



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>



INSIDE:

Commander's Corner

Christmas Party

Events & Courses

Boat Show Tickets

JANUARY 2009

The Gam

Commander's Corner



Valley Squadron Members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I trust that you and your family had a wonderful Christmas season.

A new year is ahead of us, but none of us knows all that will happen in the next twelve months. A year ago who would have guessed that summer gas prices would be so high we could hardly afford to fill up our boats. And now gas is back to where it was several years ago. Hopefully it will stay there for a while so we can really enjoy our boating this year. And if you are a sailor, you only laugh at those of us who have to put fuel into our tanks.

Winter is the time to get your boat ready for the spring. And don't forget to make plans to truly enjoy your boat this summer. Whether your boat is big or small, sail or power, join fellow squadron members out on the water. We have activities for a day, a weekend or a week. Want to brush up on your boating knowledge? Come out and help in a Boating Class in Abbotsford, Chilliwack or Harrison. Remember, Boating Course graduates are welcome to sit in on the Boating Course any time.

All the best to you for 2009. May it be a great, safe boating year for all of us.

Yours truly,

Gary Clow
Commander

Cover: The "Mary Jean" heading out
Picture by Dorothy Matheson

VALLEY WELCOMES NEW SQUADRON MEMBERS

Jean-Guy Beaumont	Harrison	Leslie Madelung	Abbotsford
Alexandra Carl	Mission	Monica Maletz	Chilliwack
Robert Chaplin	Chilliwack	Timothy Marshall	Mission
Anne Marie Clamp	Chilliwack	Barbara Marshall	Mission
John Devison	Chilliwack	Karen McDougall	Hope
Wade Duncan	Mission	Stephen Smith	Abbotsford
Gretchen Dunn	Abbotsford	Dorita Smith	Abbotsford
Jason Evans	Chilliwack	Stephen Wilson	Abbotsford
Karen Evans	Chilliwack	Susan Wilson	Abbotsford
Gerhard Korff	Harrison		
Dianna Schoenfelder-Korff	Harrison		

Chilliwack Fall Boating Class 2008



VALLEY'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

..... Sandra Clow, Socials



Audrey Smith of Alouette Squadron, who showed their power point of Canal Cruising in Great Britain. This very interesting and informative presentation attracted lots of interest and questions from our members. Perhaps a cruise is in the works for Valley in the future.

Our annual Christmas Party was held this year on Friday, November 28th at the Yarrow Community Hall.

In attendance were 65 members and friends who enjoyed a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Thanks to all who attended and brought such a yummy assortment of dishes for us to enjoy.

Our special speakers for the evening were Al and



Thanks also go to Bev and George Leeder for their donation of several mini poinsettia plants which were given out as prizes, along with nautical door prizes and Christmas centre pieces to members sitting in the lucky spots at the tables.

Many thanks to the many hands who helped decorate and clean up, and a big thank you to all the members for their generous donations of foodstuffs for the Abbotsford and Chilliwack Food Banks.



