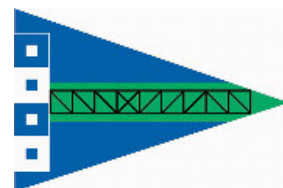


THE BRIDGE



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!



Summer 2009



Photo courtesy Doug McCann

AND SO IT BEGINS...

June is just the turn of a page away on our calendars and there is a lot to tell you about. I'm sitting in front of the computer with a largely blank screen, but it won't be blank much longer, so here goes...

WATER LEVELS

On a matter of concern to us all, a public meeting on water levels is to be held at the Stockey Centre on Tuesday June 9, at 1900.

The International Upper Great Lakes Study (IUGLS) released its controversial draft report May 1. The Study Board will provide in-depth briefing and receive your comments.

It concludes that 6 billion more gallons of water are flowing out of Lakes Michigan and Huron per day than in 1971—and nothing should be done about it!

You can read it for yourself at

http://www.iugls.org/en/home_accueil.htm

The Baird Report found five years ago that the loss is 12 billion gallons per day and increasing— the equivalent of 20,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools. Only 1% is replenished by precipitation and run off.

According to the Georgian Baykeeper:

- a. *Two key studies that will offer a more complete scientific picture have not been made public.* These studies, commissioned by IUGLSB but not released publicly, include a verification of how much water is flowing out of Lake Huron through the St. Clair River and a study on remediation requirements. Studies of the impact of dredging will not be completed until after the consultation process has closed.
- b. *IUGLSB has refused to conduct 3-D modelling of the*

St. Clair River, described by leading scientists as the only way to understand the complex flows of a large river.

c. The study only estimates key data – their new flow meter reads only 2/3 of the way across the river, with the study claiming to “extrapolate” the rest of the flow measurements – “estimate” would be a better word. The Study Board has admitted that the outflow data have been underestimated for the past 22 years.

“They started with flawed data and they got flawed conclusions,” said retired engineer Bill Bialkowski. “The Study Board needs to move to a higher level of science in order to understand this complex river. It appears that sources were carefully screened to support preconceived conclusions.”

d. The current excessive water loss could be catastrophic for Lakes Michigan and Huron, says the Georgian Baykeeper. Once the current cycle of above average precipitation and cooler temperatures ends and climate change results in long periods of drought and warmer temperatures, a further 3-4 foot drop in Lake levels would occur.



Dock to nowhere, 2006

d. Such a change would have devastating consequences for ecosystems and economies. Georgian Bay residents must demand action:

- before predicted climate change impacts lead to another 3'-4' drop in water levels;
- before the Great Lakes' best wetlands are lost forever;
- before ships can no longer transit the middle lakes;
- before marinas begin seeking millions more of taxpayers' dollars to dredge and blast harbours for recreational boats;
- before more toxic blue green algae blooms
- and before fish habitat and populations are destroyed forever.

For more information, visit

<http://www.gbafoundation.ca/> and attend the meeting on June 9 at the Stockey at 7 PM.

DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

We were in Barrie last week and found a couple of Dragon Boats rafted up in the harbour, waiting for the call

to action. They were so sleek and beautiful, like a couple of ocean-going greyhounds, and one could easily imagine the surge of power as the starting horn goes and all those paddlers dig in, almost throwing the steersperson off his/her feet. And then the wakes criss-cross, drums thunder in crashing cross-rhythms, shouts of “stroke, stroke” fill the air, markers slither past, fine showers of spray glitter in the sunshine (we’ve been very lucky that way), and then the finish line, all muscles aching, charged with excess carbon dioxide. Exciting? Oh, yes, indeed!

Poetic ravings now dealt with, here’s the deal. The 2009 edition of the Dragon Boat Festival is on Saturday, June 13, and, as always, personnel are needed for various aspects of the operation. Because of the reputation for excellence we CPS members have, we are always asked to assist. Here is what needs doing:



1. Crewing the safety boat at practices, which start June 1 and finish June 12, (with the exception of June 4) from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. As well, volunteers are needed for the safety boats on the day of the Festival. If you’d like to do safety boat duty, contact Larry Woolner at 746-7012 or president@sailparrysound.on.ca

2. Steering – not all teams have a designated steersperson, so a pool of “hired helms” fills in, often on short notice.

3. Shore crew – essential to the smooth running of the Festival. Interested persons are asked to contact Sue Whitley at 342-9584

BOBBY ORR HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

The same day, one of our own is being honoured. Past Commander Marianne King-Wilson is to be inducted into the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame as Builder, Sailing, for her work with Sail Parry Sound over the years. Sail Parry Sound is to be spotlighted, and the past president of the International Sailing Federation, Paul Henderson will be present to recognize their contribution.

