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SPAR AND PROP

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Drawing by
Marie Middleton





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Calendar

Annual General Meeting—Sunday, December 3rd—Here you will find out how your Executive Board spent their year—working hard. Notification will be by mail. Please be sure to come or at least send in your proxy.

Children's Christmas Party—December 9—Children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. All our children have a great time at the Christmas Party.

Coatsworth Cut Environmental Study—December 12—An Open House to discuss the recommended solution(s) for reducing and controlling combined sewer overflows and stormwater discharges to the Cut. Between 5 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. at the Mennonite New Life Centre, 1774 Queen St. E. (just east of Kingston Rd)

New Year's Levee—January 1, 2007—Join us at the Clubhouse for light refreshments and good socializing. A good place to pick up the kids from their grandparents after your night on the town.

Toronto International Boat Show—January 13 – 21—It's downhill to Spring now. Take in the Boat Show and whet your appetite for summer of 2007. It will be a good time to find out if the new safety regulations will apply to your boat. Reduced-price tickets (\$3 off) are available online at TorontoBoatShow.com

Extended Cruising Course—January 22 to April 23—Ashbridge's Bay Squadron of CPS Learn all about cruising to distant places—what to take, how to do it, how to handle problems. Course contents at www3.sympatico.ca/gblair. Contact Greg Blair at (416) 691-5619 or gblair@sympatico.ca



2006 New Year's Levee



Mike and Jeff Ante—sharing Last Across the Lake flag

New Year's Levee

Monday, January 1st
from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Come and join us at the Clubhouse
for refreshments and good company.
Also a good time and place to transfer the
kids after a parent's night out.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Lee Rixon

AWARDS NIGHT has come and gone, and it was a great party for those of you that missed it. The food was fabulous, the clubhouse looked wonderful, the company was excellent, and lots of awards and trophies were handed out in a spirit of good humour and camaraderie. A big thank you to Mel and her many helpers for putting on a wonderful event for us to enjoy.

We have also had our Annual General Meeting, and I've got a few items of news to report from that.

Firstly, we are keeping our fees at the same level as last year, so when your membership dues invoice arrives; you shouldn't see any nasty surprises.

Secondly, the membership has given us a mandate to build the balcony, so we are now in the process of ramping back up. Jamie Smallwood is taking the lead on this project and we will be letting you know further details as soon as they become available. This will be a wonderful addition to the clubhouse, and will be something that all of us can enjoy, so be ready to clean off your hammers and saws, as this will require a lot of helping hands to complete.

Finally, there was a very healthy and occasionally heated discussion about the Officer of the Day program,

what it should cover, and how to run it effectively next year. There were a number of options considered, and in the end, the membership voted to have this program remain as one being staffed by our own membership.

That being said, the membership also voted overwhelmingly to have it work significantly different to previous years. What will happen is a list of all available four-hour slots for OOD will be posted in the New Year, and people can volunteer for those slots on a first come, first served basis.

At launch, if there are any unfilled slots, then they will be filled by a random draw from the remaining eligible members who have not already voluntarily taken a slot. If you are selected to fill a slot, or volunteer for a slot, and cannot fulfill that obligation, then it will be up to you to find your own replacement. Furthermore, it was also overwhelmingly approved that missing an OOD assignment would be considered exactly the same as missing a half day work party assignment with the same associated penalties. The duties of OOD have also been simplified a little, and they will be posted on the bulletin board and in the OOD folder.

Unfortunately I will not be able to make it to the Levee again this year as I will be in the UK, so I'll take this opportunity to wish you and your families all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

See you around the club! ▲

VICE COMMODORE

Marilyn Goodman

THIS WILL BE my last article as Vice Commodore, and it has been quite an education learning how this great Club of ours is run and seeing the huge amount of time and effort put in by the Members and Executive.

In 2006 we have gained a total of 21 new Members: 13 Sail, 6 Crew and 2 Junior. Unfortunately we have also lost some members and others have sold their boats but are staying on as Crew Members

I am pleased to report that our current Membership is a total of 199 Members, made up of:

Life	19
Sail	114
Crew	59
Junior	7

I would like to welcome the last two new Sailing Members for 2006: Michael Smith who has purchased John McGifford's boat *Connemara* and Bill McIntyre who has brought in a CS22.

Three of our new Sailing Members are without confirmed slips for 2007, so if you know you will not be using your boat next year please let the Harbour Master Ross Campbell and incoming Vice Commodore Dan Demers know so your slip can be temporarily assigned to someone on the waiting list.

I would like to thank the following people for all their work and support the past two years: My grateful thanks go to Rich Taylor for yet another wonderful year of Spar and Prop. I am not sure how many years Rich has been creating and putting out our newsletter, but I personally can't wait to read each issue from cover to cover.

