

CROSSCHOP

The Official Newsletter of the



NORTH BAY ^{Power Sail} SQUADRON



Published Quarterly

Grad Dinner, Annual General Meeting and Change of Watch Ceremony

This year we are combining all our end of year activities into one grand evening. Instead of having separate Annual General Meeting and Graduation and Change of Watch Ceremonies, we will be doing them all in the one night.

Please mark your calendars and call Carol while you are thinking of this to reserve your place at our CPS Social Event of the Year. Diane's Catering is this year offering us a buffet consisting of salads, potatoes, roasted vegetables and carved roast beef along with assorted squares for dessert.

All events will be on Sunday May 03 at North Bay Yacht Club, 283 Greenwood Rd Callander.

DATE: Sunday May 03, 2009

TIME:
Cocktails: 1700
Dinner: 1800

AGM: to follow dinner
Expected to be from 1930 to 2000

Our Change of Watch Ceremonies will take place immediately following the Annual General Meeting.

COST: \$20.00 per person

RESERVE: Carol Gibson 752-2223



In This Issue:

Commander's Message ...	2
Lady Muskoka Cruise	2
Boat Renaming	
Ceremonies.....	3
Farewell	4
Report from the District	4
Boat Pro Courses.....	5
Ship as She	6
2008-2009 Bridge	6

Commander's Message

Doug Hay AP

Spring is quickly approaching (I think), and the snow and ice will melt. Although as I write this in mid-March, snow is coming down! The Squadron had a successful Christmas Social and once again the Toronto Boat Show bus trip was well attended. A big thanks goes out to the organizers.

The economy is in turmoil, but that should not prevent you from enjoying your vessel. To borrow a phrase from trawler manufacturer Kadey-Krogen; 'The only things you regret are the things you did not do'. We weathered high fuel costs last summer yet we were able to enjoy the boating activities we all do on the water. So borrowing another phrase; 'Just do it'. Get out there and go boating.

This training season saw only the Marine Maintenance course. Thanks to Rick Taylor for spending a significant amount of time preparing for and instructing the course. It was very well done, informative and enjoyable. This year is the first time that the Squadron has not had sufficient interest for the Boating course. Although we are not alone, as several other squadrons across Canada faced the same situation, it is nonetheless worrisome. Please promote the squadron in your day-to-day conversations and hopefully we can fill a class in the fall. Please contact our training officer or one of the Bridge members if you have questions or to pass along contact names of interested boaters.

This spring, the Squadron will be promoting the Boat Pro course extensively. Most of you are well aware that the deadline for boaters to have proof of competency is September 30, 2009. After this date, if you are operating a power driven vessel, you must have proof of competency. There will be no exceptions.

As always, my thanks go out to all of the many volunteers, without whom, the Squadron would not function or exist. We welcome anyone with even a few hours to join in the activities and give something back to your Squadron. I look forward to your continued support of the Squadron for the coming year.



Commander's Message

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Just a reminder for the coming season, check your safety gear and purchase any replacements as required. Inspect your vessel, make the necessary repairs and do a few upgrades this year. Get your vessel in Bristol condition so you can enjoy a safe boating season and promote safe boating.

Doug Hay, AP
Cdr.

Lady Muskoka Cruise

Carol Gibson S

On Saturday May 23rd. The North Bay Yacht Club's Cruise Commodore – Bruce King is organizing a bus trip to Bracebridge for an afternoon cruise on Lady Muskoka. The "Lady" is 104 ft x 24ft, with 2 closed decks and an open top deck. Also included is lavish mid afternoon dinner – cooked right on the boat. The menu is a set one consisting of: Spicy Caesar Salad, 8 oz New York Strip Loin Steak smothered in onions and mushrooms, Yukon Gold Baked Potato with Sour cream, a generous side of Tasty Shrimp Sautéed in Lemon Garlic Butter, Dessert of the Day and Coffee / Tea.

