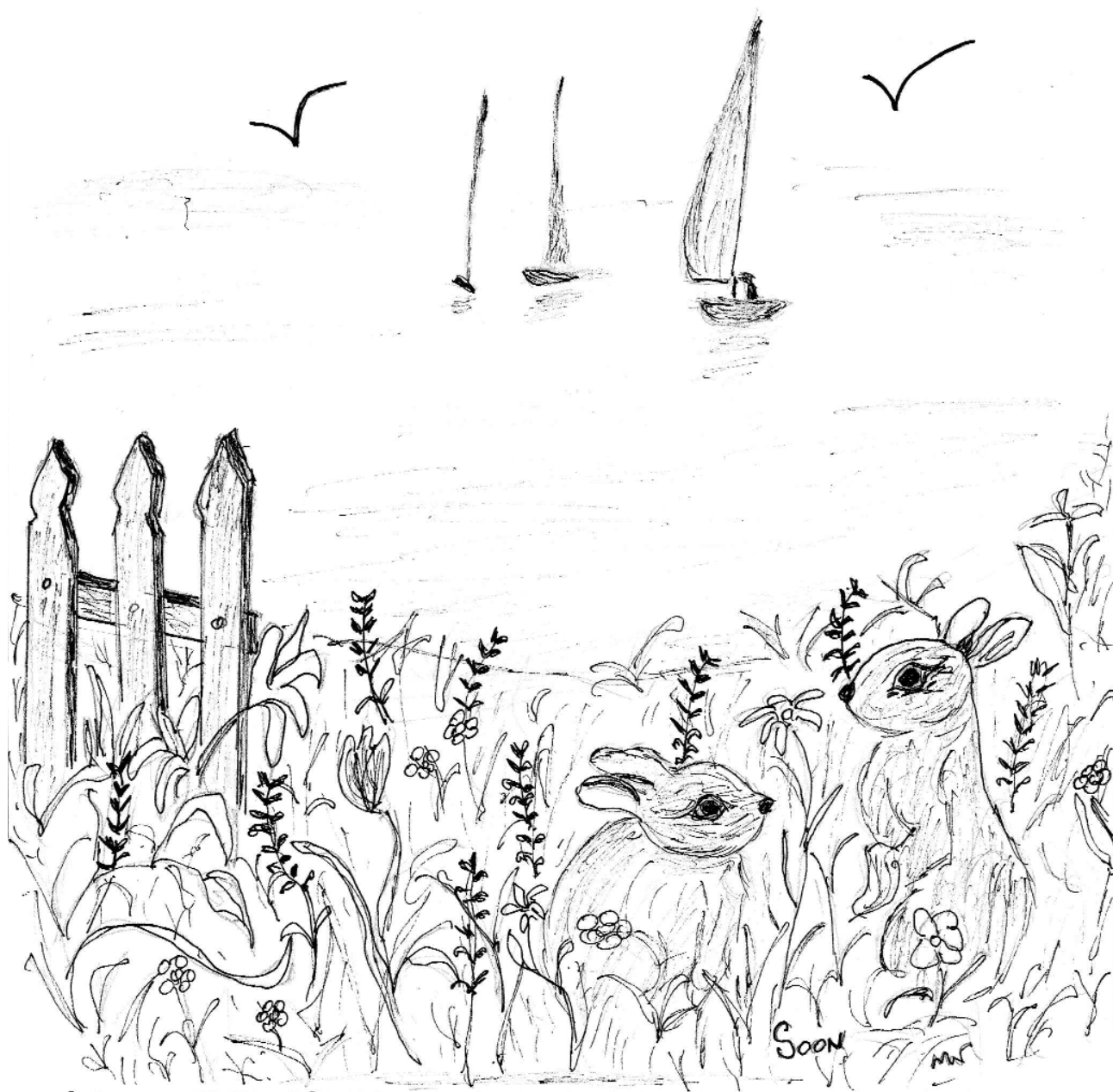


SPAR AND PROP

APRIL, 2008

NUMBER 186



Drawing by Marie Middleton



Toronto Hydroplane and Sailing Club Executive Board

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Calendar

Fred Eaton Talk—Wednesday, April 23—See information on page 6.

Launch Day—Saturday, May 10—Guaranteed—the snow will be gone by then.

Racer's Meeting and Measuring In—Wednesday, May 14—Come and see what our Race Captain has planned for 2008. New and experienced sailors—come race with us. New sails? New racers? Measure your sails to maximize your handicap.

