

GABRIOLA ISLAND SQUADRON

Minutes of the Bridge Meeting Held on April 5th, 2004 At Don Butt's Residence

Call to Order: 09:37 with Cdr. **Don Butt** presiding.

Present: Don Butt, Rufus Churcher, Elaine Pearce, Russ Pearce, Keith Poulton, Keith Sim, Bud Curtis, Ingrid Hales, Richard deLissa, Carole Lemieux.

Approval of Agenda: after inclusion of Treasurer's Report: approved.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: moved by **Don**, seconded by **Richard**, that the Minutes be accepted. Accepted.

Commander's Comments: **Don** advised that there are two District awards: the Jens Oster award for the squadron with the highest average in marks in all exams except BoatPro and VHF over the previous three years, and the Sharon Wipper award for the 'Volunteer of the Year' - District executive members not being eligible. **Keith Poulton** suggested **Richard** be the recipient; **Rufus** nominated **Richard**, seconded by **Keith Sim**. **Don** then requested an e-mail from Bridge members to support the nomination.

National Safe Boating Awareness Week: May 22nd – 28th. **Don**, as Communications Officer, will liaise with the Sounder and the Flying Shingle.

District AGM: June 4th reception and casino night; June 5th AGM, banquet and ball. **Don** encourages as many people as possible to go. See *Scuttlebutt* for registration.

Business Arising: none

REPORTS

Training - Richard: everything is proceeding well; all 12 students passed their PCOC and the final exam is on Thursday. The VHF course is on April 17th with Hugh Sproule as instructor and examiner. The GPS course is on May 29th with 16 – 17 students already expressing an interest; therefore, the course is now full. The fee is \$45.00 with \$30.00 going to the instructor and \$15.00 to the squadron. **Don** mentioned the Windchime award for the instructor or proctor who receives the most votes from his/her peers. **Ingrid** to compile. **Richard**, who attended the District meeting on April 4th, stated that the VIND is the highest in the country for students who 'did not write'. There are 2 kinds of DNW's: those who have to withdraw for personal reasons and those uncomfortable with

the course. He indicated considerable time is devoted to those who are having trouble with the course material. Some discussion on the matter. He said there is also a problem with headquarters losing material – 6 other squadrons said they have the same problem.

Supplies – Ingrid: the supplies went to the squadron address, not her home address; and the District Supply Officer's report said that 'all is well'.

PRO – Bud: some discussion regarding the location and the setting up of the tent for the Marine Festival on April 9th at Silva Bay. Four volunteers required and four found. The squadron site is where the dive shop was. It was suggested that the table be an 8ft. table from the church and the material on the table will comprise flags, books, plastic cards, etc. **Ingrid** has 'volunteer' buttons. **Don** to do @ 100 flyers detailing courses available in the Fall and Spring with contact information.

Cruisemaster – Russ: cruise to Chatterbox Falls on May 18th – this will be @ 5 days; **Russ** to follow up with the yacht club. Training cruise set up for May 2nd, land cruise on June 19th and a 3 day cruise to Genoa Bay on August 6th, 7th and 8th.

Membership – Keith Sim: there are currently 59 members and renewals are being sent out this month. If members have not renewed by mid-May, they will be telephoned and encouraged to renew. There is a one year free membership for the boating students who pass their exam. Membership material will be passed over to Digby at the end of the month.

AGM – Don: thank-you to those who have sent in their reports for the AGM. There was some discussion on the various awards to be handed out. **Don** stated that a formal invitation had been sent to the Commodore of the Yacht Club, but no response as yet. Guests include Keith Morissette (the new Coast Guard Auxiliary member who is living on the island), and his wife, Mary, and Sue Loveless and her husband P/D/C/ Bryan. **Elaine** stated that 25 people are coming so far. There will be a Certificate of Haul Out from Nanaimo City Harbour as a prize and **Russ** to pick up a gift certificate from Harbour Chandler. **Rufus** to pick up a cap or other gift or gift certificate from 5-Star Embroidery, as well as 5-Star's business cards to hand around..

Scuttlebutt – Don: the next copy will be published after the AGM and articles for inclusion are welcomed.

Webmaster – Keith Poulton: the web site is up-to-date and will be moved over to its new location at Gabriola.org.

Archives – Ian not present but the material will be transferred to Eileen Nichols of the new Bridge.

Treasurer – Keith Sim: very comprehensive paperwork received from Bud Pennington. As of the end of March there is \$1,612.48 cash in the bank. Some discussion on small sums of money being held and cheques to be written. Signing authority was authorized

by e-mail following the last meeting and the signing officers are **Richard, Keith Sim, Russ and Ian**. **Don** stated that there is some urgency in getting the books closed and to the auditor so an audited report can be presented at the AGM.

NEW BUSINESS

District Rendezvous: **Don** reminded everyone that it is scheduled for 27th, 28th and 29th of August. Need a Port Captain to meet and greet and around 100 people from various squadrons and districts are expected to attend. It will be mentioned in the next *Scuttlebutt* and registration is required at least two weeks prior.

Squadron Challenge: Richard stated that, at the District meeting, it was unanimously decided not to endorse this trophy and Sue Loveless referred it back to the squadrons for their input. The consensus by the Bridge members present was to abolish it.

FUTURE MEETING: Thursday, May 6th, @ 9:30 a.m. at **Richard's** residence.

Don then thanked everyone present for their support, stating that this was his last time chairing the Bridge meetings as Commander. He wished **Richard** well as the new Commander and reiterated his continuing support at all times.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08.