Bruce (who many of you know from him being our driver on the CPS bus to the Boat Show a couple years ago), has invited CPS members to join the fun. He has rented an ONTC 55 passenger bus which he is sure to fill. Reservation will be strictly by receipt of your cheque for \$75 per person. Cheques should be made out to North Bay Yacht Club and mailed to Bruce King, 555 Mountain Rd., R.R. # 1 Callander, On P0H 1H0. Please date your cheque no later than May 1, 2009 to ensure your reservation. You should include your phone number so Bruce can confirm your attendance and also if there are any schedule changes. Bruce can be reached at 752-1391

Proposed Schedule for Saturday May 23rd

8:45	Leave Northgate Square
9:00	Pick up at Callander Community Centre
11:30	Arrive at Dock of Lady Muskoka
12 – 3	Cruise beautiful Lake Muskoka
3:30	Depart for Callander / North Bay
5:30	Arrive in Callander
5:45	Arrive in North Bay

Boat Renaming Ceremonies

Doug Hay

Everyone knows that renaming your boat will bring nothing but bad luck and make your boating experience something that you will want to forget. But what happens when, after months of searching, you find your dreamboat with a name that you just cannot live with. For example, my first love was a 28-foot Alden with the most beautiful lines I'd ever seen. She was named Perfidious. How could anything this graceful be named betrayer of trust? Well, I never bought her, but I often thought that if I had, I would have renamed her Magic, after my wife. Renaming a boat is, of course, not something to be done lightly. Since the beginning of time, sailors have sworn that there are unlucky ships and the unluckiest ships of all are those who have defied the gods and changed their names. So, is there a way to change a name and not incur the wrath of those deities that rule the elements? Yes, Virginia, there is.

According to legend, each and every vessel is recorded by name in the Ledger of the Deep and is known personally to Poseidon, or Neptune, the god of the sea. It is logical therefore, if we wish to change the name of our boat, the first thing we must do is to purge its name from the Ledger of the Deep and from Poseidon's memory. This is an involved process beginning with the removal or obliteration of every trace of the boat's current identity. This is essential and must be done thoroughly. I once went through the ceremony after the owner had assured me that every reference to his boat's old name had been purged from her. A couple of weeks later, he discovered he had missed a faded name on her floating key chain. I advised him to start over, perhaps with a little extra libation for the ruler of the sea. Unfortunately, he declined. Since then, his boat has been struck by lightning, had its engine ruined by the ingress of the sea, been damaged by collision and finally sunk! It pays to be thorough.

In purging your boat, it is acceptable to use White-Out or some similar obliterating fluid to expunge the boat's name from log books, engine and maintenance records etc., but it is much easier to simply remove the offending document from the boat and start afresh. Don't forget the life rings and especially the transom and forward name boards. Do not under any circumstances carry aboard any item bearing your boat's new name until the purging and renaming ceremonies have been completed! Once you are certain every reference to her old name has been removed from her, all that is left to do is to prepare a metal tag with the old name written on it in water-soluble ink. You will also need a bottle of reasonably good Champagne. Plain old sparkling wine won't cut it. Since this is an auspicious occasion, it is a good time to invite your friends to witness and to party. Begin by invoking the name of the ruler of the deep as follows: Oh mighty and great ruler of the seas and oceans, to whom all ships and we who venture upon your vast domain are required to pay homage, implore you in your graciousness to expunge for all time from your records and recollection the name (here insert the old name of

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your vessel) which has ceased to be an entity in your kingdom. As proof thereof, we submit this ingot bearing her name to be corrupted through your powers and forever be purged from the sea. (At this point, the prepared metal tag is dropped from the bow of the boat into the sea.) In grateful acknowledgment of your munificence and dispensation, we offer these libations to your majesty and your court. (Pour at least half of the bottle of Champagne into the sea from East to West. The remainder may be passed among your guests. It is usual for the renaming ceremony to be conducted immediately following the purging ceremony, although it may be done at any time after the purging ceremony. For this portion of the proceedings, you will need more Champagne, Much more because you have a few more gods to appease.

Begin the renaming by again calling Poseidon as follows: Oh mighty and great ruler of the seas and oceans, to whom all ships and we who venture upon your vast domain are required to pay homage, implore you in your graciousness to take unto your records and recollection this worthy vessel hereafter and for all time known as (Here insert the new name you have chosen), guarding her with your mighty arm and trident and ensuring her of safe and rapid passage throughout her journeys within your realm. In appreciation of your munificence, dispensation and in honor of your greatness, we offer these libations to your majesty and your court. (At this point, one bottle of Champagne, less one glass for the master and one glass for the mate are poured into the sea from West to East. The next step in the renaming ceremony is to appease the gods of the winds. This will assure you of fair winds and smooth seas. Because the four winds are brothers, it is permissible to invoke them all at the same time, however, during the ceremony; you must address each by name. Begin in this manner:

Oh mighty rulers of the winds, through whose power our frail vessels traverse the wild and faceless deep, we implore you to grant this worthy vessel (Insert your boat's new name) the benefits and pleasures of your bounty, ensuring us of your gentle ministrations according to our needs.

