



THE MAINSHEET

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2010

Last year's turnout for our clubs reciprocal cruises confirmed, once again, the growing interest and support for club organized cruising, amongst our membership. Although many of us enjoy a quiet get away at times throughout the sailing season, more and more of our members are participating in these organized events.

There will be two reciprocal, club cruises for the 2010 sailing season. These events, involve a coordinated boat for boat reciprocal visit to another club.

In addition to these confirmed

cruises there are tentative plans for additional organized "flotillas", this sailing season. These organized excursions ("flotillas") are <u>NOT</u> boat for boat. Details will be posted in advance.

Cruising events are a great opportunity for social interaction with your fellow members and their extended families, so come on out and enjoy the various facilities offered by other clubs around the lake.

Let's hope Mother Nature grants our request for a dry, sunny cruising season.



Garry Brown (TOUCAN) Cruise Director NOLSC 905-468-5848 hm 905-531-4174 wk

See you out there.

CONFIRMED RECIPROCAL (BOAT FOR BOAT) CRUISES

GILLIGAN'S ISLAND CRUISE

Hosts: Garry and Kathy Brown (Toucan)

Theme: Dress up as your favourite castaway characters (a regular or extra) for loads of laughs at the 5PM cocktail party.

Destination: Ashbridges Bay Yacht Club ABYC Date: Weekend of July 3rd/4th



HAWAIIAN LUAU CRUISE

Hosts: Garry and Kathy Brown (Toucan) Theme: Grab your grass skirts and come get leid. Destination: The Oakville Club Date: Weekend of July 31st/August 1st



THE COMMODORE COMMENTS...

Hello All and welcome to 2010. I wish everyone the best for the up and coming boating season.

I would once again like to thank all of those who took part in the recent club vote. Unfortunately, at the time I composed this editorial, I have nothing to report.

By the time this edition of the Mainsheet comes out, the office and meeting room renovation should be well under way and hopefully near completion. This is also the last phase in the renovation of the White Building, as was mandated by the membership in 1998.

I know Spring launch still seems a long way off, but as usual, it will be here before you know it and I look forward to seeing you around the yard and on the water.

Sincerely, John Vanderperk,



John & Liz Vanderperk-Metamorphosis

All quiet on the Junior Sailing front. The instructors and students are engrossed in their studies and winter activities. We keep in touch on Facebook. I received twelve birthday wishes from my friends in the program. Strange new world.

Judy Brandow picked up the crugel and the Club sponsored a float in the Santa Claus Parade. Judy rounded up the usual suspects; Howard, Rick and Janice, Kathy Brown and Barb Behring. (I'm probably missing somebody). Our instructors posted to decorate the float and shepherd the students who marched with the float. Last year, only Joan and I were at the A frame to feed the cold and hungry horde. This year the chaos was manageable.

Junior Sailing News

Several Club members have expressed concern about the effects the WJBT proposal would have on the program. I have read the proposal and have discussed the possible adaptations we could make with our senior instructors. If at some point the Club members see fit to lease a portion of our launch area to WJBT, we can adapt with very little change to the daily operation of the program.

Paul Sullivan

Director, Junior Sailing Program





-Letter from the Editors

Is it Spring Yet?

The Ground hog has seen his shadow....6 more weeks of winter or 6 weeks until spring? I am optimistic when it comes to Springtime and fair sailing... So I choose.....Six weeks until Spring!

Pretty soon the boat yard will be a hustle and bustle of activity as people start to remove the tarps and start the buffers up. It will be good to see everyone again as the new sailing season begins.

Hopefully, all the household jobs have been completed. I know at our place, once the boat is in the water these jobs go by the wayside and won't be looked at again until the fall.

Maggie (our boxer) and I had the pleasure of helping out with the Santa Claus parade. The kids did a nicer than last summer. great job on the float. Maggie loved seeing all the kids along the parade route and everyone commented on her life jacket that she proudly wore.

We did our yearly trek to the boat show. Nothing gets you in the mood for sailing better than a visit to the show. We spent hours touring the new boats and dreaming of summer sailing.

Winter seems long enough when you are a boater. As the days seem to get longer....(It is no longer dark when I go to work in the morning and when I come home at night) I yearn for those long summer evenings with fair winds and

beautiful sunsets. I am very optimistic that this summer will be

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Commodore's Ball.

