



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*By Bill Reynolds*

This has been a good winter for the boats and those of us who spend a time, even in the deep of winter, working on their boats. The lack of snow has favoured our tarps although, according to Rett Armstrong, it has been lousy for skiers. The ice fishermen were probably upset as well because even as late as mid-February, the lake was still very liquid. Dave Jewett, our harbourmaster, mused near the end of January about calling the Mawdsley brothers thinking that if the warm weather and sunshine continued, we should launch by March. As I look outside today though, winter has returned with snow and cold. I was hoping the groundhog was correct about spring being right around the corner. Oh well...

This is the first year that I attended the Boat Show mid-week. I recommend that anyone who can take a day off work or who is retired do so. There were no line-ups to get on any of the new boats and staff at each exhibit was able to answer questions and chat about the features of their boats. Did you know that the traveller is becoming a thing of the past? I noticed a few new boats (Beneteau and Hanse for example) have no traveller hardware. The salesman from Pat Sturgeon Yachts told me that they will install traveller tracks for anyone who wants them but, he explained, most European boat manufacturers have eliminated the traveller since a rigid boom vang with gas lift will do the same job with less trouble. If things continue to develop like this, sailing will soon be as easy as power boating!

Your Board has been very active this winter planning the placements of boats in the harbour, preparing work projects (including replacement of the foot-bridge across the Creek), and looking into revamping our website to make it user friendly. We have plans to provide slips to all members on the wait-list with boats and have thus begun to accept applications for new members.

The court case is dragging on slowly. In the last report from our lawyers they are still confident that we will prevail. We will keep you informed as the proceedings develop.



Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons  
Escadrilles canadiennes de plaisance

### Launch Check list

*Before launching a boat for the first time each season, please complete the following checklist to reduce your chances of an unpleasant boating experience.*

**Check the boat registration.** Check that the boat registration numbers on your bow are in good condition and legible.

**Check your safety equipment.** Look at the required equipment chart to make sure you have all the equipment needed on your boat after it has been stored. Check flare expiry dates.

**Inspect your life jackets.** In addition to making sure you have a properly sized wearable life jacket for each passenger, check each life jacket for mildew, rot and tears in the material, seams and straps. Discard and replace any damaged life jackets.

**Check fire extinguishers.** Make sure the fire extinguishers are properly charged or buy new ones. Ensure that the fire extinguishers have not expired.

**Check the first-aid kit.** Replace any supplies that were used last season or have passed the expiration date.

**Check fittings.** Thru-hull fittings below the waterline should be tight; sea valves should operate freely. Make sure the boat plug is plugged in and in good condition before you launch.

# TELLTALES

With less than two months to launch date, I hope everyone is healthy and in good spirits. I look forward to seeing you at the Club soon. I plan to be at the boat soon to begin preparation for launch. I anticipate taking the tarp off in the next few weeks. Oh, for an endless summer.

## HARBOURMASTER

*By Dave Jewett*

Welcome to the 2012 season!

I am looking forward to an exciting season. I have been away for the past 3 years cruising down south having a great experience and back to enjoy Canadian seasons. With tongue in cheek, if one had a ice breaking sailboat we could have extended the season throughout this winter.

Lift-in is booked for May 5-6. I will be looking for experienced crews to sign up to help the crane operator move boats. I plan to have 4 shifts covering the morning and afternoon both days similar to last year. Also will be looking for help moving cradles the following weekend. Please contact me if you are interested in signing up for credited work hours. Members are always welcome to help others handling mooring lines while they move their boats for the first time. While you are preparing your boat for the boating season, if you can please make sure your cradle is well marked with regard to cradle orientation and boat name. This will help sorting the cradles at fall lift-out. I believe most everyone will be able to launch their boat this year. There will be some minor re-arranging-more later closer to lift-in.

