

**CANADIAN POWER AND SAIL SQUADRONS  
WESTERN ONTARIO DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING - MAY 15, 1991**

The Meeting was held at the Homestead Restaurant, in Woodstock, Ontario, on Wednesday, May 15, 1991. The Meeting was called to order at 1933.

**1. ROLL CALL:**

There were 29 members and guests present. Absent were D/Lt. Wm. Linfield,S, Cdr. Jo Schiefer, Cdr. Hans Van Dyke,S, Cdr. Richard Ross, Cdr. Jerry Holt, P/D/C Harvey Manser,AP. P/D/C Earl Speller,AP.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes dated March 10, 1991, as mailed.

\*\*\* Motion

Moved by S/L Bill Trudell,S, to approve the minutes as mailed,  
seconded by P/D/C Frank Kelly, AP. - CARRIED.

Minutes dated April 6, 1991, as mailed.

\*\*\* Motion

Moved by D/Lt. Keith Roberts,AP, to approve the minutes as mailed,  
seconded by D/Lt. Walter Spaunburg. - CARRIED.

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There was no business arising from Minutes.

**4. OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

**D/C ROBERT GALLAGHER, N** had little to report since the April Meeting. There had been no activities pertaining to the District, but as Secretary for the District Commanders Meeting, he had written to all the District Commanders in Canada asking for Agenda items. The few items that have been put forward are quite similar to our concerns as expressed by the Squadrons.

**D/Lt. BRIAN GOVAN, AP**, commented that the District Conference was not well attended. It was very well

organized by the London Squadron, the workshops were interesting and well attended, and the AGM went off well. The Dinner/Dance was excellent with a 19 piece Orchestra that was outstanding. He commented that Garibaldi's was a beautiful location to have the event with the lighting and the trees giving a tremendous atmosphere. Because of low attendance there was a loss of \$2738.86. Expenses included the mailing of Notice of Meeting, invitations, programmes for AGM, etc. It was very disappointing how few turned out and the question is asked "why"?

D/C Robert Gallagher commented on how much he enjoyed the AGM and Conference and thanked London Squadron for an excellent event.

**D/Lt./C PAULINE MCKINNON, AP** - no report.

**D/Lt./C NORMAN SONNENBERG, S** - attended the Windsor Squadron's Commanders Ball on May 11, 1991, and thanked the Squadron for its hospitality.

-The long awaited TRAINING MANUAL is in print and all STOs should have received the Squadron Copy. This copy is to stay with the STO, while other copies for the squadron will soon be available for purchase.

-At the recent DTO Training Meeting in Toronto some new innovations to the Boating Exam were introduced. Part #1 of the exam is to be a "closed book exam" while the cruise part is to be an "open book". The administration of this is to be left to the individual Squadrons. Instead of just a pass or fail mark, the Boating Exam marks might possibility be (A) 90-100, (B) 80-90, or alternatively, Good, Very Good, Excellent, but no actual mark or return of papers will be entertained.

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- Parallel Rules will no longer be supplied by Headquarters after this year. They will be replaced by a protractor similar to a Douglas Protractor but improved. The design is felt to be more useful on small craft.
- A new CPS Video for the Boating Course is being edited and should be ready this fall for next years classes.
- Now is the time to remind all STO's to organize your proctors and instructors for this Fall.
- A final total to our training year is not available as yet as some are still writing.
- We would welcome any input you may have to make things run more smoothly for our Squadrons. I will be holding a meeting of STO's in the near future and all Proctors, Instructors and anyone else interested would be welcome.
- Many thanks to those who gave of their time to speed up our Exam Marking, especially Kitty Lou Speller JN, Chatham, and Annette Cranston AP, Robert Cranston JN, and Valerie Gujban, all from Erie Shores.

**D/Lt. SARAH E. COOKE** - no report.

**D/Lt. WALTER MCKENNA, N** - D/Lt McKenna reported a balance of \$9,302.36 at the beginning of the period, receipts \$413.43 and disbursements of \$3899.94, leaving a bank balance as of May 15, 1991 of \$5,815.85. With the addition of the balance of funds from the Conference (Brian Govan) the total will increase to \$7,538.20. The full report may be seen for perusal after meeting.

