

# SIGNAL

BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB



JUNE 2017 NEWSLETTER



Racing Season Begins

# 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](mailto:signal@bhyc.on.ca)

## SIGNAL Advertising

Tony Byrne  
905-847-4495  
[publicity@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:publicity@bhyc.on.ca)

## BHyc Announcements

[announcement@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:announcement@bhyc.on.ca)

## Accounts

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

## Summer Club Hours

Monday	16:00 - 20:00
Tuesday	16:00 - 22:00
Wednesday	16:00 - 20:00
Thursday	16:00 - 22:00
Friday	16:00 - 20:30
Saturday	12:00 - 20:00
Sunday	12:00 - 20:00

[www.bhyc.on.ca](http://www.bhyc.on.ca)

**CLUBHOUSE**  
905-827-6437

## BHyc Board

[board@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:board@bhyc.on.ca)

### Commodore

Richard Bissonnette  
905-827-8782  
[commodore@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:commodore@bhyc.on.ca)

### Vice Commodore

[vicecommodore@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:vicecommodore@bhyc.on.ca)

### Rear Commodore, Sail

Barry Jasper  
905-634-4449  
[rcsail@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:rcsail@bhyc.on.ca)

### Rear Commodore, Power

Ron Parker  
416-315-5122  
[rcpower@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:rcpower@bhyc.on.ca)

### Rear Commodore, Training

Kevin Corcoran  
905-847-0493  
[rctraining@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:rctraining@bhyc.on.ca)

### Treasurer

Stephen Firth  
905-825-5133  
[treasurer@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:treasurer@bhyc.on.ca)

### Secretary

Mary Ellen Bockler  
905-334-3365  
[secretary@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:secretary@bhyc.on.ca)

### Social Director

TBA  
905-xxx-xxxx  
[social@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:social@bhyc.on.ca)

### House Director

TBA  
905-xxx-xxxx  
[house@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:house@bhyc.on.ca)

### Membership Director

Allan Cook  
647-226-8284  
[membership@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:membership@bhyc.on.ca)

### Publicity Director

Tony Byrne  
905-847-4495  
[publicity@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:publicity@bhyc.on.ca)

### Past Commodore

Brian Miller  
905-466-5175  
[pastcomm@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:pastcomm@bhyc.on.ca)

## Natalie Bullard

Sales Representative

*Your Referrals Always Welcome*



5111 New St., Appleby Village  
Burlington, ON L7L 1V2  
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

905-339-9410 Direct  
905-637-1700 Office  
905-637-1070 Fax  
[Natalie@nataliebullardrealtor.com](mailto:Natalie@nataliebullardrealtor.com)



**INTEGRITY & SERVICE are #1**



## BRIDGE YACHTS LTD.

SHIP'S STORE & YACHT BROKERS

Thinking of  
buying or  
selling a  
boat?

*I can help!*

### Russ Perry

[rperry@bridgeyachts.com](mailto:rperry@bridgeyachts.com)  
[www.bridgeyachts.com](http://www.bridgeyachts.com)  
Mobile: 905-512-0417  
Office: 905-304-1648



# K-Weld

Inc.

For all your welding repairs and fabrication of stainless, aluminum and steel. Architectural and custom design. C.W.B. and A.S.M.E. certified. *Call Ed or Dan Klick*  
1167 Pettit Rd. Burlington  
**(905) 336-1434** *or visit us on Tri Me*

### Ronald H Prokop, CIM

Financial Advisor

635 Fourth Line  
Unit #10  
Oakville, ON L6L 5W4  
905-842-4911

[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

Member - Canadian Investor Protection Fund

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



**K.M. Bradley**  
Boat Work

Boat Detailing  
Boat Cleaning  
Boat Waxing  
Canvas Work & Repairs

416 464-3730

[bkeeley-watt@cogeco.ca](mailto:bkeeley-watt@cogeco.ca)

Need help with Spring Boat Chores?  
Call Barbara or visit on Ceilidh

## NEW NAME. SAME GREAT STORE!



**FOGHORN  
BOAT  
SUPPLIES**

Formerly known as THE STORE MASONS

[foghboatsupplies.com](http://foghboatsupplies.com)

