



BOW WAVE

Alexandra Yacht Club

www.ayc.on.ca

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Commodore's Report

In spite of a less than ideal Summer, weather wise, I sincerely hope that most of you did take advantage of the few sunny days to pursue our common interest of sailing our boats. I know that the Thousand Islands had quite a few of the regulars back this year and Brian and Mary spent a prolonged period of time cruising the North Channel. Several members cruised the West end of the lake visiting many reciprocal Clubs as well as anchoring in the Niagara River. Combined with the occasional day sail and our active racing program, I think it safe to assume that AYC was well represented on the water again this year. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves. "And it's not over yet."

There are some very important dates on the horizon and, while I'm sure that other Board members will mention these in their reports, I feel it worthwhile to relay these here as well. A little reminder never hurt.

YARD CLEAN UP is scheduled for Saturday October 18th. This is a mandatory work day for every Senior member of our club. There are always a myriad of tasks to be undertaken during our four hours together and it's terribly unfair if a Senior member is not in attendance. When this happens someone else has to perform the job tasks that would have been allotted to the missing member. Many hands make light work. Please don't leave your responsibility to someone else. See you all there!!

HAUL OUT will be Saturday October 25th and Sunday October 26th. Vice Commodore Gardner will have a schedule of lifts and work duties posted on the bulletin board. Be sure to find out what day you are coming out of the water. Again, you are expected to be in attendance and to help throughout the day as required by the Vice Commodore. There is always enough work to go around. See you all there!!

FINAL DOCK WORK PARTY will be scheduled by Rear Commodore McLean shortly after Haul out. We loosen the chains, take out the water lines, remove the

hydro and pedestals and generally prepare our docking platform for the Winter. There will be a sign up sheet posted on the Bulletin Board for this work party. See some of you there!!

Our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on Wednesday November 19th. Please, Please, Please, be in attendance. This is our member's meeting. It's when you receive the reports of the various Board members, where you give input into the affairs of the Club, where you float ideas of benefit to the Club and finally where you nominate and elect the people who you choose to administer the affairs of the your AYC for the next year. Surely, every Senior Member who enjoys our club; who cares about the future and well being of AYC will be in attendance. See you all there!!

Work hour sheets have been posted on a regular basis on the Club Bulletin Board. I would like to draw everyone's attention to the large number of work hours contributed by Spouses, Partners, Relatives and Friends. These are people who are not required to contribute work hours but choose to pitch in wherever and whenever your Club needs a little help. Thank you to all of these volunteers. As this is the last Bow Wave before our Annual General Meeting, it is appropriate to take a few lines here to "Thank my fellow Board Members" for their support of AYC and their dedication to the responsibilities they undertook this past year. This Board worked exceptionally well and any and all decisions were arrived at with the best interests of the AYC and it's members always being the number one factor. There were of course times when your Board was faced with stressful situations, tough decisions, and yes; occasionally opposing views. Never the less, once a decision had been arrived at and a direction set; all Board members fully supported the result. Great to work with these people.

From all of us on the AYC Board I will extend this same "Thanks" to each of you, our AYC members. It is an honor and a privilege to sit on the AYC Board. If, during this past year, we have been able to add to your enjoyment of our Club, then we are well rewarded. In an

instance where we were unable to meet your individual needs or wishes; I can only remind everyone that Board decisions must conform to our members By-Laws and be of benefit to the total membership in both the short and long term.

In closing I remind everyone of what a special jewel we have at the foot of Stadium Road. "Enjoy it, Love it, Respect it, Support it." Every day!!! ♦

Ron Tyson, Commodore

Vice Commodore's Report

The sailing season is coming to an end once again. It is now time to deal with haul-out and winter storage.

Please make note of these important dates:

1. Yard Clean Up (mandatory): Saturday October 18th at 9:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m., lunch will be provided.
2. Haul-out: Saturday October 25th at 7:30 a.m.
3. Haul-out: Sunday October 26th at 7:30 a.m.

There will be a list posted in the clubhouse for each of the haul-out days and a draft layout for the yard storage.

