

North Star

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



Commander's Corner

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North Star

*Editor: Jeff Hale AP
Ballenas Squadron
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It seems like only yesterday that I submitted a note to the North Star, and started by saying that another Training season was upon us and that most Fall Boating Courses were under way.

Here we are, practically at the end of the Training season, with most Squadrons winding down and holding their Graduation ceremonies and Annual General Meetings.

I have had the pleasure of attending a number of these events during the last few weeks and have been pleased to see the enthusiasm displayed by not only the graduating students, many of whom made the very wise decision to become members of CPS, but also by the "old guard" who continue to willingly donate their time and expertise for the benefit of their Squadrons. To this latter group I would like to say a special "thank you".

Many of you have been actively involved for years, as was evidenced by the number of Merit Mark certificates I helped to present. It is amazing how many certificates show 20, 30, 40 and more years of service to CPS. You are the ones who make this organization tick and I hope that we will be able to get many of our new members to follow in your footsteps.

To the Squadrons I visited, thank you for your warm hospitality and to those I was not able to get to, due to a pretty crowded calendar, I will make a point of attending one of your future functions.

Please don't forget our upcoming Annual Genreal Meeting and change of Watch, which is being held on Gabriola Island on the weekend of June 1. I urge all Commanders to try to get as many of their member to come and take part in this event and to help welcome the incoming Bridge.

Also, I hope you will put the Squadron Rendezvous on your calendar, in August. This is a day when we get together with members from many Squadrons and have a great time. I will look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, I would like to wish the incoming Squadron Commanders and their Bridges a successful year.

Have an enjoyable and safe summer out there on the water.

D/C Ray Orr

VIND AGM 2007

Schedule of Events

VANCOUVER ISLAND NORTH DISTRICT 2007 AGM THE HAVEN, GABRIOLA, BC

Schedule of Events

Friday, June 1, 2007

1830 – 2030 Registration at the Phoenix Room (follow the signs).

1900 – 2100 Meet and Greet in the Phoenix Room – no host bar – dress casual. Piano music by Leah Hokanson and maybe some flute playing (guess who). Slide show by a local photographer.

Saturday, June 2, 2007

0800 – 1030 Registration in the foyer Phoenix Auditorium (follow the signs).

0900 – 1030 District Annual General Meeting Phoenix Auditorium-
suggested dress: white or grey slacks and white short sleeve shirt.

1030 – 1045 Coffee

1045 – 1200 Resume District Annual General Meeting. Council meets briefly.

1200 – 1330 Lunch in the Lodge – no host bar.

1330 - 1500 Commanders and Training Phoenix room and stage

1800 – 1900 Happy hour in the Dining room and bar area – no host bar
suggested dress: blazer, white shirt, tie and white or grey slacks.

1900 – 2030 Banquet in the Lodge

2030 - Short speeches, special awards, pledges, etc., in the Phoenix

Auditorium, followed by no host bar and Dancing and listening to the band music led by John Capon.

Accompanying Members - Artisan and Garden tour – 1000 - Leave from Haven parking lot, lunch (included) at Silva Bay
– return by 1430. Dress casual.

Sunday, June 3, 2000

0800 – 1000 New District Bridge working breakfast in the dining room.

PLEASE NOTE THE LAST FERRY LEAVES GABRIOLA AT 2225 SHARP

VIND AGM 2007

Registration

Vancouver Island North District
 Conference 2007 & Annual General Meeting
 June 1 & 2, 2007
 Haven Resort Seminar Conference Center
 240 Davis Road, Gabriola Island

Come and visit beautiful Gabriola Island and enjoy its many treasures of parks, beaches, shoreline, petroglyphs, artisans, gardens and many other attractions.

The business meetings and AGM are open to all members at no cost. Registration is not required for these meetings. Members are encouraged to participate in the business of the meetings. Registration deadline is May 19, 2007. Register before April 7, 2007 to be entered into the EARLY BIRD DRAW. The prize is a credit of the registered amount up to \$50.

Please PRINT – information is kept confidential.

Member Name: (last) (first) Squadron

Name as it should appear on nametag

(P, AP, JN, N) Squadron/Bridge position

Mailing address

Phone no: Fax no: E-mail:

Accompanying person's name(s) as on nametag:

				Totals
Friday:	Meet & Greet (cash bar) 1930 – 2100.	No.	x \$12.00	
Saturday:	Lunch (cash bar) 1200 – 1330.	No.	x \$15.00	
	Reception 1800 – 1900. (cash bar)		XXXXXX	
	Dinner/Dance 1900 -	No.	x \$38.00	
	Accompanying Persons Tour (lunch included)	No.	x \$20.00	
Discounted ferry tickets:	Car only	No.	x \$12.00	
	Driver/Passenger/Walk-on	No.	x \$5.00	
TOTAL				\$

Costs include applicable taxes and gratuities.

