



The *High* and *Dry*

Kitchener-Waterloo Power and Sail Squadron

October, 2012

Exploring the New York State Canal

by *Bill Allan*

If you're boating on Lake Erie or Lake Ontario, here is a trip idea you might consider. It's boating in the New York State Canal system. There are hundreds of miles of canals that are joined together and provide access to the Finger Lakes as well as the Hudson River, leading south to the city of New York. The idea came about last winter when two buddies suggested that Diane and I join them on a month long cruise. Les and Hugh usually plan some kind of a cruise each summer, so we were delighted

to get an invitation to join them. Les keeps his 27' Hallman Horizon, *Sagittarius*, at 50 Point Marina on Lake Ontario. Hugh keeps his 28' Hunter, *Swallow*, at the Burlington Boating and Sailing Club on Lake Ontario as well. Our 27' Tanzer, *s/v MIR*, is moored in Port Dover on Lake Erie.

The plan was for Diane and I to leave Port Dover and sail down the Welland Canal, meeting Les and Hugh at Wilson, New York, on the first of August, where the cruise would begin in earnest. Well, the best of plans....., you know the rest. Diane ended up working all summer and urged me to go on solo, which I did.

I needed crew to help with the trip down the

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From the Helm

by *R. Glenn Shugg, commander*

The 2012 Rendezvous in the North Channel was a great success. Rick and Ardys Brenneman are already in the planning stages for 2013 in Port Dover and 2014 in Florida. More information is available elsewhere in this newsletter.

Over the last few months we have welcomed four new Associate Members who participated in the CPS online course to acquire their Pleasure Craft Operator Card. In June a Boating Class successfully completed the course and passed the exam admitting them to full CPS membership. Congratulations to both groups. Currently a small class is studying hard to increase their navigational skills by being enrolled in the Advanced Piloting course.

We intend to run more courses in the new year, subject to student numbers, and I recommend you contact our Training Officer, Barry McClinchey, at 519-578-8743 or bmclinc@gmail.com to let him know what courses you would like to take. Now that boats have been put to bed for the winter, you should think about upgrading your boating skills and enrol in one of the many valuable courses that CPS offers. Give yourself a Christmas present and sign on for another course and perhaps there is another family member, even the kids that could benefit from a course in preparation for the next season on the water.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out. If you would like to discuss how you may participate please contact me at 519-894-5335 or rgs@gto.net.

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season.

From the Training Department

by Barry McClinchey

Three boating courses will be offered this winter.

The Personal Watercraft Operator's Card course will be offered starting in January on Tuesday evenings at Resurrection High School on University Ave. in Kitchener. This course provides you with basic safe boating information and prepares you to write the test leading to the issue of the PCOC card that is required to operate a watercraft in Canada. The cost is \$50.00, including course materials.

The ***Boating Essentials Course*** provides you with additional safe boating information and basic navigation skills that will allow you to be able to read and use navigation charts, expand on the knowledge gained in the PCOC course and increase the safety and confidence that will lead to safe and enjoyable boating. Students need to have a valid PCOC card in order to enroll in the course. This course is also offered at Resurrection High School in Kitchener. The cost is \$175.00, including course materials.

There will also be a ***Marine Radio Operator's Course*** offered at a time and location yet to be determined. This course will prepare you to write the test that will qualify you for the required licence to operate a VHF marine radio. A valid licence, issued by Transport Canada, is required for each person on board that operates a VHF radio. The cost is \$50.00, including course materials.

Are you looking for a special Holiday gift for your children this year? We definitely haven't forgotten them and are offering a youth program for children from 8-12 years of age. The course is 10 hours in length and can be held over a few days. The cost is \$50.00 per child and at the end of the course, each child writes an approved exam and receives their Pleasure Operators Card which is Coast Guard approved. The course is interactive and includes word searches, puzzles, games, etc., all geared to keep the children interested and enthused. To register for any of the above courses, please contact Barry McClinchey at 519-578-8743 or email bmcclinc@gmail.com for further information.

A Florida Fantasy

by Rick and Ardys Brenneman

When the winter wind howls through barren trees and blowing snow reduces visibility and piles up in never ending drifts, do you long for an escape to warm, tropical breezes and sun kissed sandy beaches? Well, now your dreams can become a reality! On February 23 – March 1 of 2014, you will have the opportunity to join the K-W Power and Sail Squadron on a Florida rendezvous and enjoy the warm, inviting beaches and pristine sailing environment of southwest Florida. Southwest Florida offers some of the finest and most varied cruising anywhere, from remote islands to plush resorts, from sugar sand beaches and wilderness waterways to bustling, full-service marinas.

