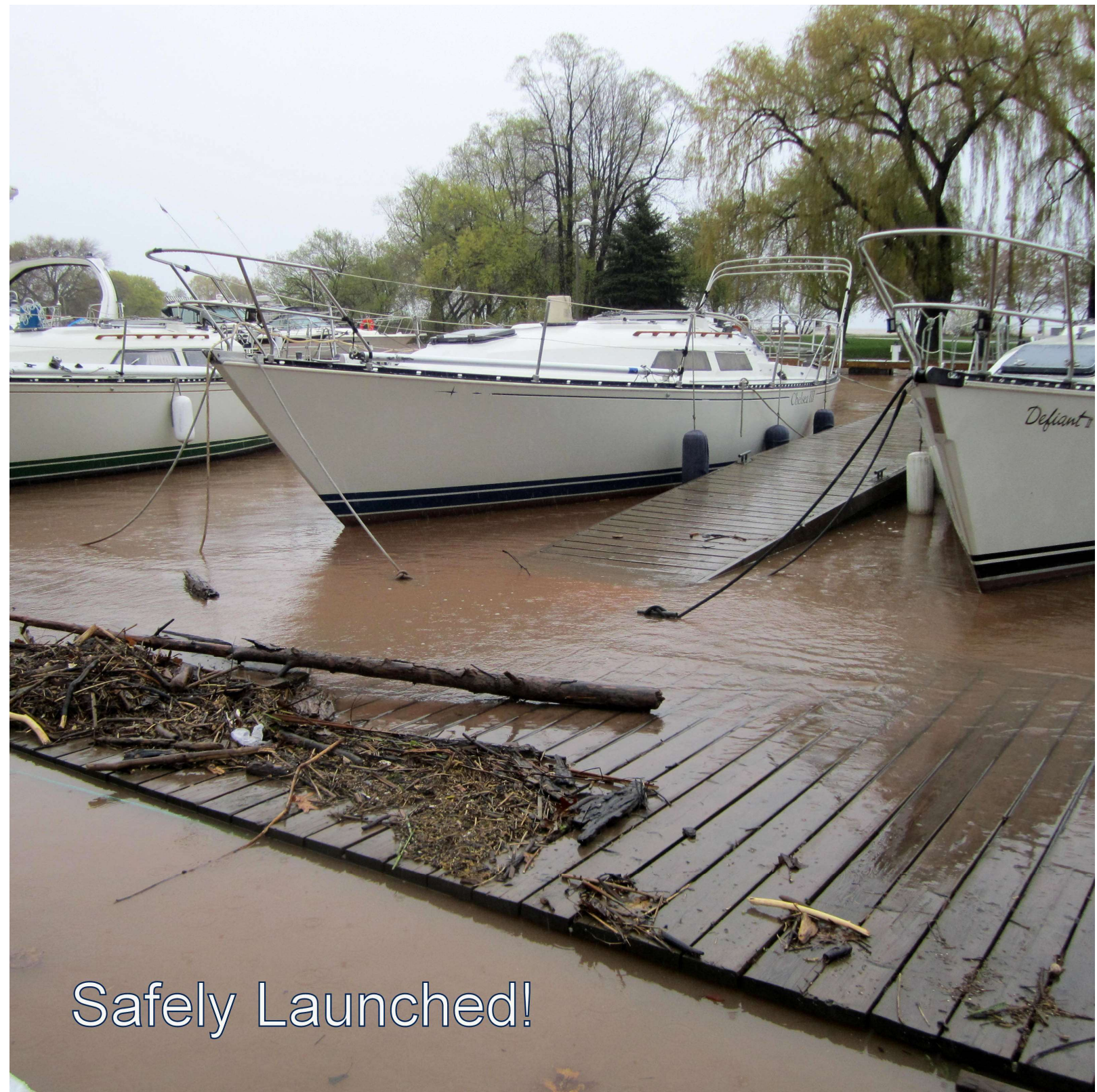


SIGNAL

BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB  MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER



Safely Launched!