My thanks also go to Mike Benson who has patiently worked with me on the database and corrected all my errors: Mike Montgomery for the creation and updating our great website, Richard Peirce for his work on the Club DSL service and Dan Demers who has assisted with the key entry system. Many thanks too to Chris Miles who stepped in at the last minute to haul *MAC 1* for the Club Float in this year's Easter Parade. We had a blast!

Finally, my thanks to the rest of the Executive Board for their wisdom, assistance and hard work to make this Club the great place it is.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. ▲

The trophy table



A successful season



Rick Lalonde - Tsunami



Lou Lalonde - Tsunami



FLEET CAPTAIN CRUISING

Chris Hanson

IF YOU DID NOT make it down for Awards Night, the consensus from those who attended and emails generated it was the best ever.

Even I was skeptical from witnessing past evenings dragging out much too long. On this occasion the evening flowed particularly well and accompanied with a superb dinner catered by the same company that did Sailpast. I salute Mel Ramsay and her committee of helpers for doing such an awesome job of organization and decorating. Mona Anderson and John Morris did an exceptional task of presenting an increasing number of trophies in record time, concluding before 10 p.m. You could feel a relaxed and energized crowd. This was proven by about 40% of attendees stayed on to mingle as opposed by years' past mass exodus. The scuttlebutt I hear is future Awards Nights will add music and dancing to make the evening even more of a party!

Here is a summary of Cruising Awards.

First Across the Lake

Gregory T (Mike Ante)

Last Across the Lake

Gregory T - Sounds of Silence II (Mike and Jeff Ante)

Distant Waters trophy and flag

Hacienda II (Richard Peirce & Bonnie del Bianco)

TH&SC Club Cruiser of the Year

Puff (Keith & Joan Willson)

TH&SC Land Cruiser of the Year

(Debbie Bradley)

It was a quieter traveling season, distance wise. Only four boats registered 1000 Islands, Bay of Quinte and 500+ Miles flags. Three others ventured through the Bay of Quinte and eight tallied 250+ Miles.

As I had mentioned at the beginning of the season, all those who sailed their boat to three of the six cruises qualified for the Official TH&SC 2006 Cruising flag.

<i>Puff</i>	6
<i>Figment²</i>	5
<i>Au Naturel</i>	4
<i>Hoots</i>	4
<i>L'Autre Femme</i>	4
<i>Mariah</i>	4
<i>Battle Axe</i>	3
<i>Lothlorien</i>	3
<i>The Phantom</i>	3

Based on weekend departures: *Groovin'* led with most destinations away (10) followed closely by *Undine II* (9). *Hoots* and *Puff* with (8), *Figment²*, *Au Naturel*, *Let it Be* and *Sundown* with (7).

As I had mentioned earlier this year, Elizabeth and I have stepped down as your Cruising Fleet Captains. We really enjoyed serving but we felt it was time to pass the torch. Thanks to all who helped out on various cruises and all those that have attended over the past four years.

You have helped built an active cruising program and we know this will continue with our new Cruising Captains, Keith and Joan Willson taking the helm. Elizabeth and I have already committed to hosting a cruise for the 2007 season and encourage those who have not hosted one, to take on this challenge.

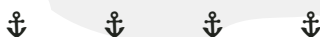
We wish continued success to our new Cruising Fleet Captains (Keith and Joan) and look forward to future cruises with you.

See you at the New Year's Levee.

Chris and Elizabeth ▲



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



The Deadline for the
FEBRUARY issue of
Spar & Prop is
January 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

WAYS AND MEANS

Patrick Lyons

WE HAVE HAD another successful year, albeit not quite as good as last. As a Club, we had 120 members with work requirements this year. As of December 1st, we still have 10 members (8%) (4% last year) who have not completed any work hours. A few others still have some work hours to complete.

Three (3) projects posted remained unclaimed by members. Those projects would have allowed 10 people to fulfill their obligation had they been claimed. Additionally four (4) maintenance type jobs and/or helping out with event jobs which were created to allow members to spend a few hours here and there to fulfill their commitments were ignored.

There are a good number of members in the Club—well over a dozen—who fulfilled their work hours and much more. I congratulate and thank these members. These members are rarely appreciated because we all take things for granted; however, we all have benefited from their efforts. Additionally, a number of members stepped forward and took care of tasks without being asked.

Methods used in 2006 to communicate projects will continue for 2007. That is the Ways and Means section of the bulletin board, the Project details binder and www.thsc.ca Ways and Means web page. I hope more members will take advantage of these to select projects in which they would like to be involved.

