



ANCHOR WATCH



The official newsletter of Norvan Power & Sail Squadron

EDITOR: TOM SYMONS

Call Norvan at 904-6780, visit us at <http://norvan.cps-ecp.org>

APRIL 2008

50th Birthdays

SISTERS TO CELEBRATE

2008 is Quebec City's 400th anniversary, and our federal government is throwing countless millions of dollars their way in celebration. It is also British Columbia's 150th anniversary, and BC is hoping to participate in this trough as well. More importantly, however, this is

Norvan's 50th anniversary, and if both levels of government demonstrate the same level of generosity, our party on **May 24** will set new records for extravagance. Mark your calendars!

Our American sister squadron, Bellevue, turns out to be a twin sister as she also turns the big five-oh. Their celebration lasts 2 weeks and is focussed on the present and future,



(heaven forbid) uniforms here, just leather jackets, poodle skirts and bobby sox. For our younger members, counting those of middle age, ask your parents and they will explain what the 50s were like and, perhaps with some editing, what went on then.

Of course, there will be some ceremonies, for this is also grad night for the Spring Boating class plus rewards night and our change of watch, but then you can rock 'til you drop, perhaps to your own CDs with your name printed thereon, and admire the birthday present that you will be receiving.

In the spirit of the party and the 1950s vernacular, see you later (at the party), alligator!

from their formal dress dinner, dancing (to live music) and change of watch at the Meydenbauer Yacht Club on May 10, then adjourns to the high seas for a 7 day Alaska cruise on Holland America's *Oosterdam*.

We, on the other hand, choose to celebrate our history by going back to the 50's for a rock and roll spectacular! No blue blazers or

Commander Cooper Keeps Crown

Obviously promising the Nominating Committee to get it right this time, **Guy Cooper** astounded the electorate by clinging to office for a second term, becoming only the fourth Norvan Commander to do so. This was also part of his cunning plot to deny your Editor the usual biography of the new Commander that helps fill this page on an annual basis.

This travesty took place at our Annual General Meeting on April 16 at the Hollyburn Sailing Club when, in our typical display of perverted democracy, the Nominating Committee's slate was endorsed without a whimper. Crucial to this process is the tradition of lulling the electors to sleep with the Officers' reports, then springing the election on the snoozing multitude. It also brings to mind the question: what is the biggest problem with the political process, voter ignorance or voter apathy? The usual answer: I don't know and I don't care.

The overwhelmed attendees then quickly retired to the free bar in yet another fruitless effort to determine what

went wrong then, suitably anaesthetized, returned to hear a great presentation by **Craig McKeen**, a Member of Vancouver Squadron, on the National Maritime Centre proposed for the foot of Lonsdale. This was a timely topic, as *The Province* reported that the Vancouver City Council recently approved a \$56,000 contract to have the Vancouver Maritime Museum's collection assessed as talks continue on loaning part of the collection, including the *St. Roch*, to North Vancouver once federal funding makes the Centre a reality. Apparently only five percent of its 150,000 artifacts can presently be displayed by the Museum due to its cramped conditions.

An interesting side effect of having an immediately recycled Commander is that, for all intents and purposes, there is no new Commander and no new Past Commander. The result: no outgoing and incoming speeches, no exchange of flags and shoulder boards and (a boon to our treasury) no plaque for the retiring Commander. The net result: a markedly shorter Change of Watch ceremony.

Norvan's Executive	
Commander	
Cdr Guy Cooper	983-2058
Executive Officer	
Stan Shepherd	987-5789
Training Officer	
Pat Lewis	980-2200
Administrative Officer	
Rob Dyck	904-9544
Secretary	
Sheryl Lowden	987-0660
Treasurer	
Ross Bligh	929-5958
Public Relations Officer	
Web Teetzel	980-7951
Marep Officer	
Ray Baynes	987-5792
Membership/Privacy Officer	
John Bunning	985-0734
Environmental Officer	
Alice Chung	983-2058
Assistant Training Officer	
Ted Lewis	980-2200
Assistant Training Officer	
Laurette Mogridge	435-6026
Assistant Training (Chief Proctor)	
Kirk Kohn	985-3453
Publications Officer (Editor)	
Tom Symons	261-0871
Assistant Editor (Distribution)	
Pam Boudreau	985-3376
Communications Officer	
Bill Alcock	985-9317
Cruisemaster	
Bob Lowden	987-0660
Cruisemaster	
Frank Mogridge	435-6026
Historian	
Bob Hough	980-6856
Port Captain	
Les Johnson	904-0334
Socials Officer	
Jennifer Shaw	904-2447
Socials Officer	
TBA	
Supply Officer	
Joe Inkster	985-0275
USPS Liaison Officer	
Gus Decock	(425)821-5612
Webmistress	
Paige Ackerman	985-3453
Past Commander	
P/Cdr Jim Reid	980-8276