Port Credit Harbour Marina | 1 Port Street East  
905.278.7005 • 1.800.263.1506



Proud members of







Gary Carr  
Chair of Halton Region



John Oliver  
MP

# Blessing of the Fleet



Sean O'Meara  
Town & Regional Councillor



## **RICHARD BISSONNETTE   Commodore**

On a sad note, most of you by now must be aware of the passing of Eric Pilon. Eric was not only our Vice Commodore, but a dear friend. I had the privilege and pleasure of working closely with Eric. He was at the source of many improvements made to our club. Eric has set the bar for future Vice Commodores. He will be dearly missed by everyone who had the good fortune of knowing him.

Having gone through a number of seasons where the water was low and the natural silting only made things more challenging, I never thought I would say "we may have a little too much water".

In spite of the situation, we have officially launched the 2017 sailing season with the blessing of the fleet on May 27<sup>th</sup>. This year our own Reverend Alexandra Arden officiated at the ceremony. For those who were not able to attend, the blessing has been reprinted in this issue; well worth the read.

I wish to thank the organizers of the appetizer lunch following the blessing of the fleet and those members who supplied the delicacies. Judging by the comments, perhaps this may be format for consideration going forward.

The Sail Past will be held on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>. More details to be communicated shortly. As always, if you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

*Richard*

[commodore@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:commodore@bhyc.on.ca)

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





# TGIS



Come join us June 10th, warning gun is 3:30,

Race course TBD

Burgers, salad and dessert @

\$10, not limited to racers

Sign up at Bar.

## Pack Your Freezer For the Winter!

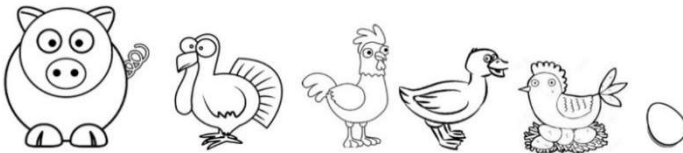
Free range, organic, antibiotic and gmo free chicken available for \$5.50/lb, sizes range from 2-5lbs each. Breasts, thighs, drums and wings now available, vacuumed packed. Contact for pricing.

Pork halves available, \$5.50lb includes butchering. There are 25 varieties of sausage available to choose from! Also have 10lb pork taster box for \$80. There will be other cuts available, contact us for pricing.

Call Sara at 289-242-3462, Jamie at 905-580-5699 or come visit us on Chariot or Escape Pod.

E-mail [lighthouse.stables@gmail.com](mailto:lighthouse.stables@gmail.com)

We also offer horse sales, boarding and farrier services



## Blessing of the Fleet – May 27<sup>th</sup> 2017 – Reverend Alexandra Arden

Good Afternoon Everyone and Welcome, Reverend Gill sends his regrets and regards as he was not able to make it here today. I am very honoured both as a Minister and member of this club to officiate the Blessing of the Fleet.

Although my vision is limited, my instinctive sight has given me the understanding that this Yacht Club is founded on dedication, loyalty, comradery and endurance. A community of stewardship, giving and deep friendships.

In speaking with some of our members, I put forth the question: "Why do you love Sailing? Some responses were: I am one with nature and the elements; When I leave shore, I leave my worries behind; I feel freedom; tranquility and calmness; It is a Labour of Love; I love challenging the wind to get where I want to go; It drives me to my deepest sense of self

When I asked what attributes it requires to be a Sailor, some comments were: Self-confidence; Endurance; Loyalty; Comradery; Team work; Inner strength; Faith; Perseverance; Dedication; Determination

As a community, it is very clear you all share in the passion for this and with it bring support to each other in many ways. A great example is the teamwork involved in launch and haul out. It was quite amazing for myself to stand on the deck with my binoculars and witness that with each boat that was launched or hauled out, it took teamwork to accomplish this. I chatted with people who came to help others or who were here to launch or haul out someone else's boat because that sailor could not be present.

