, Bedford and the South Shore.

Upcoming Events

Fall Registration – September 6-7 (7-9pm)
Captain William Spry Community Centre
Sussex Street in Spryfield
Contact Mannie Laufer 477-8770
training@cpshalifax.com

Win \$5 now – see page 3 for details

Cruising the not so desolate Desolation Sound, British Columbia

This July we chartered a Beneteau 331 out of Comox BC and headed for The Desolation Sound Marine Park, a unique park of the BC coastline that features very warm waters, teeming marine life, incredible views and very easy sailing. For those of you who have taken the CPS Boating Course recently the cruise that you do using the small chartlet in the text is part of this wonderful area.



Our cruise started from Comox BC with a sail across the Strait of Georgia. The trickiest navigation is leaving the harbour at Comox due to the Comox Bar. Once across the bar we headed for the stacks in Powell River then north to our first overnight at Lund.

Lund is the end of the road (or beginning of the road according to most residents). The docks are well protected and the folks are friendly and very helpful. At this point you now start paying to have your on board garbage dropped off, usually a couple dollars a bag. Lund is a must as it is one of the last supply stops, with a store, three restaurants, bar and fuel/water supply. Nancy's Bakery is the place for breakfast. The specialty is cinnamon buns of every size and flavour but there are lots of other choices too.



Nancy's Bakery

We departed Lund on July 15 and headed North through the Thulin Passage, a narrow but deep "inside passage" to the sound. There was a steady stream of boats heading the same way so you just follow the crowd. Water depths are about 600' in the middle of this passage. Once through the passage we continued North to Cortes Island and made Squirrel Cove in late afternoon. The entrance to the cove is very narrow, with the mountains surrounding the cove it was hard to tell how many boats, and how much space there was available. I was shocked upon entering the anchorage to find boat upon boat, upon boat! We found a spot and got the hook down, started the BBQ and cocktail hour (or 2) and

watched the parade of yachts coming into the cove. I counted 55 at 5PM with more coming till dusk.

Our next destination was Cassell Falls in Teakerne Arm. At the head of the arm are the 90 foot falls from a mountain lake. There is a dingy dock and trail to the lake. This was our first experience anchoring stern to the land which involved setting the anchor in deep water, rowing ashore with rope to tie to a rock or tree, then back to the boat and hauling the rope onto the boat to keep it in line with the anchor. We fortunately had some advice from another boat that was already there. The hike to the lake was about 10 min. The swimming was incredible with a warm top layer of water and cooler water about 2 feet under. Very refreshing!!

We docked at Refuge Cove overnight. Refuge Cove is a seasonal community that operates the store, cafes, fuel dock and garbage barge as a Co-op. There are 18-20 seasonal residents. We were told that they are "wealthy intellectuals from the city". My take is 70's hippies from Vancouver, nevertheless, very friendly, helpful and great food in the café!



Ron's Garbage Service

Prideaux Haven is the postcard spot in the sound. Well protected and nestled in amongst the mountains it is truly the spot to take in the splendour of the water, trees and snow capped peaks all at once. As with Squirrel Cove, Prideaux was packed with yachts (35 power 3 sail, mostly US registered). We did find a spot and enjoyed the scenery. We met up with some cruisers that we had met in Lund earlier.

We headed from Prideaux back out into the sound and began our trip South. We managed to find some decent wind so sailing was the order of the day. We ran down the Thulin Passage to Lund, as I had a crew request for more baked goods. The wind had really kicked up to about 20-25 knots as we made

Lund and we managed to get a spot on the dock, which was great until the dock master told us that that spot was reserved for another yacht (a 65 footer) so we had to move to another spot.



The wind was still increasing so I briefed my crew on what I expected to do and what I wanted them to do. The wind was blowing us onto the dock at this point. This was the most exciting part of our trip, or terrifying depending on your point of view...we made the dock change without any damage except to our nerves. Nancy spoke with a local couple that said that they always come down to the docks when the wind is blowing from the NW at anything over 20 knots to just "watch the excitement". They were not disappointed. A C& C 37 was the next attempt and eventually was docked without damage. Then the 65' motor yacht arrived and used a joystick to dock. A Catalina 34 attempted a docking...the skipper yelled to his daughter "throw that line" so she did, however it wasn't tied to anything. And the excitement continued on until early evening. The local couple we spoke to earlier said it was the most entertaining day of the season so far!

The forecast was for 20-25 knots from the NW so we prepared our boat for a windy crossing of the Strait. Fully reefed and everything secured we set off and the wind proceeded to drop steadily until we were only making 2 knots. It was motor time to get us back to Comox. Arriving in late afternoon we fuelled up and spent the night at the Yacht Charter base.



Desolation Sound is a wonderful place to vacation. The winds can be variable because of the influence of the mountains. The scenery is breathtaking. There are lots of areas to cruise and if you want to see more countryside you should consider a motor yacht. If you are happy with a slower pace there are lots of sail yachts in the charter fleets. The charter service we used (Desolation Sound Yacht Charters) provided a beautiful, incredibly clean, well-maintained yacht. The service, chart briefing and boat systems review was great. This area is easily sailed and navigation is quite simple...follow the buoys and the land forms on the charts. Anyone with the CPS Boating course is well equipped to sail in this area. There are no currents in the area of the sound and the tide can range from 4-6 feet to 14-18 feet. The water gets incredibly warm so take your swimsuit and snorkel gear. All in all a wonderfully enjoyable time and a beautiful place!