[unless otherwise indicated, all telephone numbers are area code 604]

Saturday, May 24

NORVAN TURNS 50

AND TURNS BACK THE CLOCK

Leather Jackets
Poodle Skirts
Awards

Welcoming New Members
Pledging of New Officers
Sit Down Dinner

Choice Of Baked Filet of B.C. Salmon,
Breast of Chicken Cordon Bleu or Roast Rib Eye of Beef

Door Prizes
Birthday Presents
Rock Til You Drop

Cheers Restaurant

1830 for 1930

And only \$40 per person!

Reservations (a must) by May 17:

Pam (985-3376) or Nancy (904-0334)

CROOZ NOOZ

Join your fellow Norvanners on the water. Put your training to work! This is a great way to meet your fellow members, and many cruising relationships have been developed from these fun filled functions.

May 17-19	Commander's Cruise	Snug Cove
July 4-6	District Rendezvous	Snug Cove
August 2-4	NorBel Rendezvous	Maple Bay

Details: call Cruisemaster **Bob Lowden** (987-0660). We look forward to seeing you there!

**THE KEY TO BOATING ENJOYMENT IS SAFETY
ACQUIRED THROUGH KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE**



COMMANDER'S CORNER



“And I feel like I’ve been here before”, from the 1970 CSNY song *Déjà vu*. Thanks for inviting me back to be Squadron Commander. It is an honor. Last year I thought the position was to act as an orchestra conductor and lead the Bridge. I found out that the Bridge members knew the tunes better than I, and I was fortunate to simply follow along. And that is a good thing.

Kick Start: We start off the new Squadron year in good financial shape, with an excellent training year behind us and plans for an even better one.

Advanced Training: One measure

of a squadron’s success is the number of members that have taken advanced courses such as Piloting, Advanced Piloting, and Celestial Navigation. The recently completed Piloting Course, the scheduled Fall 2008 Piloting Course, and the Spring 2009 Advanced Piloting Course have and will increase the training level of our members. Contact S.T.O. **Patricia Lewis** if interested.

Renewal: If you have not done so, your CPS membership expires the end of April, please renew. You can do this on the CPS website, or by mail. If you have any problems

please contact Norvan Membership Chief **John Bunning**. Your renewal is important to us – it provides the funds that allow us to keep on training fellow boaters.

Events: Commanders’ Cruise is on the May long weekend, Snug Cove, Bowen Island. Book a room or boat slip soon. Call **Bob Lowden** or **Frank Mogridge**. Change of Watch takes place May 24, and is Norvan’s fabulous 50th celebration with dinner, dancing, prizes, more prizes, and fun. Contact **Pam Boudreau**, **Nancy Johnson** or **Jennifer Shaw**.

Robert Crone: For many years, Norvanner Bob Crone, has reviewed the squadron’s financial books and presented his findings along with an always anticipated and a well enjoyed joke at the Annual General Meeting. This past AGM was Bob’s last as Norvan’s Auditor and we presented him with a plaque of recognition. But before the presentation, Bob’s other life was revealed. He and his wife **Vi** are legends in the Canadian film industry. Bob pioneered the use of the Steadicam which has become an industry standard camera. He filmed over 17 films and TV shows and

(Continued on page 4, see Commander)

TRAINING TOPICS

WE DID IT!

Wow, what a voyage this Training Department has been on this past year!! We have put on 9 programs totaling approximately 210 students. Every class has pretty much been a full-house. There have been a lot of changes introduced by Headquarters this past year along with course materials. Confusing to say the least, but we worked our way through it. Well done crew.

April 15th was the end of our Spring Boating class which had 45 students registered with 38 students writing the exam. I am very excited to announce that **they all passed** and **2 had 98% !!** One of the students with 98% was a fellow from Regina doing it through correspondence. Ted and I have been proctoring him through e-mails for about 6 weeks. We also had some folks writing their Marine Maintenance Exam from **Jim Reid**’s class. It was a busy night for us.

I would like to thank all the Instructors and Proctors for doing such a great job with all the classes this past year. When you see the amount of students we have had and the success rate with them all, it is no wonder Norvan is known as the “Training Squadron”.

