

SIGNAL

BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB



AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER



Easter Seal Regatta

photo by Grad Dewer

SIGNAL

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

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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
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Easter Seals 2017



photos by Grad Dewer

RICHARD BISSONNETTE Commodore

Things are slowly returning to some normalcy, unfortunately a little late in the season. But there 3 months left before Haul Out.

On the subject of Haul Out, the good news we will be maintaining the same rates as 2016 provided full payment is received by September 17th. The bad news after September 17th rates go up by 5% - more to come later.

We are expecting a few more boats to store at the club. To assist us with the planning and lay out; it would be appreciated if you would confirm your intentions as soon as possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those members who contributed, in these challenging situations, weather and water levels, to keep our club activities such as racing, TGIS family race, and cruising ticking along.

I would also like to thank the sailing school staff for keeping the yard orderly and the club clean. The later a real challenge when dealing with bunch of kids rigging boats in a muddy yard. It was quite a surprise when I stopped by the club one day and noticed a bunch of shoes on the balcony; that was the way the mud was kept outside.

Well done everyone.

As you all know this year the club was managed by a reduced board – 7 positions filled out of 12. Unfortunately, this impacted some our traditional activities. Speaking from experience, we need a complete board of active directors for 2018 to maintain the value of a BHYC membership.

If anyone is considering joining the board, please contact any member of the Nomination Committee or if you wish more information on board responsibilities feel free to contact me.

BHYC needs you.

I am pleased to report that club burgees will be available shortly. Our burgees are Made in Canada, more precisely in Ontario.

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

Richard

commodore@bhyc.on.ca

Pack Your Freezer For the Winter!

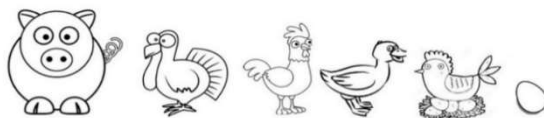
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GHYRA Regatta 2017



DON HARKNESS Cruising Director

The 2017 cruising season looked promising with 5 cruises on the schedule and a couple of others in the works. You know what they say about the best laid plans...

We got off to a great start with a well-attended pot luck dinner on April 22nd where we reviewed the seasons planned activities and distributed burgees to participants of the 2016 season. One week to launch and spirits were high.

And the waters kept rising!

First casualty of the season was the May 20th cruise to Macassa Bay Yacht Club was cancelled due to flooding. My fall back plan included a reservation at Fifty Point Marina which was also cancelled. Plan C was a pot luck dinner at the club which turned out to be a lot of fun.

Next up was a cruise to Lakeshore Yacht Club scheduled for June 25th. Unfortunately high water forced the cancellation by LYC .

We finally had our first official sailing cruise the weekend of July 15th to Newport Yacht Club. And what a cruise it was. We had 11 boats sail/motor over and a number of members join us by car. In total, we had about 40 BHYC guests gather for appetizers and stay for a delicious dinner provided by NYC members. The evening was capped off by dancing to the live music of the NYC member band *Now and Then*. Our own David Johannesson joined the band for a few songs. A special thanks to Nigel and Sue Reed for all of their hard work in making this weekend such a success.

Two weeks later, 6 boats sailed to Etobicoke Yacht Club where we were joined by land by another 10 BHYC guests. We took full advantage of the BBQ facilities offered by EYC and had a fantastic pot luck dinner (note the eating theme throughout) followed by a very competitive and entertaining Chinese Auction. Joan Spares did a fantastic job of organizing this cruise.

Once again high waters have not been our friend forcing the cancellation of the cruise to Ashbridges Bay Yacht Club scheduled for the August long weekend. Instead I have been encouraging cruisers to come out and support the TGIS race (and dinner of course) schedule for August 5th.

If anyone has any suggestions for cruising activities in August that don't involve visiting flooded yacht clubs give me a shout and we will see what we can do.

Don Harkness

cruising@bhyc.on.ca

RON PARKER Rear Commodore Power

OFFICER OF THE DAY

As you all may be aware, due to elevated water levels, our club, like most, has been closed to visiting boats. Up until now, we have postponed the Officer of the Day (OOD) volunteer program.

