QCYC CLIPPER

Queen City Yacht Club **120 Years** *August 2009*

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Editor's Notes

Rosalind Ross, Communications

With summer in full swing there's a lot happening to report but, on the other hand, with members on holidays, getting reports in the Clipper is a challenge. But that will make the next issue even more interesting when QCers return from measuring rainfall in other ports during July and making the best of any August sun.

Photos have been coming in to our clipperphotobank@gmail.com address. Yours truly was on holidays as well so not as many made this issue as usual. However, we have two issues to go. Ken Rodmell is writing an exposé of the QCYC Blues Band with some great photos included. That event was unforgettable, for long time members who had been partying to the Blues Band for years, and for newer members who got to see and hear the kind of talent we have at the club. The Camel Tones, another great band, ensured that the tradition of good music continues.

The 120th celebration was an amazing success, with members and former members coming from all over and others sending greetings. There will be a bit more history in future issues as we move on to the 125th anniversary.

Richard Slee is the club's new unofficial official archivist so if you have any photos or memorabilia to donate please leave them at the office.

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Advertising

The Clipper offers members and non-members of QCYC a cost-effective way to reach an audience of avid sailors. Classified Ads Ads of 20 words or less are free for QCYC members. Ads should be submitted as digital files: Mac quark, eps, pdf, tiff, jpg (for tiff/jpg ensure 300 dpi if type, 200 dpi pictures). For information on placing ads for *The Clipper*, please contact Rosalind Ross.

Rates for Business Card size (3.5 x 2")	Annual (6 issues)	1x
Member	$120	$30
Non-member	$240	$60

Vice Commodore

Pat Whetung

Cruisers are casting off and visitors are arriving, keen racers are competing on Wednesdays and weekends, and there have been lots of barbeque gatherings. Activities and events mark another season of high spirits and enjoyment at our favourite place on earth.

In a recent conversation with a new Senior member, he declared that three or four of the best summers of his youth were spent attending Junior Club. Like others who have been at the club for many years, he reminded me that I must soak up as possible of the remaining 09 season to sustain me through the off season.

Another tangible reminder was the 120th Classical QCYC Celebrations on July 4th. The QC spirit is alive and doing well as more than 62 members volunteered their ideas, skills and precious time to honour the club and host another memorable event. Current members welcomed back former QCers who joined in the 1940s and 50s. Others flew in from British Columbia and the Chesapeake to join the celebrations in the Great Hall. The QC Blues Band played and we all danced, sang and reminisced confirming that it's the members who make our club special. Let's celebrate again in 5 years at the 125th!

Our future bodes well with eager young sailors coming through the Junior Club programme. Again, the membership demonstrated tremendous support when it generously contributed to (unbudgeted) new sails for the young racers to compete in the Provincials. We're introducing yet another generation to the sport.

Just this morning, another visitor commented that QCYC is their destination of choice and we've always been their favourite club. That compliment is earned and shared by the entire membership.

It's time to celebrate summer, sailing and all that makes our club so wonderful.

Entertainment

Susan Veenhuizen

The long awaited Summer of '09 is mid way through. There's lots of fun to be had with some of the best events yet to come. QCYC's Lobsterfest and Women Skippers Race is on Saturday August 8th.

Lobsterfest has a long tradition at Queen City and around the lake. Many visitors make this a yearly tradition. It takes many volunteers stage the event; that's the QC way. But the stars of the show are the live, cold-water lobsters we're flying in from Halifax.

And don't miss the Jazz 'n BBQ/Karaoke Night on Saturday, August 22. The fun begins at 4:00 p.m with the jazz sounds of 'Anything Goes'. Later you'll get your chance to sing at Karaoke Night!

See you at Lobsterfest

And you thought eating lobster was a refined activity. Nick Mather proved otherwise when he caught grounds chair Chris Borgal tackling one of the spiney critters at last year's Lobsterfest

Grounds

Chris Borgal

Just a quick note mourning the loss of a number of baby ducklings. Seems a family of weasels has moved into the environs of Yellow Dock - bold as brass in broad daylight, they have been lounging on the dock (some wearing sunglasses, drinking martoonis and smoking whatevers) waiting for more innocents to wabble by (wade, babble and waddle). I think between the raccoons eating the eggs and the weasels eating the outcome of eggs not eaten and the beavers undermining the Junior Club and the ducks (when in season but not in the weasels) begging for biscuits and Darth Swan and his wife and chicks camping in the vicinity... well– whew! Yellow Dock may be threatened with becoming an ecological zone wherein we may have to leave everything as-is. The result may be that the club will save thousands by not being able to install a replacement dock! Just a thought from an inhabitant of this wild environment down near the bridge.

The entrance to the clubhouse, complete with new canopy, doors and balcony looks better than ever in mid-summer

More Memories of a Queen City Bilge Brat (aka Al Rae. Jr.)

by Al Rae Jr.

Al Rae Jr., age 3

Growing up on the foredeck of Valhalla was an unforgettable learning experience. I had a master helmsman and savvy crew to show me the way. But as there was no Junior Club at QCYC in 1946, Dad enrolled me in RCYC's Junior Club. There I was, fully immersed in the skills of knot tying, capsizing and righting a dinghy, sailing without rudder and learning the points of the compass as well as nautical terms, boat maintenance, boat handling, the racing rules and racing tactics.