Kathy Brown (Toucan) 905-468-5848 toucansail@hotmail.com

Spring is in the Air! See you at the Club....Mo

Maureen Dodd (Euphoria) 905-468-4810 maureen@doddsgreenhouses.ca



Obituaries...

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of two of our members. Our sincere condolences go out to their families and friends.

CAIRNS. Barbara Lois-Passed away peacefully at home December 31, 2009 with her family present after a brief illness. Beloved wife of Roy for 60 years; mother of Jeff (Kitty) & John (Carol). Lois was a boating enthusiast and along with her husband Roy was a member of the Dalhousie Yacht Club, Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club and the Sarasota Yacht Club.



RUFRANO, John Anthony– Passed away peacefully at home on January 3rd, 2010. Beloved husband of Madelene; Father of Marcy (Gary) Bergamo, Amy (Mike) Rufrano, Robin (Wally) Hawkins, Ronda (Chad) Burnett, & Julie Rufrano. John was an active member of the Niagara-onthe-Lake Sailing Club since 1992, former owner of "Amaretto".



Notorious Tuesday Afternoons...

On Tuesday afternoon about four o'clock a boat would leave NOLSC. Observers have described the event as a amalgamation of Grumpy Old Men and an a Chinese fire drill. Sailors knew it as a result of eight skippers on one boat. All chiefs, no Indians. The language was atrocious, the seamanship...well no one ever drowned.

It was the Notorious Tuesday Group. No one ever explained what we were noted for or what we were a group of. The original group began almost twenty years ago and was comprised of John Rufrano (Amaretto), Cris Sapona (Crris), Dick Thompson (Rambunctious), Buddy Redder (Defiance) and Jack McKenna (Itchy Too ...later Scallywag). They skied together in the winter and sailed together in the summer. Jack McKenna once said that Tuesday was the Ski Patrol meeting day and so that day was extended to a sailing day. They would meet at the club at four and take out one of their boats and cook up hot dogs and hamburgers at the A frame after their sail. A tradition evolved that one person brought the food and they sailed his boat, and that person could also bring a guest.

Bob Schultz bought Renaissance and by virtue of his having been on the Ski Patrol was welcomed into the Group. Schultz knew Harry Dixon and when Harry retired he was included. Whenever Harry cooked, I was his guest.

There was a group dynamic then, a certain raucousness and insensitivity, a light hearted locker-room ability to insult impersonally. From the jokes and barbs, personae developed. Harry Dixon was kidded for his prodigious appetite and whoever was buying the food could complain that they had to buy for three people just to feed Harry. Schultz's penurious ness was legendary. He saved hundreds of dollars by using a certain mechanic but lost the use of his boat for most of his first season.

Schultz took to calling Dick Thompson, "Grumpy" and the epitaph stuck like velcro. McKenna's penchant for cheap

beer was noted and John Rufrano's mechanical talents made him the chief handyman. Buddy Redder and Cris Sapona were a modern day Rosenkranz and Guildenstern, joined at the hip. Buddy was the best bartender and Cris the best cook. Once they were long overdue on a return from a club cruise and eventually it was thought prudent to notify the Canadian and U.S. Coast Guards. Shortly afterwards they sailed into the club and explained that they had stopped for coffee. They didn't know where they had stopped and no one could identify the place from their description. Whenever it was brought up, someone would hum the opening bars of Twilight Zone.

Your author bought Special K and the inauguration was a typical example of the rough humor. The day was chilly and breezy and we sailed up the river. Generally everyone took turns steering, it was a great way to learn the differences between boats. So, up the river we went under full sail and when it was time to return I was given the wheel and the admonition to head for home. As soon as the boat was around, the wind and the current picked her up and we broached. There was much cussin' and laughing about how tender the boat was and how I had violated the rule of never rounding up.

In the early spring and late fall, Don Campbell would return from the North Country and sail with us.

Ken Miller and Tom Bartley joined the group and added their humor and some sailing expertise.

It is difficult to reconstruct the past year and a half. There had been sickness and ailments before; Buddy had had bypass surgery, John had had a heart attack on his boat, Cris had a heart attack and we all knew that Bob was sick. But everyone survived and we could kid about it. But in the summer of '98, Harry Dixon was diagnosed with cancer and died in August. In the spring of '99, Bob Schultz lost his battle with cancer and in the autumn, Jack

McKenna suffered a fatal heat attack.

