

# The *High* and *Dry*

Kitchener-Waterloo Power and Sail Squadron

November, 2011

## **The North Channel: A Boater's Paradise**

by Paul and Anne Proudfoot

We are excited to share with you some of the adventures that we have experienced over the last seven years while sailing in the North Channel. For the past six years we have been seasonal boaters on our 28 foot Mirage out of Gore Bay. We have had the opportunity to meet some wonderful people and visit much of the North Channel from the Turnbull Islands in the west to Collins Inlet in the east. To give you a geography or a history lesson would be to attempt to reproduce the many excellent sources of North Channel information as found on Canadian Yacht Charters' DVD editions of *Discover The North Channel Through Chartering* and the comprehensive information posted at [www.cycnorth.com](http://www.cycnorth.com) and [www.discoveryyachtcharters.com](http://www.discoveryyachtcharters.com). Rather, we would like to

give you an overview of our travels and highlight some of the areas that may be a part of the squadron rendezvous for 2012. This wonderful venue with Gore Bay as a jump off point has the potential to introduce you to one of the top three fresh water cruising areas in the world. This story is intended to inspire, remind, and encourage participation in our summer rendezvous.

As seasonal boaters with Gore Bay being our home port, we spend four to five weeks through July and August each year sailing on *Banana Wind*. Anne and I are finding what people have said for a long time – you never get bored in the North Channel. To quote a fellow sailor, Sir Edmund Hillary, "*Once you have been there you will only want to go back!*" There is often a new cove, secret little beach, or fishing hole that beckons and of course by the time happy hour arrives you are already settled in "your spot". This preplanning lets you enjoy the discussions of the day's events with your first mate and guests that may have "dinghied" by. Everyone is eager to share their

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## **From the Helm**

by R. Glenn Shugg, commander

Your commander was very appreciative of the opportunity to welcome the large number of members and guests that attended the Gala on October 29, 2011 celebrating 50 years of teaching safe boating. Thanks to everyone who were involved. It would be great to sustain similar turnouts for other activities. Let's give it a try. More extensive coverage of the Gala can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

A Bridge decision was made to not hold a Christmas function this year as it would follow too closely after the Gala.

On November 16, 2011 the 2012 Rendezvous Committee provided a well presented Information Meeting for those interested in this event which is proposed to emanate from Gore Bay/CYC Yacht Charters on Manitoulin Island August 18-25, 2012 and explore some areas of the North Channel. If you were unable to attend but would like the information please contact Rick or Ardys Brenneman at 519-662-2861 or email [rickardys@hotmail.com](mailto:rickardys@hotmail.com).

Members are invited to submit comments/ideas for future social functions/events they would like the Squadron to consider. Your input and attendance are always welcome and more participants make for a more vibrant and active squadron. DON'T BE SHY AND GIVE IT A TRY – contact Pat Pearl at 519-742-9987, [pat.pearl@cowangroup.ca](mailto:pat.pearl@cowangroup.ca), Diane Allan at 519-576-0749, [dallan@passport.ca](mailto:dallan@passport.ca) or Glenn Shugg at 519-894-5335, [rgs@gto.net](mailto:rgs@gto.net). We look forward to your contacts.

Have a Happy Holiday Season and don't forget a gift of a boating course in the New Year could make life on the water next summer safer and more enjoyable. Contact Rick Brenneman as above for details and schedules.

## From the Training Desk

by Rick Brenneman, Training Officer

Now is the time to prepare for a new season of boating by signing up for winter courses. We are offering a variety of courses and would encourage you and your boating friends to register in one or more of these offerings. The information that you will gain will make you a more confident and safe boater and increase your enjoyment on our waters.