My six years at Royals Junior Club were memorable but none more so than the Aphrodite Cup series in 1952, my final year. This trophy was for the Junior Championship of Lake Ontario and beyond. Teams came from Montreal to Youngstown and points in between. My friend Laurie Muir, jr. was my crew as we helmed our way through three days of tough competition to win. The *Toronto Telegram* covered the event; the Monday headline in the sports section read: "RCYC Trained Queen City Sailors Win Junior Regatta". Ironically, I was the Royals Junior Club fleet captain but my loyalty to Queen City came first.

Interest in junior sailing grew at Queen City along with the number of youngsters ripe for learning how to sail. In 1952 my Dad put a plan together to start our own Junior Club. Notably, it was the first Junior Club on the Lake (if not North America) to accept girls. Paul Carver was the first instructor and I took over for the next three or four seasons.

The original Junior Club was in an old fishing shed on about 30' back from the present steel headwall, just south of the first locker block. Boats were hauled up on the sandy shore each night. The first "coach boat" was Valhalla's 7' long tender "Valet" with a 5 horsepower outboard on the stern. At full throttle it could just keep up with the faster boats in the fleet (shades of the *Harold Robbins,* eh Graham?).

Initially the Junior Club fleet was made up of 8' Sabot Prams (forerunner of the Optimist). These little cat-rigged boats were already being sailed competitively out of the Club and at the Cove Fleet out by the Eastern Gap. Sabot skippers included Paul Henderson, Don and Doug Clapp, Doug Hall and myself among others. All in all there were 45 or 50 prams sailed by juniors, seniors and those in between.

The Club offered Junior memberships to these aspiring skippers who represented the us very well competitively in local regattas. In later years, many became Senior members, including Don and Doug Clapp, who graduated to International 14' Dinghies.

Paul Henderson, at the club, to celebrate our 120th Anniversary, recalled in a lengthy "Gam" on the balcony with Ron Mazza, Peter Jones, Wayne Lilley, Davey Bell and myself that he had won so many regattas for QCYC that RCYC approached his father to "buy-out" his Queen City membership so that he could represent Royals in up-coming regattas. Which he did, and does with distinction. Paul added that he had a warm spot in his heart for Queen City and hoped it would never change.

After the first year Dad made a deal with Royals to buy 8 or 9 or hard-chine cat boats known affectionately as "brutal beasts" and 3 clinker built sloops…the vaunted First Division. The First Division had daily drama as skippers fought for "The Cock of the Walk" flag, flown at the mast head of the boat that had bested the division the day before.

This initial fleet performed valiantly for many years before being replaced 12' Nordberg sloops, with help from member Kurt Hansen of Whitby Yachts. Ron Mazza recalls sailing Nordbergs when he and his brother Rob were in Junior Club, under instructors Johnny Lye and Jeremy Ruskin. Nordbergs were eventually replaced with contemporary craft leading to our current fleet of 420s and Picos.

Over the years the Senior Club has actively encouraged a Junior Sailing programme, often against all odds. Junior Club Chairs have included Bill Eckersley, Dianne Taylor, Richard Slee, Lynda Chubak, Jonathan Moles and Terry Hofkirchner among others. Dianne in particular, pursued and received a Trillium Grant (with the intrepid assistance of Garry Baker) resulting in a fleet of new 470s and a coach boat.

Over the years qualified instructors have ensured that sailing skills are consistent with the standards and levels set by the CYA. Back in the day no such formal criteria existed, but we still met them. Skills were taught by instructors with proven competitive success and hands-on boat handling experience. Juniors developed a "seat-of-the-pants" response to helm and boat without benefit of electronic instruments or "count down" starts.

I'm glad that the Learn to Sail (as it is now called) programme is alive and well today under the continuing and watchful eye of Steve Cutting and his team of instructors including Dan Smith, Jess, Christin and Jamie.

It is a particular pleasure to see Dan, son of Past Commodore Wayne Smith, heading up a racing programme. Already our teams have carried the QCYC Burgee proudly in several events this season with more to come. (There is a great photo of Dan and his sister in Wayne's cockpit in the Centennial book).

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Remembering the last half century

By Anna Prodanou

Few people have the good fortune to be able to say they've done precisely what they wanted with their lives. But karin larson, the founder and former publisher of the sailing magazine *GAM,* doesn't hesitate to make the claim. "I'm the luckiest person in the world because I've been doing exactly what I always wanted," said the lifetime member of QCYC, now in her 80s,

Luck may have had something to do with it. But perseverance, hard work, an instinct for what people wanted to read, and who her target readers might be, were the real factors behind her magazine's success.

karin (she spells her name in lower case) started *GAM* in 1957 and shepherded it for 50 years until its sale in 2007. A half-century career in the service of a single publication is rare enough, but karin founded *GAM* when women publishers, especially founding publishers, were rare.

Her effort hasn't gone unnoticed. She was inducted into the Boating Hall of Fame in 2000 and in 2002 Ryerson University, her alma mater, gave her its Alumni Achievement Award. Where did the name *GAM* come from? Queen City, actually,. karin recalls. She came up with it the name coming to her during a conversation with a couple of sailors at the club. Google defines the term as *A herd or school of whales; a social meeting, visit, or the like, as between vessels at sea.* "I saw it as a way for sailors to keep in touch," karin says of her eponymous magazine, now North America's longest-lived sailing publication.

Although *GAM* has kept focusstayed focused on its mission despite itsover its long history. karin admits she was a little embarrassed by the first issue. "It was so plain," she says. "But people encouraged me and said it was a nice little sheet." She built the publication up little by little, steering it through some rough years in the 70's by working 13 and 14-hour

days. It eventually reached 20,000 subscribers.

karin insists that she always knew what she was supposed to do with her life. As young as 10 she did was doing school projects about the newspaper business. She was one just of just 15 females in her journalism class of 70 at Ryerson in the early 1950s. She worked briefly for a dentistry magazine after graduating, then. She founded GAM in 1957.

