

Port Dalhousie Squadron District Report January 11, 2012

Thanks to RVCC Officer Joe Bognar for arranging the meeting room at the Grimsby Senior's Centre for our January meeting.

Thanks to Training Officer Dan Oswald and Administrative Officer Susan Payette for their work in making the recent registration run smoothly.

Thanks to Boating Instructor Greg Statychuk, Boating Proctor Phil Trachman and Weather Instructor Dan Oswald for again giving their time to the very important CPS task of teaching courses.

Leonard Stern "N" Designation

Membership Officer Louis Culumovic wrote to me at the end of November asking if our most senior and experienced teacher, Leonard Stern, could receive the N designation indicating his completion of Senior Navigator course plus his extensive practical experience and many years of teaching the course. Leonard took the course originally with USPS but somehow along the way his results never got posted to CPS. Currently Leonard does not feel able to fully teach the class without the proper accreditation. I like to report that the matter has been forwarded to District Commander Bill Allen, District Executive Officer Garry Van Zandt and National Secretary Jim Brown who will bring the matter to Governing Council Operating Committee.

Donation to Team Gordon

As a bridge we have an open invitation to all squadron members to attend our monthly meetings. Member Jennifer Schoenhals attended the January meeting. She had previously asked to be on the agenda in order to make a request for financial assistance for Team Gordon. Team Gordon is a group of local women preparing to be members of the Canadian Olympic sailing team. Jennifer knew the squadron has a financial surplus and asked for \$5000 for Team Gordon. A few years ago the squadron donated money to Derek Hatfield to put towards his solo race around the world.

Guidelines for Squadron Donations

Subsequent to the decision to donate to Team Gordon the commander was asked if there are guidelines for squadrons to follow in making donations. The question was asked, "Could a squadron donate to any cause?" "Is it possible for someone to make up a fictional cause whereby substantial funds end up in their own bank account?" The questions were forwarded to District officers who in turn forwarded them to the National Treasurer and National Law Officer. We are awaiting their reply.

Online Self Study Version of the *Boating Basics*

The bridge was informed that this begins January 14, 2011. Students must complete the course before proceeding to the Transport Canada online Boating Safety Exam. Candidates who want to challenge the exam can only write the classroom exam. The online course is to reach and educate the new generation of boaters that are computer savvy and boaters in remote areas.

Boating Basics is the only Canadian PCOC course approved by the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) in the United States and recognized by the United States Coast Guard.

Facebook and Twitter

We are now established on these "Social Media" platforms. Thanks to RVCC Officer Joe Bognar for taking the initiative and keeping the page up to date.

Chart 1 now in pdf format. A link created from our website.

Central Ontario Boat Show & Sale

Phil Trachman and Richard Bogumil have volunteered to be at the district booth at COBBS. The Commander will be in attendance as well. We plan to offer our services on Friday February 17.