

WINDJAMMER ^{APRIL} 2006

**DAVE GRAY
COMMODORE**

We have just had our first major event of 2006 and everyone who attended had a great time. I would like to Laurie and her \$oggy Dollars crew for a great job of decorating and organizing the event. Jo-Anne and I had a wonderful time and enjoyed meeting so many of our members.

I would also like to thank John Webb and Dave Moores for the presentation they put together of the history of OYS from 1946 to 2006. They both put a lot of effort into the presentation and did an incredible job. Thanks to you both from everyone. I also understand that copies will be available to purchase as keepsakes.

Main Event Update

Pub Night every Thursday night

Crows Nest, 20:00 hrs

Ladies Seaview Afternoon

Thursday, April 27, Crow's Nest, 15:00 hrs

Racing Seminar, Crows Nest

Thursday, April 20, 19:00 hrs

Race Registration, Crows Nest

Thursday, April 27, 19:00 hrs

OYS Clean-up Day

Saturday, April 22, starting at 09:00 hrs

OYS Launch Day

Saturday, May 6

OYS Cradle Day

Sunday, May 7

First Spring Race

Sunday, May 14, 12:00 hrs

First Wednesday & Thursday Races

May 17 & 18, 19.00 hrs

Sailpast

Saturday June 10, 1200 hrs

(See Racing and Social Calendars on Web page for more detailed OYS events information)

Contact OYS at: 97 Forsythe Street, P.O. Box 144, Oakville, Ontario L6J 4Z5 •
OYS & Crow's Nest (905) 338-2239 OYS Sailing School (905) 338-9379
 Editorial contributions welcome. Contact Dave Moores, at: (905) 825-1408
 or email to: dmoores@cogeco.ca

Visit our web site at www.oysqn.com



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From the Executive

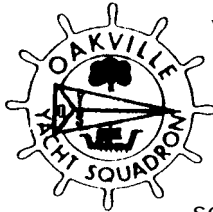
The results of the gate survey are complete and the final tally is 24 in favor and 70 against. There were some good suggestions for other methods of increasing security and we will investigate all of our options. There is also a report on the overall survey later in this newsletter.

The sailing season is about to start and everyone will be starting to ready their boats for launch. Lunatic has a small crack in the rudder and will need repair along with everything else that needs doing before launch. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the club very soon.

DON FITZSIMONS RACING DIRECTOR

Just 5 weeks until the first spring race of 2006 on Sunday May 14th. On

Thursday April 27th at 19:00 we will have race registration and pub night afterwards. If you intend to race, please come out and register. You will need to bring your chequebook as PHRF fees will be collected at the meeting. The fee will be \$20.00 for each participating boat. Ian Mylet and David Grey will be there to help with any PHRF questions. You will also have to pick a night to be on the committee boat. Barry Jasper will also be at the race registration meeting to sign racers up for GHYRA. The new race calendar is on the OYS web site with the full OYS schedule as




well as GHYRA, LYRA, and other events. Our race seminars are coming up real soon. You will want to bring your rule book to both. Leo Reis will give the first talk on how to protest and win. This one should be very useful to some of you sea lawyers and the folks that want to defend themselves against that sea lawyer. Back by popular demand on May 4th we have Carole Percey and Irene McNeil to give a talk on right of way tactics. We send out messages to the race fleet on a racing Email list. If you are not presently getting any race notices and would like to,

please send a note to wendilin3@cogeco.ca and we will include you on the list.

JOHN DESOUSA HARBOURMASTER


Wow, it's springtime already and soon the boats will be in the water. Please read and support Cynthia Robins article and show how great our club support can be. On an important note: the Town of Oakville has announced that it is getting on board the Ontario Marine Operators Association (OMOA), Clean Marine Program. Our participation is needed and important. Please ensure that your engines are flushed of all anti-freezes with water on shore before launch, and that all other toxic waste (oils, solvents, and anti-freezes) are



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disposed of properly. We must keep a watchful eye and help each other in this very important initiative. We have been asked to give the environment top priority and can easily comply with the help from all members. I look forward to seeing you all at launch May 6 and at Cradle day May 7.

**PAUL ATTWOOD
MEMBERSHIP
DIRECTOR**

Thanks to all members who got their membership dues in time (AND SAVED \$25.00) and a reminder to those that have not yet paid, PLEASE send it your payment as soon as possible. For those who saved the \$25.00, feel free to come down to the Crow's Nest and spend it on some beer! There aren't many nights left.

**CLUB NEWS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LAUNCH NOTES
CYNTHIA ROBINS**

Given the warm winter so far, let's hope for a beautiful day for launch. By the time you read this article, you should already have received at least one "From the Docks" note about launch. The internet is wonderful, but in case you missed the email, here is some launch information for boat owners and crew volunteers.