Ice Breaker Race—Saturday, May 17—The first weekend race.

Beer Commodore's Warmup Special—Saturday, May 17—After the race, new members, warmup social—*everybody* welcome.

BPYC Cruise to TH&SC—May 17 & 19—We will welcome our first group of visitors for the season.

Long Weekend Breakfast—Sunday, May 18—Come and enjoy a \$3 breakfast with all your friends. Perhaps the first sleepover on your boat?

Series I—Race I—Wednesday, May 21—Come and start the race Series. Many high scorers were racers who came out to all the races but didn't win a race.

TH&SC Cruise to CBYC—May 24–25—Join us on our cruise to Cathedral Bluffs YC at Bluffer's Park. Our first cruise of the season. Sign up early.

ABYC Skipper's Plan Regatta—May 24–25—Big regatta next door.

Series I—Race II—Wednesday, May 28—There's nothing like racing to become a better sailor.

Series I—Race III—Wednesday, June 4—We are having a ball—come and join us.

SAILPAST—Saturday, June 7—Our most gala event. Be sure to get your dinner tickets at Launch. Can't stay for dinner? Come and enjoy the rest of the day with your family—Blessing of the Fleet, Salute the Commodore sail, Commodore's Punch, kids' activities, dancing in the evening. It's a whole day of activities.

Series I—Race IV—Wednesday, June 11—We are almost finished Series I. If you haven't come racing yet, now is the chance to tune up for Series II.

Cruise to BCYC—June 14–15—Sign up to be sure and get a spot.

Series I—Race V—Wednesday, June 18—Last race of Series I. If you haven't done well, good luck in Series II.

Circle of Life Race—Saturday, June 21—Discover all the marks of the race course. We had a good time last year.

Series II—Race I—Wednesday, June 25—The start of a new Series. Join us!

Cruise to PCYC—June 28–29—Sign up to be sure and get a spot.

LAUNCH DAY

Saturday, May 10

**Everyone should be at the
7:00 a.m. meeting**

Racer's Meeting

**Wednesday, May 14
7:00 p.m.**

**Come out and see what the
Race Captain has planned for
our racing this year**

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Marguerite Ethier

I SWORE THAT I WASN'T GOING to start every Spar & Prop column with a comment about the weather, but who can resist this year? Spring is finally here after a grueling winter. As the snow kept falling, I tried to remind myself that it would be good for the water levels. Cold comfort in February.

I hope everyone is ready for launch. Bob and his team are working hard through April (thanks to everyone who came forward so promptly to do the dock work this year). Spring dock work is one of the toughest jobs in the club, and it is absolutely necessary to get us launch-worthy in May.

As discussed at the January AGM, Lee Rixon has assembled a few owners of what we believe are a representative sample of boat sizes around the club to discuss implementing (modernizing?) our current fee structure. From looking around the lake at how other clubs do this, it is clear to me that there is no one "right" way to do it, although there might be a few ways that are clearly "wrong" for us. Lee and his group are working away on this, and it is our hope that they will have a report/recommendation to the Board, which if accepted, can then be put to the members at the next AGM. I have no doubt that whatever proposal is made will not please everyone, but I certainly hope we can find some

common ground.

I, and other members of the Board, receive from time to time suggestions from members for rule changes. I am gathering those suggestions, and they will be put to the rules committee together with other changes originating from the board. If anyone has any continuing suggestions, the review cycle will be happening through the summer, so please let us have your thoughts by mid-summer at the latest. Please make your suggestions in writing. (And yes, I have noted the various comments about launch day).

We will have a special bin in the yard this spring for recycling shrink wrap. Turtle Island will come and pick it up for a very small fee. They will not pick it up if the bin is cluttered with other shrink-wrap garbage such as wooden supports, strings, and the like. That stuff goes in the regular bin. Once again, please remember that the club spring garbage bins are for your boat garbage, not your home garbage. Whoever is continually dumping their residential garbage into the club bins is inconsiderate—the club has to pay for garbage removal, which ultimately affects the fees for each and every one of us.

Happy painting. Remember that you (and not the club) are responsible for the safety of your body and your boat on launch day. See you all bright and early on the 10th. ▲



FLOTSAM & JETSAM

Shadow

THE MASTER IS GETTING OLDER

Who remembers that sailing master and Olympic champion, Paul Elvstrom? Well, hang onto your hat, Paul is 65 years old this year. YIKES!!!

