

# SIGNAL

BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB



JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

*Happy New Year BHYC*



# SIGNAL

is published monthly by the Bronte Harbour Yacht Club.  
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**Bronte Harbour Yacht Club**  
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## Winter Club Hours

Monday	16:00 - 20:00
Tuesday	16:00 - 20:00
Wednesday	16:00 - 20:00
Thursday	16:00 - 20:00
Friday	16:00 - 20:00
Saturday	15:00 - 19:00
Sunday	15:00 - 19:00

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### Past Commodore

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

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## PETER KIRKWOOD Commodore

The first order of business for the newest commodore of Bronte Harbour Yacht Club is to thank the entire 2017 board of directors for their diligence and efforts on behalf of all members. They worked shorthanded throughout the year and they not only got the job done, the work was well done!

Bronte Harbour has been my sailing home since 1971 when my dad put a new Viking 28 called Redhead into the water. That boat was essentially tied up about where Renaissance is moored – the difference being the lack of docks. Dad had to tie up the boat between two tires in the river! Lots of changes since then and I am sure many more changes ahead.

We are going to focus on a few items of business straight away as your new board starts up in 2018.

I think we need to acquire an online pay system to help speed up member payments and enhance cash flow. We also need to accelerate the search for a new committee boat but above all of that we need to put some new members into the club.

I would encourage all members to look at the new roster of directors and reach out to the director that is leading an area that interests you. The real work of the club happens at the committee level and if you want to help make BHYC the best yacht club on Lake Ontario, you can be most effective by working on a committee.

Dad always marked the half way point in the winter by the Toronto Boat Show so we are about to put a good part of the winter away and we have set April 28 as our 2018 Launch date!

Please join us at the Commodore's Punch Bowl on Jan 7 from 2 to 4PM. Please note the punch will be nice refreshments and not a chance to punch the commodore!!! Will be lots of fun and a chance to meet your new board.

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season and best wishes for a wonderful new year.

*Peter*

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

### Fall Freezer Blow Out!

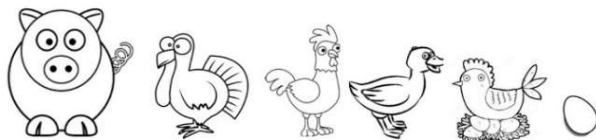
Pork boxes will be on sale for \$50! That's 10lbs of ham, sausage, bacon, roast and other cuts. Great deal to try out our berkshire pork. There are still 11 varieties of sausage to choose from.

Pork halves available, \$5.50lb includes butchering. There are 25 varieties of sausage available to choose from! They are selling quickly, reserve your half now for beginning of November pick up. There are other cuts available, contact us for pricing.

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

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## **RICHARD BISSONNETTE** Past Commodore

First, I wish to congratulate and offer my best wishes to the new board and a special welcome to the new directors. With a complete board of dedicated directors, 2018 will be a great year for BHYC.

In my new responsibilities, I will primarily be working on medium and long-range planning in addition to supporting and sharing my experience with all directors as required.

Once I have completed my plans and receive instructions for specific tasks or projects from the board, I will be reaching out to a number of members for advice and support specific components of the plan.

Anyone interested in participating and wish to contribute to the development of BHYC, please contact me. More to come later.

In closing I wish everyone a Healthy, Happy and Great Sailing 2018

*Richard*

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

## **DON HARKNESS** Treasurer

Happy New Year. The transition of the treasurer responsibilities from Stephen Firth to me has begun. I will be kicking off the budgeting process this month. Recognizing things may change as the new Board gets up to speed this will be an interactive process over the next couple of months.

Many of you have expressed a desire to be able to make payments to the club online. We will be exploring what options are available to make this happen. In the meantime, if you bank with TD Canada Trust you can add Bronte Harbour Yacht Club as a payee and make your payments to the club via the banks online banking platform.

Questions regarding your account can be sent directly to our bookkeeper Phaedra Renaud [bhyc.pr@gmail.com](mailto:bhyc.pr@gmail.com).

*Don*

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



## **JOAN SPARES** Social Director

Sushi Night Returns!!! February 3rd is the date to remember!

This will be our fourth BHYC sushi making (and eating) evening and once again, you will... learn (or review) the steps in making maki; receive ideas for tasty maki combinations; have experts lead you through the tricky parts (like how to roll your maki and not have it fall apart!); have lots of laughs and fun! Plus, you will leave with a handout, your own bamboo mat and a set of chopsticks. Sorry, there is no 1-800 number if you get into trouble at home.

