

FAIRLEAD

Fraser Squadron Newsletter
November 2004



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FRASER SQUADRON Ladner Postal Outlet
P.O. Box 18528 Delta, BC V4K 4V7



Happy 40th Birthday Fraser Squadron!!



LETTER OF APPRECIATION

As a voluntary, charitable organization dedicated to safety and training in recreational boating, we rely greatly on our Members, our Squadrons, and our Districts

This Letter of Appreciation is awarded to

Fraser Power & Sail Squadron

on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Squadron.

The unselfish devotion of time and talent on behalf of the Squadron Officers, and especially the training effort, has kept the name of CPS before the public, and has been a tremendous help in furthering the continued effort to create a better awareness of safety and the need for education within the boating community.

We sincerely wish you continued success in the future.

October 31, 2004

Chief Commander
Tony Gardiner, SN

A BOATHOUSE TOW ACROSS GEORGIA STRAIT

By Al Warner

The deep rumble of starting diesels echoed through the Ladner Yacht Club this cool December morning. It is not often pleasure boaters start their day at 5:30 am but this was a special day, with a special task at hand for Bob and his two helpers, Jack and Lou. Bob's son, Robert, had recently purchased a boathouse at the Ladner Yacht Club, located near Ladner on the south arm of the Fraser River. He then requested that his Dad tow it to Genoa Bay on Vancouver Island.

Jack was the planning navigator, who calculated how the boathouse tow could utilize the tidal flow down the river to Sandheads and then across the Strait to Porlier Pass. Once through the Pass, they would either hold over in Clam Bay or continue south through Sansum Narrows, depending on their travel speed and weather conditions. The tides were the most predictable part of the planning; the really questionable part was the weather.

On December 10, when the Bayliner left the Ladner Yacht Club, the sky was dark with a Northeast wind blowing out of Howe Sound. The boathouse was strung behind, with a bridle on its narrow end, secured to the mooring eyes on the frame. Another bridle hung from the boat's stern cleats and a 150-foot length of one half-inch, nylon rope joined the two.

In order to kill time and wait for the wind to drop, Bob decided to circle his tow at a wide spot in Sea



Reach, where it joins the main river. At Sandheads, there was a one-foot chop as they swung the Bayliner's bow toward Porlier Pass.

About two and a half miles east of Porlier Pass, Bob noticed that the Duke Point ferry, approaching from the north, had slowed to a drift. It then proceeded slowly forward and after crossing in front of the Bayliner, it regained speed and continued on its way. It was apparent that the ferry Captain had respected the precarious tow in front of him and had slowed to reduce the ferry's wash.

Jack's calculations were good, along with his estimated towing speed and they entered Porlier Pass on a small flood north. As they proceeded through the Pass, their speed dropped to .5-knots but they made it through in good time, at 1:30 pm. It was early in the day and once away from the Pass, their speed picked up as they entered Houstoun Passage, heading for Stuart Channel. Off Vesuvius, Bob and Lou dinghied back to the boathouse and hung a lantern from the stern.

The Bayliner is equipped with twin, 250-HP Cummins, diesel engines, which turned at 875-RPM, to produce a 3.5-knot cruising speed with the tow. It was a long, slow run for engines normally accustomed to hard work at 2000 RPM.

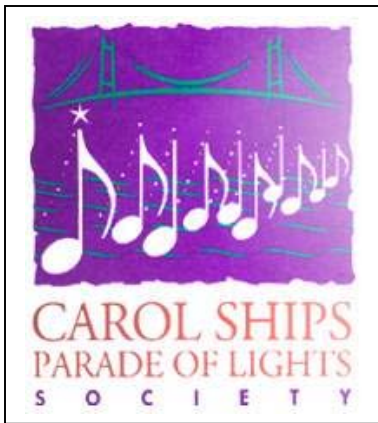
Everything went well as the boat and tow headed south past Maple Bay and they entered Sansum Narrows at the start of the ebb tide. It began to rain heavily with a mixture of snow. Bob went to the command bridge to assist in navigation but with the storm and black night, there was zero visibility

Finally, they pulled into calmer water and eventually swung westward, around Separation Point, then turned north into Genoa Bay. It was 7:45 pm, 15 hours after leaving the Ladner Yacht Club. After the Bayliner and boathouse had been securely tied to the Genoa Bay Marina docks, Robert came alongside and said, **"there, I told you it would be a piece of cake!"**

THE PORTS OF CALL CONTEST WAS A BIG SUCCESS!