Following are a few reminders regarding haul-out:

- Please complete the duties for the entire shift that you have been assigned to. In the past, some people have left as soon as their vessel has been placed in their cradle. This makes it more difficult for all who are left because they must take up the slack.
- Do not attempt to exert yourself beyond your reasonable limits. To avoid injury the more people to lift/move this equipment the lighter it will be for each individual. To reiterate, bend your knees and keep your back straight, and do ask for help.
- The owner of the vessel (or designated agent) must be present for the lifting and placement of the vessel in the cradle.
- The use of water hoses or pressure washers on the days of haul-out are not permitted.
- There are sufficient mast racks available to store masts. Please follow the mast storage allocation list. Masts stored on top of vessels make it difficult for the line crew to move about. It also makes it easier to place the boat without the mast protruding beyond the hull.
- Make sure that you have all the parts to your cradle installed, including the pads, in a timely fashion to reduce crane downtime.
- The lines attached bow and stern when lifting the boat should be 15', no longer!
- All ladders must be properly secured using a lock. ♦

David Gardner, Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore's Report

A new electric motor has been installed on the club weed conveyor and a shield was fabricated and installed to cover the motor and drive belt to make the contraption safer to operate. Now all we need are some weeds. This summer, our basin has been surprisingly free of "prop chop" and other floating junk, especially when compared to the past few boating seasons. It needs to be mentioned that most of the fabrication work to reactivate the weed conveyor was done by Gerry Kuter and his efforts were very much appreciated.

The four emergency swim ladders on M-dock were tested and appeared to work okay, aside from the fact that the rungs were rather slippery and slimy. Now we have to make these ladders more visible, either with paint or additional reflective tape. Also, in the interests of safety a life ring was installed near the north end of M-dock.

At our fall mooring work party, some damaged jet-floats will be swapped out. A few floats on the main dock have developed cracks along the tread pattern and will be marked with paint to identify them for replacement. So, if you see ugly paint splattered on our docks, be assured it is only temporary. ♦

Bill McLean, Rear Commodore

Secretary's Report

I always used to find haul out a nasty time of year. My father owned boats from my earliest memory — a tough unnamed Albacore, then Hodja, a 1946 lap-strake Folkboat (with a hand-crank Penta diesel), then Tessa (the Contessa '26), then Kim, a C&C 27, and finally Citation, our gorgeous, stiff Alberg '29. He had a slow burning case of two-foot-itis. Taking these boats out of the water and putting them away was always in my mind a negative thing: sailing was done, the season was over, the long, dull winter was now to be endured as best as possible.

The fall before he died I stated exactly this to my father and he stopped me cold. "You only have so many haul outs," he smiled, weak with the illness that killed him four months later. "Enjoy it for what it is."

Since that time I have come to appreciate the almost Pagan rhythms of sailing on Lake Ontario. It is as if we have a planting, a growing and a harvest. Folding the mainsail and winterizing the engine are acts that have an annual rhythm. We, as boaters, are able to find comfort and strength in their certainty — and certainly launch is the happiest day, unless you prefer reopening your boat

after the long hibernation, or perhaps it is the repeated visits to check and hug when she is cold on the hard, or indeed, nestling her for the long winter, safe in sturdy cradle. It has a connection and a meaning that is, in a difficult way, close to the heart of our existence. There is a rhythm, a beat, like our hearts, like the seasons.

We only have so many haul outs. It is a thought to keep in mind when winterizing.

Shift gears to two quick points of business: our Fall Annual General Meeting, as Commodore Ron Tyson has written, is November 19th. We need all senior members there — in fact, senior members, if you have ideas on effective management of the club send them to me before the October board meeting (Wednesday of the first week). They can be formal motions or informal notions. This meeting will set the agenda for the AGM (another in the annual rhythms) and input from them membership is essential. If you e-mail your ideas to me at nick@warwickgp.com the board will be sure to examine each and every one of them. Anything deemed approved by the board will be on the agenda.

Second point, we will be posting the nomination sheet for positions on the 2009 Board of Directors. Participation on the board is a valuable way to benefit AYC. No doubt it is more than 16 hours when everything is factored in but that number — 16 hours — has always been a minimum. We have members who routinely perform three or four times that without qualms. They love the Alexandra Yacht Club. If you feel the same I urge you to consider the 16 a minimum and look to where your talents can best help AYC, regardless of the total number of hours. If the board is the spot, then forward your name for the membership to decide.

Cheers and see you on the dock at haul out. ♦

Nick Pitt, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Anton (Kaloczy) has been doing the invoicing for many years and has done a great job. Even though he resigned in late May, he still did the Winter invoices thereby giving the club ample time to find a replacement. A big THANK YOU - ANTON for all your work and cooperation.