SIGNAL

is published monthly by the Bronte Harbour Yacht Club. Deadline for submissions is the last day of each month.

The SIGNAL

Bronte Harbour Yacht Club
2514 Lakeshore Road West
Oakville ON L6L 1H8

SIGNAL Editor

Barbara Keeley-Watt
416-464-3730
signal@bhyc.on.ca

SIGNAL Advertising

Tony Byrne
905-847-4495
publicity@bhyc.on.ca

BHyc Announcements

announcement@bhyc.on.ca

Accounts

Monday-Friday 9am- 5pm
905-808-6525

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Wednesday	16:00 - 20:00
Thursday	16:00 - 22:00
Friday	16:00 - 20:30
Saturday	12:00 - 20:00
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CLUBHOUSE
905-827-6437

BHyc Board

board@bhyc.on.ca

Commodore

Richard Bissonnette
905-827-8782
commodore@bhyc.on.ca

Vice Commodore

Eric Pilon
905-639-9586
vicecommodore@bhyc.on.ca

Rear Commodore, Sail

Barry Jasper
905-634-4449
rjsail@bhyc.on.ca

Rear Commodore, Power

Ron Parker
416-315-5122
rcpower@bhyc.on.ca

Rear Commodore, Training

Kevin Corcoran
905-847-0493
rctraining@bhyc.on.ca

Treasurer

Stephen Firth
905-825-5133
treasurer@bhyc.on.ca

Secretary

Mary Ellen Bockler
905-334-3365
secretary@bhyc.on.ca

Social Director

TBA
905-xxx-xxxx
social@bhyc.on.ca

House Director

TBA
905-xxx-xxxx
house@bhyc.on.ca

Membership Director

Allan Cook
647-226-8284
membership@bhyc.on.ca

Publicity Director

Tony Byrne
905-847-4495
publicity@bhyc.on.ca

Past Commodore

Brian Miller
905-466-5175
pastcomm@bhyc.on.ca



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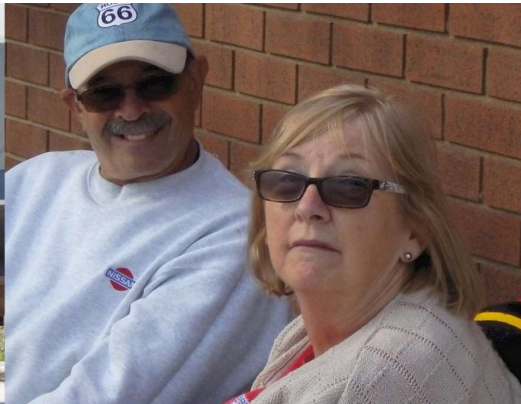
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RICHARD BISSONNETTE Commodore

My first comment is to thank all the members who answered the call for assistance and made the launch an unqualified success. After a slow start in the morning, which is not unusual, the pace picked up and the whole operation was completed 2 hours ahead of schedule.

I would also take the opportunity to thank the paddlers for their understanding when the request went out to unlock or move their kayaks. Initially we thought that the racks would have to be moved to facilitate the retrieval of the boats stored on the lawn. This proved to be unnecessary and wish to apologize to those members for the pressure this may have caused.

Now that we have officially said goodbye to winter, the time is right to set our sights on a great season of sailing and activities at BHYC.

There are a number of activities planned and I suggest you visit the website on a regular basis to make sure you don't miss put. We are using the website as the primary communication tool.

The monthly reminder, all directors are still in need of assistance; it's an opportunity to complete your work party requirements but more important it is greater opportunity to make a positive contribution in the running of the club.

As always, if you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Richard

commodore@bhyc.on.ca

The 13th Annual Oakville Regatta For Easter Seals Kids Saturday, July 8, 2017



Update on Status of Oakville Harbours Master Plan Exercise – John McMullen AOHS

The Town of Oakville's commissioned study to develop a Master Plan (HMP) for our two harbours is moving forward, although perhaps slower than anticipated or wished for.

