

**Gabriola Island Power and Sail Squadron  
Bridge Member Reports for the Annual General Meeting  
April 28, 2019**

**Commander**

This year has seen a decrease in the number of students for our primary courses: PCOC and the combined Boating 2 & 3. Even with this decrease in course revenues, seminars hosted and taught by our Education Officer Bert ter Hart have produced enough revenue to maintain the squadron account at acceptable levels. In the coming year we will continue to offer the boating courses and the Maritime Radio one-day course.

We will be inducting a new Bridge with several new members and current officers moving into new roles. Most notably, we will have a new Commander, John Van Praet, who has been our Executive Officer for the past four years. He is well versed in Squadron administration and was instrumental in drafting and conducting yearly reviews of the Squadron Policy Manual. John brings a wealth of experience and management skills to the job and will be an excellent Commander. Also coming onboard is Agathe Gaulin who will be taking over the Educational Officer position from Bert ter Hart. Bert is embarking on a planned 6 month sailing cruise departing in October. Agathe also brings a wealth of experience to the Bridge, being an Officer of the Silva Bay Yacht Club. Her appointment will help foster a closer working relation with the Yacht Club and we hope to conduct several joint meetings and socials. We will also have a new Executive Officer coming onboard. The coming year is going to be a good one!!

The awards for the past year have been determined and will be awarded at the AGM as will the merit marks for the past year. A lot of volunteer hours go into making our squadron successful and we will recognize those members who have worked on behalf of the squadron this past year. Thank You to all who have helped.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Hoeinghaus  
Commander

**Executive Officer**

The Gabriola Power and Sail Squadron has been very lucky under the leadership of Commander Mike Hoeinghaus; his knowledge, dedication and leadership guaranteed smooth operations of the Squadron as a whole. This also resulted in my role as Executive Officer (XO)- who is to assist the Squadron Commander and, in his absence, perform his duties- to be made that much easier.

At the January 13 Vancouver Island North District (VIND) Council Meeting at the Beban Social Centre in Nanaimo, six of the eight squadrons that form the Vancouver Island North District were represented. Directing the meeting was District Commander Ion Barnes. A moment of silence was held for deceased member Ralph Hagen of Gabriola Island. Gabriola Squadron Commander Mike Hoeinghaus' report was presented to the meeting. Peter Bolton, National Executive Officer, informed the meeting on a number of key developments, i.e.

- The new CPS IT System which will be running soon. This will be a comprehensive system to help us do all the things we want to do: Signing up for courses, scheduling classes, adding members, looking at Squadron websites hosted in our system, searching a member directory, as well as keeping track of our books and records. The system reportedly will be very easy to use.
- Marketing at the local and National levels has been recognized as an issue. Grant Thornton Marketing will provide marketing suggestions. Report and recommendations are expected soon.

Together with Bob Derksen and Don Butt, a clause by clause review of the Squadron's Policy Manual was carried out, with detailed input from the Bridge members. The Bridge accepted during its meeting of April 18, 2019 the changes proposed by the review committee. The changes were mostly made for the purpose of clarifying. The revised Squadron Policy will now be submitted to National for final approval. Only after this final approval will the revised policy come into force. Members can easily access the Policy Manual through the following link: <https://powersquadron.gabriola.org/policymanual.html> . (Note that the revised Policy Manual will not appear on the website until after approval by National) .The Manual is an easy to read document which describes " The Squadron Year" (AGM and Squadron Activities during the year), "Squadron Communications" (website, Newsletter, Communications with Members and Media), "The Executive or Bridge" (positions, responsibilities) and " The Squadron in Action" , more detailed descriptions of how to go about the various activities during the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Van Praet  
Executive Officer

### **Educational Officer**

The Squadron's educational department has focused on teaching courses and workshops that are uniquely geared to boating in the Gulf Islands, the Salish Sea, the north and west coasts of Vancouver Island, and the central coast of BC.