LAKE ONTARIO SHORT-HANDED RACING SERIES

There is an information and registration evening at PCYC on Wednesday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. Or call Ian McAllister at 1 800 478-6603 Ext 656.

The web site is www.loshrs.com

VICE COMMODORE

Dan Demers

AS THE NICER WEATHER melts away the snow and members start to work on their boats, we have sent out via THSCnews@sympatico.ca the first Gate Code broadcast of the year. If you have not received the new Gate Code and would like to be on the mailing list, please send me an e-mail stating so.

If you are a crew member that has not yet paid your fees for 2008, please do so as soon as possible. Your name will be removed from the e-mail distribution list, your gate key will be deactivated and this will be the last Spar & Prop sent to you. For those that have paid on time, thank you and enjoy access to our Club.

Now that all our payments have been received and we know everyone's intentions for the summer, i.e. some boats were dry docked last year and are now going into the water this year; the Harbour Master will begin his process to accommodate the boats in their slips. With that, I am pleased to report to you that we currently have no vacancies.

See you around the boat yard. ▲



WAYS AND MEANS

Meredith Thomas

THE BEST JOBS are going fast, sign up soon if you want to get your hours completed before sailing starts for real. A new Work Chit has been devised and a supply will be available at the clubhouse. Please use these as it will ensure that you are properly credited with the hours you have worked.

On completion of your task, please place the completed chit in the Ways & Means drop box, which is on the notice board. ▲

Editor's e-mail address is
rwt@total.net

⚓ ⚓ ⚓ ⚓
The Deadline for the
JUNE issue of
Spar & Prop is
May 31

⚓ ⚓ ⚓ ⚓

Spar and Prop is available in
PDF format, readable on a
computer in colour with
Adobe Acrobat Reader.
Available from our website.

Website address is
www.thsc.ca

HARBOURMASTER

Bob Prosper

WELL, THE GRIP that winter has had on us is finally loosening. There are signs of spring all around us and the sounds of power tools around the club confirms such. Winter seems to have taken its toll this year with cold temperatures and high winds, but in time, we will all be able to enjoy the warm sunny days out on the lake on our boats.

I have a list of many preparations, as well as repairs, and because so many members have signed up to help with the dock work, I imagine that everything will be in place and in working order by the time launch day arrives. I wish to extend my gratitude to all those members stepping forward to assist with the much needed dock work and repairs. My wife Laurie has promised to keep your bellies full with soup and sandwiches. Also, a big thanks to Ross Campbell and Richard Coutts for keeping me sane and on track with prioritizing.

As most of you are aware, our club is full when it comes to sailing members and at last count, all slips will be occupied this summer. We may need to be creative in ensuring that all boats are in an appropriate slip. Some members have moved up to new vessels which are wider at the beam than their previous boat and as you are aware, two beamy boats simply do not sit side by side very well. We will need both cooperation and understanding from members as we face this challenge. I am open to discussing with members any concerns they might have in regards to boat placement.

And so now it is time to get out those power tools and get started on all the prep work ahead of you. Have a look around you before you commence sanding however and make note of the wind direction and how your sanding might affect other people or other boats in the area. Cheers everyone and I sincerely hope that 2008 will be a memorable sailing season for all.

A reminder to all members that they must be present for the launch of their boat. If you are not able to be present then you must designate another person to oversee and be a representative for the launch of your boat. Your boat will not be launched in the event that no one is present to oversee the launch. ▲

RACING CAPTAIN

Jamie Smallwood

THE 2008 RACING SEASON IS about to start.

The first event is the "Racer's Meeting and Measuring In" on Wednesday May 7 at 7:00 pm. The meeting has several purposes. It is a time for skippers, their crew and members who are interested in racing to meet. If you have sails that have not been measured for your PHRF rating, bring them along. We are planning to have a guest speaker. Join us for the first BBQ of the year.

There is a short window of opportunity (four days) after launch to get your boat prepped for the Practice Race that has been set for May 14. We will decide at the meeting whether we will run it this year.

The format for the Wednesday Night racing program has not changed. Three series with five races in each plus make up races in September.

The Weekend Series has some of the old favorites—the Ice Breaker, the Dufferin Bell Buoy, the Bluffer's Challenge, and the Frostbite. Back by popular demand is the Circle of Life Race.

