



The *High* and *Dry*

Kitchener-Waterloo Power and Sail Squadron

March, 2006

Poker Run Fever

by Bob Cotey

No doubt everyone has heard the term Poker Run Fever at some time in their boating experience. Just what it means will depend on who is hearing it or using the term. If you are from the sailing community, this term means that your quiet solitude is about to be interrupted by very loud, fast, powerful boats. These boats will make an otherwise calm surface, a violent, turbulent, frothy, unfriendly sea. Fortunately, it is short lived and after the boats have passed, the water returns to its original state in a short time.

If you are a powerboat enthusiast, you might still agree with the above description. However, there are many of us out there who, once a year, look forward to the Poker Run weekend. During the course of the weekend we can live out our fantasy of owning, driving and playing with one of these large, powerful, noisy, fast and very colourful boats.

But let's backtrack for a moment. Just what is a "Poker Run"? If you guessed that it has something to do with poker, you are right, but not the poker challenge on television. This

game is purely chance. Anyone can enter a poker run, but usually only boats that travel over 120 kph or 70 mph will take part in a Poker Runs America event. Participants follow a charted course that will take them to four different places before returning to the starting point. At each place they pick up a card in a sealed envelope, which is not opened until they return to the starting point. At that time the five envelopes are opened to reveal the cards inside. The boat with the best "five card poker hand" is the winner. Pretty simple isn't it? So what is the big deal?

The "big deal" has very little to do with the poker hand. The poker cards and Poker Run are an excuse for the owners and sponsors of the boats to get together and show off their boats. What's to show off you might ask? The boats themselves are something to behold. Just as a sailor admires the clean lines, hull design, keel, mast, sails and accessories of a beautiful sailboat; poker run enthusiasts admire the hull design, paint job and graphics, engines, drives and the deep throated sound of the

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From the Helm

by Bill Allan

The AGM and Change of Watch Ceremony will be held on April 26th, 2006. As this is the last report I'll make under my watch, I want to review some of the notable events and/or changes that have happened in the last 2 years.

The Squadron Bridge Meetings are still held on the second Tuesday of each month except July and August, at the Ratz-Bechtel Family Center, on King St. in Kitchener. They start at 7 pm and usually run for 1 hour, ending with a social time with snacks, etc. All members are invited! Please drop in and join us. We added an Administration Officer to the Bridge in 2004, who looks after our yearly AGM, and any internal Squadron business.

Our Bridge brought back the Mall displays to meet people and hand out CPS promotional materials. We also brought back the Squadron Rendezvous which was held at the end of June in Meaford this year. We towed the Howard G. Peck (CPS Safety Boat) in the 2005 Oktoberfest parade passing in front of over 225,000 spectators. The event was also televised.

The newsletter was published 4 times each year and supplemented by a Squadron Update Email Newsletter, sent to those who have provided us with an email address, and a telephone committee who can call those people who don't have an email address.

We received the Niagara District Attendance Plaque at the 2005 District AGM, and received an honourable mention for our PRO activities.

Our Bridge also worked on fostering closer relationships with the neighbouring squadrons. We did some joint advertising of upcoming courses and events in each of our newsletters and exchanged ideas on possible joint events, such as the Bus trip to the Toronto Boat Show, Summer Rendezvous etc.

I wish to thank all of the Bridge Officers who worked so hard under my Watch, and extend my gratitude to all other volunteers who helped make these last two years so memorable!

In closing, I want to invite each of you to consider helping our Squadron out in some way next year. Whether it be in Training, as a Bridge Officer, helping to organize an event, or joining the Telephone Committee, your participation is needed. It's a perfect way to use or develop your teaching skills, administrative knowledge and I know you will enjoy huge personal growth in a well-respected organization.

Upcoming Training Courses

Spring Boating Course

Registration March 30 and April 6, 2006

First Class April 13th, 2006.

Boat Pro

A two-night Course for PCOC

Registration Tuesday April 25 and Thursday May 4, 2006

First Class Thursday May 11, 2006

Second class and examination May 18th, 2006

VHF

A two-night Course

Registration Tuesday April 25 and Thursday May 4, 2006

First class May 16th, 2006

Second class and examination May 23, 2006

GPS

A two-night Course

Registration Thursday May 25th

First class Tuesday June 6th, 2006

Second class and examination Tuesday, June 13th, 2006

Editorial

The time has finally come. Spring has arrived and launch is ready to begin. The long, winter wait, dreaming of past boating experiences and planning new adventures has finally passed. It's time to get the boat ready for another season!