Due to concerns by citizens and a fixation during consultations on new marinas at the expense of other aspects of the harbours of interest, Town staff has decided to divide the HMP into 2 initiatives. One is essentially Phase 2 of the earlier Feasibility study that determined that there will be demand in excess of current capacity and will address optional locations for new marinas that may be considered. This report was scheduled to go to the Community Services Committee (CSC) on April 24 and then to Council; however, we now understand that this date has been pushed back. A report for the balance of the HMP, addressing all other aspects of Oakville's harbours and their future, including the Bronte Marine Building, is scheduled to go to the CSC on June 19. All dates will be confirmed when possible.

It will be important for boaters, representatives of AOHS and any others interested in Oakville's waterfront to attend the CSC and Council meetings and to demonstrate to the Town and elected officials that we are indeed interested in this undertaking. Chris Mark, Director of Parks and Open Spaces, has promised to inform AOHS of the exact date of these presentations and we will in turn pass along these dates and relevant information to the clubs. Both reports will be available on-line before their respective meeting dates.

Colleen Bell, Commissioner of Community Services, has emphasized that capital budgets are tight and there is no appetite at this time for large capital items. The reports going to CSC and Council and recommendations contained therein will be at a high level; i. e. principles and concepts that offer Council a starting point for approval, and from which, if they choose, they may go forward.

Bronte Marine Building Refurbishment

Town staff was disappointed with the unbalanced attendance at the focus group session held November 30, 2016 regarding the future of the building. They confirmed that both the BIA and the BVRA had been invited to the session, but did not attend. Staff will now meet separately with these 2 groups to obtain their input.

Any refurbishment of the building to bring it up to current building code and for non-boater purposes will come out of the general tax base. However, it is important to understand that as yet no decision has been made as to the building's future.

TGIS

We will be setting up a Club racing Series "A" course as per weeknight sailing instructions. (on line) There will be one start, warning gun is @ 3:30. The committee boat will do a 5 minute start countdown complete with sound signals and flags. This will a great opportunity for those interested in pursuing weeknight or regatta racing.

Race skippers, make yourselves available as crew, or take on new crew on your boats. We want to promote racing, and this will be the perfect segue.

There will dinner after, details to follow.



2017 PHRF Certificates – submitted by Sue Sproule

Renewals: For most BHYC racers, your race registration includes the fee for your PHRF certificate and we will be renewing your certificates shortly. Please note, however, the following situations:

1. If you race a Shark, you have the choice of paying for a PHRF certificate when you register, or not. Please keep in mind that you will need a PHRF certificate if you want to participate in any event that does not end up with a dedicated one-design Shark fleet. This would include the Lady Helm and Crew Chance races, the Pursuit race, the Turkey race, Bronte Rocks, the Diehards Regatta, and other Club and outside events. PHRF-LO now has a one-design Shark rating, so if your sails are authorized as meeting Shark Class Association standards there is no need to take measurements to get your PHRF certificate. If you did not purchase a PHRF certificate during registration, you can always purchase one later at the bar. Give the receipt to one of the Club handicappers and we will renew your certificate.
2. If you do not race in the Club Tuesday/Thursday/Fall race series, but want to participate in other Club racing events like the ones mentioned in the preceding paragraph or outside events such as GHYRA Race Week, you should purchase your PHRF certificate at the bar and give the receipt to one of the Club handicappers so that we can renew your certificate.

Changes to a certificate: If you have new sails, please ask your sailmaker for a measurement certificate and give it to one of the Club handicappers. We will arrange for any necessary changes to your certificate and keep the information on file.

New Certificates: If you have a “new to you” boat that needs a certificate, please fill out the contact information on the application form on the PHRF-LO Website and then get in touch with one of the Club’s handicappers. We can help you get the remaining information that is required.

