

North Star

Membership Publication by the
Vancouver Island North District
(a Unit of Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons)



Don Lassey

Long time Power Squadron member Don Lassey is featured in an article with respect to Coast guard Auxiliary. Don is best known in power squadron circles as a past Commander of Vancouver Island South District.

It seems Don and two other auxiliary members were crewing the rescue vessel "Spirit of Sooke". They were attempting a rescue of a sloop-rigged sailboat in Juan de Fuca Strait out past Race Rocks, in huge seas. With permission of Mr. Knox and Mr. Lassey I will reprint portions of the Times Colonist article.

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The couple on the vessel was wide-eyed, the man white knuckled to the wheel, the woman below decks, screaming into the radio. Lines were trailing all over, a dingy bucking behind the stern to which it was tethered. "It was a real disaster when we got up to it" recalls Lassey.

The Sooke man managed to clamber aboard, but in the process got whacked in the legs by his own rigid-hulled inflatable. Such are the joys of volunteering for the coast guard auxiliary.

Suddenly, at the height of this mayhem, a leviathan reared up from the deep.

It was the USS George Washington Carver, a nuclear-powered submarine based in Bangor, Wash. Having picked up the sailboat's mayday call while coming in from the Pacific, it headed to the scene and surfaced. More than a football field long, it made for a perfect breakwater. With the sub's massive bulk keeping the waves away, Lassey and the others on the Spirit of Sooke were able to get the sailboat under control and tow it to Victoria.

That was 15 years ago last month, April 20, 1992. It was an odd enough episode that it still stands out for Lassey, who had a hand in 443 call-outs during the nine years he spent with the coast guard auxiliary's Sooke unit.

Reprinted with thanks from the Times Colonist and Jack Knox.

Many members of power squadron are also, or have been, members of the coast guard auxiliary, and we know first hand the dedication of these volunteers, and the dangers they face.

Also the joining of rescue efforts from two countries. No border issues here. Sort of brings some peace of mind.

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VIND Rendezvous 2007

VIND RENDEZVOUS 2007
Page's Marina, Gabriola Island
Friday – Sunday: August 24 – 25- 26

REGISTRATION FORM

Please print: (information will be kept confidential)

Name(s) _____

Street address _____

City, Province, Postal Code _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Special commuter prices are available for those traveling by Gabriola Ferry

(Ferry tickets must be purchased in advance for these rates)	#	Amount
Registration: @ \$ 11.00		
Children under 6 (free)		
Milk for each child? Y/N		Y N
Number of round trip ferry tickets required		
Adult walk on or car passenger @ \$ 4.60		
Children 4 to 11 years (under 4 free) @ \$ 3.20		
Car up to 7 ft. height, 20 ft. length @ \$ 15.60 includes driver		
TOTAL \$ amount (enclosed)		

Car & driver tickets may be credited towards campers, etc
Ferry tickets will be mailed in advance to your address above
Remember seniors do not ride ferries free on Friday, Saturday or Sunday

Registrations must be received by August 10
No ticket sales at the time of Rendezvous
Registration includes events, BBQ Saturday night & Sunday Breakfast

Please make cheques payable to **VIND Rendezvous** and mail to:

Florence Sutherland
645 Dogwood, Gabriola Island, B.C. V0R 1X4

Questions?

Florence Sutherland (250) 247 8301
Clifford Miller (250) 743 7030 e-mail whiskyjack@shaw.ca

Discharge Regulations

Further to the article in the last edition of Scuttlebutt about the new regulations governing discharge of sewage overboard, some well thought out letters were submitted to the Advisory Council. And some things did change. The Canadian Marine Advisory Council did recognize it would be nearly impossible to comply with the new regulations if there were no pump-out stations (“on-shore reception facilities”) reasonably accessible. What is being recommended for the regulations now, is that there be a 5-year period before the full set of regulations are established to allow for development of “on-shore reception facilities”. However there will be limitations on where a boat may discharge sewage during this period:

- No discharges within 3 nautical miles of shellfish growing areas, drinking water intakes, or designated sewage areas (Note: A future prohibition may be required for areas under the Species at Risk Act and endangered species);
- No discharges within areas where on-shore reception facilities are available; and
- Outside of designated sewage areas and where facilities are not available discharges would be permitted under the following conditions:
 - Discharges passed through an approved MSD (fecal coliform count of 250/100 mL); or
 - Discharges 3 nautical miles from shore; or
 - Where geography limits the distance from shore to less than 3 nautical miles, the discharge would be at the farthest point into the deepest waters into currents moving away from shore.
 - Any discharge should be while the boat is underway, at fastest practical speed to promote dispersion.

There will still be a requirement to keep a record of any discharge.
For more information please contact Tom Morris (613-991-3170, morrist@tc.gc.ca).

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**VANCOUVER ISLAND NORTH DISTRICT
(A UNIT OF CANADIAN POWER & SAIL SQUADRONS)**

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We're on the Web at:
www.vind.org

Summer Cruises 2007

Date	Cruise	Destination	Squadron	Contact
June 16-17	Half Way to Christmas	Telegraph Harbour	Nanaimo	Alexa 390-3805
Aug. 4-6	Apple Cruise	Maple Bay Marina	Nanaimo	Alexa 390-3805
Aug. 24-26	VIND Rendezvous	Silva Bay, Page's	VIND	Clifford 743-7030
Sept, 1-3	Sun Cruise	Tribune Bay	Ballenas	Jeff 248-9196

Contact the above people for details on the cruises. We are promoting participation by all Squadron boaters in as many cruises as possible, regardless of which Squadron is doing the planning.

Have a safe and fun summer.

Jeff Hale