Ways and Means is responsible to record a member's work hours and document credit for work completed not pursuing members to fulfill their obligations. We are a working club that relies on members stepping forward and taking responsibility for their obligations without being pestered by Ways and Means.

I look forward to 2007 and anticipate the goodwill and cooperation of all members. ▲



TREASURER

Mike Baker

THIS TIME OF YEAR, being the Season of Good Will and Festivities, it is befitting to wish good tidings to all our members. For those who did not attend our Annual General Meeting on December 3rd, here is one of the good tidings—no increase in fees for 2007.

Thanks to all the members who so diligently did their best throughout the year to keep the club spirit alive! Eva and I extend our best wishes to everyone for a festive season as well as a great sailing season in 2007.

My thanks go to the team who have agreed to give their support during 2007—Sandra and Patrick Lyons will continue overseeing our Ways & Means projects for the next twelve months. I extend a hearty welcome to Marilyn Goodman for taking on the Accounts Receivables for members' fees. Knowing Marilyn's dedication, she will excel in this task. Last but not least, thanks also go to Bill Appleton, who did a splendid job over the last few years in this capacity.

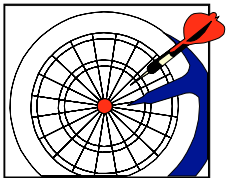
Just a quick reminder, your invoices will be mailed out the beginning of January with the due date for fees being Feb. 28/2007. Please mark this date on your calendars!

Throughout the year, we do appreciate your purchases of extra keys or regalia.

But please, don't just drop your cash payment of \$10 or \$15 into the mail slot (unless they are meant to be a donation?). It would be helpful to know who made the purchase and what it was for so it can be properly entered into our accounting system.

FOUND: After the AGM an antique-looking small pill box was found on the floor.

Please call Eva or Mike at (416) 481-5461 to retrieve. ▲



DARTS

Friday evenings

JOIN US at the Clubhouse on Friday evenings for darts, or if you prefer, there's the pool table, shuffleboard table and lots of tables for other activities.

The first Darts Friday after the holidays will be January 5th. Come down and see what it's all about. ▲

CALL FOR HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

by Paddi O'Neil

YES, I HAVE a Winter Project underway for the 2nd Floor and I need your help!!!

I have been asked to put together a collection of photographs, etc. portraying TH&SC's history in the making. Starting right from the beginning, with an empty lot of land, to the day the first footing was placed into position; through all the different stages of construction throughout the years, right up to the present time.

So, anyone who has any photographs, etc. regarding the construction of the club over the years would be greatly appreciated and all photos will be presented in simple black frames with white matting using a simple hanging system which will minimize holes in the walls.

I am also going to be working on a collage which celebrates "the first 50 years of fun at TH&SC". These photographs will have nothing to do with the construction of the premises—but instead will be comprised of fun photographs of past and present club members, their families, their friends, their boats; funny pictures from different sailing events; cruises or parties—whatever! The more the merrier. So for the people who have been here from the beginning, I will really need your help in collecting these photographs. Look around and see what you can find to contribute.

If you require your photographs to be returned to you, please make sure I am aware of that and I will ensure their safe return.

Please submit your pictures in an envelope marked "Historic Photos". Put them in the Clubhouse mailbox, pin them to the bulletin board or contact me at (416) 963-9455 or paddio@asynchronsystems.com. Make sure your name and telephone number is provided along with instructions if you want your photographs returned to you. ▲



REAR COMMODORE

Mona Anderson

AS I REFLECT on Awards Night so recently celebrated in such excellent fashion, I've been thinking about the Rear Commodore's portfolio and all the territory it covers. Under the RC, we look after all things sociable that take place at the club, events such as Awards Night, Sail Past, the summer festivals, games night, and all and sundry entertainment and fun events that go on throughout the year. We look after the reciprocal program, and regalia, and of course the cruising and racing programs, the Race Committee, the race committee boat, equipment, training ... yes, it's a lot of stuff to consider. The Rear Commodore's portfolio encompasses a large area of responsibility and certainly most of the joyful things there are to do at our sailing club. Also under the RC comes all the awards and trophies for the personal achievements of our members, who sailed the farthest, who sailed the fastest, who took the best pictures to record it all ... great stuff.

But I know the real backbone of the club is formed by the unsung heroes, the Harbour Master, and the Property Manager. These two people, whomsoever they may be from year to year, more than any other single member of the Executive Board, are responsible for the life and survival of the club. Between these two people, we have safe and sturdy docks to tie our boats; we have an orderly and ample parking yard for our cars in summer and storage for our boats in winter; we have a beautiful clubhouse in which to meet and relax and rest through all the days of the year, winter and summer alike. We have power and water both indoors and out. The Ways & Means Committee tracks all the various jobs that are to be done, largely assigned by these two main positions of land and water managers. W&M coordinates a sometimes unwieldy body of members and engages them in jobs and activities that keep the club not only afloat but humming along under the direction of the HM and the PM.

