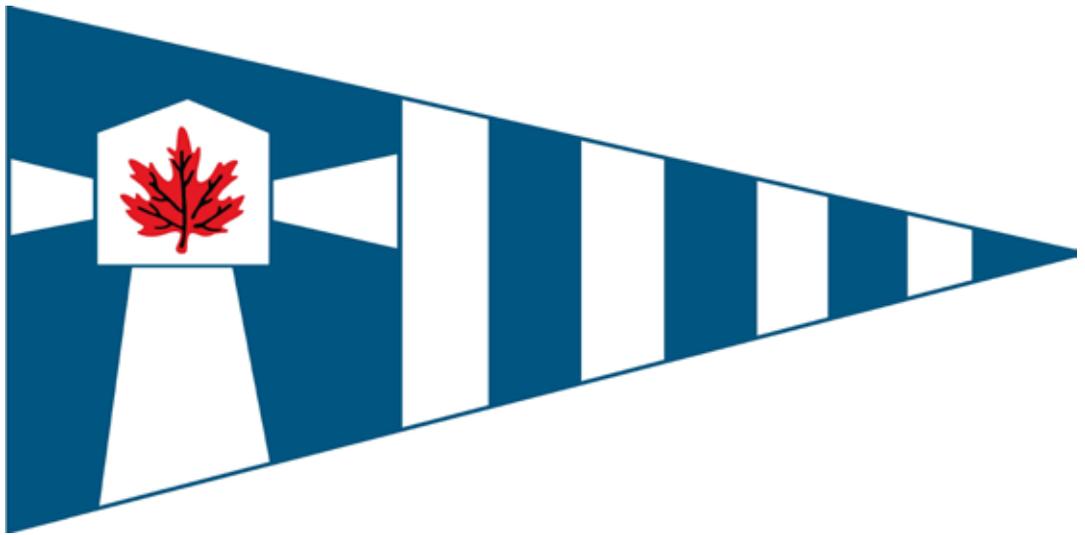


S
C
U
T
T
L
E
B
U
T
T



Gabriola Island Power and Sail Squadron

Google Gabriola Power Squadron

A smoky summer it was

September - October 2018



Your Squadron Bridge 2018 – 2019

POSITION	NAME	PHONE
Commander	Mike Hoeinghaus, <u>AP</u>	250 247-8799
Past Commander		
Executive Officer	Jean-Pierre van Praet	250 325-3064
Educational Officer	Bert terHart, S	778 557-2824
Secretary	Carole Lemieux	250 247-9889
Financial Officer	Jude Briscoe	250 247-8600
Membership Officer	Elaine Pearce	250 247-7538
PRO/Marketing	George Myette	250 247-7123
Webmaster	Bill Kalbfleisch	250 247-8027
Communications Officer & Scuttlebutt Editor	Don Butt, <u>AP</u>	250 247-7804
Privacy Officer	Don Butt, <u>AP</u>	250 247-7804
Member at Large	John Bullas	250 739-3295
Member at Large	Ivan Bulic	250 247-2032
Member at Large	Bob Wood	250 247-7339

Gabriola Power and Sail Squadron

PO Box 71

Gabriola BC V0R 1X0

<http://powersquadron.gabriola.org/>

***We are a Squadron of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons (CPS-ECP) in
Vancouver Island North District***

<http://www.cps-ecp.ca>

<http://www.vind.ca>

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Many of you have been notified by Headquarters regarding your membership renewals. It is easy to renew on-line. Just go to [CPS-ECP](http://www.cps-ecp.ca) and click on membership. On-line renewal and rejoin is a great way to go. It is so quick and easy. And have a look at the [CPS benefits](#) of being a member.

