

**Gabriola Island Power and Sail Squadron  
Bridge Member Reports for the Annual General Meeting  
April 22, 2018**

**Commander**

Our Squadron continues to thrive with steady membership and a good financial position. This past year has seen a reduction in the number of students registered for our courses which resulted in the cancellation of several classes and workshops and a reduced income. We were able to continue to host Social Events throughout the Spring and Fall with good attendance. Our Squadron Educational Officer Bert terHart put together and hosted several workshops which generated some income.

One of the issues this past year was the question of Squadron Liability for attendants and trainers at the workshops. The concern was that the Squadron and trainers could be held liable if one of the students was hurt during the workshop. This question was posed to the District Educational Officer who raised the question to the National level. Because of this issue, some workshops were cancelled while awaiting a reply from National. Eventually National decided that each workshop must be approved by National and once approved would be covered under the National Insurance Policy. Bert put together an excellent package on our workshops which was forwarded through District to National resulting in blanket approval for our workshops and putting our Squadron and Bert in the National spotlight. The comment was made at the National level that all CPS squadrons should follow Gabriola Squadron's lead in presenting various workshops, not just relying on the standard CPS courses. So we will be able to conduct our courses and workshops throughout this next year being fully insured for students and trainers.

Our social events continue to be well attended and this past year we have been inviting the Silva Bay Yacht Club members as well as the general public. This was hoped to gain visibility within the boating community and to advertise our courses and workshops. Our Social Committee, headed by Elaine Pearce and Jude Briscoe, came up with many interesting speakers as well as providing light refreshments for each event. One of the better attended events was the recent presentation and discussion on "Derelict Vessels" which included our MP Sheila Malcomson. The problem of whose jurisdiction abandoned vessels fall under and who would fund removal of abandoned vessels in some of our harbors on Vancouver Island has been an issue for several years. We continue to host presentations of topics of timely interest to our boating community.

The Nominations Committee has put forward a full slate of Bridge Officers and I am happy to report that all of our past Officers will be staying on for another year. We have also added two new Officers: Bob Wood and Ivan Bulic. Bob has been involved in the Recreational Vessel Courtesy Check (RVCC) program for many years at another

Squadron. He is now a member of our Squadron and will be continuing to run that program with assistance from Jude Briscoe who has been our Squadron RVCC Officer for several years. Ivan Bulic, a long time boating enthusiast is joining the Bridge as a Member – at – Large. He has spoken at several of our Social Events on his boating experiences and we are looking forward to his input.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Hoeinghaus

### **Educational Officer**

In a continuing effort to expand our course curriculum and outreach, the Squadron's educational department has focused on teaching courses and workshops that are uniquely geared to boating in the Pacific Northwest.

This past year, we have had 28 students total take the following:

- Boating 1: PCOC
- Intro To Cruising: Boating 2 (Beyond the PCOC) and Boating 3 (Intro To Navigation) Combined
- Maritime Radio
- Splicing Workshop
- Anchoring Workshop
- Docking Workshop

This year, the squadron has been recognized both nationally and within the Vancouver Island North District for both leadership and excellence in meeting CSP-ECP training goals. Once again I would like to take this opportunity to give credit where credit is due: Specifically, Dr. Don Butt's untiring efforts to keep CPS-ECP informed of our activities can never be understated; The Communications Committee and in particular George Myette for ensuring that our message gets the widest possible reach; and last but not least the entire Social Committee for feeding and fueling entire classes, workshops, lectures, and seminars.

We are on the right path but significant challenges remain. We must continue to aggressively promote not only our core courses but our own workshops and seminars in new and interesting ways.

I look forward to another year of helping the Squadron reach out and connect with boaters of all ages, skill sets, and experiences. Not only does this help the Squadron meet its mandated purpose of teaching safe boating through education and training, but it helps ensure that we are a valued member of our community at large.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bert terHart

## **Public Relations Officer**

Once again, it was my pleasure to have represented the Gabriola Island Power and Sail Squadron as it's Public Relations Officer for the fiscal year April 1, 2017 – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Activities for the year consisted of working with the Communications Committee to improve member benefits, utilizing social media as much as possible to announce events, courses and activities and participating as an active member of the Bridge. At the beginning of the fiscal year, I approached existing sponsors for donations and continued sponsorship of the Squadron through signage and our website. They generously agreed and made a cash donation to support us.

