

The Helm – November 2025

Our Fredericton Squadron newsletter returns after 13 year “Turn in”

The Binnacle—the cherished newsletter capturing the rippling yarns, current charts, and riverine rambles of boating aficionados along New Brunswick's storied Saint John River—has joyfully returned this November, as **The Helm**. Once a go-to guide for cruisers meandering past the heritage charm of Fredericton, and anglers casting lines in the tidal reaches near Reversing Falls. This revival anchors just after the autumn leaves blaze along the banks, brimming with fresh tales of final salmon runs, winterized wooden dories, and the crisp hush of frost-kissed sunrises over the Kennebecasis Valley. For river rats who've longed for its weathered pages.

“**The Helm**” is provided in a mobile friendly format.

Enjoy, mates!

Steven Brewer, Communications Officer, Fredericton Squadron



Chart Room – Learning & Courses



Upcoming Courses:

Nov 25, 2025 - Basic Navigation & Boat Handling:

Hands-On Skills for Safe Boating

The essential course for novice and experienced navigators—modernized for today's tools and challenges.

When: Tuesdays, starting November 25, 2025 | 7–9 PM (12 weeks)

Where: University of New Brunswick (UNB), Room TBA (details forthcoming)

Member - Registration \$236 <https://tinyurl.com/MemberBNBH>

Non-Member - Sign In & Registration \$295
<https://tinyurl.com/NonMemberBNBH>

~~Nov 15, 2025 One Day Marine Diesel Seminar (Cancelled due to Injury)~~

When: Will be rescheduled. For anyone that has signed up already, your reservation will be held. Stay tuned!

Where: ~~40 Hubbard Rd, Fredericton~~

~~Limited Seating~~

~~CPS Member Registration Now Open, Price \$100~~

Email ~~506Boat@Gmail.com~~

~~Non-Member Reg Open Nov 10~~

Email ~~506Boat@Gmail.com~~

~~Lead by 2 Red Seal & Cummings Certified Marine Mechanics~~

Commander's Notes

Keeping the Boating Spirit Afloat This Winter

As we tuck our boats away on the hard for the season, your local CPS Fredericton Squadron is busy keeping the adventure alive with a lineup of courses and events to warm the winter months. We're thrilled to welcome a full board this year, drawn from diverse boat clubs across the area—bringing fresh energy and perspectives to our community.

You'll notice the first exciting change with our revived newsletter, a fantastic initiative spearheaded by our new Communications Officer, Steven Brewer. Be sure to keep an eye on these updates for the latest on upcoming events.

We're already gearing up for more: new workshops and gatherings to sharpen skills and share stories. Our kickoff Boat Talk on winterizing was a hit—full of lively discussion and valuable tips. A heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us!

Join us soon to meet the new board and connect with fellow boaters. Your presence makes all the difference—let's stay connected through the chill.

“Don't be so busy that you can't remember if you found a rope on the beach or lost your boat”

Troy Otis

Commander, Fredericton Squadron

Safety Buoy – Tip of the Month

“Know Before You Go”

Before setting sail, always check the marine weather forecast. Sudden changes in wind and wave conditions can turn a pleasant cruise into a risky situation.

Bookmark the Canadian [Marine Weather Service](#) and keep a VHF radio tuned to channel 16.



On the Horizon – Upcoming Events

- **November Boat Talk : Emergency Incident Handling - Expert Panel**

Date: November 19

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Dolan's Pub, Fredericton

Details: Ask seasoned sailors what they would do if confronted with any water emergency.

- **Christmas Party**

Date: December 4

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: The Nest (Above the Cap), Fredericton

Details: Live Music!

- **January Boat Talk: Knotty Night**

Date: Jan 21, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Dolan's Pub, Fredericton

Details: Bring your favourite line, but rope will be provided if you forget

- **February Boat Talk: Fire Safety**

Date: Feb 18, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Dolan's Pub, Fredericton

Details: Refresher on keeping safe from the dangers of boat fires

- **March Boat Talk: Season Preparation**

Date: Mar 18, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Dolan's Pub, Fredericton

Details: Summer is fast approaching. Are you ready to splash?

