



# Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron

## Rideau Ripples

### FALL 2017



### *From the Commander's Helm Station:*



Although not the official end of summer, which comes on the fall equinox where the sun once again crosses the equator and becomes noticeably lower in the sky as fall approaches the winter solstice, it is the return to the working routine and kids back to school. Nevertheless, autumn can still produce some lovely weekends in which to get out on the water and enjoy the clean crisp air and fall colours. As the season winds down now may be a good time to reflect on the past summer's boating experience and consider our course line up to perhaps enhance your boating skills or refresh your existing skills.

Our June picnic was well attended, 74 people attended and everyone had a great time. The weather was fine for eating outdoors and the auction, which had plenty of items on table, went off very well with Jim MacLeod and Dr. Robert Morgan as our auctioneers. On hand to watch over the finances was our Financial Officer Will Moyle. I would like to thank everyone who donated to the auction and especially the large donation by the

Late Past Commander Bernie Goulet.

As we return following the summer recess, I am looking forward to the year ahead and the challenges it poses. We will be continuing our work on the online training programs both locally and at the national level. Our Executive Officer Tom Beaver, is one of the prime movers on these programs and is working in conjunction with Outreach Educational Department to get these programs up and running.

We are also involved in the planning of the National Conference taking place in Ottawa in 2018. The planning committee is led by Guy Ladouceur, Commander of the Rideau District and our Social Activities Officer, among other things. As these plans develop, more news on the event will be forthcoming, so stay tuned into our newsletter for the latest information.

Rest assured your squadron is working hard to maintain the quality of our courses and providing new and improved delivery modes for these courses. We will also be working to provide a variety of social activities in order to serve our membership better.

I hope everyone made the best of tough boating summer and will enjoy the last few weekends of the fall, on the water.

Respectfully submitted:

Court Harkness  
Squadron Commanding Officer

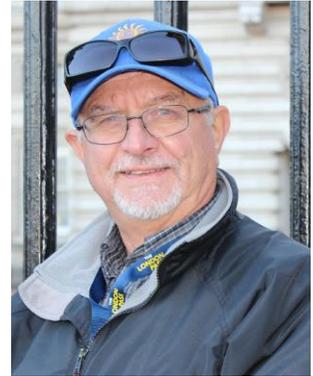


## From the desk of the Education Officer,

As I write this note, the sun has decided to reappear after an absence, it seems, of several days. It makes me want to return to Elusive and start cruising.

The reality is that most of us are thinking about putting the boat away for another season. Thoughts of tarps, winter work by your favorite marina or even yourself, getting the kids to school, hockey etc.

Fall is also the perfect time to think about broadening your boating knowledge. Do you know what dead reckoning is? Do you know the difference between speed over ground (sog) and speed thru the water (stw)? How to fix the water pump? Predict the weather? We have a course for that!



If you currently hold only a PCOC-Boating 1 card, check out Boating 2 – Beyond PCOC and Boating 3 - Introduction to Marine Navigation.

Own a VHF radio – you are required to have a Restricted Operator Card ( Maritime) to legally operate your VHF radio. We have a course for that!

All our course for the Fall and Winter sessions, plus registration information, are listed on [boatingcourses.ca](http://boatingcourses.ca). Please visit the site and our own Squadron site [www.cps-ottawa.com](http://www.cps-ottawa.com) for further information.

Finally, and we've all seen the media reports about boat swamping and bank erosion caused by speeding boats etc. A reminder that you are responsible for your wake!

Enjoy!

Axel Obenauf JN  
Educational Officer

Course (ONLINE)	Start Date	End Date	Link
<a href="#">Boating Basics (PCOC)</a>	ONLINE	ONLINE	<a href="#">Register</a>

Course - Patrick's High School 2525 Alta Vista Dr, Ottawa ON	Start Date	End Date	Link
<a href="#">Boating 2 – Beyond Boating Basics</a>	18-Oct-17	22-Nov-17	<a href="#">Register</a>
<a href="#">Boating 7 – Off Shore Marine Navigation Level 2</a>	18-Oct-17	13-Dec-17	<a href="#">Register</a>
<a href="#">Introduction to Weather for Recreational Boaters</a>	18-Oct-17	08-Nov-17	<a href="#">Register</a>
<a href="#">Maritime Radio</a>	18-Oct-17	01-Nov-17	<a href="#">Register</a>

## From the Membership Desk,



The 2017 boating season is over the half way point, and I hope everyone has enjoyed themselves. I have had a great season even with the rainy weather. For those new people who do not know me my Name is Terry Hamilton, Membership Officer for Ottawa and Rideau District.