The magazine is as old as hHer association with Queen City is as old as *GAM.* Although she sailed with other clubs, "this was always my club," she says proudly. While living on the island for a number of years in the 50s, she sailed a Snipe dinghy called *Quill*, one of 8 or so at QCYC. "When I first joined the club, the members were very welcoming." karin says. "They showed me how to do things, but I had to do my own work and carry my own weight."

Women sailors were few in the sailing community in the 1950s. A telling letter from a former club member, Fran Beaurgrand, was printed in the 2007 anniversary issue of GAM, recalled the male-orientation of sailing. "In January 1959 the Queen City Yacht Club held their annual meeting. This was held at the Maple Leaf Room at Union Station. karin larsen phoned and asked me if I would be attending. I said that I would like to and since only members were allowed to attend, karin and I were the only two women present with the hundred men who were members. I rather liked those odds. I remember that karin and I were well looked after. We were asked to be scrutineers for the election of officers that evening."

Half a century of writing about boats has generated a lot of friends in the sailing community, many of whom greeted karin as she sats in QCYC's dining room recalling the good old days. "The club used to have great regattas and a dance every Saturday night." karin remembers. "Queen City was the last club to host in September and people would come from all over. It was a great blowout party."

karin hasn't been over to the club much in the last two years since she sold GAM. Health problems have kept her close to home, but she misses communicating with the sailing community. In keeping with the times she'd like to see a new publication online and if anyone want to start one she'd love to be a part of it. Clearly for karin larson 50 years' work is not enough.

2002 Ryerson University Alumni Achievement Award Citation on Ryerson's website.

Karin Larson is the publisher of GAM on Yachting. A desire to avoid corporate life and a long-held dream to publish a magazine encouraged her to launch the publication in 1957. Now North America's longest-lived sailing magazine, its pages talk about more than the sailing life. Whether advocating for protection of waterways, or raising funds for worthy causes - such as Toronto's Tall ships sailing program, or the donation of equipment and supplies to schools and hospitals in Cuba - Ms. Larson has been an influential activist. In recognition of her many contributions, she was inducted into the Boating Hall of Fame in 2000.

THE SLEE FAMILY HISTORY AT QCYC –PART III

By Richard Charles Slee, Century Caprice

Richard Slee's great grandfather Richard with his eldest son, William Reginald Slee (my great uncle Reg) inside the Club in 1903 (the Magazine Reg is reading is dated 1903).

On the morning of July 7, 1920, disaster struck QCYC when the spectacular club house designed by Lennox (member and architect of Old City Hall) collapsed into Toronto Harbour. The initial reason given by authorities was rotten support pilings however it was found that dredging to deepen the harbour and ironically create a group of Islands, including Sunfish (now Algonquin), was the true cause of the collapse. The board, led by Tommy World, the founder and Commodore at the time, was prepared.

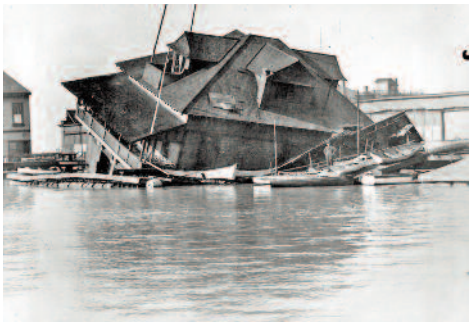
My great grandfather Richard Slee had been appointed to a Special Committee in November 1916 to look into moving the Club to the north side of the Western Gap or to Ward's Island. At the October 8, 1917 board meeting he and another board Member reported on a meeting held with the Toronto Harbour Commission (THC) regarding a new site for QCYC. The discussion had focussed on a site on the north side of the Western Gap and the fact that the THC wouldn't likely pay to move the clubhouse but would be willing to compensate QCYC for the cost of a new one. But the THC also wanted QCYC to stay at its present location for another three years, and suggested that it discuss an arrangement with Argonaut, Toronto Canoe Club and National YC.

By the spring of 1920 Richard Slee was investigating a move to Ward's Island and an amalgamation with the Ward's Island Association. World War 1 had a devastating effect on QCYC. Membership dropped to below 70 and the directors had to continuously authorize overdrafts and loans at the Bank to keep the Club afloat.

In December 1918, Richard and another director joined a special committee to raise contributions to save the Club. The committee raised a large amount of money. The Board alone contributed $170 – about 25% of the annual cost of running the club at that time. By the time of the disaster, however, membership was beginning to increase substantially.

After the Clubhouse fell into the harbour the fundraising was truly Herculean, a testament to the leadership of World and the Board of Directors, including my great grandfather. He joined a new committee to formulate a plan of reorganization of the Club by September 7, 1920.

The lease for the Sunfish Island location was ready for signing by this time. By January 1921, Richard was was part of a group overseeing plans to build a club and boat house on the Island. In early February 1921 Tommy World signed the lease for 2 acres on Sunfish Island. By April 1921 Richard was helping oversee construction of the clubhouse and approving any plan changes. In July 1921, as acting treasurer, he was helping raise funds for the Clubhouse (which was well under way, but proving more expensive than anticipated). The QCYC centennial book notes that he was also trying to



attract new members. On March 8, 1921 at the AGM, Richard informed the membership that a Charter was required to create a new legal entity as a result of the move, and that more money needed to be raised by issuing up to 100,000 shares. The issue should have been one for the vice commodore but for whatever reason it ended up being my great grandfather's.