With water levels receding, although the club has not officially been re-opened to cruisers, we are asking for volunteers to sign up to be OOD for the August weekends. This is a great way to earn work party hours.

Days are split into 4 hour sections. You can sign up for as many as you like. With **Cam Watt's** help, sign-up is now available on our website. All you need including dates and times can be found under the "Cruising" section.

I encourage everyone to fill up these dates quickly. We don't want to make this a "Voluntold" program.

The OOD kit is located behind the bar. If anyone needs prior orientation please email me.

RON PARKER

rcpower@bhyc.on.ca



SEPTEMBER 2ND-3RD 2017

BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB

WWW.BRONTEROCKS.COM

2017 Bronte Rocks Regatta

September 02 & 03, 2017

Presented by **MARSH CANADA & HARBOUR WEST MARINA**

Sponsorship This year we are fortunate to have two Title Sponsors – Marsh Canada and Harbour West Marine. We are always grateful to those individuals and companies who have supported us - look for a listing of their names on our Rocks website and be sure to support them in turn!

There is also an opportunity for you, our club members, to sponsor our regatta as well. Monetary donations can be made by cash or cheque to BHYC – indicating Bronte Rocks Regatta. If you have items you would like to donate to our Silent Auction or Raffle, please contact one of the committee members. Your contributions will be acknowledged in the Signal and will help make Rocks the premiere event it has always been.

Registration We're off to a great start this year with skippers taking advantage of the early registration. We have over 20 boats registered so far! Please spread the word to your fellow boaters, both here and at other clubs. Follow the link from the club website under "Racing" to register and for the latest updates.

Volunteers Need work party hours – then we need you!! If you're not racing, or even if you are, this is a great way to get in your hours and help support your club as well. Sign-up sheets will be posted soon on the notice board by the front door.

For the latest Rocks updates, watch the club website over the next month. Say a few prayers to the weather gods for sunny days and great winds. See you on the water and at the party!

The 2017 Bronte Rocks Committee – Mariela Carvallo, Barb Dermott, Jamie MacCorkindale, Dan Klick, Cam Watt, John Estey, Amy Pedersen, Mike Paulson, Mark Hellmann, Jim Pollock, Barry Jasper

From the Nominating Committee On the July 25th, an email was sent by the Nominating Committee to each member in every membership category. That email explained the hardship that this year's Directors had to deal with. The inability to fill Board positions this past year required all of the current Directors to perform extra duties and spend additional time over and above the time they put in to do their own job. It is not repeatable. Our by-laws require a minimum 10 Directors which was not met this past year.

In addition to this, everyone should certainly be aware that the Club has lost money for at least the last 5 years, if not longer. The current Board has managed to stem the flow but no reasonable member should think that the Club can continue to function this way. There is no bottomless pit of cash for the Club to draw on.

Despite all of the above, and what should be considered by everyone to be a dire situation, the Nominating Committee received a total of 3 responses to the July 25th email. One member has agreed to stand for Membership. The other 2 replies were from new members who, according to our by-laws, cannot sit on the Board of Directors.

The lack of responses for a call to serve the Club and its members is a damning indictment of the apparent apathy among our membership. Either the membership does not understand our current situation or, the overwhelming majority simply don't care.

The Nominating Committee is not just looking for warm bodies to sit on the Board. Nothing could be worse than feeling shamed to serve. We are looking for members who have a vision of BHYC being a healthy viable club for many years to come. Time for the membership to wake up to reality.

Again, we are looking for people passionate about our Club to fill the following positions; Commodore, Vice Commodore, Treasurer, RC Training, House, Social, and Publicity. If you would be willing to serve, and are passionate about the Club please contact any one of the following members of the Nominating Committee. Our future depends on it.

Past Commodore Brian Miller (bmiller@millergardiner.com); Jim Pollock(jimepollock@gmail.com); Dan Klick (dan@kweld.com); Pat Jeffrey (patrickjeffrey@hotmail.com)

BARRY JASPER Rear Commodore Sail

Well we have survived the flooding, and the poor weather conditions, and racing is underway, and the waters are receding, pretty good job, considering that the Ark is far from finished, and setting up a marshaling area for all those animals, contravened a multitude of by-law.

