



*The Foy's just keep coming!!  
8-year-old Isabel helming  
"her" boat Gunsmoke*

**Britannia Yacht Club**  
2777 Cassels Street  
Ottawa, ON  
K2B 6N6





# FULL & BY

April-May 2012

Britannia Yacht Club

Volume 52.02

## FROM THE BRIDGE

From – Phil Moorman  
Commodore



This year as you know is the 125th anniversary of the Club and it is a time to celebrate! Time to celebrate our rich history, the amazing contribution of our fellow members over the past 125 years, and a very bright future. There will be a series of events throughout the year, the first of which was the celebration at the New Year's Eve party. You will see historical displays in the clubhouse and when the weather improves, historic yachts outside, presentations and more. I invite you to join us for as many of the events as possible and bring your family and friends as well.

The Board of Directors has met a few times since the AGM and have not skipped a beat from the previous Board's work. We are about to begin a planning phase in which we will set priorities for the year. We have been seeking input from the Planning Committee and members in general. If you have any suggestions on what the Club needs to

focus on over the next 12 to 18 months, let's say the top three issues in your opinion; please feel free to talk with one of the Directors.

You will see from the Director's reports that this is a very busy time for each of them in terms of planning for the upcoming season. As always we are looking for members to help

out whether it is on a committee, a work party or helping with one of the many activities that take place over the year. It is a great way to meet other members and help out, so please give it some thought.

Cheers

## BYC MISSION

- To promote yachting in all its aspects including racing, cruising, seamanship and respect for the environment
- To promote other sports and social activities of interest to club members
- To promote sportsmanship, friendship and co-operation among members
- To encourage members to contribute, in every way, to their club
- To support and serve the local community in a manner befitting a good citizen

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES for 2012



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### STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1



3

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♦♦♦♦  
**2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
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**Rear Commodore** Kelly Lyon  
**Fleet Captain** Wendy Smith

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**Honorary Secretary**  
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 Janet Bayley  
**Director (Information Technology)**  
 David Brown  
**Director (Tennis)**  
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**Full & By** is the official newsletter of the Britannia Yacht Club, and will be published 6 times this year. **Full & By** - definition from *Cruising and Ocean Racing* by Martin, Irving and Others, Volume XV, 1934: "Sailing as close to the wind as possible with every sail full."

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**Production Coordinator:** Beverley Brown  
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**Typed** or **handwritten** articles should be submitted to the office. All articles must be received by the deadline.  
 Deadline for next issue - May. 18.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2**

**Effective Governance & Management**

Strategies to achieve priority:

- Update by-laws and regulations as needed
- Update club operational policies and procedures as required
- Define and rank long-term planning priorities
- Update Marketing plan & implement plan
- Refine communication strategies

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3**

**Positive Financial Position**

Strategies to achieve priority:

- Reduce loss of current members
- Increase revenues by:
  - Increase membership
  - Fill all moorings
  - Optimize revenues from outside events and bookings
  - Secure fair long-term lease with NCC & tax treatment from the City
  - Investigate new revenue sources
- Continue expense review exercise

**PROJECTS**

From - Kelly Lyon  
 Rear Commodore



Hey fellow Club members! Welcome to Spring! I am pleased to report on what's been happening in "Projectland" while you were hunkered down surviving the winter:  
**Phase I - Senior Clubhouse -**

**West Wall Rehabilitation Project**

As you read this, the last of the ice will be floating downstream and the West Wall Rehabilitation Project will have come to a successful close - on schedule, and within budget. It was amazing to welcome so many of you who came out to celebrate the unveiling of the Dragon Lounge portion of the project on a very blustery February 24 evening. The house was packed, and you could feel the synergy amongst the members (new and old) as BYC stepped smartly into the New Year with a firm grasp on the reins of one of the largest projects she has ever undertaken in history. A second

ribbon cutting ceremony, and un-veiling of the exterior of the building is being planned for by our Commodore very shortly - watch for news on that and I hope to see you there.