Cost will be approximately \$15 pp; this is based on our last sushi evening. I won't be certain until I have had an opportunity to check some prices. Please wait until you receive a Bluewater announcement for details before signing up!

Social events coming up in the next couple of months will include St. Paddy's Night (on said date) and a cruising potluck (date to be determined)!

P.S. it's not too late to join the Social Committee, if the spirit moves you!

*Joan*

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

## **MIKE PAULSON** Cruising Director

Well, here we are in the midst of this deep freeze up to our eyes in snow!!! (Or almost!)

A lot of members probably have their thoughts on the ski hills rather than on the lake, sailing!

But as our new cruising director, I am thinking of where we will be cruising this summer, it's never too early to start planning. To that purpose, I am currently looking to recruit two or three members to become part of the "Cruising Crew". This would entail assisting the "Cruise Director" in the planning and running of club cruises. If anyone would like to assist, please contact me by email at [cruising@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:cruising@bhyc.on.ca) or call me at 905-825-2545.

Looking forward to some great cruises and events in 2018,

*Mike*

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

## PETER WELLS Rear Commodore of Training

With major guidance from Kevin Corcoran (outgoing RC Training), a new Chief Instructor for the Sailing School, Ally Dandy has been hired. Ally has excellent experience having instructed for several years at BHYC. We are in the process of hiring all the instructors as early as possible as there appears to be a potential for a shortage this coming year. Our cost of wages for our staff will rise significantly because of the increase in the minimum wage to \$14 per hour so we have had to raise the cost of classes by a modest \$25 per session.

Details for the racing program are still being finalized but we are investigating the purchase of another almost new 420 to be able to offer fully competitive boats to our racing team.

We have come to an agreement with Sailing Ontario for the use of Club facilities during April, May and June for Instructor Certification Classes. These will take place mainly on weekends except for the launch and Sail Past weekends and provides significant revenue to the club.

Our on-line registration system for all learn to sail classes is expected to be operational during the week of the 9<sup>th</sup> of January with access through the club web site. In addition, if you would like to give sailing lessons as a very special present, you will soon be able to purchase a gift certificate (which can be for any amount) at the bar. This also should be available during the week of the 9<sup>th</sup> of January. There is an early registration discount of \$50 per session for all classes which ends on 1<sup>st</sup> April so please, if you are planning to register your young sailors for a course or more, get your registration in and take advantage of the discount.

We are investigating the purchase of paddle boards so that we will have some on-water diversions for our students when the wind does not co-operate. Any boarding will be strictly up creek so as not to inconvenience members in the restricted area of the boat moorings.

Although it will be a tough act to follow, I am hoping that we can come close to the excellent results both in terms of the number of students trained and the financial return to the club that the Sailing School achieved last year.

*Peter*

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



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## BARRY JASPER Rear Commodore Sail

Welcome to 2018, trust you made the most of the Christmas celebrations with family and friends; and the white backdrop, which was a refreshing change from previous years.

Welcome also to the Arctic blast, a harsh reminder that we do live north of the 43rd parallel; it will make the temperate breezes of the ice-breaker race set for May 5th, appear even more welcoming than usual.

Thank you everyone who responded to the racing survey, the site is still open, and we continue to welcome comments and suggestions, especially from members that are not part of the regular racing programme.

The sail committee has been busy preparing for the new season, so please go to the BHYC website, click on the toggle squares on the top of the calendar and find all of our races and other major events displayed, right through to awards night in November. It is a good way to take the edge off winter, especially if combined with an open fire and perhaps a "rusty nail" or two. The race committee were treated to a post season supper at the club, I am encouraged that we will have a strong team of volunteers going forward into this year. Many, many thanks to Stephen and Dan for hosting this event.

The Bronte Rocks committee has also met, and established a framework for 2018, based on what worked and what didn't in recent years, they are attempting to add two more folks to assist them during the winter months, to lay a good foundation for this important event. If you have some time you can donate and enjoy a challenge, please contact Mariella Carvallo or myself.

Two other people that will also be busy this month are Peter McDougall who is coordinating the Skippers Nights programme, and Mike Paulson who will be meeting with his Cruising director counterparts at the boat show, to set up reciprocal cruises for this year. I am sure that both these individuals would appreciate, ideas, suggestions and offers of assistance to help set up these important events.....

The GHYRA 8th night party has been set for February 24th, at the Oakville Club. This event was pushed forward to allow for more time for the retiring chairman, communications director, and racing director to recruit replacements for 2018.....