We will begin our adventure at Burnt Store Marina, a state of the art facility on the shore of Charlotte Harbour. Charter boats, both power and sail will be available for rent from Southwest Florida Yacht Charters owned and operated by Barb and Vic Hansen for 28 years. We have chartered from them in previous years and can confirm that their service is excellent. They are very accommodating and have a variety of sail and power yachts that are competitively priced and in excellent condition. You can check our details about their services on line at www.swfyachts.com.

After check-in and vessel orientation on Sunday afternoon, February 23, we will meet at Porta Bellos, an on-site restaurant, for a welcome reception and happy hour. The remainder of the evening will be available for final provisioning, dinner plans, and enjoying the marina amenities.

On Monday, we will depart Burnt Store Marina and head across the protected waters of Charlotte Harbour to the Intracoastal Waterway and on to Useppa Island. Useppa is a private resort that is accessible only by water. Since Barb and Vic are members at this resort, their charter clients are welcome to enjoy the facilities of this up-scale facility. Anchoring options are available for those who wish to forego the expense of marina mooring. There are a variety of dining options on site to accommodate a range of budget choices. We will

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***Rendezvous 2013
June 21-23, 2013
Port Dover, Ontario***



Rock the Dock in Dover



Tentative Events

- Fri June 21*** ***1700 – Welcome wine and cheese reception***
 1900 – Enjoy your own dinner and evening plans
- Sat June 22*** ***1000 – Dover Derby, Dover Regatta,***
 1400 – Tour of local area (fish processing, ginsing/peanut
 farming, etc.)
 1700 – Happy hour
 1900 – 50's dinner and dance
- Sun June 23*** ***1000 – Travelogue***
 1200 – Lunch and farewells

Check out details online at www.kwboating.ca and plan to attend the information meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, 2013 where further details will be presented. For additional information please call Rick or Ardys Brenneman at 519-662-2861 or e-mail rickardys@hotmail.com.

*You're invited to join us for the annual
Squadron Christmas Dinner
on
Friday November 30, 2012
at*

*Milton's Restaurant
2979 King St., E., in Kitchener*

*6:00 – 6:45 Cash Bar
7:00 – 8:30 Buffet Dinner
9:00 – 10:30 Roman Oleskevich, a magician from
Some Kind of Magic, will entertain us.*

*Admission - \$25.00 per person
Tickets can be purchased by calling Pat Pearl at
519-742-9987*



Spectacular Savings!

The following CPS regalia items are available for sale at a reduction of 50% off regular prices. Take advantage of this amazing offer and pick up some of these items for your holiday gift giving. If you wish to purchase any of these items, please contact Diane Allan at 519-576-0749.

- 3 licence plate frames (reg \$4.00)*
- 1 CPS ties (reg \$28.00)*
- 1 fleece vest – size small (reg \$40.00)*
- 1 fleece vest – size medium (reg \$40.00)*
- 1 fleece vest – size 2XL (reg \$40.00)*
- 2 CPS white cotton long sleeve shirts – size 2XL (reg \$14.00)*
- 2 taupe short sleeved golf shirts (reg \$28.00)*
- 2 corduroy CPS caps (reg \$12.00)*

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Canals (continued from page 1)

Welland Canal, so Diane, our eldest son Gary, and our youngest granddaughter Shawna left Port Dover, overnighing in Port Colborne on Saturday, July 28. Sunday we traversed the Welland and docked in Port Dalhousie for the night.

All of my crew left Sunday evening, so I started to get all of the charts and cruising guides set out to be ready for the trip to Wilson the next day. I arrived in good time and then found that the Erie Canal was closed near Rochester because of a collapse of one of the walls. I also learned that my buddies had to delay their departure for a couple of days.

We finally met on Thursday Aug 2 and planned to motor all the way to Oswego and use the Oswego Canal to get to the Erie Canal. Then we would find the Cayuga & Seneca Canal to get to Seneca Lake, which we would use to get to Watkins Glen. From there, we planned to return via the Erie Canal, head to North Tonawanda and then home. However, the canal closure threatened that plan, so we decided to proceed as far as we could for about three weeks and wait to hear news of the closure. On our trip we enjoyed stops at Wilson, Oak Orchard, Rochester, Sodus Bay arriving at Oswego on August 8th.

The canal portion of the trip started there. After our stop in Phoenix, we entered the Erie Canal itself stopping at Baldwinsville and Seneca Falls. From there we stayed at the State Park at the end of the Cayuga & Seneca Canal and ended up at Watkins Glen Yacht Club on Aug 15th, where we stayed for a couple of days. We left to go back to the Erie Canal to start the homeward part of the trip on Aug 17th, stopping at Seneca Falls once more, where we heard the good news that the canal had been reopened for navigation and we could continue towards North Tonawanda! We stopped at Lyons, and then Newark. Diane was able to meet us there accompanied by sailordog **Boots**. She brought a roast of beef, and we stayed in this beautiful town for an extra day.