The Voyageur Race is heading west this year, with Mimico Multihull Club as our destination. It is a race that brings racers and cruisers together. We are scheduling a special event on July 12 as a fundraiser for the *Spirit of Canada* program. The format will be an old favorite—the Relay Race.

It is hoped that we will increase our participation both in number of boats and participants, by encouraging non-racers to give a try. ▲



PROPERTY MGR.

Don Bland

LAUNCH LOOMS

Happy Spring everyone! We have arranged for a separate bin to be used for recyclable shrink wrap only. During the last week of April we will also have the usual large bin for your tarp frames and other boat related refuse.

For the few who don't know, this does not mean household junk. Please, club/boat related articles only.

On launch day a work crew will be going through the yard and unlabeled old ladders will be removed as will unlabeled tarp frames from behind the work shop. Please if you have any "stuff" at the club write your name on it or label it, we don't want to throw out owned property but there are a lot of orphaned possessions celebrating birthdays on the property.

The recycled oil and antifreeze containers have lots of capacity. If you are replacing your battery please put your old one over near the recycle drums. ▲



RON BIANCHI

WEATHER COURSE



Ron's fabulous presentation is now available ! If you wish to have a copy just send your request to:
gd-smith@sympatico

SOCIAL CHAIR

Melinda Ramsay

Social Committee Update

2008 Schedule

THANKFULLY IT SEEMS that the long winter is behind us, and the new sailing season just around the corner. The social committee has been putting together the social calendar for 2008, and so here is a bit of a tease for what's happening...

Wednesday Night Races will once again be supported by the BBQ efforts of Jan and Bill. There is rumour that the menu might rotate.

Saturday races will once again have either a social event tied to them, or will have at least a BBQ and beer get-together while the scores are tabulated. This year we will be able to take advantage of the new sound system the Club is buying.

Our first social event will be Saturday, May 17—the **BEER COMMODORE'S WARMUP SPECIAL**...a twist on what used to be our New Members Wine&Cheese / WarmUp Social. Our new RC, Greg Smith, will be hosting something very special this year!

The first **Club Long Weekend Breakfast** will take place on Sunday, May 18th. \$3.00 breakfast!

Sailpast will be June 7th – look for the posters to outline the schedule of events.

On July 12th, we will be having the **SPIRIT OF CANADA RACE & FUNDRAISER**...come out after the race for some fun prizes, and some good food and drink to support a really good cause.

Caribbean Night reappears this year on Sat. Aug. 2, with excellent music and food, and our ever-popular blender bar.

Wake up the next morning to another **Club Long Weekend Breakfast** in the clubhouse.

The **Corn Roast** (complete with Lynda's famous trivia challenge) ushers in fall on Sat. Aug. 30.

The **Thanksgiving Potluck** will be held once again on Sun. Oct. 12.

Awards Night will be held on Sat. Nov. 22—with a dance again this year (come even if you're not getting an award, it's really fun).

The **Kids Xmas Party** is early this year... in order not to conflict with the AGM, we're holding it on **SUNDAY DECEMBER 7TH**. Please mark that in your calendar, and plan to bring all the

kids in your life!

As a final note, the Social Committee would like to welcome Greg Smith as our new fearless leader and beer commodore. We're looking forward to the special touches he will put on our events.

We'd like to extend a warm thanks and a sad goodbye to Mona Anderson and spouse most excellent Jim Anderson, for all their work and support and good humour. We hope you guys plan to come back for an event or two. All the best in CB!

From the gals (and our can't-do-without guys) on the Social Committee, I'd like to welcome you to the 2008 season! If you're interested in joining the committee or just lending a hand, be sure to see either myself, Laurie or Lynda to get yourself signed up. ▲

AN INVITATION FROM RCYC

Dear Fellow Commodores:

We are planning a send-off party for Canada's Olympic Sailing Team. The members of the Team come from across Canada. The event is being planned in cooperation with the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Club. You, your Flag Officers and all your members are invited. The party will be a buffet supper to be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2008 at the RCYC Island clubhouse. It will be a great opportunity for us all to show our support for our Olympic athletes.

Could you please inform your members of this party. If you have newsletters going out to your members, perhaps you could add this as an early notice. Perhaps you could also put up a notice on your notice board. We will be inviting a number of dignitaries including City politicians and we will be planning an intensive media campaign. It will be an opportunity to showcase our sport to some of the invited guests who may not know too much about sailing.