Seriously, many thanks to everyone who pitched in to ensure that the race programme got underway; and that the problems with Bluewater, and the dry sail facility, were overcome.

Not only did racing get underway, but the cruising community, who found themselves unfriended by many of their traditional destinations; celebrated at sail-past and joined in for a hugely successful TGIS race and supper, and for the Lady Helm and Crews Chance championship in June.

Many of them have been doing a great job on the race committee, but there is room for more folks to participate there, if you want to be on the water, with good people, good fellowship, the more than occasional challenge, but minimal financial outlay, please sign up now. Thanks to the enthusiasm of many volunteers we have bolstered the number of Race officers, but if you can be an assistant or a recorder, we need you.

In July, club racing continued in earnest, and there was a super successful Easter Seals Regatta thanks to the efforts of Natalie and the Bronte race committee, an overnight race, a cruise to Newport, another to Etobicoke, and another TGIS, not so well attended due to the poor conditions.

Some of you ventured out during July to participate in the GHYRA regatta week, in the Lake Ontario 300, the PCYC regatta, and the Can-Am challenge at Youngstown, good to see Bronte boats following in the long standing club traditions.

Now we find ourselves into August, the Tuesday -Thursday club races are wrapping up and the Fall race series is starting. Again, Mike Mills and his TGIF crew are first out of the gate with another TGIS, August 5th, first gun 3.30; many thanks to these volunteers, and to Stephen and Dan working their magic in the kitchen.

If you waited till August to start participating, the season is short, and slips away fast, it is time to dive in quick and enjoy the best that Lake Ontario has to offer.

Notices of race, sailing instructions, results and on-line registration for club events are posted in the chart, under the "schedule" tab, on the website, the week prior to the event. Dates and times for all events, from now till December, are all on the website calendar, and are updated regularly thanks to Cam and Jamie.

Thanks also to the Bronte Rocks committee, whose huge efforts over the past months, are coming together, to put on the Premier Regatta in this corner of the lake, don't forget to set aside Labour Day weekend on your calendar. If you are racing, the early bird registration rate on Yacht Scoring has been extended for one week, to allow PayPal to catch it's breath. If you are looking to help out, please add your name to the list of volunteers, we need all the help we can muster for BRONTE ROCKS

We wish you all fair seas and following winds if you venture out to cruise this month, and we wish luck to the Bronte boats, who will be participating in the OYC regatta, the OC regatta, and at Peaches n' PHRF at Newport. If you are out and about, don't forget to take some Rocks posters with you, and talk up the regatta, at the clubs that you visit. You are our best advertising resource, and be back to participate in BRONTE ROCKS.

Barry

racsail@bhyc.on.ca

International Lake Ontario - St. Lawrence River Board

Board Continues to Maximize Outflows as Lake Ontario Falls Quickly August 4 2017

Lake Ontario levels have been dropping rapidly compared to average rates through the months of June and July. The Board has been releasing the unprecedented outflow of 10,400 m³/s (367,300 cfs) since 14 June and, despite wet conditions, Lake Ontario levels have fallen 30 cm (12 in.) since peaking in late May. Lake Ontario levels remain above the IJC's high level threshold and the Board will continue releasing high outflows with the intent to provide all possible relief to Lake Ontario shoreline riparian interests, while balancing the impacts on other affected stakeholders on the St. Lawrence River.

The Board met on 1 August 2017 to assess current and forecast hydrologic conditions. Total inflows to Lake Ontario have remained very high for this time of year, as have Ottawa River flows into the St. Lawrence River. Levels of Lake St. Louis (near Montreal) set a new record high for the month of July and remain close to record levels for this time of year. Since water levels on Lake St. Lawrence decrease with higher outflow from Lake Ontario, the unprecedented outflow from the Moses-Saunders Dam have resulted in well below average levels on Lake St. Lawrence. Furthermore, as water levels on Lake Ontario decline and the outflow remains at 10,400 m³/s, velocities in the upper St. Lawrence river will increase resulting in hazardous conditions for shippers and recreational boaters.