The Date: Launch is Saturday, May 6. We will launch ALL the boats in one day. We can't guarantee a time when your boat will be launched, but the launch order will be approximately the reverse of haulout. It's your

responsibility to be there when your boat is launched, and to have your bow & stern lines attached. Leslie Frenke has offered to help manage launch crews again this year (Les, you are a wonderful person!).

The Harbourmaster:

Please give John De Sousa, our Harbourmaster, your support. John has posted the 2006 mooring assignments on the Club bulletin board. Let him know of any changes to your boat or mooring.

Yard Crews: We need a total of 15 people per shift. Here are the types of jobs for which we need volunteers (number of people per shift):

- 2 people up on top of the boats attaching the . . slings prior to . .

- the crane lifting the boat
- 4 people at the dock taking the slings off after . the boat is in the water
- 4 people at the cradle to steady each boat as it is lifted
- 2 people to . . . handle the bow and stern lines . as the boat is . . being lifted from the cradle to the water (experience . . . preferred)
- 2 people on the dock to help the sailors get their boats away after the boat is launched
- 1 person to . . . transport the . . slings from the . dock area to the cradle area with the wheelbarrow.

Volunteers: Each shift lasts 2 ½ hours (7:00-9:30 am, 9:30-12:00 noon, 12:30-3:00 pm and 3:00-5:30 pm. In total,

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approximately 60 people are needed for launch day, to fill all of the positions and times. Some of the work is a little more physically active, but there is something for everyone.

Even if you don't own a boat, helping out at launch time is a good way to meet people. Just call (905-845-1131) or send an email to our email address (robins_nest@cogeco.ca) to let me know your preferred time and job. Oh yes - please be ON TIME and be prepared to stay for your whole shift.

Safety: Safety is our first priority. If you have hard hats, steel-toed work boots, work gloves, etc. - by all means wear them! Don't overexert anything, especially your back. Please keep small children and

pets away from the crane, bobcat and water's edge.

Towing and Mooring Lines: I expect that John is planning to have a tow motorboat and operators, who will provide a tow to your mooring for those of you (and probably me, too) who can't get your engines going, and also to put mooring lines on the tires. This is very popular with those of us who don't like hanging upside down off the sterns of our boats trying to attach mooring lines.

Special Circumstances: If you will not be present to launch your boat (business, holiday, illness, etc.), please let me know as soon as possible who will be launching your boat for you (and their telephone number just in case). If you are bringing a

Annual "Clubhouse Clean-up" Work Party Saturday, April 22 at 09:00 till Noon

Let's get our clubhouse ready for the 2006 sailing season with the traditional spring "fixing and cleaning". There are jobs for everyone and if everyone pitches in we will have a great looking facility.

Supplies and tools will be provided and there will be a job list posted at the main entrance. So please join your fellow members and let's get our clubhouse shipshape.

trailer down and launching your boat from a trailer, please give me a call so we can schedule you in. Usually the trailered boats are launched at the end of the day. Drysailers, please do not bring your boats into the club until given the go-ahead by the harbourmaster. The crane is locked out until after launch.

Have a safe and happy sailing season.

Lake Ontario Short Handed Racing Series from Carolyn Archibald, 'Emerald', EYC

Test your mettle against similarly equipped sailors, by racing across the lake, relaxing over 'toddy time' and a superb banquet, and then keeping the party going as late as you can. Next morning, race back across the lake. Or, give your endurance a different kind of workout by

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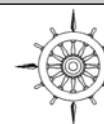
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New members take a bow!

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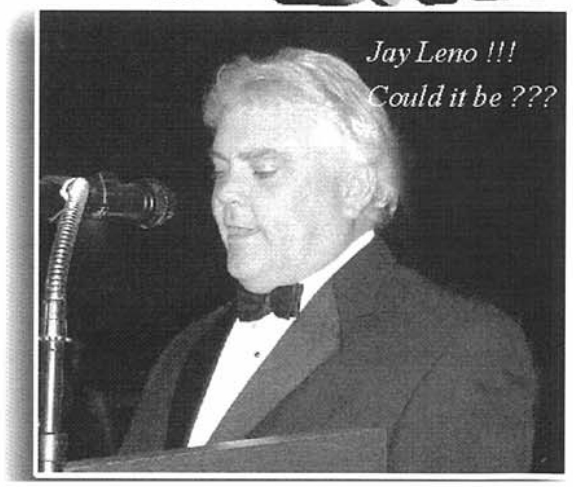


*Guess who's got the winning
raffle ticket ???*





COMMODORE'S BALL



MEMBERSHIP SURVEY PUBLICITY

One hundred and five members responded to the recent survey of opinions and priorities: just under a 50% response. Full copies are available at the club, but here are some of the "Major News Headlines", and your Executive's resulting actions.