As the club has faced this difficult spring season of high waters from the flooding, I have listened to the stories of how people have supported each other and helped each other through it. Giving notice that although the club has had to endure this hardship, there is so much more suffering from the floods for people around our city and province who have had their homes flooded and lost so much more. We have much to be grateful for.

Another great example is the 40 years of dedication pertaining to the VIP week. Even now facing the challenge of the high waters, the committee has Worked earnestly to devise a solution in in order to proceed. Definitely a testament of dedication and endurance.

Let us now begin our blessing: Loving Creator, we thank you for BHYC, its members, and for the bountiful waters of Lake Ontario. We remember those members of our club that are no longer with us but in their legacy, continue to bring us joy. We hold those members dear to our hearts that are unable to be here today and pray for their wellness. Thank you for the gift of camaraderie and friendship that continues to be strong at BHYC.

Bless the skippers of these vessels who wish it to be remembered - that on this day , Saturday May 27, 2017, each vessel receive a blessing that she be watched over and that sailors and seamen on the High Seas be protected from this day forward!

May Peace Be With You!

Now in closing I give you a direct quote from one of our seasoned sailors. When asked "what are your thoughts when you are out on the water sailing?" He replied and I quote:

"Oh my God, please save me please save me"!

Thank you



**Mechanical service to Power and Sail, Diesel and Gas**

2508 Lakeshore Road West  
Bronto Harbour  
Oakville Ontario L6L 1H8

**G&B Sports Marine**

**Scott Strang**  
**John Thom**  
**Telephone/Fax: 905-825-0561**

**MERCURY & MERCUISER**  
**VOLVO PENTA**  
**YANMAR SALES & SERVICE**

**Big or small we can handle them all, from major refit to small gelcoat repairs.**

**See us first.**  
**NORTHSHORE**  
**BOATWORKS LTD**

Contact Jim Pollock or Peter Southall. We're in the Oakville Harbours building.  
2508 Lakeshore Rd. West, Oakville, Ontario L6L 1H8 905 825 BOAT (2628)  
[www.northshoreboatworks.com](http://www.northshoreboatworks.com) **Email:** [jim@northshoreboatworks.com](mailto:jim@northshoreboatworks.com)

## **Freelton Antique Mall**

Over 200 vendors offering a unique selection of china, glassware, collectibles, furniture, art, primitives and nostalgia

**7 Days A Week Year Round**  
**Plenty Of Free Parking**

11am-5pm Weekdays  
10am-6pm Weekends



**248 FREELTON RD.**  
in the Village of Freelton off Hwy #6 N  
between Hamilton and Guelph

**905-659-0948**

[www.freeltonantiquemall.com](http://www.freeltonantiquemall.com)





## **Obituary for Eric Leonard Pilon**

### **(Edited for Bronte Harbour Yacht Club Members)**

PILON, Eric Leonard (Dip. B.A., BA, CPA, CMA) Passed away with his family at his side at The Carpenter Hospice, Burlington on Sunday, May 28, 2017, at the age of 72.

Beloved husband for 47 years of Fran Pilon, Loved father of Brad (Heather) and Chris (Kristen). Cherished grandfather of Brier, Ro, Easton and Quinn. Dear brother of Brian (Sandy), David, Alan (Margaret) and Eileen Kortwright (Kristopher).

Growing up in Guelph Ontario, Eric was very active in sports, receiving a hockey scholarship to attend University of New York at Oswego in 1965. With a background in finance and accounting Eric spent the majority of his working career in transit operations at HSR and as Director of Transit for the Town of Oakville

A Burlington resident for 40 years, Eric participated in the community coaching children's hockey, touch football, teaching Karate and women's self-defence. He played Old Timer's Hockey and was a member of the Cedar Springs Ski Club. Eric was member of the Burlington Public Library board serving as chair from 1988-90.