After lift-in, all excess wood, plastics and metals will be disposed of. This will help keep the grounds looking great and organized. Please remove any framing and shim material after lift-in or attach them to your cradle securely so it will not get lost when the cradles are moved for storage. Thank you!

This fall we are planning to dredge the harbour after lift-out. Lift-outs are planned for Sept 29-30 and Oct 27-28. **Please remember, work hours for the Oct lift-out will be credited to the following year.**

## SOCIAL DIRECTOR

*By Hans Jufferman*

Hello, I will be your Social Director for the upcoming sailing season.

To make it a successful social season I will need help: YOUR help. We have several events and all need convenors with helpers.

A number of the events have been spoken for, but many are open.

The following events are in need of convenors.

*Launch Check list, continued...*

**Check for winter damage.** Inspect non-metallic thru-hulls; they get brittle with age and winter ice can crack or loosen them. Look for hoses that have been forced off or split from freezing. Every spring, boats sink at the dock when these problems go undetected until the first heavy rain.

**Check the fuel system.** Inspect fuel fittings and hoses; replace if cracked or showing other signs of stress. Probably good to replace the fuel filters as well.

**Check electronic gear.** Get fresh batteries for portable electronic gear, radios, handheld GPS and flashlights. Inspect connections on lights and the horn and other equipment wired in to the boat.

**Inspect dock and anchor lines for chafing.** Replace lines if they show signs of wear.

**Check the oil.** Creamy brown or gray engine or drive oil has water in it and a mechanic should find the source of the leak before you start the engine.

**Examine sailboat rigging.** Check for signs of corrosion and wear and for leaks where chain plate mountings come through the deck.

**Check charts:** Do you have a current chart aboard? Channel markers and buoys may be out of position due to ice movements so take extra care.

**Engine:** Ensure Engine is Working prior to lift in

*After Launch: As soon as your boat goes in the water, before the slings are removed, go below and check your through-hulls for leaks.*

*After lift-in try to get your mast up within two weeks*



# TELLTALES

- Sail past, June 2nd,
- Beef barbecue, Aug 18th (I have lots of helpers but need a convener)
- Corn Roast, Sat. Sept 1st
- LSIS Hot breakfast Sunday Sept 2nd
- LSIS Continental Breakfast, Monday, Sept. 3rd
- Lift Out Pot Luck Lunch, Sunday, Sept. 30th

Myself and my assistant will have the information you need to organize the event. So give it some thought, round up your sailing friends--no reason there can't be co-conveners--and get in touch with me at [social@hawkestone-yc.ca](mailto:social@hawkestone-yc.ca) or [hjuffman@hotmail.com](mailto:hjuffman@hotmail.com).

I look forward to working with a number of you to make this another successful social season at HYC. To those of you who have already stepped up and volunteered, my thanks. To those who haven't, come on and make my (& your!) day. Together we can make this a fun season and get to know some of our newer and longer-time members better.

## TREASURER

*By John Logrippo*

Wow....what an amazing winter and I wasn't even here to enjoy it. The weather in Florida was pretty fantastic as well and I even managed to get some sailing done on the "Gulf".

I'm sure most members would agree that spring is our favourite time of the year. Before we know it our parking lot will be alive with the sound of sanders, polishers and idle chit chat of our members reminiscing about the past winter and plans for the upcoming summer.

I'm quickly approaching my first year as Treasurer and I have to admit it's been an interesting experience. It's certainly a time consuming position but I've learned a lot and I'm becoming more efficient in fulfilling my duties.

I'd be remiss if I didn't give special thanks to Tina Muzzin for covering for me in my absence but I'm sure most board members would agree, she does a lot for all of us (even when we're there).

I'm happy to report that our finances are in good shape. We have a healthy bank account and our loan has a balance of just under \$40K. We were able to dodge a bullet last year by postponing dredging of the harbour but I don't think we'll be as lucky this year. This is one of our largest single expenditures but I should be able to soften the blow by amortizing the cost over several years. We also have a new Property Director this year that has a very ambitious list of upgrades and property maintenance items and while costs have yet to be determined, I'm sure they're within our means.