\*\*\* Moved by D/Lt./C Pauline McKinnon, that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, seconded by D/Lt./C Norm Sonnenberg. CARRIED

**D/Lt. WILLIAM ANTHONY** - No correspondence has been received regarding the Port Captain's program.

Each Squadron Commander has been given two "Guides to Port Captains" in the hope that they will give them to their Port Captains. If these could be returned to Bill at the end of the boating season, he will forward them on to National.

**D/Lt. GORDON ARGYLE** - no report.

**D/Lt. JAY CONNOR** - no report.

**D/Lt. LARRY HICKS** - no report on membership. He is interested in what impact the examination results will have on official membership list of National and if they will correspond with figures from the Squadrons.

**D/Lt. WM. LINFIELD, S** - no report submitted. He has not received a kit from weather people as yet.

**D/Lt. PAT PEARSON, AP** - no report submitted. D/Lt Pearson appealed to all Squadron Commanders to please send newsletters and any other information that might be of interest to the Squadrons, such as programmes, magazines, information from Bridge meetings, etc. She also brought photo albums of last District Rendezvous for members to peruse.

D/C Robert Gallagher said that Pat would be putting together a newsletter with information from the Governing Board, all the Squadron newsletters and various things that happen in the Squadron. It is hoped that she will be able to get it out 4 or 5 times a year so that the Squadron can include it in their

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newsletter. This will give all the Squadrons some idea about what is going on in the District. But this project requires the cooperation of every squadron in the District.

**D/Lt. KEITH ROBERTS, AP** - Safe Boating Week is June 2nd to the 8th. This year it will be observed all across Canada, the United States and Mexico. It is the first time all of North America is synchronized on the common thought of promoting boating safety. Kieth requested a list of all Squadron PROs for future correspondence. He plans to attend the National Public Relations Department Meeting, June 14th - 16th in Toronto.

**D/Lt. WALTER SPAUNBURG** - no report.

**D/Lt. JACK WITTIG, S** - no report.

**S/C BOB PARKE, AP** - 128 people have written the VHF examination since the 1st May, 1991, this includes

both examinations and rewrites. There was a problem with one of the exams last week and with communication between Supervisors and Squadrons this can be resolved and need not happen. For the remainder of May and June there are 3 exams and sittings scheduled with approximately 160 - 180 to write.

**S/L BILL TRUDELL, S** - no report.

**5. SQUADRON COMMANDER'S REPORTS:**

**CHATHAM** - Cdr. Bert Osterbrook, AP reported membership at 195 and financial balance at bank \$7,762.00. On June 8th, the water Training Seminar will be held, as well as the Annual Marep Cruise at the Mouth of the Thames River. Chatham had a great evening on May 4th with it's Commander's Ball and Graduation dinner-dance. Graduates included 39 Boaters, 4 Seamanship, and 1 AP. A great party followed and was enjoyed by about 135 people, including several guests from the Detroit Squadron. P/D/C Ken Cucksey did a great job. We also had our "Be Boatwise" Course which had 9 graduates. District Rendezvous June 21 - 23 - downtown Chatham.

**ERIE SHORES WEST** - In the absence of Cdr. Joseph Schiefer, P/D/C Frank Kelly, AP, gave the report. Membership is at 133 and the bank balance is \$3,617.20. The Change of Watch and Graduation took place on May 2nd, 1992, at the Lions Club, Kingsville. Upcoming events are: July 7th, Mystery Cruise, rain date July 14th, August 25th, Fun Day. Since last District meeting they have had a VHF course and all 27 students passed. Would like to thank P/D/C Ken Cucksey for attending our Graduation and Change of Watch. Promotion pamphlets have been ordered for distribution at local Marinas. We are presently preparing list of Port Captains to be displayed at local Marinas.

**GODERICH** - Cdr. Hans Van Dyke, S - no report.

**LONDON** - Cdr. Louis E.J. Cooke, AP, reported membership is 778. Course registrations for the year have been: Boating 254, Seamanship 48, Advanced Piloting 15, Seamanship Sail 1, Junior Navigation 8, Navigation 2, Marine Mtce 12, Mar. Electronics 9, Weather 6 and VHF 292. The present bank balance is \$34,803.07. We held our Commander's Ball and Graduation on 5th May, 1991. It was well attended with 285 guests including many Past Commanders. Our Guest of Honour from the District was P/D/C Ken Cucksey who made an excellent address to the gathering and presented our Merit Marks. P/Cdr. Walter McKenna had very successfully steered the ship for the past year and we all wish him good luck with his new position on the District Bridge.