(Facing north, pour a generous libation of Champagne into a Champagne flute and fling to the North as you intone:) Great Boreas, exalted ruler of the North Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your frigid breath.

(Facing west, pour the same amount of Champagne and fling to the West while intoning:) Great Zephyrus, exalted ruler of the West Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your wild breath.

(Facing east, repeat and fling to the East.) Great Eurus, exalted ruler of the East Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your mighty

Boat Renaming Ceremonies

Cont'd...

breath.

(Facing south, repeat, flinging to the South.) Great Notus, exalted ruler of the South Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your scalding breath.

Of course, any champagne remaining will be the beginnings of a suitable celebration in honor of the occasion.

Once the ceremony has been completed, you may bring aboard any and all items bearing the new name of your vessel. If you must schedule the painting of the new name on the transom before the ceremony, be sure the name is not revealed before the ceremony is finished. It may be covered with bunting or some other suitable material.

A Little Less Traditional Ceremony for Renaming Your Boat:
Regardless of what type of ceremony you choose, they all involve these steps: an invocation, an expression of gratitude and supplication all before the official rededication, and then finally some kind of libation.

Materials Required:

2 bottles of champagne (preferably imported, but domestic sparkling wine has been used successfully)

Rabbit's foot

1 red hair (must be from a genuine redhead and must be exactly 6 inches long)

Procedure:

1. Wrap the red hair around the rabbit's foot
2. Soak rabbit's foot in champagne
3. Rub soaked rabbit's foot over old boat name (vigorously)
4. Without turning around, throw rabbit's foot over left shoulder into the sea (or lake). If the boat is positioned where this cannot be done, it is permissible to have a second person catch the rabbit's foot in a bucket and run it to the sea.
5. Drink remainder of first bottle of champagne.
6. Apply new name to boat.
7. Have a boat christening party but **DO NOT BREAK SECOND BOTTLE ON BOAT**. Just sprinkle some on the new name and drink the rest.
8. Final step ... most important! Go boating and have a happy life.

Farewell

Caven Ford P

After 6-1/2 years and some 26 editions of Crosschop, it is time for this editor to pass the reigns off to someone else. No more last minute deadlines and fighting with printers who cannot seem to understand how to put together a newsletter such as this. No more begging for articles and searching the internet for interesting tidbits for the readership. I'm going to miss it; well, maybe some of it. Terry Lang is taking over and I am sure you will see an improvement soon! Thanks for reading over the years!

Report from the District

DC Terry Lang

Greetings from Voyageur District and the Governing Board. As the white stuff goes away and we begin the annual de-tarpping and prep for the upcoming liquid form of our lakes, the CPS winter training season draws to a close. All squadrons in our district had a somewhat slower than average, but still busy training season. Sadly, this is the first time in almost 40 years that North Bay squadron didn't run a basic boating class. Many squadrons are prepping for what will surely become a very busy training spring/summer and fall thanks to the September 2009 Operator Card deadline. Spring also brings membership renewal season for most of us. Make sure you take advantage of the early renewal discounts if you haven't already. A quick update regarding the Manitoulin Power and Sail Squadron: At the last Governing Board meeting, I put forth a motion to have Manitoulin's Warrant revoked. We held a special meeting of the squadron in December and were unsuccessful in forming a bridge. Unfortunately, this was the only recourse. We will miss Manitoulin Squadron. All members will transfer to Sudbury.

CPS has opted to participate in Safe Boating week, but decided not to follow the same dates as the US Safe Boating Week and the Canadian Safe Boating Council, as they are too early for us. The official CPS safe boating week will be June 6-14 this year. This also kicks off the weekend of our next Governing Board meeting and CPS will be promoting it much more than in the past.