His address to members was inspiring. "At this time when our club is embarking, so to speak, on a new era in its history, it is more than ever necessary, in fact it is expected, that the members will be loyal to our organization, and endeavour in every way to further its interests," he told the membership. Advocating word of mouth, he suggested that members "spread abroad among those they meet whom they feel would be good and worthy members, should they join us, the good news of what we intend to do." The effort, along with refraining from criticism, he promised, "will eclipse all other efforts in this direction."

He admitted the board had been somewhat opaque regarding progress on the new clubhouse. "For various reasons it was not advisable nor in the best interests of the club to make [information the new building] public," he claimed. Exhorting members to sell the club, he promised a more transparent organization.

"We have appreciated the confidence you placed in us, and your patience under very trying circumstances, which we can now feel have reached a most happy and gratifying conclusion so that you are now able to do much to help us in giving the greatest publicity– without exaggeration–to what our plans are, what we intend to do in the. interests of yachting, what we are doing to make the name of the Queen City Yacht Club good, and to revive interest in this the second oldest yacht club on Lake Ontario. It is our intention to have our plans, if approved, by this meeting, published in the daily papers, showing the proposed buildings, accompanied with a suitable write-up. We need and expect to have a large addition to our membership and count on your loyal cooperation to this end."

As part of the new image, he urged a what-happens-at-QC-stays-at-QC approach. "If there is any criticism, do not allow it to go outside of our meetings." he advised. "Criticism is good in its proper place. If is constructive. If it gets abroad among others, it is destructive."

The efforts of the board worked. The Ontario government issued new letters patent by the on November 18, 1921. Club signatories were Thomas Albert Edward World, Broker, William Dixon Thomas, Manager, Blake Van Winckle, Electrician, Richard Slee, Engraver and Robert Andrew Farquharson, Teacher.

Through the rest of 1921 the Board worked on a new Constitution and Bylaws. In January 1922 the membership unanimously voted the new organization into existence.

Unfortunately, the last existing old minutes are recorded in April 1922. No further records refer to my great grandfather after that time. It seems however that he contributed to the leadership of the Club when it was essential e.g. the building of the first clubhouse, the club's survival during WW 1 and the destruction of the old clubhouse and the move to the Islands and building of a new clubhouse that we have to this day.

The next member of my family to join QCYC was Richard Henry Slee my grandfather and youngest son of Richard Slee. Born in 1905 ge was nicknamed Dick, and started sailing early. He won his first sailing trophy at Alexandra Yacht Club in 1922.

Like his father, he was also active at the Club. *The Red Ensign* (the *Clipper* of the day) lists him in June 1925 as a member of the sailing committee. As a dinghy sailor he won a medallion from RCYC in 1926 and one from the Lake Yachting Racing Association.

My grandfather told me as a child that, when visiting Algonquin Park to view lumber-hauling, a winch gave way and the handle struck him in the eye. I'd always assumed he'd been involved in the timber industry. Not until I was reviewing documents after his death, did I realize that he'd never been near a tree professionally in his life. The injury had occurred while hauling a boat at QCYC! in 1929 or 1930. According to other documentation the railway at that time used a rented hand winch which might have been replaced in 1930 by one that the club purchased. Ironically, the accident may have saved my grandfather's life. In 1939 when he volunteered to join the Canadian Navy for WW II he was rejected as medically unfit.

Though Dick's sailing career was at an end, some years later in 1957 he joined the Boulevard Club where I took my junior sailing in the 1960s. He remained a member until his death in 1990.

My great grandfather died in 1944 and his obituary stated that he was a founding member of RCYC, a claim that was false; RCYC was formed in 1852 and my great grandfather wasn't born until 1869. But he joined QCYC in 1890, ten months after its founding, and was a life member.

Richard Charles Slee and Mary Elizabeth Harsant joined QCYC in 1994. They and their son Richard Joshua Slee sail Century Caprice*, a Tanzer 10.5 named after Richard's great grandfather's Gree 24.*

Graduation Day

QC's *Robbins* wheelmen come up *summa cum laude*

Looking to do some task around the club requiring the Robbins? No worries. Consider one of the cadre of members who, having skilfully driven the boat for 20 years or so, are now actually qualified to do so.

Don't be thrown off by the evident inability of a couple of the old-newby drivers to put on a 50-s era life jacket. Following a one day course last May, the Toronto Port Authority, the Coast Guard and Department of Transport, and doubtless others, all say these guys are good to go.

Give one of them a call for that next big on-the-water job.

Left to right: David Hall, Rick Hardy, Laurence Concannon, Bruce Forbes, Steve Hills, Thomas King, Dwight Hamilton and Graham Dougall

Queen City Staff ....

By Keith Aldridge

Eon Anson–server

I love being here because it feels like home" says Eon, a five-year veteran at QCYC. Eon trained in classical theatre through the Meisner Technique at the Neighborhood Playhouse in New York City. "Meisner students," he says, "work on a series of progressively complex exercises to develop the ability to improvise, to access an emotional life, and finally to bring the spontaneity of improvisation and the richness of personal response to text." In winter, when not using his talent on stage, Eon puts considerable dining-room skills to use at the Air Canada Club at Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment. In the sailing season, our members and guest benefit from his training and impeccable dedication at QCYC.

Daniel Kroppmans–server

"QCYC feels like family", says Daniel who is now in his 3rd year as a server in our dining room. Originally from Poland, arriving at Toronto in 2002 with his family, Daniel is now in his 3rd year at Yorkville College in Dental Hygiene School. He expects to be licensed in September. When not working at QCYC, Daniel enjoys biking and kayaking.

