



Newsletter

of The Canadian Safe Boating Council

December 2002



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Newsletter

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Feature Article

Symposium Success in NS



The focal point for the Canadian Safe Boating Council in 2002 was the Annual Symposium in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Attendance was good, organization excellent, weather not so great, but the presentation content was right on the money. It was also a time for the truly national representation and work of the Council to be recognized and celebrated. Individual attendees had a chance to share ideas and accomplishments and most importantly become re-energized for the challenges and hard work ahead.

Highlights included the “PFD Presentations”, lead off by Sue Phillips (Red Cross) reporting on the 2nd stage of PFD Market Research done in the Red Cross

Western Region and Brian Avery (Canadian Coast Guard Newfoundland) presenting brief highlights of the Coast Guard National PFD Attitudinal Survey. Both of these pivotal studies will form part of the research that a team from SMARTRISK will examine as they prepare a position paper on the wearing of PFD’s and Lifejackets which has been commissioned by the CSBC PFD Task Force. Chair Barbara Byers (Lifesaving Society) updated Members on the Task Force’s progress over the past year. Their work has included in-depth analysis of water incident mortality and morbidity statistics, lengthy discussions of the attitudes and restraints that exist in the willingness to wear PFD’s, a look at

the economic burden to society, government and individuals of boating fatalities and the implications for enforcement and educational institutions of a movement towards mandatory wear of PFD’s in small boats. The report from the SMARTRISK team, headed by Dr. Phillip Groff will look at all of these issues, fill in gaps in the research, examine progress in other jurisdictions and other parallel safety issues such as seatbelts and helmets, and generally ensure that full academic rigour is brought to bear on the work of the PFD Task Force. The project work should be completed in early summer of 2003 and will be presented to the CSBC membership at the Montreal Symposium next September.

At lunch Dr. Chris Brooks (who will also participate in the SMARTRISK project) gave a delightful historical perspective on flotation devices and the next day conference attendees were able to observe the hands-on testing of flotation suits and PFD’s at Cord Group. Right next door was Survival Systems (one of the research homes of Dr. Brooks) where training devices for helicopter egress and ocean life raft deployments were demonstrated.

The cross-border cooperation evident in the International Sum-



mit and Safe Boating Week was further enhanced by the attendance and participation of several U.S. representatives at the Halifax (excuse me) Dartmouth! Symposium. Virgil Chambers of the National Safe Boating Council and Bill Gossard of the National Transportation Safety Board both gave presentations about the work of their organizations and their focus on PFD's and alcohol in boats. Continued cooperation and cross-pollination will benefit both countries and help establish international precedents in fatality and injury prevention.

Closing off the weekend was journalist Ann Medina who as the Keynote Dinner Speaker both entertained and challenged all present to reach "real boaters" such as herself with safety messages that were realistic and believable. She highlighted some common misconceptions that exist in public attitudes about safety and illustrated some



of the challenges in changing behavior after you raise awareness.

Volunteer Recognition Awards were also presented at Dinner to several key players whose work has been invaluable in bringing the CSBC to the high professional level that exists today.

Organisers Sandra Inglis (Can. Coast Guard) and Rick Cassels (Mustang Survival) are to be

commended for their enthusiastic and detailed success in smoothly balancing the work and social aspects of the weekend. The logistics of boat cruises, bus trips, meals, presenters and meetings were invisible and made for a most enjoyable time for everyone.

Thanks to all those who assisted and especially Chair John Gullick who most cheerfully moved everyone along.

Will We Find You at SARSCENE 2003?

Hosts: Jean Murray of the National Search and Rescue Secretariat, and Sergeant Don Webster of the Ontario Provincial Police.

Dates: October 15-18, 2003. Kingston, Ontario

This year's Search and Rescue workshop, *SARSCENE* 2003, will be held in Kingston, Ontario from October 15-18, 2003. Delegates will enjoy four days of information sharing and discussions on pertinent SAR issues, visiting the tradeshow to check out new products and initiatives, and, they will have a great time participating in the SAR games.

For more information, please contact Tina Bouchard at tbouchard@nss.gc.ca, or by calling 1-800-727-9414.





Volunteer Web Site Champion Required

We have recently lost our Web Site Champion due to a change in personal circumstances and are looking for a replacement. This position is critical to the Council's communication priorities and strategies.