Our winter schedule includes the following courses—

Course	Details
<b>Boating</b>	
<b>Seamanship (formerly Piloting)</b>	Thursday evenings beginning January 12, 2012 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Resurrection Catholic Secondary School.
<b>Advanced Piloting</b>	
<b>Fundamentals of Weather</b>	Saturday mornings beginning January 21, 2012 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the Community Room at the Westmount Long Term Care Facility.
<b>Marine Maintenance</b>	Date and location to be announced.
<b>Boating Basics (PCOC)</b>	Wednesday, February 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 7:00 – 9:00 at the Waterloo Regional Police Building, Division 3, (upstairs) on the corner of Erb and Albert St., Waterloo.
<b>GPS</b>	Monday, April 2, 9, and 16 from 7:00 – 9:00 at the Waterloo Regional Police Building, Division 3, (upstairs) on the corner of Erb and Albert St., Waterloo.
<b>ROC(M) - VHF</b>	Monday, Mar 5, 12, and 19 from 7:00 – 9:00 at the Waterloo Regional Police Building, Division 3, (upstairs) on the corner of Erb and Albert St., Waterloo.

Of course, all course offerings are subject to sufficient enrolment so bring your friends and family members with you and enjoy the camaraderie of other boaters as we prepare for a new boating season.

**Registration evenings have been scheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2012 and Wednesday, January 4, 2012 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Waterloo Regional Police Building, Division 3, (upstairs) on the corner of Erb and Albert St., Waterloo. If you are unable to attend one of these registration evenings, visit our website at [www.kwboating.ca](http://www.kwboating.ca) to register on line.**

The K-W Power and Sail Squadron  
invites you to attend

## Manitoulin Memories Rendezvous 2012 August 18 – 25, 2012 Gore Bay, Manitoulin Island

*This is your opportunity to enjoy the breathtaking beauty of Georgian Bay's North Channel in the comfort and security of a flotilla, led by experienced North Channel cruisers. Bring your own boat or charter a vessel from Canadian Yacht Charters in Gore Bay. Experience secluded anchorages, awe-inspiring scenery, charming Manitoulin villages, and the friendly camaraderie of fellow boaters. Act now and make this rendezvous a part of your vacation plans for 2012.*

*Tentative plans for the week include:*

Date	Location	Activity
Saturday	Gore Bay	Wine and Cheese Welcome Reception
Sunday	Gore Bay/Darch Island Anchorage	Vessel orientation, Happy Hour at anchorage.
Monday	Benjamin Anchorage	Do your own thing, Shore smores, Star gazing
Tuesday	Benjamin Anchorage	GPS Scavenger hunt/geocaching, Happy Hour
Wednesday	Little Current	Reprovisioning, shopping, sightseeing, BBQ
Thursday	Kagawong	Bridal Veil Falls, Prepare farewell surprise
Friday	Clapperton Anchorage	Interest groups, Farewell surprise
Saturday	Gore Bay	Check-out, Farewells

*Note: All events are subject to change depending on weather conditions.*

*Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy one of the best cruising areas in the world. Visit [www.kwboating.ca](http://www.kwboating.ca) for details and registration procedures. Join us for a fantastic week of fun and adventure. Make memories that will last a lifetime!*

**North Channel (continued from page 1)**

stories. Generally the most outrageous ones come first. Even the most experienced boaters seem to have a really good “oops” story to disclose.

Gore Bay, situated on the northwest side of Manitoulin Island is the starting point for a central swing over five to seven days as suggested in our favorite PORTS Cruising Guide. It allows you to visit three to five destinations with some comfortable navigation. Gore Bay is a wonderful little community that hosts your typical northern main street, a live theatre, outdoor market, concerts, great breakfast spots, and some fine dining. There is also a legion, of course an LCBO, and thankfully a medical centre. This little community welcomes boaters to a fine full service facility that just had an influx of considerable federal government funds that will accommodate many seasonal, transient, and regatta boaters. Thanks to the generosity of the local Manitoulin Transport owner, Doug Smith new washrooms, showers, and laundry facilities are a comfortable addition to a pleasant stay.

When Anne and I depart Gore Bay, we typically chart our way northeast toward the central channel which offers the likes of the Benjamins. The prevailing southwesterlies push us along nicely with a broad reach and usually an exciting close haul on our return. Very close as well are Fox, Amendroz and Clapperton Islands. Although navigating is fun and chart plotters have made life easy, line of sight and close proximity of the mainland and islands makes for pleasant, safe boating.