For more info call our Membership Officer, Elaine Pearce 247-7538

Courses and Events

Always check the [website](#) for details - "Courses and Upcoming Events"

**Registration for all courses and workshops, and information at:
<http://powersquadron.gabriola.org/courses.html>
or email Bert terHart: bert.terhart@gmail.com**

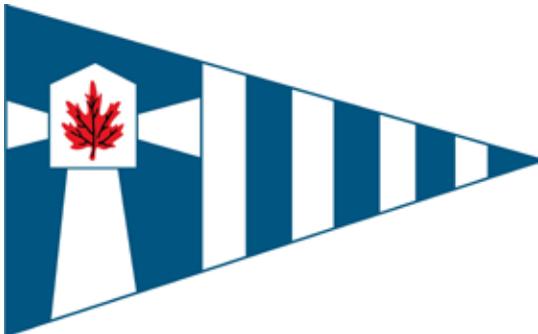
Boating Essentials with PCOC:

**Course Starts: Wednesday, September 12, at 7 PM
Upstairs at Robert's Place**

\$90 (Squadron members: \$80) includes PCOC card

October Social:

Plans are underway for a special social evening featuring climate change and how it will affect boaters. It's in the early stages of planning, and details will follow.



They're here! Brand new Squadron pennants to adorn your boat! They do tend to fade like all flags so why not spruce up the appearance of your boat with a new pennant - they look good. Really good!

Call any one of the Bridge/Exec members: phone numbers listed on page 2, "Your Squadron Bridge".

Only \$22 each, we've kept the price as low as

Ralph Hagen, 1931 - 2018

We Remember..



Ralph's TollyCraft returning from a Squadron Cruise

Many of you will remember Ralph who served the Squadron for years as treasurer, training officer, commander, and past commander. He, with several others, constructed Lil' Gabe - a hit with all wherever she appears. Ralph died peacefully surrounded by his family on Monday night, June 25.

Celebration of his life was held in a crowded Rollo Center August 5. Three of his Squadron Associates, Bob Weenk, Bob Derksen and Don Butt were in attendance who spoke, and our Educational Officer Bert terHart's tribute was read. I include each of those tributes in this edition of Scuttlebutt. Squadron member and friend Bos Malcolm and Past District commander and now National Educational Officer, Peter Bolton also spoke about Ralph.

He is missed, and we are all the richer for having been associated with him.

Bob Derksen

In Memory of Past Commander Ralph Hagen



We all have our own way of remembering. In my case although I knew Ralph since 2005 from our times on the Bridge, I went to our Gabriola Island Squadron web site to refresh my memories of this remarkable man. The web site has a huge number of documents and photos going back to the Squadron's founding in 1996 and from the time he joined the Squadron in 1998 Ralph appears many times.

The photos tell a story of dedication and involvement. Ralph was active in student cruises, he and Helen participated in the Squadron's social cruises, and the many on-land social events, spanning two decades. The photos also show Ralph doing presentations at our social gatherings, such as the boating challenges of the Hagens' trips to the Broughtons and his history of the Union Steamship Company.

The written documents on the web site tell their own story about Ralph too. They show that for over 17 years Ralph was on the Bridge. He first joined the Squadron Executive in 1998 as Administration Officer. In 2005 Ralph became, in my opinion, the most important person in the Squadron, the Squadron Training Officer. It was his job to recruit and guide a team of volunteer instructors and take on part of the instructional task himself. Ralph held that position for eight years, a Squadron record. This is remarkable, because it is a difficult role; it is a job that requires talent and dedication and Ralph had both in spades with his clear, methodical way of explaining boating matters, his patience with his students and their questions, his fascinating, memorable anecdotes about his experiences on the water and his dry sense of humour. The Squadron awarded Ralph its Windchime Award for outstanding contributions to training four times in those years and that is another record that still stands.

Above all the web site's records show, Ralph received recognition because of the responses that he got from his students. Often through word of mouth, they signed up for the Squadron's courses in good numbers for such a small community, liked his courses and responded by doing remarkably well on the CPS exams. During his years as Training Officer our little Squadron obtained many awards from Vancouver Island North District, nine to be precise, for highest average marks and the best overall results in the District

in training, as well as an Excellence in Youth Training Award. This achievement was larger than that of any other of the District's ten squadrons except for Campbell River. In 2011 Ralph's was presented with the Vancouver Island North District's CPS Volunteer of the Year Award.

Two years later Ralph became Squadron Commander. The web site's photos and documents between 2013 and 2015 show a dedicated commander leading the Squadron and representing the organization in the community. In my humble opinion there is no greater praise for a leader than to say that they left an organization in better shape than they found it. Like so many of our other commanders, Ralph did just that.

