



"ON BOARD"

Newsletter of the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club

Feb
2010



Founded 1876

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Commodore's Report

by Frank Scotti

Well, Christmas and New Year's has come and gone and I hope that everyone had a very good one. We had a wonderful time at the New Year pot luck dinner, which was very capably put on by Pat Press, and a thank you to Trevor Waller for his original suggestion. We observed daylight saving time to ring in the new year, which gave us all an hour's head start on all the other revelers locally, and also allowed us to jump into bed quicker. There has been nothing but compliments regarding the affair and many suggestions that we should do this again next year.

The Commodore's levee was a great success and much thanks to the Past Commodores who were on hand to greet the guests. Once again our Entertainment Director and her crew did a fabulous job.

Many of our members were unable to enjoy the Christmas season due to reasons of ill health of various sorts and degrees and to you, may I extend my sincere condolences and hope that whatever ills, ailments or troubles beset you, that they are now resolved and we may look forward to seeing you amongst us once again.

There are always many issues to confront in the running of the club and I expect this year to be no different. However, with the Board of Directors which we have, I am sure that we will be able to handle any rough seas that come along.

I would like to take this opportunity to point out to all members that when a club function is planned either by the Entertainment Director or other member(s), a great deal of planning is involved in determining the amount of food to purchase. This must naturally be purchased ahead of time and therefore a limit needs to be placed on the number of tickets to be sold.

If a function is advertised, it is incumbent on everyone to purchase their tickets as soon as possible and not wait until the last minute. This places an unfair burden on the persons putting on the function and therefore the Entertainment Director will be imposing a cut-off date for ticket purchases ahead of the date of the event in order that the proper amount of supplies may be purchased to prevent either running short, or incurring an over-supply which would have to be paid for regardless of whether it is used or not.

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On Board is produced six times per year. Submissions for publication can be sent to onboard@bqyc.org or left at the bar, FAO Alistair Thomson.

Deadline for the next edition:

Friday April 9, 2010

A Special Yard Sale

by Susan Smith

Thirteen yearold Emily Roebuck, granddaughter of Alvin and Marlene Vance, our BQYC Custodians, wanted to help the children of Haiti.

After seeing graphic images on TV, she decided to try to raise funds through a yard sale. "I saw the kids and saw that a lot of them didn't have parents anymore because of it," she said. "I take everything I have for granted. I just like the fact that I can do something like this."

BQYC donated the use of the Clubhouse for the event, on Saturday January 31st, and with help from her Grandmother Marlene and a few friends, she managed to pull everything together in time.

She was probably worrying if anyone would come. But they came. Hundreds of them.

People were buying stuff, not because they wanted or needed it, but because they wanted to help.

Emily raised over \$1200 on the day, and this will be donated to the UNICEF Haiti Fund, where it will be doubled by UNICEF contributions.



Emily Roebuck



Some of the Participants

After the event, the Club received a letter from Emily's Mum, Christina.

"What an incredible group of people you have at the club. The donations that came in were wonderful. It's so nice to see people come together to help a great cause.

Thank you for all your support."

Says it all.



Cruises 2010

by Dave Valcamp

A sub-committee has been formed to recommend a 2010 summer cruising schedule for the BQYC power fleet, but as always, sailors are most welcome to participate. We have suggested four excursions, including one extended cruise similar to last year.

1. **Trent Severn System and Georgian Bay – approximately 2+ weeks**
2. **Cape Vincent French Festival – weekend 2-3 days mid-July**
3. **Napanee-Prinyers Cove-Wapoos – 3 days starting on a Thursday**
4. **Cobourg – mid-week with possible first night in Brighton – 2-3 days**

Some of the dates are open for discussion, but would really like to get feedback from the boaters on their level of interest/participation in any or all, as well as any other comments.

An early response would be most appreciated since summer is fast approaching.

Dave Valcamp, Fleet Captain Power. Email: dvalcamp@sympatico.ca

Rear Commodore's report

by Richard Melvin

To date at least 65% have paid their annual membership dues which means that over a third have not yet paid. Just a reminder, unpaid members' names will be withdrawn from the drum for the weekly member's draw until fees are paid. Sue Smith has completed the membership cards and those I haven't personally delivered Friday, January 29, will be available to members at the bar when dues have been paid. Note to all that the door code has been changed effective February 2 and the new code is available on the back of your membership card.

The Membership Committee is making good progress towards presenting a new model of membership structure. We are now studying the financial impact present and future membership structures will have on the Club and preparing definitions for the categories we are investigating. It is interesting to note how the age diversity of our members has changed over the past decade.

I am pleased to announce the return of Bruce Knutson to our Club. Bruce was very active in the Club when he was a member and served as Commodore of BQYC. Welcome back Bruce!

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The Falkirk Wheel

by Alistair Thomson

You have probably never heard of the Falkirk Wheel. Hell, you have probably never even heard of Falkirk! So I'll enlighten you.

Falkirk is a small town just to the West of Edinburgh. Edinburgh is the capital City of Scotland. Scotland is a country to the north of England, and is part of the United Kingdom, in Europe. Europe is... well, you get the idea.

The thing about Falkirk (actually there are quite a few things I could say about Falkirk but I'll focus on the purpose of this article) is that it is placed in close proximity to both the Firth and Clyde Canal and the Union Canal. In days gone by, these waterways were a crucial means of transportation between Edinburgh in the East and Glasgow in the West.

The problem was that, Scotland being somewhat "hilly", the Union Canal is 35 metres higher than the Firth and Clyde Canal, so at Falkirk there was a series of eleven locks which permitted boats to move from one to the other.

However, canal barges became less important as roads became more so, and in 1933 the lock system was dismantled. I don't know what they did with the bits. Maybe made costume jewellery or something.