In June, and ably assisted by other members of the Bridge and volunteers, I coordinated a work party to replace the fabric cover on our boat house that L'il Gbe is stored in. It was in a sad state of repair and was due for refurbishment. Don and Mary Butt graciously hosted a BBQ on their front deck as a wrap up to the day and a reward to the volunteers for their efforts.

Public Relations activities for the summer and fall primarily consisted of collaborating with Commander Mike Hoeinghaus to display L'il Gabe at various community events around the island including Oceans's Day, Concert on the Green, Annual Salmon BBQ and the Annual Theatre Festival. As always, L'il Gabe's presence was well received and appreciated by children and parents alike.

Through the fall and winter, in conjunction with Commander Hoeinghaus, we displayed sandwich boards announcing our various courses. Also, with the support of the Communications Committee, we created posters to announce our courses and placed them at various locations around the island. Social Media was regularly used as well to advertise our boating safety courses, social events and advertising for our sponsors.

My goal for the coming year will be to continue our various efforts to engage the community in the activities of the Squadron and to undertake some needed maintenance on our mascot L'il Gabe which will once again require the assistance of Squadron volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,  
George Myette

## **Communications, Privacy, Scuttlebutt Editor**

**Scuttlebutt** was published bimonthly as usual, apart from the summer, when we should be on the water. It was circulated to members and published on the web. Special thanks to Bob Derksen for the second pair of eyes catching my typos and to all those who contributed articles.

And to anyone who might have an interesting story to tell from the summer, please write about it and send it to me for publication, along with a photo or two.

**Communications Committee.** The major project during the year was the survey of members to ascertain what we do well, and what needs some attention, as well as to encourage additional talent to join our activities. This was successful in that the response rate was comparable to, or better than many others, and gave some direction to what priorities the Squadron will stress in the future. The data will be further studied. Thanks to Bert terHart whose skills in preparing the design of the questionnaire were much appreciated.

**Privacy** – nothing to report

Respectfully submitted  
Don Butt

## **Membership**

Squadron membership currently stands at 65, exactly the same as at this time last year. Makeup changed by Don Butt achieving Lifetime Membership, bringing our Lifer content to three. Our most recent social was April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Community Hall, where M/P Sheila Malcolmson spoke about her efforts to deal with derelict and abandoned vessels. Only 60 people attended. With more diligent advertising and exposure perhaps more people would have been there. However, those who attended were very generous with their donations at the door. We collected almost \$200.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Pearce  
Membership Officer  
& Chair, Social Committee

## **Webmaster**

The website continues to provide an important window into the activities of the squadron. Reports and minutes of the monthly executive meetings were posted as were photos of the various squadron activities and social gatherings. A Sponsors page provided the logo and a link to the websites of our squadron's sponsors. And, a new page and link for the Squadron's Survey was created to facilitate online responses.

A new "Life Members" page was added to recognize and celebrate the squadron's three life members. The Upcoming Events page was updated regularly with information for squadron members concerning squadron activities and social events.

Most importantly, our Courses page provided detailed information on the Squadron's course offerings and provided the necessary links to permit online registration and payment for our courses. Additionally, detailed information was provided on our Squadron Workshops.

A big THANK YOU to Andre Lemieux for hosting our website on his [gabriola.org](http://gabriola.org) server

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Kalbfleisch

### 2018 Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee of the Gabriola Island Power and Sail Squadron, made up of Past Commander Ralph Hagen, Past Commander Bob Derksen and Commander Mike Hoeinghaus, has completed its task of presenting a list of nominees for the Gabriola Island Squadron's Executive for 2018-19, to be presented to the membership for its consideration at the upcoming AGM on April 22, 2018.

Commander	Mike Hoeinghaus
Executive Officer	Jean-Pierre van Praet
Educational Officer	Bert terHart
Secretary	Carole Lemieux
Financial Officer	Jude Briscoe
Membership Officer	Elaine Pearce
Webmaster	Bill Kalbfleisch
Communications / Privacy Officer	Don Butt
Public Relations Officer	George Myette
Member-at-Large	John Bullas
Member-at-Large	Ivan Bullic
Member-at-Large	Bob Woods

By virtue of his previous position, Ralph Hagen is the Past Commander, an unelected position on the Executive.

Collectively, the proposed Executive will cover such areas of activity as community liaison, the boat safety programme, squadron social activities and any other areas that might require its attention during the 2018-19 year and which are not the tasks of specific officers.

The Committee nominates Carrie Raglan as the Squadron's financial reviewer for the financial year 2018-19.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ralph Hagen, Chair of the Nominating Committee