

**Alderney Squadron
Report to District AGM
April 12, 2008**

Alderney remains financially sound even though our course registrations are down this year. We currently have 243 members.

Training:

Course registrations are down this year. Last year was an exceptional year. Two Boating classes (we normally run 3 classes) registered 40 students, down from 66 last year. We did not run a Piloting course this year as we are beta testing the new Seamanship course - 7 registered; Advanced Piloting had 4 students; Seamanship Sail - 7; and Marine Maintenance - 8. We have a RADAR course scheduled for May 3 and another Marine Radio course on April 19/26. A third Marine Radio will be scheduled for early May. BoatPro courses have been very poorly attended - we cancelled one due to only 2 students registering. We look forward to BoatPro coming on-line - that was the main question at both the Halifax Boat Show and the Atlantic Outdoor Sports & RV Show. Mary MacMillan is planning a number of Boating Safety Seminars for youth in a few schools in Dartmouth.

PR & Marketing Initiatives:

The most Safety Minded Boater was awarded at Dartmouth Yacht during the Rear Commodore's dinner. Shearwater's will be awarded at their AGM later this month. Alderney also donated \$300 to each club for use of their facilities.

Our annual September BBQ for both DYC & SYC usually brings more students to our courses but not this year.

Booth staff at the Halifax Boat Show and the Atlantic Outdoor Sports & RV Show spoke with many of the public interested in getting 'The Card' but want to be able to do on-line. A great deal of interest was shown in the Maritime Radio course and I hear that those we steered to the St Margaret's Bay course have signed up. CPS did not win the privilege of giving the PCOC testing at the Halifax Boat Show this year. The RFP was won by Boat Smart. We did testing at the OS & RV Show with only 11 people tested. This is traditionally a slow PCOC testing show. Hopefully spring 2009's show will give increased testing.

Aliant have a 'safety week' in May with safety oriented sessions and displays. We have been asked to display information for obtaining the Pleasure Craft Operator Card. Plans are not finalized but are discussing space be made available to have staff challenge the test on that day.

Safe Boating Week - May 17 - 23:

We have been invited to have a display at Dartmouth Yacht Club in conjunction with the Office of Boating Safety and other interested safety organizations on May 17th.

Respectfully submitted

Cdr Mary Ridgewell