However, there remained in the hearts and in the psyche of some Scots the notion that the canal system was A Good Thing and should be preserved, so some crazies continued to maintain the system to some extent, under the benign eye of British Waterways. And their dream was to reconnect these two canals somehow. But how?

Enter the lottery. This new phenomenon swept the country like a rash, and suddenly there were huge quantities of funds for all sorts of worthy projects, and the Millenium Commission, which is a bit like the Trillium Foundation, agreed to fund the re-establishment of this link in order to open up the canal system once more, this time for leisure pursuits rather than for commercial traffic.

Hence the Falkirk Wheel. Well, actually, it isn't a wheel, but a boat lift. The only one of its kind in the world. The lift consists of two gondolas, on opposite sides of the wheel from each other, each containing water. When loading, one gondola is at the bottom level at the Firth and Clyde Canal, and the other is at the top, where an aqueduct links it to the Union Canal.



An unusually nice day at the Falkirk Wheel

Boats are loaded at the top and/or at the bottom, and Archimedes confirms that you don't need two boats to balance the thing. Once the seals are engaged, the wheel starts to rotate, carrying the top gondola down and the bottom gondola up. Such is the precision of this arrangement that the energy required to do the swap is equivalent to boiling five kettles of water. Only quicker – it takes just two minutes to complete the lift.

Of course, the Falkirk Wheel isn't just a boat lift. It's also a visitor attraction, historical and scientific education centre, café, and a very eye-catching piece of modern artwork.

So now that you have heard about the Falkirk Wheel, I know you'll just be burning to know more. It's all at:

<http://www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk>.

The America's Cup Jubilee Regatta Gathering

by Susan Melvin

It's difficult to believe that in August, 2010, nine years will have passed since a team representing the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club raced in the America's Cup Jubilee Regatta in Cowes, England. An impressive finish in their division (Modern) of 21st out of 63 boats was the result of solid preparation and hard work.

On Sunday, January 17, the annual team get-together was held at the home of Richard and Susan Melvin.

Crew who enjoyed reliving the moments onboard *Alpha of Devonport* were (from the left) Jim Doyle, Richard Melvin, Mike Shaw, Brian Credico, Anthea Savidge, Peter Savidge, Hazel Lloyst, Peter Cox. 'Support' crew on hand were Marg Credico, Jill Cox, Susan Melvin. Unable to attend: John and Joan Boor (crew), Richard Boyd (crew), Helen Boyd (support), Dave Burt (crew), Laurie Burt (support), Nick Hancock (crew), Lesley Hancock (support).

This was the first gathering since the loss of skipper, Anthony Gallow, who is sorely missed.



From the Bar

by Trevor Waller

Bad luck comes in threes they say. Well, it did for the Bar!

In December we had to get a new glass washer, then in January our ice machine died on us, and to cap it off the P.O.S. system went down at the same time.

We were very lucky with the P.O.S. system: I was given to understand that there was a safety backup system in the machine for our records, and so was Dawn, however it turned out not to be so. Luckily we did not lose any data. We now have a back up in place. My thanks to Weldon Russell for his service in supplying us with a machine while ours was repaired and for installing a much needed back up system.

I am sorry to say I have a little more bad news. As of February 15th there will be a small increase in all our bar prices. This is unfortunate but necessary. We have not had an increase in two years, while the cost of doing business has increased, the minimum wage has gone up twice and there will be a further minimum wage increase in March. On the bright side, all the draught beer pipes have been replaced, which should give us a nice cold clear pint.

In closing, I would ask you all to keep in mind that if you
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have not yet paid your club dues for 2010 your charging privileges will have been suspended as of the 31st of January 2010.

Cuteness Corner

by Jean Scotti

This snap was sent in by Jean Scotti. The young sailor is Evan Abraham, grandson of Past Commodore Ed Stevenson. A future Commodore, perhaps?



Power Squadron Lasagna Dinner

by Sandy Gill

The Power Squadron's Annual Lasagne Dinner will take place on Friday, March 5, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at the BQYC. As well as Power Squadron members, Club Members are also invited to attend.

The feast includes salad, garlic bread and rolls, Lasagna, and dessert, all for \$10 including taxes.

Tickets will be available through the Squadron phone number 613-969-9612, from Sandy Gill at 613-966-5524, or they will be at the bar by February 19, 2010.

Entertainment Lineup

by Pat Press

I can't believe we're into February already... time flies when you're having fun!

Just to bring everyone up to date, the "Potluck House Party" at the Club on New Year's Eve was a great success. 54 people in attendance and what an array of different pot luck items there were!

The Levee was well attended and representation from the City of Belleville was great... the Mayor was in attendance as well as five of the City Councillors and members of the Parks and Rec Department!

The January 15th annual Spaghetti Night hosted by Sandi and Dennis Gill, and their crew, was a sold out event with 85 people attending.

Our inaugural "Loaf and Ladle" night had 40 people in attendance and I would like to thank Anita Towill for her vegetable minestrone, and Jean Scotti, Margaret Pearson and Susan Smith for their luscious desserts.

By the time you read this, we will have had our Super Bowl Party and I'm sure a good time will have been had by all!

February 12th brings us a "Rib Night" hosted by Ian Steele and Sue Jordan. Tickets are available at the bar and there's a cut off date of February 9th.

March looks to be a busy month with the Power Squadron Lasagna night on March 5th (see above). The annual chili cook off will be on March 13th and we're having a get together for St. Patrick's Day on March 17th. On March 19th, Bob and Ruth Owen will host a ham and scalloped potato dinner. Further details will be advised for these events by email and the bulletin board at the Club.

Just to give you a "heads up", on May 7th there will be a Prime Rib dinner. Tickets are available at the bar.

All in all, busy times at BQYC.



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