For most of us we think of the club as a place to get away from the workaday world, a place to put up our feet and relax. For the workers of the club, the members of the Executive

Continued on page 7

ODE TO A PROPERTY BOY

by Mona Anderson

ONCE UPON A TIME ... not all that long ago actually, and not all that far away either, for this story takes place in a tiny fiefdom on the shores of a great inland sea, and that tiny fiefdom is called TH&SC.

Now the citizens of TH&SC were content for the most part, and kindly and helpful to each other, except for the odd time when some of them were quarrelsome and rude to each other or having had a bad day tended to complain a lot ... well, that's a story for another day.

This particular story is about the time in the little fiefdom when a kind of darkness had fallen over the land, when the lights kept going out and no one knew how to fix them, and sometimes the toilets leaked, and the sinks didn't have water in them, or when they did, it wasn't wanted there, and the yard gravel was thin, and the patio was overgrowing with weeds, and the grass wouldn't grow in places where it was supposed to grow. Yes, dark times fell upon TH&SC for there was no one to care for the beautiful little fiefdom and fix all the problems that needed fixing and save the citizens from being frightened and running about like sheep trapped in a pen when some one has let the hounds out.

Eventually the citizens of TH&SC became so overwhelmed by their problems that with one voice they sent up a great cry saying "Send us a Champion, send us a Braveheart who will save us from the darkness, and from toilets that runneth over, and from the hounds that are running loose and leaving little piles of brown stuff all about the grounds". You see this brown stuff was particularly vexsome as it got on their boots and got tracked into their boats, and was quite smelly, and frankly put everyone in a stinky mood.

And so it came to pass that the cry went out all across the land. "Send us a Champion, that we might be happy and live contentedly once more." And their cry was heard far and wide for the citizens of TH&SC could be quite vocal when something happened that they didn't like.

Far to the east, in a distant province, a young man heard their call and it was so plaintive and earnest that his heart was moved, and so was he for that matter. He gathered up his tools, his level and his hammer, and also his shovel, and yardstick, and he made his way westward following the call of Braveheart, Braveheart until he reached the shores of the little fiefdom by the inland sea.

"Are you meant to be our Champion?" the citizens asked, for they were puzzled by the young man standing before them, for he did not look like a great man. He was, in fact, only about five foot six and somewhat portly in stature. But he had a kind heart and they could see that right away for his face was clear and free of trouble, not lined with the cares and worries of a bad person.

And he spoke to them kindly and said unto them, "I am Dennis and I come from the great valley of the Mirimichi to the east. I heard you shouting all that long way and thought it was the least I could do." And the citizens said hopefully "So will you be our hero then?" but he shook his head in answer saying, "I have no wish to be a hero. I am just a humble Property Boy and I have come to set things right in your fiefdom".

But still the people were uncertain for they had been misled before with such promises and they called out "Let there be a sign." Well soon there were signs springing up all over the place. "Putteth your garbage in the bins provided, not on the ground like a pig". And "Washeth your own dish and spoon and stack them neatly in the cupboard for there is no maid service here". On the great entrance gate was a masterful sign that said "Enter not unless you know the password for Security is God." And a whole multitude of little signs sprang up all around the fiefdom that said "Leash your hounds and let them not shiteth on the ground for this is most vile and vileness will not be tolerated—TH&SC By-law #17".

The citizens of TH&SC soon began to realize that Dennis could be trusted, that he said what he meant to say, and always meant what he said, and that meant a great deal to everyone. And so Dennis the Property Boy went about everywhere with his level and yardstick making sure that things were fair and equal and that everything measured up. And he fixed the lights

so the people could see, and turned on the heat so they were warm, and the sinks no longer overflowed, and their little feet were no longer wet and smelly from the brown piles that had plagued the fiefdom for so long as they went about their boaty business. And lo and behold he caused there to be ice, ice enough for everyone all around the inland sea all summer long. Dennis toiled many long hard hours in the little fiefdom and he made certain that no board went unnailed, and no shingle leaketh, and he filled the yard with fine fresh gravel so that everyone crunched merrily around as they carried their garbage happily to the bins placed there for such purpose. And over time the little fiefdom of TH&SC once again sparkled and shone and everything worked as it was meant to and the citizens were happy and contented once more.