Your BHYC Club Handicappers, Sue Sproule (ssproule@cogeco.ca); Peter McDougall (p.mcdougall@lobmail.ca); David Platt (djplatt@gmail.com)

Pack Your Freezer For the Winter!

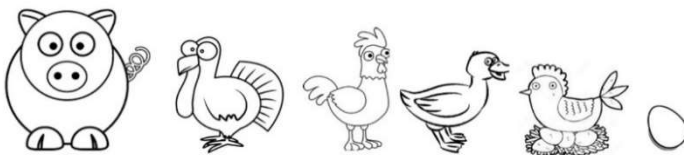
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BHYC member helps another BHYC member 1,400 nautical miles away

Interesting blog from Mauna Kea on Tuesday April 11th 2017. Submitted by Richard B.

I hate it when a plan doesn't come together. We left Clarence Town at 12 noon to head for Turks and Caicos. We sailed south to the bottom of Crooked Islands estimating we would get there around midnight. The buddy boat Moseon and us were sailing great and making good time. We rounded the point at midnight and turned east toward the Turks.

The wind was great and the waves were not too big. We were going about 6 to 8 knots and that was great. At 4:30 am our steering stopped working. I could not figure out what was happening so I started the engine to power the boat into the right direction. I had an over heat alarm so I had to shut down the engine. I called the buddy boat for assistance and there was no answer. I called for about 15 minutes and no answer.

We had no steering so I dug out the emergency tiller. I realized the wheel below the deck broke. We were only 10 hours into our 40 hour trip and I could not hold the tiller all the way to the Turks. We had to turn around and head back to a safe anchorage. It took us 8 hours to get to a protected bay where we could get some sleep. We had not slept for 24 hours. We dropped anchor and slept for about 4 hours.

I had a look underneath the wheel and found the wheel that controls the cables had dropped down. I tried for about 2 hours and could not figure out how it was supposed to go back together. So I decided to tackle the engine problem. I took off the water pump and looked at the impeller and that was our problem. I change the impeller and the engine was running again.

We were in the middle of nowhere so I had to get us close to a cell tower so I could google how the steering goes back together. We sailed up 15 miles and saw a cell tower so I decided to anchor there. The wind was picking up and the waves were getting bigger so I thought this might be a good spot. I called the expert back in Oakville **Jim Pollock** and he help me a lot. We were still too tired to work and the waves were too big.

We stayed in this anchorage for the night and the waves were so bad we didn't sleep. We had to move on to another place. BUT the anchor would not come up. I had to dive down and release the anchor from a hole.

A short time later our davits broke off and our dinghy was dragging sideways in the water. We were definitely being tested. We were both exhausted and every move we made was a struggle. The winds were gusting 30 knots and the waves were building to 5 feet. All this time I had to steer the boat with the tiller. Laurie could not take a turn because she wasn't strong enough.

After about 5 hours we anchored in Landrail Point where there was protection from the wind and waves. We got things straightened away and went to sleep for about 3 hours. Again, I called Jim Pollock in Oakville and went over the procedure and went to work. It took about 3 hours and the steering was fixed. Now we have to get to the Turks ourselves and we have to do it quickly. Yep another front coming in this weekend. So we figure we can leave in the morning and make 2 stops and be in the Turks on Friday before the front comes in on Saturday. This is our plan and we know this one will work.

Ken Reynolds – Skipper of Mauna Kea and BHYC member

Signal Editor - Barbara Keeley-Wat

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the May Signal, keep the photos and articles coming. Please forward articles to Signal@bhyc.on.ca. Interesting on the water stories, club activities or boating vacations, from our members would be wonderful.

The best format is emailed with an attachment; word document with photos in "jpg" format and in the highest resolution possible. The monthly cut off for articles is last day of the month to guarantee publishing.

Note: Going forward the events calendar will not be published in the Signal. The website events calendar is updated immediately as changes are made, making the Signal calendar obsolete before it is published. Therefore, to avoid confusion the on line calendar should be referred to for events.