We have explored most of the North and South Benjamins and each has its own beauty with the pink granite and white quartz which is truly a signature characteristic of the North and South Benjamin Islands. Remember when you are watching the sunset to the west, turn around to see the rocks behind you ablaze with the sun’s reflection. In the main harbour between North and South you can enjoy the the

camaraderie of 20 to 30 vessels from 17 foot trailer sailers to the 50 foot motor yachts. Good grounding is found in the bay but can be susceptible to swells depending on the wind direction.

One of our favorite spots is a sandy beach that we have named “Cookie Monster Cove”, as the large protecting rock wall has a large crack that looks like cookie monster’s grin – or so say the local kids. Just look for the rock. Around the corner you’ll find “Twisted Pine Passage” another locally coined phrase for a cut that extends from the west edge of the charted Sow and Pigs to “Wavy Bay” on the southwest corner of South Benjamin. A must for a dingy ride and swim.

While you are anchored in the main harbour enjoy a hike across the smooth rock while you take in a fantastic view of the anchorage. Don’t forget your camera. You will find some of the best blueberry picking if you get there before the bears – just kidding!

Leaving the Benjamins through the east entrance, a little tricky, but slow and easy does it, you turn north and you soon arrive at Fox Harbour entrance. Fox Harbour is protected from most wind and another favorite of ours. There is room for 10 to 15 boats comfortably so it may accommodate us at this time of the summer when our American friends head home early for the start of their school year. We very much enjoyed “dinghying” through interesting waterways off of Fox Harbour. One of these extends back toward the channel where there is a marsh with beautiful lily pad ponds.

Continuing farther east along the main channel towards Little Current we pass many opportunities for adventure with many coves and bays that offer various points of shelter depending on Mother Nature’s choice of wind direction. One of our new favorite places is Amendroz Island that hosts a large bay with a long sandy beach. This is truly a wonderful anchorage with plenty of room for 15 to 20 boats anchoring in 10 to 15 feet of water with a clean, sandy bottom and a shore area wide enough to accommodate a group function. I experienced my first “moon shadow dance” here with a glorious full moon last August.

On our way to Little Current, Anne and I generally choose to travel the northern route which takes us past Bedford and Schreiber Islands to Waubano Channel which is often a great sail past Mosquito Bay to the entrance to the Little Current Channel. This leaves the southern route for our return trip from Little Current to Clapperton.

Arrival at Little Current has been our opportunity for provisioning with ample stores for groceries, fuel, beer, wine, and hardware. While we are stretching our legs shopping and dining on the main drag we include don’t miss visits to the Anchor Inn and Turners, a store that has everything including local arts and crafts. Another lovely stroll takes us along the new boardwalk, with ice cream cone in hand, toward Spider Bay Marina and the Island Pavilion where you will find nature trail along the water. Spider Bay is where my dream to sail the North Channel began seven years ago, launching the Paulyanna, the 22 foot Tanzer.

Returning towards Gore Bay and home we see Mudge Bay where you will find, at the bottom, the little village of Kagawong. Although Anne and I have not gone into the bay by water, we have visited the little village by car. It was a


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SINCE 1946

# Amy

AWNINGS & SIGNS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊗ Boat Tops</li> <li>⊗ Camper Tops</li> <li>⊗ Travel Covers</li> <li>⊗ Tonneau Covers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊗ Upholstery</li> <li>⊗ Boat Graphics</li> <li>⊗ Sail Repairs</li> </ul>
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## Squadron Marks 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

by Pat and Al Pearl

The Kitchener-Waterloo Power and Sail Squadron held their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala at The Delta Hotel in downtown Kitchener on Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The event was attended by 177 members and guests. The Gala started at 1800 with cocktails, and Hors d'oeuvres. It was the opportune time to socialize and mix with squadron members and guests. Back ground and dinner music was provided by Andriy Tykhonov on the piano. The M.C. for the evening's activities was National Secretary Jim Brown. Before dinner Jim introduced newly elected Chief Commander Richard Bee and his wife Barbara Dodds, District Commander Bill Allan and his wife Diane, Squadron Commander Glenn Shugg and his wife Betty.

