

WINDJAMMER 2005

APRIL

Main Event Update

MALCOLM MACFARLANE COMMODORE

Well, April is here and with it brings the sounds and smells of spring - power tools and solvents. Launch is less than a month away and it is time to get the club and our boats in shape. The docks need to be set, Oyster has to be readied for another season, marks need to be repaired and painted, the Tempests need care and attention to be ready for launch and the infamous launch list needs to be filled out. Please take some time to volunteer to help in getting these jobs done this month. Every Director is busy this month getting the club ready and would appreciate hearing from you. April also brings racing rules seminars and this year Don Fitzsimons has arranged for two sessions to get us up to date. Race registration is also this month so when you need a break from working on the boat most Thursday nights have something extra going on at the

- Pub Night is every Thursday**
OYS Bar starting at 8:00 PM
- OYS Property Clean Up**
Saturday April 16, 2005 starting at 9:00 AM
- Racing Rules Seminar with William Cheek**
Thursday, April 21, 7:00 PM, Crow's Nest
- Ladies Seaview Afternoon**
Thursday, April 28, 3:00 PM, Crow's Nest
- OYS Race Registration**
Thursday, April 28, 7:00 PM, Crow's Nest
- Dart Night is Pub Night**
Thursday April 28, OYS Bar starting at 8:00 PM
You can't miss it, or the fun
- OYS LAUNCH**
Saturday, May 7
- OYS Cradle Day**
Saturday, May 14
- OYS Sailing School Open House**
Monday, May 30
- OYS Sailpast and (Pig, Beef) Roast**
Saturday, June 4

(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 John Quinlan, Publicity Director at:
 (905) 847-0431 or email to: john@puresand.com (John Quinlan).
 Visit our web site at **www.oysqn.com**



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OYS COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Regatta Chairman	Pat Dinsmore
OYS Webmaster	Sandra Kennedy
OYS Safety Officer	Murray Fischer
OYS MWP Chairman	Terry Joyce

From the Executive

Crow's Nest.

The Mercedes-Benz Oakville Easter Seals Regatta is having a spring kick-off at OYS on Thursday April 14 at 7:00 pm. All interested in participating in the first annual regatta are invited to come down to find out what is being planned and also have a chance at some early bird registration prizes. The regatta is co-hosted by OYS, OPBC and OC and is our opportunity to help raise funds for the Halton District Easter Seals Society.

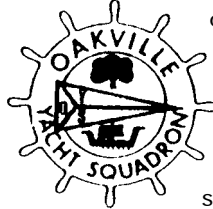
As I write this, the Commodore's Ball is two days away and Marianne and I are looking forward to seeing everyone there. Our thanks go out to Helle Attwood and her team for all their hard work.

DAVE GRAY VICE COMMODORE

It's nearing the end of March and we finally got to go away for a week of great skiing in Vermont. The rest of the winter has been spent redoing the basement which last saw renovation in the early

70's, yes it was long over due. Now that my winter projects are nearing completion I am starting to look forward to the upcoming sailing season. Looking out the window the sun is shining and it's been a great Easter weekend, only thing is that we usually used Easter to start getting Lunatic ready for launch. Easter being earlier this year made that difficult. Within the next few weeks the parking lot will be full and we will be jockeying for parking spots that are close enough to our boats to make that forgotten tool in the trunk less of an aggravation to go back for.

The Commodore's Ball is coming up on April 2nd and I am looking forward to coming out of hibernation to see everyone. Helle has everything under control



and it should prove to be a great evening. The meal and entertainment sound excellent and the evening should prove a great start to the sailing season. PHRF has had its annual general meeting in Youngstown and Central Council Meetings at Hamilton. There are no major changes and only a few rating adjustments. The Lake Ontario 300 is having a team challenge this year. Each club may enter a team of 3 Yacht's for an overall championship, details to follow later.