The National Training Department is also very busy. Watch for updates to many of our courses in the next year. They are also progressing well with the Passport Project to replace the current wall certificate. With the recently passed GB motions to not require courses to be taken in order, they can proceed. Finally, the Safe Boating Guide as published by Transport Canada is ready and currently being distributed. You will note changes to the length classifications: Now, less than 6 meters, 6-9 meters, 9-12 meters, greater than 12 meters. Check your boats and make sure you have the proper safety equipment on board for your new size classification. I hope everyone has a great boating season,

Terry Lang

District Commander,
Voyageur District

ATTENTION BOATERS

Get your Pleasure Craft Operator Card!

By September 2009, all boat operators **must** have proof of competency to legally operate a power driven vessel.

TAKE A BOAT PRO COURSE

March 28, 2009

April 4, 18, 25, 2009

May 2, 2009

North Bay Yacht Club
305 Greenwood Rd, Callander
8:30 am – 3:00 pm

COST: \$60 (includes Book)
Additional Family Member \$30
Call to pre-register 493-4575

EXAM CHALLENGES

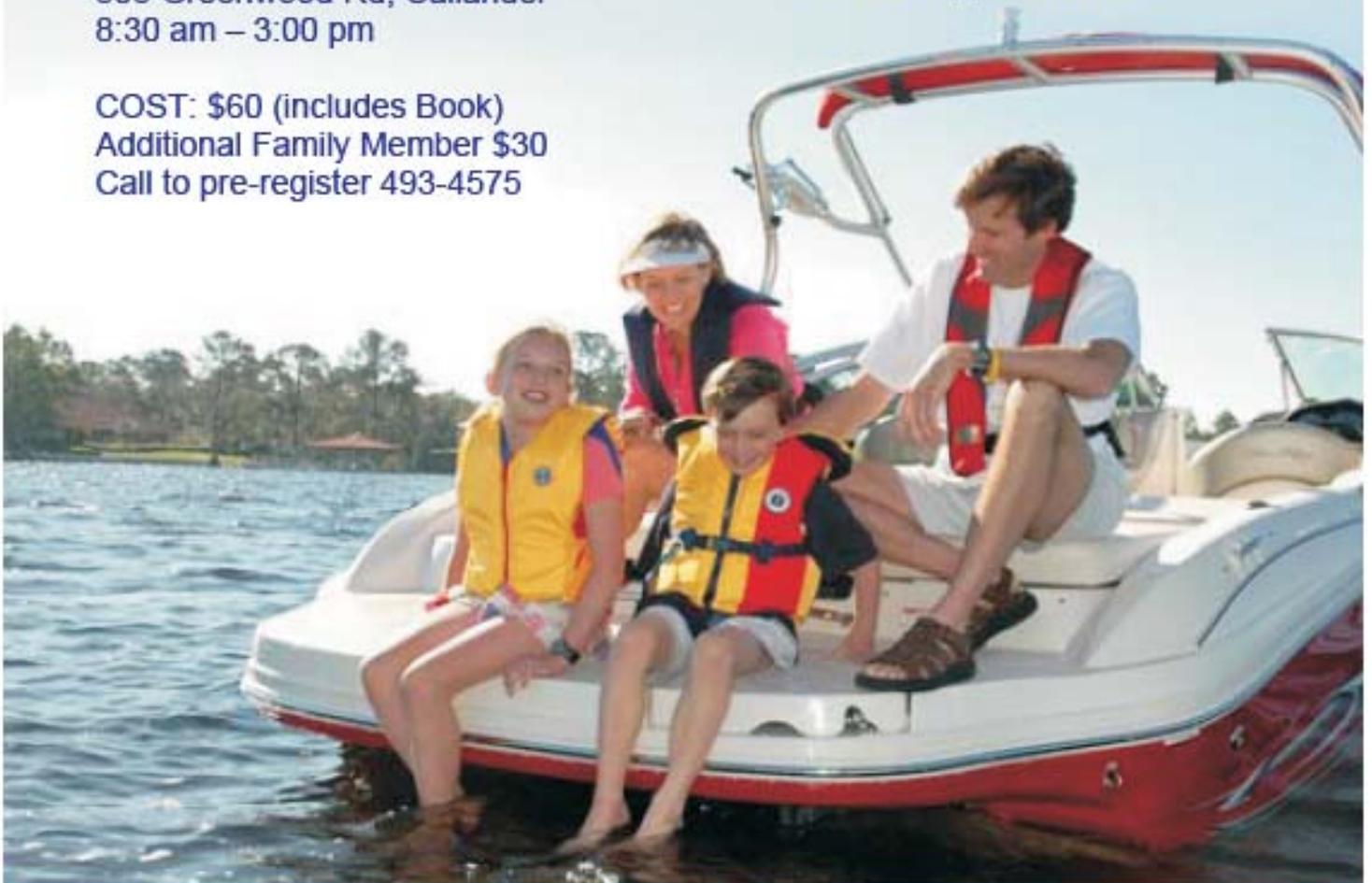
Northgate Square, Fisher St.