Remarkably, the combined project work experience of the folks who planned for, and built the new west wall, spans more than three decades. Together, they nursed this project every step of the way, day and night. A special cheer goes out to our tireless contractor, Club Member Joey Kroeger, and his project team who brought this one home for us. Many thanks to our House & Grounds Director, Janet Bayley, our Club Manager, and his dedicated staff who lived and breathed the inconvenience of this project 24/7 - and survived to tell of it! Many more thanks to my devoted Project Team who poured their heart and souls into this project and did not sleep when the old gal threw us some surprises requiring lightning quick strategic thinking. And last, but never least, most sincere thanks to one very special Club Member who dug deep and, in the family style, left his unforgettable mark on the aesthetic look of the new exterior wall.

**Tennis Court Fence**

Our Tennis Director, Dan Delorey, and his Sub-Committee are off and running with a new project that will see the replacement of the North/East tennis fencing and related electrical work early this Spring.

**Harbour Projects**

Our Harbourmaster, John Morrow, and his Sub-Committee are working on a prioritized strategic plan for

much needed repairs in the Harbour that will see the amount of \$20K per year for the next 5 years.

**Phase II - Senior Clubhouse - East Wall Rehabilitation Project**

Our Planning Committee, led by Chairman Kirk Robertson, has gone back to the drawing board to plan for Phase II of the Senior clubhouse rehabilitation - that being the east wall which will include the new main entrance, elevator, and a new stairwell. We anticipate making an application to Trillium for some assistance with funding as we attempt to make the entire building completely wheelchair accessible for our members, and the visiting community.

**Other Projects**

I am working closely with the Planning Committee and Board of Directors on a comprehensive schedule of House & Harbour projects that the PC team has prepared, reflecting their strategic long range planning for the Club.

**It's shaping up to be another very progressive year for our dear Club!**



***Treasurer's Report***

by - Howland Russell  
Honorary Treasurer



The Federal Government has recently invoked a new statute controlling the business parameters for federally incorporated Not-for-Profit corporations. A companion Provincial statute will also come onto the books in the very near future for provincially chartered corporations such as The Britannia Yacht Club,

Inc. These new laws require compliance with their provisions by October 14, 2014. As a result, your Board has begun action to update the formats of our Letters Patent, By-Law, Regulation and a new Policy and Procedures Manual.

These changes are not anticipated to affect memberships, fees, or other operating aspects of our Club. As we complete drafting the changes, we will be coming to you for final approval. I write about the changes here in this issue of the Full & By so that you will know that your Board and Members are engaged and working hard to meet our new responsibilities in the time frame that has been given us. Now you will not be caught uninformed when we ask for your approval at a future SGM or AGM.

***House & Grounds Report***

from - Janet Bayley, (Director)



**Lower Lounge** - We continue our work in returning pictures and trophies to the Main Lounge area, the Boardroom and the Bruce Neuk, and will be installing valances, curtains and blinds shortly. Your cooperation and patience is appreciated as we proceed to prepare this area, and the rest of the clubhouse, for our busy season and for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

The Dragon Bar will not be restored at this time. We have had limited access to our lounge over the winter and as we are getting busier, it is not reasonable to close off necessary work area at this time. IF funds are available, and WITH Board approval, the work would be done next winter.

"On Friday April 27th we will have a fundraising event to raise \$5000.00 for some new Main Lounge furniture. There will be a spaghetti dinner, entertainment, a 50/50 draw and

more. Please join us in this effort to raise funds for the improvement of our facilities. Donations towards the furniture are also gratefully accepted.

**Stair Rail** - A new, more secure railing has been installed on the stairway to the second floor. Our very sincere thanks to Past Commodore John Killick for his generous donation of this railing which is used and appreciated by all members.

**Lockers** - A reminder that early in the season we will be cleaning out lockers. If you are using a locker, please identify advising the office and putting your initials on it on a piece of tape. Lockers not identified will be emptied – if necessary locks will be cut off. Following cleanout there will be a brief period to claim any items removed after which they will be disposed of as the Club sees fit.

**Work Party** - As usual, there will be a Spring Work Party/cleanup day in which we encourage you to participate. The date and list of chores – painting, general cleanup, gardening, etc. will be posted. I will oversee the clubhouse and overall cleanup, Jane Agnew will oversee the gardening - weeding, clean out, planting, etc. If you have an area of expertise - please let us know.

**505 Mural** - As part of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we would like to restore the mural on the West end of the Bruce Shed, and are looking for individuals with an artistic touch to take on this project. Please advise Rod Miller, Committee chair, or myself if this is of interest to you.