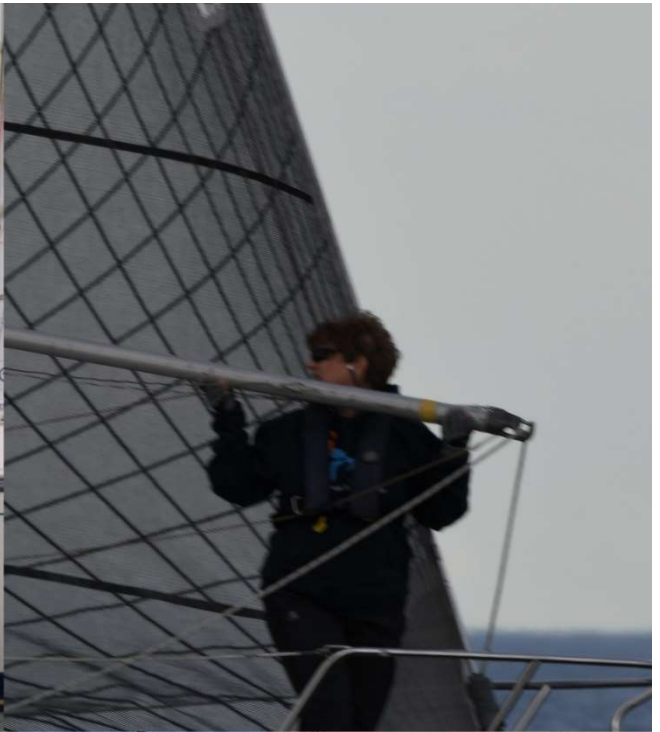
Eric was an active member of BHYC for 15 years as an avid racer and heavily engaged in running the Visually Impaired Program. For the last 2 years, Eric served as Vice-Commodore and was responsible for a number of initiatives to improve the quality of a membership at BHYC.

Eric had been very active in the VIP program for many years and his commitment and the earned respect from the participants in the program resulted in some participants submitting BHYC for a 2017 Community Spirit Award.

In his relatively short time as Vice Commodore, Eric has took control of a number of projects to improve the overall conditions of the premises – working with Town to control water in our parking lot which migrated into our entrance, coordinated our Trillium Grant Application, got the building painted, ensured that the yard was clean and safe to name a few. Eric has set the bar high for the Vice Commodore position.

Sailing and family were what brought joy to Eric's life. The time he spent on the water or playing with his grandchildren was when he was happiest. Eric has finally "sailed beyond the reef". Private Cremation has taken place. For those who wish, donations in memory of Eric to The Carpenter Hospice or The Juravinski Cancer Centre Foundation would be sincerely appreciated by the family.





**Racing begins!**





**SEPTEMBER 2ND-3RD 2017**

**BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB**

**[WWW.BRONTEROCKS.COM](http://WWW.BRONTEROCKS.COM)**

## **BARRY JASPER   Rear Commodore Sail**

As I am writing this on the first day of June; the sun is out, there is a 10 knot breeze from the North West gently kissing the lake, and it hasn't rained for 24 hours. Hopefully this is a good omen.....

**Racing Update:** Racing resumed on June first, courtesy of Dave Smith and One Design Academy, who generously offered the services of their committee boat and driver, till Bluewater was operational. Many, many thanks.....

**Bluewater Update:** Thanks to all those who sleuthed sources for old propellers. We found impellers in three locations, the RCSail, Ron Parker and Jayson Stansfield, should have the committee boat, operational next week. Many thanks also to Drew Thompson, who checked out the cannon for us, we have a huge wealth of talent, among the club membership.

**Dry Sailors:** A three-pronged action plan, was developed at the Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

1. The dry sailors will operate as a team on race nights, to launch and retrieve boat.
2. The club will purchase a manual chain fall, for use till the power can be safely returned to the electric hoist, and keep this hoist in storage, as a back-up, for any future hiccups with the crane....
3. Brian Miller, the acting Vice Commodore, is supervising the delineation of the ramps and launch basin, initially with sand bags, and hopefully eventually with higher platforms. Thanks to Cam Watt and all the volunteers who helped with this project.

**Blessing Of The Fleet:** With three, yes three, local dignitaries on hand from three levels of government the blessing was a day of surprises and celebration. All our visitors voiced high praise for the club's contribution to the local and larger communities. There was a wealth of culinary creations on hand for a great lunch, but the highlight of the morning was the blessing, which was delivered eloquently by our own Rev Alexandra Arden, great job. Many thanks are due also to Mary Ellen, who organised all the invitations, Dawn and Don who marshalled all the grub, and everyone who contributed and participated.