As you make preparations for another boating season, be sure to carefully check your vessel to ensure that you have all the necessary safety equipment aboard and in proper working order.

Take time to carefully inspect flares, fire extinguishers, life jackets, docking lines, ground tackle, sounding devices and radio equipment to ensure that everything is in order. As well, take time to inspect all mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems to ensure a trouble free and safe boating season.

As you begin a new season of boating adventures, please consider keeping a journal of your experiences and sharing them in future issues of the High and Dry. I would appreciate hearing from you and receiving reports and pictures of your nautical adventures this summer. Your contributions will help to make our newsletter more successful and enjoyable for everyone. I would especially enjoy hearing from the many fishermen, sailing enthusiasts and power boaters who ply the waterways of our magnificent province.

Please e-mail all contributions to rbren@golden.net or send them to Rick Brenneman, 68 Riverside Dr., New Hamburg, ON N3A 2H6.

Inspect and Test Your Boat at the Start of the Boating Season

By Doug Dawson (reprinted with permission)

Before your first trip away from the dock, you want to inspect and test all the equipment aboard to make sure everything works the way it is supposed to. A few minutes inspecting and testing while still at the dock first thing in the season is one of the best investments you can make. It can prevent anything from disappointment to disaster. You don't want to get out on the water to find that you have no gears, and your VHF is on the fritz. Then when you throw your anchor over, much to your dismay, it's not connected. You're on the rocks. Do a thorough inspection of your boat. Turn everything on and test it. Pull out all the lines including the anchor line and check for any problems.

The Helm

At the helm, start the motor(s). Test the shift, throttle and steering. Turn on the VHF and do a radio check. Make sure all other electronic equipment is operational. Now is the time. Not later when you are out and depending on it.

The Engine

Get down beside your motor. Pull the dip stick. Check the oil. Even though the mechanic may have just summarized it, do your own check. Check all other fluid levels like power steering, trim, battery fluid. Look at all the belts for frays and tightness.

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DO WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

From time to time we like to send Squadron information updates between newsletters. If you have never received these updates it may be because we do not have your e-mail address on file. If you would like to be reminded of upcoming Squadron events, please send your e-mail address to – membership@kwpowerandsail.ca

The Near Perfect Storm

A guest, on a private sailboat on a compass heading to the Bahamas, had to hit the head. Excusing himself he left the main cabin.

Shortly after, a sudden squall hit the ship. A giant freak wave rolled over the vessel and, with a stress breach in the hull, the boat began taking on water!

Just short of sinking and with his guests and crew in the life boat, the captain realized someone was missing. Working his way towards the aft cabins and fighting the onslaught of water rushing in, he broke open the door to the head.

There stood the missing guest. Shaken and confused he looked at the captain and said, "I don't understand, all I did was pull the handle!"

Upcoming Events

by Diane Allan

April 8 and 9 is the Kitchener Waterloo Boating show at St Jacobs Arena.

April 28 is AGM at Waterloo Knights of Columbus Hall on Dearborn Place, Waterloo, with a social hour from 7-8 and the meeting starting at 8 pm. All members welcome! Come and join us. Bar is open before the meeting and there will be a Social with snacks immediately following the Change of Watch Ceremony. Email John for more information at admin@kwpowerandsail.ca

May 31 is Graduation at Waterloo Knights of Columbus Hall on Dearborn Place, Waterloo, with social at 6:30 pm and graduation ceremonies starting at 7 pm. Come and celebrate with the new Boating graduates and other members that have passed advanced courses! Bar is open before the Ceremony and there will be snacks immediately following. Email Glenn for more information at training@kwpowerandsail.ca

Insurance Questions

By Pat Wells

Question:

What will my Marine Policy cover if I have an accident while I'm towing a boat and trailer with my vehicle?

Answer:

Your automobile policy will provide liability coverage on the automobile, boat and trailer for any bodily injury or property damage for which the driver is found legally responsible, but only while the boat and trailer are being towed. The Marine Policy will cover physical damage to the boat and trailer. The trailer must be listed on the Marine Policy for coverage to apply.

Question:

The majority of insurance claims are for underwater damage. Are all insurance policies equal when it comes to claims relating to sterndrive damage?

