

Officer Reports – 2021-10-18

Commander:

The planning for fall and winter courses has been going smoothly, but we have had serious and continuing problems advertising our Squadron's offered courses on the national CPS-ECP website (our micro-site). Our SEO Agathe Gaulin has been struggling with this for weeks now and has been in contact with VIND about the problem. I advised of the problem at the VIND meeting of September 26, but at the time of writing this report, the issue has not been resolved yet. Even with the "new and improved" SEO dashboard on the CPS website, the problem continues. This is a major problem. The good news is that we do know that we have 7 students in B2+3 and 1 or 2 students so far in B4.

To get more students to register for our boating courses, I took the Cdr.'s decision to publish two advertisements in the Gabriola SOUNDER. Don Butt kindly prepared the artwork. The sandwich boards went out again (thanks Mike!) and the course info on our own microsite (thanks Andy) and Scuttlebutt (thanks Don) was updated.

Gabriola Power and Sail Squadron's brief articles in the Sounder are continuing. Agathe Gaulin, our SEO continues to ensure articles are obtained; she has developed a good relationship with the SOUNDER's management.

No further work has been done so far on the plan to provide some type of boating education to the GES older children in May and June of 2022. I have phoned the school principal; she has not yet returned my call. We do need a Bridge person to lead the planning for this effort during the late fall and winter months. We will also need other Bridge members to participate. Thanks for considering helping!

I wish to thank Elaine Russell. Elaine has confirmed that she has decided to continue carrying out her role as Squadron Membership Officer. Thank you very much Elaine! The CPS-ECP IT problems with membership are also continuing. Meaning that this website does NOT provide our SMO Elaine Russell with correct information about the status of our membership.

We are now getting close to two years of problems with the CPS-ECP IT system, and honestly, several if not all of us - while respecting and admiring the efforts of those who are trying to correct the problems - are very frustrated with this continuing situation. I did attend the September 26 VIND district meeting. I did advise of our serious problems with the CPS-IT system. Especially when it comes to advertising our Squadron's courses (courses are our reason of being!) and membership information (completely unreliable).

I also highlighted our Squadron's success with the 2021 RVCCs (boating inspections). We did 22 boat checks, The other squadrons of the VIND (7 squadrons), together, did 12. Thank you, Bob, and RVCC team.

We are still operating without a Public Relation Officer, and it would be great if we could fill this position. A PRO typically increases our visibility in the community and maintains good relations with our sponsors. That is what we need. If you think you can help, do not hesitate!

Thank you all! Enjoy the rain!

Respectfully submitted,
Jean-Pierre Van Praet, Cdr.

Communications, Privacy, Scuttlebutt Editor:

Scuttlebutt: Next edition will be end of December. Last edition included information on courses. Thanks to Agathe and John for providing the information for that

Communications: We should address what action to take regarding the closure of the Shipyard. This is a safety issue with the maintenance needed for safe operation of our boats and therefore falls into our terms of reference.

I attended the VIND Council meeting with Cdr. John. Privacy could become an issue with the COVID issues regarding vaccines. I've already dealt with a tricky issue on another organization for which I'm Privacy Officer.

I wonder if it's time to think of asking for an assistant in Scuttlebutt, etc. – in a year I'll be 90 years old and maybe time to think mentoring. It has been more than 22 years on the job.

Privacy: Nothing to report.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Butt, AP

Membership:

As close as I can determine, the total number of current members in the Gabriola squadron is 41. Of this number, two are lifetime members and 39 are regular members.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Pearce

Webmaster:

Our microsite is up to date. I have completed some housekeeping as far as courses being offered, additional contact information and general tidying/streamlining.

In case anyone missed the flare disposal offered at Cabela's in September, the local Harbour Chandler will still accept CIL branded flares. Check Upcoming Events for details.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Hunter

<https://www.cps-ecp.ca/contact/squadron-locations/gabriola-island/>