

OAK LEAF

Oak Bay Power and Sail Squadron Newsletter

November 2025

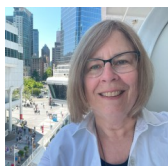
Greetings everyone

Happy Holidays! December is fast approaching and it is a busy time for most of us as we prepare for multiple holiday gatherings with family, friends, co-workers, and fellow boaters. Oak Bay's holiday party will be on Friday December 5th (details are later in the Oak Leaf) and I hope everyone can make it. We will be updating our squadron website soon with next year's cruises and classes. Check out the newsletter with some of our 2025 summer activities and plan to join us next summer. Book them very early as marinas fill up quickly. www.oakbaysq.ca

I wish you all well and hope to see you soon.

Cheers.

Gail Silvestrini - Publisher



*Chance takers are,
accident makers*



In This Issue

- Greetings from Commander
- Summer Entertainment
- CO safety
- Thank you
- Christmas invite

Commander's Corner

Happy 50th Anniversary, Oak Bay Squadron! Now that we are 50 years young, I think it's time that we let people know who we are and what we do. I often hear "What is CanBoat or CPS?". Well, let's see if we can help clarify that for our non-members friends. And let's see if we can do what we can individually to help promote our Squadrons.

I tell people that "the CanBoat is a boating organization dedicated to boater education and safety. That's what we do. We help make boating of all kinds, safer through our educational courses, but also through our membership. The social side of our organization also promotes safe boating. We are an organization of people who love boating and who have a wide range of experience on the water. When we get together we talk about our experiences, and when we have questions, we have a community to help guide us.

So get active in our organization and help spread the word. Knowing how to boat safely is the most important thing in boating. Take the first step by contacting us by email oakbaysquadron@hotmail.com

Hope everyone had a great summer and looking forward to seeing everyone at our next gathering.

Cdr Stephen Taylor



Oak Bay Power Squadron Executive Committee

2025/2026 Year

Commander	Stephen Taylor	250-383-7882
Past Commander	David Holmes, SN	250-598-8482
Executive Officer	Mary Lou Newbold	250-383-7882
Education Officer	Peter Brennan	604-449-2840
Assistant Education Officer	Tony Merry, SN	250-656-4288
Financial Officer	Gail Silvestrini	250-658-4223
Secretary	Daryl Collard, SN	250-472-2779
Membership	TBD	
Environmental Officer	Marcel Fisher	250-920-8821
Cruise Master	Stephen Taylor	250-383-7882
RVCC	Bill Miller	250-656-5190
Communication	TBD	N/A



let's get together
HO! HO! HO!

JOIN US FOR A HOLIDAY PARTY!

ON DECEMBER 5TH

FROM 6:30PM

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOL DRINKS

GUEST SPEAKER: CRUISING BEYOND THE GULF ISLANDS

hosted by the Oak Bay Squadron

BC AVIATION MUSEUM

1910 NORSEMAN RD,

NORTH SAANICH, BC V8L 5V5

CALL 250-880-6651 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

© Greetings
ISLAND



Squadron 2025 AGM Gathering

Squadron Meeting

Our Squadron's Meetings are in person (downstairs at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club. 3475 Ripon Road, Victoria BC V8R 6H1) or via zoom. Members, students and guests are welcome. Please join us for the meeting and a drink afterwards.

Method: Zoom (email oakbaysq@hotmail.com for invite)



THANK YOU

OAK BAY SQUADRON VOLUNTEERS



CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

SYMPTOMS AND PREVENTION

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless, and tasteless toxic gas that can be fatal. It's produced by incomplete burning of fuels like natural gas, propane, oil, and wood from sources such as furnaces, water heaters and boat exhaust.

Every year, people on or around boats are overcome by the effects of CO. It gets into your lungs and prevents your body from obtaining oxygen.

Signs and Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Confusion or inappropriate behaviour
- Nausea and vomiting
- Aggression
- Redness to the face or skin
- Fatigue
- Chest pain

Symptoms are similar to those of seasickness or the flu. Eventually, CO leads to loss of consciousness and, eventually, death.