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Darts – Countless Highlights – Sandra Brans

With the start of the sailing season comes the finish of the Wednesday darts evenings and a chance to reflect on the many highlights of the 2016-2017 session.

The annual darts challenge between Lakeshore Yacht Club and BHYC took place in March with Lakeshore hosting on the 5th and BHYC hosting on the 19th. Four teams from each club competed for the thirty-two game points at stake in the challenge. As usual, the game “cricket”, favoured by LSYC, was played at Lakeshore and

the game “301” was played at BHYC. There is an interesting pattern to the number of repeat wins each club has accomplished. LSYC won it for the first three years; then BHYC were the champions three years in a row. For the next two years LSYC won the trophy followed by two years of winning by BHYC. In 2016 LSYC narrowly eked out a win after the points lead dramatically changed hands several times in each series. Looming over this year’s challenge was preventing an LSYC repeat win. Unfortunately, enthusiasm, steely determination and fierce concentration were not quite enough to wrest the trophy back to BHYC. Now the pressure is all on LSYC to keep the trophy and we will see what next year’s challenge brings. Certainly, BHYC was the champion in food provisions and we received many compliments on the delicious items. Huge thanks go to Graham and Elsa for the delicious main course and to “helpers” Dan and Barb. Perhaps the scrumptious repast is the reason LSYC has no trouble getting recruits for their challenge teams.

Our intrepid BHYC sharp shooters in the challenge matches were: Elsa Beattie, Graham Beattie, Diana Bissonnette, Sandra Brans, Barb Dermot, Grad Dewar, Phil Gelsheimer, Bill Hewitt, Dan La Perriere, John McMullen, Brian Miller, Mike Mills, Dave Platt, Nigel Reed, Sue Reed, Sam Spares, Phil Spink and Renate Weidner.

The final darts event of the 2016-2017 session was held on Wednesday, April 19th with a banquet and awards presentation. Thanks to Steve Firth, there was a mouth-watering selection of food. Lots of laughter as well as suspense and delight with the awarding of trophies marked the evening. We even managed a few fun darts games.

For the most part, teams were fairly evenly matched all season and competition for top spot in cricket and 301 was decided only in the last few evenings. Graham Beattie, Barb Dermot and Dave Platt came first in cricket. Kim Bartsch, Colin Bullen and Sam Spares came first in 301. By virtue of a second place finish in both cricket and 301, Diana Bissonnette, Sandra Brans and Brian Miller captured the overall championship. Colin Pfaff was a most deserving winner of the anchor trophy for his witty commentaries.

The darts evenings are the embodiment of our club’s self-help characterization. Huge thanks go to those on the spares list who make a crucial contribution and to everyone who helped with set up, clean up and keeping the games running smoothly. Special thanks go to all of the wonderful darts players for the beautiful lavender plant that is gracing my garden.

Wednesday darts evenings are always lively with the decibel level increasing at every amazing shot and victorious result. We can look forward to another fun-filled darts season, starting in November.