What attracted you to OYS in the first place? Racing came out number 1, closely followed by moorings and friends in the club, so we are our own best asset when it comes to recruiting new members! What keeps you here? Social activities came top on that one but the clubhouse, cost of membership, racing, and friends all scored high in your priorities.

Where would you like to see capital spending focused over the next five years? Moorings, docks and the gabion walls are the big concerns, with clubhouse updates and racing scoring high too.

Most people are generally happy with overall services, but food service and security received more low ratings than other areas, albeit still from a minority of responders, so here's an opportunity for improvements.

Racing enjoys very wide support with 78% of responders out racing and majorities in favour of more racing, more open regattas and especially more dinghy racing - back to the days of our youth perhaps?

76% go cruising, most people participating both in club-organized and solo cruises, and the cruising program is well-liked with the current number of 4-6 cruises viewed as just about right, and the wine-and-cheese receptions really enjoyed (big surprise there, not!)

There is strong support for maintaining ties with the Town of Oakville. The Sailing School is viewed as our biggest asset in this regard and there is also huge support for the Sailing School's role in attracting new members and popularizing our sport.

Overall, these responses are a mandate to continue with the general direction of OYS and 90-degree course changes are not in the wind! However there are an awful lot of good pointers here, and as a result a number of projects are under way or being closely considered.

Clubhouse upgrades are planned, with a new floor and some new furniture to get us progressively away from the white plastic towards a more welcoming ambiance. Replacement of our rapidly-deteriorating fence is also in the planning stage. All such projects are to be handled within the club's budgets for capital and/or expense as appropriate.

Dinghy racing will start on Tuesday evenings this season in response to the call for it, and hopefully some of our "mature" members will get out there and give the youngsters a run for their money - well, you can hope! Crash-boat on hand to pull you out before you freeze...

Other snippets: work on the washrooms is under way, and some refurbishment in the Crows Nest. There may be a cruise/race this year; the lighthouse (mentioned in members' comments) will get a health-check and a freshening up.

Each member of the Executive will be using the results as a guide to their personal portfolio in the months to come, so thanks again to all those who took the time to shape the future directions of OYS by answering the survey.

competing in the long-distance race (90 nm) around the west end of the lake. Divisions are split among single-handed and double-handed racers, spinnaker and white-sail. Each event includes a Skippers' Meeting beforehand at the hosting club (with plenty of time allowed for sizing up the competition and telling lies), giveaways and door prizes courtesy of our generous sponsors ~ you don't necessarily have to win to come away with great stuff! ~ dockage or rafting pre-arranged at the hosting and destination yacht clubs for the nights preceding and following the races and of course trophies and flags bestowed by our illustrious Co-Chairs Ian McAllister and Jonathan Vinden at the LOSHRS Awards Night in November. In 2005, there were 68 registered participants (equally split between single- and double-

handed) and 23 sponsors, with lots of prizes to go around. The 2006 fleet looks like it will be even more exciting!

So, it's time to get busy and mark your calendars for the following Lake Ontario Short Handed Racing (LOSHRS) events - after all, there's only a few weeks left until launch:

May 28th QCYC Course Race (QCYC to QCYC)
June 24th & 25th . Youngstown Weekend Race (PCYC to YYC & back)
August 26th & 27th Long Distance Race (PCYC to PCYC)
September 16th & 17th Dalhousie Weekend Race (PCYC to DYC & back)
November 4th LOSHRS Awards Banquet (PCYC)

The entry fee is only \$75 for the series. Registration Wednesday April 26th 7:30pm Port Credit Yacht Club or at the O.Y.S. Registration night. Contact Richard Bodt at 905-842-1660 or richard.bodt@gmail.com or Richard Rutsch at 905 891-7236 or rutsch@sympatico.ca for more information.

LAKE ONTARIO 300 AT OYS

OYS will be hosting the Lake Ontario 300 this year. We are expecting over 70 boats and over 300 sailors plus their support crew. There are already over 20 boats registered. The LO 300 is a marquee event for OYS and is one of the highlights of the sailing season on Lake Ontario.

The LO 300 Committee is meeting every month to prepare for the event and to ensure that the participants, support crew, sponsors and OYS members have a positive and rewarding experience. We will need lots of OYS volunteers to help this event go smoothly, and if you would like to help out talk to Bill Frenke, Rick Taylor or Ulrich Wickhardt.

There are two courses: the traditional 300 nautical mile circumnavigation of Lake Ontario for spinnaker boats and a 300 kilometer course around the West end of the lake for white sail boats. Both courses offer double handed and fully crewed fleets with divisions to be arranged as supported by registrations. The skippers' meeting and pre-race party will be held at OYS on Wednesday July 19.