Given these conditions, the Board discussed current and future outflows from Lake Ontario. The Board understands that high water levels and high outflows continue to impact the public and businesses on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Currently the impacts of falling levels and increasing current velocities in Lake St. Lawrence and the St. Lawrence River are increasing as Lake Ontario levels drop. In the interest of providing all possible relief to riparian owners, while balancing the safety risks associated with increased current velocities, outflows from Lake Ontario will need to be gradually reduced in the near future.

The Board, in consideration of impacts to public water uses, riparian landowners and businesses, commercial shipping and recreational boating will maintain the current record outflow of 10,400 m³/s (367,300 cfs) until 8 August, providing conditions remain safe. However to maintain safe conditions in the system, the outflow is expected to be reduced to 9,910 m³/s (349,970 cfs) on or before 8 August. This new outflow will be a record high for that time of year to provide all possible relief from high water levels in Lake Ontario while balancing the impacts downstream. Water levels are expected to continue to decline rapidly into the fall throughout the system, and outflows from Lake Ontario will remain high. The Board, in conjunction with its staff, continues to monitor and reassess conditions on an ongoing basis.

Information on hydrologic conditions, water levels and outflows, including graphics and photos, are posted to the Board's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalLakeOntarioStLawrenceRiverBoard> (English), and additional information is available on its website at http://ijc.org/en_/islrb.

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Derrick Beach: (905) 336-4714; Derrick.Beach@Canada.ca

Arun Heer: (513) 684-6202; Arun.K.Heer@usace.army.mil

DAYNA HELLMANN - Head Instructor

Bronte's race teams have been off to a great start this season. With one month under their belts, they have competed at Sarnia's Failfest, Hamilton's Fogh Boorman regatta as well as Port Credit's Steerer's and Four Sisters regattas.

A member from each race team has had a podium finish this summer! Our 29er, helmed by Nathan Corcoran and crewed by Connor Bey, achieved straight bullets to win Steerer's youth Regatta. Our Opti Sailor Oliver Hume also podiumed to take third place in White Fleet at both Port Credit regattas. Laser sailor Hayden took second place at Steerers only days after returning from the Laser class.

Our racers have a week off from their busy regatta schedule to rest and train before they leave for Kingston. Our teams will be participating in CORK and Laser Canadians. We are wishing them the best of luck!

If you have any questions you can email at registration@bhyc.on.ca

Dayna

KEVIN CORCORAN - RC Training

Half Way There!

We are halfway through our Learn To Sail sessions and things have not been better! Mother nature has been kind to us with the water receding and many sailable days for our young and first time sailors. Many of our programs have been sold out but there are still some spots available for our last session beginning August 14th. Because there are some spots available, we can offer a 15% discount to extended family and friends of members. Please email me at rctraining@bhyc.on.ca to obtain a coupon code to register online.

As you might have noticed, we have added a new family member to our ageing fleet. We had to place one of our coach boats out of service due to the inability to repair the inflatable tubes on it. With a \$4000 grant from Sport Oakville and a \$5000 private donation from one of our junior racing parents, we were able to place a significant deposit on a 4 year lease with CO2 inflatables and Lockwood Leasing which in four years we will take possession of it outright. This way of acquiring new boats is not new and is the best way to keep our program safely running. That being said, we have taken full possession of the last two Highfield Boats in the yard that we began to lease 4 years ago. Those lease payments are complete and we were able to buy them out for \$1.13!

I would like to thank those members who have been assisting with our Learn to Sail kids and Junior Race Team members in making them feel welcome at the club. For any members who have concerns or questions regarding the programs offered and how they are being run, please don't hesitate to contact me directly. My cell phone number is (905)399-0493. If there are any concerns, please contact me directly!

Our Racers are Still on Top!

Our Junior Race team has taken part in several regattas so far this year. And at every event, we have had podium finishes! GO BHYC TEAM! Our next events take place in Kingston for CORK and Nova Scotia for Youth Nationals at St Margarets Bay Yacht Club. Wish us luck!

Kevin



Lilac Regatta Spring 2017