Richard Webster–kitchen/server

Richard is a family member of QCYC who lives on Wards Island and sums up the club saying, "I love this place". Richard's main interests are the outdoors and sports, especially rugby which he's played throughout high school and continues now with trips to USA with his team. Now in his fourth year working at QCYC, Richard plans to pursue a career in the fire service, a career we hope he never gets to practise at QCYC.

Karina Rugelis–server

"Queen city is a relaxing place to work", says Karina, now in her second year as a server, and her 4th year of nursing at Ryerson University. An accomplished pianist, who has completed her grade 6, Karina is keeping up her family sailing tradition, In QC's junior club, she achieved level 4 bronze 4 and also likes to ski, usually at Blue Mountain. In 2011, Karina will be one of Michelle Mohammed's bridesmaids.

Edrick Munson—chef

When not cooking for us at QCYC, Ed works for the city, cooking at the Children's Aid Society. Before joining QCYC, Ed cooked for 6 years at the Mustard Grille in Mississauga where he is now sous-chef. Proir to that, Ed completed a 1 year course in culinary arts at Humber College. Working at QCYC was Ed's introduction to the Toronto Islands, which he continues to enjoy. Ed will celebrate 11 years of marriage this August 8 as he prepares to move into a new home.

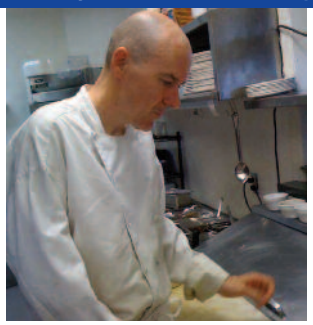
Charlie Tanner—assistant chef

A life-long Islander and family member at QCYC, Charlie spent 5 years in Junior Club and has worked in the up-market La Rua restaurant in Whistler B.C. Not surprisingly, given his Whistler background, Charlie likes to snowboard in winter. At QCYC, Charlie is continuing his training as a chef under the watchful eye of Ed Munson.

Michelle Mohammed—server

Michelle joined the staff of QCYC this year as a server in our dining room. When she finishes this summer at Queen City, Michelle will enter her 4th year in the Nursing Program at Ryerson University. Originally from Trinidad, Michelle came to Canada in 1989 and is a best friend of Karina (see below). When she is not working in the summer Michelle loves to fish for bass at Gananoque and relax reading fiction. Michelle is engaged to be married to Colin Nielson in June 2011.

Roddy Fenner—chef



"My favourite part of this job is the ride over on the Algonquin Queen," says Roddy now in his third year in QC's kitchen, where he prepares food on Wednesdays and Sundays. Originally from Old Kilpatrick, Scotland, where he trained as a chef, when not working, Roddy enjoys fishing in a local lake and, in true Scottish tradition, walking.

Kerry van den Landen—pastry chef

A bronze-level graduate of QCYC's sailing school, Kerry is training as a pastry chef under the excellent tutelage of Rob Miller, our head chef. A Humber College grad, Kerry will enter the University of Manitoba this fall to study kinesiology. In his free time, Kerry enjoys hip-hop and R&B music, and playing basketball.

Treasurer

Jacqui Cook

I was away for a weekend and returned to club after a two week absence. As the tender approached the dock and I looked around, I was struck by how good the club is looking. The spruced up locker blocks, flowers and full lagoon make the club look beautiful. This is an update on the management of the club's finances. As I have reported in the past, the club earns about two thirds of its revenue by the end of May. The only areas that earn most of their revenue in the summer are Regalia, Fleet, Entertainment and Learn-to-Sail. The club also makes the majority of its expenditures during the summer months. This means that June is a good month to review the budget and make any adjustments. The Board conducted the June review and is satisfied with the overall direction of our income and expenses. Planned revenues are about on budget. We should thank Brad for selling memberships when we have no more slips, Rick for finding spaces for a huge number of boats and Steve for stuffing the yard during the winter. Planned expenditures are also about on budget.

What can members do to help the club's finances?

1. Invite all of your friends to the club, especially for the events. Have them take the tender and buy a little regalia while they are over. I say this with a little tongue in cheek, however, inviting guests also increases the number of people at our events and that makes them even more fun.

2. Tell your friends and your acquaintances about our great Learn-to-sail day camps for children and teens and our adult learn-to-sail lessons. These are both a lot of fun and great value. 3. Continue to brag about your club to your friends. Recommendations are our best advertising, and they are free.

In the fall the Board will set a budget for 2010. Our fiscal year begins October 1 and so the current Board sets a budget for the coming year, since the next Board won't be elected until almost the end of the first fiscal quarter. One of the first activities of the incoming Board (in January) will be to review the Budget and make any adjustments they require. A challenge for the 2010 budget will be the change to blended sales tax expected July 1 2010. While the final legislation has not been passed, the blended tax is widely expected to be implemented on schedule. The club must investigate how this will impact our finances.

I have heard that Environment Canada is forecasting a warmer August. I hope it brings fair winds as well.

WOMEN SKIPPERS' RACE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

Watch for more information and sign-up sheet in the clubhouse.

- $20 per boat (cash or cheque)
- Registration 1000 – 1200
- Skippers' meeting 1130
- First warning 1250
- Award Ceremony 1630

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THE 19TH ANNUAL PORT CREDIT IN-WATER BOAT SHOW

AUGUST 28 to 30, 2009

The 19th annual Port Credit In-Water Boat Show - one of Ontario's premier in-water boating events - will be held at the Port Credit Harbour Marina August 28 to 30, 2009.