The House and Grounds Committee and the Board

appreciate your thoughts and ideas about the Club facilities. Please put them in writing and submit to the appropriate individual or through the office. No changes/modifications will be made to the property and facilities without the consideration and approval of the appropriate Director.



### Tennis Report

by - Dan Delorey



Ottawa has been blessed with a very mild winter! Soon the nets and screens will be up! It will be time to play!

I encourage **ALL** members to take full advantage of the tennis facilities at the Club.

The Tennis Committee has been busy all winter planning for the season. It is our intention to provide quality tennis programs and to increase tennis participation for all members.

The tennis fence is scheduled for replacement in April and will not impact any programs. The 2012 Tennis schedule is posted on the BYC Website and at various places in the Club.

We had a very successful **Winter Tennis Day and Dinner** in February - thanks to Jane Craig. Bunny Lumsden has been hopping with the **Tennis Breakfasts** during the winter - thanks again Bunny! Join us for our next Breakfast on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Group Tennis Lessons** are free for members and private lessons can be arranged. The first session begins May 8/9 to June 12/13. Group lessons are limited to one evening per participant for either Tuesday or Wednesday lessons and eight participants per session. This will

allow for more members to take advantage of the lessons and to increase tennis participation at BYC.

**Registration** begins April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> for the first session. Go to NCTA Courtside at - <http://www.courtsidecanada.ca/club/britannia-yacht-club/> or contact me at [tennis@byc.ca](mailto:tennis@byc.ca) for more information.

The **Annual Spring Work Party** is on May 5<sup>th</sup> with tennis programs starting the next day. Contact Bob Murray to volunteer to put the nets/screens up and ready the courts for play.

See you on the courts!



### 125<sup>th</sup> COMMITTEE REPORT

from - Rod Miller, Committee Chair



**I**n the last Full & By we gave a short description of the events of the first weekend of our ten day celebrations for our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as well as the exciting fact that Bruce Kirby would be at Britannia to oversee the Wednesday evening Laser Regatta. Bruce will also be talking to the competitors and any of the membership of the Yacht Club or of the general public who would enjoy his talk.

The focus now shifts to the weekend of June 15 to 17. Friday, June 15, is the Commodore's dance and New Members' Night. Hopefully the weather will be absolutely gorgeous for having dinner and dancing under the stars. Period costumes would be in order. What period? Any period from 1887 to 2012 - into what period do you fit? The dance committee has arranged a sumptuous BBQ meal with a DJ to bring the sounds of the past and

present from the two-step to the salsa and, of course, we will be welcoming all our new members.

Saturday, June 16, will be a fun day with games and competitive events galore. The day will begin at 9:00a.m. with a demonstration of radio controlled sailing craft organized by David Foy. If you have ever wished to manipulate one of these craft this is your opportunity. At 10:00a.m. the games begin under the watchful eye of Kerry Hayes. The first tennis court will be temporarily fenced off so games can be organized on that court and that tennis players will be able to have their competitions as well. Suggested games are three-on-three basketball, beanbag toss, children's games, croquet on the side lawn, blow ball and galloping ping pong on the Upper Deck and bumper pool in the Main Lounge. If Kerry should get in touch with you to help out, please accept enthusiastically.

Also on Saturday a tradition returns to the Yacht Club with the holding of the Tucker-Rodgers Invitational Laser Regatta at 10:00a.m. This is an Invitational Regatta but, as of this notice, everyone who can get their hands on a Laser and get to the Club before 10:00a.m. is invited. This, my friends, will be a sterling demonstration of how NOT to sail a Laser - or any other boat!!

At 2:00p.m. - after a succulent BBQ lunch - the canoe races begin. The Rideau Canoe Club has kindly offered to supply two Dragon Boats for these events. The Dragon Boats

**BRITANNIA YACHT CLUB  
FOUNDATION  
SGM APRIL 28, 2012**

THE BRITANNIA YACHT CLUB FOUNDATION (BYCF) came about because the BYC membership voted to set up a secure arm's length corporation for protecting donor wishes for general "Legacy Donations" or "Specific Donations" given as gifts or bequests.