Answer:

NO! The portion of the claim you, the insured may be responsible for can differ significantly depending on the type of insurance you have. Take for example, a 10 year old boat with \$5,000.00 damage to the sterndrive. You could be responsible for anywhere from a \$250.00 deductible to more than half of the claim depending on a few key factors. Your deductible is the first factor to consider as many companies impose 2% (of the boat & equipment value) on underwater machinery. The second component to consider is the depreciation applied. On the above example, depreciation can range from nothing to as much as 50% of the repair or replacement depending on how your policy is worded. With an overwhelming majority of claims directly relating to underwater machinery, it is very important that you are aware how your insurance policy will respond when this occurs.



6th Annual Boat Show

The planning for the 6th Annual Boat Show is going along quite well. At the present time we have only a few exhibitors' spots left which are 10 x 10 or any combination of those sizes. At the present time our exhibitors include: Blue Sky Marine, TD Bank, Southwest Marine, Port Colborne Marine, Vincent's, Massel's Marine, Toko, Waterloo Marine, Seaweed Marine Products, Newport Nauticals, Mason's Chandlery, Salus, Egan House Boat Rentals, Poli Glow, Adventure Guide, Golden Triangle Modelers Club, Northern Bruce Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Cowan Insurance, Transport Canada, Amy Awning, and Amy Welding.

Please note that the bridge over Hwy. 85 going north from Waterloo towards Elmira will be shut down from approximately April 4 through the summer for repairs. To get to the St. Jacobs Arena, take King St. North through St. Jacobs to top of hill on north side of St. Jacobs. Turn right on Sawmill Rd. and the arena is on the right side. Alternately, take the Waterloo Expressway North to Northfield Dr. Turn right and go to the village of Conestogo. Turn left at traffic light in Conestogo and continue straight through next traffic light, which is #85. The St. Jacobs Arena is on the left after the light.

We will have Boat Pro challenges available and members from all of the local squadrons will be on hand to staff the CPS Booth!

We will be advertising with FM98.5 during the week leading up to the show along with numerous forms of print from news papers to brochures.

The Boating Show will run from 10 am – 8 pm on April 8th and 10 am to 5 pm on April 9th. Admission is \$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per family. Please come out and support your Power and Sail Squadron.

Poker Run Fever (continued from page 1)

power pulsating from the engines. Just think of the sound of a Harley motorcycle; multiply by ten and you've got it. For this one-day, we want the "silent choice" turned off in favour of the loud powerful roar of the engines.

Many of these boats are indeed floating pieces of art, with names to compliment the designs. Boats like Predator, and Iceman (50+ foot Nor Techs'), Extreme Exhibit, perman, Vanishing Point, and too many others to mention, have very elaborate design graphics. The number of hours spent detailing these works of art must be immense along with the cost. Many of these paint jobs are as costly as a good size powerboat or sailboat.

Let's not forget about the engines. They are high performance engines fine-tuned to produce in excess of 500HP per engine. These engines will push their boats at speeds greater than 160KPH or 100MPH. Not bad considering the amount of resistance encountered when moving anything through water.

Poker Run enthusiasts all have their favourite participants and mine is a 40ft. Cat named MY WAY. This boat was designed and built by a gentleman who docks in the Thousand Islands. The boat is so named because the owner had many special features incorporated into the design to improve efficiency and reduce the frequency of required maintenance. The most unique feature of this boat is the engines. They are two helicopter turbine engines, which probably generate thousands of horsepower each. Unlike most of the other boats, when this one fires up, there is no load roar, just a subtle whine as the turbines begin to rotate. When it takes off, its power is evident in the excessively large rooster tail which extends a hundred + metres behind.

When this picture was taken, MY WAY was on a radar speed run. During the first run my digital camera managed to only get the rooster tail. After switching to a traditional 35 mm camera with high speed film for the second run, I was able to capture this image of MY WAY at 290 kph or 174 mph. And there was *no noise* when he went by!

Am I an avid power boater? Yes. *Blusechaser*, my 30 ft. Wellcraft, is my obsession; one I had to wait until retirement to get. But I must say I admire those of you who sail. My goal is to learn how to sail, so that I can enjoy the best of both worlds on the water.

May we all have smooth sailing and respect each other's choices in order to enjoy our time together, sharing one of our most precious resources. Oh yes, I should mention that there are sail boaters who suffer from Poker Run fever!



