

ALOUETTE HAILER

Alouette Power & Sail Squadron Bridge 2003/2004
A Unit of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron
www.members.shaw.ca/alouettesquadron

March 2004

Commander	Lorena Brady, Cdr	6044639258
Executive Officer		
Training Officer.....	Thomas Baumann, Lt/C.....	6044672285
Secretary	Bob MacMillan, 1 st Lt.....	6044634388
Treasurer	Donna Carlson, 1 st Lt.....	6044629819
Public Relations Officer		
MAREP	Jennette Westerink, 1 st Lt	6044628835
Membership	Holly MacMillan, 1 st Lt.....	6044634388

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Training VHF.....	Lorena Brady, Cdr	6044639258
Training Boat Pr	Bob Carlson, Lt.....	6044629819
Training Boat Pro Chinese.....	Michael Wong, Lt.....	6044660988
Training Aids	Mark Vanderwal, LT.....	6044650678
Communications.....	Jennette Westerink, Lt.....	6044628835
Chief Proctor		
Editor Alouette Hailer.....	Ann Wright Lt	6044627658
Cruisemaster.....	Graeme Manning, Lt.....	6044661708
Socials	Donna Carlson, Lt.....	6044629819
Supplies.....	Lloyd Gregson Lt.....	6044672212
Environment.....	Ross Wright, Lt.....	6044627658
Lieutenant At Large	Lorne Riding, Lt.....	6044675845
Lieutenant At Large	Kimberly Van Den Muijsenberg..	6044651757
Port Captains	Bill & Jennette Westerink	6044628835
Squadron Historian.....	Brent Brady, Lt	6044639258

COMMANDERS REPORT:

Once Again the Squadron year is coming to an end.

I'm humbled and appreciative of all the support from the members. It's been a great year with ups and downs but through it all I've come to know that Alouette Squadron members "step up to the plate" when needed. I knew this when I first became an active member " way back when", but this past year it has been especially evident to me. Then membership participation at last year's Pacific Mainland District Change of Watch was awesome.

This year our very own Anne MacDonald pledged as the Pacific Mainland District Commander. I invite all of Alouette there with me for Anne on May 28 & 29th. Lets show the PMD that Alouette really supports their members! I was amazed at the dedication I saw in the classrooms – both the Boating course and Boat Pro English and Chinese. Alouette can be proud to say we are one of the only squadrons to offer Boat Pro in English and Chinese.

Participation and turn out for our socials has also been excellent. New and old members have been turning out in "Droves" ... if you haven't, then I invite you to come and see what you're missing. Our own Change of Watch last year had the best turn-out I've seen in quite a few years, and this year I hope to see even more. We'll be having it at the ECRA centre on May 7th and as one "Old Timer" told me... " Why don't we have one of our famous POTLUCK dinners for our COW? ".... So we decided to try it, who knows, it could become another great Alouette tradition! This is a family night and as always our children are welcome! (After all they ARE future Alouette Squadron members!) I hope to see you all for a spectacular evening with good food, good friends, good talk, and good entertainment, CHEEP too.

I was humbled; and proud, to see the support for Donna Carlson at our Past Commander Bob Carlson's Memorial Service and I'm sure Donna and her family were as well. I saw not only most of the Alouette Bridge members, many from the District Bridge; but as well, new members Bob had taught in the Fall Boating Class. Bob has been a tremendous addition to Alouette Squadron and he will be sadly missed.

Finally, I have to say that none of the Squadron events would be possible without the dedicated bridge members we had this year. From the Training Team to the Socials Team and more; everyone contributed 110%. I noticed it and I know new members noticed it because they're coming on board for next year.

Our Annual General Meeting is on April 16 at the ECRA centre. The Bridge has been set... and I can't "rope" you into anything, so I encourage everyone to come out for our speaker Darren Steele of Hydra BoatLifts.

Thank-you, Alouette Squadron for a great year and I look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

Proudly Submitted
Commander Lorena Brady, AP

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT:

We are preparing for our next Social, coming up April 16th, 1900 hours, at the ECRA Centre. This is our AGM and once the formalities are over there will be a special speaker, goodies to eat and lots of time for socializing. Please note the flyer inside this Hailer.

May 7th 1800 hours, is our Change of Watch Dinner, held at the ECRA Centre. This dinner will be potluck (the best food anywhere), with the meats being prepared by your Social Committee. So please bring your favourite dish and join us for a great time. There will be door prizes and other surprises.

