

SPRING BRINGS BOAT CHALLENGE

Once again we are gearing up for the onslaught of boaters to get their *BOAT LICENCE*

Last summer we processed nearly 500 exams and licence applications. One of our busiest locations was in conjunction with Hunters Bay Marine at North Bay Mall. We plan to offer the exam challenge again this Spring, and are

looking for volunteers to help process the exams. We were so busy at the Mall last year, we need 3 volunteers per session. This puts an awful strain on our volunteers, so we need HELP from our members. Please call Carol 752-2223 to volunteer a few hours - April 16 - 22 at North Bay Mall, April 28 Hals Marine, May 12 Giesler Marine. 🍁

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CROSSCHOP

The Official Newsletter of the



NORTH BAY ^{Power Sail} SQUADRON

Published Quarterly

2001 Graduation Dinner / Change of Watch

By C. Gibson

Graduation and Change of Watch MAY 06 2001

This is a very special year - - - it is North Bay Squadron's **40th** anniversary. That's right - for 40 years North Bay has been offering training courses to local boaters. To celebrate this milestone, your Bridge has planned a very special evening at the **Best Western Lakeshore**.

This special evening will start with Cocktails at 5:30
Dinner will be the "Ballroom Buffet" and include:

ENTREES: *Carved Baron of Beef, Poached Salmon, Ontario Roast Loin of Pork, & Vegetable Lasagna.*

SALADS: *Caesar, Greek, Red Cabbage & Grapefruit, Spinach & Walnut, and Potato Ham.*

VEGETABLES: *Cheese Scalloped Potatoes, Savory Mushroom Rice, Green Beans Almondine and Baby Glazed Carrots*

DESSERTS: an assortment of baked pastries and cakes - including Best Western special cookies - that are to DIE FOR!!

After we are all totally stuffed - we will have the Graduation and Change of Watch Ceremonies to round out the evening.

We are encouraging all members to attend this milestone celebration, and especially hope that Past Bridge Officers will make a special effort to attend. Taking into consideration all the work some of our members have done in the past, your Bridge have decided that the cost of this special evening should be kept low. As a result, the price of the above mentioned scrumptious feast will cost \$ 20 per person. Please call our info. line at 499-2599 or Carol at 752 2223 before May 02 to reserve. 🍁

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Get Your Pleasure Craft Operator Card

Tell your boating friends (who dont have their boat licence) that they can challenge the exam on the following dates and locations:

April 16-20 6:00 - 8:30 Hunters Bay Marine display New North Bay Mall
April 21-22 1:00 - 4:00 Hunters Bay Marine display New North Bay Mall
April 28 10:00 - 3:00 Hals Marine Hwy 11 North
May 5 10:00 - 3:00 Idylltyme Sports & Marine 2671 Trout lake Rd
May 12 10:00 - 3:00 Giesler Marine 299 Elm St Powassan

We will have the same procedure as the last few years - write the exam for free, pay \$20. if you pass. For further information, please call our info line at 499-2599



Thank You Vianet

By T. Lang



ViaNet is a local Internet Service Provider (ISP) who for the past two years has hosted our website ([HTTP://www.nbpss.on.ca](http://www.nbpss.on.ca)) for no cost to us, purely as a community service. ViaNet has always been very community minded and for that I'd personally like to thank them. Many community based, not for profit groups such as ours would not be able to have a web presence if it wasn't donated either by someone, or by an ISP who cares.

ViaNet Internet Solutions has locations in Timmins, Sudbury, North Bay, Huntsville, Parry Sound, Sault Ste. Marie and Kirkland Lake Ontario, Canada. ViaNet also offer local dialup service for our customers in Toronto and Oshawa. ViaNet are, and are proving to be, the largest and most reliable Internet Service Provider in the Northern Ontario region.

Vianet currently offer full dialup PPP and Unix Shell accounts in all of of their offices at baud rates of up to 56 Kbps (except Kirkland Lake and Parry Sound). They also offer a full range of high-speed access solutions using xDSL, ISDN, ATM and Cable, as well as commercial and personal internet site hosting.- for details - info@vianet.ca or Phone: (705) 494-9010



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Training Officer's Report

By George Graham

This year has been rather slow. In the fall we didn't have enough students to run a boating course. We did however have a Seamanship Power course that was attended by seven students.

In the spring we did manage to get ten students together to take a Boating Course. All students are still attending and will write the exam on April 30.

There has been some interest expressed in conducting a Weather Course. This will probably take place in the fall. If there are any other courses that are of interest, contact me and I will see what I can do to arrange then.

We have received a copy of the new Celestial Navigation Course. This course replaces both the Junior Navigator and Navigator Courses. Two students are interested in starting the course and I would like to here from any others that are interested.

Try to make an effort to attend the Squadron AGM and Graduation Ceremony. I hope to see you there.



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NBPSS Annual General Meeting 2001

By T. Lang

Don't Forget the Annual Meeting is May 2nd

The North Bay Power and Sail Squadron Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday May, 2nd, 2000 at the North Bay Yacht Club (Greenwood Road, Callander) at 19:00 - Please see insert in this newsletter. Following the Annual Meeting there will be a presentation and slid show by squadron member Ray Whittam detailing his recent trip along the Amazon River. See you there.



Our Web Address

[Http://www.nbpss.on.ca](http://www.nbpss.on.ca)

Phone: (705)499-2599

Commanders Message:

SPRING 2001

By Caven Ford



Spring is just around the corner and if you listen closely, you can hear the ice on the lake melting. Or at least you can convince yourself that it will be all over soon and we'll have boats back in the water again. Hopefully the spring run-off will bring up the water levels a bit for the coming season. The level of the lake was a main topic of conversation all over last year, with rocks appearing in places they never were before.

