

Windjammer

2016

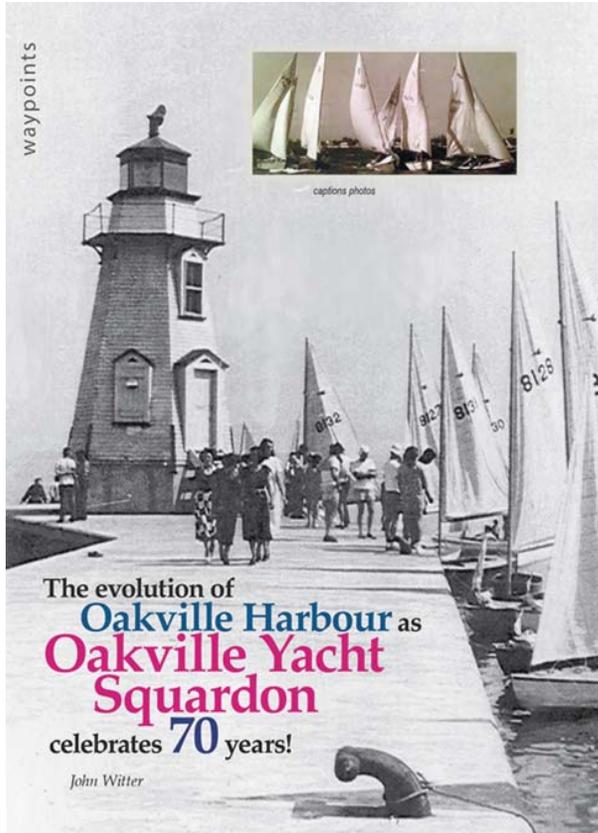
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Commodore

Wow, summer is finally here and the favorable spring breezes are still blowing. It's great to see so many members getting their boats out to enjoy the fair weather. Is it just me or does OYS have a super exciting vibe this season? We are blessed with many ambitious new members, strong racing fleets to fueling the competitive fire, and excellent turn out for our social programs. While it took a little longer to get things going, your hard work and patience is really paying off. I want extend a huge Thank You to Bill Frenke and Al Parkhill for all their efforts to commission our new Crane and complete the south wall retrofits in time for launch. Bill spearheaded this project from beginning, working through many issues to get it done on time and fully paid for by the Town of Oakville. Great work Guys!



Our social programs have launched us into the season. The Commodore's Ball, organized by Charlotte and Pierre Perrenoud was amazing. I really enjoyed seeing everyone in costume for this retro party. Many thanks to all for joining Erika and I in celebration of our 70th anniversary. A special shout for our friends at the OPBC who graciously hosted our party.

If the Ball was a Blast then Sailpast was a Sensational Splash - A picture perfect day in every way.

Much Aude to the organizing committee lead by Muna Lallas for all their efforts to plan and execute a fantastic party. It was a real treat to watch the OYS fleet glide by in such beautiful harmony, a powerful example of the path we forge on the water and in the community.



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Our event calendar is jam packed through the summer and I encourage everyone to participate. We are hosting the annual Easter Seals Regatta on July 16th. This is always a fabulous time raising funds for an important cause. Bring your friends and family to enjoy the fun and share the food. OYS will also be holding a community Open House on July 23rd as part of the Get Out on the Water festivities. This is an opportunity for interested folks to see what we are all about and to try sailing. The fun continues as we roll into August with an ambitious agenda for the OYS Regatta scheduled for August 5-7th. Both one design fleets and PRF racing will be available to meet the needs of all. For those who are eager to get away, we also have cruises planned most every weekend. Check the calendar so you don't miss the sign-up dates.

Finally, I want to Congratulate Lee Parkhill and extend our Best Wishes as he prepares to represent Canada in the laser fleet at the Rio Olympics. Lee is a rare breed of champion who is always there to support the young sailors finding ways to give back to the sport. Now it is our chance to support Lee as he Goes for Gold in Rio.

Way to go Lee!

Rich O'Hare | Commodore



Vice Commodore

I had the opportunity this past spring to meet with the Commodores of many sailing clubs around the lake and discovered that we all have similar issues to deal with. Many clubs are experiencing volunteer burn out as club events get harder to staff with volunteers. I always thought OYS was different in this respect but lately we too are having trouble with volunteer sign up for club events. Come on members, let's step up and show our club the commitment and enthusiasm it deserves.