There will be land displays featuring marine equipment, insurance, finance, charters, sail makers and the Coast Guard. Back again this year is the 'Speakers tent' with an array of boating seminars hosted by Rob MacLeod from InformedBoater.com. Boaters can also write their Operator's Exam at the show, required by September 10, 2009.

Back by popular demand is the CONSIGNMENT TENT. Boaters are encouraged to bring all their old boat 'stuff' to sell. Forty percent of the proceeds are donated to the Junior Sailing programs. Book your space at The Store – they do all the work for you!

Visit www.portcreditboatshow.ca for more information on exhibitors, times of in-water and dry land displays, seminars and demonstrations, and admission hours.

Questions and inquiries can be directed to Lori Mason at 905-278-7005 or by email lori@thestoremasons.com.

QUEEN CITY 'S LITTLE SECRET

by karin larson

As we strolled along the boardwalk, moonbeams danced in a wide sparkling path across the dark waters of Lake Ontario. With only the whispers of wavelets brushing the sandy shore and willow leaves rustling in a rare drift of air, all was quiet.
Carried away by the beauty of our first date, we gave no thought to time until the whistle blast of the departing ferry broke the mood and the silence. My friend had to get back to the city.

No worry! I had recently joined Queen City Yacht Club. The lights we had seen from my father's home on Wards Island across the lagoon told me something was going on at the club. and *Lillian*, the QCYC tender, would probably make a late city. I could simply put my friend on board.

As we neared the club, however, Doug Rutherford of the Club House Committee confronted me. "Karin, what are you doing here?" he yelled.

"Just putting my friend on the boat," I told him.

"You can't do that," he replied. "You've gotta leave. I'll take care of your friend."

Just then Al Cox appeared out of the darkness. Doug took my obviously stunned friend by the arm and they disappeared through the clubhouse entrance. "I'll walk you home, Karin," said Al, taking me firmly by my arm.

Al Cox walking me home? I wondered what was going on. I knew him, of course, but he'd never been anything more than a courteous Wards Island neighbour.
Oh well, I thought, no use arguing, and we walked out of the club grounds and over the lagoon bridge. "You'll be okay now," Al said, abruptly dropping my arm, as we reached the bottom of the bridge.

Home? I was only half-way there. But there hadn't been any need to be walked home in the first place, and I wasn't sorry to get out of a situation I didn't understand.
Not until years later, when a good friend broke a code of silence, did I learn that men-only parties known as smokers were a regular occurrence at Queen City Yacht Club. Certain Friday nights were "Boy's Nights." Women were not welcome. With very few exceptions, members' wives, and even some of the more straight-laced members, were left in the dark as to the exact nature of smokers. Except among participants, no mention was made of the dancers, stag movies, gambling and more that were part of the action for years.

An oblique sentence–"The stags were toned down."– is one of the few references to the parties in club records, according to the 1989 Centennial book.

And what happened to my date after he disappeared through the club entrance?

I don't know. I never heard from him again.

Bilge Brat

continued from page 4

The Learn to Sail programme has benefited the Club greatly. Current examples include Ron Mazza, who has gone from International 14's to Sharks to the helm of his beautiful *Circe*.

Rob Eckersley. a junior who became a senior instructor, apprenticed on his dad Bill's *Gone With the Wind* and is now races his own *Blue Streak*. Eric Whan, who learned to sail under Rob, last year capturied the Champion of Champions Trophy at the helm of his *Alpha Omega*.

The memory of Dad lives on in the Al Rae Memorial Trophy presented each year to the Junior who has shown the most improvement in developing racing skills. Dad would be proud to know that the junior sailing programme he helped to start continues to thrive and contribute to the

A call for nominations

Vice Commodore Graham Dougall

In addition to the awards for racing, awards presented for outstanding achievement include:

•Parkinson Trophy - Outstanding achievement in open competition;
•Sportsmanship Trophy - Exhibiting the most sportsmanlike conduct
•QCYC 16-foot Skiff Cup - Most valuable keelboat crew
•Mrs. Jimmy Drury Trophy - Most valuable female crew
•NYC 16-foot Skiff Cup - Most improved sailor
•Jack Albertson Trophy - Outstanding service to the club
•Bobby Norton Plaque - Community service through yachting
•Valhalla Trophy - Best cruising log
•Georgina World Cup - Awarded annually to the yacht that has entered the most ports outside a 25 nautical mile radius of the club.
•QCYC Regatta 1904 Special Class - Best photograph
•QCYC Regatta 1905 Special Class - Best Photo Showing QCYC spirit
•Nominations for these Senior Club awards must be submitted to the office by August 31st. A nomination for the cruising trophies must be accompanied by the yacht's logbook.
•Either prints or slides must be submitted for the photography awards. Please return trophies to the office as soon as possible.

The Bilge Brat Al Rae himself, sailing his International 14 with crew Paul Carver

Junior club racing program taking off

Regatta program is paying off in experience and ever-higher finishes.

Junior club competitors are becoming QC's new ambassadors across the province. By the end of July, racers had attended no less than six regattas across Southern Ontario. At press time, results of two 470s that sailed in the provincials against a large fleet of experienced racers from all over Ontario.

In addition to developing their sailing skills and desire to excel, the program trains racers to meet the practical challenges of competing– maintaining good equipment, transporting boats to regattas, and working with the dedicated coaches and parents who make the program possible.