**SARNIA** - Cdr. Norm Wilson, AP reported that they are financially solvent. Change of Watch is completed and the new officers have assumed their positions. Bridge Meetings are at S.Y.C. Boardroom on the 1st Tuesday of each month. To date we have received 191 renewals, 3 reinstatements and 13 new members.

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**ST. THOMAS** - Cdr. Morris Broughton reported membership of 148 and bank balance is \$3,000.00. The financial audit still to be completed. The Commander's dinner and Graduation, May 9th. attracted our largest attendance ever, 82 guests. P/D/C Ken Cucksey was in attendance, as was Cable T.V. which taped the meeting. Out of 148 members all have paid their dues except 10. A summer barbecue is planned. 33 Boating students, 4 Seamanship, 1 AP and 97 VHF students passed their exams. All completed their courses from Fall to date.

**STRATFORD** - Cdr. Tom Orr reported membership at 130 and a bank balance of \$5,500.00. Thanks to P/D/C Ken Cucksey who attended A.G.M. There was unanimous feelings that the District Conference needs to be dropped or thoroughly revamped by those who attend. Upcoming events are May 23 Safety Night (Coast Guard), May 25 Entry into Festival City Days Parade, May 29 Bridge Meeting, June 13 approx. 20 members cruise 1000 Islands, June 15-16 Wildwood Lake Boat Inspection. July 6 Squadron run Midland to Parry Sound. They have offered to host next years conference.

**TILLSONBURG** - Cdr. Eric Hatzenbuhler reported membership of 238 and a bank balance of \$919.90. The squadron is celebrating their 25th Anniversary this year. Commander's Ball and Graduation is planned for June 1st, 1991 at Port Rowan. A booth was set up to promote Squadron at the Boat Show in Port Rowan on April 26th and 27th. A Corn Roast will be held on the second weekend in August at the Lions Park in Port Rowan.

**WALLACEBURG** - Cdr. Richard Ross was absent and report was read by D/C Robert Gallagher. Membership now stands at 104. They are financially solvent with a balance of approx. \$2400.00 in the bank. The Change of Watch was on March 6th, 1991. A successful Commander's Ball and Graduation Dinner was held on April 27, with an attendance of 100 members and friends. We were pleased to have P/D/C Ken Cucksey and his wife June as our guests. 15 Boating and 10 AP students wrote their exams in 1991 at Wallaceburg District High School. A VHF course was held on March 26 and 27th at W.D.S.S. 22 students successfully completed it. June 1st weekend we have a launch outing planned at St. Clair, Michigan. A get together is planned for the weekend of August 17 at the Sarnia Bay Marina.

**WINDSOR** - Cdr. Jerry Holt was absent and his report read by D/C Robert Gallagher. Membership now stands at 440 and they are financially solvent. They have just finished their winter classes; graduates include 30 Boating, 4 AP, 1 seamanship and 1 Weather. They have received Baseball caps and are giving 32 hats to their recent VHF class since the exam did not go off as scheduled. Have recently purchased a set of Ceremonial Flags including USPS Ensign. Graduation is set for May 24th, 1991 and an invitation has been extended to D/C Bob Gallagher to attend and say a few words. Continue to contemplate and tack up new ways of putting themselves in the public eye. A Cookout is in the planning stages.

**6. PAST DISTRICT COMMANDER'S REPORTS:**

P/D/C Harvey Manser, AP - Absent - no report.

P/D/C Vern Gray, AP - no report.

P/D/C Frank Kelly, AP - no report.

P/D/C Gerald C. Kirkland, JN - no report.

P/D/C Robert G. Lee, AP - no report.

P/D/C Earl Speller, AP - Absent - no report.

P/D/C Doug Wilson, N - This year he is Chairman of the Nominating Committee. In September, he plans to put out a questionnaire throughout the District and see what new bodies we can come up with for the

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District Bridge this year.

Informational programmes are now being distributed as supplemental courses from USPS, example "Learning to Sail", "Land Tools" etc. There are 10 programmes and are available from Headquarters at a nominal cost of \$12.00 each.

P/D/C Fulton Charlton, AP - no report.