DENIS DINSMORE TREASURER

Over the years, there have been many members standing in Executive positions and for the most part, documents have passed from old to new Executive members. In

my new capacity as Treasurer, I would like to ensure the current Executive have an inventory of all official club documents. If you are currently storing club documents, I ask that you contact me with the type of documents and the number of boxes stored. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

JOHN DE SOUSA HARBOUR MASTER

Spring is finally here and we are all hard at work on our boats. The mooring plan is posted for the 2005 summer and launch is just around the corner May 07, to be exact. We will be starting a 7:00 am on Saturday morning, please be sure to be around when your boat is being launched as the launching list is approximate and the crane crew can change the order at any time. Please read Cynthia Robins report as she has again graciously taken on the task of organizing the crews necessary for launch. (Thanks Cynthia) Our new boarding steps

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have arrived and I would like to thank Al Parkhill and David Cyr for their great job at fastening the wood steps to them. These new steps will make our docks safer, allow us to enjoy our new lights, and allow us to have carts to carry supplies to our boats. As soon as our docks are in I will need a crew to install the stairs. Please pay close attention to "From the Docks" postings for help with installing them.

CYNTHIA ROBINS LAUNCH CO-ORDINATOR

A little haiku to get us going....

Hibernating boats,
Woken by a noisy crane,

Will be sailing soon!

The Date: Launch is Saturday, May 7. We can't guarantee a time when your boat will be launched. We can make assumptions based on the boat's position in the yard, but the final decision is the crane operator's. It's your responsibility to be there when your boat is launched, and to have

your bow & stern lines attached.

The Harbourmaster:

Please welcome John De Sousa as our new Harbourmaster this year. I am looking forward to working for him. Give him your support.

Yard Crews: 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, approximately 50-60 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.

Who Can Volunteer?

Everyone! Usually you see me around the boat yard on weekends in April signing up volunteers from the sailors who are launching. Towards the end of April, I start phoning those I haven't seen down at the club. Even if you don't own a boat, helping out at launch time is a good way to meet people (and - who knows - you might find a skipper who needs crew). Just call (905-845-1131) or send an email to our new email address (robins_nest@cogeco.ca) to let me know your preferred time and job.

Last year, I had a ton of emails within 24 hours of the Windjammer issue, and it was a delight! Oh yes - please be on time and be prepared to stay for your whole shift.

Safety: Safety first. Safety always. 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 who can't get your engines going, and also to put mooring lines on the tires. Last year at launch, the tow team of Lee Parkhill and Ross Mylet did a great job. 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.

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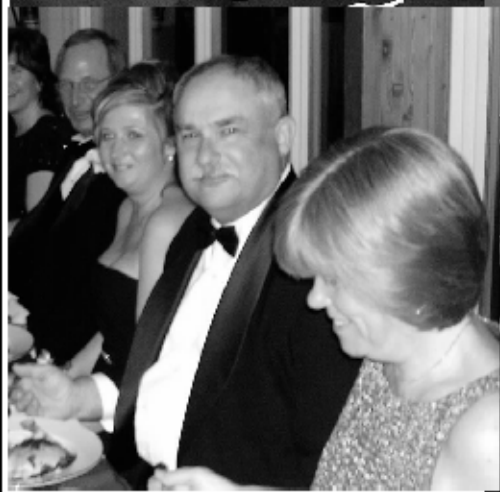
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OYS 2005 COMMODORE'S BALL



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 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 on Saturday. 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.

HELLE ATTWOOD CHAIR COMMODORE'S BALL

Well, IT WAS A BALL! If you missed it, you missed the call. WOW, incredible fun was had by all, They danced through the night with never a fall.

Okay, enough of my prose! In all honesty, it was an incredible night! For those that were there I trust your dancing shoes are not worn out because we have Sailpast and Regatta coming soon. For those that like good food, you missed some terrific salmon! Perfectly pink! And the chicken! Sooo good, I would definitely cross the road to get it! Chef Jeff Gilbert of Oakville Golf Club did an amazing job.

Over 100 people attended and enjoyed the evening, including the Mayor, Her Worship Ann Mulvale. Being one of the people to sit at her table, I can tell you that she enjoyed the evening (she wore her dancing shoes too!) and we enjoyed her company at what some people consider the "kick off" to the upcoming season. If you missed the Ball this year, plan on coming out next year.