More information regarding times, cost, etc. will follow as event details fall into place.

Best wishes,
Commodore Rodney Smith,
The Royal Canadian Yacht Club

TREASURER

Mike Baker

MEMBERSHIP FEES for 2008 have been collected, although there always is a group of our members who simply can not remember that the due date is the last day of February. Unfortunately, those will have to make the extra contribution, the 10% fine of their respective total fee amount.

A large number of members were also billed the penalty for not performing their required two workdays which translates into four hours. for half day, eight hours. per day or 16 hours. for the two days. Because members themselves, their work party leader or respective executive did not properly report and/or register workdays or hours actually completed, this created a backlash of complaints when members received their penalty billings.

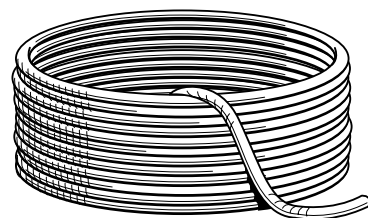
For 2008 we are therefore initiating a concept which, we hope, will more accurately identify and register members' workdays and work hours.

We are introducing a chit system—presented on the notice board—where members are required to report their hours worked and which has to be signed by the respective team leader or executive.

Our new Ways & Means chair, Meredith Thomas, will report to you in more detail on this new system. Any of you who already have worked this spring on either docks, seawall, boardwalk, balcony or general property maintenance please ensure that you fill out the chits and have them signed by the appropriate team leader.

Your Executive furthermore will publish a list showing the names of all members and their accomplished or not accomplished work hours during the year in four segments of four hours. each. We hope you will all participate in 2008 to help spruce up and make our property and club a safe one to enjoy.

Have a happy and safe sailing summer 2008. ▲



REAR COMMODORE

Greg Smith

FOR SOME, THE FIRST SIGN OF Spring is the activity of birds on the water. For me, it's the first sighting of a sailboat on the lake. As I write this, I am watching a blue-hulled Ontario 32 as it motors out of Bluffer's harbour. She clears the channel, turns head to wind and immediately hoists her sails. The wind is strong—they struggle with the headsail. After a few minutes the problem is sorted out. The boat responds to the strong breeze as the skipper and crew acclimatize to the first sail of the season. They set an easterly course with the shimmering water as their backdrop—it's a beautiful sight—the sailing season has arrived.

As for the rest of us, our boats are still on the hard; mine still covered under a weather beaten tarp. But, in just a few short weeks we will be back on the water for another sailing season.

Our committees continue to work hard, organizing and planning our Club events. Keith and Joan Wilson have done a tremendous job organizing the 2008 club cruises. It's a well-known fact that the Cruisers know how to put on a spread! If you have never experienced a club cruise, I encourage you sign up for the first cruise of the season to CBYC, May 24th–25th. Spaces are limited, so book early.

Our race program is set, thanks to the efforts of Jamie Smallwood, Tom Monson, and Rick Lalonde. If you're planning to race this season, make sure you attend the Racers Meeting on **Wednesday May 7th**. The Ice Breaker—the first official race of the season, is scheduled for Saturday May 17th. Our Wednesday Night Series I Races start May 21st. We hope to see a record number of boats on the course this year. I invite all members to consider racing—it's great fun, always a learning experience, and a great way to meet members.

The Social Committee always amazes me. Mel Ramsay and Laurie Chan, with the help of their crew produced a wonderful buffet for the Ron Bianchi's Weather Seminar. They have planned some new and different events this year—so please, mark your calendars and plan to attend.

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Fred Eaton, the first Canadian to win the International C-Class Catamaran



Toronto Hydroplane & Sailing Club

Presents... **FRED EATON**

Fred Eaton has been telling his Alpha victory story to sailing groups around the country and now you can meet him in person at,

Toronto Hydroplane & Sailing Club
Wednesday April 23rd 7:00 PM.

Don't miss this fascinating 2 hour presentation of this significant sailing event.

Fred Eaton has become a World Champion with his catamaran



Not only is he the first Canadian to win the International C-Class Catamaran, but he's done it in convincing style, building the boat and winning an international regatta known as the Little America's Cup in Toronto in mid-September. In a series of races in the harbour and on the lake, Eaton and his crewmate, Magnus Clarke, drove their experimental craft Alpha to a 5-0 victory over the reigning, U.S. champion.