Ferry tickets provided are about half the regular prices and will be mailed to you on receipt of full payment.

Make cheques payable to: Gabriola Island Squadron VIND AGM
Mail to: Christine Purfield, 340 Larch Rd. Gabriola BC V0R 1X1

VIND AGM 2007

The Haven

Directions to the Haven: Turn left onto Taylor Bay Road 100 meters after leaving the ferry dock, then approx. 3 km. to the Haven sign and left onto Davis Road to the end.

Ferry to Gabriola leaves downtown Nanaimo, opposite Port Place Shopping Center, southeast of Coast Bastion Hotel. Ferry schedule below. Also check BC Ferries website for any changes, at <http://www.bcferries.com/>. Fares are for round trip.

If transportation is required from Gabriola dock to the Haven, please indicate:

Number of people Date and time of sailing from Nanaimo

Pay parking is available in Nanaimo just north of the ferry terminal behind the Port Theater, and at the sheltered lot at Nanaimo Harbour across the street from the Port Theater. Parking is free at the Haven.

Accommodation: Please make your own arrangements. The Haven has a limited number of rooms reserved for us until April 30, and when contacting the Haven, say you are attending the District Power Squadron meetings, and ask for Louise. Phone 250 247-9211. Other accommodation information is attached.

Boating, camping: For those who wish to travel by their own boat, limited docking space is available in Silva Bay at Page's Marina, or Silva Bay Marina. Please let us know if you require transportation to the Haven from your boat. Descanso Bay RV Park is located on Taylor Bay Rd on the way to the Haven.

Accompanying Members Tour leaves the Haven at 1000 and will include some of the attractive art galleries and the popular tourist sites. Lunch is included, at Silva Bay Marina restaurant during which you will hear a talk about the geology of the area by a renowned local paleontologist.

Contact Information

Conference:

Christine Purfield 250 247-8659
Don Butt 250 247-7804

The Haven

Louise Amuir 250 247-9221

Boating and camping:

Silva Bay Resort & Marina
www.ohwy.com/bc/s/silvbarm.htm
250 247-8662

Page's Marina

www.pagesresort.com/marina.htm
mail@pagesresort.com
250 247-8931

Descanso Bay Park (RDN Park)

Jim Demler
www.rdn.bc.ca
250 729-1213 or home: 250 247-8335

Tourist & Accommodation Information:

Gabriola Chamber of Commerce
250 247-9332

Dress Code

AGM, dinner/dance: blue blazer and whites or grays if you have them

All other events: casual

Gabriola Ferry Schedule

leave Gabriola		leave Nanaimo	
0545	1510	0615*	1545
0645*	1615**	0715	1650
0750	1720	0820	1755
0855	1825	0930	1855#
1005	1925	1025**	1955
1110	2025	1140	2055
1215	2125#	1245	2155
1320	2225	1355	2255

* no sailing on Sundays – safety drills

** no public sailing on Wed – dangerous cargo

no sailing Wed - refueling

Report of the Vancouver Island North District Nominations Committee 2007/2008

The District Nominating Committee nominates the following Members for election as District Officers for the 2007 / 2008 year:

District Commander	Ray Orr	Cowichan
District Exec Officer	Don Butt	Gabriola
District Training Officer	Nick Boutcher	Nanaimo
District Admin Officer	Clifford Miller	Cowichan
District Secretary	Holly Fowler	Cowichan
District Treasurer	Clif Louttit	Ballenas
District PR & Marketing	Rod McLachlan	Mt. Brenton
District Marep Officer	Nancy DeGagne	Ballenas
District Membership	Peter Bolton	Cape Lazo

The District Nominating Committee also nominates the following Members for election as District Officers, who, if elected will have the duties indicated next to their names assigned to them by the District Executive Committee pursuant to District Regulations 10.2(b):

Assistant Training Officer	Betty Pearson	Mt. Brenton
Assistant Training Officer	Fred Sankey	Cape Lazo
Assistant Training Officer	Alexa Stochmal	Nanaimo
District Editor (North Star)	Jeff Hale	Ballenas
District Supply Officer	Bill Farmer	Nanaimo
Roster Editor	P/D/C Sue Loveless	Mt. Brenton

The District Nominating Committee also nominates the following Member for appointment by the Members as Auditor of the District