P/D/C Ken Cucksey, N - Since the last District Council Meeting he has had the pleasure of attending various

Squadron Annual General Meetings, Graduations and Commander's Balls. He also attended the final Rendezvous Planning Committee Meeting in Chatham, May 14th, 1991. Events have been listed in his written report. He is also planning to attend Tillsonburg's 25th Anniversary on June 1st, 1991. He has been asked by National to assist on the Power Squadron Weather Reporting Programme for Ontario, one of the two Provincial Coordinators for that. He would also like to mention in Bill Linfield's absence, that the Chairman of Weather Reporting Programme, Rear Commander Wright from B.C. has sent out a lot of publicity directly to the various Squadrons. There is still some conflict on whether to call it "MAREP Weather Programme" or "Weather Reporting Programme". We prefer the latter but USPS have been using "MAREP Weather Programme" for some time. There is quite a bit of literature already published. Because of this, it looks as if "MAREP Weather Programme" is going to be used and we must not confuse it with "MAREP Hydrographic Programme". Our District is responsible for Lake St. Clair, lower end of Lake Erie and the lower end of Lake Huron. We would like to have Squadron Weather Officers from all the Squadrons in our District.

During the past year, discussions on a District Membership Award for best Squadron renewal percentage have been going on and Larry Hicks and Pauline McKinnon have been asked to get together on this.

\*\*\* Moved by D/Lt. Gordon Argyle, N -- to accept the Reports as given by the Officers, Squadron Commanders and Past District Commanders  
seconded by P/D/C Fulton Charlton, AP - CARRIED \*\*\*

**7. DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1991 DISTRICT RENDEZVOUS** - Cdr. Bert Osterbrook reported that everything is under control. Meeting

was held on 14th May and they are now waiting for registrations to come in. Question was asked as to who has the "Best Squadron Participation Trophy" from last year? Please let Chatham have it for Rendezvous.

**GREY WATER REPORT** - D/C Robert Gallagher commented that this had been brought up at the Annual

District Conference and that it is important to keep track of where the Government is going on this issue. Although we cannot get involved in political issues he would like P/D/C Ken Cucksey to head a Committee with 2 more P/D/C's to be named. National is also delving into the matter through the Government Liaison Committee. It was suggested that individuals write to the Minister of Environment Ruth Grier (it cannot be written as Squadrons). Cdr. Bert Osterbrook, Chatham spoke of his writing to Ruth Grier and he also sent a copy to the Minister of Tourism. D/Lt./C Brian Govan spoke about the limited Pump Out facilities in Port Stanley and felt this was more important than the Grey Water issue.

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**SQUADRON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:** D/C Robert Gallagher, N reported that Squadron Financial Statements and lists of Squadron Officers have not been received from some Squadrons. He would appreciate receiving them in the next few weeks.

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**DISTRICT CALENDAR** June 21 - 23, 1991, District Rendezvous, Chatham.  
June 14, 15, 16, 1991 - Governing Board Meeting, Toronto

**REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY SQUADRONS:**

Organization

1. There was much discussion on whether the District Regulations should be changed so that the present method of officially notifying the general membership of the District Annual Conference is less costly. There were comments from everyone and far too numerous to put down, all input was very welcome.

\*\*\*Moved by Cdr Tom Orr, Stratford, "that this District request that this matter be reviewed by the Governing Board",  
seconded by Cdr Bert Osterbrook, Chatham". CARRIED

CARRIED

2. It was discussed whether to; 1. - divide the District into two divisions, or, 2. - have all District meetings at one centralized location, making it a little more convenient for all Squadrons to attend meetings. After much discussion, it was decided that NO ACTION be taken at this time. It was felt that by visiting the different Squadrons, members kept in touch, whereas this closeness would disappear if only one central location was used. The division of the District into two separate areas was discussed a couple of years ago when boundaries were redefined, and the present Council reaffirms this decision.

3. That the District Commander continue to be elected for a term of one year and that NO ACTION be taken on the suggestion that it be extended. It was further suggested that the Executive Officer accompany the District Commander to the Governing Board meetings where possible and observe the procedures, but this could prove to be expensive in the future. Who would pick up cost??.

Training

D/Lt/C Norm Sonnenberg led the discussion on this section of the agenda.

4. There should be more practical training, particularly on the water. This was discussed at the District Conference and D/T/O NORM TO RAISE at the next National Training meeting.

