



THE OAKVILLE YACHT SQUADRON

WINDJAMMER

May/June 2011



Upcoming Events

- **Sailpast** – June 4th
- **Last Sunday (Spring) Series** – June 26th
- **Cruise to Highland Yacht Club** – July 1st
- **Cruise to Royal Hamilton Yacht Club** – July 15th
- **Cruise to Etobicoke Yacht Club** – July 22nd
- **Cruise to Ashbridges Bay Yacht Club** – July 29th
- **Mercedes Benz Oakville Open Regatta** – August 4th

REPORTS

COMMODORE: PETER MACK

This month has given us the opportunity for much more face-to-face contact with our fellow club members, as we spent hours at the club preparing for launch and finishing up all those winter projects. Then we had launch, and now I see lots of people finishing their rigging work every time the rain pauses.

As club activities ramp up, I encourage each member to look for those opportunities when you can volunteer a few minutes or a few hours to make our club a better place. Helping others with masts, volunteering for the Race Committee and for Officer of the Day, or just spraying off the docks when they need it - all make a better place to belong. The experience can be very rewarding.

Thanks a lot to all those people who have worked so hard over the past month organizing and managing launch and to all of us who made it happen. Thanks, too, to the folks who have worked hard to get the docks ready in coordination with the town. Having cleats to tie up to and water to wash the boats was not easy this year, and quite a few dedicated people have helped to get things ready so that we all have a secure place for our boats. In particular, I want to thank Dirk Rasmussen and Bill Crompton, who have spent countless hours over the past few months and we are all in their debt. They are supported by strong teams that they will thank, and I appreciate every contribution that has been made.

Soon we can relax and shift from preparation to sailing time. Please keep safety, good sportsmanship, and environmental stewardship at the front of your minds. See you on the water!

Regards,
Peter

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Editorial contributions welcomed, Contact publicity director at publicitydirector@oysqn.com

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REAR COMMODORE: MAURICE STEVENS

Change is not necessarily a bad thing

As all of you are now aware, we are having to do things differently around the club as a result of the new dock wall installation. Some changes may be an improvement. I think most would agree that using the sailing school area to prepare the masts is far more efficient than the way it was when we tried to do this on the lawn.

As we go forward through the summer there will be more changes to make. I hope everyone will look at these with an open mind and make the necessary adjustments without rejecting things out of hand because they are different from what they used to be.

Your executive are reviewing all aspects of the operation of the club as we go forward with both the changes to the layout and also with the potential changes in how our lease would work when it gets renewed.

Once more details get worked out we will try to keep everyone informed. In the mean time please bear with us during this construction phase.

HARBOUR MASTER: DIRK RASMUSSEN

Now that the boats are in the water the sailing season has officially started. **Launch** went very well thanks to all of you. I would particularly like to thank the launch team of Dawn, Leslie, Edie and Deborah who did a super job of organizing the work shifts and keeping the "waters edge" activities running smoothly. Also thanks to Sean and Peter for their expertise and efforts in directing the crane crew. Even the weatherman cooperated and gave us a couple of very pleasant days despite a very wet April.

I think you will all agree that Saturday's lunch of chili and fixings was absolutely superb thanks to Linda and her crew of dedicated chefs. Thank you all.

The **harbour project** is also progressing very well. The boardwalk is essentially complete and the dock water and electricity are in the process of being installed. It should be ready by May 20th or so. In case you are wondering, the stairs to the floating dock are temporary. They will be replaced by an aluminum ramp which is on order.

You will probably see quite a bit of **landscaping** activity next week with the final grading expected to be complete by the long weekend. I am hoping that the docks and grounds will be completely restored by Sail Past.

I think the **Town staff** and contractors have done a great job in restoring our facility and having it ready for launch. They have been most cooperative and accommodating and deserve to be commended on a job well done. I would particularly like to thank Rob McKay, Barry Wilson, Heather Turenne, Danny the carpenter and Jordan the welder.

There is some urgency in getting the **mast racks** removed to allow for asphaltting the dry sail area and to bring the dry sail boats back. Could you therefore remove your masts from both racks by May 20th.

That's all for now and see you at the club and on the water.

CRUISE DIRECTOR: PIERRE PERRENOUD

With launch behind us it will soon be time to go "cruizin". The online sign-up procedure is up and running with the first cruise scheduled for the May long weekend to Mimico. All seven cruises are posted and captains have stepped up to host each cruise. Weather permitting it should be a great summer and I would like to remind everyone to treat reciprocal club facilities with the utmost care leaving them in as good or better condition.

When out cruising we are ambassadors for OYS and when we receive fellow cruisers we need to be as helpful as possible.

Please sign up for Officer of the Day.

Regards

Pierre Perrenoud

SAILING SCHOOL DIRECTOR: KENT PAISLEY

The Sailing School is starting to come alive, Andrew Leslie, Head Instructor, has moved in to the Sailing School office and started to set up the school.

Two of the Sharks are in the water and soon to be rigged and ready for a new season. The Sailing School is being emptied of all the equipment and the fleet will be rigged over the next few weeks and made ready to start our programs. There are still spots available in the programs but registrations are coming in daily, so make sure you register or pass along to someone you know who is interested, as spaces are filling up.

Eleanor Merry, Race Coach, has begun to organize the racing program for the upcoming summer with an information night on May 30th at 7 PM at OYS. The Racing Program has a good schedule of races for the coming season and Eleanor will be laying out the schedule and other details at the meeting. She also plans to tap in to some of OYS' own members who are currently on the Canadian National Sailing Team to provide clinics and training sessions. All in the effort to help the sailors interested in sailboat racing to raise their game. Registration is made easier with a new online system that allows you to register and pay through the OYS website at www.OYSQN.com. So sign up for the Race Team as soon as possible.

Adult Lessons will begin at the end of May. If you know of someone who is interested in any of our three programs - Introduction to Sailing, Learning to Cruise or Learning to Race - please direct them to the website, our Head Instructor, who can be contacted through the ssinfo@oysqn.com email or the Sailing School Director at - sailingschooldirector@oysqn.com. We will help them select the right program, register and begin enjoying the sport of sailing.

A couple of our instructors are doing some maintenance on the bottoms of two of the Sharks to ensure they are in good shape for the season. The Sailing School spends a fair amount of time on maintenance to ensure the boats are in good working order to maximize the value and experience that our sailors get from our programs. You will see our instructors getting the fleet ready and also doing maintenance throughout the season to ensure we keep a strong healthy fleet of sail boats.

The Sailing School will be hosting a Bronze level course for the Ontario Sailing Association on May 21, 22 and May 28, 29. So you will see the Sailing School come to life at that time. They will be using the SS area, possibly the Crow's Nest for On-shore sessions and they will be on the water at times through those two weekends.

Please make sure you pass along information on the Sailing School programs for 2011 to your families, friends and anyone else you think might have interest. The lessons provide a great way to become introduced to the sport of sailing and more importantly the sailing experience at Oakville Yacht Squadron.

The Sailing School Committee

Kent Paisley - Sailing School Director

Dave Butt

Alison Jones

Bill Frenke

Mike Frenke

Steve Griffin

Classified & Personals

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