Auditor	P/D/C Walter Turch	Nanaimo
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The District Nominating Committee advises that, if elected, the Nominee for Commander intends to appoint the following Members for the duties of:

Roster Advertisement Co-Ordinator	Rod McLachlan	Mt. Brenton
Webmaster	Bob Derksen	Gabriola Island
Privacy Officer	Peter Bolton	Cape Lazo
USPS Liaison	P/D/C Sue Loveless	Mt. Brenton
PMD Liaison	P/D/C Barb Hoffstrom	Nanaimo
VISD Liaison	Don Butt	Gabriola island

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Report of the Vancouver Island North District Nominations Committee 2007/2008

Gov't Liaison
Port Capt/Environment Officer
Historian

Don Butt
Don Hurd
Eileen Louttit

Gabriola Island
Mt. Brenton
Ballenas

The District Nominating Committee also advises that:

The following Member will serve on the District Executive Committee and the District Council by virtue of her position as Immediate Past District Commander, and does not require election or appointment:

P/D/C Barb Hoffstrom Nanaimo

Pursuant to District Regulations 9.15.1, the following Members will serve on the District Nominating Committee during the year 2007/2008 by virtue of their positions and do not require election or appointment:

P/D/C Barb Hoffstrom, Chair
P/D/C Sue Loveless, Member
D/C Ray Orr, Member

Respectfully submitted:

P/D/C Barb Hoffstrom
Chair

P/D/C Sue Loveless
Member

D/C Ray Orr
Member

Editor's Comments

Welcome to the annual AGM Notification issue. We have posted several electronic issues in the VIND website over the year, so if you have missed them, you can read or download them from www.vind.org, along with most of the forms and information contained in this issue.

The next issue will be around the beginning of June, and will be the cover for the Roster. I am looking for the Squadron Commanders and Cruisemasters to send me their cruise schedules for this year so I can include them in the next issue. We will include information on the VIND cruise to Silva Bay for the annual Rendezvous that is scheduled for the weekend of August 24-26.

For the newsletter editors out there, I have a number of cruising stories that are available for your use. Most have been previously published in the Ballenas Bowline, but you are welcome to use them in your issues. Any budding authors are welcome to send me their stories and pictures, and I will include them in the electronic issues of the *North Star*.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer on the water!

Jeff

Hale's Hailings

Desolation Sound Cruise

August 2006

The forecast was wonderful, so unlike that of last year. In 2005 we had rain, rain, and more wind. This year promised sun, warm and calm. We launched at French Creek at 1600 and debated whether we should shoot directly up to Refuge Cove or just to Tribune. Once out of the harbour, I gave Small Chang full throttle, and was instantly concerned with the lack of power. The boat took a long time to get on plane, and once there, the rpm's topped out at just over 3,000. The interesting thing was, there was no appreciable difference between half throttle and full, except the engine was pinging at full. Top end was only 28 knots. We called the shop and Dave told us he could come down within the hour, so we headed back to the government dock to wait.

He had not touched the engine, but had changed the Alpha One leg. The old leg was so packed with wood from hitting stuff over the last couple of years that he had been unable to clear the tubes. In order to get the speedometer working, he had swapped my old lower with a new one that he had in stock. He did not even charge me for the new housing!

Once his tools were on board, we went for a run, and it performed the same. Everything on the engine checked out. We mutually came to the conclusion that the gearing in the leg had to be different from my leg. All his training had indicated that all Alpha One legs had the same gearing, but the engine did not have enough power to drive the new leg efficiently, and that was the only reason we could think of. Rather than giving up on the weekend, I figured we could live with the reduced performance. After all, we seldom cruise faster than 28 knots, and once on plane we were cruising at 25 knots at about 2,800 rpm.

We bade Dave a good weekend and headed out again. The water was smooth, so we set course for Savary Island. We had a smooth run, slowing only for the large wake thrown up by the Norsk on its way south. A pod of dolphins was headed south as well, thrilling Susanne, as she seldom gets to see the large pod. We approached Manson Passage and I was contemplating going through, but do not know the area very well, and it is quite dangerous, even for a little boat like ours. I chickened out when we had 8 feet of water and we could see rocks poking out of the ocean ahead. We turned around and made for deep water, then headed up to Baker Passage. It is a weird feeling to be passing rocks in the middle of the ocean, over a mile from shore!

The sun was getting low, so once well into the sound we decided to tie up at the dock at Refuge Cove instead of anchoring in the likely crowded anchorages. After all, it was the long weekend. If we arrived at the dock too late, we might not be able to find a spot. We were quite surprised to find we had our pick of places, there only being about a dozen boats. We tied up and found that everything was already shut for the night, so we had our usual smoked oysters, humus, nacho chips and salsa, and blackberry wine. Then we used their shore facilities before retiring.