I would like to welcome all the Britannia-Rideau members who now have officially merged with the Ottawa Squadron, making us one big happy group of boating enthusiasts. The Executive Committee is already enjoying the experience of several of the Britannia-Rideau executive and are hoping to get a few more to be involved. The Ottawa Squadron now is 441 members making up over 50% of the Rideau District membership of 872. The renewal numbers are on track up to

August 1, 2017, with no overdue members.

Once again, Welcome to the Britannia-Rideau members, and I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the boating season and will be ready for the fall courses.

Terry Hamilton, JN  
Membership Officer



Hello All OPSS Members:



You all should have received the email (*in newsletter*) from Tracie Berekoff, CPS-ECP National Conference Chair inviting you to attend the upcoming 2017 National Conference and Annual General Meeting being held in Charlottetown, PEI. The National Conference is always a fun and informative event and provides CPS-ECP members with an opportunity to meet and learn from other members from across Canada and share ideas and experiences.

As Rideau District Commander and the Chair for the Local National Conference Planning Committee for the 2018 National Conference to be held in Ottawa, I encourage all OPSS members to attend the Charlottetown Conference. The Charlottetown Local Committee has done a lot of great work and the Charlottetown Conference looks set to be a successful one. We are still in the early stages of planning the Ottawa 2018 Conference and it would be wonderful if as many OPSS members as can attend go to the Charlottetown Conference -- attend the meetings and events and bring back ideas and your enthusiasm for how the Rideau District can make sure that the 2018 Conference in Ottawa is even better!!

Whether you can attend the Charlottetown Conference or not, the Ottawa Local Conference Committee would be happy to have you join in any of the elements of the Conference that you may be interested in -- planning, on-site duties such as registration, or so many other areas which will ensure that the Conference runs smoothly and is a huge success. If you are interested or just want more information, please contact me anytime.



Guy Ladouceur, D/C  
2018 Local Chair National Conference Planning Committee

## Scuttlebutt

By Robert Dandurand, P



Did you see it? On August 21, the sun disappeared across America. It has been 99 years since a total solar eclipse crossed the United States from the Pacific to the Atlantic. The total solar eclipse on June 8, 1918, crossed from Washington to Florida. Elsewhere in North America, a portion of the sun disappeared, for up to 90 minutes, near midday. Viewers experienced the penumbral shadow, a partial eclipse.

Source: <http://wgntv.com/2017/06/23/1st-total-solar-eclipse-in-99-years-to-sweep-america-here-are-the-best-places-to-watch/>

The position of the Viking rudder affects us to this very day. The reason that the USS Fitzgerald may bear a significant percentage of the fault in her recent collision with the container ship ACX Crystal is all related to Viking rudders. The COLREGS and Rules of the Road still reflect the placement of the ancient steering oar.

Early rudders evolved from steering oars off the ship's stern quarter. (Center-line rudders with pintles and gudgeons were not fully adopted in Europe until around the 14th century.) The rudders on Viking long ships and other ships of the period were always on the right-hand side. The word starboard came from the Old English word *stēorbord* meaning 'steering side' or 'rudder side.'

To prevent damage to the steering oar, ships were commonly docked on the port or larboard side. Larboard is from the Middle-English *ladebord* or 'loading side.' The left side of a ship was referred to as the larboard side until 1844 when the Royal Navy ordered that port be used because larboard and starboard sounded too similar when shouted in battle or during critical maneuvers.

So, what does this have to do with the Rules of the Road? The starboard side was favored so as not to damage the steering oar. That preference remains today in the rules governing crossing situations, where the vessel approaching from starboard generally has right of way. The so-called danger zone is from dead ahead to two points (about 23 degrees) abaft the starboard beam. Any vessel approaching in that zone generally has the right of way.

Why is the right of way on the starboard approach and not the port? It is the tradition that dates back to the steering oars of Viking ships,

Source: <http://www.oldsaltblog.com/2017/06/tv-vikings-wrong-side-rudders-uss-fitzgerald-collision/>



This mishap occurred over the weekend 12-13 August on the St. Lawrence River near Gananoque, on the back channel used by the tour boats. The 41 ft. President motor yacht struck a well-marked shoal in broad daylight during calm seas. Time for a chart reading refresher? (Photo and text, Robin Craig)



An estimated 8 million metric tons of plastic floating debris enters the oceans each year. Some washes back on our shores or sinks in coastal waters. The rest accumulates in the centers of these undefined gyres. Not surprisingly, 100 percent of the plastic detritus churning in our world's oceans originates with human activity. The majority of it comes from land-based consumer waste, such as discarded bottles. Why Does This Matter? Plastic in our water hurts the boating environment, the economy, and resources, such as the seafood we consume. Chemicals both from the plastics themselves as well as from organic pollutants that attach themselves to the surface of the plastics, are absorbed into the tissues of the fish and are eventually ingested by humans. These chemicals have been linked to cancer, malformation, and impaired reproductive ability. What Can You Do?

