BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER March came in like a Lion Tuesday March 1, 2016

Photo: Ron Parker

SIGNAL

is published monthly by the Bronte Harbour Yacht Club. Deadline for submissions is the last day of each month. Email signal@bhyc.on.ca

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Friday 16:00-20:30

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Sunday 15:00 -19:00

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Remaining Sailor's Nights

March 10 - From Buzzards Bay to Bronte Harbour by **Dennis Giokas**

March 24 - *Strategic Racing Tactics* by **Adrian Hanley**



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R

Call or visit Beausoleil II if you are thinking about buying or selling a home or for a Complimentary Home Evaluation or just to talk about boats in general. Natalie JN

In like a lion - out like a lamb

t the time of writing we are under a severe snowstorm watch and there is less than 61 days until launch. Let's hope the old saying about the month of March "in like a lion – out like a lamb". It would be nice to have an early snow free and dry yard to get the boats ready for April 30th.

Things around the club are progressing well, however we need a few more volunteers to complete the directors standing committees. These are great opportunities to get more involved with the club's activities while earning work party credits. As I mentioned in earlier articles, there is a lot of satisfaction to be gained by participating in the running of the club and its activities.

If you are considering joining a standing committee, and would like to know more about the commitment and not sure who to approach, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone. I would be more than pleased to answer any question you may have, and will not pressure you.

I would like to thank the teams who have volunteered to host appetizers nights. These evenings are a great opportunity to renew acquaintances and introduce your friends to the club. If you have any questions or wish to learn a more on the short and long term plans, please don't hesitate to contact me.

commodore@bhyc.on.ca

DUSAN DAVIDOVIC Rear Commodore, Sail

Welcome to March

o far twenty five members have registered online for club "On the Water" activities. Your efforts are appreciated,

I expect that other members will register soon. You can see the current entry list by following this link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YEG505vGyOy21UDsRo4EfOLc_IfTw0_S7qKXOgArao0/pub-html?gid=438955131&single=true

After filling out the form, an email containing your answers will be sent to you.

In case you don't receive the email, check your junk mail folder, if it is not there you may have mistyped your email address.

Once the email is received, please review to make sure your answers are correct and that you have not missed any especially critical fields such as: first and last name, email address, mobile phone, boat name, sail number, and PHRF. All these fields are critical; and are used directly for scoring. If you notice any discrepancies, please fill the form out again with the correct information.

As usual, we are looking for race committee volunteers. It is a great way to earn your volunteer hours. If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know. rcsail@bhyc.on.ca



BRIAN MILLER Past Commodore Renovations update

want to take this time to provide an update on the club renovation. As you know, the project ran up against significant opposition from Halton Region Conservation Authority (HRCA) last year and ground to a halt.

The board has revived the project with a new committee comprised of Richard Bissonette, Sean Dubreil, Adrian Hanley and myself. We have met with our architect to summarize where we are and develop a new strategy. The good news is that HRCA fired it's CAO in December and are looking for a new head executive. This came about, in part, because of several complaints of bad customer service (i.e. BHYC and others). In addition, the provincial government launched a review of Conservation Authorities in general which is ongoing.

Currently we are awaiting a meeting with the Oakville counsellors who sit on the HRCA board to get feedback

on our plan and fine tune it. Once this is done we will meet with the new (temporary) head of HRCA to see if we can advance our case.

Given the above I am hoping there will be a new attitude at HRCA that will be helpful to our cause (I don't want to get too ahead of myself on this as you never know what could happen so I caution, as always, that we should keep our expectations in check).

On a related note, as most of you will know, the north east corner of the club is sinking and our architect is concerned about this. As a result we have called in an engineer to have a look at it and provide a fee proposal for a study to determine exactly what is happening.

As always, please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any comments or questions.



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STEPHEN FIRTH Treasurer

Membership Dues You recently received your annual membership statement. If you have already paid your account – Thank you. If not, please remit to the club as soon as possible.