It was expected that most, if not all donations would be for the direct benefit of the BYC. There was a 'wish' for Charitable Status so that donations would become income tax exempt, but it was not a precondition. In other words, the membership was willing to accept if neither Charitable Status or income tax exemption could not be achieved. An application to register the BYCF as a 'charity' was filed with the CRA (Canadian Revenue Agency).

**Issue:** CRA has since advised us that if we wish to attain Charitable Status we would have to give up all our OBJECTIVES for the purpose of aiding the BYC and pursue exclusively charitable activities. This would defeat the real purpose of setting up the BYCF. Consequently, the BYCF board has withdrawn its application for registration as a charity.

**Action:** Having reviewed the various CRA options and requirements (with the assistance of our lawyers), it is anticipated that we can secure income tax exemption, on income from our investments, as a NOT-for-Profit, Income Tax Exempt corporation, but, we will not be able to give a tax receipt. In order to respond to the income tax exemption requirements for a Not-for-Profit corporation we must amend some of the OBJECTIVES in our Letters Patent.

This requires a Special General Meeting (SGM) of the BYCF membership. An affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members present is needed.

All BYC members are invited to register as BYCF members. There is no membership fee. BYC members

need only to sign the BYCF registry at the upcoming SGM.

**Notice:** The SGM will be held on April 28, 1:00 to 2:00p.m. in the Bruce Neuk. In the coming weeks all BYC members will receive an official notice via e-mail and can view the posting at the Club and on the BYCF web site ([www.bycf.ca](http://www.bycf.ca)).

This Special General Meeting will be followed by an "information session" for those who may wish to find out more, or may have some questions, about the Britannia Yacht Club Foundation.

**BYC ANCIENT MARINERS -  
PLEASANT MEMORIES  
OF THE PAST**

by - John Killick,  
Commodore 1968-1970

 As a member who is still active with his boat - even though it is a stinkpot and there is no room for a mast and sails - some memories.

On joining the Club in 1957 with a new Lightning and taking part in the very active sailing program, the Killicks were invited to join a group called the Ancient Mariners. To qualify as a member you needed to be called a marine active member of BYC, male or female, i.e. you don't have to reach 105 years to be called a mariner. Let's face it, if Ancient Mariners could tolerate the Killicks they must be a nice compatible group!

In the Summer months we rendezvoused up-river at Pinhey's, Constance Bay, Mohr Island and Quyon!! A few remisses come to mind. At Mohr Island one year there was an abundance of large cat fish in the water. George Spear (a stinkpotter) with the aid of an RCMP truncheon, acted as the high executioner and, with the aid of crew, produced a magnificent fish breakfast.

At Quyon, having had a long day of sailing, we pulled the Lightning up on the beach and went up to Gavan's. We were introduced to the quart beer bottle, and this was a rough exposure for a young 26-year-old immigrant. At about 4a.m. we were asked to leave Gavan's and, on our way back to the boat for the race back to BYC, we

stopped off at the church. The front door was unlocked; we entered, paid our respects, and rang the church bell. In following years our sailors' respect to the church was snubbed – the church door was locked solid. On the spinnaker run back to BYC the cobwebs and pride went overboard!

At Constance Bay Past Commodore Ben Cook invited the intrepid to his cottage for breakfast. Cottagers nearby - via their jungle telegraph - passed the message that the BYC "sailors" would be up for the weekend after racing/cruising, and "don't forget to lock up the virgins!!"

Well, that shoots the bolt, **Ancient Mariners meet at the Club at noon every third Wednesday of each month** for beer and a sandwich.

Please join us and bolster the Ancient Mariners gatherings. Listen to stories, meet old shipmates and current and retired BYC people. So we know who is coming, please phone Christine Gibbard at- 613-271-7667

**125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book**

from - John Bienko

A stroke of good luck presented an extraordinary experience - a Kodak Moment.

Arriving at the clubhouse to preview the beauty and splendour of the reconstructed West wall, I spotted 3 figures silhouetted against the new panoramic windows - Joan Yuile, Al Malo and Marc Charbonneau. These dedicated BYC members are preparing the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book, bringing specialized knowledge and magic to the project.

Their mission is the elusive search for perfection in the content and format of the pages and cover.