5. The supply of volunteers is a very touchy problem as some squadrons have difficulty and some don't. Norm stressed that early participation by the graduates is important, to make them feel needed and interested. He would like to discuss this further with Tony Pritchard because London seemed to have great participation by its members and lots of proctors and instructors. He was also happy to see smaller squadrons like Stratford and Wallaceburg going into the advanced courses. Two years ago, national put on conference on how to get and retain volunteers. Not much feed back on the success of this program. NO ACTION

6. Expansion of the Boating course to include Mafor, weather and Loran C was referred to D/T/O NORM TO RAISE at next Training meeting.

7. Restoration of manors and customs in the Boating course was referred to D/T/O NORM TO RAISE at next Training meeting.

8. Realignment of the seamanship courses was discussed at the National Training Meeting at our request. It seems that only Western Ontario has a problem with this and Norm and Doug Wilson have taken a bit of heat on it. D/T/O NORM TO FOLLOW UP at the next District Training meeting with the Squadron Training Officers.

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9. A video is being prepared to go with the Boating course, and will be included in the student materials at an additional cost of \$10.00. NO ACTION REQUIRED
10. Not many changes can be made to the Seamanship course without changing the content of other courses. This has been discussed several times at National, and it is felt no changes are required. Tony Pritchard pointed out that it is a tough course to liven up, and that we have a good percentage drop out, even with good instructors. Norm felt that there was little likelihood that anything could be done this year. The D/C BOB WILL RAISE at the D/C's meeting to see if this is a National problem.
11. Again much discussion centred around the courses and the order they must be taken. Doug Wilson commented that if you permit AP to be taken before Seamanship, the content of the courses must be changed, requiring the Course Chairman to rewrite the course this fall, which cannot be done. This also ties into items 8 & 10. NO ACTION REQUIRED.
12. Lesson Plans for each chapter have been discussed at the National Training meetings on several occasions, but have been torpedoed. NORM TO RAISE at the District Training meeting with S/T/Os.
13. One Evening Seminars are an excellent idea, particularly on LoranC, Depth Sounders, VHF, preparation for cruising, etc. Many topics of interest could be developed. D/C TO RAISE at the D/C's meeting for action by the Governing Board.

Communications

14. The National PRO has suggested that they will be attempting to get more educational boating shows on Public Television. It was suggested that the D/PRO KEITH ROBERTS RAISE THE STATUS OF THIS at the National PRO meeting in June. It was also pointed out that suitable series are available, and that the one done out of Boston several years ago is a good example.
15. A show of hands indicated that a number of officers still do not receive the Governing Board News Letter. D/C BOB IS TO RAISE at the Governing Board meeting in June to insure that our officers receive it.
16. The Port Hole only publishes what they consider to be national events. they do not appear to be interested in District news items. NO INSTRUCTIONS or solution given on this issue.
17. All members should make an effort to make new members at the District Council meeting feel welcome. This has to be done on an individual bases. Norm Wilson requested a copy of the schedule for future meetings. D/S SALLY WILL MAIL copy to Norm.
18. D/Lt Pat Pearson will be working on an insert to be included in all Squadron news letters. ALL SQUADRONS REQUESTED to please give all items of interest to Pat for publication.
19. National states that enough updates are sent out to all squadrons for the Operation Manuals they have purchased. The Squadrons should be responsible for distribution to the proper members. It is impossible for National to know who has the books. NO ACTION.

General

20. National is talking about re-instituting their regional meetings, including instruction in the operation of squadron. If this does not occur then D/C BOB WILL ARRANGE another course on the manual, similar to the one done by Ken last year.
21. The basic requirements for membership should still be the successful completion of the Boating course.

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The Boating course should not be continued to be watered down. NO ACTION REQUIRED.

22. The design of the new CPS course brochure should be RAISED BY D/C BOB at the next Governing Board meeting.

23. The new headquarters will be put on hold until the economy picks up. NO ACTION REQUIRED.

24. The cross over with the CYA is currently under review by National. D/C Bob stated that National has requested two members to write dissertations on both sides of the issue, one is going to write for it and one against. NO ACTION AT THIS TIME as these will be published in the Prot Hole so that all members may get a feel for the issues.

Motion to terminate meeting by S/L Bill Trudell, S at 2230 approx.