



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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NOVEMBER 2008

The Gam

Commander's Corner



Valley Squadron Members,

Winter is almost here. Most of us have our boats out of the water and some are still finishing off the "winterizing" chores to keep our boats safe until spring. If you are like me, you probably have a list of winter boat projects, small things to fix or improve which may or may not get done. Maybe this year I will actually get around to doing some of them.

Our Valley Squadron Christmas party will be held on November 28 at the Yarrow Community Hall. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah or something else, please join us for a great dinner and evening of fun.

This year we will be collecting food to be donated in Chilliwack and Abbotsford instead of exchanging Christmas presents. You can also bring a cash donation.

How are your boating skills? If it has been a long time since you took the Boating Course, remember that you are always welcome to sit in on the class as a refresher. And if you've never taken any CPS courses besides Boating, why not take the new Seamanship course beginning in January.

Have a great winter season.

Yours truly,

Gary Clow
Commander

Cover: Flags and Burgees ready for the Sail Past
Picture by Gloria Caplette

CRUISES AND EVENTS

Friday, November 28th **Christmas Party** – Yarrow Community Hall – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 20th **Fall Boat Course Grad Party** at the Crossroads Restaurant, Abbotsford – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 21st **St. Patrick's Party** – Details to follow in next GAM.

Cruise Master Ted Blackall is starting to plan for next years cruises. He is tentatively planning the last two weeks of July 2009 for the annual two-week cruise. He is open for suggestions and would like to hear from you as to any preferences you may have regarding timing and places for any cruises throughout the summer. Contact Ted at ctcharted@shaw.ca or 859-6102

**FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 28TH**



**YARROW
COMMUNITY
HALL**

**COME AND JOIN US FOR
VALLEY'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
AND POTLUCK DINNER**

In lieu of exchanging gifts please bring a donation of food which will be shared between the Abbotsford/Chilliwack Food Banks.

Turkey is provided.

Please bring a salad, vegetable or dessert.

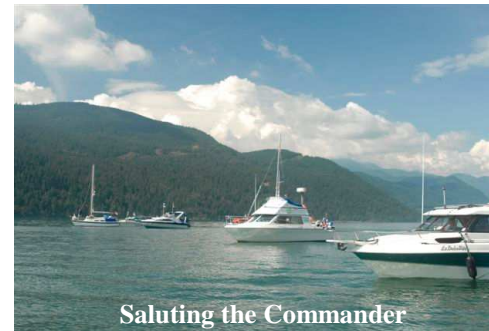
Cocktails at 6:30 p.m.



Commander Gary

SAIL PAST at

Once upon a time on a fine September 6th afternoon in the picturesque hamlet of Harrison, the inhabitants sensed that a great event was about to take place. They rushed to the lake shore and verily were in awe at the sight before them.



Saluting the Commander

An armada (20) of fine water craft of all sizes had gathered to noisily surround a single boat stationary on the water and would not let it go.

The knight in charge of the craft came out on his bowsprit and pleaded with them but alas, to no avail. He stood there in a strange blue jacket and grey pantaloons in the hot mid-day sun. He must have made a rude gesture at the boats as they circled him because verily I say, they re-gathered in a straight line and tried to ram him as in a jousting contest. At the last minute they swerved off and raced for a blue and white castle that the locals called the Yacht Club. The many people gathered on shore were mystified by this and remarked that this was truly a strange and wondrous event.



Enjoying the Afternoon

All the boaters gathered at the little castle wearing strange costumes from a far off land which they named Hawaii. They honored a fair damsel called Ursula Binkle



Les Girls



Gus & Ursula Binkle's Prize Winning Decorated Boat

HARRISON LAKE

by Bruce Matheson

and a knave named Fred Walker for their outstanding finery and they laid precious awards at their feet

A very big boar had been slaughtered and was roasting above a large fire tended by fire master Brian Hanneson. This made the crowd very hungry and thirsty. They proceeded to fill their plates and tankards and then gathered in the courtyard for the wonderful feast and traded many yarns about the high seas and Lake Harrison.

The very next morning the man from the trapped boat calling himself Sir Commander supervised a huge breakfast for all who could get up after such a feast the night before. Again there was much noise and merriment that the locals could hear coming from the blue and white castle. The group slowly departed to their various hamlets throughout the fair land and again the town was peaceful and quiet.

The townsfolk have found out that this event happens every second year in Harrison and this merry group does the same to peaceful Bowen Island on alternate years.

The moral of all this (you do have to have a moral) seems to be: - Do not stand on your bowsprit in a strange costume in late summer or you could be rammed.....

Thanks to Gloria Caplette & Bonnie Arnett for pictures



THANKSGIVING WEEKEND at

This was a new experience for a few of us boaters and very entertaining and pleasurable as well!

12 boats arrived on Friday and by Saturday there were 18 boats with a total of 53 people with a couple of surprise refugees included in the mix. Our rescue mission began about a half hour before dinner...loud crashing through the underbrush caught our attention, but instead of an animal – two young men showed up!

They had been seadooing around Long Island and broke down; they spied all of our boats and hiked over to us. Eagle Viewer went out to tow the seadoo in and we attempted to jump start it, to no avail.

You can imagine what 50 some odd power squadron members repeatedly told these young men about utilizing a water craft without some sort of communication device! All ended well, however, as one of the boats was not staying overnight and was able to tow them back to



LAKE HARRISON

Harrison after dinner. They were going to have a tough time making believers of their friends and family, telling them that although they got stranded in the middle of nowhere on Thanksgiving they still got to have turkey dinner.