Speaking of rocks, I've gotten a kick-start on the season by ordering up some necessary maintenance on the seals on the lower unit of my outboard motor. Apparently a little more damage was done in that nasty rock incident 3 years ago, in the French River, than we originally thought. This is the second year in a row there has been a 'bit' of water in the lower unit. So we're replacing the seals and while they're at it, we're having the lower unit refinished. Should be as good as new again this year.

Hope to see members out on the water and at the squadron functions. If you can spare an evening, why not sign up to proctor an exam session coming up. Have a safe and enjoyable spring. See you at the Squadron AGM and the Graduation dinner.



Joint Cruise with Yacht Club

By Terry Lang

Circle July 15th and 16th on your Callander NOW. This year's Joint Cruise with the North Bay Yacht Club is now officially scheduled. The Yacht club is hosting the French River cruise and has invited the Power and Sail Squadron to join them again this year. Dinner will be at Keystone Lodge in the French River on Saturday July 14th. For more information, please contact Bill Scaife (472-6182) or stay tuned to the June issue of Crosschop for more details.

Hope to see you there.



Dues 2001

Notice, this year your annual dues will be paid directly to National, rather than to the squadron as we have done in the past. Notices will be sent to you from National, you will have several option to pay, ether by credit card, mail a cheque, or even through the Internet. Nothing has changed in the way the monies are divided, the local squadron still get the same percentage as in the past. The biggest advantage is that National can offer other methods of payment like credit cards, etc.



The Boater's Book of Dreams

By Yvonne Zacharias (Vancouver Sun) - Originally published Feb 9, 2001

Take me in your arms, Barry Lee.

Take me in your arms and rock me out to sea.

You're out there somewhere, Adam D., Lights shimmering over the water, champagne glasses tinkling, waiting for me.

I'm sailing away on hints of what could be, on words that blush, on nudge-nudge-wink-wink messages as cryptic as the ones washed up to shore in a bottle.

I'm reading Transport Canada's Vessel Registration Query System.

Enchanted Castle. Our Paradise. A Fine Madness. Moon Dance. Gone With The Wind. Have you ever heard of anything so ridiculous, so romantic? And names. Lots of them in an endless variety, as the government rules, unswayed by gusts of sentimentality, forbid using a name twice. So there's Anne, Anne Shirl, Anne Shirley and Anne Shirley No. 1.

Some call the two thick tomes of Canadian boat names the blue book, which until recent times, was strictly a leatherbound, handwritten document befitting the sacred secrets stowed inside. Others consider it a government document, a cold computer roll call of 47,000 names of boats registered across the country. Not Kay McElwain. She calls it a registry of dreams.

The senior registrar of ships in Vancouver has seen couples come with stars in their eyes, arms entwined, to declare their love for each other on the side of a boat, to shamelessly wear their hearts on their sleeve. It makes her job so special. "Sometimes they just blush and don't say anything," she said. "They're just in love and their dream is coming true."

Never mind that years later, the man sometimes returns solo, with a sunken heart, to have the name expunged, all traces of love having been lost at sea.

Old sailors will tell you that the business of naming a boat is so tricky, it's worse than naming a child. A few years

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Book of Dreams...Cont'd from Page 3

back, one boatbuilder hit such a dry patch with names that he asked McElwain to conjure a few out of the mists of her imagination. In such times, she finds names with "star" and "wind" are always a good bet.

Comb through the registry and you'll find everything from the schmaltzy to the sublime. Next to yachts-a-fun, you'll find Swallow and The Basking Shark. Then there are hints of the personality behind the person who has filled out the arid government form. How about Bashful, Battle Axe and Benevolence? Some smack of a political statement (Anglo-Canadian), veer into the realm of the spiritual (Amazing Grace) grate on the shoals of rocky finances (Mutual Fund I) or give a clue as the owner's occupation (Toothfairy and Heartbeat). Then there are sturdy, serviceable names, like Yarrows Ltd. Tug No. 1. They're all here, in this registry of dreams.

You can name a boat just about anything you want, except names of royalty and profanity are not allowed. Name keepers like McElwain often advise boat keepers to steer clear of the cute, like naming a boat C. Otter instead of Sea Otter. It can give rise to confusion for search vessels if you are lost at sea.

Having worked in the registry for 25 years, the last five of those as senior registrar, she has watched fads drift in and out, like the times when everyone was trying to name their boat Hey Jude after the popular Beatles song or Moonraker after the popular movie. If she had to guess, she'd say Ocean, Pacific and Blue are the most common first words in names.

Sometimes names change -- or don't -- with the times. When Vancouver apartment rents were sky high, some couples were buying boats to live in. Unable to scrape together the \$250 needed to change the name, they often lived with the hopes and dreams and lost loves of the former owner emblazoned on the side.

In this tricky business of christening a boat, McElwain has noticed that fishermen and pleasure boaters tend to go their separate ways, the former being more inclined to use the names of wives and children for whom they toil and the latter settling on names suggestive of love or adventure.

She has noticed, too, that ethnic groups also show certain proclivities. The Greeks, like the fishermen, like to use family names while the Croatians, for example, go for Adriatic Star or Adriatic Sea or other names suggestive of their homeland.

But whether they are fishermen or pleasure boaters, Greeks or Croatians, to McElwain, boat owners are a special breed. "There's something about them. They're more romantic. Maybe a bit calmer."

Have you ever been on a boat, she wonders, where you just sort of sit there and feel the gentle lapping of the waves and you drift off to sleep?

Where are you Barry Lee?
Come and get me. I'm waiting.

Take me in your arms and rock me out to sea. 



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