Again best wishes to you and your families, for a successful New Year.

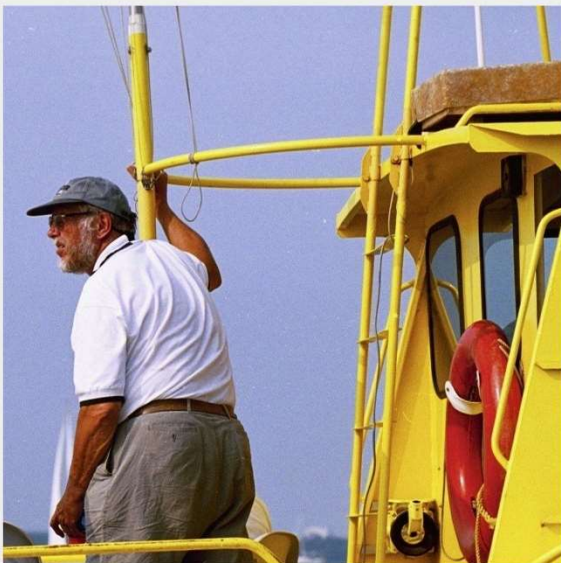
*Barry*

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





*Remembering*  
George Thompson  
1937 - 2017



## OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of our good friend George Thompson on Friday December 1st 2018. George was a Life member of BHYC and served in several board positions including Commodore in 1988 and 1989.

Until his MS became disabling, George and Debby were proud owners of Rip II, a C&C Invader that was the first C&C boat built in fibreglass. He and Debby, his wife who predeceased him in 2003, cruised Lake Ontario on Rip II, and in later years George raced Mermaid's Song a Martin 16 a specially adapted boat.

He was active within his church and the local theatre community. George and Debby staged a number of Mystery Dinner Evenings at the BHYC.

Due to poor health, he was unable to drop in at the club, but he kept up to date with all the activities. He was always available to assist with drafting or reviewing Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions in addition to racing rules interpretation. George was a renowned race officer, and trained many of the BHYC race committee volunteers. He was involved with PHRF-LO from shortly after its inception in 1980 and was a Club Handicapper for more than 3 decades. George was Vice-President of PHRF-LO from 1996 to 1997 and President from 1998 to 2000. His discipline and knowledge of race course management will be his legacy at BHYC.

A Celebration of Life Service will take place at Hopedale Presbyterian Church 156 Third Line, Oakville L6L 3Z8 on January 13th 2018 at 11 am.

Donations can be made in George's name to the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada.

## 2018 BHYC Board

Commodore	Peter Kirkwood
Vice Commodore	Reiner (Ron) Van Der Wagen
Rear Commodore of Sail	Barry Jasper
Rear Commodore of Training	Peter Wells
Rear Commodore of Power	Ron Parker
Treasurer	Don Harkness
Secretary	Mary Ellen Bockler
House Director	Stein Pedersen
Social Director	Joan Spares
Membership Director	Ian Coney
Publicity Director	Barbara Keeley-Watt
Past Commodore	Richard Bissonnette

Each director will be setting up sub-committees to share the various tasks associated with the position. Volunteering for any of these sub-committees is a great opportunity to earn work party credits, but more importantly contribute to the success of our club.

# *A New Year of Friday Happy Hour*

Meeting after work on Friday is a great time to meet with friends and start the weekend happy and relaxed.

Happy Hour on Friday Night has become somewhat of a tradition at BHYC but can only happen if you, as members, volunteer to sponsor, organize, and run an evening.

A signup list has been posted on the bulletin board at the front entrance, or you can email [Secretary@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:Secretary@bhyc.on.ca) and let me know if you would like to organize a night.

Let's have every Friday filled from now until Launch!!

## **REINER VAN DER WAGEN Vice Commodore**

There is no doubt in my mind that the position of Vice Commodore, the post left vacant by Eric Pilon's passing and covered by Brian Miller and Richard Bissonnette until the end of 2017, has left me with a huge pair of shoes to fill.

Going through files has clarified for me what a broad range of issues this position covers, which are issues that need to be addressed on a once-off basis as well as issues that need action on a repetitive basis. I will spend this month taking action on the immediate issues and then go through the reports and files in order to draw up a list of priorities. The aim is to have this list run by and agreed to by the Board by the end of January 2018, so that I can start working on achieving results in February.