Of course, on the race course, quality of equipment can make a difference. Recognizing that fact, QC's racers and other members are showing their support for junior competitors. Wednesday night racers helped tremendously in late July with cash donations dedicated to crisp new sails for two QC 420 dinghies.

The "Cue CYC", a member-supported winter pool league, also contributed the $660 to the new-sail cause.

As well, a member has donated a new, hybrid bicycle to be presented to the lucky winner of draw to be held on Pig Roast weekend (also known as Labour Day weekend).

Raffle tickets are on sale for $2 each or 3 for $5. The bike will be on display in the lobby until PIG ROAST. The lucky winner will be riding home on the brand new bike.

Plan to buy your tickets in the next few weeks! If our roving ticket sellers miss you, you can purchase tickets in the office.

We have a few more regattas before summer wraps up, so the kids can use your support to have a big finish. All proceeds will go to the racing program.

Once again, QCYC is showing tremendous support for a worthy cause....our kids!

John Ball wins class in LO 300

John Ball led the way as Queen City held its own in the 2009 version of the Lake Ontario 300 that began July 18.

Sailing the venerable Cal 30 *Anne Bonny,* John and his son Alex had the best result of QC entries, a first in their three-boat white-sail division on the short course.

Sailing in sometimes arduous conditions, and always shorthanded, of course, John and Alex took 57 hours to complete the 200 nm course from Port Credit, to Scotch Bonnet Island off the southwestern tip of Prince Edward County, and back around the Niagara buoy to PCYC.

Jeff Imai improved on last year's result in *Sansei*, entered in the fully-crewed white-sail division. He sailed Tartan 4100 *Sansei* to third place on the short course in a competitive eight-boat class. Sansei's crew of four took 38 hours to finish the race.

Only one QC boat, Robert Eckersley's J109 *Blue Streak*, opted to sail the 300 nm long course around Main Duck Island, the Niagara buoy and back to Port Credit. An excellent run downwind to Main Duck, however, was marred when the fully-crewed *Blue Streak* had a grounding incident off Main Duck. Despite time lost getting underway, it still finished a creditable 10th in the hotly competitive, 15-boat IRC spinnaker fleet.

Moxie II, a C&C 110 sailed out of Niagara on the Lake SC by past commodore Wayne Smith and his son Dan, QC's current junior club instructor, unfortunately saw a 15-mile lead

About 160 boats, including QC's Sansei, second from left, headed downwind July 18 to start the 2009 Lake Ontario 300

shrink on the final leg when wind powered boats. The fully crewed *Moxie* took 2 days and 19 hours to complete the Main Duck course, good for fifth in its 7 boat fleet.

Gypsy Wind, a Tartan 3500 out of Tuscarora YC also had a tinge of QCYC blue in the person of Bruce Forbes as crew. *Gypsy Wind* came second in its fleet of 10, finishing the white-sail Scotch Bonnet course in 46 hours.

Conditions were mixed as usual in a race that typically takes two or three days. The downwind start in a moderate breeze got more challenging as the fleet headed down the lake. By the time the fleet of 160 or so passed the spit, a few broaches and blown spinnakers were seen in 18 knots.

The race could turn out to be good for QC's junior sailors. Final results weren't tabulated by press time, but QC's *Sansei* and *Anne Bonnie* were very much in the running to win a cash prize, donated to the junior club as the best finishing team on the Scotch Bonnet course.

Jazz 'n BBQ/Karaoke Night, Saturday, August 22nd (4 pm)

You asked for it…so we're bringing it back! Get ready for another Karaoke Night at QCYC. Bring your friends and your voices and win prizes!

Like last time, we're having a pre-Karaoke gathering on the lawn with Pot-Luck BBQ starting at 4:00pm

This year we're adding a twist – LIVE JAZZ during the Pot-Luck!

Karaoke starts around 9:00pm.

Email Lesley@Heathcote.ca for more information."

Queen City gets its own anthem

Music has long been part of the QCYC culture, from lagoon sing-alongs to karaoke night, dances, and performances by the legendary QC Blues Band.

The band reconvened for the 120th Anniversary in July (the Anniversary tour?) is pictured below, featuring l to r, Bruce Byers, Mark Millen, Bobby Peat on jawbone, Klaus Brockhausen, Ken Rodmell and Jan Brockhausen.

In keeping with the musical heritage, the event was the first performance of the Ballad of Queen City, with words and music by Randy Benoit.

For those wishing to add the ballad to repertoires at sing-alongs, etc., lyrics are reprinted at right.

INNOVATIVE IDEA #4

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THE BALLAD OF QUEEN CITY

LYRICS AND MUSIC BY
RANDY BENOIT

CHORUS
QUEEN CITY YACHT CLUB – THE BEST ON THE LAKE
TO GET TO US MATEY JUST FOLLOW MY WAKE
CRUISERS AND RACERS AND BOATERS WE BE
WE ARE THE QUEEN CITY FAMILY

FIRST VERSE
IN EIGHTEEN EIGHTY-NINE THE CLUB BEGAN
SOME TYC MEMBERS HAD FORMED A NEW PLAN
TWENTY-ONE SAID – WE'LL GO IT ALONE
THEY BUILT QUEEN CITY AS THEIR NEW HOME

CHORUS

FIRST AT THE HELM WAS TOMMY WORLD
SERVED MANY A YEAR TILL HIS SAILS WERE ALL FURLED
CLUB SPIRIT BINDS US FOR ALL OF OUR LIFE
LIKE FRED MAYERHOFER AND INGA HIS WIFE