SURF AND TURF!

Just like in the song, *June is bustin' out all over*. June 20th is the Summerside Surf and Turf Kitchen Party, an event in support of both Sail Parry Sound and the Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts. And performing arts will be featured; musicians Victor Jean Dupuis from Sturgeon Falls and Nicole Deveau from

Cape Breton.

The Summerside offers lobster, steak, and oysters for \$50. a serving, but act quickly, as after June 1, it goes up to \$60. Bookings can be made through the Stockey Centre, 746-4466 or on line, www.stockeycentre.com.

"The Summerside"
Surf & Turf Kitchen Party
A special fund raising event for
Sail Parry Sound & The Charles W. Stockey Centre.



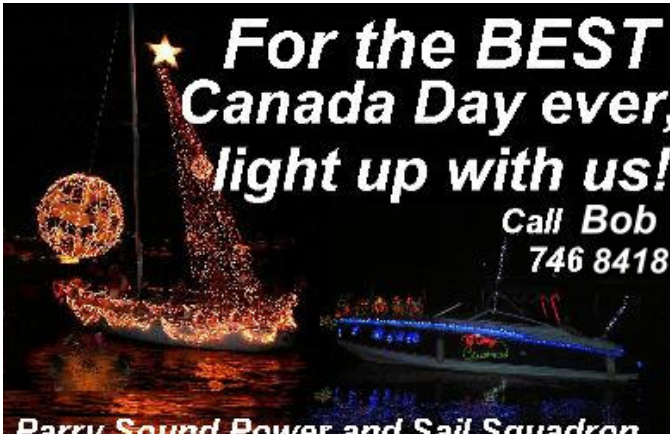
Steak and lobster feast, East Coast entertainment,
oyster roast and oyster shucking contests!
Live entertainment by renowned Sturgeon Falls Fiddle Festival performer:
Victor Jean Dupuis
& Multi-talented performer hailing from Cape Breton:
Nicole Deveau

Saturday June 20th 2009
First Seating: 12:30pm - 3:00pm
Second Seating: 6:30pm - 9:00pm
Advance Tickets: \$50.00
After June 1st: \$60.00

Stockey Centre  **1-877-746-4466**
Performing Arts  **www.stockeycentre.com**
Sail Parry Sound 2 Bay Street, Parry Sound

CANADA DAY SAILPAST

**For the BEST
Canada Day ever,
light up with us!**
Call Bob
746 8418



Parry Sound Power and Sail Squadron

The Canada Day Sailpast is back this year, on Wednesday evening, July 1. Join the party if you'd like to have some fun and contribute to one of the premier community events of the summer. It works like this: you decorate your boat with whatever you like, preferably lights, as the sailpast is at dusk. Christmas lights are handy for this, either in the rigging if you have a sailboat or along the gunwales or railings of power craft. The only

limits are your imagination and the number of lights you have at your disposal.

Participating boats go south of Rosetta Island, form up, turn on the lights, and follow the OPP at dusk. The sailpast runs the whole length of the Town dock and then right out into the Sound until you can see the lights of Belvedere Heights, so the residents can enjoy it. Drift and watch the fireworks. A beautiful night. Your contact for further information is Public Relations Officer Bob Corrigan at 746-8418 or PRO@parrysoundsquadron.ca.

A portable generator is essential, as Christmas lights won't operate off a boat's electrical system, which you probably knew anyway. If you need one, contact John Mason at 342-1315 MarepH@parrysoundsquadron.ca

Any member ashore is asked to be at the Town Dock at 8:00 p.m. for a presentation of a commemorative Maple Leaf flag to the O.P.P. by Minister of Industry and Parry Sound-Muskoka M.P., Tony Clement.