This past year, we have had 32 students in total participate in the following training:

- Boating 1: PCOC

- Intro to Cruising: Boating 2 (Beyond the PCOC) and Boating 3 (Intro to Navigation) Combined;
- Maritime Radio;
- Sail Handling Workshops;
- Splicing Workshops;
- Anchoring Workshops;
- Docking Workshops;
- Weather Workshops; and
- Plotting and DR Exercises.

Volunteer and service organizations nation-wide are facing real challenges with respect to enrollment and participation. We are no different and the trends in student enrollment should not be ignored. That said, we are fairing better than some of our sister Squadrons. That success is due to a motivated Executive that has shown undying support for the efforts of everyone involved in the delivery and uptake of course, workshop, and seminar material.

I would like to specifically acknowledge the efforts of those who have made our training Department a model of success: Dr. Don Butt for his remarkable efforts both nationally and locally; George Myette for his work on Social Media and in the community; Commander Mike Hoeninghaus for his support at nearly every class; and Séan Lewis for sharing his considerable expertise and obvious professionalism. Lastly, the efforts of the Social Committee, especially Elaine Pierce and Jude Briscoe cannot go unnoticed. Workshops, seminars, and day-long classes are saved from sinking with all hands by their behind-the-scenes efforts.

To every student who has participated in training this year, I applaud your desire and pursuit of a continuing education in safe boating. To the Executive and Squadron Member's at large, it has been a privilege to be entrusted with inspiring other boaters.

Respectfully,  
Bert ter Hart, MSc  
Squadron Educational Officer

### **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. This committee did not hold many meetings this year, a credit to everyone who knew their jobs, which they did with alacrity and enthusiasm. Special thanks to George Myette who is full of good ideas for publicizing Squadron courses, to Bert terHart who provides data and ideas, to Elaine Pearce who regularly keeps my membership list up to date, and to Bill Kalbfleisch who ensures instant posting on the website.

Privacy – fortunately nothing to report

Respectfully submitted  
Don Butt AP  
Communications, Privacy, Scuttlebutt Editor

### **Public Relations**

Public Relations activities in the past year consisted of participation in community events, contact with sponsors and regular advertising through Facebook posts, ads in the Sounder, sandwich board displays for courses and collaborating with the Communications Committee to place posters announcing upcoming events.

Activities for last summer 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 and the Annual Salmon BBQ. As always, L'il Gabe's presence was well received and appreciated by children and parents alike. Additionally, we displayed our Sponsors' Board at the events. I plan to continue these activities for the coming year as they are definitely a positive and effective way of raising our profile on Gabriola.

I will also be contacting our existing sponsors in the near future to confirm their support for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
George Myette  
Public Relations Officer

### **Membership**

On this date the Gabriola Power & Sail Squadron has 64 active members. This number consists of 61 Regular Members and 3 Lifetime Members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine Pearce,  
Membership Officer

## 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.

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. Course information was made available through the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron website to include [www.boatingcourse.ca](http://www.boatingcourse.ca). Additionally, detailed information was provided on our Squadron Workshops and our Recreational Vessel Courtesy Check (RVCC) program.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Kalbfleisch  
Webmaster

## 2019 Nominating Committee Report

The initial 2019 Nominating Committee of the Gabriola Island Power and Sail Squadron was made up of Past Commander Ralph Hagen, chair, Past Commander Bob Derksen and Commander Mike Hoeinghaus. With PC Ralph Hagen's death on June 25, 2018, the revised Nominating Committee, made up of Mike Hoeinghaus, Elaine Pearce and Bob Derksen completed the Committee's task of presenting a list of nominees for the Gabriola Island Squadron's Executive for 2019-20, to be presented to the membership for its consideration at the upcoming AGM on April 28, 2019.

Commander	Jean-Pierre van Praet
Executive Officer	Nigel Wells
Educational Officer	Agathe Gaulin
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 Bulic
Member-at-Large	Andy Hunter
Member-at-Large	Bob Wood

By virtue of his previous position, Mike Hoeinghaus 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 2019-20 year and which are not the tasks of specific officers.

The Committee nominates Christine Purfield as the Squadron's financial reviewer for the financial year 2019-20.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Derksen  
Chair of the Nominating Committee