The race starts on Thursday July 20 at 11:00 with most spinnaker boats finishing sometime on Sunday, white-sails a day sooner. For more information and details please go to the LO 300 website at www.LakeOntario300.org There you will find registration instructions, registration forms and the required safety equipment list. The early registration discount is in effect until May 1 so make your plans, get your crew organized and sign up.

Bill Frenke
 Chair 2006 LO300



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DARLENE FITZSIMONS CHAIR, SAILPAST

The weekend for Sailpast is fast approaching. Hopefully you can come and join in the family fun. Keep June 10 and 11 open for OYS Sailpast 2006. Get out your white pants and navy jackets and be ready for a great weekend. It all begins at 1200 on the front lawn for the opening ceremonies. At 1300 we sail out into the lake for our Sailpast. At 1500 there will be cocktails and hors d'oeuvres on the lawn. Please remember to bring your hors d'oeuvres ready to serve at this time. It's also helpful to label your dishes and containers for easy return to you. While we are enjoying cocktails and hors

d'oeuvres, we will be entertained with music by Royal Disc Jockey Service. We will then be serving a buffet dinner. Most people last year enjoyed the menu so we are having David's Meats barbecue prime rib roasts again at our club. Ian Mylet will be cooking salmon again as well. At 2100 there is dancing with the music supplied by Doug Gordon of Royal Disc Jockey Service. On Sunday morning the executive will be preparing a complimentary breakfast to be served at 930. It is important to reserve or buy dinner tickets before June 2 so that I can finalize our food orders. Tickets can be reserved by calling me, Darlene Fitzsimons at 905-

877-2831 or wendilin3@cogeco.ca. Ticket sales begin on May 6 and continue on Wednesday race nights, Thursday pub nights and Sunday Spring race series until June 1. Adult dinner tickets are \$20.00 and children's tickets are \$10.00. Please specify your choice of beef or salmon. There are a limited number of tickets. Don't miss out. Get yours soon. I'll be down at the club with my sign. Remember all you need are dinner tickets and an hors d'oeuvre. Come and join in the fun with fellow sailors, family and friends and celebrate our club's 60th anniversary together.

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'SCUTTLEBUTT'... n. syn. report, buzz, cry, gossip, grapevine, hearsay, rumble, rumor, talk...

Publicity

Calling all members. See the bit at the bottom about sending in anything funny or interesting? This is addressed to YOU! Otherwise you will continue to be subjected to lame jokes and secondhand aphorisms...like those below...the choice is yours...

"We act as though comfort and luxury were the chief requirements of life, when all that we need to make us happy is something to be enthusiastic about." Albert Einstein

On the subject of Money -

"Money can't buy you happiness, but it can buy you a yacht big enough to pull up right alongside it." Anon

"Anyone who thinks money can't buy happiness just doesn't know where to shop." Bo Derek

"Nothing goes upwind like money." (probably Larry Ellison - Oracle BMW)

On the Subject of Racing -

"In sailboat racing there are but two things that are common to racers: one is sailing and the other is bitching. Many specialize in one or the other, but seldom are able to do both well." Anon

"It's never just a game when you're winning." - George Carlin

"It still gets under my skin when the reply from a competitor with an obvious unfair advantage is, "It didn't say I couldn't in the rules." Whether it's as little as changing from wire lifelines to Kevlar, adding equipment to an otherwise stock boat's "as is" condition in a sail-off or etching an aluminum one design mast to save weight aloft. Most who have been around know, but don't say anything - hoping that someone else will protest the infraction. Sailing is based upon "Sportsmanship and Rules" and the principle is fair play". Mike Schaumburg

Last Word: Seen on a bumper sticker: "Grow your own dope - plant a man".

Want to contribute to Scuttlebutt? Send in e-mails, letters, short articles, etc. to: Dave Moores, Publicity Director at dmoores@cogeco.ca

OYS History Video Now On DVD

Many members have asked how they can obtain a copy of the video slideshow featured at the Commodore's Ball.

In response we are going to make these available on DVD to members at a price of \$10.00.

Proceeds will go to the Able Sailors' Fund For those who were unable to attend the Ball, this is a video slideshow with music soundtrack featuring many never-before-seen pictures from way back at the foundation of

the club, right on up to the present day. It runs about 25 minutes and was much enjoyed.

These DVDs will come in a transparent case with the OYS 60th logo on the DVD label. In addition to being a real keepsake for members, the DVD would make a nice gift for anyone who has an interest or past involvement with OYS.

To place your order please email dmoores@cogeco.ca.



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