GRADUATION

This large Spring class graduation will be extra special this year as it is being combined with **Norvan’s 50th Anniversary** celebration. This event is a must for all calendars, being **Saturday, May 24**. A very special evening is planned for all. Please call either **Pam Boudreau** at **604 985-3376** or **Nancy Johnson** at **604 904-0334** to reserve your tickets; advance registration is a must! Do it early so you won’t be disappointed. See you there.

THE FUTURE

We have 3 new instructors coming onboard for the ’08 -’09 session. Two have been taking courses with us that we have just wrapped up and one who is already a member and would like to be more involved with Norvan. We’re excited to have them join the “Crew” with their ideas and enthusiasm. Have started planning for the Fall with courses, which will include the Boating course, Boat Pro, VHF, GPS, and Piloting. So as you can see, the Training Department is a busy one and just keeps getting busier.

Pat Lewis, STO



Social Notes

Mark your calendars for the finest in functions at the finest of Squadrons:

May 10

**Bellevue’s Change of Watch
and 50th Anniversary Party**
Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club

May 24

**Norvan’s Change of Watch
and 50th Anniversary Party**
Cheers Restaurant

May 31

PMD AGM and 50th COW
Aston Pacific Inn & Resort

These are great opportunities to meet and greet your fellow Norvanners. We look forward to seeing **you** there!

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(*Commander, continued from page 3*)
 among many other things was friends with Prime Minister **Lester Pearson**. In 1981 Bob and Vi received a Genie award for their contributions to the Canadian film industry. Thanks Bob for checking the books and we were glad to discover your other life. *Guy*

HURLEY'S HISTORY

[correctly guessing that we would run a little short this month, PMD's Publications Officer **Hurley Zook** has provided the following look into the 1500's. Read on and learn:]

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the

THIS IS IT! The Official, 12 1/2th Annual NORQUITLAM COMMANDERS' CRUISE

As Norvan and Coquitlam Squadrons unite to celebrate the Victoria Day Weekend, you might:

- ☞ gaze in wonder at unusual mooring and rafting practices
- ☞ witness adults relive their childhoods with water-pistols, spud guns and anything else that comes to mind

But without doubt, you will:

- ☺ be served a steak or chicken dinner, cooked to semi-perfection by your own Commander
- ☺ have a pancake breakfast in the comfort of your own lap, again thanks to Guy's culinary artistry
- ☺ kick off the boating season with fun and frolic galore

SNUG COVE : MAY 17-19

The cost: probably only \$20 per head for all this food

Come by ferry or bring your own vessel. Kids, guests and pets welcome. This an event not to be missed! Moorage and cabin space are both very limited, so call **Bob Lowden (987-0660)** immediately, if not sooner.



children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, Don't throw the baby out with the bath water.

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, It's raining cats and dogs.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, Dirt poor. The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a thresh hold.

[So there you have it. Depending on space availability and Editor's mood, more in our next issue.]

FLOTSAM

(n.: wreckage found floating on the surface of the sea; The Editor's Column)

Firm in the belief of my own perfection, I once again take immense pleasure in revealing the faults of others, so .. ☼ **Masters Malaprop:** TV coverage of the Masters golf tournament included an announcer lamenting that an error committed by one of the finalists "certainly exaggerated his problems". And probably exacerbated them as well ☼ **The Sun Still Rises:** on April 7, in an article on the American real estate market, they reported that some persons who couldn't really afford a home "set their sites lower" by going for a mobile home. And on April 18, in a highlighted area, they breathlessly announced that the estimated value of the New York Yankees was "\$1.3 Billion", while the average Major League Baseball franchise value was "\$472". I know that times are tough, but .. ☼ **A Growing (?) Language:** some time ago I asked how the word "problems" came to be replaced by the word "issues". Well, the avalanche continues as, apparently, "duplication" is now "replication", "appearance" becomes "optics", "try to" [do something] morphs into "try and", while "couldn't care less" is now "could care less", which is 180 degrees away from its intended meaning. Of course, "customer" has become "client", even if you're not a lawyer, but a radio spot about Lululemon now calls these potential purchasers "guests". How about inmates? ☼ **And The Winner Is:** for the best use of a descriptive, the Executive Director of the BC Civil Liberties Association on the alleged improper use of tasers by transit police, "a shocking development" [The Province, April 17]. You think?☼



Arthur Fonzarelli, Norvan's First Commander?