

Gabriola Island Squadron Officers' Reports Executive Committee Meeting, September 24, 2015

Commander

On August 28th – 30th, I attended the VIND Rendezvous at Rath Trevor Provincial Park in Parksville. This was a social weekend, but afforded the opportunity to meet several of the other Squadron Commanders and VIND Staff Officers. It was very informative. I was also able to pick up the “Rosters” for the Bridge Officers and vendors who bought ads for us. I have delivered copies to the vendors and will have the bridge members copies at this meeting.

We had an excellent dinner on the Saturday evening hosted by the Ballenas Squadron who did an outstanding job with the barbecues, and all of the side dishes provided “pot luck” by other attendees were also excellent. We have some very good cooks in VIND! The cloudy/rainy weather hampered things a little but enjoyable none the less. The presentation on Saturday evening by Dr. William Weller about astronomy and asteroids was very good. He has now agreed to join us at our social meeting on October 25th to give a presentation on the navigation techniques of the early mariners who managed to navigate the world’s oceans without the benefit of our modern day navigation tools. Don Butt was in attendance and took a lot of photos of the event.

I am attending the Basic course this month and will complete that next week. I also attended and passed the ROC (Marine) Radio course presented by the squadron on September 19th and passed along with the other two paying students. We had two squadron members also audit the course.

I will be attending the VIND Council meeting at Beban Park on Sunday September 27th and will report on that meeting at our next meeting. If there are any issues that come out of that meeting which need resolution prior to our next Bridge meeting, I will contact Bridge Officers by email and, if necessary, will call another Bridge meeting to deal with them. Bert terHart, our Education Officer, has made a deal with the Cape Lazo Squadron to purchase 4 sets of material for the Essentials Course at half-price and I will be taking a check for them and picking them up at the meeting. This is a significant savings for the Squadron.

I have located a source for Squadron Burgees in Victoria at a cost of \$16.34 each for an order of 50. This will be a discussion item on this meeting’s agenda. I still have 23 Squadron ball caps.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Hoeinghaus

EO Report

Maritime Radio was run Sep 19th with 3 students attending and 3 Squadron members auditing. One of those auditing chose to write the exam. All students passed.

Boating Basics is underway with 4 students enrolled. PCOC exams will be written Sep 29th.

As of today, 2 students are enrolled for Boating Essentials. Student kits for the Essentials course will be purchased from Cape Lazo Squadron. Student kits ordered from National are \$110 per kit as opposed to the \$50 per kit we are being charged by Cape Lazo.

The charting exercise to be conducted at Degnen Bay for Boating Essential students is going to be conducted on a Saturday in November weather permitting. During this exercise we, will be encouraging the current Boating Basic students to attend. My intention is to run a pyrotechnic exercise at the conclusion of the charting exercise. I will be seeking permission from Coast Guard, Gabriola Fire and Rescue and the local RCMP to launch/ light expired aerial and hand-held flares. All members will be encouraged to attend.

At this juncture, interest for the electronic and low-light/low-visibility exercise appears to be very high. I expect these exercises to be well-attended.

Lastly, I am happy to report that the Rollo Center is proving to be a good teaching venue. The widescreen, hi-def television is a great teaching aide and easily connected to a laptop PC.

Bert terHart
Educational Officer

Membership

As of this date there are 76 members.

Membership	
Regular	64 members
Regular Lifetime	2 members
Associate	10 members

Since the previous Bridge Meeting there is an increase of three members.

Elaine Pearce
Membership Officer

Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-Up

My 'committee' of one still thinks that Twin Beaches is the area in need of a clean-up. I've walked along Bells Landing and there is little or no litter there. That area has high tides that come right up to the edge of people's property, which is often several meters higher elevation than the beach, so there is no place for beach litter.

Twin Beaches (the sandy side), however, has a gassy edge where there is litter (peoples' food wraps, lost socks, etc). Even so, there is not much litter there at all. Hmm, what to do. I think it's a good gesture to clean up that area as it is both a park and an area used by many people even if it's not very messy. We could tackle both sides of the road public areas (Pilot bay side and the sandy beach side) but beyond that, as at Bells landing, the shore front opposite peoples' property is scoured clean by each tide. By the way, taking a load of garbage to the land fill costs about \$120 a ton so not much of a cost if it's just a few garbage bags. I'd be happy to cover that.

I think that a public announcement / invitation (via various of the social media sites and the newspaper) will bring out enough people to have some fun "beating the bushes" for summer trash. We could do a general litter pick up of the grassy area to make it ready for the fireworks (which come later in Oct I think).

