

# **GABRIOLA ISLAND SQUADRON**

## **Minutes of the Bridge Meeting**

**Held on October 25th, 2022**

The Meeting was held both at a physical location (Commander's residence on Gabriola) and by GoToMeeting

**Call to order:** 1510 by Commander Jean-Pierre Van Praet.

**Present at Commander's Residence:** Jean-Pierre Van Praet, Elaine Pearce, and Li Decosas

**Present via GoToMeeting:** Nigel Wells, Agathe Gaulin, Don Butt, Sean Lewis, John Bullas, and Jude Briscoe

**Regrets:** Gary Small, Paul O'Sullivan

**Minutes of the previous meeting** of September 26, 2022: moved by Don, seconded by Li, that the Minutes be accepted. Approved.

**Reports:** Jean-Pierre's report, Don's report and Jude's report are on the CPS micro-site.

**Correspondence:** Jean-Pierre reported that we have received a letter from the Gabriola Island Veterans Association requesting our Power and Sail Squadron to lay a wreath at the Memorial Cairn at the RCMP detachment on November 11. Jean-Pierre indicated that he has responded in the affirmative, and that he will attend. Other Bridge Members are welcome to join. The ceremony will start at 10:45 a.m.

**CPS-ECP CONFERENCE and AGM.** Agathe will represent our Squadron at the conference and at the AGM later this week, and also replace our Commander at the event. Agathe has worked with heart and soul over the last year to offer courses, seminars, and a Boating Camp for Youth, to the Gabriola public, always thinking about increasing our visibility. Agathe has promised to attend as many meetings as practical that may help her – and us- to understand the workings of CPS-ECP better.

**Educational:** Agathe reported that an educational meeting had taken place. It had been decided to proceed with PCOC evening courses (on November 9 and November 23, with exam on the 23<sup>rd</sup>), at the Community Hall (basement). It had also decided to proceed with ROC(M) (radio) evening courses (on November 30 and December 7, with exam on December 7). Nigel will spearhead the Boating 2+3 course which is planned to start in January 2023. The Educational department will also run evening workshops (for example, Collision Regulations) in winter/spring of 2022/23 as well as a Boating Camp for Youth. The dates for the latter will be determined once we learn what the Professional Development days are for the schoolteachers in 2023.

**Public Relations:** Li reported that she had submitted information about the PCOC and the ROC(M) courses to the SOUNDER, for publication under the "Sunder Events Calendar" heading. An ad will also appear in the Sounder of October 26 and November 2 specifically for the PCOC course.

A discussion took place about Christmas cards to be sent out by the Squadron to sponsors and others, and whether it would be a physical card sent out, or a Christmas card sent out by e-mail. It

was concluded that a Christmas card sent out by e-mail will be the most efficient way. Don has a lot of experience with this.

Li also reported on her work relative to two queries to her during the Thanksgiving Weekend. One about a HAM radio course, and one about log salvage and permits for same on Gabriola.

**Li'l Gabe Housing: Jean-Pierre** reported that Jude has offered her front yard as a space where the new tent for Li'l Gabe can be set up. The Bridge members expressed thanks to Jude. It was agreed that Jean-Pierre will organize a first meeting to set up the new tent at Jude's. He will be requesting help from Sean, Gary, and Nigel.

#### **Christmas Party and Social Events:**

Elaine reported on a Social Events meeting that had taken place with Jude and Jean-Pierre. A Christmas Party is planned for December 14 at the Community Hall (basement). The thought is to have a catered event. Discussion took place over whether there should be an admission fee or whether it will be by donation. A discussion took place about the number of people attending and specifically obtaining a close approximation of the number of attendants. Jean-Pierre suggested that we also might consider inviting non-Squadron or non-CPS Members, i.e., volunteers who participated during spring and summer with the HAKAI light trap project at Page's dock, a project managed by our Squadron. This could open the event up to the broader Gabriola Community. It was also suggested that during the event, some time would be reserved to projecting and explaining photos of the Squadron's activities during the past, as well as some photos or information about possible 2023 Socials.

Elaine further reported that a Social Event for February 2023 is being thought of. Possible subjects for the event could be: The voyage of Li and Gary to the Northwest Passage (video material of this remarkable voyage does exist) and the 2022 Hakai Light Trap project at Page's.

**A new Squadron project: construction of a small boat.** Jude reported that she had been contacted by a person - who had taken courses at the Silva Bay boat building school, obtained two kits for building a small wooden boat and built one of them. The person does not feel well enough to continue the project and is willing to gift the second boat kit to our Squadron, on the condition that we build the boat, and use it as a Teaching Tool when it is finished. Nigel had indicated interest on taking the lead in this boat building project, as he has built boats before. All at the meeting agreed to accept this offer and the corresponding commitment.

**Hakai Light Trap at Silva Bay Project:** Jean-Pierre advised that this project has now come to an end for this year. On Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup>, a group photo of most of the volunteers who had participated was taken at Page's marina, under the direction of Don Butt.

**Bert ter Hart's Canoe voyage from Coast to Coast across Canada.** Bert's extraordinary voyage was discussed. It was felt that some sort of recognition of Bert's achievement is to be considered. It was also agreed that Jean-Pierre will contact Bert to congratulate him, and, to enquire whether he might be willing to speak about his undertaking and the challenges encountered, for enthusiasts on Gabriola.

**Secretary:** Our Squadron still has no secretary. Please consider taking on the task of writing minutes.

**Financial;** Jude spoke to her report which is online. She also indicated that she is in favour of giving Agathe a cheque for \$ 500 to cover her expenses for her trip to Toronto and back, attending CPS-ECP Conference and General meeting later this week. This is about the costs that are not covered by CPS-

ECP. Everybody agreed about the fantastic work delivered by Agathe over the past year and agreed with Jude. Don moved a motion to pay Agathe \$ 500 towards expenses related to the 2022 CPS-ECP Conference and AGM. Seconded by Nigel and approved unanimously.

**Next meeting: Thursday November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 3:00 p.m.**

There being no further business, the meeting was ended at 4:10 pm