Work Party As you are aware, each senior and associate member is responsible to complete work party hours for the benefit of the club.

Quarterly Statements To assist in tracking and insuring our records accurately reflect the work that you have completed on behalf of the club, we will be providing members work party statements on a quarterly basis beginning June 30, 2016. The quarterly statement should be reviewed by each member when received - if any discrepancies do appear, please contact the Treasurer to discuss.

Work Party Chits It is important that you complete and remit your work party chit within 30 days of completing the task for approval by the appropriate director.

What's New! We are in the process of implementing a new work party program where you will be able to go on the BHYC website and pull down an electronic copy of the work party chit. Please complete this form and remit it electronically to the appropriate director for approval. A separate email will be sent to members with the new form and more details on how this is to be submitted. Work party chits will still be available at the BHYC bar for those who do not have access electronically.

Experience our Experience

RON PARKER Membership Director

BoatShare This program is designed to provide a safe and fun environment for new and existing members to participate in day sailing and club racing. We have structured the program to be very affordable to attract members and encourage member usage of our two Sharks. An application form is available at the bar and as part of the membership package.

BoatShare participants will be responsible for commissioning the Sharks at the start of the season and decommissioning the boat at the end of the season. This includes bottom prep, mast stepping & un-stepping, rigging, haulout and general maintenance. Some of this work can be credited to your work party commitment.

For more information refer to the BoatShare application form or contact membership@bhyc.on.ca

2016 Roster Please email membership@bhyc.on.ca if you have any **changes or updates** you would like entered. If you would like to **advertise** in the roster to help support the cost of publication, please contact Mary Ellen Bockler at publicity@bhyc.on.ca As in the past, the Roster will be available at Sail Past.

VIP Week *TURNS 40!* Our Club's biggest community event every year began in 1977. Once again we are looking for skippers, boats and crew to help on the water, in the clubhouse and at Fifty Point. Email sign-up is the only way. vip@bhyc.on.ca. You will receive a confirmation from **Ole Sigvardt**. Come out and help for our 40th.





CHERYL PENMAN House Director

Photo: Cheryl Penman

Shaping up

hope you have had a chance to see by now, we've put in a lot of man and woman work party hours and a lot of elbow grease into giving our club an early Spring cleaning. Many thanks again to the enthusiastic volunteers for their hard work on the jobs that have been done to date. When the darts group from Lakeshore Yacht Club visited last weekend, we had lots of positive feedback on our efforts inside and out.

Behind the scenes, we've got a crew working on the refinishing of the round table tops but, we have realized that the square format actually gives us more options for table settings. We had a rental party that sat nine tables of eight comfortably, which will give us the option to use both round (once refinishing is completed) and square set up as needed.

Cleaning and retouching the wood on the staircase, bar and window trim successfully removed many years of grime without having to sand and completely refinish all surfaces. Thanks, **Drew Thompson**, for your leadership in product selection and technique and the crew for sticking with this messy job.

There are a few jobs from the original list still to be completed but, all are in progress. Burgees have been carefully cleaned but, we will have to wait until the wood trim is returned to decide where we want to relocate them. Options for the trim on the lower edge of the bar are being considered and will be completed next month.

The next phase of my "House cleaning" will be to have a closer look at operational costs and I could use some help. I know there are many members with the benefit of history I don't have and, on that note, it would be great to put

together four or five volunteers to form a sub-committee. Some of the issues we need to review include cost of goods, list of suppliers and any opportunity of cost savings, status of existing equipment and maintenance agreements, club hours and break-even/profitability margins surrounding regular hours, social events and rentals.

Please feel free to bring any ideas to my attention for discussion. We need to work together to make our club the best it can be.

DAWN GREVILLE Social Director

he club house was busy February 7th starting in the afternoon when members were invited to come meet the current Board. We enjoyed some wonderful appetizers and sweets, while visiting and meeting new fellow members.