Practice the three "R"s: reduce, reuse, recycle. Dispose of trash properly, while on land and water. Secure discarded items on the boat so they don't go overboard. Carry a reusable drinking container. Avoid using single-use disposable plastic items, like utensils, straws, and takeout containers. Use durable fabric shopping bags. It's a start.

Source: <http://www.boatus.com/magazine/2017/august/state-of-the-gyres.asp>



## 2017 Annual Picnic and Graduation



Another year and one more successful Squadron Picnic & Graduation is over. Our Master Organizer and BBQ Chef was missing in action this year relaxing in Alaska on a cruise ship. Terry, we missed you but after watching you for so many years, we could pull it off!

The success of Picnic was due primarily to all the CPS-ECP members, non-members and family who were in attendance. Our chefs barbecued enough

burgers and sausages to feed 74 very hungry attendees. Well done and by the way keep your spatula ready.... You are booked for June 18, 2018!

It was really nice to see some many returning members plus a few new faces. We had a great representation of



all level of the organization which included National Officer, two District Commanders (Amiral & Rideau), Squadron Commanders from Britannia-Rideau, Brockville and Cornwall.



Probably the best part of the event is the “**Auction**”. We were fortunate this year to have the Best Auctioneer Jim MacLeod in the area and his able (lovely) assistant Robert Morgan. We had a great variety of nautical articles to auction off. Well Done, Gentlemen!

Well Jim and Bob certainly entertained the group and at the end of the evening everything had been purchased. A very successful auction.



To organize such an event, we needed many skilled volunteers and without their help it would not have been possible. I would love to name everyone but I'm so afraid to forget someone that I will just say THANK YOU for a job well done.

Let's do it again next year on Monday June 18, 2018 so mark your calendar now! See you all back next year and bring a friend!

**Guy A. Ladouceur**  
*Social Affairs Chair*



# Volunteer Opportunity

## Squadron Financial Officer

### POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Financial Officer (FO) plays a major role in the Squadron. He/She can expect to receive assistance and advice from the Commander and XO.

Function: The FO has the major responsibility for the financial affairs of the Squadron. He/She is directly involved in the day-to-day financial and accounting operations of the Squadron.

The Financial Officer's duties include:

- 1) Ensuring that the Squadron has sufficient funds to support current and future activities.
- 2) Managing financial risk.
- 3) Collecting all monies due and payable to the Squadron or received for Squadron activities and maintaining a bank account.
- 4) Paying all bills approved by the Executive Committee and the Commander; preserving all proper vouchers for such expenditures.
- 5) Keeping a true record of all monies received, using the CPS Web-based Administration System (WBAS) to access and provide financial information to HQ (training will be provided) and maintaining a liaison with the financial department at HQ.
- 6) Preparing and submitting a budget of all anticipated income and expenditures at the first meeting of the budget year.
- 7) Making a financial report at each Squadron meeting, at the Squadron AGM and at other times, as required
- 8) Preparing and coordinating with the Internal Audit Review Committee the Squadron's annual audit in time for the AGM.

As an elected member of the Executive Committee, you would also be expected to attend approximately one evening meeting a month, which is normally scheduled on the first Thursday of each month (traditionally, there is no meeting in July or August). It is estimated that a commitment of approximately 2-3 hours a week is sufficient to accomplish the duties described above.

If this is for you and would like to volunteer, please contact [P/Cdr Robin Craig](#) or [P/Cdr Terry Hamilton](#) as soon as possible by e-mail.



## Vision, Mission and Values

### Vision – what we are

**“A committed community of experienced boaters inspiring others to adopt a safe boating attitude through education and training”**

### Mission – what we do to achieve our vision

- We teach safe boating practices and proper navigational techniques
- We promote the cause of boating safety by creating a safe boating ethic
- We advance the cause of boating safety in cooperation with other agencies and organizations
- We keep our Member and Volunteer community strong through ongoing social interaction and enjoyment

### Values – what keeps us strong

#### **Safety:**

- Boating safety is of prime importance
- We encourage the boating experience as a safe and enjoyable recreation

#### **Education:**

- Our CPS-ECP Boating Courses are of high quality and provide good value
- We are leaders in safe boating education
- We embrace changes in boating education and practices

#### **Community:**

- We depend on volunteers of all ages, levels of experience and skill
- We enjoy our interactions with our fellow volunteers and members

#### **Environment:**

- We believe in boating in an environmentally responsible manner



## From the Playroom of the Social Affairs

Summer is well on his way and the water levels have been causing almost every boater in this part of the country some sleepless night or at least concerns as to when you would be able to access the lock to get back to you home port!