This person will be required to:

- Be computer literate and have access to a computer with appropriate current programming and E-mail.
- Receive and edit all submissions for inclusion on our web site.
- Consult with the author of each submission and get approval to the edited version before submitting to the Web Master.
- Consult with the Web Master as to requirements for the submission.
- Send edited submissions to the Web Master when approved.
- Make suggestions for additions and improvements to our Web Site and any related matters.

Areas of the Web Site that require attention include, but are not limited to:

Member List, Director's List, Mission, By Laws, Membership Application and Procedure, Information and Registration for the Annual Symposium and AGM, Information and Nomination Forms for the Annual Canadian Safe Boating Awards (CASBAs), Information about National Safe Boating Week Launch and Activities and

Information about Partners and Partnerships including the National Safe Boating Council.

In the past this Champion has been a Director of the Canadian Safe Boating Council. This would be desirable as it helps to promote communications and a good understanding of the Council. However, it would not be required if the Champion so requests.

Please indicate your interest to John Gullick, Chairman, jgullick@cps-ecp.ca

Happy Solstice from Santa, Roxanne, Claudio & Sempai with a bow to the French-Canadian legend of the Flying Canoe...



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Contact at getWaterproof@askSensei.com



Message from the Chair

Hello folks!!!

Before I tell you about a few upcoming events I would like to take a moment to thank those of you who have given so much of your time to the Effort Priorities of the Canadian Safe Boating Council. Primarily that is those of you that have agreed to become Directors of the organization but I know many more of you have assisted with specific activities like the Symposium, the CASBAS, the launch of Safe Boating Week, the PFD Task Force and much more.

While the work of individual members is very much appreciated it is just as important to recognize the support given them by the companies and organizations that they represent. Without that support of time, dollars and other resources people would be much less able to follow through with Effort Priorities that the CSBC has chosen to focus on.

So to all of you, including those in your companies and organizations who support you, I offer my sincere thanks for that support and the work you do to promote safe and responsible boating throughout Canada and beyond.

For a complete list of the current Directors please go to our Web site.

Now for a few key CSBC activities to mark in your calendar:

The Canadian Safe Boating Awards (CASBAS) will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Toronto on the evening of Sunday January 12, 2003. That Sunday is the first of the Toronto International Boat Show and the Sheraton is the official hotel for these events. Be sure to reserve a table, and any required rooms, for your group early. This popular event has sold out the last two years.

The national launch of Canadian Safe Boating Week will hopefully take place on Thursday May 15 to be followed by regional launches. The CSBC is working with the office of the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans in the hopes that he will be able to be present at the 2003 launch.

Finally, don't forget our annual Symposium and AGM that for 2003 will take place in Montreal, September 26 – 28. This event is getting more popular each year and in 2003 we will focus on presenting to our members the results of the PFD Task Force project being carried out by the SMARTRISK Foundation with generous support from the Cook-Rees Memorial Fund. This Symposium promises to be of benefit to anyone interested in research related to PFD and Lifejacket wear.

Keep the faith,
John Gullick

Thanks to Our CSBC Patron Sponsors





Directors On Board

At the CSBC Annual General Meeting, held alongside the 2002 Annual Symposium in Dartmouth, new members of the Board of Directors were elected. The bios of Harry Strong and Vahé Vassilian will appear next time (when they have a chance to write them!)

Steve Elliott

- Steve has been employed by the Canadian Red Cross since March, 2002. His current capacity is that of National Manager, Water Safety Programs and Manager, Safety Services for Ontario.
- He has been a member of the CSBC for two years and this is his first year as a member of the Board of Directors.
- A long time boating enthusiast, Steve has virtually grown up in, on and around the water. Steve became exposed to the CSBC while performing contract work with John Blaicher of BMI in 2001-2002. He is a strong advocate of boating safety and in preventing the senseless loss of life and injury that occurs on Canada's waterways. Steve believes in the natural and breathless beauty of our lakes and he is happy to support the CSBC in its mission to promote the safe and responsible use of a true "privilege".

Bill Griswold

- Representing the U.S. National Safe Boating Council at CSBC
- A 37-year career in the military, both in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Coast Guard.