Later **Mark Hellmann** had organized a Super Bowl Party complete with traditional chili. All enjoyed watching the game and participating in some friendly betting. It's always more fun to watch the big name with a group of friends. Mark a big thank-you for having an idea and following through

We are still looking for people to host Friday Appetizer Nights in April. The sign-up sheet is on the board by the front entrance. Don't be shy!

Upcoming events:

Saturday March 12-'Irish' Night at BHYC serving: Steak, stout, stilton pie/sweet potato fries/vegetables Pistachio ice cream \$15 (taxes included) Irish coffee (regular or decaf) \$5 each

Trivia, Limericks, etc.....

Saturday April 2 – Cruiser's Potluck info to be emailed-Sailpast Saturday May 28 details in next Signal



OTMH photos by Grad Dewar

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When BHYC was approached to run a fundraising regatta for Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, no one expected the event to run for 10 years and raise a substantial amount of money in the process.

In the early years, the funds raised went to cardiac rehabilitation units for specific equipment to assist cardiac patients construction of the new hospital was announced all proceeds from the regatta went to help purchase more than 30,000 pieces of equipment needed for opening day.

Over the 10 year period of BHYC organizing and hosting the regatta, close to \$175,000 was raised.

In recognition of our efforts, two rooms in the cardiac unit are named in honour of the BHYC's role in making the hospital a reality.

Like any event hosted by BHYC, our success is a reflection of the volunteers who contributed their time and effort. Acknowledging all the volunteers who have participated over the years is challenging; but here is an attempt.

The core committee included:

Michelle Kerby –Oakville Hospital Foundation Richard Veale – BMO Nesbit Burns Sandy Riley

and the following BHYC members:

Dawn Greville, Dave Cavell, Mike and Sue Butterfield, Stein Pedersen, Cheryl Penman,

Pat and Grad Dewar, Mark Bowen, Mary Johannesson and Peter Fuller.

My apologies if someone was forgotten.

Where do we go from here?

Now that the hospital is opened and operational, it was decided to put the event on hold for 2016, with the possibility of returning with a different mission in 2017.

In bclosing, I would like to extend a special thank you to all our sponsors who really made the event a resounding success with their generous support. And thank you, to all the BYHC club members for your contributions.

-Richard Bissonnette







his is a true story of three intrepid adventurers who risked their lives in an exploit of heroic proportions. Pictured are (left to right) Dale (Cowboy) Amundsen, Peter (Dandy) Franklin and Ron (Moderator) Frobisher. These three gentleman endured conditions and hardships beyond the endurance of mere mortals.

It all began on an overcast, frosty and foreboding morning in mid-January 2016. The temperature was a mind-numbing +3 degrees Celsius, when Peter (Dandy) Franklin (more on the Dandy nickname later) arrived at the ridiculously early time of 9:00 am to pick up Dale (Cowboy) Amundsen (nickname is self-explanatory) to head to the far reaches of the Canadian North – Puslinch Lake. Ron (Moderator) Frobisher (nickname bestowed due to Ron's ability to quietly and delicately settle any animosities that arose between Cowboy and Dandy) chose to follow behind after getting another couple of hours of sleep.

Upon his arrival, Moderator found that Dandy and Cowboy had been able to unload the magnificent DN ice yacht from the roof of Dandy's car and put its awe-inspiring rig up. All was ready!

The next three hours were then spent with the three ice-blade amigos trudging and stumbling around Lake Puslinch with the ice yacht in tow. This is very reminiscent of the pictures one sees of Arctic explorers of yore pulling their sleds to the Pole. This was necessary due to the total lack of wind and two inches of snow. With freezing digits and ice tentacles forming on their eyebrows, noses, beards, mustaches, etc., the three decided that further effort would simply add to the agony already endured. Rather than risk the mental anguish that would drive them into deeper madness, they felt it prudent to park the ice craft and retreat to the Spartan hovel known by the locals as the Old Marina Restaurant and Bar. (This excuse for a shelter can be seen in the background of the photo.) It was here, at table number 11, that further possible history was formulated. In a confused state caused by the harsh and unbearable conditions, and to a lesser extent by the pints of beer consumed, the three were driven to consider putting