Idylltyme Marine Display

April 17, 2009 (7-9 pm)

April 18, 2009 (11-3 pm)

Cost of Application: \$25



NORTH BAY POWER & SAIL SQUADRON

P.O. Box 71
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 8G8
705-493-4575

Website: <http://www.nbpss.on.ca>

Why is a Ship Referred to as She

Caven Ford - Adapted from online articles

As I was putting together this edition of Crosschop, I was asked the common question: why is a ship or boat referred to as she? I always thought I knew the answer but as I researched it, I found out there are some differences of opinions regarding why. Some say tradition, and I would say they are partly right. Chester William Nimitz, a World War 2 American Admiral, is quoted as saying "A ship is always referred to as 'she' because it costs so much to keep one in paint and powder." And why refer to a ship as she when women were traditionally considered bad luck on a ship?

Although women were considered to bring bad luck at sea, mariners always used the pronoun "she" when referring to their ships. Whether the ship's proper name is masculine, or whether it is a man o'war, a battleship, or a nuclear submarine, a ship is always referred to as "she." This old tradition is thought to stem from the fact that in the Romance languages, the word for "ship" is always in the feminine. For this reason, Mediterranean sailors always referred to their ship as "she", and the practice was adopted over the centuries by their English-speaking counterparts.

One source suggests that a ship "was nearer and dearer to the sailor than anyone except his mother." What better reason to call his ship "she"?

As a side note, apparently in Russian tradition, boats are referred to as "he", and during the cold war, Soviet spies were taught to be very careful about that and had to learn to call them "she".

There are a few other theories, including that the ancient Greeks may have come up with the custom. Dr. Ronald Hope, a former director of the U.K.'s Maritime Society, seems to think so. But others think the tradition began when goddesses were carved on the bows.

Regardless of how the tradition came to be, the practice is apparently over now. The shipping industry newspaper, Lloyd's List, now officially refers to ships as "it."

**Next Bridge Meeting is
Thursday April 02, 2009 @ 1930
North Bay Yacht Club, Callander
All Members and Spouses welcome.**

 **NORTH BAY** Power Sail **SQUADRON** 

P.O. Box 71
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 8G8
Phone: (705) 499-2599
e-mail: nbpss@bigfoot.com <http://www.nbpss.on.ca>

2008-2009 Squadron Bridge

Commander
Doug Hay AP 752-3670
E-mail: dshay@sympatico.ca

Executive Officer
vacant
E-mail: none

Training Officer
George Graham AP 724-5579
E-mail: grahamgeorgea@gmail.com

Secretary
Caven Ford P 752-2951
E-mail: caven.ford@fordholdings.net

Treasurer
Mike Eedy P 494-9219
E-mail: meedy@cogeco.ca

Membership Officer
Grant Churcher S 476-6677
E-mail: churcher@vianet.on.ca

Boat Pro Officer
David Blahey 840-1716
E-mail: davidblahey@ontera.net

Marep Officer (H/W)
Dave Byrnes JN 495-1330
E-mail: dbyrnes@northbaypolice.on.ca

Public Relations Officer
Anne Taylor AP 472-7872
E-mail: rmtaylor@sympatico.com

Supply Officer
Carol Gibson S 752-2223
E-mail: caron.cooke@sympatico.ca

**Electronic
Communications Officer**
Terry Lang AP 497-3705
E-mail: terrylang@ticconsulting.on.ca

Squadron Historian
Ivan Gough AP 752-2920

Squadron Auditor
Maria Ermel

Port Captain
John Size JN 497-3355
E-mail: capsizel@vianet.on.ca

Admin. Officer
Greg Seaman AP 476-3304
E-mail: gregs@nipissingu.ca

Yacht Club Liaison
Bill Simkins AP 475-6507
E-mail: simkinsj@vianet.on.ca

Past Commander
Elizabeth Appleton AP 476-0364
E-mail: e.appleton@cogeco.ca