The work is formidable indeed. At this stage the current selection of historic text and memorable photographs from BYC Archives was spread out on computer screens and paper copies on the table. I had the privilege of previewing the work in progress.

The editors provided fascinating insights into the process.

The masterful choice of custom font for the text and the elegant cursive script for each picture shows extraordinary excellence.

It was a work of art. Stunning, entertaining, informative. More detail is not given so as not to detract from the excitement of your first impression of this landmark

publication. It will surely be a resounding success, perhaps a collectable. Great publicity to attract new members.



**Junior sailor, Ben Taylor, spends his off season as an Alpine ski racer. Ben, son of Jeff and Pattee Taylor and grandson of David and Beverley Brown, finished 9th in Super G and 18th overall in Quebec and has qualified for the CanAM's at the end of March at Mont Tremblant. He will be competing against the best K2 racers (aged 14 and 15) in Eastern North America.**

**CONGRATULATIONS, BEN. SKI FAST!**

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# Between the Sheets

NEWS FOR BOATERS - RACERS AND CRUISERS  
April - May 2012

**"When blows the breeze we spread our sail and save the gasoline,  
But when the gentle zephyrs fail we start the old machine,  
And with a clank of shaft and crank go rattling into port,  
And this is what, to be quite frank, some folks consider sport." Anon.**

## **DON'T FORGET**

**OTTAWA RIVER CHALLENGE OPENS** .0000hr. Apr. 8  
**WOMEN IN WIND**.....Sat. Apr 14  
**SPRING SAILORS' MEETING**.....Sat. Apr 21  
**SHOREY RACE**.....Mon. May 21  
**JEFFERSON PURSUIT**.....Sun. May 27  
**SPRING 50 MILE RACE**.....Sat. June 2  
**PINHEY'S POINT RACE**.....Sun. June 10  
**COMMODORE'S SAILPAST**.....Sun. June 17  
\*\*\*\*\*

## **FLEET CAPTAIN'S REPORT**

by - Wendy Smith



**I** write this submission on March 18<sup>th</sup> in the sunshine of 25 degree weather. The boatyard has been busy this weekend, many sailors are out freeing their boats from the Winter wrappings, or sliding underneath the tarps to tinker on jobs that were left to be done after the boat was hauled out last Fall.

Over the Winter sailors talk about improvements to be done in the Spring, and now everyone is getting down to the work. Within 2 minutes of arriving at the Club today project advice was offered and tools were shared. That's one of my favourite things about Britannia. I joined four years ago with only a basic knowledge of port vs. starboard, and I didn't know one person at the Club. Along the way many members, sailors and social members alike have kindly taken their time to help me learn more about sailing on their boats, they have shared stories and advice with me.

I think that is a truth about sailing - everyone can use a hand at one time or another. I hope that in this spirit you will all look around this month and ask yourself how you can be of service. There is always something to do on the grounds, and the harbour always has projects on the go. The Junior clubhouse and fleet boats cheerfully receive some TLC to get them into sailing shape for the summer. Your Sailing Committee is always looking for new members. As we celebrate our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary all

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PINHEY'S POINT  
SUNDAY, JULY 8<sup>H</sup>  
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summer long there will be calls for volunteers both on and off the water. While we are celebrating 125 of "the Club", I think we are really celebrating 125 years of community.

I am pleased to share that Sean Odekirk will be returning as our PRO. Sean has set great courses and kept a great team throughout the past two Summers so we are very pleased he is returning. And I think he and his team will be pleased to have a brand new motor on the Whaler to help the mark set boat do their work. Thanks to Paul Moore for organizing all of the logistics of the purchase, and to Kirk Robertson for collecting information in order for us to make an easy decision.

See you on the water soon!



### Laser Fleet Celebrates our 125th

from - Bill Fuller, Class 11 Rep.



**D**uring the celebration week of June 10 to 17, a Laser Regatta will be held on Wednesday, June 13. The Warning Gun will be at 5:30p.m., and there will be as many races as possible.

Laser designer, Bruce Kirby, will be the guest speaker following the racing.

Show up even if you don't own a Laser - any boat will do!!

Junior sailors are encouraged to participate - it will be a fun event.



