



Valley Power and Sail Squadron

Member of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons

Training in safe power and sail boating

Squadron Homepage: <http://www3.telus.net/valleysquadron/home.htm>



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MAY 2008

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Commander's Corner



Valley Squadron Members,

I find myself in the predicament of having just been elected your Commander. Suddenly I am supposed to be able to write words of wisdom to encourage everyone to have a safe and fun filled time on the water. Hopefully something will come to me. Quickly.

Joking aside, it is a privilege to serve in any position in Valley Squadron, and especially to serve as Commander. If you come to one of our monthly Bridge meetings (2nd Tuesday of each month at Crossroads Restaurant in Abbotsford) you will find a dedicated group of people who keep our squadron running smoothly. They do such a great job that the Commander really doesn't carry too heavy a load. Bridge officers, teachers, proctors – our squadron is all about people; a lot of dedicated people who care about helping others become safe boaters and have fun on the water.

Have you been out to one of our parties or cruises in the past year? If not, come and have some fun with us. On weekends many of us are at Long Island Bay on Harrison Lake, others are out on the ocean. Come join us. How are your boating skills? Do you remember the things you learned in the Boating Course? You're always welcome to sit in on the class for a refresher.

Have fun on the water this summer. Show others what it is to be a safe boater. Spread the word that CPS teaches people how to boat safely.

Your Commander,

Gary Clow

Cover:

"Cassiopeia" owned by new members
Mark & Vivian O'Reilly arriving at Long
Island Bay during the Shakedown Cruise.



Pictures by Charleen Gregorig

SHAKEDOWN CRUISE

by Bonnie Arnett

The theme this year...*shallow water*. Yikes!

Our Shakedown Cruise was a little different this year. Many of our regular participants just didn't manage to make it this time for one reason and another. We ended up with four boats in all. Norm MacDonald in Integrity. Mark and Vivian O'Reilly in Cassiopeia. Tony and I in Ranger, and **TA-DA.....**Ted and Charleen in their new baby, 29 foot Campion, Abracadabra!!

Norm had gone up to Long Island Bay on Friday on his own and tied up over at George and Elaine Stevens' dock. There was no way Norm could get into the main site with his fixed keel. *Shallow* doesn't begin to describe it...

Mark and Vivian are new Valley members and they joined us in their 26-foot MacGregor. Their crew was rounded out with Grandma, young Ivy, and baby Jade. Quite an adventure for them, and it was terrific to have them along.

Okay – let's get back to Ted and Charleen's new boat now. This is the Maiden Voyage for them, People...EVER!!

They pulled up to the launch around 1100 hours on Saturday. Rod and Laura Walker were right behind them in Rod's truck (We're all there ready to assist in any way w can. Is the *plug* in???? YES!!!)



The concrete on the west side of the launch ramp dropped off quite dramatically, so it was decided to pull her back up and launch on the east side. She went into the water beautifully, and now came the moment of truth. Ted tried one engine. There's fire in the hole! Hooray! Then he tried number two-engine...*varoom*. Hooray! There's fire in the hole again! (This twin-engine stuff is a whole new treat.) Yowzers, we have ignition!!

In the meantime, Mark and Vivian had been hard at work putting up their mast. Grandma was minding the kids, and all was well. Their boat was successfully launched too, and it was time for the cruise to begin.

Stoking up the fire

Tony and I tore back to the marina, and took off to join the others. Getting from our slip to beyond the breakwater was *totally* dicey. The water was SO shallow...two feet in spots! This was the most *interesting* (?) part of the cruise both going and coming back. We had to lift the leg several times in order to just clear the area. We didn't 'boot it' right away either. Still very shallow, but after a while of going dead slow we were able to get her up on plane and catch up to the other boats near Echo Island. First blast of the year for Ranger...oh,JOY!

We three boats putted along together for quite some time until Ted decided it was time to give the 'big girl' the torture test. 'Grab a handful', as Rod would say. Well...it was an awesome performance! Away she went like a scalded cat. Then a second blast after adjusting the trim tabs...Ted took off again. We were sifting along with them, our four barrels wide open (*slurp*), and we noted we were traveling at 32 m.p.h. Abracadabra wasn't even working up a sweat...what a *sweet* deal! This is GOOD news.

Upon arriving at Long Island Bay, Norm was there to advise us immediately about the *lack* of water. The two powerboats went into the slips at the very VERY end of the dock after lifting the legs, and Mark brought Cassiopeia in front of Ted after lifting everything that could possibly be *lifted*. The Eagles have landed!



Pearl securing the ropes for the tarp

We had a lovely time. Absolutely. Built a campfire. Young Ivy had hot dogs. Flame and Kiefer were happy campers too. You can tell they are dyed-in-the-wool boating dogs...grins on their faces, the whole bit.



The writer and little Keifer

The tarp got put up in the fire pit area. Mike came along in Heartbeat with his friend Pearl at that point, and before we know it, Pearl was up that tree like a little squirrel and secured the ropes perfectly. They didn't stay very long but their timing couldn't have been better. We were certainly impressed with Pearl's tree climbing abilities.

Tony and I *dined* with Ted and Charleen aboard Abracadabra, down in the cabin...LOTS of room. Charleen made a delicious chicken stir-fry and there was a lovely wine compliments of Rod and Laura as their launching gift. It was wonderful.

Charleen has just one problem. Their boat has always been known as the "Costco" boat, more supplies than Carter has pills, but now she can't decide where to put everything. There are so many places to stow supplies in this new boat that she now has too many choices! Where to put what??? Well, she'll just have to give it another time or two and she'll get it all together.