So—now that everyone is happy, as all such stories go, there must be an ending. Here is how this one ends. Sadly, a weariness had begun to creep over Dennis the Property Boy for he had worked long and hard for many moons to fulfill the promise he had made. As he stepped out one morning and stood at the railing of the as yet unbuilt balcony overlooking the little fiefdom—for being a man of vision he could do such things—he wondered if he had done enough. But as he looked out over the property that he had cared for so long and beheld all that he had wrought, he saw that it was good. And he smiled and said "My work here is done." ▲

SPECIAL WINTER CRUISE

by Keith and Joan Willson

GOT THE WINTER BLUES? Bought some neat new toys at the Boat Show? Want to share stories about cruising? Then how about a winter blues cruise!!!

Watch the Spar and Prop and your e-mail for exciting news about this new beat the blues cruise to good old TH&SC sometime during February or March 2007.

Pictures and stories about cruising at TH&SC to the Thousand Islands and destinations much closer.

Information about 2007's Cruise lineup.

Your chance to let us know what we can do for you as your new incoming Cruise Directors. ▲

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

Shadow

THUNDERBIRD FLEET AWARDS

Fleet 10 T-Birds held its annual Awards festivities at TH&SC on Saturday, November 11. While racing has ebbed and flowed and fleets have come and gone, the Thunderbirds continue to continue. In 2008 the Thunderbird will mark its 50th birthday, designed in 1958 as a plywood family racer cruiser.

The event drew an enthusiastic group who were treated to first rate TH&SC hospitality. Mel and Paddi set up a charming room complete with fresh flowers and miniature crystal 'Thunderbird' boats from Dollarama. The Fleet covered all the costs, including a fine lasagna buffet, but the TH&SC social group set the evening's enjoyable tone. The group is looking forward to returning to our club.

