



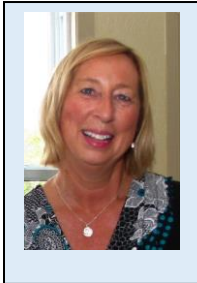
# The Foghorn

## Halifax Power and Sail Squadron

### February 2024



## A Message from Your Commander



Happy New Year for 2024, one and all.

As we move into a new year there is still plenty of work to do behind the scenes by our executive committee to plan the year ahead and continue to bring a safe boating education to you, our members, and members of the boating community at large. A listing of the courses and the timetable can be found on our website, [www.cps Halifax.com](http://www.cps Halifax.com) or in the course calendar on the national CPS-ECP website (<https://www.cps-ecp.ca>). The International Boat Show will be at the Halifax Exhibition Centre on February 1 - 4, displaying the latest technology in boats, boating equipment, and accessories. Please drop by our booth (#116) to put in a ballot to win a marine radio, get discount cards for CPS-ECP courses, and pick up course brochures/literature on boating. See you there!

## International Boat Show is in Halifax

Have you ever wanted to see a shark cage? Right next to the CPS-ECP booth (#116) is a not-for-profit group doing research on sharks. And there is the cage to protect divers from being a meal!



*Photo from Halifax International Boat Show Website*

The cage is made of steel tubes about 3 cm in diameter. In getting the CPS-ECP booth ready I was vaguely aware of this cage until Terry from Alderney Squadron said "That's a shark cage you know!"

Besides shark cages, the show has marine suppliers for all kinds of gear. The photo from the Boat Show web sites shows the many booth spaces and the variety of boats. It's an exciting place. You can find more information at the website: [Halifax International Boat Show | February 1 - 4, 2024 | Halifax, Nova Scotia \(halifaxboatshow.com\)](http://Halifax International Boat Show | February 1 - 4, 2024 | Halifax, Nova Scotia (halifaxboatshow.com))

The times of the show are Thursday and Friday 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, and Sunday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. According to the website there are several prizes that ticket holders could win. Check it out!. By the way, this is the 40<sup>th</sup> presentation of the show. I have always considered the Boat Show the beginning of the season!



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## Education Department

## Winter-Spring 2024 EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Classes are held at the Fuller Room of [St James Anglican Church, 2668 Joseph Howe Drive](#), Halifax (off the Armdale Roundabout)

Course	Start Date	Duration	Instructor	Fee Non-Member (member)
<a href="#">Maritime Radio</a>	Wednesdays, Feb 14, 21, 28. 6:30-9pm	Approx. 8 hours total. ROC-M exam at the end of the last session	Terry Carter	\$160 (\$144)
<a href="#">Basic Navigation and Boat Handling - Combined (B2/B3)</a>	Tues Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> 2024	11 weeks	Dennis Mansour	\$375 (\$337.50)
<a href="#">Boating 4: Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 2</a> (previously called Seamanship)	Wed Mar 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	12 weeks	Angus Macpherson	\$300 (\$270)
<a href="#">Electronic Marine Navigation</a>	Monday May 13, 2024	7 weeks	Dave Hackett	\$240 (\$204)

Registration for the above classes is open! Click on the course name to register.  
In Course Catalogue, be sure to scroll to Halifax listing.

Halifax International Boat Show discount of \$15 per course valid Feb 1 to Feb 10: contact [Halifax Squadron Educational Officer](#)

For further information and registration, please send an email to:  
[Halifax Squadron Educational Officer](#)

Adriana McCrea, Halifax Squadron Education Officer



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#### **We Lost a Long Time Supporter of CPS-ECP and the Halifax Squadron**

Emanuel Laufer has crossed the bar. He passed away with loved ones at his side on Christmas Eve, 2023. Mannie was a long-time supporter of the Halifax Power and Sail Squadron. In his most recent position with the Squadron, Mannie was our Treasurer. He has served as Assistant



Education Officer and course instructor for Boating 5 (formerly Advanced Piloting) and Boating 6 and 7 (celestial navigation). During our social program at Armdale Yacht Club, Mannie presented a fascinating analysis of RADAR reflectors, which garnered him an invitation to speak at the RNSYS. Former editors of the *Foghorn* would ask Mannie to create nautical puzzles to solve. He loved doing this and many of puzzles were very challenging. His stories of sailing adventures were marvelous to hear. His story of sailing in the Bermuda Triangle appeared in the *Foghorn*. He even sailed on the “sacred” waters of Nelson’s famous victory. Of course,

this connects with Halifax and Armdale Yacht Club because in the fictional account by Nova Scotian author Thomas Raddall, the French marine sniper who shot Nelson was a prisoner-of-war on Melville Island.

We will miss Mannie! Thank you for your stories, adventures, intellect, observations, and service.