### WINDSURFING REPORT

by – Suzanne Roberge



The season is fast approaching if it's not here yet by the time this issue goes to press due to the lack of snow we had this winter and the early thaw. Our first Wednesday night race is set for May 23 and there is a possibility that we will have an Ontario Sailing race on Saturday, May 26 at BYC.

In early March, Denis Dagenais and I travelled to Florida to race in the 26<sup>th</sup> Calema Midwinters on Merritt Island. We raced in the Kona One-Design class. Denis did well, finishing 9<sup>th</sup> out of 17 in the masters division. He had a 5<sup>th</sup> place finish out of a fleet of 27 Konas, which he said was his best ever international result.

In the women's division, there were only 4 of us. Our friend Andrée Gauthier from Toronto took 1<sup>st</sup>, followed by Kajsa, an 18-year-old from Sweden who holds the 2011 Kona World title, and an older woman from Colorado. Yes I must admit defeat! I finished 23<sup>rd</sup> (total of 27 racers in Kona) in the first race in light winds but then the wind gradually picked up. I started the second race but dropped my sail in the downwind leg and once I got it back up, I headed for the beach in a straight line.

So, with another Canadian (76 years old), I was beached for the weekend, as the winds did not diminish. Sunday was even cancelled because there was too

much wind! In Kona racing the maximum wind speed for a start is 25 knots and Formulas (Pro) at this event was 28 knots. Even if I did not get to race much, I would go back as it was a great experience, a great location and we met some great people, even my idol from way back was there!

See you soon on the water but for me, for now, it's back to the gym!



### UP-RIVER RACING

from - Malcolm McHattie, Up-river Race Rep.



**J**udging by the view from the Champlain Lookout, the Ottawa River is pretty well ready for us to begin the upriver racing season. Alas, several things need to be done before we can start. The really good opportunity to fiberglass and paint already passed in March, but hopefully there will be a few more windows of opportunity before the traditional launch at the end of April.

In previous year we did not have to plan the time to launch, just to make sure we were ready the instant our number came up some time on one of two designated days. This is the first year that most of us can be launched at any time via the new hydraulic trailer and strong crane. This seemingly wide choice of launch times may narrow significantly as we all seek time to finish our on-shore preparations while being in the water in good time to practice before the first race.

It appears likely that the River water level should allow harbour gate opening earlier than usual, removing one frustrating factor. Those of us with an agenda should be sailing soon and those not in a hurry can relax and take their time. Patience, planning and cooperation may, however, be necessary over a longer period than usual.

The first upriver race, the Shorey, is on the Monday of the May long weekend - which comes fast although at this time it seems a long time away. Traditionally sailors make their way at their leisure during the weekend for their first upriver overnight. Others motor up for the start on Monday having a decadent breakfast on the way. The racers then meet at mid-day on Monday for a race back to the Club. The start is set by the committee boat at Sand Point.

The Spring 50 Mile race follows remarkably quickly and can be in a cold Spring storm, a still Summer heat or an unpredictable variety of both. This race takes us to

Mohr Island, the limit of normal navigation on this part of the River – the extension to Quyon and Pontiac Bay being relatively slow. The long daylight close to the solstice is a good opportunity for a long day-sail. Rounding K-16, the buoy at Mohr Island sitting in a very fast current, can sometimes take much of the afternoon, leaving determined racers to do some overnight sailing as well.

Meanwhile the cries of “Starboard” and “Water” will be heard mostly around the new crane.



### TAKE YOUR iPad CRUISING

from - Dave Watts, JAM Rep. & SC Secretary



**P**ractical Sailor Magazine [www.practical-sailor.com](http://www.practical-sailor.com) has recently published three articles on the results of their evaluation and testing of Navigation and other Marine related applications for iPads. You may want to check these articles out.

### SUMMER SAILSTICE

from - John Irvin



**S**ummer Sailstice began in San Francisco as an effort to encourage more sailors to get out and celebrate the season. You can join on line and register your boat as a participant. The community now numbers in the thousands.

Once you register, file a sail plan for the day, and be eligible for prizes. For BYC boats, an organized fun event could add to our 125th Celebrations. June 23 or 24 are the weekend dates closest to solstice.

Any interest in something like this? A precursor to Cruise Week?