RACING CAPTAIN

John Morris

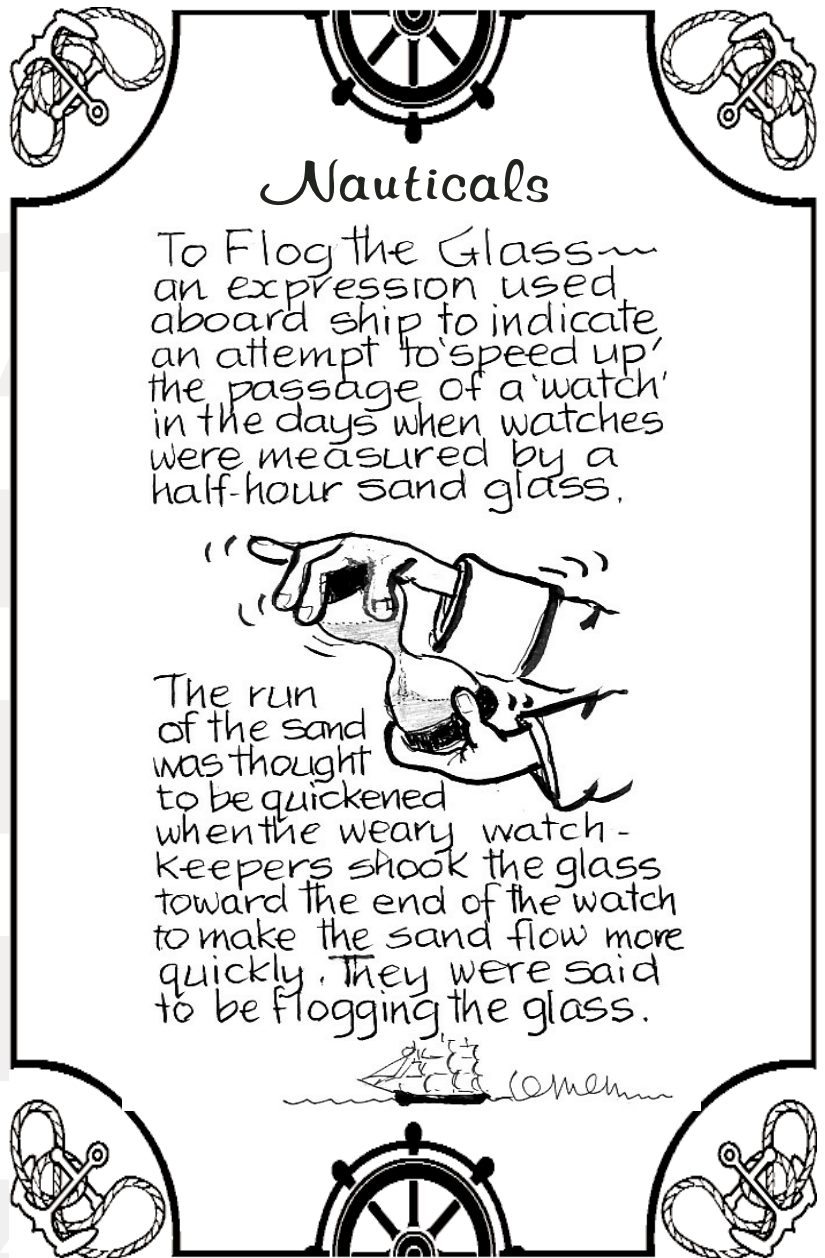
SUMMER IS NEARLY HERE

Ha ha. Made you look. In fact those of you who have windows in your homes likely know that it may be a while yet, but that doesn't stop us from looking forward to next summer's racing program.

This past year was fun galore and the intention of the Rear Comm's racing team is to build on last season in '07. Our modest goals are to increase participation, re-jig the rookie program to make it more useful and to add some modest out-of-the-club participation to both improve our members' experience and to publicize TH&SC's strengths. By size, I can confidently say we have the strongest participation, keenest RC and best club support of any club in the region.

Personally, I believe in close racing as an important component of sailing. That's why more boats is always better—if we could have more divisions with similar speed boats, the action will be even more intense. To that end, we will look at adding outside fleets to the odd race. Even better, the more boats we get on the Wednesday night line, the more we can do with that series. As the TH&SC universe has unfolded, our total fleet is also mostly a very close racing fleet with medium sail-to-displacement boats in the 170 – 225 PHRF range, which gives us a lot of potential for competitive fleet racing.

If you are participant, we are hoping you have enjoyed the racing program. If you are not yet, maybe this is the year to bring your boat out or crew for someone on the line! ▲



Nauticals

To Flog the Glass ~ an expression used aboard ship to indicate an attempt to 'speed up' the passage of a 'watch' in the days when watches were measured by a half-hour sand glass.



The run of the sand was thought to be quickened when the weary watch-keepers shook the glass toward the end of the watch to make the sand flow more quickly. They were said to be flogging the glass.



Rear Commodore...

Continued from page 5

Board and Committee Chairs in particular, and the hard physical work of the Harbour Master and the Property Manager specifically, if it weren't for them, such a place as ours would not exist. The most haunting pictures I hold of the Harbour Master and his crew are the tiny figures on the docks in March in April, like characters from a Van Gogh painting, bundled heavily against the cold, with warm hearts and frozen hands they go about their great works.

There is a special joy in hard work and I understand that too. So as we near the end of another year at TH&SC, I wish to send my personal

and heartfelt thanks to Ross Campbell, our most excellent Harbour Master, and to Dennis MacCallum (mentioned elsewhere in this rendition of Spar & Prop—see pg 6) for all they have done for us, and to all the members, past and present, who give so tirelessly of their time and energy.

In that perspective, the Rear Commodore's job is the frosting on a very excellent cake. ▲



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

by Eric Muff

THIS IS JUST ONE of those pictorial fill-ins to keep you salivating 'til my next cruise.

Short and sweet...like me.

This will be short, but sure as hell not sweet. For me.

Denure Tours has a Travel Rewards Program. Every time you travel with Denure Tours, so-called Denuros automatically accumulate on your behalf at a rate of 5% of the value of your tour.

You can use these Denuros to purchase Tilley hats, golf shirts or various travel-related articles, or, as I did, if you have enough brownie points Denuros, purchase a complete tour.

I opted for Lake Superior Circle Tour, eight days, 29 Aug/06 – 5 Sept/06. Everything "buckshee". (Ted Martin will translate buckshee for the lesser educated.) Is that politically correct enough for you young mods?

Off we go, on a beautiful autumn day, through the scenic beauty of the Bruce Peninsula arriving at Tobermory in the late afternoon. Before disembarking the bus, our tour director (?) informed us that there were no phones in the rooms but *someone* would

"knock us up" at 5 a.m. If you're not fortunate enough to be British, that means "awaken us"—and I'll probably get shit for that remark.

As they off-load our luggage we amble off for dinner and some last-minute ~~shop lifting~~ shopping.

After a sumptuous sea-food dinner and a peek in the shops, I meander back to our first night's digs. And, sitting *outside* my door are all my worldly possessions. All other places I've been our luggage is *always inside* our rooms, not left exposed to the parking lot.

The plot thickens.

After a restful repose, I awake, probably to check the plumbing, and casually look at my watch. Holy shit!!!

It's six-fifteen, I was supposed to be gotten up at 5 a.m., luggage outside by 5:15, on the bus by 5:45.