Robert Bakker said grace and extended a blessing to everyone, a moment of silence was observed. Dinner was served at 1900. It was a lovely dinner consisting of salad, entrée, red and white wine, dessert and tea and coffee. A souvenir pen was provided for all members and guests.

After dinner special guests were introduced: Pat Pearl – Cowan Insurance, Jim Brown thanked Cowan for their generous donation, Jim's wife Linda, Past Chief Commander Ron Watkins and his wife Past Commander Lois and two Founding Members Bob Kilborn and Robert Cook.

The first after dinner speech was by Chief Commander Richard Bee congratulating the squadron on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. PCC Ron Watkins presented an interesting account of the history of CPS/K-W Squadron. Commander Glenn Shugg welcomed those in attendance and thanked the members of the two committees that worked on the Gala: Bruce and Fran Holden, Greg and Linda Schott, Peter and Nancy Miles, Robyn and Greg Schneider, Gary Millman, Janice Fleischmann, Ron and Lois Watkins, Fred Koehlmann, Bryan and Linda Hodgert and Barry and Lynda McClinchey. He also thanked Ron and Lois Watkins for hosting the committee meetings at their home and the 50<sup>th</sup> Magazine Editor Bob Cotey and his committee of Bill and Diane Allan, Ken Amy, Kent Barisdale, Rick Brenneman, Bryan Hodgert, Bruce and Fran Holden, Pat and Alan Pearl and Terry Torra.

The entertainment for the balance of the evening was Gord Paynter a blind comedian from Brantford, Ontario who provided us with a humorous and memorable hour of comedy.

Barry McClinchey organized the draws for door prizes generously donated by Salus Marine Wear, Waterloo Marine, Downtown Auto, Massel's Marine, Mason's Chandlery The "Store", and K-W Squadron.

The evening came to a close at 2230. Members were given a copy of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Magazine as they left for home. It was a wonderful evening and kudos should go to Glenn and the rest of his committee for a job very well done.

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great day trip and we did this when weather kept us at our seasonal dock in Gore Bay for more than a day. The town is quite small so visiting the unique St. John's Anglican Church, the *Sailor's Church*, and visiting the Bridal Veil Falls in its simple beauty can be a very relaxing half day. Remember to bring your bathing suit and a towel to have a refreshing dip in the pond at the base of the falls. There is a small marine for any repair needs and a very friendly staff as I remember.

Moving north after a pleasant stay in Kagawong we head to Clapperton Harbour on the south side of Clapperton Island. This anchorage has protection from almost any wind direction. There are private property signs, but, those who dare venture into the numerous, abandoned structures will get a glimpse of the resort that "harboured" a few of the famous. John Wayne comes to mind in the 50's. I remember seeing an empty bottle of Mateus wine on the player piano as if someone snapped their fingers and all of the guests departed the dining room in the blink of an eye. This site offers some good picture taking of days gone by. The return trip to Gore Bay via the south end of Clapperton is relatively simple with a very well buoyed channel.

Leaving Gore Bay is always bitter sweet. Anne and I enjoy so much the simplicity of a northern main street village with its quaintness. Gore Bay is considered to be one of the most protected marinas in the North Channel. We leave knowing that our *Banana Wind* is in good hands and ready for our return to continue our adventures in this "boaters paradise".

Here is Mark Twain's outlook on whether you should consider joining us for the 2012 rendezvous. "*Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you did not do than by the ones that you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover*".

## Universal Laws

1. **Law of Gravity:** Any tool, nut, bolt, or screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.
2. **Law of Random Numbers:** If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.
3. **Law of the Bath:** When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.
4. **Variation Law:** If you change traffic lanes, the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.
5. **Law of Probability:** The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
6. **Law of Close Encounters:** The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
7. **Doctor's Law:** If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor; by the time you get there you'll feel better.
8. **Law of Physical Surfaces:** The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor, are directly correlated to the newness and the cost of the carpet or rug.