Buddy Redder had suffered a leaking aortic aneurism and survived but succumbed to complications just this winter.

At the reception after Buddy's funeral, Cris and John and I drank a toast to him and vowed to return to the Tuesday tradition. But seasons change and it was difficult to look at those who remained without seeing those who had departed. So, maybe we will continue because for many years, Tuesday afternoons were wonderful. A time to laugh and cuss and shed the thin veneer of civilization and go sailing with the Notorious Tuesday Bunch.

Paul Sullivan











Be Counted...2010 Roster

We will be updating the Roster in the upcoming months.

Please take a close look at the 2009 Roster. Are we missing some pertinent information about you? Is something incorrect?

- Name
- Boat name
- E-mail address
- Mailing Address
- Year you joined NOLSC
- Telephone number (s)



It is important that your information is correct so that you can be contacted in case of an emergency or to keep you informed of upcoming events.

Please contact Barb in the office or Kathy at *toucansail@hotmail.com* no later than May 1, 2010, if anything is missing or incorrect.



Happy New year all !!

Around 11 weeks from now some boats will be ready for launch. Or after the super bowl, after the Olympics, after the NCAA tournament, after the NHL regular season after the NBA post season and just before the Masters, some boats will be ready to launch. Same difference just sounds



better to a sports fan. Seems to make the time go faster!

This year we have sent out 1 (one) contract for the entire 2010 season. SIGN IT AND RETURN IT !! (please excuse the yelling, but nothing else is working) We continue to try and simplify the contract between the Club and it's members and renters. The messages we have sent regarding its importance has not been getting through. It's you're club protect it and ensure its efficiency.

My condolences go out to Madelene Rufrano and Roy Cairns. John Rufrano and Barbara (Lois) Cairns passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

Ed



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GRIMSBY



Looking Back/Looking Forward

Author: "Sailing out of Niagara...since 1838" (1989)

My special interest in NOLSC has been the history of our site and the recording and preservation of the club's history. I believe it's imperative at this time to recall the past and seriously consider the future.

In 1979 a group of NOLSC members put together a plan to purchase our property. Members gave their approval and put up their money for a down payment on a huge mortgage. It may be hard to imagine now what a daunting obligation it was for members of NOLSC.

The driving force that kept things moving forward in the purchase of the property was to keep the location a sailing port. It was the wish of the Gillingham brothers and they were willing to help us by holding the mortgage. The alternative would have been a resort of some kind and a lost opportunity for the sailing community.

For members who served on the Board in the early 80s I have the greatest respect. After assuming a large debt they had to run the club as a business with no experience in this area and continue to perform the duties of every Board of Directors. Those of us who were there during this critical time had faith in the leadership and a determination to help make it successful.

With the purchase there were many obstacles faced, not the least of which was improving the facilities. The basin was in desperate need of much repair. Gradually the necessary improvements to docks, wall reinforcements, the white building and opening of the clubhouse, purchasing a committee boat, were made and wages, utilities and taxes were paid.

It was a struggle but we kept moving ahead in the knowledge we had the best location and port anywhere and sailing was secure in NOTL. We were the envy of every club on the lake - we alone owned our property. That became apparent to the locals. We owned the largest single piece of land in town and very importantly it was waterfront property.

Over the years we had to be very vigilant on protecting property limits. In the 1980s Nelson Street (adjacent to the south side of the basin) was a source of controversy. Although never opened as a street the Town had previously claimed title and won but our concern was the entrance to the basin. With no outside help we had to obtain an original survey of the property done in the 1800s. George Hinterhoeller, founder and first commodore of NOLSC, produced a copy of the original survey that allowed us to dig up the original markers and confirm the entrance to our basin was within our property. We now lease a portion of that property to NOTL. NOLSC also sought and received upland water rights on the Niagara River in front of our property. Would this change?

The most planned and sought after access to our property was made in the mid-90s when a group of local activists went before an OMB hearing in the town seeking access for a waterfront public walkway through our property. We were late in learning of this but were able to present our case. Their reason was the clubhouse building obstructed their view of the river. Our case rested on the fact the clubhouse was built in 1838 and there was little room for a public walkway along the river. The judge ruled in our favour. We dodged that bullet.