I can relate that Mother Nature caused me to wear wet runners for a week but it did not stop me or my family from enjoying boating and fishing on Charleston Lake. The main dock at Outlet was under water and the dock at the cottage was partially submerged. The Upside is that the water kept me cool at least! I am sure we all have good or bad experiences with the water levels but that is Mother Nature for you!

On the Social Affair Front, I would like to welcome Venetia Moorhouse to our committee. Venetia brings a lot of sailing experience and no doubt will provide new ideas for Information Nights and Travelogues. Welcome aboard Venetia.

Here is an idea of what we have on our radar for your enjoyment

- FALL WINTER - Considering an Alaska Cruise, join us to get your questions answered!
- FALL / WINTER - Flying to exotic countries when you can do right at home, join us to find out more!
- OCT 24-29 - CPS-ECP National Conference and AGM will take place in Charlottetown, PEI,
- DEC 07 – Join Santa and Mrs. Claus for Supper
- FEB 22-25, 2018 – Ottawa Boat Show
- MAR 2018 – Squadron Annual Dinner
- APR 2018 – Squadron Annual General Meeting
- JUN 2018 – Annual Squadron Picnic and Graduation (Free to all members and Family)
- OCT 23-29, 2018 – CPS-ECP National Conference and AGM will take place in Ottawa, ON

As you can see, we will have a busy upcoming schedule but we can still have Information Night or any functions you would like to assist in planning. If you have any idea, please contact and we will assist you!

Let's have fun, network and learn from each other!

*Guy A. Ladouceur*  
*Social Affairs Chair*



# Welcome

As many of you are aware, the Britannia-Rideau has surrendered its Warrant over the summer after 53 year of providing a much needed service to the boating community. The majority of their members elected to merger with the Ottawa Squadron. A quick look of members' addresses indicates that we spread from right across Canada and one exotic locatuion. Take a look:

Anturan, Bali (Indonesia)	Kamloops, BC	North Vancouver, BC
Salt Spring Island, BC	Almonte, ON	Barry's Bay, ON
Bayfield, ON	Beachburg, ON	Bourget, ON
Braeside, ON	Calabogie, ON	Cambridge, ON
Carleton Place, ON	Carp, ON	Casselman, ON
Chalk River, ON	Clayton, ON	Cornwall, ON
Deep River, ON	Elgin, ON	Embrun, ON
Gananoque, ON	Havelock, ON	Kemptville, ON
Lanark, ON	Lansdowne, ON	Leeds/Thousand Islands, ON
Leith, ON	Limoges, ON	London, ON
Lyndhurst, ON	Maberly, ON	Maitland, ON
McNab / Braeside, ON	Merrickville, ON	Ottawa, ON
Ottawa - Ashton, ON	Ottawa - Cumberland, ON	Ottawa - Dunrobin, ON
Ottawa - Gloucester, ON	Ottawa - Greely, ON	Ottawa - Kanata, ON
Ottawa - Manotick, ON	Ottawa - Metcalfe, ON	Ottawa - Nepean, ON
Ottawa - North Gower, ON	Ottawa - Orleans, ON	Ottawa - Osgoode, ON
Ottawa - Stittsville, ON	Ottawa - Woodlawn, ON	Oxford Station, ON
Pembroke, ON	Perth, ON	Peterborough, ON
Portland, ON	Rockland, ON	Russell, ON
Smiths Falls, ON	Stoney Creek, ON	Toronto, ON
Vars, ON	Verona, ON	Westport, ON
Souris, PE	Bristol, QC	Campbell's Bay, QC
Chelsea, QC	Farrellton, QC	Gatineau, QC
Gatineau (Hull), QC	Lac Kenogami, QC	Saint-Andre-Avellin, QC
Val des Monts, QC		

Welcome Aboard everyone no matter where you live we would like to hear from you and if you have any ideas, information night, etc you would like to share with other members, please feel free to contact me as I plan to make sure that the Ottawa Squadron can provide a better service to all members no matter where you live.

**Guy A. Ladouceur**  
**Social Affairs Chair**

# Your Member's Benefits

CPS-ECP has partnered with Cowan Insurance Group to provide insurance products for its members. Cowan's comprehensive coverage and discounts are available exclusively to you as a CPS-ECP member.