Congratulations to Rob Hemming, Canadian Sailing Team member. He will be sailing in a Finn Worlds Olympic qualifying regatta in England. Rob is a recipient of Colin Blandy Fund assistance.  
**GO GET 'EM, ROB.**

### ANCHORING

by - Nick Blouin, s/v Parbleu!



**I** was rudely awakened by loud howling in the rigging. The wind seemed to come from nowhere, catching me off guard. It crashed into the boat abeam, momentarily heeling her to an uncomfortable angle as she violently swung around her anchor. Mumbling a few choice words, I clambered up the companionway steps. The wind continued to screech through the rigging as my eyes took in the chaos; the dodger was flapping so loudly I could hardly hear myself think, and as I stuck my head around it, the rain painfully stung my cheeks. I ran back inside to don my raingear and decided to wait out the impending storm in the cockpit.

Why expose myself to these dreadful elements, you ask? Because earlier, (and this is the unfortunate part) I had witnessed some questionable anchoring techniques from some of my neighbours. Call me “Mr. Safety”, but I just can’t relax knowing that my neighbours are putting me, my boat, and everyone around them at risk by not knowing how to properly set their anchor.

As if to prove me right, I hear someone yell: “HEY, YOU’RE DRAGGING!” After ensuring his warning wasn’t directed at me (*ahem*), I quickly look around the maze of boats that surround me and find the culprit. There he was, sideways to everyone else and clearly dragging anchor. I tried to get his attention as he slipped past, but

I couldn't see anyone in the cockpit. How strange, I thought. And then I remembered seeing him anchor earlier in the evening and it all made sense. He clearly subscribed to "the higher you can throw it, the better it will hold" theory, which of course, as any good sailor knows, is just a load of baloney.

So, in order to set the record straight for all those neighbouring "anchorers" out there, and in the hopes that this will help bring back a bit of R&R into my weekends; here are a few simple rules to abide by when anchoring.

The process can actually be summed up in three easy steps:

- 1 Check the depth of the area in which you wish to anchor;
- 2 Lower the anchor while paying out the appropriate amount of rode; and
- 3 Back up the boat at an appropriate speed to properly set the anchor.

Check. Lower. Back up.

Failure to do this correctly and you risk dragging anchor, endangering yourself and your neighbours and, most humiliatingly, garnering a considerable amount of jeers and sneers from your fellow "anchorers."

To elaborate on this, you first need to ensure that you have the appropriate ground tackle. The type depends on the riverbed (or whatever other body of water in which you anchor). Our stretch of the Ottawa River offers quite a varied range of bottoms from mud and clay at Pinhey's and Mohr, to sand in Constance Bay, and a mixture of everything (including twigs and branches) in Pontiac Bay. For the most part, they offer unparalleled holding potential if using the correct anchor in the right way. For our area, I suggest a CQR/Plough, Danforth/fluke, or Bruce/claw type anchor. As for the size, that depends on the size/weight of your boat. Consult an anchor size chart online or discuss with a boating supply store. To maximize the efficiency, add a length of chain between your anchor and the anchor line (rope). Some have as little as 10ft of chain, but more is generally better. Again, consult with the experts. The length of line depends on the water depth in which you choose to anchor.

With all that said, from my experience ground tackle isn't usually at the root of a poor anchoring job; rather, human error is more often the culprit.

As you enter the anchorage, it's always a good idea to look around and see how other boats are already anchored. As the latest arrival, it's your responsibility to keep well clear of boats already at anchor. Make sure you allow for any change in wind direction and strength. It is always safer to leave extra space around your boat.

Position your boat with the bow in the wind and ahead of your desired location. Stop the boat's momentum (by momentarily activating the boat's reverse gear) and begin lowering the anchor. Once you feel the anchor rest on the riverbed, signal the helmsperson to put the engine in reverse and then pay out the correct amount of rode (combination line/chain) appropriate for the depth. Under normal conditions, a safe minimum