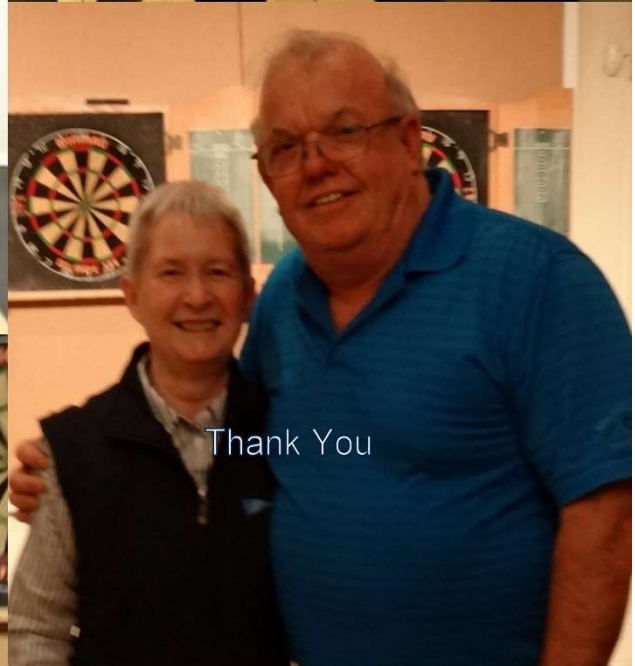
Darts Awards 2017



Cricket Champions



301 Champions



Thank You



Overall Champions



Colin and Anchor Trophy



SEPTEMBER 2ND-3RD 2017

BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB

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Launch is upon us, a day of rest, then we launch into MAY, welcome to the sailing season. All the work on the bottom of the boat is done, mast stepping next, then finish the top sides, the accommodation, tune up all the bells and whistles, all the safety gear and ready for a busy month on the water.

First of all, a big thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules and boat preparation work, to attend sailors nights, race committee seminars, and Ghya, Rocks, and Sail committee meetings in April. Many hands make light work.

Second a really, really, big thank you to David Platt, who has joined the race committee team as RO for Thursday nights.

Third, if you haven't registered for racing yet, get out the credit card, get on line, go to the BHYC website, and get it done. While you are on the website, take the calendar for a drive, it is live and includes all the events, right through to awards night in November. Everything you and your crew need at your fingertips, to plan a successful season of cruising or racing.

Now let the fun begin, for those who are ready, the ICEBREAKER kicks off the season on Saturday 6th, first gun at 11.00, down to CCIW and back, a chance to shake down the boat and the crew, and blow away all the cobwebs. (Editors note: Icebreaker Regatta has been cancelled)

For all the skippers and new race committee, Sunday 7th 11.00 am, an opportunity to take out Bluewater for practice docking, anchoring, mark setting etc, familiarization with all the controls and idiosyncrasies.

Then we start in earnest, the first CLUB RACES are Tuesday 9th, and Thursday 11th. (Editor's note – changed to May 16th & May 18th)

Stephen Firth is offering \$10.00 Beer and Hamburger specials, on alternate race nights. If these are well attended, we will see about a variety of food trucks on the opposing nights.

Now you have all those marked on your calendar, now for the big on. The official start to the Bronte Sailing season. SAIL PAST is set for May 27th.

A complete day of activities including "THE BLESSING OF THE FLEET", a chance to recognize the contributions of the present and past commodores, a pleasant family afternoon on the water, and chance to share good food and good company.

This year let's revive an old tradition, let's everyone come back to the dock carrying every flag they can muster. Let's make statement that we are here, and here to stay, if you have flags gathering dust in the basement, dig them out, you have 3 weeks to string them together.

Looking forward into June, on the first weekend we are hosting the Ontario High School Regatta., June 3rd. Mark Hellmann is overseeing this regatta, and I daresay will be looking for some assistance. Please be generous with your time for this worthwhile event.

The following weekend will be the start of the TGIS schedule. Mike Mills and his group will be starting with first gun at 3.30 June 10th, and there is a supper planned after the race.

Bronte Rocks Registration is up and running on Sailwave, we already have boats registered from 3 different clubs, for our signature regatta.

See you all on the water.

Barry Jasper

rcsail@bhyc.on.ca

VIP SAILING WEEK 40



BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB



Bronte Harbour Yacht Club is holding our 40th annual Visually Impaired Program (VIP) Sailing Week on June 12th through the 16th, 2017.

We invite visually impaired people from all over the GTA for five days of fun day-sailing, a cruise to Fifty Point Marina and a day of racing. Participants learn the fundamentals of sailing on 30-foot keelboats, seamanship basics, and some rudimental racing techniques.