The winner of the Ports of Call contest is **Maggie McDonald** of Delta .

We'd like to give a special Thank You to **George Radke** for organizing this contest and all the promotional events he has organized this year.



“I saw 3 ships come sailing in on Christmas Day in the morning”

27 years ago the Carol Ship Tradition started, with Marie Weber and her fellow choir members and some fishing boats.

This year the Carol Ships will be sailing Dec 12th and 13th.

If you and your crew have strung lights and want to participate, call Roy Botkin (604) 946-7193 for the commercial boats or Bill Main (604) 946-2819 for the pleasure boats.

If you have any questions, call Val Botkin (604) 946-7193.

**June 2004
Port Browning Cruise**

Our weekend began on Friday June 4th. We left Captain's Cove and arrived at Port Browning about 1600hrs. The **“Siesta Key”** anchored out with **“Odin, Chardonnay, Carina and Soo Valley.”**

Tied up at the dock were **“Enjoy, Invicta & Alberta Lee”**

Early Saturday morning we met for coffee on the dock. **Jan and Les** gave each vessel a piece of paper... a Scavenger list. With several very interesting things to find. (eg) Crab Legs, BC Flag, Straw, Goose Poop, Can of Spam, Life Preserver, and Whistle etc. The shopping center was quite close to the marina and the shop owners were patient, helpful and enjoyed our hunt as much as we did.

The group met prior to happy hour to review the results, which were quite inventive and creative. After much laughter and discretionary judging **Brian and Trish** of Soo Valley won the scavenger hunt. A short cloud burst occurred sending a few of the group to their boats.

Sunday's weather improved making for a good crossing.

Thanks **Jan and Les** once again for a great weekend.

Bill and Linda Hawryluk



Thanks to **Bob Everson** – **“Our Roving Reporter”** for his story contributions in our last issue!

Fraser Squadron Bridge

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WWW.POWERSQUADRON.CA

WWW.CPS-ECP.CA

Calendar Of Events

December 4

December 6

December 7

December 13

January 3, 2005

January 10

January 11

January 13

January 22

February 3

February 7

February 21

March 7

March 14

March 14

April 2

April 4

April 11

April 23

May 2

May 9

May 21, 2005

Winter/Christmas Social – Dinner/Dance

PMD meeting 7:30 pm

Fairlead #4, published & mailed

Fraser Bridge meeting – Ladner COPS 7:30 pm

PMD meeting 7:30 pm

Fraser Bridge meeting – Ladner COPS 7:30 pm

Boating class – Richmond (Ladner)

Boating class – Ladner (Richmond)

Fall Grad ceremony – Venue & Speaker TBD 7:30 pm

Fairlead #5, published & mailed

PMD meeting 7:30 pm

Fraser Bridge meeting – Ladner COPS 7:30 pm

PMD meeting 7:30 pm

Fraser Bridge meeting – Ladner COPS 7:30 pm

Fairlead #6, published & mailed

Fraser AGM/Award Night Dinner – Venue TBD

PMD meeting 7:30 pm

Fraser Bridge meeting – Ladner COPS 7:30 pm

Annual Auction – Venue TBD 7:30 pm

PMD meeting 7:30 pm

Fraser Bridge meeting – Ladner COPS 7:30 pm

Spring Grad Ceremony – Venue & Speaker TBD 7:30 pm



Fraser Squadron Christmas Social

DELTA TOWN & COUNTRY INN

- 6005 HIGHWAY 17, AT HIGHWAY 99 DELTA, B.C.

Saturday December 4, 2004

6:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m

\$35 a person - \$70 per couple - Cash Bar





Traditional Christmas Fare buffet

Ticket Sales-Contact:
Peter Lefroy 604-271-5240

This is a ticketed event your RSVP by
November 24 is greatly appreciated!

**Music and Dancing,
Door prizes, 50/50 draw**

Hotel is offering special stay-over rate of \$75.00
double or single occupancy - if you don't want to drive!!

PLEASE NOTE:
CUT OFF DATE
FOR
CHRISTMAS
SOCIAL
TICKETS

NOVEMBER 24

Peter Lefroy
(604) 271-5240,