Tim Nancy and Alison Tregunno

Commander's Corner

It is that time of year again and those of you who are parents may find yourselves dreading (or perhaps relishing!) the necessary shopping for school supplies. It is also the time of year when we once again start up another training session for the various CPS courses.

Sadly, this past summer has been one with several widely-covered boating accidents. I realize that to modify or control a person's behaviour is no easy task, but it can be argued that education can certainly play a key role in doing so.

Were I to sum up in a brief slogan the main reason CPS exists as an organization, it would be something like, "To Increase Boating Safety and Enjoyment through Education." It follows that we can all increase our chances for a safe and enjoyable boating experience by *continuing* to educate ourselves in the various topics of boating. We should also feel compelled to encourage our friends and fellow boaters we meet along the way to do the same. Who do you know that might like to take a CPS course?

Elsewhere in this issue, you will see the course offerings for this Fall's term, and there is indeed something for everyone. I encourage you to scan the offerings, find something you would enjoy, and sign up! Also, why not keep this issue of the Foghorn handy? That way, you may refer to it if someone asks you about our courses or if you think of

someone that may benefit from a course; you will have all the details close by. As always, the website is a great tool for staying up on what is happening in our squadron. Check back regularly to look for new postings! www.cps Halifax.com

Cdr Dan White, Commander

Our Membership Officer needs your help!

It would be highly beneficial for our squadron if we can pass on news, announcements, etc. via e-mail. If you think there is a chance we don't have your e-mail address, or have an old one that no longer works, please submit the correct information to our Membership Officer, Sarah-Jane Raine, at membership@cps.halifax.com. We do not release our e-mail list to any outside organizations and you will not be spammed! Also if you have **not renewed**, then your name will be dropped from our membership list on September 1, and this will be your last mailing of info from CPS.

Prefer an electronic version of this newsletter?

If you would be just as happy receiving an electronic version (PDF file) of the **Foghorn**, then just let our Electronic Communications Officer, Philip Harris, know. He can be reached through a link at the website or by sending an e-mail to webskipper@cps Halifax.com This will save your squadron money on printing and postage costs and it will help the environment, too!

Win \$5 now!

Find your membership number printed somewhere in this issue and you have won \$5! Call the Commander (443-8222) to claim your prize. (*Only current members are eligible, so keep your membership current*)

SWAP'n'SHOP (postings are free for members)

WANTED: 8' Hard dinghy, reasonable.
Call Dan White 443-8222

REGISTER NOW FOR FALL COURSES!



The Pleasure Craft Operator Card has improved boating safety in Canada.

BUT THE CARD IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

For 65 years, CPS has provided recreational boaters with courses in safety and navigation. In 177 squadrons across Canada, our instructors help students to develop the extra knowledge required to ensure that all your boating experiences are pleasure cruises. Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons provides you with the skills to get out there, and to safely bring your family back.

YOUR PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATOR CARD GETS YOU OUT THERE

CANADIAN POWER & SAIL SQUADRONS HELPS GET YOU BACK

CPS
1.888.CPS.BOAT
www.cps-ecp.ca

Register online at: www.cps Halifax.com.

For information contact the Squadron Training Officer at:

training@cps Halifax.com

CPS Fall Schedule 2005

Course	Place	Day	Time	Instructor	Cost	Start	Length
Boating	WSC	Thur	7pm-9pm	Andrea MacDonald	\$199	15-Sep	15 weeks
Piloting	WSC	Mon	7pm-9pm	Luke Porter	\$125	12-Sep	15 weeks
Celestial Navigation	AYC	Tue	7pm-9:30pm	Emanuel Laufer	\$250	13 Sep	
Extended Cruising	WSC	Wed	7pm-9pm	Sarah-Marie Loupe	\$125 (\$150)		15 weeks
Marine Maintenance	WSC	Tue	7pm-9pm	Norman Raine	\$125 (\$150)	13 Sep	14 weeks
Fundamentals of Weather	RNSYS	Tue	7pm-9pm	Rod Shaw	\$125 (\$150)	13 Sep	13 weeks

WSC – William Spry Centre (Spryfield) AYC – Armdale Yacht Club RNSYS – Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron

Halifax Squadron Bridge

Position	Name	Address
Commander	Cdr Dan White	commander@cps Halifax.com
Past Commander	P/Cdr Carl Kumpic	pastcommander@cps Halifax.com
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Membership Officer	1 st Lt Sarah-Jane Raine	membership@cps Halifax.com
Youth Officer	Lt Susan Cargill	youth@cps Halifax.com
Treasurer	1 st Lt Ken Ingram	treasurer@cps Halifax.com
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Newsletter Editor	Lt Nancy Lewis	foghorn@cps Halifax.com
Web skipper	Lt Philip Harris	webskipper@cps Halifax.com

Why not share your skills with other members!

Instructors are needed for all courses. If you can help please contact Mannie Laufer at training@cps Halifax.com.