- Retired in 1993 as a Captain.
- After transferring to the Coast Guard, he served at various Air Stations performing search and rescue missions in both helicopters and fixed wing aircraft. He also deployed aboard Coast Guard icebreakers for two trips to Antarctica. When the 200-mile limit was initiated, he served a tour in Kodiak, Alaska sailing on cutters with the aviation detachment enforcing the laws of the 200-mile economic zone.
- Staff tours included recreational boating tours in Alaska, New York and eventually he served as the Chief Director, Auxiliary in Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington.
- Since retirement, he has been active in the local Auxiliary unit in Florida, and has served in various offices with the National Safe Boating Council.
- He is married to Sam, and they live in central Florida. Their children are grown and have given them 11 grand children. He owns a 39-foot Regal and boats on the St. Johns River in Florida.

Danial Haché

- Became Acting Manager for the Office of Boating Safety on Nov 4th, 2002
- Danial has been with the Coast Guard for only a short time, joining CCG in Feb 2001, he started out as the Senior Advisor, International Affairs
- Before that, he was involved mostly with Human Resources including 12 years at National Defence in the field of Training and Development, 3 years at Finance Canada as the Chief, HR Strategic Planning and Organisational Development.

- An officer with the Naval Reserve since 1977 - holds the rank of Lieutenant-Commander
- Holds a Masters in Public Administration. Married to Martine Gagnon with a 7 year old daughter named Catherine.

Jean Murray

- Executive Director, National Search and Rescue Secretariat, effective August 27, 2001.
- Prior to joining the federal Public Service in 1976, Ms. Murray worked in municipal government and the private sector in the United Kingdom, France, Spain, and New Brunswick, Canada. She has held positions with Public Works Canada, the Treasury Board Secretariat and Transport Canada, where she worked in aviation policy and railway safety.
- Jean also spent 13 years with the Canadian Coast Guard, where her appointments included Director General, Rescue, Safety and Environmental Response and Director General, Marine Navigation Services.
- Prior to joining the National Search and Rescue Secretariat, she was Director of Communications with Statistics Canada.
- She was born in St. John's, Newfoundland, and received her university education (B.A. in Geography, French and English) at the University of London, England, where she also received a post-graduate diploma in Urban Planning.
- She is a Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners and the Royal Town Planning Institute, and a graduate of the Public Service Career Assignment Program.



Roxanne Standefer

- Author, Martial Artist and Consultant in Water and Boating Safety
- Former Red Cross/RLSS Lifesaving and Water Safety Instructor, Recreational Canoeing Instructor and Wilderness Guide
- Producer of public educational materials, radio PSA's, brochures, reports, etc.
- Currently advisor to The Cook Rees Memorial Fund For Water Search And Safety
- Lives and works beside a small lake in the hardwood hills near Bancroft Ontario

Angus Armstrong

- Started paddling for Balmy Beach Canoe Club at the age of 11, the highlight being on the Canadian Championship War Canoe Team in 1968.
- In 1970 started as a beach lifeguard for the Toronto Harbour Police.
- In 1974 was promoted to Head Lifeguard for the Toronto Islands.
- In 1977 was appointed to Leading Hand with The Toronto Harbour Police with duties of overseeing the lifeguarding program and to assist in the search and rescue initiatives for the Toronto waterfront

- In 1982 The Toronto Harbour Police was amalgamated into the Toronto Police Marine Unit and Angus was made a Police Constable and Marine Specialist, along with becoming a member of the Underwater Search and Recovery Scuba team.
- In 1990 he was appointed to the Community Service / Crime Prevention Office of the Marine Unit (the position that he currently holds) with the mandate to promote safe boating.



Vital Boating Safety Information to Share...

Inform the Educator is a video-taped program of selected presenters addressing audiences at the Canadian Safe Boating Annual Conferences US International Boating and Water Safety Summits from 2001 through to 2003. *Inform the Educator's* is a co-operative program with the Canadian Safe Boating Council, the National Safe Boating Council and the Canadian Coast Guard. The aim is to deliver issues and topics of boating safety to a wider audience of boating educators.

Currently, eleven taped sessions are available in English and French with more to follow.

Examples of topics include:

- Boat Related Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
- Developing A Market Plan
- Managing The Risk in Paddle Sports
- Safe Boating Fairs

Teaching:

- Navigation - Rules of the Road,
- PWC Safety for Young Adults,
- Basic Paddling Safety Course

Each presentation provides examples of resources and techniques used in the delivery of successful boating education programs from a variety of organizations.

The taped presentations can be used in-part as a resource library for recreational organizations or training sessions for educators involved with delivering boating safety programs to the public.

For more information, visit the CSBC website at www.csbc.ca for a complete list of Inform The Educator sessions and order form.