THE CALENDAR PROJECT



As outlined in past issues of *The Bridge*, we are planning production of a special Squadron calendar, apparently the first time any CPS squadron has done this. We invite submissions of Georgian Bay photographs, drawings, and paintings with proportions 3 high to 5 wide. This project can involve any and all Parry Sound Squadron members.

We have established a deadline of **August 16 for summer photos, January 15 for autumn and winter photos**, in order to give adequate time for layout and production and plan to have the calendar available for sale in the Spring, when no other calendars are available. Please send your entry to Marianne King-Wilson; at Executive@parrysoundsquadron.ca
If your company would like to advertise in the calendar, please contact Public Relations Officer Bob Corrigan at

746-8418 or PRO@parrysoundsquadron.ca . Spaces are going fast.

SAFETY MATTERS

Every now and then, some oddity of the English language pops up and hits you in the face, and here is a case in point. In the above headline, the word “matters” was intended to be a noun, but also emerges as a verb, so do feel free to take it both ways, as safety matters do matter!

A major reminder – **as of September 15 this year, all powerboat operators are required to have the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC)**. Just about all of you do, but if you don't, take care of it ASAP. And pass the word to any boating friends who don't yet have the card; we don't want anyone running foul of the law when the time comes.

An updated edition of the Safe Boating Guide has been issued and can be had free of charge from your local marina or from the Squadron's Publications Officer, which would be me, Steven Duff. Please feel welcome to phone me at 774-9200 or e-mail me at

Editor@parrysoundsquadron.ca

to arrange a copy. There is some new information and we recommend special attention to reacquainting yourselves with cardinal navigation buoys. These are extremely rare on Georgian Bay, but we are informed that they will come into more widespread use in Muskoka, as they make more sense there than lateral buoys.

THE BRIDGE: this is the team serving you for 2009-10.

Email	Officer	Residence or Business Tel
Commander@parrysoundsquadron.ca	Cdr Estelle Montpellier	(R) (705) 342-5451
Executive@parrysoundsquadron.ca	P/Cdr Marianne King-Wilson, S	(B) (705) 746-1332
Training@parrysoundsquadron.ca	Lindsay Chafe	(R) (705) 342-9640
Secretary@parrysoundsquadron.ca	James Lacombe	(R) (705) 769-3899
Treasurer@parrysoundsquadron.ca	Sharon Elton	(R) (705) 378-4973
MarepH@parrysoundsquadron.ca	John Mason, JN	(R) (705) 342-1315
Membership@parrysoundsquadron.ca	Hubert Latzel	(R) (705) 774- 9197
Editor@parrysoundsquadron.ca	Steven Duff	(R) (705) 774-9200
PRO@parrysoundsquadron.ca	Bob Corrigan	(R) (705) 746-8418
Supply@parrysoundsquadron.ca	Roger Gould, <u>AP</u>	(R) (705) 746 7559
ChiefPortCaptain@parrysoundsquadron.ca	John Shipman, <u>AP</u>	(B) (705) 746-2411
PastCdr@parrysoundsquadron.ca	P/Cdr Terry Johnson, AP	(B) (705) 375-2232

AN INTERESTING BOOK

Georgian Bay abounds in history and an interesting book on the subject recently came our way. It's called *The Last Boats on the Turkey Trail* by G.I. Longhurst and E.B. Gillham and chronicles the history of shipping between Owen Sound and the Soo, via the west side of Georgian Bay and the North Channel. The Turkey Trail got its name from a combination of the erratic route followed by the little ships and the fact of large shipments of turkeys from Manitoulin Island in the month prior to Thanksgiving.

One Turkey Trail ship, the *Norisle*, survives at Manitowaning, a very pleasant little port that makes a great cruising destination on the Bay (a Baycation, to coin a new word). Another, the *Norgoma*, is at the Soo, if you feel like going that far afield and enjoy being in company with the biggest ships on the Great Lake. And that, readers, is especially exciting.

The Last Boats on the Turkey Trail is a great read, with some very entertaining stories. The publisher is the Glenaden Press in Vineland, ON, and the book, if not immediately available, may be ordered through any bookstore.