



# PORTLIGHT

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[www.portdalhousiecps.com](http://www.portdalhousiecps.com)

## Spring Greetings 2011

It's been a long cold winter. Like many of you I find myself frequently thinking of being on the water and planning cruises to new or familiar destinations. Spring is coming! Soon the boatyards will be busy with a lot of buffing and cleaning as we get our boats ready for another season.

I have just returned from a Florida vacation and while there checked around at various units to the United States Power Squadron. I found out that Florida now has a requirement for boaters very similar to the Canadian PCOC. It is to be remembered by all of you that the PCOC you all have through CPS is the only one officially recognized as meeting the standards of the United States Coast Guard and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. Next time you are in Florida and would like to rent a boat you can proudly show your CPS PCOC as being equivalent and acceptable. In the U.S. boat operator permits are a state responsibility and regulations will vary. Some have none and some like Florida have standards that match or exceed our own.

We have had a busy teaching year with many of you taking Boating, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigator, Fundamentals of Weather and RROC. I want to thank our teachers; Greg Stratychuk, Leonard Stern, Eric Meth, Louis Culumovic, Dan

Oswald and proctors Phil Trachman and Joe Bognar for the commitment, enthusiasm and dedication they bring to the task. CPS's main mission is Safe Boating through Education. These instructors are proof of the excellence of the program. All of us as members are indebted to them. Like all instructors with CPS they give freely of their time.

## Upcoming Events

Recently your bridge has been planning ways to add informational short seminars to compliment the formal courses. Members were surveyed and I am pleased to announce the confirmation of a **Water Safety and Flare Seminar** to be conducted by Lori Mason, of Mason's Chandlery (The Store) in Port Credit. This will take place at Dalhousie Yacht Club on **Sunday April 10 and 1030**. You will be able to replenish your stock of flares. Niagara Regional Police will be attending to safely dispose of your outdated flares. Lori says she will also bring along some goodies.

Plans are also in the works for the Squadron to be part of St. Catharines Game and Fish Kid's Fishing Day on May 6 at their dock in Port Dalhousie and Kids Safety Day in Grimsby on May 28 sponsored by the Office of Boating Safety. These two volunteer organizations share a common purpose with CPS in making our waterways safer and more fun for all.

## Summer Courses

Continuing over the summer months will be RROC (VHF license) and Boat Pro. Classes will be held as demand warrants. If you need your radio permit or know someone who must get their PCOC please watch the webpage for course details or contact Eric Meth (RROC) or Greg Stratychuk (Boat Pro) for details.

## Annual General Meeting

All members in good standing are invited to Port Dalhousie Power Squadron's Annual General Meeting on Wednesday April 13 at 2000 at Dalhousie Yacht Club. You will have the opportunity to ask questions about Squadron finances and activities.

## Membership Renewal Time

Soon you should be getting notice from CPS to renew your membership. Please consider going to the CPS website, [www.cps-ecp.ca](http://www.cps-ecp.ca) and renewing online prior to receiving a written notice. This saves our national organization a lot of money.

## Consider Volunteering with the Squadron

Yours in safe and fun boating,  
David Bull AP  
Commander  
Port Dalhousie Power Squadron

We invite all squadron members to consider joining the Bridge. You are welcome to come out to any of our meetings, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday September to June at 1900 at DYC. Give us a try. You can help out with some specific activities without joining the Bridge or choose to become a regular member. If you do come out you will find a congenial group of women and men from many walks of life who share an enthusiasm for boating education. If you enjoyed your courses and want to help the instructor consider proctoring for Boating. It is low key, one on one, but you will make a difference to someone who has been away from school for a while and has some challenges with the material. Working with the squadron you will feel you are doing something positive. You can make new friends with others dedicated to safe boating. From time to time we also get together just to socialize and enjoy each others company.

If you have general inquiry about courses or Squadron activities please email [info@portdalhousiecps.com](mailto:info@portdalhousiecps.com) . If you want to contact the Commander email [cdr@portdalhousiecps.com](mailto:cdr@portdalhousiecps.com) .



The waypoint on my GPS says the marina should be right here!