Volunteers Required for K-W Squadron Bridge

Do you have a couple of hours to spare each month? If so, we are looking for a few new members to help out on the Squadron Bridge. We meet the second Tuesday of each month, September to June. Regalia and Special Events are just two of the positions available for the coming year.

If you would like to get involved or learn more about your K-W Squadron, contact Janice Fleischmann at 886-8625 or jfleischmann@rogers.com.

THE BOATWORKS

BOAT RESTORATION AND RENOVATIONS
TRANSOMS - FLOORS - STRINGERS
UPHOLSTERY AND TOPS
GEL COAT REPAIRS

"...if nothing else, the boat works!"

1384 Huron Rd (corner of Fischer-Hallman Rd and Huron Rd)

Kitchener 519 696 2055

Boat Inspection (continued from page 2)

The Bilge

Check the bilge for fresh oil and/or water. Run the bilge pump. If the bilge is empty, put some water in with the dock hose to be sure it actually pumps and not just makes a noise. Switch on the water pressure and check for leaks throughout the whole system. Once all the air is out, the pump shouldn't run. If it does, check for leaks.

The Galley

Now that you've checked the engine room plumbing, go to the galley and head and ensure the sink taps and drains don't leak and the toilet joints are dry. Flush the toilet. Recharge the chemical if it hasn't been done already.

Inspect and test all your galley appliances, doors, drawers, etc. Does the frig cool and the stove heat? Do all switches and dials work? Make sure all cupboard doors and drawers open and close without binding and that the catches catch. You don't want your food all over the floor when you hit the first wave.

Your Safety Equipment

Pull out all your safety equipment. Confirm the expiry dates on date sensitive items like flares and fire extinguishers. Clean, repair recharge or replace if necessary. Inspect your PFDs and make sure they haven't been damaged by moisture or 4-legged critters over the winter. You don't want nasty surprises later.

Electrical and Electronics

Test all other electrical and electronic systems to make sure they haven't forgotten how to their jobs. For example, are your way points still in your GPS or were they lost when you replaced the batteries? Turn on your running lights. Are all the bulbs lit? Does your horn work? Check all other lights on the boat in the cockpit and through the cabin.

For Sailors

Sailors should raise the sails on a calm day in the slip to verify that all the rigging is in good condition and nothing jams. Make sure all equipment functions properly like winches and furling. Fishermen need to check all their fish finders, downriggers, bait well pumps etc.

For Power Boaters

Cruising boaters should test their anchor winch for jams and frays and wiring connections and basic stuff like is the anchor shackled to the line? Once everything is inspected, tested and operational, you can leave the dock with the confidence that your boat's equipment won't let you down.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Doug Dawson has personally done over 12,000 boat evaluations and has been a Boating Insider since his youth. He is also author of the popular "How To Buy A Boat With Confidence". To check out his site and learn how to maximize the enjoyment of your limited boating time visit:



Volunteers Needed!

You are invited to participate in a telephone committee to assist in calling members about special events and squadron activities. If you are able to assist the squadron in this way, please call Diane at 576-0749 or e-mail special events@kwpowerandsail.ca

CPS-ECP Planning Committee Report

The following Questions for the Squadron Members and District Councils are meant to provide important feedback in the ongoing planning and organizing of local squadrons. Answers to the following questions are required to assist in determining our future course of action relating to the Approved Planning Committee Report of 2005.

1. How do your Squadron members feel about the possibility of a name change?
2. How do your members feel about our logos?
3. How do your members feel about the uniform issue?
 - a) Should we have any uniforms?
 - b) Should we reduce the number of uniforms from 9 to 4?
4. How do your Squadron members feel about our use of ranks to designate officers' positions?
 - a) Should we move to more corporate identities for our Governing Board members?
5. How do your members feel about restructuring our membership requirements to make our organization more accessible for training?
6. How do your Squadron members feel about rewarding our volunteers with specialty items or discounts on our stores items?

Please email all comments and suggestions to update@kwpowerandsail.ca . We will, in turn, forward your comments to the Planning Committee. Your participation in this survey is most valuable. Thank you for your comments.

***NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Kitchener-Waterloo Power and Sail Squadron***

Notice is hereby given of the 46th Annual General Meeting of the Kitchener-Waterloo Power and Sail Squadron, to be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Dearborn Pl., Waterloo on Wednesday, April 26th, 2006 at 2000 for the purposes of:

- a) receiving, and if thought fit, the reports of the Officers of the Squadron;
- b) receiving, and if thought fit, approving the Financial Statements of the Squadron for the 12 month period ending March 31, 2006, and the report of the Squadron Auditor;
- c) electing the Officers of the Squadron;
- d) appointing the Squadron Auditor;
- e) considering such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting

The Squadron Nominating Committee report is attached to, and forms part of, this notice.