I haven't asked, but i think I can get a donation of garbage bags and plastic gloves from Arbutus - I spend enough there to warrant a freebie

Fred Kaarsemaker

Social Committee Report

The Social Committee (Mike Hoeinghaus, John van Praet, Elaine and Jude Briscoe) met on September 6 to plan upcoming events to benefit the community. The venue has been confirmed to be at the Rollo Centre from 6:30 to 8:30 and speakers beginning at 7:00 pm. Coffee and Tea and goodies will be provided to promote a social atmosphere. The dates confirmed with the centre are Oct 25, Nov. 22, Jan 17, Feb 21 Mar 20, and April 10. At this time we have confirmed speakers to include:

- a) **October 25th** - William Weller has agreed to give us a presentation on how ancient mariners navigated.
- b) **November 22nd** – Doug Harrison – talking about working on the West Coast. He has promised Elaine one of his paintings for us to use when advertising his talk to us.
- c) **January 17th** - Bon Van Hardenberg – giving us the second installment of his experiences on an icebreaker in the Arctic Ocean.
- d) April 10 - Bob Wood will talk on boat safety requirements as a prelude to the Safety Boat Checks which will take place in April (April 22-23) to target boaters as they prepare for the boating season. The SBYC has been notified and are excited to be on board, and we will ensure the event is advertised to Yacht Club.

We are awaiting confirmation from additional speakers to include:

- *Sean Lewis (experienced seaman who has been working with the fireboats reviewing fire safety)
- *Quill Goldman who has recently completed the race to Alaska with his team on a boat powered by wind and human power.-R2AK
- *Karlis Kalmins (Madeleine Ani's friend) to talk on his passion of junk rig sailboats
- *Bill Kalbfleisch and Burt terHart discussing differences between air and sea navigation.

Events:

October 17 - We are hoping to organize a BBQ and lunch to coincide with the Beach cleanup. Venue has not been decided as of this date as we await confirmation of details from organization team for their October 17 date. Village foods will be asked for basic donations of hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, and condiments. Donations of salads and desserts will be asked from those attending. Mike has already volunteered to supply his famous Potato Salad! A suggested venue is the dock at Silva Bay with donation of Lions BBQ and Royal LePage tents. Or maybe venue at Pages....but details will be forthcoming!

December 5 - will be our Christmas Party held at the Golf Club. Donations of turkey and ham will be asked from Village Foods. We look forward to the traditional Pot Luck get together with donations to PHC food bank, Sing along with Don Butt and hopefully the lovely piano player Hiromi and her family...Mike and whoever is available to do set up ...Elaine will do 50/50, Centerpieces are Elaine and Mike, Don Butt hopefully will do tickets again for us and announcement digitally to membership, Jude will do a phone out to membership, hopefully special guests will be included such as inaugural members, VIND executives, speakers for social events...and maybe the secretary could compose letter to special guests...let us know who should be included. We will canvas community and members for donations for door prizes. A wonderful event to look forward to and celebrate.

Respectfully submitted by Jude

Boat Ramp Report

I have toured the Island and viewed 11 different sites based on suggestions received from Corporal Muneter, Fire Chief Rick Jackson, Randi Young and of course general knowledge. I also contacted Howard Houle after he indicated a certain interest in exploring a boat ramp in Descanso Regional Park. His response is pasted below.

At the 11 potential sites I took notes and with some I took photos. All the notes and the photos were then unloaded to a site called Trello (<https://trello.com/home>) where once I have input the email addresses of the Executive all can view the individual sites and offer they own perspectives and comments. When that process is completed then we can vote of the sites we wish to pursue.

I have also attached a report which was done in April of 2014.

Thanks

John

Email from Howard Houle:

I john ,so some issues put at least we can look in to it.I will push this at the RDN but it will take time .

Howard

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Osborne, Tom" <TOsborne@rdn.bc.ca<<mailto:TOsborne@rdn.bc.ca>>>
Date: August 27, 2015 at 10:08:58 AM PDT
To: "Houle, Howard" <Howard.Houle@rdn.bc.ca<<mailto:Howard.Houle@rdn.bc.ca>>>
Cc: "Marshall, Wendy" <WMarshall@rdn.bc.ca<<mailto:WMarshall@rdn.bc.ca>>>, "McCulloch, Elaine" <EMcCulloch@rdn.bc.ca<<mailto:EMcCulloch@rdn.bc.ca>>>, Colin Haime <colinhaime@shaw.ca<<mailto:colinhaime@shaw.ca>>>, "Thorkelsson, Paul" <PThorkelsson@rdn.bc.ca<<mailto:PThorkelsson@rdn.bc.ca>>>, "Lobb, Jonathan" <JLobb@rdn.bc.ca<<mailto:JLobb@rdn.bc.ca>>>
Subject: RE: boat launch - Descanso Bay Regional Park

