



Guelph Power and Sail Squadron

BLINKIN' BUOY



"Quick Flash"

September 2004 Edition

Fall is just around the corner!
And so is Registration Time for Fall/Winter
CPS courses offered by the Guelph Power
and Sail Squadron.



Registration for Basic Boating and Advanced
Piloting – Sept. 8 and Sept. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Classes start on Sept. 22. Registration and
classes held at Centennial High School,
College Ave, Guelph.

For further details on courses attend the
registration events or call Nick Wenzler at 519-
837-1517.

Coming in January 2005:

Fundamentals of Weather

Coming in April 2005 :

GPS course and VHF "Radio Talk" course.

Guelph CPS Squadron Rendezvous 2004

**Was held on July 9, 10, 11, 2004 at the
Doral Marine Resort.**

**It was a great success with a number of
power and sail boats attending. There
was a raft-up and barbecue out from
Penetang. The weather was very nice.**

Thank you to all of the organizers.

**A full report with pictures will follow in
the next issue.**

Get onboard your Squadron's Boat Roster.

It's easy. Just call or email Ken Budd at 824-6233
or kbuddA077@rogers.com,
after September 01, 04.

Let us know the following;

Power or Sail; Name of vessel; Make; Length
overall (in feet please); If you have a VHF onboard;
Name of Home Port/Marina and your general
boating area.

The roster will eventually be available on the
website. All this information will aid your fellow
members who are seeking information about a
marina or boating area, or who may need to find
you or hail you on the radio when they are in your
area.

VAX498 South Bound II

Wed, Feb 2nd, 2005
Guelph PS Student Night with
Herb Hilgenberg

Herb's private navigational advice is so trusted
that Canadian and American Search & Rescue
Agencies call upon him to find boats missing
offshore. He claims it is a hobby, but for 18
years, he has spent seven days a week, 51
weeks a year at his broadcast station providing
personalized marine weather forecasts free of
charge. ***"I have been out there. I know what
it is like to be beaten up. I can feel for the
person sitting on their boat."***

During peak periods, more than 70 ocean-
going yachts and commercial vessels check in
with him every day. Hundreds of others listen
in to the HF SSB reports. Each logged-in
vessel receives daily an extended four or five
day route forecast, including way points to

assist in avoiding potentially unfavourable conditions. ***"I don't want anyone to get into the situation where he has to get rescued."*** Individual vessel forecasts are prepared in advance of air time, utilizing and editing numerical forecast models, other available data and feedback from logged vessels.

"Until one stumbles into a life-or-death experience, one never appreciates the limitations on weather and sea state information available to the modern mariner."

Herb and his family, en route to the Virgin Islands in their sloop, South Bound II, battled a series of un-forecasted storms and seas greater than 30 feet. Frustrated by the lack of reliable data available to small cruisers in the 30 to 45 foot range, Herb started a spare-time forecasting service in 1987 while living in Bermuda. Participating in the Hurricane Watch Network, an organization of ham radio operators, Herb represented the Radio Society in the Emergency Measures Organization coordinated by the Chief of Police in Bermuda. In 1992, he was invited by the Fleet Navigator of the US Naval Academy to share his ship reports with the US Navy and NWS/NOAA. In return, he was allowed access to the Navy's NOGAP numerical weather forecasting model. While operating out of Bermuda, Herb routinely exchanged weather and sea state information with the National Hurricane Center and NOAA.

Since returning to Ontario in 1994, Herb has devoted part of each day to his forecasting hobby. In 2000, he was invited by the US Navy's Chief of Staff to discuss ship tracking procedures and forecasting techniques at the Naval Atlantic Meteorology & Oceanography Center in Norfolk, Virginia. He is a vital asset to the Coast Guard, assisting with numerous Search & Rescue missions.

Herb Hilgenberg is a legend to sailors and a recipient of citations from cruising associations, the Canadian and US Coast Guard. As well, he was honoured with the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for his volunteer service.

Come out Wed, Feb 2nd, 2005 ... ask him how many lives he has saved, or any other question.



ARRRR! September 19, 2004 is

International Talk Like a Pirate Day!!!

Why? How? Why would you want to?

Check out www.talklikeapirate.com

Here you will find everything you want or need about talking like a pirate, such as:

*The definition of **Arrrr!** - This one is often confused with arrrgh, which is of course the sound you make when you sit on a belaying pin. "Arrr!" can mean, variously, "yes," "I agree," "I'm happy," "I'm enjoying this beer," "My team is going to win it all," "I saw that television show, it sucked!" and "That was a clever remark you or I just made."*

For information on modern day piracy activities, which are very much a security concern and a high cost to commercial and pleasure craft in some areas of the world, visit the website of the International Chamber of Commerce for their weekly piracy report.

http://www.iccwbo.org/index_ccs.asp

and click on this symbol



***IMB Piracy
Reporting Centre***