



BOW WAVE

Alexandra Yacht Club

www.ayc.on.ca

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Commodore's Report

On Boats, Balconies and OOD

Mid-summer greetings to all AYC members and friends. I wish I could say what a wonderful summer it has been but I think we all would agree it's been chilly, wet and occasionally strangely dark.

Still, we look for the good days and make sure to take advantage of them. One of these was Sail Past, which started dark but turned into a wonderful, if light air, day. What a fun day that was. I got totally stuck with the hat through a pact between Malcolm McArthur (my boat partner) and Ron Tyson. The skipper's meeting included a wonderful lecture (by Ron) on the history and tradition of Sail Past and ended with me – the first Commodore in decades – wearing the damn hat. It was good fun, even for me (and don't worry – I'll get them back).

But we do have issues to address: First is the trend of Senior Members graduating to bigger boats. It is something that we need to recognize: increasingly our members are looking to sell their existing boat and buy something bigger.

Our bylaws are clear: if a senior member buys a bigger boat he/she must notify the board (hopefully beforehand) and loses all claim to slip and winter storage seniority. We will do what we can and over the years many accommodations have been made, but as AYC moves toward bigger boats accommodation is progressively more difficult, particularly for winter storage.

Please also keep in mind that AYC calculates and bills boat storage (Winter and Season) based on square footage of the boat in question. Someone switching from a 30' sailboat to a 29' powerboat, for example, may be moving to a larger boat if that powerboat has a wide beam.

A second issue that needs to be reported is the deterioration of our concrete balconies, front and back. In this regard Rainer Goeller has completed a full report on steps that need to happen in the short term to preserve the viability of the balconies long term. We have several seasons before this will be a crisis, but the board is agreed that preventative measures need to be explored. I anticipate we are looking at having the balconies fully repaired and coated for protection sometime before launch next season. As we get these details in place the membership will be informed.

And finally, I think it is time that we as a club attempt to solve the ongoing problem of Officer of the Day. Clearly AYC is an attractive destination for visitors, so this task is one of importance, but to date (and for much of the last decade) the OOD program has been under subscribed by the membership. We have many Fridays and weekends where the duty falls to whomever is available. One option would be to make OOD mandatory for all senior members – everyone picks a date at the start of the season and ensures that they are there. This is what they do at the Oakville Club. A second option would be to create an OOD committee that ensures every weekend and holiday are covered and that everyone is properly trained. I like aspects of both of these approaches. If you have ideas in this regard, send them to me at nick@warwickgp.com and I can share them with the Rear commodore and the board.

Here's wishing the rest of the season outshines the first half.

Cheers ♦

Nick Pitt, Commodore

Vice Commodore's Report



Kevin Tapping, Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore's Report

I actually heard a report stating that global warming peaked a decade ago, and that we are at the beginning of a cooling trend. I'm not too skeptical after this summer. It has been a very good sailing year though with the high winds with record sprints to Niagara on the Lake or Main Duck.

I have just returned from two weeks to Gananoque and beyond and must say we have a great club. We have a great blend of members and facilities which make our club one that people know about around the lake and river with comments like 'well organized' and 'friendly'. We have many things to be grateful for at our club, but mainly the members who make the effort to make our club work a bit better. I would like to this month thank Brian Bezaire specifically for his help when our main water line on the dock ruptured. The line was old and dying of UV exposure, and let loose on a Tuesday morning. Brian tried to fix the leak, and soon realized that the whole line was deteriorated and should be replaced. He took it upon himself to measure and order and have delivered to the club the necessary tube and fittings and had it repaired by Friday. He simply handed us the bill for materials for reimbursement.

This is a great example of a great member, and I know there are many more who contribute to make our club run as well as it does. We all have a role to play in keeping our club a special spot on a big lake. We are all part of a self help club.

On the business end, we still have breakers to install and a sea wall to fix. I need one more volunteer with electrical knowledge to contact me if they are interested in some work hours. I have not fully assessed

the sea wall yet but will have a work party sign-up sheet posted in August for a fall date.

Thank you, and happy sailing. ◆

Michael Lagimodiere, Rear Commodore

Treasurer's Report

Summer might be coming soon!! Winter is coming with Haulout just a little more than three months.

The Winter Storage invoices were sent by email with some by snail mail, on June 29 by Paul Madeley. Many of you have already sent me your payments along with the signed invoice (waiver). Some have sent only a cheque. For those that have not sent back the invoice, please do so before month end with the notation that "payment sent earlier". The signed waiver is required from all those storing at the Club. ◆

Joe Koole, Treasurer

House Director's Report



Paul Kirby, House Director

Social Director's Report

Sail Past 2009 has come and gone with great success. We can proud of an excellent turnout, with yachts and crew all looking there finest. Our next event is Carribean Fest August 15th, featuring a great Cuban Band (Pablo Terry), delicious Island Roti, and Mel's famous "High Five to Summer Sangria". Show up in your favorite Hawaiiin shirts or Island Attire at 2p.m. and get down to the groovy Cuban beats.

See you then, ♦

Dan Peel, Social Director

Membership Director's Report

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Stuart Rice, Membership Director

Communications Director's Report

AYC Membership

I hope you are all enjoying the 2009 boating season so far even with the cool wet weather we are having. Don't forget that Wi-Fi is free for Members of the Club, surf the web from the comfort of your boat. Send me an email and I will give you the log-in information.

All For Now ♦

George Jenkins, Communications Director

Fleet Captain's Report

♦

Matt Filleti, Fleet Captain

AYC Events 2009

Carribean Fest August 15th
Hog Fest Sat Sept 12
Fall Yard Clean-up Sat Oct 17
Haul Out - Oct 24 - 25