Boat Insurance - Save up to 25% on insurance premiums  
Group Home and Auto - Save up to 25% when you combine both your home and auto insurance premiums.

Cowan Insurance is also the proud sponsor of the CPS-ECP Volunteer of the Year Award.  
<https://www.cowangroup.ca/>



English speaking Members have the benefit of receiving 6 issues annually of Canadian Yachting magazine at no additional cost. In four of those issues, members also receive their copy of the CPS-ECP member magazine, the Port Hole.

Canadian Yachting magazine produces the new and informative CPS-ECP Onboard newsletter that members receive twice per month FREE of charge.

[www.canadianyachting.ca](http://www.canadianyachting.ca)

MAGAZINE

French speaking members Recevez le magazine [L'escale nautique](#)  
Recevez *Le Guide du tourisme Nautique*



L'Escale Nautique is an independent publication that has been serving the boating market since 1995.

L'Escale Nautique is distributed to French-speaking members of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons.

The Guide to Nautical Tourism is a navigational guide published every year since 1997. It is currently the most documented navigational guide of the main water bodies of Québec, scrupulously updated every season.

[www.escalenautique.qc.ca](http://www.escalenautique.qc.ca)



Three C-Tow member packages are available to CPS-ECP members at 1/3 OFF of the regular price. C-Tow Marine Assistance Ltd. has been in operation for 27 years providing members with "Peace of Mind at Sea".

<https://www.c-tow.ca>



**Weems & Plath** is the proud sponsor of the Instructor of the Year Awards and offers all CPS-ECP members an exclusive 25% discount on **Weems & Plath** products ordered directly online only. Look for your promo code in the Members section at [www.cps-ecp.ca](http://www.cps-ecp.ca)

[www.weems-plath.com](http://www.weems-plath.com)



ICOM Canada is the proud sponsor of the Electronic Instructor of the Year Awards and offers instant rebates to all members of CPS-ECP. These discounts are available at any participating ICOM Authorized Marine Dealer across Canada and include VHF radios, both handheld and fixed mount, as well as AIS receivers, Radar and SSB radios.

Look for details in the Members section at [www.cps-ecp.ca](http://www.cps-ecp.ca)

[www.icomcanada.com](http://www.icomcanada.com)



Fugawi has been a marine electronics innovator since 1995. This is a significant and far reaching benefit program for CPS-ECP members which includes:

- 15% Off all marine products that Fugawi distributes in the [fugawi.com](http://www.fugawi.com) store.
- FREE Fugawi Marine 5 (FM5) demo software for all CPS-ECP students and members.
- 50% Off the retail price of the complete and downloadable FM5 software.

<https://www.fugawi.com>



All SALUS Marine Wear products are available to members at 15% off the full retail price in the current year's catalogue. All orders must be placed through the CPS-ECP National Office.

[www.salusmarine.com](http://www.salusmarine.com)



Natural Marine Products, a CPS-ECP Proud Sponsor and , presenter of the annual CPS-ECP National Environment Trophy, offers all members a \$20 OFF manufacturers mail-in rebate on any 3 products from their Canadian-made.

[www.alexmilne.com](http://www.alexmilne.com)



Fortress Marine Anchors, the sponsor of the Officer of the Year Awards, offers their FX 37BP Anchor exclusively to CPS-ECP members at a savings of \$150.

<http://fortressanchors.com>



CPS-ECP Members receive a 10% discount on a large variety of products in select categories at RONA corporate stores in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

[www.rona.ca](http://www.rona.ca)



National Car Rental (Canada)  
24 hour toll free reservations  
1.800.CAR.RENT  
10% Discounts in Canada and the USA for members.

<https://www.nationalcar.ca>



Steveston Marine provides an 8% discount to CPS-ECP Members on all online and in-store products, excluding sale items.  
For all discounted purchases made by a CPS-ECP member, an addition 2% rebate shall be sent to the member's Squadron.

[www.stevestonmarine.com](http://www.stevestonmarine.com)



Purchase Ports Cruising Guides  
CPS-ECP members can save up to \$8.00 off the cover price when they order their Ports Cruising Guide through the CPS-ECP website and National Office.

[www.portsbooks.com](http://www.portsbooks.com)



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[www.choicehotels.ca](http://www.choicehotels.ca)



The Great Lakes Cruising Club is an organization of over 2500 US and Canadian Members dedicated to encouraging cruisers to explore our Great Lakes. One of the club's missions is education, particularly through the online GLCCSchool.  
GLCCSchool webinars are available to all - both GLCC members and non-members.  
GLCCSchool webinars are offered in English only.

[www.glccclub.com](http://www.glccclub.com)



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