Our Prescribed Rates Schedule has a couple of changes this year – specifically with work hours. **The rate charged for hours not worked has increased from \$25 to \$50 and the tracking of these hours will coincide with our billing period – i.e., Oct 1 to Sept 31. Any hours worked after Sept 31 will be contributed to the**

## Procedures for using mast crane

*Note: Non members are no longer allowed to operate the mast crane.*

- *Prepare your mast in your slip.*
- *Ensure that adequate help is available.*
- *Operation of the electric control lever must be well understood by the operator i.e.: The arrow points to the direction of travel.*
- *Ensure that the cable remains taut at all times.*
- *If you need to change the direction of travel, pause briefly in the neutral position before selecting the opposite direction.*
- *Ensure that all shrouds are in the proper position before lifting the mast.*
- *Secure strap to mast then attach the crane hook to the strap.*
- *When lifting the mast avoid being under it.*
- *Ensure that the shrouds and the foot of the mast are secure before lowering the strap for removal.*
- *Return the control box to the cabinet and lock it up.*
- *When finished, swing the crane boom parallel to the dock and secure the line.*
- *Move your boat and complete the rigging away from the area allowing others access to the crane.*

*Hawkestone Yacht Club*

# TELLTALES



**following season.** This would hold true for our final work party (usually the same date as the AGM). The number of hours required per member remains at 10. Look for a revised Prescribed Rates Schedule on our web site.

I'd also like to mention almost ¾ of our 2012 Invoices were sent out via Email. Thanks to all the members that opted for this method. It's definitely both a time and cost saver. For those that are still receiving via regular mail, it might be time to make the switch.

Wishing you all a happy and safe sailing season and be sure to do some "shoal searching" before heading out on your first sail.

## MEMBERSHIP

*By Kory Keeping*

I hope everyone has enjoyed the wonderful winter we had and for the snowbirds I hope it rained every day in Florida, just kidding. I am membership and safety falls under my mandate. If anyone has any concerns drop me a line.

This year the club has purchased a defibrillator which is a portable unit the size of a small lunch box. There is an instructional video which will be available for viewing and if anyone wishes to purchase their own copy they are available at Action First Aid in Barrie on Commerce Park Drive for \$20.00.

Speaking about safety the walk bridge from the parking lot to slips on the island is being re-decked and brought up the building code with 42 inch railings.

The mast crane will be available once again for that fun job of raising the masts for the boats. Remember each boat only has one captain and the captain of the boat is in charge while he/she is lifting the mast unless of course they assign someone else as person in charge. I know everyone loves to help but sometimes we just have to step back and take orders from someone else. Finally if you don't know how to use any of our equipment - ask someone who does. I will be available for instruction if requested. I will be available to instruct new members with all safety equipment and any who wishes to join us.

## COMMUNICATIONS

*By Jim Lemke*

This is my first issue of TellTales. It has been a learning process to put this together, I hope you enjoy it. If you have ideas, experiences or photos to share, please drop me a note at: [communications@hawkestone-yc.ca](mailto:communications@hawkestone-yc.ca)

### Wireless Internet at the Club

I've heard various people musing about this for at least a year so I would like to poll the real interest - i.e. who is willing to put up a bit of money :- )> My proposal is this:

- not-for-profit by users (not club supported)
- available May through August
- suitable for e-mail & web browsing
- not for video / downloads (bandwidth caps)
- only available to subscribers
- one-time up-front fee for the season
- up to 3 devices per subscriber (flexible)
- administered by me

Parameters may change a bit according to the group's wishes and usage patterns.

I have talked to Rogers. High speed cable is available at reasonable cost.

I'm hoping to keep the cost down to \$50 per user for the season but to figure that out I need to know how many would subscribe. *If you want this to happen, please send e-mail to my address above or discuss when you see me.*

Cheers, Jim.

# TELLTALES



Ok enough of my nagging everyone enjoys their upcoming sailing season. I know I am looking forward to it. Live slow sail fast.

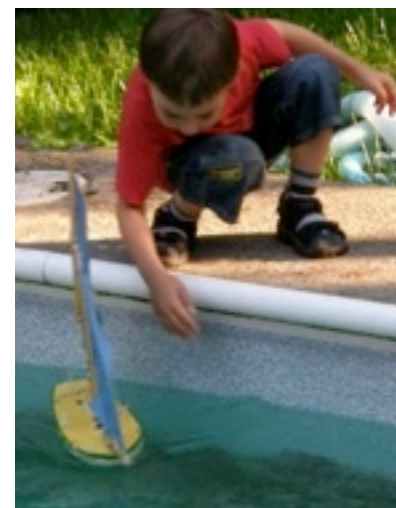
## PROPERTY

*By Ron Marsh*

With anticipation, I've been watching the days getting longer and the sun stronger. Looking at my list of things to do in order to get the boat ready for another sailing season and again thinking why I did not do more in the fall. Please somebody remind me of this come October! This will be the first spring launch and second sailing season for Linda and I at Hawkestone in addition to my first year as Property Director. We are looking forward to seeing all the members we had the pleasure to get to know last year and hopefully getting to know a few more we did not.

Linda and I have been sailing for over 30 years and this is our third boat. It started with a Sunfish in the early 70's and moved to an Annapolis 26 in the 80's and to our Bayfield in the 90's to present. Most of that time was spent at Marina Del Rey on the northeast side of Lake Simcoe. During that time all we did was sail, as long as the boat moved we were happy. This past year at Hawkestone we were introduced to racing. Although no records were set we did learn a lot. A word of caution to Richard and Ron, I did quite a bit of reading on sail set over the winter, but if this doesn't work, I suggest the Bayfield fleet start at 5:30 on race night so at least we all finish about the same time.

I spent last fall and winter trying to absorb all the knowledge past "Property Guy" Richard and many veteran members have had to offer. Many thanks for all your patience and knowledge. It is easy to sit back and look around and take all of what we see and enjoy for granted. However, wood deteriorates, paint flakes and fades, shingles dry out and curl, weeds take over gardens, refuse piles grow and the forest starts to creep forward. Sometimes a little work early saves a major project later. I have put a list together and with the help of Tina, it will be on the club web page with items that I think need attending to over the next few years, hopefully everybody can find a project they can lead, help with or do on their own.



# TELLTALES



## Tail Wind..

I know there are many folks that enjoy classic winter sports like skiing and snowmobiles. However, I think Colin Ralph-Edwards & family have found a much better alternative. I'll let Colin tell of the adventure..

The family made a visit to St. Maarten this March Break where we found a company that owns and operates 5 retired America's Cup racing yachts. I had seen this 20 years ago but not had the chance to partake. We went for the first sail of the day, under perfect conditions in the main city's port, 40 mph winds and a 1 ft chop. The Edwards' were on Canada II accompanied mostly by Norwegian tourists who seemed to be fully prepared to race. Leather sail gloves, non-slip runners, etc. We were pit in a three way race between True North, Stars and Stripes and our boat Canada II. As to be expected most American tourists wanted to be on Stars and Stripes. We were very happy crewing a Canadian boat. After some instructions from our captain, Mr Geoffreys we were off. Maureen and our daughter counted down the running start to get us to the start line first while our son kept a watchful eye on the positions of the other boats. I was charged with manning the main sheet winch. After five lengths of the harbour in which we managed to loose the lead and regain it we came across the finish line first in a very close run with Stars and Stripes. Needless to say our American counterparts were not impressed, but a good time was had by all! I think it took a week to wipe the smile off my face and from the picture you can see how inspired our daughter was by the sailing experience. Happy sailing to all. Cheers Colin



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