The food was fabulous and many thanks to everyone for their contributions. The turkey arrived by raft having had some help from the neighbors in keeping it warm! Thanks also go out from a surprised birthday girl for the wonderful birthday cake.



Having been an absolutely beautiful day, it continued into a very beautiful evening around the fire with great conversation and wonderful entertainment provided by Brian Browne, who also entertained everyone on Friday evening. As we glanced around at the faces of our fellow travelers and celebrators, we were grateful indeed for the wealth of friendship and camaraderie available through the Valley Power and Sail Squadron.



.....by Shelley Smith

Pictures compliments of Gloria Caplette & Bonnie Arnett



ODE TO A BROWNIE

by Gary Clow

*There they are, they're on a plate,
Snugly nestled, tempting fate,
Bitter sweet with nuts galore,
What is it you're waiting for?*

**Melt in your mouth, chocolate taste,
Nuts and icing not to waste,
What's the harm, I'll eat just one,
Just a taste and I'll be done.**

**Ursula's own recipe,
All those brownies tempting me,
It is more than I can bear,
Everyone begins to stare.**

**My hand goes out, I take one,
In an instant it is done,
Enjoy, savour, every bit,
It's enough to cause a fit.**

**Only one is not enough,
Just two or three will be tough,
Five I think will be just right,
Six go down without a fight.**

**Pure joy, a heart's delight,
Brownie heaven shines so bright,
A big smile and chocolate glow,
To a seventh I'll say "no."**



Ursula Binkle makes the best brownies



Brian Browne sings the best songs



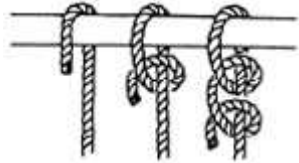
Enjoying the fire

Boating Knots

Two Half Hitches

This reliable knot is quickly tied and is the hitch most often used in mooring. To tie:

1. Pass the end of a rope around a post or other object.
2. Wrap the short end of rope under and over the long part of rope, pushing the end down through the loop. This is a half hitch.
3. Repeat on the long rope, below first half hitch, and draw tight.



Bowline

This knot does not jam or slip when tied properly. To tie:

Make the overhand loop with the end held toward you, then pass the end through the loop.

1. Now, pass the end up behind the standing part, then down through the loop again.

Draw tight.

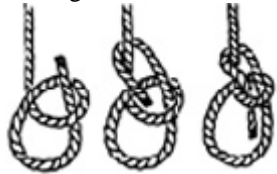
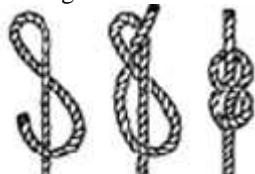


Figure Eight

This knot is ideal for keeping the end of a rope from running out of a tackle or pulley. To tie:

1. Make an underhand loop, bringing the end around and over the standing part.
2. Pass the rope end under, then up through the loop.

Draw tight



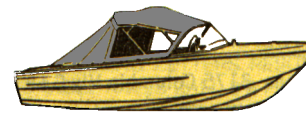
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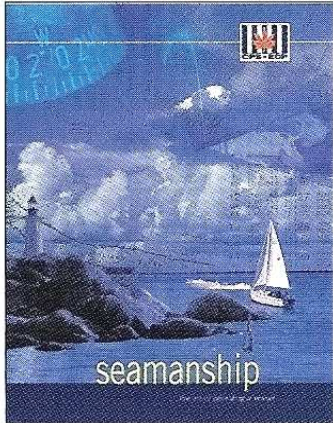


44915 Yale Road West, Chilliwack, BC

ATTENTION ALL BOATING COUSE GRADS:

The new full color Seamanship course is now available. Take the next step and expand your boating knowledge. Contact Bruce Matheson at bdmatheson@shaw.ca or 824-8616 to register. A minimum of 6 students is required.

.....Topics include:



- Dead Reckoning and the Log
- Marlinespike Seamanship
- The Magnetic Compass
- Fixed Aids to Navigation
- Floating Aids to Navigation Bearings and Fixes
- Relative Bearings
- Distance of an Object by two Relative Bearings
- Collision Regulations
- Tides and Currents
- Weather Wind, Waves and Current
- Seamanship Skills for Adverse Weather
- Buoyancy and Stability
- Medical Emergencies
- Emergencies at Sea
- Anchors and Anchoring

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

Please note that you may advertise your “for sale” boat related items free of charge on Valley Squadron’s Website. Contact our new Webmaster Mark Procnier @ Valley Power & Sail Squadron website
Our past Webmaster, Cliff Kiyooka, has moved from the area. Thanks for the great work Cliff!!!

Our first **SEMINAR EVENING ON FIBRE GLASS REPAIRS** for your boat is planned for sometime in January or February 2009; as soon as a suitable sized shop is arranged. All people interested are to contact

Bruce Matheson

bdmatheson@shaw.ca - 824-8616

VHF COURSE for Chilliwack will be Mondays, April 20-27 and May 4-11 at Sardis Secondary @ 7:00 p.m.

Please contact

John Tymoschuk jltymo@yahoo.com -701-6618

or

Bryan Stolee bjstolee@telus.net - 858-4848

Visit our Website at valleysquadron/home.htm

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.**

November 4th

December 9th

January 13th

Valley Squadron Bridge Officers

Commander	Gary Clow	792-9373	Gary_Clow@telus.net
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Port Capt- Cultus/Harrison	Dave Hampson	858-4397	
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