Howard,

As you aware at the moment the regional park is able to accommodate car topper boats. As far as accommodating boat trailers this will be a challenge as the site is quite restrictive as is for day use parking and is limited by a buffer area we have to accommodate for the eagle nesting tree in the day use area. Secondary to this is finding a suitable site for cars/trucks with the trailers to park that won't impact the environmental and recreational values of the park.

Having said this, we can review to be certain of the challenges in place and verify the management plan's recommendations in regards accommodation of a boat launch (with trailer) at the regional park. We will also check the Taylor Bay / Ivory Way spot that you note which is MoTI lands but from my view MoTI will likely not be in favour of development of trailer parking at a road intersection.

This request will be added to the work plan. At this time I am uncertain of the turnaround time due to other pressing projects, including the Emcon Land purchase which is now in the forefront and the VW Trail.

Regards

Tom

Tom Osborne
General Manager of Recreation and Parks Services
Regional District of Nanaimo Recreation and Parks Dept.

From: Houle, Howard
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 9:06 AM
To: Osborne, Tom
Cc: Marshall, Wendy
Subject: boat launch
hi Tom

I have had several people ask if it would be possible to have a boat ramp to launch small boats at the Decanso bay camp ground .There are other possible launches but not at this end.We would need extra day parking for boat trailers ect.which could go at a hwy bit at the Taylor bay road and ivory way.That bit could also be developed for parking as it is very close to cox community park as well

Communications/Privacy/Scuttlebutt Editor

Scuttlebutt will be published again towards the end of October. Here's a challenge – how about sending me an article with a picture or two or three about your summer boating experience. Some memorable (or not so memorable) event would be great. Last edition was out early and had some revisions in the format to bring it in line with more modern publications.

Communications Committee met shortly after the last Exec meeting and the notes of the meeting are attached separately. I have communicated with the membership on the courses and will be sending out an email again to highlight the upcoming events – social, and educational. Please let me know the details ASAP – social, beach cleanup, courses, etc.

Sorry to have to regret tonight – I'm in Nanaimo doing a photo project.

Privacy – nothing to report

Respectfully submitted

Don Butt

Communications Committee Meeting Notes

August 26, 2015

Present: Bob Derksen, Don Butt. Regrets from Mike Hoeinghaus and Bert terHart

Discussion centered on solidifying plans to provide publicity for the fall courses.

1. Roadside sandwich boards. Location on the ferry hill, and south end near Silva Bay Marina. Place 10 days ahead of course date, take down day after first day of course. Dates on boards need to have current information. MIKE
2. Banner at Rook's fence at ferry turnaround. Update information. Also place 10 days ahead and take down day after course begins. MIKE
3. Lil' Gabe – place in corner of lot near Village Foods. Saturday Labour Day weekend. Need to obtain permission from current owner, Jim Pattison or his deputy. Jim Wilson-Storey of Theatre Festival may have contact information. 250 247-7369. MIKE
4. Posters for upcoming courses – placed in Village Foods, Village Liquor Store, ferry bulletin boards, Silva Bay and Page's marinas. DON
5. Article in Sounder noting we are in the 20th year. We recommend spending up to \$100 on an ad in order to have the article accepted. DON
6. Email to members advertising Boating Essentials with PCOC and Marine Radio, together with the details of auditing the radio course. We also

recommend members who have taken courses previously may audit their course as a refresher at no charge. DON

7. Discounts for members should be significant, and membership made known. DON

a. Boating Essentials w PCOC regular \$320, members \$285

b. Radio regular \$95, members 80.

c. Similar discounts for members for all courses and workshops

8. Marine Radio – there are only two registered examiners here, Ralph Hagen and Oliver Woolcock. Ralph is away from mid Sept. Oliver needs to be contacted asking if he could be the certified examiner. Failing this a qualified person will have to be in place – such as from Nanaimo. This being the case we will need to pay his/her transportation. BERT – **urgent**.

9. Facebook – A Squadron page to be in place but to primarily direct people to our Squadron website. BOB will talk with BILL K.

10. Flyers provided for Lil' Gabe, but we will keep our eyes open for other suitable locations. DON and ALL

11. We decided Chamber of Commerce was not appropriate for our purposes for publicity.