With declining membership and difficulty attracting new sailors, some clubs have opted to allow paddleboards, kayaks and canoes. This also solves the problem of not enough slips. I was told by one club Commodore that their sailpast included a flotilla of paddleboarders this year! OYS may want to consider this option as it would attract new younger members.

Public access to the waterfront is front and center with town councils around the GTA. Oakville is not unique in this respect. How to manage the club "footprint" and the desire for more public access is the ongoing issue of lease renewals. How best to accommodate the needs of clubs for privacy and security balanced with more openness is a challenge we cannot ignore.

Facilities renewal is another topic around the clubs. Mimico Cruising club has had to upgrade their electrical installations to the docks at an enormous cost; upwards of \$5000.00 per slip. Here at OYS our club house and sailing school buildings are showing their age and will need work as well. Fortunately our dock electrical systems are up to standard.

One thing is certain ; changes are coming but we will endeavour to continue our commitment to members and the community at large, to be the sailing centre of excellence and the best and most accessible sailing club on the lake.

Pierre Perrenoud

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Rear Commodore

Club events and activities that have my imprint on them have multiplied, and I have to say, that no matter the task, working together with our club members is really enjoyable. I am seeing a genuine concern for the Club and it's members and protecting the great position we occupy.

This speaks to many I have heard say that 'OYS is very special because it works extremely well as a Volunteer based Club. I don't think I have seen another like it'. This was pulled from a speech I heard not very long ago on our own grounds, so I am thanking Mr. Flynn for those words.

So the volunteer and community spirit is what I am calling upon in the Windjammer and encourage you all to participate in the many events we have on the go. You all know that you need not be on the water to participate in the Regatta (although I highly recommend it), and you need not buy an item at an Auction to make the event wonderfully successful (although I highly recommend it), or you do not have to be part of a negotiating committee to help our Club's long term outcome (which I may not so highly recommend, whew!)

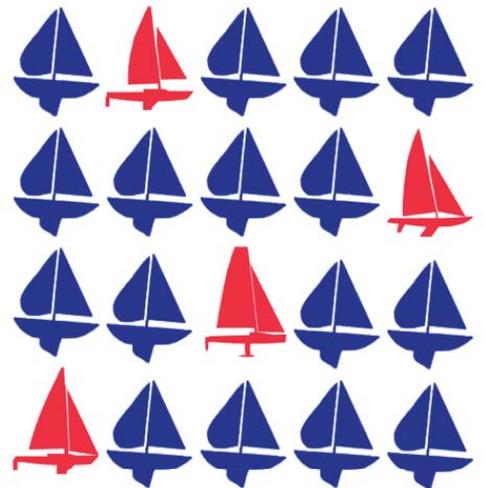
Go to the Club's volunteer page and sign up; like watering your own garden, it will be a good thing for you and all of us

And above all it is about sailing, go racing and go cruising, 'cause that is what we are all here for!

Andre Beese

O A K V I L L E
Y A C H T S Q U A D R O N
R E G A T T A 2 0 1 6

AUGUST 5th - 7th 2016



register at www.yachtscoring.com



House

After a long winter we are preparing for a busy summer. A big "THANK YOU!!" to Edith Sandford for continuing in the House Director role until my retirement April 30. It's going to be hard to fill Edith's accomplished shoes but I have Karen's experience to help me. The "40's" theme for this year's Commodore's Ball was a great success. The 40's decade was chosen to commemorate the club's 70th anniversary. A lovely, catered dinner and dance were enjoyed by all attendees.

The first TGIF on Friday May 27 was a resounding success with club members catching up with one another after a long winter away. The "House" team is putting out a call for volunteers to host a TGIF throughout the summer. We help with shopping and set up. If you would like to volunteer please contact Charlotte Perrenoud or Karen Wykes.

We had Tim Godfrey entertaining us with his music on July 8 TGIF evening. Tim provided the music at Sailpast. Other dates will be advertised in the "From the Docks" weekly newsletter so stay tuned...

As the racing season ramps up we are once again offering burgers on Wednesday and sausages on Thursday evenings.