A few of our members have already offered their assistance (thank you) and there is no doubt in my mind that I will need the help of as many of the members as are willing to assist me in the execution of my duties. I am of the opinion that the formation of a number of sub-committees will enable us to spread the workload and to complete the work as quickly as possible. Please volunteer to work on these sub-committees as and when they are announced.

I am looking forward to working with the Board and all of you at some point or another in the next two years.

**Reinier**

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

## **January Sailor's Nights at BHYC**

### **January 11**

Ron Barr will be showing a video of the 1979 Fastnet Race tragedy off the coast of England. A vicious storm hit the race and 15 lives were lost. Ron was part of the crew on Evergreen from Hamilton. He will answer questions following the video. Event begins at 19:00.

### **January 25**

Peter McDougall will introduce ice boating as a winter sport for sailors. His DN ice boat will be assembled at the club and anyone can try it out for size and see how it is assembled and operated. He will also have some videos and photos of ice boating on Hamilton Bay. Event begins at 19:00.

Check the online calendar for details of February Sailor's Nights.

**Peter McDougall**

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**BARBARA KEELEY-WATT**  
**Publicity Director**

Happy New Year to everyone and wishing our BHYC members all the best for 2018. It is an honour to be taking over the position of Publicity Director and I look forward to serving on the 2018 board.

My primary focus will be on communication, updating our members, and getting the news out to the community, as to who we are and what our vibrant club is all about. The new BHYC website was launched 12 months ago, and has improved the efficiency of communication with members. Cameron Watt our Website Manager, has been busy over the holidays, making sure the website reflects the new 2018 board, and the transition over to the new board is as seamless as possible.

The 2018 board have now assumed their respective roles and responsibilities, and can be reached using the BHYC email system. Contact information for the Board members can be found on the BHYC website at the link <https://bhyc.on.ca/about/contact-us/> or the inside cover of the Signal newsletter. If you wish to email the Board as a group use [board@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:board@bhyc.on.ca). Please contact the board members via the club email not their personal emails.

The key to good club communication starts with the accuracy of the club information on file - please take a moment to review the details of your email, phone number, and address contact information and forward your latest information to [membership@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:membership@bhyc.on.ca).

The online Calendar can be accessed by all board members, which means that all club activities and social events are updated in real time. Make sure to check the calendar regularly and keep informed on all club events. If you wish to send an announcement to the membership, please forward your draft announcement to [announcement@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:announcement@bhyc.on.ca).

The Signal Newsletter is published monthly and contains articles about club activities, social events, and updates from the board members on various projects. The Signal is posted monthly on the website and through social media, this allows for efficient communication to a very broad audience. Why not consider advertising your business in the Signal, it is a great way to communicate your business service to the membership. Discounted advertising rates are offered to the members. If you have an interesting article you would like to have published, send your article to [signal@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:signal@bhyc.on.ca). Articles should be relevant to BHYC and the membership.

We are working on options for an electronic payment process, finding a workable solution to interconnect the accounting system with the website are a top priority, stay tuned for updates.

Club regalia is another area under the publicity umbrella, I could really use some help with this. Any member who can assist with Regalia please contact me at [publicity@bhyc.on.ca](mailto:publicity@bhyc.on.ca).

There is a lot to do in the publicity area, ideas and suggestions welcome.

Here's to an exciting 2018!

*Barbara*

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

**IAN CONEY**  
**Membership Director**

Happy New Year to all. With the Toronto International Boat Show only a few days away, can spring be far behind? (Maybe don't answer that question just yet).

I am proud to have been given the honour of Membership Director. As a club, we need to grow, and so it will be a heady responsibility to bring new members of all classes into the fold. As I am new at this, please don't hesitate to make suggestions as to how this can be accomplished.

I look forward to serving you!

Cheers,

*Ian*

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

**MARY ELLEN BOCKLER**  
**Secretary**

I am looking forward to the New Year and new Board of Directors. Last year we had a very dedicated Board that stepped up to the plate and kept everything running by taking on more than one job and helping others when needed. Having a full complement for the Board will be a welcome change. Many hands make light work.

As secretary most of my position is behind the scenes, but that doesn't mean I am not doing anything. The first big task of the year will be sending out the reciprocal cards to the other clubs around the lake. My goal is to accomplish this task by the end of February. I will keep you posted on my implementation in the next SIGNAL.

I put a notice in this SIGNAL for Friday Night Happy Hour looking for volunteers. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the front entrance.

*Mary Ellen*

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



## *It's Back!*

*Come and join the BHVC Games Night*

*Every other Thursday*

*November to March*

*Check the BHVC website calendar for dates*  
*7pm*

*please bring:*

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