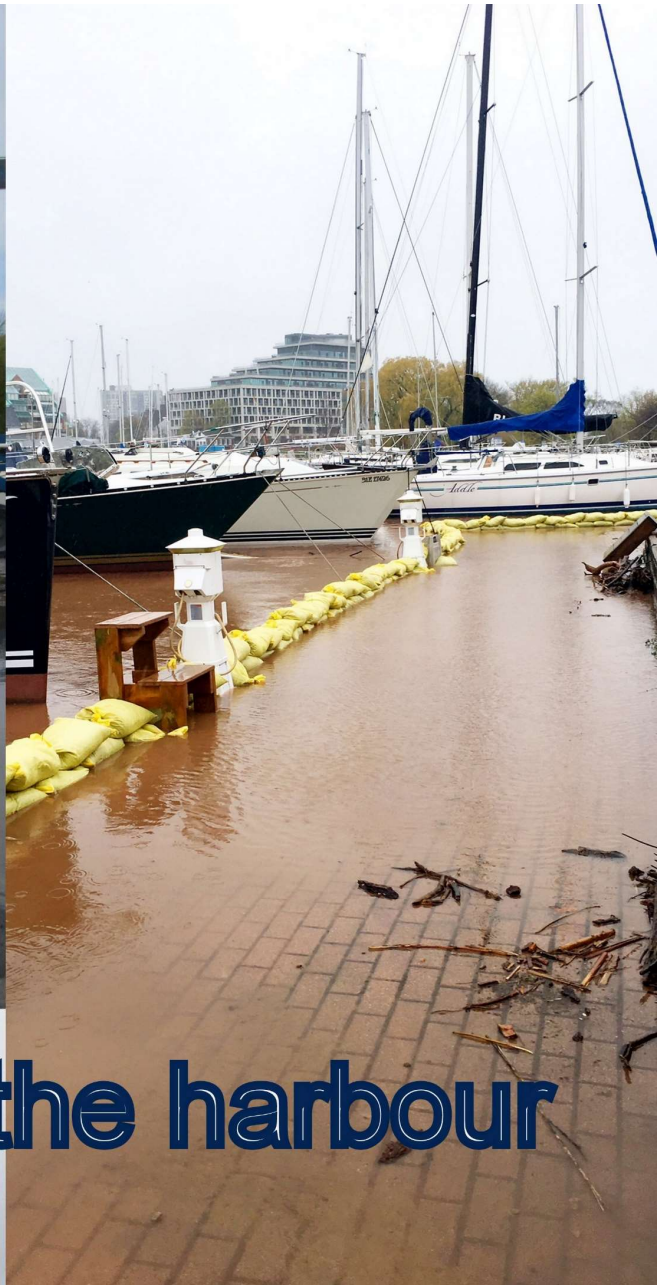
BHYC member Vicki DeKleer started this program in 1978. She made it clear at the beginning that "it was not just a ride on the lake...they have to do work on board" And that's what the VIPs love about the program.

VIP week is enjoyed by over 30 guests and equally as many volunteers. Every year, hard working individuals at the club assist with time and money to fund this event.