A reminder to all members: Any items such as dishes, cutlery, etc. in the kitchen are to remain in the kitchen. They are available for use to members if required. If you borrow an item please ensure it is cleaned and returned.

Please take time to come down and enjoy one of the many events planned for this sailing season and if you would like to contact me for any reason the email address is housedirector@oysqn.com and Karen at karenwykes@oysqn.com.

Charlotte and Karen

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Cruising

So far the summer of 2016 has had ideal conditions for our cruisers with warm summer days and generally fair winds.

Our first cruise, the weekend of June 25, saw 11 boats enjoying the hospitality of Royal Hamilton Yacht Club. George and Carol Provost led the cruise and provide a menu of salmon burgers complimented by the appetizers, salads and great deserts provided by the members.

On the July 1st weekend some of our members participated in the cruise to the Highland Yacht club where Helmut and Helga Klenker rewarded the 7 boats and crew for the long sail with a scrumptious barbecued roast. At the same time OYS hosted 16 boats from the HYC.

Our next cruise is to Mimico on the July 30 weekend which will be led by Alain and Diane Thevenin. This is a popular destination and OYS is expected to send at least 15 boats on this cruise. For those not already signed up and wish to participate, the sign-up opens again on July 20th at 8:00am.

Spence Williams

Upcoming cruises are as follows



Dates	Destination	Cruise Captain
July 30, 31	Mimico Cruising Club	Alain & Diane Thevenin
August 13, 14	Etobicoke Yacht Club	Joel & Nicole Hundert
August 20	Lakeshore Yacht Club	Kevin Maynard & Jeff Murphy
August 27, 28	National Yacht Club	Bill & Sue Richards
September 3, 4 & 5	Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club	Pierre & Charlotte Perrenoud
September 17	Cruise to nowhere/OYS	TBD

If you did not make the pre-sign-up list in April there will be an opportunity to sign up 10 days before the cruise. Watch FTD for further updates regarding registering for the cruise.



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LIGHT HOUSE CHALLENGE 2016 OYS Regatta August 6th, 2016



Gather your crew and challenge your sailing skills and nautical knowledge with an opportunity to win prizes and have your name added to the prestigious Lighthouse Challenge Trophy. This fun event is designed for those who like to go the distance without crowded start lines and rounding marks. Entry is open to sail boats that meet the *Transport Canada Safe Boating Guide* standards, with or without electronic navigation equipment.

A skippers' meeting will be held on Saturday morning at 1000 at the OYS club house with on-the-water and on-land events planned throughout the day. Each boat will receive a great skipper's bag.

Challenges will include:

- *Distance Race with modified PHRF Handicap (use of motor permitted)*
- *Nautical knowledge test (the answers are not on Google)*
- *Nautical design challenge*

Register at OYS Friday evening, August 5th or Saturday morning prior to 9:30.
Entry fee is \$50.00 per boat

For further information and to sign up please email or call Spence Williams
scldwilliams@gmail.com or (905) 849 4654

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Property

Now that the early season rush of jobs has slowed down I would like to thank the volunteers who have worked on property jobs. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and make the Property Director's job possible.

There are two items that still need attention the first of which is the garbage cans. When you see a full can please take the bag to the blue dumpster and replace the full bag with a new one – new bags are stored in the dock box.

The second item that everybody needs to be aware of is that I have had two reports of strangers hanging around the club, we want to be an inclusive club but not to the point where (possibly homeless) people feel they can use our facilities, including our washrooms! If you see someone acting strangely and don't recognize them, please ask if they are members, and if they don't answer satisfactorily, tell them we are a private club and ask them to leave. If they are looking for washrooms tell them the public washrooms are on the hill.

Peter Urwin

Publicity

Although the boats were launched almost a month previously, the "official" start to the sailing season always begins with Sailpast. In addition to welcoming our new Commodore and blessing our boats, really it is a deadline for all of us sailors to get our boats rigged and ready for sailing. I was fortunate to have Karen Wykes and some of the club members, helping me in the organization and running of the event, as well as my good friend Chef Carla, who served a delicious meal.



