

**NORTH BAY POWER  
AND SAIL  
SQUADRON:  
A DIVISION OF  
CANADIAN POWER  
AND SAIL  
SQUADRONS (CPS)**

# CROSSCHOP

The Official Newsletter of the



**NORTH BAY Power Sail SQUADRON**

Published Quarterly



## Special points of interest:

- 50th Anniversary Party
- Summer BBQ
- Notes from P/Cdr Doug Hay
- Chief Cruise
- Lightning Storms
- RVCC Checks
- Merit Marks
- North Bay Squadron gets new Commander



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## New North Bay Squadron Commander, David Blahy Sworn In at Change of Watch

The North Bay Power and Sail Squadron turns 50, and at our 51st AGM, David Blahy was appointed as our 28th Squadron Commander. Normally a 2 year term, but as our history demonstrates, not always. (hence 28 not being half of 51)

David joined our squadron by passing the Basic Boating course in 2007, then the Piloting course in 2008. David has served on the bridge

since 2008 where he started as our Boat Pro officer, and has served on the bridge ever since. We welcome David to command the ship and have every confidence he will represent and lead us well.

See other details from our AGM and 50th anniversary celebration throughout this issue of Crosschop.



Commander David Blahy being sworn in by National Executive Officer Richard Bee



## Summer Fun With Your Squadron—BBQ

This summer your squadron has planned a couple of fun filled activities to enjoy. Please mark your calendars and come out and enjoy both if you can. Participation of the squadron members is what makes them fun and worthwhile! The following is a summary of the great activities coming up this summer:



First off, Don't miss the Squadron BBQ on **Sunday August 7th, 2011** starting around 1400. Weather permitting it will be at the Manitou Islands. Dinner will begin at 16:00 or thereabouts to give everyone time to get home. In the case of inclement weather, it will be cancelled. Please watch website on the day of the BBQ to see the confirmation. Please call or email Terry Lang (497-3705) to indicate you will be attending so enough supplies can be obtained. ALL WELCOME. This is a family fun event so bring those young future CPS members too. Free for CPS members and families, a nominal charge for guests to help cover the cost of the food

## Postal Strike Holds up Crosschop—Sort of

OK, Crosschop is supposed to go out in June, but Canada Post had other ideas. You would think that that would have given me lots of time to have things ready to go when they went back to work but alas, NO. It gave me time to procrastinate and hold it up even longer as it's now July and we are well into boating season and summer. Well, better late than never I guess. Anyway, here it is, please enjoy the read and as always, if you have any comments, please pass them along to myself or any bridge member (terrylang@tlcconsulting.on.ca) — Terry Lang, Editor



## 50th Anniversary Celebration a Huge Success

Our weekend celebration started Friday Night with a wine and cheese meet and greet in our hospitality suite and a Squadron Commanders meeting Both very well attended. Saturday morning we had arranged tours of the above ground facility at NORAD. The tours ran a bit late but were well worth the time. We all met down at the waterfront at the gazebo with local politicians present to raise our flag at the marina and the mayor declared North Bay's "Safe Boating Week". This followed with a BBQ lunch at the gazebo. The rains held off for us that day, but and the weather would have been good for our Chief Commanda cruise. Unfortunately mechanical problems on the Chief prevented her from sailing. This allowed for a bit of free time Saturday afternoon for the attendees.

Saturday night was our Grad Dinner, Change of Watch, and 50th anniversary celebrations. We were treated to a wonderful meal at Terrace Suites. The weather cooperated (mostly) and a great time was had by all. We swore in the 2 boating course graduates: Faud Karim, and Harro Maydell. A greeting from our Chief Commander as delivered by the National Executive

officer Richard Bee. Richard also presented us with a plaque commemorating our 50th anniversary. The Windsor trophy was not presented this year, but the John Size Maskinonge Trophy was presented by past recipient Doug Hay to Terry Lang, acknowledging the many hours and years he has dedicated to the squadron in many ways. 23 Merit marks were handed out (see detail later in this issue of Crosschop). Finally, our new commander and bridge was sworn in.

Sunday was the Voyageur District AGM at the Yacht Club. District business was conducted, District Commander Cam Qusnell was sworn back in along with his current bridge. Richard Bee spoke about governance changes and programs affecting Districts and Squadrons.

All and all this was a spectacular weekend. The 50th anniversary committee worked very very hard putting this together and they should all be congratulated on pulling off such a class 'A' event.