It's six-fifteen, I'm in the room, my luggage is in the room and I'm in a *blind panic*. I look out the door to seek

assistance. The bus has gone, total darkness, *more panic*. By now I'm on the verge of collapse. I run to the office to see if they can reach them by cell phone. The office is dark and locked up tight.

No one on the property but me.

No Phones to call 911, as I am thoroughly convinced I'm having a heart attack. I'm getting palpitations just writing this.



I don't think younger persons can understand what anxiety attacks can do to "we of too many birthdays". Especially old P.P.S. (like me) with bum tickers and no legs.

I was surprised to find how these moments of stress can leave you totally incapable of thinking. Somehow I did manage to pack my suitcase and I continued to drift about in an absolute vacuum. (I heard that, Garry, "Like you usually do", indeed.)

Suddenly, out of the darkness and shadows a lonely form appears. "I've come to give you a hand," it says. "Shit," sez I, "I got hands, I need a bloody pacemaker".

Anywho, it was one of my fellow passengers, visiting from the U.K. and he graciously toted my bag down to the bus at the loading dock. We are taking the car-ferry from Tobermory to South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island.

I was totally knackered just carrying my carry-on and had to stop repeatedly to get my bearings.

Well, to cut this horror story short, I did make it to the bus and sat there like the proverbial dog and the proverbial razor blades.

Arthur's Author's note: I've had a cat-scan since I've been home and they say I did suffer a minor stroke. As if there was such a thing as a *minor* stroke.

The trip from hell continues...

While I was fluttering about with the angel-of-death, the remainder of the group was having a sit-down gourmet breakfast at the expense of the tour company. I had cold beans, off a tray in some smelly car-ferry cafeteria.

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

Needless to say the rest of the trip was a piece of crap. I couldn't do much

as I was constantly on the verge of passing out. I still have re-occurring moments.

To add insult to irreparable injury, a day later a fellow passenger on the bus said, staring at my name tag, "Oh! so you're Eric, the one who *caused* all the furor yesterday".

Ah! Sympathy, where is they sting?

Day Two—After our arrival on the North Shore we travel through Espanola, Iron Bridge and onward to Sault Ste. Marie, lovingly known as "The Soo".

Prior to arrival at the Holiday Inn we visit Ermatinger House, downtown Soo. A couple of houses circa "Black Creek" in T.O.

On to dinner and the casino to make our regular donations. Hell! I remember when the alleged government put you in jail if you were caught with an Irish Sweepstakes ticket in your pocket. Now the people who put you in jail are selling the bleeding tickets.

These are the same anti-hate governors who used to post notices on Ontario beaches, Toronto included, "Gentiles Only".

We've come a long way, baby!

But, hey!!!...that's progress.

Day Three—Bright and early, one of Mr. Denure's million \$+ busses coughs sporadically and gives up the ghost. We spend a pleasant hour or three in a delightful tourist trap on the side of the road, waiting for a replacement bus to hasten us on the Thunder Bay. By a show of hands, how many remember when this was called "The Lakehead".



I'm going to cut you off here and squeak in another article for Richard.

I know I'm pushing my deadline (as usual). Hopefully I can catch the next post.

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

And remember, my children—

Santa has the right idea—visit people only *once* a year. Ho! Ho! Ho!

Y'all have a fun Christmas. Luv yas! ▲



TO EVERYTHING there is a time. This is the time for me. This is it. After three years as Cruising Director, one year as Rear Commodore and three as Property Manager this is the end. I am passing the responsibility over to Don Bland who in the last few months has been self proclaimed Property Manager in Waiting. Don has worked enough with me over the last few years in lots of projects to know the job and this year especially has taken a real interest in how the property is maintained. I know he will carry on with the upkeep required and will do a really good job. I am asking you to support him as much I as I have been supported. He knows he has my support.

Although I would have liked to continue, in the past year I took a further step in my career and just do not have the time to do the job that is required. If it can't be done right then it is better not done at all. Better to pass it to someone who can.

Today most all I can tell you is the property is in very good shape. The building is secure; the parking lot drains of water, the gazebos are well used. Like everything else the property constantly needs maintenance. There are never enough electrical outlets, the gate doesn't work sometimes, the toilets back up, the garbage and recycling gets overloaded, the oil drums fill up and somehow it all gets done.

Some things did get accomplished; none of this done only by me but all of you, members of this club.

Some things I can look back on that changed while I was property manager;

- Kitchen repaired and serving counter installed. Serving window enlarged.
- Club interior repainted.
- Windows in the club have nearly all been replaced. The only ones left are the ones around where the balcony will be built.
- Drainage pipes installed in parking lot to rid it of surface water.
- Parking lot has been covered with stone cover.
- Concrete environmental reservoir constructed as a catchment basin in case oil drums should bust and oil

run all over the place. It also involved moving the sheds that contain environmental polluting materials.