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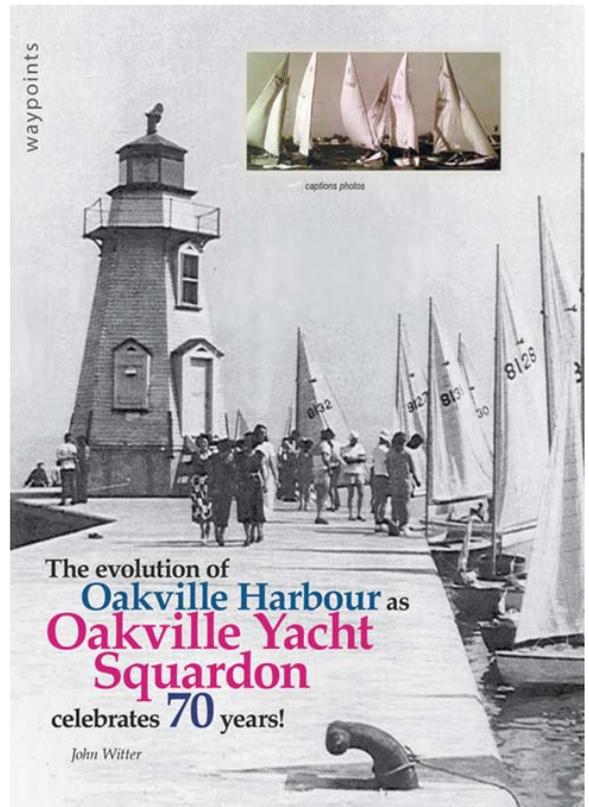
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A wonderful event it was. A great turn out, including many new members who were introduced to the club. The sailing weather was perfect - enough wind to fill the sails and flat water. We had a good representation from dignitaries - newly-elected federal Member of Parliament John Oliver and his family, long-time OYS supporter and member of provincial parliament Kevin Flynn, and newly-elected Town of Oakville councillor Ray Chisholm. Thanks to all the members and the volunteers. Couldn't have done it without you.

OYS has published an article in the sailing magazine, GAM - Summer 2016 issue. The article focused on the history of the Oakville Harbour, the old lighthouse, the genesis of OYS after World War II, and the features and facilities of OYS as it celebrates 70 years of operation. Photographs of the old and new OYS are also included. Thanks to Don Fitzsimons who authored the article and to Cynthia Robins who edited it. Pick up a copy of GAM and read it for yourself.

Don't forget to join us on Friday nights for TGIF barbecues. TGIF evenings have been a huge success and very popular. Some of them come with themes even. Last one we had Tim Godfrey as our entertainer. We are hoping to have a Karoke TGIF night - watch for "From the Docks" notices. Members are encouraged to host a TGIF, and they can create their own theme for that event. Karen Wykes, our club coordinator, has created a "TGIF for Dummies" booklet that gives step-by-step on organizing a TGIF. You can download the booklet from the OYS website. There are still dates open, so sign up to host an evening - email Karen at wykeskaren@gmail.com.



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The Easter Seals regatta was held on Saturday July 16, and was well attended by OYS members and other clubs.

Get Out on the Water event is on July the 23rd. To date, 60 people have signed up to sail on a sailboat. OYS needs members to volunteer their boats for this important public event.

With the help of Dawn Duncan and Ken Town, this year we are starting an seminar for "Learn to Crew". The objective is for people to learn a little and come out and crew on race nights. It's also a great way to learn about OYS. The seminar will be held on the morning of Get Out on the Water day, and we hope the participants will return for more sailing this season.

On Sunday July the 24th, we are very proud to host a fundraising event for our Olympian Lee Parkhill. "Lee's RIO BIG Olympic Adventure. The fundraising event will be held Sunday, July 24th, 2016 at the Oakville Yacht Squadron, starting at 3:00 pm. The event will consist of a presentation from Lee, a silent auction, live auction, and of course, food and beverage will also be available. An open invitation is extended to all members of our local boating community, family, friends and any others wanting to support our very own Oakville Olympian.

All proceeds will go directly to cover his training and equipment expenses. Although Lee is an A-carded athlete on the national team, the government allowance covers only a small portion of the actual cost of equipment, training and travel to international regattas.

OYS will again open its doors to the public on Saturday, September 24, in conjunction with the "Doors Open Oakville" event. Volunteers will be needed to organize and staff this event. Watch "From the Docks" notices for volunteer opportunities.