# NORTH BAY SQUADRON TURNS 50



## From Boat US: Tips For Preparing For Summer Lightning Storms

The weather's power and rage showed itself recently with the devastating springtime tornados that roared through the southern U.S. For recreational boaters, summer thunderstorms bring danger not only with wind and waves, but also with lightning strikes. BoatUS' Seaworthy Magazine recently took a look at how to protect yourself from this hazard while boating, sailing and fishing on the open water and has the following 10 tips.

### 1. Don't wait until it's too late

Get off the water early. Getting to safe harbour is the safest bet. If you're in a powerboat and can't get in, you may be able to get around the storm.

### 2. Inside is best

If you can't get off the water in time, the best place to be on a boat is inside a cabin. But avoid being near the mast or chain plates (sailboats), or large metal appliances like refrigerators.

### 3. Keep away from metal

If there is no "down below" and you're stuck out on deck, stay away from metal railings, wheels, the mast and mast stays (both on sailboats), or any other metal fittings. A boater was killed in North Carolina when lightning jumped from his sailboat's backstay to his head and then the metal steering wheel he was holding.

### 4. Don't be a lightning rod

If you're on an open boat, stay low and in the centre. Depending on the severity of your situation, it's also a good idea to remove jewelry. The US Coast Guard reports a case a few years ago in which lightning struck a man who was standing up wearing a large medallion.

### 5. Stay out of the water

Don't fish during a thunderstorm – or dangle toes overboard.

### 6. Disconnect the power and antenna leads to your electronics

Many strikes just damage electronics so disconnecting them goes a long way in preventing equipment damage.

### 7. Lower antenna

Unless they serve as part of a lightning protection system, lower any antennas.

### 8. Stay silent

Don't use the VHF unless absolutely necessary.

### 9. Lightning grounding protection systems

Grounding systems, which provide a path for the lightning to enter and safely exit the boat, must be free of corrosion if they are going to provide any protection.

### 10. Dissipater dilemma

As for mast-top lightning dissipaters, there is no agreement by the experts on how well or if they work at all. It should be noted that BoatUS insurance claims files show that boats with "brush-like" dissipaters mounted at the top of the mast have been struck by lightning.

If you do get hit, check everyone on board first and then check the bilge as strikes can rupture through-hull fittings and punch holes in hulls. Once that is done, check electronics and compass. If all is good up to this point, you may want to consider a short haul to check the bottom thoroughly (trailer boats can be inspected when you get back home). The challenge with lightning strikes is that they sometimes leave hard-to-find traces of damage that may only be seen when the boat is out of the water.



## Words from the Past (past) Commander

The boating season is underway! Water levels are good, now for some warm weather. I trust that all of you will take advantage in whatever way you can to hone your seamanship skills. Boating at the dock just doesn't cut it.

The Sturgeon Falls marina development is progressing slowly. The docks have been renewed but the rest of the facilities are behind schedule and not ready for operation. The ride up the river is very enjoya-

ble and there is plenty of depth. Take your time and enjoy the cruise. For those starting in North Bay, take time for lunch at Iron Island.

The Squadron is planning a Boating Course this coming fall. We would welcome anyone to come in and volunteer an hour of time to discuss your favorite area of interest in safe boating and navigation, anchoring, etiquette etc. Please promote the squadron in your day-to-day conversations and don't forget

about some of the elective or advanced courses. This coming fall I would enjoy instructing Seamanship (Piloting) so please mention that around the squadron and docks and hopefully we can attract more than enough interest for a course.

Enjoy a safe boating season and promote safe boating. Cast me a salute from the waves.



*Past/Past Commander  
of the North Bay Power  
and Sail Squadron:  
Doug Hay*

## Fall Courses

Enrollment in our Basic Boating course has been down in the past several years. Please take the time to spread the word to your friends and remind them of the upcoming fall boating course. You can get 13 weeks of excellent training, your PCOC, meet some new friends and become a member of Canada's premiere boating organization for one real low price.

Also...yourself. Why not take an advanced or elective course.

It's been a long time since you took your boating course hasn't it. Time for a little refresher??? Our course calendar has not been struck for the fall / winter yet and are willing to put on whatever courses that are in demand. Please speak with our training officer or any bridge member to express interest. Remember that the more courses you have, the better your insurance rates can be as well.