Norm left early on Sunday morning, and the rest of us had a great trip back later. No mishaps. Bonus!

We missed all our other Shakedown Cruisers, but we did have a super time with lovely people...no question about *that*.

The 2008 boating season has begun... and we're sure glad of it!



Ivy & Jade enjoying the fire

BOATING COURSE GRADUATION
Held at the Crossroads Family Restaurant, Abbotsford
April 16th

Abbotsford, Harrison and Chilliwack Boating Course graduates were welcomed as new members to Valley Squadron. Thank you Charleen Gregorig for representing Pacific Mainland District to pledge the new members in. Cake and coffee was served.

Welcome Aboard!!

Adrian Bleasdale	Mission	Edward Osko	Abbotsford
Madeline Gravel	Abbotsford	Greg Calver	Abbotsford
Kimberley Smith	Mission	Alvin Epp	Abbotsford
Mark O'Reilly	Mission	Bruno Wissman	Maple Ridge
John Fogliato	Harrison Hot Springs	Peter Bonde	Chilliwack
Danny Froese	Chilliwack	Chris Adam	Chilliwack
Dan Adkins-Neels	Rosedale	Grace Cho	Chilliwack
Darin Neels	Rosedale	Steve Crawford	Chilliwack
Chris Suter	Chilliwack	Bill Johnstone	Chilliwack
A.J. Van Maren	Chilliwack	Gilbert Van Maren	Chilliwack
Luke Armstrong	Rosedale	Darcy Soutar	Chilliwack
Shelley Smith	Chilliwack	Jimmy Smith	Chilliwack
Peter Clamp	Chilliwack	Clayton Des Roches	Chilliwack



CHANGE OF WATCH April 24th at the Rancho, Abbotsford



Change of Watch commenced with cocktails at 1800 hours and a wonderful buffet dinner followed. The Rancho's buffet never disappoints.



It was a pleasure to welcome PRO Eleanor Hashimoto from Pacific Mainland District and Keith Davies, Commander for Royal City Squadron, as our guests.



Eleanor Hashimoto, Master of Ceremonies Bob Plumtree, George Stevens and Past Commander Bruce Matheson. George received the award for most hours contributed to the Squadron.

Merit Marks were presented to members for their time contributed to the Squadron.

Squadron past Secretary, Gloria Caplette, receives her Merit Marks.





Pacific Mainland District Representative, Eleanor Hashimoto, pledged Gary Clow in as new Commander and later pledged in his new Bridge.



New members, Peter & Anna Bonde,



Larry & Diane Nielsen receive the Award for most functions attended.



M/C Bob Plumtree received the coveted Broken Stick Award for his seamanship skills



Past Commander Bruce – New Commander Gary



Life members Bev Leeder, Bill Hopkins & Larry Nielsen



Your New Bridge

A Big Thanks to Larry Nielsen and Charleen Gregorig for COW pictures

JUST A REMINDER THAT YOU CAN STILL REGISTER
Pacific Mainland District - 50TH ANNIVERSARY & CONVENTION
May 30 & 31 at
THE ASTON PACIFIC INN RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTRE

CRUISES

Please suggest any alternative stops

- May 16th to 19th** **May Long Weekend Cruise** – Long Island Bay, Lake Harrison
- July 4th to 6th** **PMD Rendezvous on Bowen Island** – Theme: Round-Up Time
- July 12th to 27th** **Desolation Sound & Octopus Island Cruise** – Leave from McDonald Park or Sunset Marina – Cruise details to follow. Tentative stops: Smugglers Cove, Melanie Cove, Von Donop, Rebecca Spit, Campbell River, Octopus Island, Tenedos Bay, Ballet Bay or Pender, Gibsons & home.
- July 26th to Aug 10th** **San Juan Islands** cruise Please contact Gary Clow re this cruise.
(604)792-9373 Clow@worldteam.org
- August 2nd to 4th** **Long Weekend - ?**
- September 6th & 7th** **Valley Squadron Sail Past** – Harrison Lake – Harrison Yacht Club
- October 11th to 13th** **Thanksgiving Dinner Cruise** – Long Island Bay, Harrison Lake
Dinner Sunday at 4:30 p.m.

*If you plan to attend any cruises please contact
Cruise Master Ted Blackall as soon as possible
before the cruise date @ 859-6102
ctcharted@shaw.ca*

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NAVIGATING with GPS COURSE

Begins Tuesday, May 6th at
Sardis Secondary.
Cost is \$50 for CPS
members
\$60 for others.

Contact Gary Clow for
Information (604)792-9373
or
Gary.Clow@world team.org

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**Harrison Hot Springs
August 23 to 29.**

Tel 604-796-3856

Contact Gary Clow if

interested.

Gary.Clow@worldteam.org

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CATAMARAN NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

MARINE ASSISTANCE

Visit our Website at <http://www3.telus.net/valleysquadron>

Valley Squadron Bridge Meetings

All Members are Welcome!

Bridge meetings are open to all Valley Squadron members. Join us at 1900 hours at our new meeting place – **Cross Roads Family Restaurant, 1821 Sumas Way, Abbotsford, BC**

May 13th
June 10th

Valley Squadron Bridge Officers

Commander	Gary Clow	792-9373	Gary_Clow@telus.net
Sq. Executive Officer	Brian Hanneson	854-1649	bvhanneson@shaw.ca
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Port Capt- Cultus/Harrison	Dave Hampson	858-4397	
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