I have said this before but when I became Property Manager there was a real shortage of gazebos so we took care of that problem by building a couple. They are very well used and form a good part of the club where memories are shared.

And hundreds of smaller things got done by members, like the sanding of main room floor, installing hardwood upstairs, cleaning the garage and workshop, purchasing and staining benches along the boardwalk.

Property management is fun once you catch on to it. Especially, once you catch on to the fact you should have most all these things done before anyone has a chance to complain.

It really is fun when you get to work with sailors because I got to know a lot of people that I wouldn't have ordinarily got to meet. Something I had to remember though, it's a volunteer position and it can use up a lot of time and energy if you take a keen interest and you enjoy it.

When I joined the club I knew I had to do club work for part of my fees. Nobody told me at the time, it was a minimum of only two days. I only found this out a week ago!

Seriously I have always known it was a minimum of two days but to be safe I have made a personal decision, like a lot of you, to do at least as many days as it takes to get the job done. This is my club and I am responsible for it. When the work is all done my responsibility will be over.

As well I really enjoyed taking care of the Club. I don't mean club assets like the buildings and such.

I mean the Club's spirit.

Every second Tuesday for the last four years I have got together with the most dedicated and selfless individuals I have ever met with. This group of people who give up so much of their time to ensure the spirit of the club is kept alive, to develop programs, and social activities, to attend meetings outside the club so we participate in the sailing community, to battle with the City to secure our interests, to plan projects so our babies are safe both in the water and on land, to build the membership to overflowing, to ensure invoices are issued and paid, and our finances are in excellent shape. To the Board members all I can say is thank

you. Thank you for putting up with my bi-monthly rant over something, and helping me to decide on some of the difficult issues.

To those of you who sat on the Board, you know it is a very rewarding experience. For those of you who haven't, I would truly suggest you give it a try. I thank you all for allowing me the opportunity.

There are more people to thank than I could fit into this column so I will thank everyone who helped me with everything. It really was fun. Mostly.

I am already looking forward to a summer of just sailing. Cruising to some of those places around the lake we haven't yet been and some we only heard of. Well maybe...after the balcony is built! ▲

CLUB AWARDS

THESE ARE Club Awards presented at Awards Night.

Bruce Farquhar Trophy (Ways & Means)—Richard Coutts

Harbour Master's Trophy (Most Improved Skipper)—Greg Smith, Trevor Kane

Photography Award (Photo of the year)—Anibal Pinguelo, Missee Lee

Distant Waters (Farthest travelled)—Richard Peirce, Hacienda II

Cruiser of the Year—Joan and Keith Willson, Puff

Fouled Prop Award (Problems overcome)—Ian Whan, Crackerjack

Dr. Erve Ante Award (Achievements outside TH&SC)—Jamie Carroll, Dark & Stormy

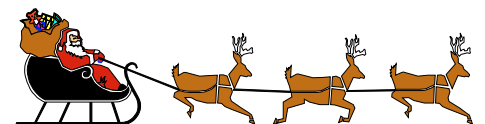
Race Committee "C" Cup (Contribution to merriment of RC)—Melinda Ramsay, Hambone

Marks Trophy (Furtherance of TH&SC)—Chris Hanson, Lothlorien

Daffy Duck Awards—Richard Peirce, Jordon Boyd

Hi Point Trophy (Overall series winner Div 1)—Lou Lalonde, Tsunami II

TH&SC Trophy (Overall series winner Div 2)—Lee Rixon, L'Autre Femme ▲





December 2006



Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY						
3 Annual General Meeting	4	5	6	7	8 Children's Christmas Party	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Day	25 Boxing Day	26	27	28	29	30
31	JOIN US AT THE NEW YEAR'S LEVEE					



JANUARY 2007



Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 NEW YEAR'S LEVEE	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 BOAT SHOW
14 BOAT SHOW	15 BOAT SHOW	16 BOAT SHOW	17 BOAT SHOW	18 BOAT SHOW	19 BOAT SHOW	20 BOAT SHOW
21 BOAT SHOW	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	COME EARLY TO THE LEVEE AND CHECK YOUR BOAT		



February 2007



Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
HAVE YOU HUGGED YOUR BOAT						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Valen- tine Day	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 CLUB FEES DUE	HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR FEES?		



MARCH 2007



Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
CHECK YOUR BOAT						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Daylight Saving (U.S.)	12	13	14	15	16 St. Patrick's Day	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
TIME TO MAKE A LIST OF BOAT PROJECTS						