Dated March 14th, 2006 at Kitchener, Ontario.

***NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Niagara District***

Notice is hereby given of the 47th Annual General Meeting of the Niagara District, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, to be held at the to be held at the Burlington Art Centre, 1333 Lakeshore Rd., Burlington, On, (905) 632 7796, on Saturday, April 29th, 2006 at 1300 in accordance with Section 11.1, Article XI of the Niagara District Regulations for the purposes of:

- a) receiving the reports of the Officers and Committees of this District;
- b) receiving the audited report of the District Treasurer on the financial position of the District;
- c) electing the elective Officers referred to in Section 9.1 of these regulations including such District Lieutenants, as in the opinion of the District Executive Committee are necessary for the administration of the affairs of the District during the year in question;
- d) appointing an Auditor for the District year then current;
- e) considering such other business as may be brought before an Annual General Meeting;

The Squadron Nominating Committee report is attached to, and forms part of, this notice.

Dated March 15th, 2006 at Burlington, Ontario

Report of the Niagara District Nominating Committee February 15, 2006

The District Nominating Committee nominates the following Members for election as District Officers for the year 2006-2007. The nominees have signified their willingness to assume the responsibilities of their respective offices, if elected or appointed. Pursuant to District Regulations Section 9.15.4(b) the nominees are:

Commander (D/C)	Darryl Lankin	Brantford, On	519 759 4475
Executive Officer (D/Lt/C)	Jim Brown	Campbellville, On	519 854 0693
Admin Officer (D/Lt/C)	Adrian Dwyer	Waterloo, On	519 747 3895
Training Officer (D/Lt/C)	Garry VanZandt	Fort Erie, On	905 871 3628
Secretary (D/Lt)	Bill Allan	Kitchener, On	519 576 0749
Treasurer	TBA		
Public Relations (D/Lt)	Percy Brown	Hamilton, On	905 544 5070
Membership (D/Lt)	Allan Shuh	Cambridge, On	519 249 0402
Electronic Comm (D/Lt)	Donna Lankin	Brantford, On	519 759 4475
Marep Officer (D/Lt)	Diane Allan	Kitchener, On	519 576 0749
Youth Officer (D/Lt)	Brian Elder	Simcoe, On	519 426 0478
Port Captain (D/Lt)	Les Armstrong	Burlington, On	905 637 2270
Environment (D/Lt)	Lembit Tamm	Brantford, On	519 752 7067
Instructional Techniques (D/Lt)	Gordon Ellis	Kitchener, On	519 893 3880
District 6 Liaison (D/Lt)	Jeff Eggleton	Fort Erie, On	905 871 4111
Bylaws and Protocol (D/Lt)	Brian Elder	Simcoe, On	519 426 0478
Historian (D/Lt)	Heather Fitzsimons	Guelph, On	519 821 3101
Flag Officer (D/Lt)	Percy Brown	Hamilton, On	905 544 5070
Asst DTO West Region (D/Lt)	Ken Budd	Guelph, On	519 824 6233
Asst DTO Mid Region (D/Lt)	Percy Brown	Hamilton, On	905 544 5070
Past Dist. Commander (P/D/C)	Sharon Reeve	Wilsonville, On	519 443 6449

The Nominating Committee also nominates the following for appointment by the Members as

Auditor of the District.

Auditor	Pat Faux	Ancaster, On	905 304 7757
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The District Nominating Committee also advises that:

a) the following Member will serve on the District Executive Committee and the District Council by virtue of her position as Immediate Past District Commander and does not require election or appointment:

Past District Commander	Sharon Reeve	Wilsonville, On	519 443 6449
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b) Pursuant to District Regulation 9.15.1, the following Members will serve on the District Nominating Committee for the year 2006-2007 by virtue of their position, and do not require election or appointment.

P/D/C (Chair)	Sharon Reeve	Wilsonville, On	519 443 6449
P/D/C	Les Armstrong	Burlington, On	905 637 2270
D/C	Darryl Lankin	Brantford, On	519 759 4475

Respectfully submitted,

P/D/C Les Armstrong

P/D/C Percy Brown

D/C Sharon Reeve