NOLSC is now at a crucial point in its history, the most important decision since purchasing the property will be debated and voted on. The debate will be whether to allow this commercial operation on the property. The Jet Boat previously suggested in 1992 they would like to use our dock but they were refused.

We know some members might say there already is a commercial operation in Murray's Boat Repair. Let's go back to 1966. The Gillingham brothers invited Scotty, to set up a boat repair shop on the property - a very practical decision for the boating public and those docking at NOTL. Following our purchase of the property it was decided to continue the lease.

Shepherd Boats was at one time located on the property next to us on the river. It was put up for sale in the early 1980s in fact there was a "For Sale" sign on the property - asking price less than we paid for our property. It is now King's Point. Continued...

Continued...

Why didn't someone local purchase the property? I'm sure they wished they had. Thankfully for NOLSC, members in 1979 had the foresight not to let the opportunity to purchase our property pass them by.

Why do some feel NOLSC needs a disruptive commercial operation like the Jet Boat on the property? NOLSC has no mortgage and a full basin. Hard to believe there is a real need for the money. Angry neighbours will vent their anger at NOLSC. Think about the noise and disruption. How will it effect the enjoyment of your boat? You would be giving up a lot - is it worth it? Please think long and hard about your vote and keep the vision of the members who in 1979 worked so hard to provide such a beautiful sailing setting for you and the sailors that will follow you. Sailing and teaching young sailors was the reason then and hopefully now.

If the reason for considering the Jet Boat to use NOLSC property for commercial gain is in exchange for throwing some money at NOLSC then we are letting down those who established our club and had the foresight to preserve sailing in NOTL without outside help. Whom do you support?

If you do not have a copy of our 25th anniversary project "Sailing out of Niagara... since 1833" you can pick up a copy at the office.

by Isabelle Ridgway

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Santa's Merry Crew

Santa had a merry crew...

Twas a Friday night before Christmas And all through the club Volunteers were giving Santa's float a good scrub.

Greig Hunter and Drew moved the float inside So the elves could be warm While making the float worthy of our pride.

First came Rob Bradley with roller and brush To freshen the light house with a new coat of paint And create a look that was really quite quaint.

Next one winter evening it was the junior instructors More rapid than seagulls those young teachers came To hang wreaths, attach waves – it was like a game.

They filled the workshop with laughter and fun They decorated the float They knew time had them under the gun.

Now Mark, now Erin, Dahli, Logan and Kate Were joined by Rob V. and James G. They worked hard, then when pizza arrived they ate.

The float was finished, with tree, dinghy and lighthouse We were ready to go Now all that was necessary was a little bit of snow.

Parade day dawned sunny and cool, it was really quite chilly Then magical John Vanderperk arrived To deflate the float tires and pull it outside.

A little old driver, so lively and quick Colin Dodd climbed into the truck and started the trip He had done it before, it's one of his favourite tricks.

Up the hill and across town the float flew Along Ricardo to King and Mary Street too Santa Claus was there waiting, happy he had a good crew.

This was a morning when the kids weren't nestled all snug in their beds

Our junior sailors were onboard to march in the parade instead.

Twenty-two of them dawned antlers and hats on top of their heads.

They carried the NOLSC Sailing Club banner (thanks to Ray Brinsmead and Hayley Stewart) The Olympic Torch sign too It was all to tell others that junior sailing is a fun thing to do.

While the kids took turns paddling the pickup truck along Maggie, Garry and Kathy Brown's prancing puppy dog Was wearing bells and was jingling a song.

Along the parade route they went Waving, dancing and calling Merry Christmas Leading the way for this special event

It all ended too soon But back at the A-frame a team was in gear Preparing hot dogs, hot chocolate and good cheer.

It was Howard Nesbitt and Rick Corvino on barbeque, Barb Behring and Janis Corvino on hot chocolate brew And Joan and Paul Sullivan served up chicken soup for the chilly crew.

Then after the hot dogs, chips and whipped-cream covered pretzels

The sailing instructors jumped into action again to dismantle the float

Packing away the wreaths, tinsel and the boat.

As they all left for the holidays Organizers had good reason To say "Thank you" and then happily celebrate the season.

Judy Brandow



















THE MAINSHEET

Awards Banquet 2009



Cayuga on the Níagara Ríver