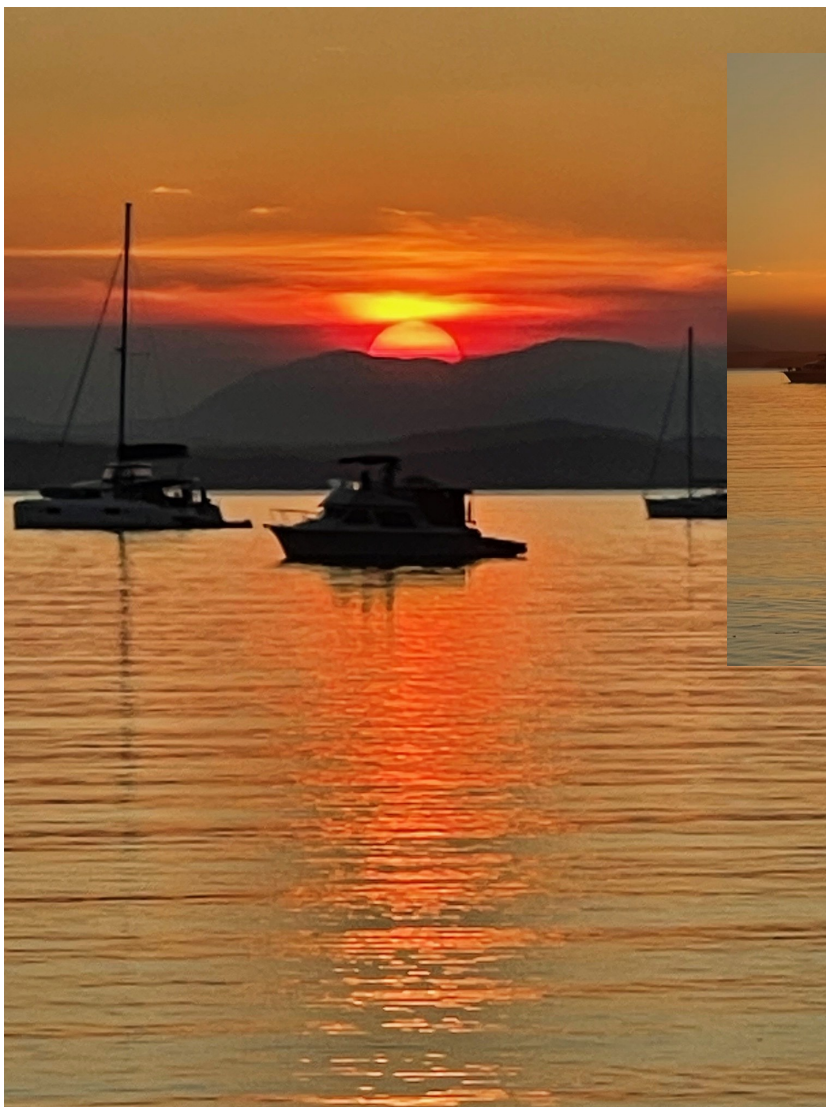
Boaters need to take these steps to prevent Carbon Monoxide problems:

- Heat the cabin or cook only when in a well-ventilated area.
- Get regular professional boat inspections.
- Install and maintain marine-grade CO detectors in living spaces before every trip. Remember the batteries.
- Check regularly for exhaust leaks from CO sources: engines, generators, propane appliances.
- Be aware of boat design areas where fumes may gather.
- Tell swimmers to stay away from the stern while generators and engines are in operation.
- Warn swimmers to stay away from the high risk areas: under swim platforms and between the pontoons of houseboats.
- Don't "teak surf" by hanging off the back of the swim platform when the engine is on and the boat is in motion.

If CO poisoning is suspected, remove yourself (or the victim) away from the area where the gas may be present and seek medical assistance.

Additional advice:

- CO can build up when two vessels are rafted together.
- If you are at anchor, have an engine or generator running to provide power or charge the batteries and there is a slight breeze coming over the stern there is a real risk of carbon monoxide being blown into the cockpit and down into the cabin. We strongly recommend the installation of a carbon monoxide detector.



OUR FAVOURITE EVENING SUNSET
WATCHING LOCATION AT MONTAGUE
HARBOUR BEACH

COME JOIN US NEXT YEAR AND ENJOY
THE LOVELY SUNSETS



EVEN YOUR DOG CAN ENJOY THE VIEWS AT MONTAGUE
THIS IS ONE OF TRILLIUM'S FAVOURITE PLACES



Members and friends enjoying a delicious dinner at Hastings house.

A chance to wish George and Mary Lou a Happy Birthday!



Trillium ready to enjoy Canada Day



George about to enjoy some of the wonderful free Canada Day drinks supplied by Thrifty Foods on Salt Spring Island