anchor scope ratio is 3 to 1 (more in heavy weather). In fact, the CYA offers, as a rule of thumb, 3:1 during the daytime, 5:1 overnight, and 7:1 or more in rough weather. However, in my experience, since our navigable area has a riverbed consisting mostly of mud, clay, or sand, all of which offer tremendous holding potential, and since our anchorages are usually rather crowded and busy, I suggest that a scope of 3:1 is plenty. The math is actually quite simple, if there is 10ft of water, and 5ft from the water surface to your boat's bow roller (for a total of 15ft), then a 3:1 ratio dictates that you pay out at least 45ft. For ease, mark the anchor rode every 10ft with tie straps or whatever else you may have. Ask the helmsperson what the depth is, do the math, and simply count the appropriate number of 10ft increments until enough is paid out. Remember to do this while the boat is reversing so as to lay it out straight instead of in a pile on top of the anchor (which could cause it to get tangled). If it is windy and the helmsperson is unable to keep the boat steering in the desired direction, place the engine in neutral and let the boat's windage provide the backing propulsion. Cleat the anchor rode and continue to back up until the boat comes to a complete stop. If you back up too fast, the anchor will simply plough the riverbed, digging a nice long trench as you go, so reverse slowly and steadily.

Now here's the part that many "anchorers" seem to forget. When the boat comes to a stop, it's time to set the anchor. For this, keep the boat in reverse and gradually apply more throttle. It will allow the anchor to dig into the riverbed, ensuring that you stay put in a blow (trust me; your neighbours will thank you for it). Keep backing at this higher engine speed (for 15-30 seconds), and choose a pair of reference points ashore (one slightly behind the other) such as two trees, a tree and the corner of a cottage, a dock, etc. If the two objects aren't moving relative to one another, your hook is set. Lower the throttle, place the shifter in neutral, and stop the engine.

Now if the two reference points do move, this means your anchor didn't set and you must restart the process.

Anchoring your boat properly is among the most basic skills in boat handling. Anchoring poorly endangers not only your boat, but all those around you. If you don't plan on following these simple steps, do me a favour and "anchor" as far away from me as possible.

And remember, how high you throw the anchor has nothing to do with how well it will set.

**WOMEN IN WIND  
SEMINAR  
SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2012  
BYC  
8:00A.M. TO 5:00P.M.  
OPEN TO ALL WOMEN SAILORS**

# CALLING ALL HANDS

BE SURE TO ATTEND  
THE  
SPRING SAILORS'  
MEETING

SATURDAY  
APRIL 21, 2012  
2:00p.m.

REGISTER FOR  
2012 RACING  
SEASON



## SHOREY RACE

FIRST 2012 BYC  
UP-RIVER EVENT

MONDAY, MAY 21, 2012

PHRF, SHARKS & JAM

Warning Gun - 1200 hrs.  
at Sand Point

## JEFFERSON PURSUIT RACE

SUN. MAY 27, 2008

ALL CLASSES

Skippers' Meeting 1200 hrs  
Course & Time will be issued

## SPRING 50 MILE RACE

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2012

PHRF & JAM

Warning Gun - 0800 hrs.

Special Instructions will be issued

## PINHEY'S POINT RACE

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2012

DINGHIES, PHRF, JAM & C&C27 O-D

Warning Gun - 1000 hrs.

NOTE: For this year ONLY, as part of the BYC  
125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration the race will end  
at Pinhey's to enable racers to take part in the  
planned events.

See Appendix A of SIs for Course

This race is part of the joint  
Interclub Long Distance Race Series

START PLANNING  
FOR THE  
125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
COMMODORE'S  
SAILPAST

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2012

ALL BOATS -  
POWER & SAIL

# **WANT TO CREW OR NEED A CREW?**

## **NEED A CREW**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL.#: \_\_\_\_\_ E.MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Boat and Size: \_\_\_\_\_  Dinghy \_\_\_\_\_  Keelboat \_\_\_\_\_

Occasional       Regular       Racing       Day Sailing Pleasure

Racing Evening Series       Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday

Racing Weekends

Day Sailing Pleasure -       Evenings       Weekdays       Weekends

Level of Intensity in fifteen words or less: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

.....

## **WANT TO CREW**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL.#: \_\_\_\_\_ E.MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Boat Preferred: - \_\_\_\_\_  Dinghy       Keelboat

Occasional     Regular    When available -  Evenings (which ones) \_\_\_\_\_

Weekdays

Weekends:  Overnight

Day Sails

Sailing Preference -     Racing     Cruising / Day Sailing

Previous experience in fifteen words or less: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Complete and leave in Club Office, attention Joan Yuile