As for the invoicing, while there have on occasions been complaints, the problem was not Anton but rather the information that he was provided. It is very important that new mail and email addresses and telephone numbers be provided to the secretary who passes-on the information so that the files are always current.

The club's year-end (October 31) is in less than two months. It appears that 2008 will be another good year financially. My work on behalf of the club continues to give me satisfaction and for this reason I plan to stand (again) for the treasurer's job at the upcoming AGM set for Wednesday, November 19th.

Thank you. ♦

Joe Koole, Treasurer

House Director's Report

After cruising around most of Lake Ontario during the last 3 years and visiting almost all of the reciprocal yacht clubs, I have come to the realization that AYC is one of the nicest on the lake.

I have heard many people from other clubs comment on how enjoyable it is to stay at Alexandra. A sincere "Thank You" goes out to our members for all the work you do to keep the club house and grounds clean and inviting to visitors and members. It makes a real difference when we all pitch in with our maintenance week chores, sign up for work parties and clean up after ourselves. AYC is a gem compared to others that we have stayed at!

Thanks to Dave Tuninga, we have a large projection screen available. This is an electric screen which can be lowered and raised with the push of a button. It is meant to be wall-mounted and therefore hidden when not in use. It needs to be mounted in the upstairs lounge area. I'm looking for a couple of members who have the expertise to help with installing this screen. If you are able to help, please call me (416-605-6839) so we can organize this project. I will also post the request for help on the bulletin board. Thanks in advance.

Some members have been experiencing difficulty with lighting the BBQs. It helps to turn the knob very slowly to light the burners. Often it takes a few tries especially the burner on the right side of each BBQ.

If you happen to notice anything that requires repair around the clubhouse, please let me know. I will arrange to have it done or perhaps provide work hours if you are able to do the work. Please check with me first. Thank you. ♦

Paul Kirby, House Director

Social Director's Report

Sadly the boating season is once again coming to an end. I hope that your summer was a fun and memorable one.

At this time I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who helped out at the Hog Fest, I could not do it without you. Thanks. The Social is always looking for help; it is an enjoyable way to get those mandatory work hours in. Please see me if you can help with the serving or cleanup after Hog Fest.

As I have said many times before, I enjoy being involved at AYC and being the Social Director but the time has come for me to work on my boat so I will not be running for this position next year. I encourage members to consider standing for positions and all of the board members will tell you that it is a worthwhile experience. ♦

Sandy Murray, Social Director

Membership Director's Report

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank the members of our small club, in particular, the handful that go above and beyond the call of duty and do more than their minimum 16 hrs, they certainly have raised the bar for me and make me want to do more for our club.

Thanks. ♦

Kevin Tapping, Membership Director

Communications Director's Report

I hope you all managed to make the best of the summer given the mixed weather. Hopefully we will have a few more good weeks.

I would like to thank all those who provided photos for the Website and articles for Bow Wave. Please keep them coming.

If you have any ideas about how the Website could be improved please let me know. ♦

Bruce Buttimore, Communications Director

Fleet Captain's Report

Our race season is over. We had a great year for wind. Considering how much it rained it's a miracle that none of the Thurs. night races got rained out.

I want to give a couple AYC members recognition for participating in the Lake Ontario 300. The LO300 is a world class event; known for being the longest fresh water race in the world. It's a grueling test for sailors and their boats. Just finishing this race is an accomplishment, let alone placing. This year over 130 boats participated, 2 from the AYC: *Burnin' Rudder* – Pete Wolniak, and *One* – Stuart Rice. Stuart was in the most competitive fleet and beat one of the fastest boats on the lake – *Coug*. Pete placed second in his division. Congratulations to both.

I also want to recognize all the participants of the Almost Around the Island Race, and mostly the McDonell family. The whole family volunteered their time to cook and clean for all the participants. Their efforts are greatly appreciated, thank you.

I have no more racing or cruising events planned for the rest of the year. I want to thank everyone who participated in the racing program and special events like the Almost Around the Island Race. Coming out to sail with fellow AYC members is a great way to enjoy the club and have fun sailing.

Stay tuned for the upcoming Windjammer night. I'm organizing a dinner and presentation about cruising the North Channel in Georgian Bay. ♦

Matt Filletti, Fleet Captain

AYC Events 2008

Hog Fest - Sat Sep 13

Fall Yard Cleanup - Sat Oct 18

Haul Out - Sat-Sun Oct 25-26

Fall AGM - Wed Nov 19