As Past Commander on the Bridge these last three years Ralph was still an inspiration to those Squadron volunteers who had witnessed his years in bringing the message and knowledge of recreational boater safety to our island. As a community and a volunteer teaching organization, we owe Ralph our deepest gratitude.

Bob Derksen,
member of the Gabriola Island Squadron since 2005



Don Butt



We go back to early days of Gabriola Squadron. He was a guy who set a high standard for himself and expected it of others.

But he was not perfect – in spite of a lifetime experience on the water, and passionate advocate of safe boating, he made no secret of his misfortune when he tattooed Danger Reef with the bright paint of Owekino's hull. He wasn't about to let the rumour mill take over without exposing the truth. But then positive spin – he didn't let you forget that Coast Guard proffered rich compliments on him because of his exemplary may-

day. Always the silver lining.

He thought out of the box..

- He conceived the idea of Lil' Gabe, designed it, and with help of Squadron members, built her in the garage. The Squadron won a prestigious National award because of it. But I'm sure Helen wasn't pleased as the sawdust drifted onto her immaculately vacuumed floors.
- It was something else to see those school kids he instructed the fine art of navigation as they walked around on the proper side of his homemade buoys in the school gym, studiously avoiding those menacing blobs of "rocks" and the shoreline. The Squadron won a prestigious National Power and Sail Squadrons award for this
- He volunteered for positions without being asked, when he saw the need, both at Squadron and District level
- He knew how to thank his training crew. That gourmet Norwegian fair at Christmas time was something memorable. Where was Ralph? Smiling contently in a comfortable chair with a scary looking Dobermann lovingly curled up like a pussy cat poured like a drink of water on his lap
- That he is so highly thought of is evident today, with so many of his associates and friends here to honour his memory.

And finally, referring to Bob Weenk's opening remarks with poetry, I'll close the brackets with a quote from William Wordsworth's poem, *To a Skylark* that so describes the character of Ralph:

"Type of the wise who soar, but never roam;
True to the kindred points of Heaven and Home!"

So thank you Ralph, for everything you are and did for us. We are the better for having known you.

Don Butt, Squadron member since 1996

Bob Weenk



Whenever I went to visit Ralph, in sickness or in health, he was, invariably, in “the chair”. “The chair” was well worn, kinda like Ralph, old, and a little wrinkly, but still, like Ralph, obviously useful.

The chair sat, and still sits, in the corner of a sunroom, overlooking Duke Point and Nanaimo harbour, the perfect place from which to keep an eye on the traffic up and down Northumberland Strait and in and out of the port. The windows face more or less westerly, but the chair, the chair faces north; up the strait, overlooking Snake and Descanso Bay. In the distance, Lasqueti and Texada dominate the skyline and, almost lost in the mist, the mountains of the mainland stretch north, their snowcaps disappearing in the haze like the fragments of a half

remembered dream.

I have thought that the siting of the chair was appropriate because, though Ralph was born and educated on the lower mainland (he showed me where on one of our jaunts fetching and carrying for the Rollo Centre) and spent most of his working life in Prince George; and upon retirement, or at least partial retirement he moved to this lovely chunk of Sandstone; it was the central coast that called to him.

Every summer, since I have known him, the coast beckoned; first on his beloved Owikeno, and later in a trailer, parked on the water North of Campbell River, sitting, reading, dog walking and simply being there, on the water.

More than once, as we talked of past and future coastal issues, of ferries, salmon, bridges and population dynamics, Ralph would remark on his history with the central coast, on the fish boats of his youth and his belief that he had salt water in his veins.

Either while in “the chair; on the way to a power squadron class or meeting; or a bridge game; or heading down to Victoria for one reason or another, the distant mountains to the north were a constant presence in his mind’s eye and never far from the surface of our conversations. You are all here because you knew Ralph, so I won’t spend a great deal of time talking about his work or family history. Besides, as is always the case, the Ralph Hagen that you knew and the one I knew are each a little different. The points of commonality will be things like his pragmatism, his absolute honesty, his Norwegian stubbornness and his devotion to Helen and the family.