To help get the racers back into the
Wednesday Night groove,
Burgers will be grill'n on the BBQ at 6:00

All for only \$5.00 per person

Everyone is welcome! See you on the 23rd!

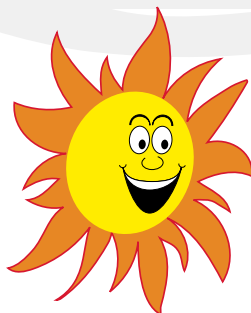
RSVP gd-smith@sympatico.ca

SPECIAL REMINDER TO EVERYONE INTENDING TO RACE THIS SEASON:
RACER'S MEETING WEDNESDAY MAY 14th 7:00 PM

Trophy will be speaking at our club April 23rd at 7:00 PM. This should be a fascinating presentation and a great way to get back into the Wednesday night groove. Everyone is welcome and all proceeds will be donated to the Canadian Olympic Sailing Team....hope to see you there.

Fair Winds

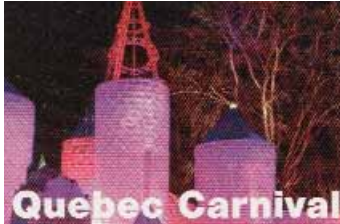
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BUT, HEY!!! ...THAT'S THE ADVENTURE

by Eric Muff

YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS, but, as we speak I am sitting at the window of my hotel room watching the tired but ecstatic throng slowly wending their separate ways to their cosy (but expensive) hotel rooms.



Carnaval de Québec is winding down...and I'm completely, bloody, knackered!

My room at Le Hôtel Château Laurier Québec (no Garry, I'm *not* in Ottawa) overlooks the historic Plains of Abraham. You remember The Plains of Abraham where Wolfe kicked the shit out of Montcalm and we lost Canada to the French.



Here's something I just learned. Put this in your Book of Useless Information.

All my life, 'till now, I lived under the illusion that the Plains of Abraham held some sort of religious significance—*c'est ne pas correct!* Apparently it was the south forty of some frog shit-kicker named Abraham what's-his-face. Ya learn something every day!

If ya haven't figured it out yet, I'm in Québec City celebrating Winter Carnaval with Monsieur Bonhomme Bonhomme. This is a big year in La Belle Provence, it's their 400th anniversary, "their" meaning Québec City.

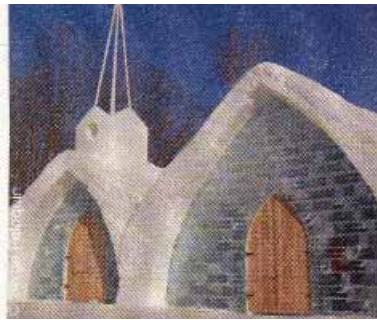
I'm only here four days so there's not too much to write about. I'm trusting Richard to turn this into one of his pictorial masterpieces. Thank you Richard. (*Editor's Note: Eric sent me 156 clippings to choose from!!*)

Fer openers, if you think *you've* had a lot of snow this year...fugged-

aboutit—it's like the winters we had *when I was a kid*. (Don't that piss you off when you hear some old goat use that sentence?)

The Plains I've just referred to, is where they hold all the snow-related events.

There are beautiful snow sculptures, ten feet tall, created by teams from all our provinces and territories. Mindbogglingly (there's a good word) beautiful. A castle made of ice that houses a slide for children (and their childish parents); horse-drawn sleighs racing on the "Plains"; and countless other winter/snow related events too numerous to relate.



The "pièce de résistance", for my money, is a gaggle of demented adults(?) who don bikinis and swimming trunks and jump into great piles of snow where they gambol and cavort as if they were in their right minds.

To each his/her own, I guess.

In front of a lot of bars, hotels and restaurants are indescribably beautiful ice sculptures. The sidewalk cafés on Le Grande Allée who normally serve cold drinks are serving hot drinks on bar tables *made of ice*. It's incredible.

Darkness has fallen, and I must pack. We leave tomorrow at eight. I'll finish this in my Peterborough office.

Sleep well my children.

Bon jour mes enfants!



Well, here I am back in beautiful downtown Peterborough, though it seems I've brought my accent with me. Alors!

On Saturday, after our arrival we took a side trip to the Shrine of Ste. Anne de Beaupré which is not too far

distant from Ville de Québec (there's that accent again). It is indeed a magnificent edifice, but to my way of thinking that amount of money would be far better spent on starving children or better still teaching the ignorant masses birth control, then, hopefully, *we'd have no starving children*.