a proposal forth at their yacht club. This proposal would ask the Commodore, Piotr Fyodorovich Anjou, to consider the possibility of a new category of membership for those who were willing to face the harrowing hardships of ice yachting in the Great White North. In conjunction with this new direction, it was also thought that consideration be given to the construction of a cedar-lined two-storey sauna so that those indulging in this adventure would be able, upon their return, to thaw their digits (don't ask). Also for consideration would be the availability of mulled red wine, warm Labatt's 50, and hot-buttered rum.

Upon adjournment of this Sub-Committee meeting, the three ice-boat walkers began the task of derigging and loading the vessel back onto the top of Dandy's car roof. It was at this time that it became apparent as to why it required three people to handle a tiny DN ice boat. The task as hand was very difficult with the shaking of extremities, difficulty in bending, and a propensity for falling down, all due to the metabolic breakdown caused by the difficult conditions. IT WAS NOT THE BEER! Loading what seemed to be a gargantuan 50 pound hull and other bits of equipment was obviously a three man endeavour.

Once loaded, the brave and daring ice-boat trio headed home to the tearful embrace of loved ones who had suffered their absence and waited breathlessly for their return from the agony of the frozen tundra......NO ONE!

Oh yes, it was mentioned earlier, in this exciting and riveting essay, that Peter Franklin's nickname "Dandy" would be explained. For the uninitiated, real ice-boaters wear an item called creepers on their boots to give them traction when pushing their boats on the ice. Well, as you can see from the photograph, Dandy stands much taller than both Cowboy and Moderator. The reason for this is because Dandy is not satisfied with standard creepers, with one-quarter inch studs. Dandy wears six--inch "stiletto" spikes which he says are very inexpensive at Victoria's Secret. He insists they give him much better traction. YEAH, SURE. YOU FIGURE IT OUT!

Submitted without malice, An observer

HOW TO FIND THE TRUTH

- [1] Find a big chunk of blue sky.
- [2] Find a big chunk of blue water.
- [3] On the line that separates the two, place a boat.
- [4] Get in the boat.
- [5] Go.



Thanks Ron Parker for this illuminating message



Photo: Richard Bissonnette

By-Law Change

There was a By-law change accepted at the last Annual General Meeting that allows Members who choose to do so receive notices of meetings by email to the last known email address on file. The same conditions will apply to an emailed notification as to the regular mail notification. As a result of this change we need signatures from everyone who wants notification by email. A members list is behind the bar, it would be appreciated if you could take the time to add your signature. Thank you in advance.



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 LYC-BHYC Darts Tourney at Lakeshore YC	' -	8 Sip 'n Stitch	9 Darts	10 Sailors Night 'Buzzards Bay Bronte Harbo	11 App Night to sponsered by BHYC	12 Irish Night Irish food, Reserve pls
I pm	March	l	7:15	Dennis Giokas 7:00		\$15 рр
13	14	15	16	17 Name	18	19
		Sip 'n Stitch	Darts 7:15	St. Patricles D	ду Арр Night	
20	21	22	23	24	25 Good Frida	y 26
		Sip 'n Stitch	Darts 7:15	Sailors Night 'Strategic Racing Tactics Adrian Hanley 7:00 p	App Night	
27 Easter	28	29	30	31	April Fool's	2
Sunday		Sip 'n Stitch	Darts 7:15		App Night Appril	Cruisers Pot Luck Event
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Sip 'n Stitch	Darts 7:15		Арр Night	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Sip 'n Stitch	Darts 7:15	Club Racing Registration Night 7:00 pm	Арр Night	
17	18	19	20	21	22	24
		Sip 'n Stitch	Darts 7:15	Sailing Committee Meeting 6:300 pm	App Night	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Sip 'n Stitch	Darts 7:15		LAUNCH DAY! Icebreaker Race Saturday May 4	

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