Our friendship must at first glance have seemed a little surprising (me a committed lefty, a man of words (English teacher) with a life dedicated to athletics; and a flatlander. Ralph, pretty apolitical,(but no socialist); a man of practicality and numbers, with little background in sports due to a bout of TB in his youth. And almost a generational difference in ages.

But friends we were. From our time in the power squadron together in various roles, to designing and building the Rollo storage, to planning and designing Little Gabe and, debating the wisdom of renovating the building we're in. We agreed and disagreed, bargained and compromised, and things got or are getting done.

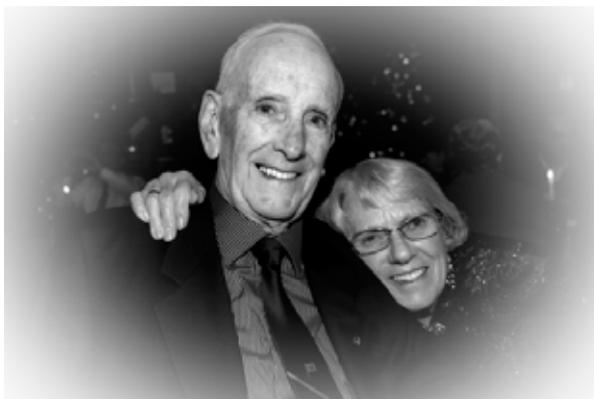
Finally, it seems to me fitting that we should hold this gathering here, in the Rollo Centre, as Ralph for the last few years has been heavily invested in seeing that the Rollo Centre is a financially stable, thriving entity for many years into the future. All of those who served on this board with him are aware of his thoughtful, but unvarnished contributions to the discussion and his frank assessments of future planned directions, all of which were instrumental in forging the vision that is being realized before our eyes.

Ralph had much reason to be proud of his substantial influence on the organizations he chose to support. He was not always compliant or compromising, but he always acted for the greater good as he perceived it.

He was in the time I knew him, the man who plants the sapling, knowing he will not be around to sit in the shade of the mature tree, But he plants anyway.

So now we say farewell; friend, mentor, devil's advocate and ally; and we pay tribute to all he has done and been.

Being a man of words let me suggest you look up a copy of Masefield's "Sea Fever" or the last few lines of Tennyson's "Ulysses". They speak of my friend better than I ever could.



Weather - in the environment



The wind piped up on the day of the weather workshop. Here's Bert instructing and struggling to keep the papers on the table. Great winds for kite flying!



Incident at Page's Marina



Early in the summer a large boat was backing out of the Silva Bay Marina next door and somehow a line caught in an adjacent boat, spun the boat backing out, and in reverse, bumped forcefully into the piling at just out from the dock at Page's. The piling was knocked over at a precarious angle and about to fall on the outboard moored at the dock. Once the "targeted" boat was moved out of the way the piling slowly leaned over and assumed a horizontal position in the water next to the dock, then safely tethered.

The boat that collided with the piling failed to remain on the scene.



From the Wheelhouse Mike Hoeinghaus, AP - Commander



Fall is here and we're back to school with Boating 1 starting on September 12th followed by a combined Boating 2 & 3. Our venue has changed and we will hold the classes in the upstairs meeting room at Robert's Place on Wednesday nights. Our A-frame signs are on ferry hill and across from the Village since last week and we will hopefully get a good group of students to start our classes.

This summer the Squadron's "Lil Gabe" attended Oceans Day in June, Concert on the Green and Salmon Barbecue in August. As usual, the kid's enjoyed it!! It also gives the Squadron visibility within the community.

I attended the Vancouver Island North District (VIND) Council meeting in Nanaimo on August 26th. Since the District Commander will be away most of September heading back east to the National Convention in Ottawa in October, the VIND meeting was mainly focused on issues to be raised at the National Convention. The highest priority is the continuing problem with the National website and student registration. Also discussed was the declining membership across the District with two more of our Squadrons in jeopardy of closing down or combining with another nearby squadron for lack new members and of not being able to elect a Bridge for the troubled Squadron.

Speaking of Bridge members, we will be seeking nominations from the membership for positions on the Bridge to take office next April. Volunteers would be most welcome. Please give serious thought to becoming involved in how the Squadron is administered. We are also looking for members who would like to teach a lesson or two of our courses. This is an enjoyable way to participate in the Squadron. Please contact Bert terHart (778 557-2824) or me (250 247-8799).