And here's somthin' that'll get me on a lot of people's shit-list. I don't buy that crap with all those crutches nailed to the stanchions just inside the doors. To my mind (and call me "doubting thomas") if you go to church on crutches and you walk home without them, it's not a miracle, it means your a mental case and didn't need them when you left home.



But, hey!!!...who am I to question the Vatican.

From the shrine we drove to a spot nearby called Chez Marie. This a very ancient establishment where they bake bread in old stone ovens and serve it with home-made maple butter. As the youth-of-today would say, "to die for".

From there we drove back to Québec and the evening's activities, which were many—

- St. Hubert sleigh race (on the Plains).
- Carnival drum and bugle corps
- That idiot *snow bath* I described earlier
- Fun with Bon Homme
- The night parade (right past our hotel).
- Les Tireux d'Roche Concert (I have no bloody idea what that was about.)
- Outdoor dance parties—at various venues.

I forgot to tell yas, but the day after we arrived we had the most fantastic *step-on* guide that I have ever met. He overturned every cobblestone in "le vieux-Québec"—super!



Before they take me back to sedate me, I would like to thank Richard for

Continued on page 8

But, Hey!!!...

Continued from page 7

blowing my cover. Here I am, deep in the heart of beautiful downtown Peterborough, living the rural Ontario life to the fullest under the witless witness protection plan and Richard publishes horrible pictures of me and invites everyone to drop in and say "hi".

Gracias Rickardo!

Guess I'll have to re-locate to Manawaska.

In the meantime I've shaved my entire skull and look like a giant ostrich egg.

But, hey!!!...it's Easter. Wot the hell.

Whilst trying to get organized between my Québec office and my Peterborough office I came across a half-finished article about a trip I took to Les Îles de la Madeleine many months ago. This puts me into a further dilemma.

You've heard the optimist/pessimist theory—is my glass half full or is my glass half empty?

Well! I my yarn half started or my yarn half finished? (I can hear Garry mumbling in the background, "Try half-assed"). Then I've been to Bermuda and I haven't even thought about that, and on Sunday I'm off again to the semi-south west.

Help!...I need a ghost!

But, hey!!!...that's the adventure.

And always remember, my children...no matter how large a pane of glass my be, you can always break it with a hammer.

Look to your bottoms! Luv yas! ▲



SKI DAY

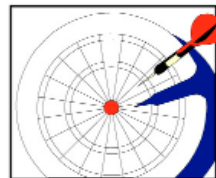
By Neal Classen

THE ALMOST FIRST Annual TH&SC Ski Day happened on March the 15th with a small but enthusiastic bunch.

This year has been absolutely fabulous for skiers, as all non-skiers will know from having had to dig themselves out rather regularly in this age of global warming! The conditions at Horseshoe were fabulous, the laughter plentiful, and the beer was cold. That pretty much covers my top three for a perfect ski day.

The fact that Richard Child and Lee Rixon proved you could still ski with matching one piece suits (and goggles) in this millennium, and still keep your head up straight and pride intact, was the pièce de résistance for me. It made my winter, I can assure you. For those of you who know my two boys, or their reputations, neither was missing or lost more than twice that day.

The sign up numbers were very good indeed, and the cancellation numbers were equally impressive. Although most absent skiers had very solid reasons for not being able to make it, some ideas may be in order to ensure a bigger turnout next year. Richard suggested making it the winter cruise and making a burgee for it, which sounds like sheer brilliance to me. Of course I should probably discuss this with Keith first, but now it's in the Spar and Prop and will likely be the cause for a good argument. See you all at launch. ▲



DARTS

Friday evenings



THE DARTS GROUP is winding down for the season. April 11th saw a tournament contested by couples drawn by lot. After some mighty accurate (and inaccurate) shooting by all the competitors, the team of Alexis Wheatstone and Lee Rixon squeezed out an overall victory with the win of their last game.

There will be a couple more Friday matches before Launch.

Next Fall after Haulout we will begin again. It's a low-key Friday evening of seeing your friends during the off-season and honing a skill that may get you a free pint in an english pub. ▲

UNION VILLA GALA EVENING

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we're gonna
have a party!*

with Bobby Curtola

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Friday May 9, 2008

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GARDENING COMMITTEE

by Dorothy Williams


EVERYTHING'S COMING UP DAISIES

The club blooms are just around the corner and I'm sure you all can't wait to see the first flowers pop their heads from the earth. The Gardening Committee is already on board and ideas are blooming.