Pictures compliments of Larry Nielson & Bonnie Arnette

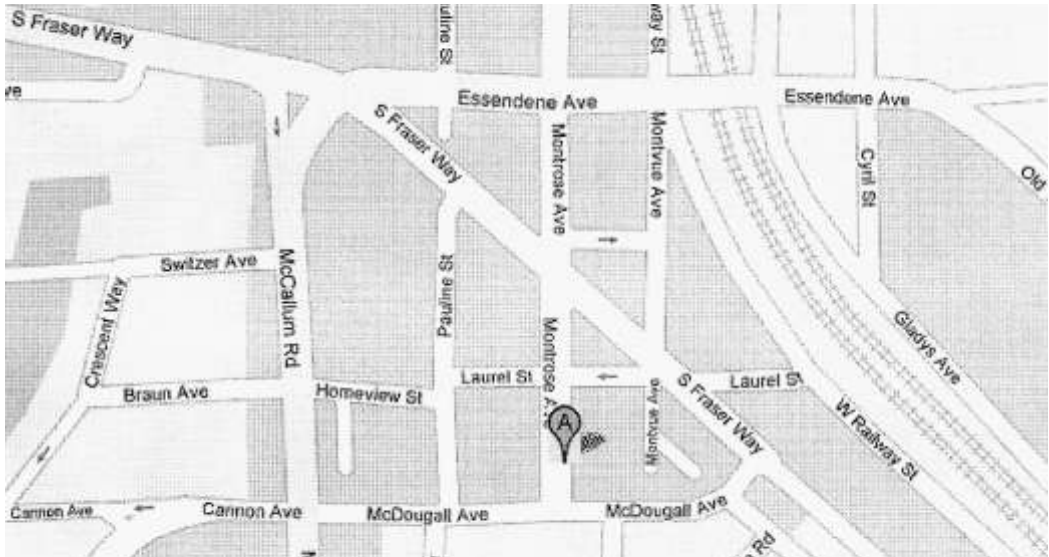




EVENTS

Tuesday, January 20th, 7:00 p.m. Fall Boat Course Grad Party
at the Abbotsford Community Services
2420 Montrose Avenue, Abbotsford
At 7:00 p.m. Coffee and Cake will be served.

We would like to see lots of people come out to the Grad Party to welcome the new members to Valley Power and Sail Squadron



Balloon marks the location of
Abbotsford Community Services, 2420 Montrose Avenue, Abbotsford
2 blocks south of South Fraser Way – across from the Legion

Saturday, March 21st	St. Patrick's Day Party – Yarrow Community Hall. More details in next GAM
Tuesday, April 14th	Annual General Meeting
Thursday, April 23rd	Change of Watch at the Rancho

CRUISES

July 11th to July 26th

Two-week cruise in the Gulf Islands.

Please advise Cruise Master Ted Blackhall if you plan to attend or have any suggestions. Ted is planning other cruises for the summer. He would like to hear from you if you have any suggestions or preferences regarding places and timing for any other cruises this year.

Contact Ted at ctcharted@shaw.ca or 859-6102

GET YOUR BOAT SHOW TICKETS HERE!!



Contact:

Steve Madelung (604) 854-6299

Rod Walker (604) 795-3766

Gary Clow (604) 792-9373

Bruce Matheson (604) 824-8616

for tickets at **\$8.00 each.**

(Last year tickets were sold at the gate for \$13.00 each.)

SAFETY GEAR BEYOND THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Back-up heavy duty anchor with chain and rode.
- Windshield wipers for captain and mate.
- Two floating lines (polypropylene) for stern tie to shore.
- Boarding ladder if your boat doesn't have a swim grid.
- Back-up outboard engine (a" kicker").
- Cell phone to back-up marine VHF radio.
- At least two (5gal) containers of fresh water for cooking/drinking.
- Canned for and lots of stove fuel in case of foul weather or engine break down.
- Spare parts and tools to repair everything from the engine to windshield wipers to dinghy punctures.
- Spare ignition key
- A hand held flood light that will plug into a 12V accessory plug.
- Spare paddles or oars in case one breaks.
- Tarp to help ward off torrential rains.
- Lots of sponges.
- Bungee cords.
- Waterproof matches.
- Waterproof container for registration papers, flares and so forth.



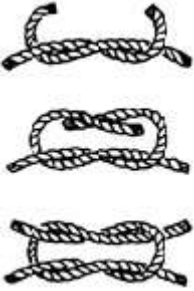
This is not the way to winterize your boat

Boating Knots – Cont'd from November GAM

Square Knot

This knot is used at sea for reefing and furling sails. To tie:

1. Pass the left end of the rope over and under the right end. Curve what is now the left end toward the right, and cross what is now the right end over and under the left.
2. Draw tight.



Anchor Bend

This knot is used to secure a rope or a line to an anchor. To tie:

1. Pass two loops through a ring.
2. Place the free end around a standing line.
3. Pass the free end through loops.
4. Complete by making a half hitch.



Clove Hitch

This knot is a general utility hitch for when you need a quick, simple method of fastening a rope around a post, spar or stake. To tie:

1. Make a turn with the rope around the object and over itself.
2. Take a second turn with the rope around the object.
3. Pull the end up under the second turn so it is between the rope and the object; tighten by pulling on both ends.



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44915 Yale Road West, Chilliwack, BC

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.**

January 13th
February 10th
March 10th

Valley Squadron Bridge Officers

Commander	Gary Clow	792-9373	Gary_Clow@telus.net
Sq. Administrative Officer	Brian Hanneson	854-1649	bvhanneson@shaw.ca
Sq. Training Officer	Bruce Matheson	824-8616	bdmatheson@shaw.ca
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Port Capt- Cultus/Harrison	Dave Hampson	858-4397	
Past Commander	Bruce Matheson	824-8616	bdmatheson@shaw.ca