EDITORS' DESK:

Make sure you check out the Pacific Yachting magazine this month. Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons Pacific Mainland District Conference Registration Form is included. Remember our very own Anne Macdonald will become Commander of Pacific Mainland District. The dates are May 28 and May 29, 2004. It would be great to have a good turnout from Alouette Squadron to support Anne.

I would like to thank Roger Gendron for all his work on the Alouette Squadron Web site. The site is now up and running. Check it out at: www.members.shaw.ca/alouettesquadron this is

the correct address for our web page. I missed the "s" in members so please check your address books if you put the address down from February's Hailer. Please visit the site, you can read or download the Hailer from here. Roger is always looking for information to place on the site so please feel free to contact him rgendron@shaw.ca

Received from Norm Headrick, District Commander

Subject: NDI and CHS

Hello to All,

I thought that you should know what is happening with NDI and CHS and what it means to those of us who use chart-plotting systems. As an organization, we are not a lobby group, as individuals we are certainly free to express our satisfaction or dissatisfaction with what CHS is allowing NDI to do. I have attached a web site for you to peruse. If you feel strongly about this, please write CHS and NDI and express your individual feelings.

Norm Headrick.

The following **Notice to Users: 1/12/2003** will also be of great interest to you.

Announcement Regarding Canadian Hydrographic Service Charts Purchased Between August 2002 and March 2003

The Canadian Hydrographic Service has recently discovered that some CHS charts, purchased between August 2002 and March 2003, have been experiencing unacceptable durability problems. The problem consists of inconsistent ink adherence to the paper that may affect erasing, paper folding and water contact. These charts may be easily identified by a white chalky coating sitting loosely on the surface. Unfortunately, the coating, which rubs off easily onto your hands with normal chart handling, was improperly applied during the manufacturing process of the paper. Testing charts for this condition is best done by scratching a white area of the chart with a fingernail. Until March 31, 2004, the CHS will replace, with the same chart version, any charts purchased between August 2002 and March 2003 that exhibit the above-noted characteristics. You are asked to contact your dealer to arrange for your free replacements. CHS is changing to adapt to new technologies while working diligently to ensure that resources are used effectively to permit the distribution of essential information to our clients. We thank you for your understanding during this transitional period. We are developing solutions to prevent this situation from occurring in the future. Meanwhile we apologize for any inconvenience that it might have caused.

I just received this document so this is very short notice to have these charts replaced. Check the web sites for further information. www.charts.gc.ca/pub/en/help/notices.asp

Dear Editor: Re: Article in last months Hailer re: Burrard pollution.

I was surprised by the article in the last Hailer, re: Burrard Inlet pollution. The only source quoted for this position was a report by the BC Environmental Network. Please let me assure your readers that the inlet is cleaner now than it has been in the last 50 years.

Lets start by looking at the oil refineries. Twenty years ago, there were up to six refineries operating on the inlet. Most of which were stinky, leaky operations, which had little, if any emission controls. Today there is only one left in operation, and it must meet or exceed modern emission standards, not those of 1957. I have friends who were raised in Vancouver in the 50.s and 60,s, who would venture up the inlet on weekends in the summer. They could wade into the inlet waters and stand knee deep in crude oil that had been left by tankers that had cleaned there holds into the inlet. These same tankers had come to the inlet to pickup oil products from those same refineries. I can assure you that this is not the case today.

In the early years, the Burrard Thermal Power Plant ran on crude oil and left a thick stinky haze over the inlet. Today it uses high efficiency boilers to produce electricity with very low emissions and no visible smoke. The outboard engines on pleasure boats of 1957 used dirty 2 stoke oil mixed gas. Most of those have now been upgraded to clean, fuel efficient, low emission 4 stoke engines. Many boats today are equipped with holding tanks for wastewater. Combined with all these improvements, are strict pollution control laws and monitoring as well as oil spill response teams with state of the art equipment.

The level of public awareness to green boating and pollution in general has taken quantum leaps. The high number of new effluent permits that have been taken out is evidence of this. This

effluent must be highly treated and in many cases is as clean as storm drain runoff.

I do understand that pollution is still entering the inlet, but all one has to do is use the inlet on a regular basis to see the water quality is improving. The crabbing in the inlet is also some of the best on the West Coast. With increasing recreational boating in the inlet I believe the situation will only improve with more people taking stewardship of this beautiful inlet. Thank you for reading my alternate views on the inlet.