DON FITZSIMONS RACING DIRECTOR

The first race of the year is just over one month away! Race

registration will be held in the Crow's Nest Thursday April 20th at 19:00. If you intend to race, please come out and register. You will need to bring your chequebook, as PHRF fees will be collected directly by the club this year. The fee will be \$20.00 for each participating boat. Ian Mylet and David Gray will be there to help with any PHRF questions.

We have posted a list on the board in the Crows Nest to sign up for duty on Oyster. Please pick your favorite time to go for a ride on the committee boat with Robin. Also, pick the individual from your crew that will have the honour. By the way this is a very painless way to get 4 hours on the work program that will be running soon. We will be hosting two GHYRA events this year, the Jack Ward single-handed and the Commodore's double handed. The races will take place on June 11 & 12. This will be an ideal weekend for those challenged for crew. GHYRA has changed its



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format this year and will run mainly single and double-handed events. Look it up on the web at

<http://ghyra.cybernetfinder.com>

Speaking of crew we have a number of folks that have emailed us to crew with someone. If you need crew or want to crew please email me at wendilin3@cogeco.ca.

PAUL ATTWOOD MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

As you read this I trust all the snow is off your tarps! Soon we will be launching and everything will be back to normal! The boats will be splashed! A big THANKS to all that have forwarded me their membership fees and a reminder to those members that have not yet paid the monies were due by the end of March. I'm not very good at collections so please make it easy for me.

See you at the club preparing your boats. This commentary provides "good news" and "bad news." The bad news is that OYS

has lost a member that has been with us for 3 years. The good news is that the members that we have lost (Colin & Ronit Minchom) have bought their own boat which they will moor @ QCYC. Why is that good news? Well it is good news because they joined OYS through the "Members Without Boats" program and enjoyed sailing "Spartacus," one of our Tempest fleet. They enjoyed it so much they have bought their own boat.

A quote from Colin's resignation letter: "I believe that OYS can take pride in our development as sailors as a success of the Members Without Boats Program. There is now another family sailing on the lake as a consequence of this initiative."

What a compliment! Colin also wanted to express his gratitude to Bill Merry, Steve Scott and Eric Czarnecki for their encouragement to these new sailors.

Take the time to stop by and say Hello to Colin and Ronit the next time you sail to QCYC!

AL PARKHILL PROPERTY DIRECTOR

CLEANUP DAY

Saturday April 16,
2005

9:00 a.m. (coffee and muffins/donuts) hope to be done by 12:00. Not the coffee and donuts, the property cleanup.

Members should bring rubber/work gloves, extra buckets, squeegees etc and a little elbow grease. Be sure to label your property so it can leave with you. There will be both indoor and outdoor crews and varied jobs. In other words, "something for everyone in the Family". Hope to see everyone there.

JOHN QUINLAN PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

Saint Patrick's Day was the winter seasons best attended event by all the Irish members. It did not matter if they were from the O'Bodt, O'De Sousa or O'Oszlak clans to name just a few. They were there to support the Irish, the wearing of the green and Sue O'Richards our bartender and

organizer of this event. The Crows Nest looked great with the Irish inspired decorations, green snacks and liquids to insure all had a great time. Case Lammerse made sure there was plenty of Guinness and also arranged for a fine bottle of Irish whiskey to be raffled. Theresa Dinsmore on behalf of the Club drew the winning ticket for Johan O'Pedersen who made sure the prize stayed with the club and it's members.

2006... 60 Special Years

Id's story...

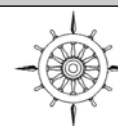
The racing was very competitive and usually 8 to 10 boats on the line. OYS also raced against Port Credit at their old club on the river. This was team racing at OYS in Snipes and at Port Credit in folk boats. A major Regatta was run out of the small club the Lake Skiff Sailing Association with about 50 dinghies of various classes taking part. TOWARF was formed in 1954 after an accident