If you have a love of photography and would like to help in publicity, we are looking for volunteers to take photographs of OYS events. Please email publicitydirector@oysqn.com if you would like to volunteer.

Muna Lallas



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Membership

New Members

OYS has so far welcomed twenty-one new memberships in 2016 – eight full members (including one who also joined the BAB program), two associate members, eight associate members who also joined the BAB program, one junior member, one dinghy member and one crew member. I'm delighted to see such a diverse group of memberships – our club is growing in all directions.

[photo of new members – Caption: New members await their introductions at Sailpast]

We also included a slightly different new member event at Sailpast. This year, all of the 2015 and 2016 new members who attended were piped in as a group by the piper and introduced with a little vignette about each member. There was a great turnout of new members.

July 8 was "New Members Night" at TGIF. All of the new members were invited to attend and several volunteered to run the event. The event was a huge success, with a large turnout of new members and longer-term members.

Membership Renewals

I'm delighted to report that the majority of memberships were renewed by the deadline of March 31. A few reminders had to be sent out, but most responded promptly and with payment. The club has had only two defaults this year. Thanks to your prompt renewals, OYS has funds on hand to support events like Sailpast, Regatta and the 2017 Boat Show booth, which need advance payments for some items.

Electronic Membership Cards

It's a reality! All members have been sent a pdf file of their membership card, for printing or downloading onto their smartphone. Members can also view their membership card by clicking on the appropriate button in the electronic membership directory. Thanks to Ken, our web guru, for making this feature available. The old-fashioned "business" style cards are also available by request. Email membershipdirector@oysqn.com. Enter "Membership Card Request" and your last name in the subject line.

Volunteer Program

The volunteer spreadsheets are now online in the member page of the OYS website. Members can scroll down and click on the job they wish to do. Go to the Member Page, enter the password and scroll down to Volunteering. Click on "Volunteer Job Listings". Scroll down and peruse the various spreadsheets for the jobs you want to do. Click on "Click here to sign up for a {name of department} job" and enter your name on the spreadsheet. Also, don't forget to log your volunteer hours online in the members only section – click on "Completed Volunteer Job Report Form".

Continue to watch the "From the Docks" notices for volunteer opportunities for special events like Regatta, Get Out On The Water, TGIF, etc.

New Membership Initiatives

We are planning an Open House in conjunction with the Town of Oakville's "Doors Open" event in late September. This event will be open to the public, to provide an opportunity for people to come down to OYS and take in the facility, if they don't want to actually get onto a sailboat. Watch "From the Docks" for announcements of the event, as well as specific volunteer opportunities for OYS members.

Cynthia Robins



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Racing

So the A series is wrapped up, folks. We now wipe the slate clean and start all over again for the B series beginning July 20/21. So get the crews engaged and the boat spiffed up for a new series of racing. We have enjoyed excellent conditions generally with only a couple races cancelled due to no wind.

On behalf of all the race participants I would like to thank the dependable and competent race committee who have consistently set fair races with start lines square to the wind and course lengths adjusted to suit the wind speeds to give the boats good racing. We continue to be well served by our Race Officers, Carlos Martinez-cairo (Wednesdays), Sam Thompson (Thursdays), Andre Beese and Clair Merry (Sundays and substitute). You will see more of Clair when Carlos and Sam return to university in the fall. We are also consistently served by the excellent work of our junior sailor mark setters, Magnus Hambleton, Duff Paisley, Thomas Karolidis and Nicholas Jovanovic. But we absolutely could not make it work without the effort of the many volunteers who serve on the committee including, Dee Anderson, Jeff Rudd, Jim Reid, Gary Bell, Marcus Opitz, Chris Waite, Nancy Massey, Harry Miles, Breck Mcfarlane. (My apologies of course if I've missed anyone). We ask that each volunteer signs up for a minimum of 3 races and we are reaching out the clubs now for additional volunteers for the B series. Please see Karen at the bar or email Rupert at racingdirector@oysqn.com directly to sign up and join the fun!

Now that the crews are warmed up and have boat handling down race strategy and starts becomes more important. So we are looking forward to a highly competitive B Series to close out the Summer Series.

Race On.

Rupert Crighton