Gord McIvor Alouette Power Squadron / moored on Burrard Inlet.

Thank you Gord for your contribution to the Hailer

TRAINING REPORT:

Our Boating class, reduced from 17 students to 15 students seems to be doing very well. Two students will continue the course in September because the class interferes with their flight lessons.

Bob Carlson, member of our training department and Officer for Boat Pro will be very missed with his high expertise as instructor and proctor. Bob passed away on March 12, 2004. Bob was a mentor for many of us and we will always remember him

Anyone who would like to proctor or be willing to take the instructor training course-please give me a phone call. By helping others you can refresh yourself on all the important details so necessary to safe and enjoyable boating. Remember – someone was there and willing to spend the time for you!

Have you a VHF Marine License yet?

Remember it is required by law in order to operate a VHF Marine Radio.

Lorena Brady our Commander, will teach a VHF-Course on April 26 2004 and May 4, 2004 at Maple Ridge Secondary. To register please contact Lorena Brady at (604) 463-9258 if interested.

At the National Training meeting in Toronto, March 12-14, 2004 the national stats indicate that enrollments are down. Boating Courses are down 11.2%, Piloting Course –10.5%, VHF –24.4%. Reduced incomes are hurting CPS across the board. All departments are analyzing, reviewing and developing new methods of increasing productiveness.

Spring is here, so I want to wish every member a safe and fun boating season.

Respectfully Submitted by
Thomas Baumann
Training Officer

Submitted by Vee Appleton with thanks

The ranks of our members holding the grade of Advanced Pilot is now increased by six.

Congratulations to the following members who have successfully completed this somewhat difficult advanced course:

Bob Danilkiewicz, Gerald Driscoll, Wally Irwin
Bob MacMillan, Graeme Manning, Ray Rafuse

For those who revel in statistics the following may be of interest: The squadron now boasts 26 Pilots, 12 Advanced Pilots, 2 Junior Navigators

1 Navigator (who also has a full certificate)

Our training officer would like to hear from those members who are interested in taking the Piloting course. A number of students in the recent boating courses have expressed an interest in qualifying for the grade of Pilot and, if there is sufficient interest, it may be possible to provide the course in September.

BOATING SAFETY:

In the course of my career, and a lot of it was working on the water, I noticed, over the years, that a few accidents were the direct cause of people joking around, playing tricks on one another. I think horseplay on the water is just an accident waiting to happen.

Another item I mentioned to the instructors during my course is folks who don't slow down for small craft. One late Sunday afternoon my wife and I were canoeing up on the East Side of Pitt Lake. There must have been at least thirty big boats heading home at full throttle and not one slowed down. I had a 16 Frontiersman canoe and the only reason we didn't capsize is that I have had ample experience canoeing and managed to hit each wake just right to not turn over. When I looked at all these boats passing at this speed, not one person ever even looked back

to see if we made it. Needless to ask me of my opinion of Pitt Lake boaters!

Cheers Barrie Blake

You can contact Barrie at his web site: www.cribpeg.com
Thanks Barrie for your contribution to the Hailer

**NATIONAL SAFE BOATING AWARENESS WEEK
May 22-28, 2004**

For more details: www.csbc.ca/html/csaw.html

Alouette Squadron received the following notice from the Pitt Meadows Airport that I would like to pass along to our members.

**5TH ANNUAL PITT MEADOWS AIRPORT
OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2004**

**YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP IS INVITED TO
PARTICIPATE IN THIS FUN FILLED FAMILY DAY
AT YOUR AIRPORT**

Featuring:

- Educational and interactive presentations from our community groups
- Vintage Aircraft
- Vintage Cars
- Skydiving
- Free Airplane Rides for Young Guests

THINKING OF OUR MEMBERS

Fair seas and a calm crossing Bob a fond farewell. Bob sailed quietly into the sunset March 12, 2004. He will be greatly missed.

Memorial Donations can be made to the Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation or "the ICU in memory of Robert Carlson"

Donna, our hearts and thoughts are with you at this difficult time.

I would like to Congratulate Mike Herity, (Murphy) on his purchase of a new vessel. Good sailing Mike. I think he should call it Murphy's Law. Smooth Sailing from Mike Dixon and if I may, congratulations from the rest of the members of Alouette.