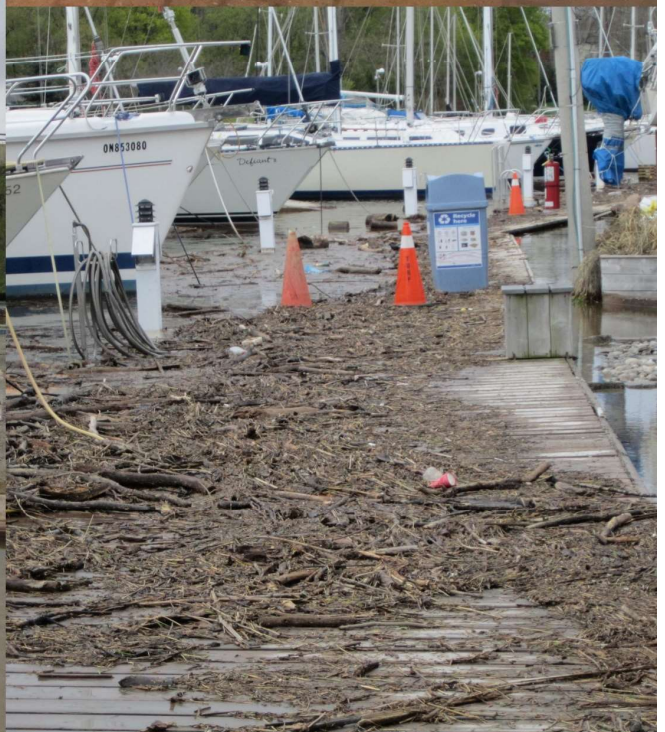
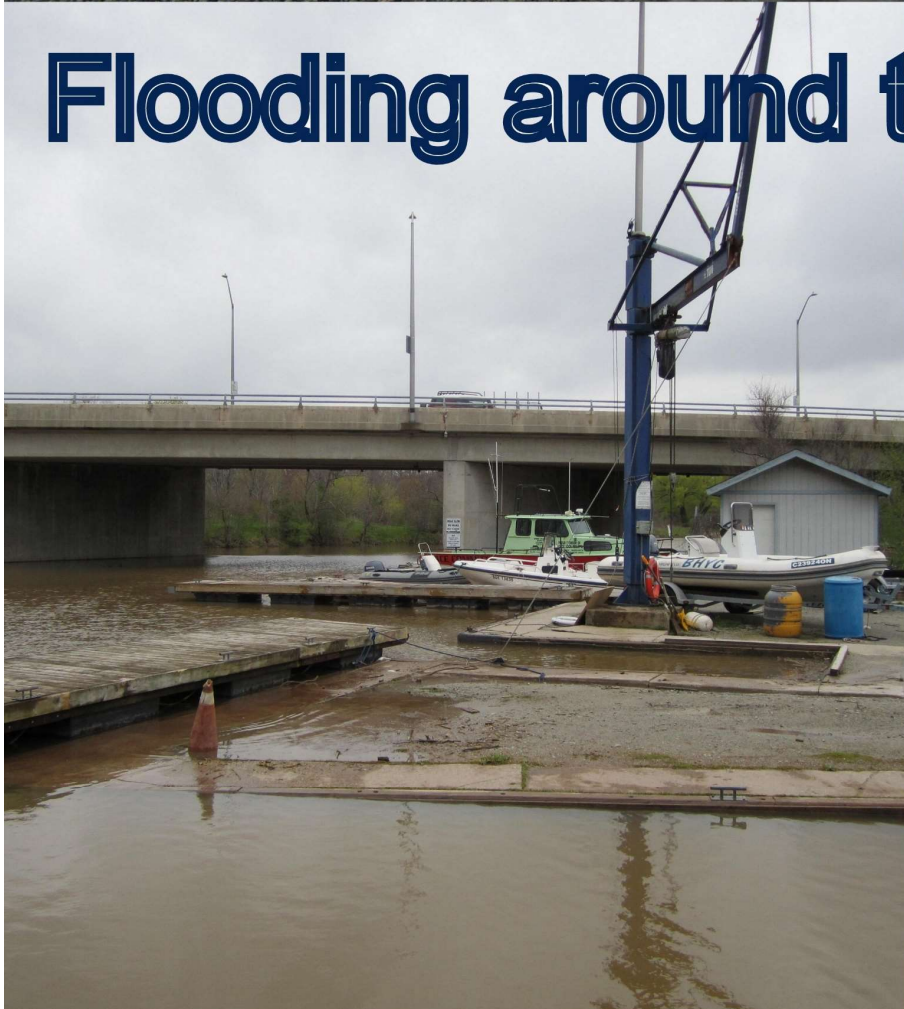
For further information about the

program, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities email vip@bhyc.on.ca





Flooding around the harbour



April 29 7:00 - Ready for Launch



April 29 16:00 - After Launch



May 10 - Flooding in the yard