CHORUS

NINETEEN –TWENTY A YEAR THAT WAS GRAVE
THE CLUB HOUSE FELL AND SANK UNDER THE WAVES
SUNFISH ISLAND BECAME OUR NEW BASE
WE ALL HAVE GROWN TO LOVE OUR PLACE

CHORUS

KNOWN AS THE FREINDLIEST YACHT CLUB AROUND
OUR PARTIES ALMOST HAVE WORLD REKNOWN
MANY A MEMBER HAS SAILED FAR AND WIDE
ALL SHOWING THEIR QCYC PRIDE

CHORUS

:en City Yacht Club Web Calendar http://calendar.qcyc.ca/ViewCal.html

Queen City Yacht Club

August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Week 31	27	28	29	30	31	1 LYRA Day Races
2 Week 32 LYRA Day Races	3 John Simcoe Day/Civic Holiday	4	5 1815 Wed. Race Series 2-7	6	7	8 AHMEN 1 (EYC) Women Skippers Race 1800 Lobsterfest Dancing to TBD
9 Week 33	10 Learn-to-Sail/Junior Club Session 4 starts	11	12 1815 Wed. Race Series 3-1	13 Clipper Issue 5 Submission Deadline Management Committee	14 Private Function (Afternoon/Evening)	15 AHMEN 2 (NYC) Cruise in from ABYC Cruise out to ABYC
16 Week 34 Cruise in from ABYC Cruise out to ABYC	17	18	19 1815 Wed. Race Series 3-2	20 1835 Board meeting	21 1800 Junoir Club Banquet	22 LOSHRS Race 4 @PCYC Cruise-in from DYC Cruise-out to DYC 1600 Karaoke Night
23 Week 35 Cruise-in from DYC Cruise-out to DYC	24	25	26 1815 Wed. Race Series 3-3	27	28 Private Function (Evening)	29 Cruise in from WYC Cruise out to WYC LORC EYC Open & EYC Levels
30 Week 36 Cruise in from WYC Cruise out to WYC LORC EYC Open & EYC Levels	31 Deadline for Award nominations	1	2	3	4	5

All times displayed relative to Canada/Eastern.

Picture of the Month!

Winner of this month's Picture of the Month is

Lily Yan who sails on *Galadriel* with Rick Brough. Lily also shot the cover a panorama of boats in the harbour with the club in the background . Lily should contact Rosalind Ross for her pitcher!

Do you have a good photo you've taken around the club? Do you like beer? Send your photos to communications@qcyc.ca

)ueen City Yacht Club Web Calendar http://calendar.qcyc.ca/ViewCal

Queen City Yacht Club

September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Week 36	31	1	2 1815 Wed. Race Series 3-4	3	4 1800 Corn & Weenie Roast	5 1800 Pig Roast Night (MBE) Dancing to TBD
6 Week 37	7 Larbour Day	8 Fall Tender Schedule	9 1745 Wed. Race Series 3-5	10 Management Committee	11	12 AHMEN 3 (AYC) LORC NYC/QCYC Open @ NYC
13 Week 38 LORC NYC/QCYC Open @ NYC AHMEN 4 (MCC) Clipper Issue 6 Submission Deadline	14	15	16 1745 Wed. Race Series 3-6	17 1835 Board Meeting	18	19 LORC Argsoy Rose Bowl (NYC) LOSHRS Race 5 PCYC to DYC Cruise in from BPYC Cruise out to BPYC
20 Week 39 Cruise in from BPYC Cruise out to BPYC AHMEN 5 (TS&CC) LOSHRS Race 6 DYC to DYC	21	22	23	24	25	26 LORC Donald Summerville (ABYC) Texas Holdem' 1100 Champion of Champions
27 Week 40 0800 Work Party Day (Fall)	28	29	30	1	2	3

All times displayed relative to Canada/Eastern.

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Tender Schedule/Clipper Supporters

All times are departures cityside, from the foot of York St.: deduct 15 minutes for departure time from **Club House.**

For last-minute changes, check the club message at (416) 203-0929. They will also be posted in the QuickClipper, time permitting

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Holiday
A.M.	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15
	J 8:45	J 8:45	J 8:45	J 8:45	J 8:45			
						9:15	9:15	9:15
	R 10:15	R 10:15	R 10:15	R 10:15	R 10:15	10:15	10:15	10:15
			R 11:15		R11:15	11:15	11:15	11:15
P.M.	R12:15	R12:15	R12:15	12:15	12:15	12:15	12:15	12:15
			R 1:15		1:15	1:15	1:15	1:15
	R 2:15	R 2:15	R 2:15	R 2:15	2:15	2:15	2:15	2:15
	R 3:15	R 3:15	3:15	3:15	3:15	3:15	3:15	3:15
	4:15	4:15	4:15	4:15	4:15	4:15	4:15	4:15
			4:45		4:45			
	5:15	5:15	5:15	5:15	5:15	5:15	5:15	5:15
			5:45		5:45			
	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15
	7:15	7:15	7:15	7:15	7:15	7:15	7:15	7:15
	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15	8:15
	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15
			9:45					
	10:15	10:15	10:15	10:15	10:15	10:15	10:15	10:15
			10:45					
			11:15		11:15	11:15	11:15†	
A.M.					12:15	12:15		
Special Events						(1:15)		

J: 8:45 AM weekdays beginning Wed. June 29
(1:15AM) Special Events only
Note that Canada Day is a regular race night.
R Robbins Freight Run
† only on Sundays preceding a holiday Monday
‡ Wednesday race nights only

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AUGUST 28-30

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