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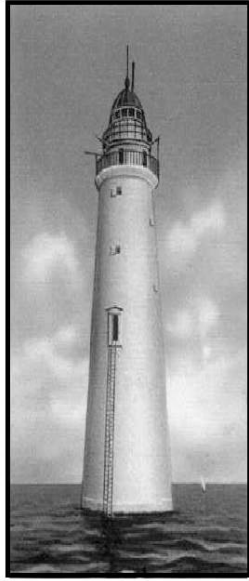
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Seaview Afternoon at OYS



Attention OYS Ladies

Come and join in for
Champagne
and Appetizers at the
Crow's Nest

Thursday, April 28, 2005,
3:00 PM

Attendees, please alternate
by either purchasing a bottle
of Australian "Seaview Brut"
Sparkling Wine at the OYS
bar or bringing an appetizer
of your choice.

For information call:
Anne Crook (905) 842-7949
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where Scouts drowned
off Oakville. They of
course needed a home
so a deal was made
where OYS came to
their present location
and TOWARF took over
the small clubhouse.
Again this was a
member oriented
construction project and
being built on the old
garbage dump the
building was
constructed on block
piers. The clubhouse
was a large room with
a modest kitchen, bar
area, and 2 toilets no
showers in those days.
Every spring members
had the task of leveling
the clubhouse using
jacks and wedges as
the garbage settled.
The bar was a special

event permit operation
for parties and regattas.
In August 1964 OYS
hosted the Snipe

Western Hemisphere
Regatta. Don Hains
was the Commodore
that year and was
instrumental in
building the North
Dock, which is still
operational today. This
major regatta attracted
14 Snipes from 6 or 7
countries, and was
won by Brazil. New
Snipes were built by
Grampian Marine for
the occasion and Ford
who had opened their
plant in Oakville
provided convertibles
for all the countries to
use in the opening
ceremonies.
The club was slowly
expanding and
Albacore's were
introduced one of the
organizers of this class
was former
Commodore Fred
McCutcheon. Some Y
Flyers and keelboats

including Shark number
1 also made the scene.
With all this activity of
course a committee
boat was needed and
the original Oyster was
purchased. It was found
in a field outside Tilbury
so again volunteers
were required to bring it
to Oakville. Doug
Keary who was in the
construction business
volunteered a trailer.
The boat was jacked up
and deposited on the
trailer the wheels
bowed out and it was
debatable whether it
would make it to
Oakville. However at
about 25 miles an hour
via Hwy 2 we finally
made it to OYS.

To be continued.



Saint Pat's at OYS

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

John Quinlan, Publicity

'Nautical Adventure Night'...

The Oakville Power Boat Club in Support of "Friends of the H.M.C.S. Haida" presents a Nautical Adventure Night featuring Captain Patrick R.M. Toomey, Canadian Coast Guard (Retired). Captain Toomey will present his personal experiences ice-piloting the Russian nuclear powered icebreaker "Yamel" to the North Pole. For reservations, contact Brenda Busby, O.P.B.C. AT 905-844-3607. All proceeds directed to "Friends of H.M.C.S. Haida" program.

'Did You Know'...

It is impossible to lick your elbow. Go ahead try it.

'Tip Of the Month'...

Docking. Never approach a dock faster than your bank account will allow.

'The Last Word'...

Any intelligent fool can make things bigger and more complex... It takes a touch of genius --- and a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction. -- Albert Einstein

Want to contribute to Scuttlebutt? Send in e-mails, letters, short articles, etc. to: john@puresand.com (John Quinlan)

Gurth Bramall 1923 - 2005
Retired Harbour Master,
Founding Father - Oakville's Harbours

Born in England with three brothers and one sister, Gurth came to Canada in August 1939 to visit a cousin at his summer cottage, and stayed when there was no passage back to Europe due to the outbreak of war. He went to work in an aircraft factory, became a Lieutenant and instructor in the army, and started his own commercial paving company before his consulting services in this field.

Gurth was contracted with the Town to supervise the development of two of Oakville's greatest assets, the harbours, as set out in the Oakville Harbour Master Plan in August 1974. This position grew into the harbour management and lasted 19 years.

The harbours are often referred to as the "Jewels of the Town". Gurth, through his leadership and vision, was instrumental in developing the wonderful harbours we have and enjoy today.



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