The next few days were spent at Fairport, Spencerport, Brockport, Albion and finally North Tonawanda, where the canal portion of the cruise ended. A weather window opened up the next day, Aug 27th, showing fine weather on Lake Erie, so all three boats left early. I sailed straight up the lake to

Port Dover, a 14 ½ hour trip while *Sagittarius* and *Swallow* sailed to Port Colborne, and then down the Welland to Lake Ontario the next day. The best parts of the cruise were undoubtedly the towns we stopped at on the canals. Most of them charged no docking fees. They had shorepower, washroom facilities, showers, free pumpouts, and we were always moored very close to the downtown areas. The townspeople couldn't have been nicer to us. All in all it was a most enjoyable month long cruise and one not to be missed!

The whole trip is documented on my blog at www.sailorbill.blog.ca and you can visit there should you wish to know more about the trip and the towns we visited.

We Need YOU!!!



***Dover
Derby***

On the weekend of June 21-23, 2013 we are planning to host our annual squadron rendezvous in Port Dover. In an attempt to satisfy the needs and interests of all our members, we would like to include a fishing tournament as part of the weekend events. However, we need some fishing enthusiasts to assist with organizing and planning the tournament. This is a great opportunity for you to become involved in our squadron and help us to arrange this activity. If you are interested in assisting us in this way please call 519-662-2861 or e-mail rickardys@hotmail.com to indicate your willingness to volunteer. Your participation is appreciated.

Florida (continued from page 2)

have an opportunity to stroll the beautiful trails, enjoy the tropical scenery, and experience the luxury that is available to Florida's rich and famous.

On Tuesday morning we will depart Useppa and head to Cabbage Key for a lunch stop at the famous burger bar which is wallpapered with one-dollar bills. This is reputed to be the place where Jimmy Buffet penned his well known song "***Cheeseburger in Paradise.***" After lunch, we will continue on to a beautiful protected anchorage in Pelican Bay adjacent to Cayo Costa. Cayo Costa is one of the many barrier islands including Sanibel, Pine, Gasparilla, and Captiva that offer protection from the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Cayo Costa is a State Park with outstanding opportunities for birding, hiking, swimming, sunning, shelling, and exploring the natural, undeveloped environment of the area.

From the natural beauty of the barrier islands, we will make the four hour sail northward to the city of Punta Gorda. We will check in to the full-service marina at Fishermen's Village on Thursday afternoon and enjoy the amenities of the area. Fishermen's Village is a unique mall with many interesting boutiques, and restaurants to suit a variety of dietary choices. The waterfront has beautiful trails and park areas with picnic facilities and a variety of recreational opportunities. While in Punta Gorda we will have the opportunity to reprovision and enjoy the historic downtown area of the city.

On Friday evening we will be enjoying a dinner with the Peace River Power and Sail Squadron. This will be a wonderful opportunity to make new acquaintances with members of the USPS. They have a beautiful facility right on the waterfront where we will be able to enjoy a catered dinner and socializing in view of the famous Florida sunsets over the waters of Charlotte Harbour.

The following morning we will depart Punta Gorda and point our bows southward, returning to Burnt Store Marina for check-out in the early afternoon. This will be a rendezvous experience that will provide many cherished memories and a warm, welcoming break to the cold, bleak winters of southern Ontario.

Plan now to join us for this experience. Invite your boating friends and family members to join you and share a boat. Participants do not have to be members

of CPS and everyone is welcome to participate. Although this rendezvous is still a year and a half away, we need to begin making commitments and reservations now. We will be hosting an information evening on ***Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Waterloo Regional Police Building*** where final details will be presented. We'll see you then. In the meantime invite your friends to join you. This is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy one of the most beautiful boating areas in North America.

Coming Events

November 30, 2012

Annual Squadron Christmas Banquet at Milton's
See the detailed advertisement for information.

March 26, 2013

Rendezvous Information Meeting - 7:00 pm
Waterloo Regional Police Building
Be sure to attend this very important information evening. Details about both the Port Dover and the Florida rendezvous will be presented. It is essential that all participants plan on attending.

June 21-23, 2013

Port Dover Rendezvous
Please see the detailed advertisement in this issue for further details. Check for more information on the squadron website at www.kwboating.ca

February 23-March 1, 2014

A Florida Fantasy
Plan now to invite your friends to join you for this amazing opportunity to enjoy the outstanding boating attractions in southwest Florida.