## Chief Commanda Dinner Cruise with CPS

Once again, I've convinced myself that it's a good idea to arrange a dinner cruise on the Chief Commanda II. With the Bridge, we picked Thursday August 11, 2011. Sailing Time: 6:30 p.m. from King's Landing or Government Dock as it was known (please be there by 6:15PM so you don't find yourself waving goodbye from the pier).



This year's Dinner Cruise Menu: appetizer: sliced foccacia and hummus; House Salad Caprese -

Roma Tomatoes, bocconcini, french basil on a bed of mixed greens with extra virgin oil and aged

balsamic vinegar; entrée (choice of)\*: Panko-Breaded Pickerel with tartar sauce and baked beans

or Chicken Supreme stuffed with chorizo and double-smoked cheddar with sun-dried tomato cream sauce, or (for an additional \$4) 8oz Certified Angus Strip loin steak

with a green peppercorn cream sauce

\*(all entrees come with Yukon gold mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables); dessert: bread and butter pudding with rum butterscotch; Coffee or Tea. Gluten free versions of all entrees are available upon request

What's it going to cost you – a little less than it could - they decided to give us a 10% discount on the cruise portion since they broke the boat on the 50th Anniversary/AGM weekend: Pickerel or Chicken - \$62; Steak - \$66

You MUST reserve your spot by Aug 8th and seating is limited. This is becoming a favourite event for NBPSS, so don't be left out, sign up early. For reservations call Mike Eedy @ 494-9219 or email [mike\\_eedy@yahoo.ca](mailto:mike_eedy@yahoo.ca)



## Crosschop:

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## Merit Marks

The "reward" for performing a minimum of 20 hours of service to the Squadron in any manner is in the form of a Merit Mark. If someone achieves 20 Merit Marks, they become a Life Member. The following people received Merit Marks for work this past year and the numbers indicate the total Merit Marks they have earned. These Merit Marks were awarded at the Graduation and Change of Watch ceremonies on Sunday May 16, 2010:

Christine Brown	1
Anthony Turco	1
Kym Eedy	2
David Blahey	3
Greg Seamen	4
Sandra Hay	8
Rick Taylor	9
Doug Hay	10
Anne Taylor	11
Grant Churcher	13
Caven Ford	13
Bill Simkins	13
Pat Onions	13
Michael Eedy	14
Terry Lang	14
Elizabeth Appleton	17
George Graham	17
Dave Byrnes	18
Maria Ermel	25*
Carol Gibson	28*
Don Whyte	28*
Ivan Gough	31*
John Size	47*

\* Life Member

At our graduation each year, your squadron hands out Letters of Appreciation to those members who reach a milestone of membership. Every 5 years of membership is the increment we use for these letters and they are a thank-you for your continued membership. If you missed the graduation and you are on this list, you should have received your letter with Crosschop. Thank You to everyone for your continued support.



## 2011-2012 Squadron Bridge

### Squadron Bridge

**COMMANDER**  
David Blahey P

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
Vacant

**TRAINING OFFICER**  
George Graham AP

**SECRETARY/SUPPLY OFFICER**  
Kym Eedy

**TREASURER**  
Michael Eedy P

**MEMBERSHIP OFFICER**  
Rev. Grant Churcher S

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**  
Anne Taylor AP

**COMMUNICATION / NEWSLETTER**  
Terry Lang AP

**MAREP**  
Doug Hay AP

**SQUADRON HISTORIAN**  
Ivan Gough AP

**PORT CAPTAIN**  
Doug Hay AP

**ADMIN. OFFICER**  
Christine Brown

**ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER**  
Dave Byrnes JN, Ivan Gough AP

**YACHT CLUB LIAISON**  
Caven Ford P

**AUDIT Review**  
Marie Ermel

**PAST COMMANDER**  
Dave Byrnes JN



## Boating Safety Inspections

The North Bay Power and Sail Squadron is actively participating in CPS's venture with Transport Canada whereby we offer a courtesy boat inspections to point out any shortcomings. Shortcomings that may get you a fine if stopped on the water by an enforcement officer. We have just recertified 8 inspectors and will be offering an inspection blitz at local marinas this summer. Watch for us. We will post our schedule on our website for those wishing to plan to attend. You can also contact any inspector and we'd be happy to do your boat. These inspections are free and stats collected are used strictly for safety statistics and not enforcement. Have a safe season and remember: get a courtesy check, not a ticket.