#### **Recognition for Instructors and Officers of Halifax Power and Sail Squadron CPS\_ECP**

Dennis Monsour, long time instructor for the Squadron was honoured at the 2023 AGM of CPS-ECP. He is one of many instructors and officers of the Squadron to be recognized for the excellence of service to CPS-ECP.

Each year prior to the annual general meeting of CPS-ECP, squadrons and districts are encouraged to nominate instructors and officers for special recognition. The list below shows the instructors and officers nominated by our Squadron or the Atlantic District and recognized by the Board of Directors of CPS-ECP. For the relatively small size of our Squadron (about 200 members) we have many instructors and officers who have been recognized for their teaching excellence and commitment to the principles of safe boating. The Squadron takes pride in the quality of our members as recognized by the National Office of CPS-ECP.



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#### **G. William Bowman Instructor of the Year Award**

2023 Dennis Mansour, AP, Atlantic and Quebec

2019 Howard Donohoe, AP, National, Atlantic and Quebec

2018 Angus MacPherson, AP, Atlantic and Quebec

2016 Luke Porter, AP, Atlantic and Quebec

2015 Norman Raine, AP, Atlantic and Quebec

2014 Terry Carter, AP, Atlantic and Quebec

2012 Mannie Laufer, SN, Atlantic and Quebec

#### **Electronic Course Instructor Award**

2018 Paul Light, AP

2017 Harry Henteleff, S

2016 Dan White, AP

2013 Alan Uren, SN

**2011** Dave Hackett, P

#### **Ref Reid Award Boat and Engine Maintenance Instructor of the Year**

2011 Norman Raine, AP

2008 Norman Raine, AP

#### **Officer of the Year**

2020 Adriana McCrea, AP

2017 Janice Cook, AP

2016 Adriana McCrea, AP

2013 Sarah-Jane Raine, AP

2014 Ron Hoffman SN

2012 Kellie Skelhorn, S

2011 Rozanne Raine, S

2009 Kellie Skelhorn, S

#### **Chief Commander's Award**

2019 Adriana McCrea, AP

#### **Chief Commander's Citation**

2018 Adriana McCrea AP

2016 Sarah-Jane Raine, S

2013 Sarah-Jane Raine, S

*Reprinted and updated from the Winter 2020 Foghorn.*





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## Orcas sink another boat in Europe after a nearly hour-long attack

Reprinted from an article in *Live Science*.

By [Harry Baker](#), Staff Writer, *Live Science*, published November 06, 2023

**Ed:** *Here is a story I was totally surprised to read.*

For the fourth time in two years, a group of unusually brazen orcas in southwestern Europe have sunk a sailing boat after relentlessly attacking it for almost an hour on Halloween.



*Orcas in the Strait of Gibraltar have been harassing boats and their passengers for more than three years. (Image credit: Jackson Roberts via Getty Images)*

A pod of orcas has attacked and sunk another boat in southwestern Europe after relentlessly bombarding the vessel and its crew for almost an hour on Halloween. It is the fourth time that orcas from this region's population have sunk a vessel in the last two years.

On Oct. 31, the *Grazie Mamma* — a mid-size sailing yacht owned by Polish cruise company *Morskie Mile* — was attacked by an unknown number of orcas for around 45 minutes off the coast of Morocco in the Strait of Gibraltar, *Morskie Mile* representatives wrote in a Facebook post translated from Polish.



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The orcas (*Orcinus orca*), also known as killer whales, repeatedly hit the yacht's rudder causing major damage and allowing water into the vessel's hull. Despite receiving aid from the Moroccan Navy and being towed toward safety, the boat eventually sank as it entered the port of Tanger-Med in Morocco. All passengers were safely evacuated to rescue boats before the ship sank.

The unusual attack is the latest example of one of many unnerving new orca behaviors that have highlighted the striking intelligence of these deadly predators.



*A juvenile orca carries away a large piece of a rudder after a similar attack in the Strait of Gibraltar in June this year. (Image credit: Screenshot from video by Dan Kriz)*

Since 2020, orcas have been regularly harassing boats in the Strait of Gibraltar — a narrow strait between Spain and Morocco that connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea — and the surrounding waters off the coast of the Iberian peninsula.

These nautical raids were likely started by a pod including White Gladis, a female orca who may have been traumatized by a past boat collision. The unusual behavior then spread among other individuals who seem to be becoming more daring and efficient with their attacks. So far, at least three other boats have been sunk in the area, with the most recent incident occurring in May 2023 and the previous two both occurring in 2022. And in June, a yacht had its rudder ripped clean off with "ruthless efficiency" in a 15-minute attack. Researchers suspect that orcas are learning to attack boats from one another. Witnesses have also reported seeing orcas "teach" other individuals how to maximize the damage they cause, Live Science previously reported.