**Sailpast:** Which is normally the same day, is scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup>, to give everyone more time to get their boats ready, and to develop strategies to safely pick up and drop off passengers, while the tide is still high. Skippers meeting at noon, sailpast at 14.00, Stephen has generously organised a BBQ Chicken Supper, and will be looking for volunteers to help with that part of the celebration. Time to get your bunting ready.

### **Some Good News- First TGIS**

Under the leadership of Mike Mills the first TGIS of 2017 is scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup>, first gun is 3.30, see Mike's notice for post race supper details. Everyone, Absolutely Everyone, Is Welcome.

### **Some More Good News- First Regatta.**

Get your crew ready for the Lady Helm Championship, and the Crew's Chance Championship, both on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Some More Really Good News – GHYRA**

Despite the prediction, that both the Oakville harbours would be unable to participate. The GHYRA committee has brainstormed a plan, and the regatta will proceed with a revised route. They are going ahead with both the 3 day and 6 day regattas, and are busy rejigging the sailing instructions, the venues, the meals, the entertainment, the prizes. See the GHYRA Facebook page for all the details, at this time there is room for three more entrants. Many thanks to the Bronte GHYRA night committee, under the leadership of Chris Burcher, for all the work that this involves.

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 12<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:vip@bhyc.on.ca)



THE OAKVILLE BEAVER

JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> 1977



## ***Bronte Yacht Club***

The Bronte Harbour Yacht Club officially opened its sailing season last week, with the annual sail past of members. Taking the salute

is Club Commodore Chuck Brady (left) and Vice Commodore Noel Almond.

*Photo by Tim Chevrier*







## **International Lake Ontario - St. Lawrence River Board**

The following report has been taken from the International Lake Ontario-St Lawrence River board weekly report at <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalLakeOntarioStLawrenceRiverBoard> (English),

### **High outflows keep water levels stable 2017/06/02**

At its weekly conference call, the International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board decided to maintain the outflow from Lake Ontario at 10,200 m<sup>3</sup>/s (360,200 cfs) for at least another week to address high water levels and associated impacts throughout the system.

Water levels downstream on the St. Lawrence River near Montreal remain at nearly the same high levels seen since early May. Despite more heavy rain last week, the water level of Lake Ontario has remained relatively stable and continues to be within a couple of centimetres (1 inch) of its level two weeks ago.

The current outflow is equivalent to the historic maximum weekly average outflow from Lake Ontario which occurred in just two weeks previously, once each during the high-water years of 1993 and 1998. The Board has been maximizing the outflows from Lake Ontario in consideration of balancing water levels upstream and downstream to minimize flood and erosion impacts to the extent possible. The Board is also considering options that would allow it to increase the outflow further, once downstream conditions permit.

Following the wet conditions in April and record rainfall during the first weeks of May, it has been generally drier across the Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River basin. If these drier conditions continue, Lake Ontario outflows are expected to soon surpass inflows, at which time Lake Ontario's water level will begin to decline. However, owing to the huge surface area and large volume of water on Lake Ontario, it will take several weeks to significantly reduce levels, and longer to return to the average water level for the time of year. The Board therefore advises continued caution, especially when onshore winds are predicted, as high water levels will persist for the weeks to come.

On 1 June 2017, Lake Ontario was 75.87 m (248.9 ft), 82 cm (32.3 inches) above its long-term average level for this time of year. The level at Lake St. Lawrence was about 28 cm (11.0 inches) above average, while the level at Lake St. Louis was about 22.49 m (73.8 ft), 108 cm (42.5 inches) above average. At Montreal Harbour, the level was 141 cm (55.5 inches) above average. Downstream, the flooding which has caused evacuations around Lake St. Peter is prolonged.

The Board continues to monitor the system and will confer again on 5 June 2017. Outflow changes, photos, and graphs are posted to the Board's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalLakeOntarioStLawrenceRiverBoard> (English), and more detailed information is available on its website at [http://ijc.org/en/\\_islrbc](http://ijc.org/en/_islrbc).



**Flooding around the club**