The next Bridge meeting will be held at Robert's Place on Thursday evening, September 20th at Roberts Place upstairs meeting room. All members are welcome to attend.

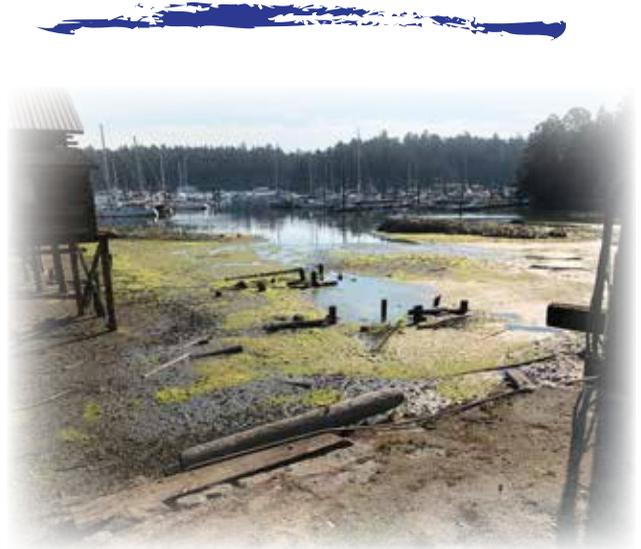
Until next time, Safe Boating
Mike Hoeinghaus
Commander

Boating Grad



Warm welcome to new member of the Squadron, Andy Hunter, who successfully completed Boating 2-3 in the spring.

Has anyone ever seen a boat with five spreaders? It was spotted from Quinsam this summer. I believe its flag was from Malta.



Low tide at the Shipyard.

Interesting bit of history

Remarkable how recent this was!

A New York Times 1975 headline exclaimed, “Women are Suing Power Squadrons.” Later in the body of the news article the following was stated, “.....the all-male boating organization is destroying itself by refusing to admit women.”

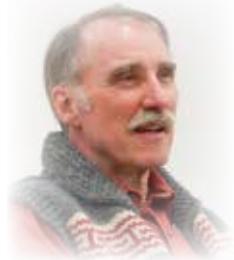
Truth being told the legal action was between one woman, Mrs. Marilyn Hinden who wanted to become a member of a New Jersey squadron and the United States Power Squadron who wanted to defend itself as a private organization for men only. The original plaintiff soon was supported in her landmark case by other women.

Prior to the New Jersey Court’s ruling, all men who passed the USPS basic boating course were invited to become members, one of Mrs. Hinden’s supporters, Mrs. Adler commented, “The only thing that could keep a person out (of USPS) was being a woman.” Notwithstanding the New Jersey Court ruling in Mrs. Hinden’s favour it was not until 1982, after a special meeting of USPS delegates who then approved changes in their organization’s constitution and bylaws eliminating the male-only membership rule. With those changes women were permitted to become active members of the United States Power Squadrons.

Although many American women had long held a “woman’s certificate”, entitling them to enroll in all USPS courses, it was increasingly apparent that boating was truly becoming a family-oriented endeavor. The first female *active and family members* for USPS were accepted in November 1982. By the end of the century approximately one third of USPS membership were women.

The Canadian Power Squadron story was similar yet different.

Know your Executive Members - Ivan Bulic



Ivan has been sailing the BC Coast for more than 40 years. He started in small wooden boats that he restored, and now sails a 36-ft home-made steel cutter, that ironically for a member of the Power Squadron, has no engine.

Ivan first sailed to Silva Bay in the early 1970s, and was so taken by Gabriola, that in 1990 he and his wife Elaine bought a small house just up from the Bay.

As well as his interest in the Power Squadron, Ivan volunteers at the Gabriola Museum where he researches island history.

With thanks to those who support us:

WE THANK THE BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS LISTED BELOW
FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF OUR SQUADRON'S ACTIVITIES.



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[André Lemieux, Gabriola.org](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)



[web site](#)

Dr Bob Rooks

Mr. & Mrs. Don Powell

Christine Purfield