We had a leisurely breakfast, paid for the night, and headed over to the fuel dock to fill up. Then we ran up to Teakerne Arm and took some pictures of the falls before securing Small Change to the small dock. There were a number of large boats anchored in the area, but the dock was deserted. We hiked up the short trail to Cassel Lake. There were ropes anchored in the rock leading down to a nice swimming spot, so I stripped down and went for a dip in the warm, clear, fresh water. We relaxed in the sun for a while, then hiked back to the boat. We passed a couple of groups heading up to the lake, and checked out the single campsite. We motored out to the middle of the arm and drifted in the sun while enjoying our lunch.

There was a light chop by the time we were ready to carry on. We ran down between the Martin Islands and West Redonda Island, timing it so we arrived at Roscoe Bay with plenty of water to get in. It was our intention to anchor for the night there, and we again had our pick of spots close to the camping area. There were several tents up and kayaks and dinghies lined the shore. We inflated Abit (our blow-up tender) and rowed to shore through the worst example of irresponsible sewage dumping that I have seen. The anchorage was not as busy as last year, but filthy. Last year it had been quite clean. We pulled Abit up on shore and hiked up the trail to the lake. We followed the main trail, trying a couple of access routes to the lake, but everywhere was busy with people. We finally settled on a spot and went in for a warm swim. It was not as nice as Cassel Lake, but was a great way to cool off. A couple of people brought their kayaks up and set off to explore the lake. We contemplated doing the same with Abit, but decided it was more trouble than it was worth, so headed back to the boat.

Disgusted with the anchorage, we decided to return to Refuge Cove where we had the use of the shore facilities instead of using the porta-potty. We arrived in time to check out the store and small eatery. We debated on trying one of their pizzas, but by the time we decided we were hungry, they closed. So we had our usual fare for supper and visited with some of the other boats. The place was almost deserted, with lots of available space at the docks. We even had the same choice spot as the night before.

The next morning was clear and warm. After a relaxed breakfast we headed up Waddington Channel to poke into some of the anchorages. There were a few boats in each, but they were far from crowded. We came back down the other side of the channel and swung into Pendrell Sound. The water was like glass as we cruised up to the end and anchored for lunch in a tiny bay. The end of the sound was busy with boats. Some of the larger boats had tenders bigger than Small Change! People were swimming, waterskiing, and running around on Sea-Doos. We had a relaxed lunch, then ran out to the middle of the sound and drifted.

The sky was clear, the sun beat down, and we spent the afternoon lazing in the sun, swimming, and reading. It was late



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

c/o 1234 Marina Way
Nanoota Bay, B.C. V9P 9B8

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



Hale's Hailings

afternoon when we decided to go back to Refuge Cove for the night rather than trying to find a good anchorage among the other boats in the sound. We fuelled up at the dock, secured Small Change for the night, and strolled up to the eatery for their pizza. We each had a different pizza, as they only made an individual size. Shortly after we returned to the boat, we had a visitor. Another couple on our finger were Power Squadron out of the Frazer River, and were touring the islands. We chatted about the various spots we had found, and learned that they were going to sell their 26 foot Bayliner. The main drawback for us was that it had a porta-potty. (We are looking for a larger boat with a holding tank and more range for some more adventurous trips.)

It was another quiet night, but the morning weather broadcast was for the wind to pick up by mid day. We decided to take advantage of the calm water and had an early departure at 0900. We found that the advantage of the different gearing was that we used less fuel once up on plane. The disadvantage was that our top end was greatly reduced, and the motor took a fair while to achieve cruising speed. Susanne practiced her conning skills for

the trip down to Tribune Bay, and we arrived just after 1100. The tide was low, so we anchored close-in at Little Tribune.

The wind picked up as we enjoyed the sun, swam and chatted with some of the others on the beach. By 1400 the waves were building from the east, so I swam out and brought Small Change in close so Susanne could carry our stuff to the boat without it getting too wet. I had to push the boat back into water deep enough to get a grip with the propeller (without driving it into the sand) through the now strong wind and large waves while missing the few now submerged rocks.

The trip back was slow and bumpy. We were sure happy we had not stayed in Desolation Sound longer. It would have been a long slog through those waves, just like last year! Last year's return had taken four and a half hours to Hornby Island. This year it only took us two. It was 1530 by the time we pulled into the calm waters of French Creek.

Jeff Hale