- **April Boat Talk: Trivia Night**

Date: Apr 15, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Dolan's Pub, Fredericton

Details: Opportunity for all Salty Dogs to show their stuff!

Captain's Log - Recent Events

Oct 2025 Winterization Boat Talk

22 Engaged boaters made many contributions and asked lots of great questions

This was one of our "best ever" Boat Talks.

Topics included:

- Which antifreeze and where
- Battery care and feeding
- Fuel additives
- Best bilge practices
- Minimizing moisture
- Potable water and antifreeze
- Dryer Sheets go where?
- Sea Strainer



Bearings & Tales – Member Adventures

The YouTube channel [Beyond the Buoys](#) (@BeyondthebuoyswithAnM), hosted by Andrea and Mike, both are Fredericton Squadron members, is a vlog series launched in June 2025, centered on real-life boating adventures along Canada's scenic waterways. With a focus on the "highs, lows, and everything in between of life on the water," it shares personal stories of exploration, from coastal anchorages to navigating challenging routes. The channel's debut video introduces their 1979 Mainship MK1 trawler (a 34-foot vessel with diesel engine, full living quarters, and swim platform) and outlines an 18-day delivery trip from Mariposa Marina in St. André d'Argenteuil, Québec, to their home in New Brunswick—covering the St. Lawrence River, Gaspé Peninsula, Northumberland Strait, Canso Strait, southern Nova Scotia, and the Bay of Fundy via reversing falls in Saint John.

Subsequent episodes provide daily-ish updates on the journey, including lock transits, weather hurdles, speed logs, and stunning scenery, in a casual, enthusiastic style that's approachable for boating newcomers or armchair travelers.

Title	Upload Date	Brief Focus
Beyond the Buoys with AnM	Jun 4, 2025	Boat tour and full route overview
Ste Anne de Bellevue Lock Day 3	Jun 9, 2025	Early journey lock navigation.
Canso Strait Lock. Heading to Long Lake, NS	Jun 30, 2025	Mid-trip strait passage and anchoring.
Lockeport, NS to Saint John, NB	Jul 10, 2025	Final leg through Nova Scotia bays.
June 11, 2025 (untitled update)	Jun 11, 2025	Daily progress log

Come Aboard – Join Us!

Whether you're a powerboater, sailor, paddler, or landlubber with a love for the water, the Fredericton Squadron welcomes you. Check out our [Facebook page](#)!

Membership Perks:

- Access to training and certifications
- Social events and regattas
- A community of passionate mariners
- Discounts on [Canboat merchandise](#)

Chuckles on the Poop Deck

An expensive snore cure

A woman was nearing the end of her tether – every night her husband snored so loudly that it kept her awake.

She decided to call the family doctor to see if there was anything that could be done to relieve her nightly suffering.

“Well, there is one operation I can perform that will cure your husband of his snoring,” said the doctor, “but I must warn you that it is rather expensive. It will cost you a deposit of \$50,000, and payments of \$2,000 for 60 months, as well as money for extras.”

“Good grief!” exclaimed the woman. “That sounds like I’m buying a yacht!”

“Hmm,” the doctor murmured, “too obvious, huh?”



Canboat / NautiSavoir

A Community Of Experienced Boaters Inspiring Others

CanBoat / NautiSavoir, operated by Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons / Escadrilles canadiennes de plaisance (CPS-ECP), is a national, non-profit boating organization offering courses and seminars for recreational boaters.

Our CanBoat.ca website offers the above certifications and links to its numerous other courses. These build from the basic courses required by law to more advanced material for boaters who would like to cross blue ocean waters.

The PCOC card program is the only Canadian-issued card that qualifies for acceptance by the U.S. Coast Guard. These courses are available online by self-study or taught via instructor led virtual classes or in classrooms.

Since 1938, generations of volunteers have been sharing their on-the-water knowledge with new and seasoned boaters, helping them prepare for both every-day and emergency situations. CanBoat / NautiSavoir courses are developed by boaters for boaters. Membership in CanBoat / NautiSavoir offers access to insurance discounts for boats, home and auto, discounts on courses, on marine wear and products, on marine on the water assistance and more. As well, annual membership dues from individuals allow CanBoat / NautiSavoir to better serve the boating community and develop its programs