With the balcony started last fall, it was to my dismay that after four years of hard work choosing perennials and watching them grow, I had to dig up all my plants and put them in pots. Hopefully some of them survived the brutal winter and they will once again bloom. It was a shame to see the big evergreen chopped down in the fall and dumped on the grass where it remains today. I would have thought, that at least, it would have been used for a Christmas Tree before going to the dumpster.

Digging up my garden was enough for me to consider stepping down and letting another member put their green thumb to work. Lucky for me I had a member already waiting to jump in and take over.

I would like to thank all the members for your continued support, compliments and input over the years. Previous gardeners, Del Shinkopf and Paul Derosé will continue their wonderful displays for colour on with their sections of garden. Please welcome our newest gardener—Rosemary Johnston of *Wildrose* on A-dock. As I hear through the "grapevine" she's got quite the knack for gardening, so we will be looking for a great display this summer.

Good luck Rosemary! 



Nauticals

THE FOULED ANCHOR, AN ANCHOR WHICH HAS BECOME HOOKED BY SOMETHING ON THE GROUND, OR IN WEIGHING, HAS ITS CABLE WOUND AROUND THE STOCK OR FLUKES. IT IS USED ON THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE LORD HIGH ADMIRAL OF BRITAIN - QUEEN ELIZABETH AND TRADITIONALLY FLOWN WHEN SHE TAKES A SEA VOYAGE. THE ONLY OTHER TIME IT IS FLOWN IN THE U.K. IS AT THE LAUNCH OF A BRITISH WARSHIP BEING HOISTED ON A FLAGSTAFF AS IT GOES DOWN THE LAUNCHING WAYS. IT WAS ADOPTED AS THE OFFICIAL SEAL AS EARLY AS THE 16th CENT. IN ENGLAND, IN THE 15th CENTURY IN SCOTLAND. THE USE OF THE FOULED ANCHOR, AN ABOMINATION TO SEAMEN IN PRACTICE, AS SEAL OF THE HIGHEST OFFICE IS PURELY ON THE GROUNDS OF ITS DECORATIVE EFFECT GIVING A PLEASING FINISH TO THE STARK DESIGN OF AN ANCHOR ON ITS OWN.



Elmer

BRUCE PRICE— A TALENTED MAN

by Rich Taylor

On March 11, 2008 Bruce Price died. He had been ill last year but he finally succumbed to a series of strokes.

Bruce was a valuable member of the catamaran group who joined the Hydroplane Club in 1965. He had built his own Quickcat single-handed catamaran and quickly showed us other sailors how to dig and chop a sailing area out of the THC grounds.

Bruce went on to build two B-Lion catamarans in his basement in an area not more than 25 x 8 feet.

With Tornado catamaran building

in his sights, he built a large garage in his back yard and proceeded to build more excellent cats.



Later on he branched out into winter sports and built DN iceboats. He was the man to see if you wanted to continue sailing in the winter. He also built a two-place iceboat.

Bruce was one of the first to adapt the iceboat concept to the popular windsurfer. He designed skis and skates plus board which allowed windsurfers to enjoy their sport on snow or ice, all winter.

He continued building iceboats and windsurfers after moving in semi-retirement to Hastings, Ontario. Bruce is survived by his wife, Dorothy and son Philip.

Bruce will be missed by many.

May 2008						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
LAUNCH DAY ON THE 10th						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 LAUNCH DAY
11	12	13	14 Racer's Meeting	15	16	17 Ice Breaker race
18 Long Weekend Breakfast	19	20	21 Series I Race I	22	23	24 Cruise to CBYC
Cruise to CBYC	26	27	28 Series I Race II	29	30	31
THIS START OF OUR SUMMER BEGINS NOW						

July 2008								
		Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 Canada Day	2 Club Series II Race II	3	4	5 Cruise to LSYC
6 Cruise to LSYC	7	8		9 Club Series II Race III	10	11	12 Spirit of Canada Race/Fundraiser	13
13	14	15		16 Club Series II Race IV	17	18	19	20
20	21	22		23 Club Series II Race V	24	25	26 Youngstown Regatta	27
27 Youngstown Regatta	28	29		30 Club Series III Race I	31			
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO THE SPIRIT OF CANADA DAY								