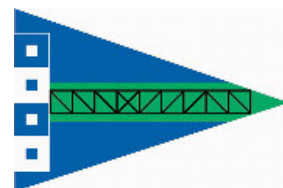


THE BRIDGE



Communication to join, support and connect the members of
PARRY SOUND POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON
a unit of Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons since 1961
www.parrysoundsquadron.ca!



Spring 2009



As white turns to blue, navigation opens soon!!!

The calendar has turned to March and Father Sun is well under way on his northward migration. Some of us may have started putting on boat things already, others are looking at catalogues and magazines for ideas and new products.

Since we were last in touch, of course, there have been so many changes, most of them not good. We sincerely hope that you have not been seriously affected by this.

In troubled times, a boat can be as reassuring as a family pet (which most boats are anyway) and keeps us in touch with nature, which, as the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg once remarked, is like medicine.

So, as we plunge into our Spring issue of *The Bridge*, our best wishes go out to you for a

happy, safe, and successful boating season. If the economy has been rough for you and gas money is at a premium, just remember the pleasures of going slow and taking the opportunity to explore all those little bays and coves you passed by for years on the way to somewhere else.





The Motion of Water

How many of us have been mesmerized by the motion of water as it passes by our boats or washes up on shore? There is, besides this, another aspect to the motion of water, and that is the matter of transporting it to where it is needed. North Bay Artist Kim Kitchen spent some time in northern Tanzania, an extremely arid region, where water is the most precious thing next to air.



Emerging from this experience is a multi-media exhibit called *The Motion of Water*, forming the centrepiece of an environmental event at the West Parry Sound District Museum from

Friday, April 17, to Friday, May 22. Also on display will be works by members of Artists Round The Sound. This event is timed to revolve around Earth Day, April 22.

As boaters, we have a deep concern for the environment, especially as it relates to water, so a look at this exhibit is highly recommended. An opening reception will be held at the Museum on Friday evening, April 17, at 7:00, with appropriate music, readings, observations, conversation, and some stuff to nibble on.

As Chair of the Friends of the Museum (which is what I do when I'm not doing *The Bridge* or noodling around with boats), I extend a personal invitation to you to this very important event.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT EVENT



The Squadron's Annual General Meeting will be **April 24th aboard Chippewa, alongside!** Finger foods, hot hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, coffee, all at the Chippewa dock at the lighthouse on Lower Bay Street. All aboard!
Admission:\$10 Time: 1830 (6:30 PM)

Graduates of the Boating Course will receive their certificates, there will be a Change of Watch as the new Bridge Officers assume command, members who have made a distinguished contribution to the Squadron are recognized, and then...party time!

THE CALENDAR PROJECT

It was not by accident that we started this issue with reference to calendars. We are considering compiling our own special Parry Sound Power and Sail Squadron calendar, with illustrations supplied by our members. These may be photographs, paintings, or drawings of any artistic scene to do with boats and/or Georgian Bay in a height -to-width proportion of 3 to 5. Submission may be by e-mail to Squadron Secretary Marianne King-Wilson. Marianne's address is secretary@parrysoundsquadron.ca

We have some very talented people out there who have seen a lot of interesting things, so we look forward to your submissions with great interest

HELP WANTED!

The Squadron's Bridge is in need of a Youth Officer, whose duties would be to promote boating safety in the local schools.

Teaching experience and being at ease with young people would be a great asset. This is not a high-paying executive position; in fact, you don't get paid at all, but it is a chance to do something valuable for the boating community.

And that's not all. We also need an Assistant Training Officer and a new Secretary. Interested persons are invited to contact the Squadron Commander, Estelle Montpellier, at 342-5451 or

Commander@parrysoundsquadron.ca

Member Profile

Bob Parr



Photo courtesy Bob Parr

Bob Parr had been a lifetime on the Bay already, when he took the Boating Course and became a squadron member in 1974. Bob worked with the Coast Guard from age 16 to retirement, following in the wake of four generations of Georgian Bay commercial fishers, some of whom began under canvas.

Today, he and his wife Sandra enjoy their steel tug *Mink Isle*, purchased in 1983. It's a Georgian Bay boat, built as *Brompton Duchess*, at the shipyards of Russel Bros in Owen Sound, in 1947. She's 50 feet long, with a beam of 13'6". She towed logs in Lake Superior near Nipigon till 1972. Sold and used in building the St Joseph Island Bridge in the Soo, she was "in rough shape" when Bob found her. Bob and Sandra replaced the engine and smoke stack, raised the roof, added TLC, and made it theirs as *Mink Isle*.

Bob grew up on Bay Street, close enough to keep an eye on the family net sheds and their boats at the dock. Today he and Sandra live a few yards away from his family's original home, a feature of century-old photos and paintings of the street. He can still keep an eye on the dock and the Inner Sound from their house.

—MKW



VHF RADIO COURSE

A two-evening course in operation of VHF radios is to be offered on March 23rd and 30th, both Monday evenings, from 6:30 until 9:00, with an exam to be written on the 30th. The fee is \$75 and interested persons are asked to contact Training Officer Lindsay Chafe, at training@parrysoundsquadron.ca

For those who cruise, VHF remains a crucial link with the shore or other boats, as well as the best source for weather information and notices to mariners. It is the mariner's hot-line

for assistance or offer of assistance and, for clarity of communication, there is a particular protocol to be followed. Fines are severe if you are not licensed.

If you do not have VHF training, we recommend this course very highly. If you have already, but still need the DSC endorsement, this is your opportunity.

The course location will be Room 160 at the High School.

Looking ahead to summer...

The Summerside Kitchen Party Surf and Turf to benefit the Stockey Centre and Sail Parry Sound is to be held June 20, at the Stockey Centre—tickets on sale NOW at the box office.

Flown-in lobster and down-east music and entertainment, on the shore of the Big Sound.

THE BRIDGE: this is the team serving you for 2008-09.

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