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So far, only one other boat has been attacked outside of the Strait of Gibraltar and its surrounding waters: A yacht in Scotland, more than 2,000 miles (3,200 kilometers) away, which was rammed by a lone individual. However, it is impossible to directly link this attack to the other orcas.

Boat attacks are not the only unusual, learned orca behavior that scientists have taken note of in recent years. Since 2017, a pair of orcas known as Port and Starboard have killed dozens of great white sharks in South Africa by ripping out their livers. And on Oct. 17 this year, this behavior was also documented in Australia for the first time, hinting it may also be spreading.

#### **Comments**

##### **dmissu2**

After years we now believe, thanks to all the scientific world discoveries information shared with the world that Orcas are smart, very smart.

I submit that in this particular area of the world/oceans these Orcas, perhaps even a pod or more, have been strongly offended by humans in some way and over the last couple of years are now making their objections known. Perhaps suspicious boaters have injured them, killed an orca (young or a leader) either intentionally or not, humans have strongly upset them and they want us to know. Perhaps it continues to occur and they want us to stop.

I believe the authorities in this area need to investigate and figure out if something humans are doing have set them off and stop it from happening before more innocent boaters pay the price of those without conscious.

##### **georgeodjungle**

We've been experimenting with a trailing hot wire it's a little hard on the anodes but they turn tail works on mostly everything except seals.

12 volt okay, 24 works better 120 works really, really well but again, it's hard on the anodes.





Boat show Edition of Canadian Yachting

## New knots for a new world



By John Morris

**Ed:** *This is a funny, tongue-in-cheek look at new knots stemming from the pandemic.*

*The Zoom Knot – a variation of the traditional Bull Sheet Bend*

As a boater, I am confident you get the perennial query, 'tie some knots for me.' Kids of all ages, beautiful people in bars and even other seasoned boaters, venerate the boating person who can quickly zip a bowline with one hand or flip a series of half hitches onto a cleat.

But times change and today, in this wacky environment where everything is constantly changing, we have assembled a compendium of important new knots to enhance your skill portfolio.





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The Zoom Knot. After two years of connecting via the screen, this knot helps restore the work/life balance via a few simple line manipulations. Once in place, that nagging boss and the petulant controller will quickly understand that it's the boating season, so lower your expectations. Related: the Why Knot; The Knot Me Thanks; and the I'm Definitely Knot Doing This Any More hitch.

The Mask Splice. Surprisingly, those boxes of masks can be repurposed for boating. By linking the masks together, you can both dress your boat and hang light laundry by chaining the now-unused masks together. How many do you have? Hundreds? No problem, they are fun to look at and we boaters can keep an inordinate amount of waste out of the system. Not quite as engaging as semaphore flags, these masks provide an airy salute on an otherwise dreary day.

Half-Wit Hitch. During the lockdown Canadians' tolerance has been strained. Road rage, social media lambast, and name-calling have taken turns north. Fortunately, for boaters whose cool demeanour remains intact, there is a much simpler outlet for angst. By using the traditional half hitch around the neck...oops, make that arm... of a confronting idiot, you can relieve the tension while getting them to shut up. Simply wrap the line around the appendage, flip it through the loop and tug. Stays secure and, remarkably, everything quiets down.

Equally suited to securing your boat to a bollard or fastening your hot tub to a police barricade, The Truckers' Convoy Bend is a simple yet infuriating knot. Once in place, it will stay tied up for much longer than you might expect and occasionally requires intervention to disengage. See also, Flag Etiquette: Canadian (inverted), Confederate and also Terry Fox.

Since the legalization of cannabis a couple of years ago, the Reefer Knot soared to importance as a simple means to keep a bong secure in the aft locker. Since then, this has almost entirely changed usages. When the skipper inappropriately decides a couple of tokes won't hurt anything, the Reefer Knot can be used to secure the driver down below while someone sober takes the wheel.

The Inflationary Slip Knot. Simply put, this clever knot allows a loop to expand easily to accommodate the width of a skipper's wallet. Unfortunately, it can occasionally tighten unexpectedly when the government introduces a luxury tax or fuel prices soar. Use with caution.



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#### Final Word

Catherine Lunn (Assistant Editor) and I always appreciate comments, ideas, photos, and stories. Please send them to [hvdonohoe@bellaliant.net](mailto:hvdonohoe@bellaliant.net).

This issue is brought to you by Howard Donohoe (Editor) and Catherine Lunn.

#### Fog in Halifax Harbour (2011)



The Halifax Power and Sail Squadron acknowledges that this area of Nova Scotia is located on the traditional land of the Mi'kmaq Nation. This territory is covered by the "**Treaties of Peace and Friendship**" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact, recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship.