

Oct 2013



TELLTALES

HYC NEWSLETTER

Communications

by John Logrippo



Another sailing season is quickly drawing to a close and as the days get cooler (and shorter), everyone is battening down the hatches for the winter that's just around the corner. It's been an interesting summer to say the least. We started out with cool, wet weather in the early stages but things improved as we moved into August. We had a very active social schedule that was unhampered by anything mother nature through at us. More details to follow from our Social Director.

I've heard rumors (from other club members around the lake) that we're more of a Social Club with sailing activities as opposed to a Sailing club with social activities. My retort to that would be "it works for us". In fact I believe that we have a good mix of Sailing and Social activities. Our newest (and very successful) "Spinnaker/racing" weekend is a great example of both. Whatever the case, people will soon be on a waiting list to join our club so we must be doing something right.

In the 10+ years that I've been member, I've seen a lot of changes to our club - especially on the property side of

things. We've had some dedicated Property Directors (the present one included) that have taken on huge projects and with the help of our members brought them to fruition. Renovation of the clubhouse, the reconstruction of our walking bridge, parking lot improvements, just to name a few. There have also been a few hiccups along the way - ie, our expensive legal battle. Overall though, I think we're headed in the right direction as our club, like a fine wine, gets better with age.

Our AGM is just around the corner (Nov 2) and your input is required on some business matters as well as improvements to the harbour. I would encourage all members to attend this year end meeting and provide your opinion/input as well voting for several vacated positions on the Board of Directors. If you can't attend in person, be sure to fill out a proxy form so that your vote is realised.

I'd also like to encourage everyone to attend the Commodore's Ball as it's the last social event of the year. There are a few surprises this year and it promises to be biggest we've had in a while thanks to our Social Director's enthusiasm in selling tickets.

See you all there....and bring your dancing shoes.

Presidents Message

by Bill Reynolds



Long faces are once again the norm as skippers remove sails and step their masts in preparation for the fall lift-out. The weather has been cooler than usual making it less of a bitter pill but we all feel that the season has ended too soon.

We had a busy year at HYC. The roadways have been levelled, grass planted, brush cleared, Harbour bubbling system installed, website updated, Friday night races, barbecues, lobster fest, drop the hook weekend, Children's day, and regatta weekend parties celebrated. Three of our members and their spouses have set off to explore the Caribbean. Siggy and Carol have a new boat and we have welcomed many new members. As I look back, it seems that the season was filled from beginning to end so I suppose we can take comfort in the knowledge that despite the end of the summer, we had a good time throughout the time on the water.

We moved cradles today in the pouring rain. Despite the weather spirits were good and everyone enjoyed the camaraderie and contribution to the running of the Club. Masts are being unstepped and members join together to make the tasks manageable and safe. This is the key element to HYC – people working together to make sailing a community activity. This is the best place to be on any day, even when the heavens pour down on us.

Our AGM is being organized by the Board and we hope to see most of our members there on November 2 to discuss the future plans for the harbour. Until then, be safe as we get our boats ready for their winter sleep.

Social

by Hans Juffermans



As we head to the last lift out of the season I think we all reflect on the season it was. The overall picture is pleasant. We had several social events, some were the required usual (lift-ins, Sailpast, Lobsterfest, etc.) and a few new ones. Drop-the-Anchor has made a return, and, while the weather wasn't the best, those intrepid sailors who ventured down Kempenfelt Bay had a good sail. The premier running of the Mystery Weekend brought out many members; some who raised their spinnakers for the first time (talk about cobwebs.....). We received such positive comments about these two, that it's likely they will make repeat appearances.

And what can I say about this year's beef barbeque that hasn't been said? One of the best ever? Didn't the weather co-operate? Have you even seen so many delicious desserts? Who are those crazy carvers? The list goes on, but all comments were positive and indicate we all had a really good time. The food lived up to expectations and the dancing went on into the late night. We even had a record number of guests from LCYC. We also served one of the largest numbers of dinners overall. Hats off to all who worked on this event especially the new-to-the-event convenors, Joanne Davison and Gord Kennedy. Job well done folks.

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Once all the boats are on dry land and the clubhouse and property has been put to bed for the winter, we have the Grand Finale to look forward to, the Commodore's Ball. The venue has returned to Georgian College at the north end of Barrie which has always been popular with the members. It will be a nice change to see our sailing associates dressed in their frills and finery. No tee shirts and deck shoes for this event. Ticket sails have gone well so we expect a turnout to exceed that of recent years.

Take note those of you in the running for any awards or trophies. This is a social function and as such the ceremony of awards has been returned to the Commodore's Ball. That just means that if you want to pick up your hardware in front of your Hawkestone family, you should plan to attend the Ball on the 26th. Last day for tickets is the 19th at lift out. Absolutely last day is the 22nd.

The very last event, while not strictly under the social calendar, is the AGM. The social part is the coffee and nibbles provided, but the important part is that the business of running the club is conducted there. So plan to attend on November 2nd, and participate in the operation of the club. After all, it is YOUR club.

Enjoy your winter wherever you spend it, and whatever you do, stay safe. We want to see you at next year's social events.



Spinnaker day at HYC



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Commodore

by Mary Ann Pope

Another sailing season at HYC has come and gone. I hope you all had good sailing, some socializing at the great events this summer, and did some work to keep HYC the shining jewel of Lake Simcoe. My term on the Board of Directors is about to come to an end. I have enjoyed working with the other Board members over the last three years.

I have always known that Hawkestone is full of very special people. I would like to express my sincere thank you to all of you for your support, thoughts, prayers and kind words over this past summer. I hope you all have a healthy and happy winter.



Our Mystery weekend included an HYC cake.....looked too good to eat.

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Collision Regs: Keep a sharp lookout!

By Bill Reynolds

A recent grounding off the coast of Cornwall brought the need for constant vigilance while underway into sharp focus. A French fishing boat ran aground when the skipper left his station momentarily to get some coffee. The bridge was left unattended and the boat ran ashore.



He didn't hit another boat and nobody was injured in the mishap. Despite this, the skipper was fined over \$70,000 (CAD) for failing to keep watch and another \$7,000 plus in court costs.

So the next time you leave the helm to go below for a peanut butter sandwich or a cup of coffee, keep in mind the requirements to maintain a lookout

What do we do with outdated flares?

By Bill Reynolds

As most boaters are aware, flares are required equipment that cannot be older than 4 years from their date of manufacture. That means when you have been boating for some time, you will have flares that are past their best by date. Should you be boarded by the Coast Guard or Marine Police, you must carry the correct number of flares for your boat but you can have as many older flares as you like. The problem develops, however, when you have more old flares than you can store. What do we do with outdated flares?



In 2009, the OPP collected old flares for a one week period. In that time, 15,000 old flares were submitted for disposal. Unfortunately, they have not seen fit to do this again and many boaters have boxes of old flares gathering dust in their boats and homes. Old flares deteriorate and are less likely to fire properly; however, they can also become dangerous as the chemicals in them can also become unstable.

Transport Canada suggests the following of outdated flares:

- *seek advice from fire departments and police stations. In certain areas they are receiving expired flares.*
- *ask the retailer to accept expired flares when a new purchase is made; and,*
- *if in good condition, retain the flares as supplements to approved flares.*



George Rogan recently approached the OPP Marine Unit asking for direction on disposing of the flares. They suggested the local community Hazardous Waste Facilities. But, when we checked with Barrie Hazardous Waste, it was clear that they did not want to collect explosive devices. Newmarket and York Region

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Hazardous Waste also refuses to take old flares. Newmarket Fire Department has also refused to accept these flares. Residents of Orillia can take their flares to their hazardous waste facility, however.

Transport Canada is discussing the possibility of requiring manufacturers to collect the old flares but the manufacturers (CIL/Orion) currently charge a fee for this function. Individual boaters could be charged \$50 to \$70 to dispose of a few flares. Until something better comes up, it makes more sense for several boaters or even our club to get together and split the cost of shipping expired flares back to CIL/Orion.

We are aware that flares are often discharged during the fireworks displays on Canada Day. The problem with that is the metal carrier for the phosphorous ends up on the beach or in the water. These little metal disks are very sharp and can cut the feet of kids and adults who step on them while swimming and playing at the beach.

Doctor Rogan inquired about the possibility of having a Flare Demonstration Day during which we could fire off old flares in a safe area. He was informed that we would need permission from various authorities and that they seldom agreed on this type of event.

If any member of HYC has found a location where old flares can be taken for disposal, please contact any member of the Board. We would like to share that information with our members.



Spanish coffees were the drink of the weekend - and all lovingly made by Terry, our bartender

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Frank and Pat's "Mystery weekend" was a great success - enjoyed by all that attended - a repeat next year perhaps

Property

by Ron Marsh



Sad to say another sailing season has come to a close. The Club is well into shut down mode with members helping out with general maintenance and winterizing. Please review the list in the Club house and any items not checked off that can be completed please do so. All items left will need to be completed November 2nd Work Party prior to the AGM.

This sailing season was not the best - weather wise it was a late start, cool summer days and nights and hot stretches with little or no wind. Linda and I had one sailing experience this summer that was an easy reminder to always watch the sky. After several days in the harbour waiting for a nice breeze we headed out after listening to the weather channel. Nothing major in the forecast. After enjoying a couple of hours of sailing, we began to get concerned with a cloud formation forming over near big bay point.

In January at the boat show with Brian and Alice Bosman, the four of us decided to sit in on a weather seminar. The sky was starting to look very much like a wind line cloud that was discussed. On that basis, we decided to turn around and head back into Hawkestone. We were concerned that if we were reading the sky correctly, strong winds could be heading our way before we reached the harbour. Wanting to err on the side of caution, we dropped the sails, engaged the auto pilot and steered a course straight for Hawkestone , we were still over an hour away. We all had our life jackets on, including Sassafra but she associates her life jacket with swimming, she was not impressed when she was told a

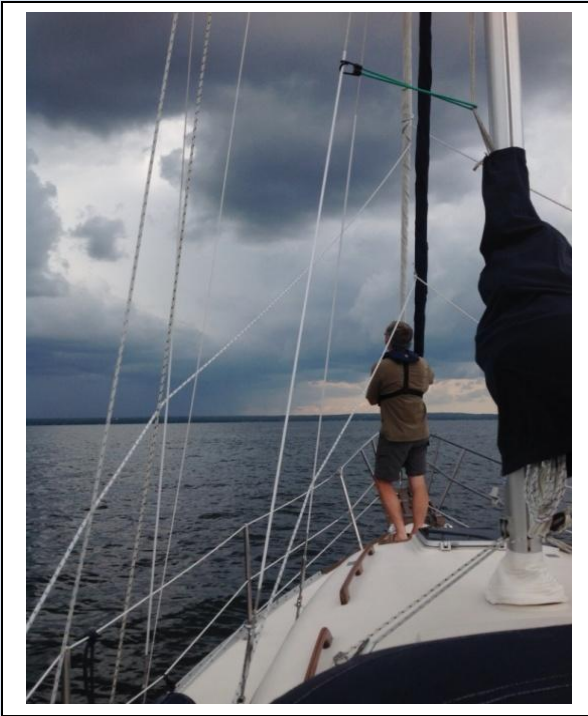
a firm "no swimming".

The storm hit us about a mile and a half from port with a force reading 38 knots on the beam. It closed in around us with heavy rain, zero visibility. Members watching from the safety of the clubhouse said that they lost sight of us a number of times. The Bayfield is a heavy boat and took the beating and kept us running a true course to home. What surprised us with this storm were the sustained high winds. By the time we reached the safety of Hawkestone the worst was over and we were relieved that we made it through unscathed, just drenched. We were concerned to hear another boat from Hawkestone was also caught out in the storm and was still in distress as they had experienced motor trouble and blown out a sail. They were limping home and with the assistance of Bob and Rhett 's dingy "No Fixed Address" finally made it safely back to Hawkestone. We have always had a healthy respect for Lake Simcoe , she can be a beautiful lady, but every now and then it pays to keep a keen weather eye astern.



This picture depicts a wind line cloud similar to the one we experienced although not as pronounced.

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**What we actually saw before the
storm hit**