



TORONTO HYDROPLANE & SAILING CLUB

# Spar & Prop

FEBRUARY 2020

NUMBER 257



A VISITOR TO THE GARDEN  
PHOTO CONTEST HONOURABLE MENTION BY K. BRADLEY



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# Calendar

**DARTS**—Most Friday evenings through April—Join us in the clubhouse about 7 p.m. for a few hours of relaxation or competition. Come early and bring your dinner.

**Euchre Night**—Saturday, February 29—See poster this page.

**Welcome Back Social**—Saturday, March 14—See your friends, check your boat, sign up for work detail of your choice.

**Meet Olympian Sarah Douglas**—Wednesday, April 15

**Race Meeting**—Wednesday, April 22—Racers and non-racers welcome.

**LAUNCH DAY**—Saturday, May 2—Everyone on deck if your boat is going into the water today. Meeting at 7:00 a.m.

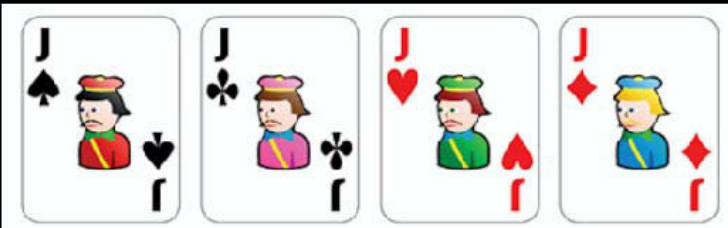
**Warmup Race**—Wednesday May 13—Test your boat to see if everything is working okay.

**Cruise to Bluffer's Park**—Sat.–Sun. May 16–17—First cruise of the year.

**Rear Commodore's Brunch**—Sunday, May 17—First brunch of the year. everyone is welcome.

**Race I, Series I**—Wednesday, May 20—First race of the season. Water's cold so take precautions.

## Toronto Hydroplane and Sailing Club EUCHRE NIGHT & POTLUCK



Shake off those winter blues; enjoy a fun night with your THSC friends!

**Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:00 pm**

**Potluck Dinner**  
**followed by Euchre**



Bring your favorite soup, appetizer or winter comfort food for the Potluck!

We will be playing  
**PROGRESSIVE EUCHRE**  
all Skill Levels are Welcome

Prizes

BYOB

Please RSVP  
if you plan to attend  
(to help us with planning)

**TH&SC**—20 Ashbridge's Park Road, Toronto, Ontario M4L 3W6—(416) 694-6918

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# COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

John Morris

Last minute sad note: I like many of you am shaken to hear of the sudden passing of Board member and longtime dedicated friend of the club, George Tsapoitis, who had recently re-joined the Board as Property Manager. I share the grief with his many friends at the club and send condolences on behalf of all of us to George's family. You can learn more elsewhere in this issue.



Sitting in the Commodore seat for the first time in early January, it was quickly apparent that my predecessors had done a lot of heavy lifting. TH&SC is in very good shape and if we continue on the course we've sailed for the last few years and the many years before that, our club will do just fine.

The principles the club has held since its inception have proved very sound. We rely on member effort when we can but call in professionals when expertise beyond that is required; we are careful with our money but don't scrimp when it comes to doing a job properly. We are aware of each other's interests and as individual members strive to be respectful of the club and the other members. It all counts.

So I now join a Board composed of experienced successful officers. What a team and what a job they have done under now Past-Commodore Richard Pierce's leadership. The sailing and social programs are drawing big crowds, the finances are in order and there's money in the bank. The grounds and dock facilities are in excellent shape and the clubhouse has been assessed and is about to be rehabilitated.

So what's left for me to do, I hear you ask? I hope to be able to support the Board to continue the course it is on and to assist on several fronts. We will work to improve the facilities as I'm sure you will read in the executive reports, keep the budget under control as you will read in Helen's. Working with Randy and Richard, I hope we will extend our connections into the community, increase member involvement both from a Ways and Means and also to build a stronger team of capable members heading up

# VICE COMMODORE

Randy Boyd

THE days are getting longer, the boat show has passed and the groundhog did not see his shadow. This signals that we are getting closer to launch and it is time to start thinking about warmer days and sailing our boats.




If you bought a new boat at the boat show this year make sure you let the Harbour Master know by means of a change of boat form so that he can make the necessary adjustments. If you are thinking that you may not be launching this year we also ask that you let us know so that someone who wants to sail their boat this year can enjoy theirs. Our club is full and dock space is at a premium so if your boat is going in the water only to sit without the mast up please consider leaving it on the hard.

February 29th is the deadline for submitting your club fees to avoid 10% penalties for late payment. It is also time to start thinking about getting your work hours started so that you don't have to make a fourth

quarter Super Bowl comeback like the Kansas City Chiefs to complete your hours. Sailing and Life members are minimally required to perform 16 hours of work for the club during the season; crew members can also accrue seniority points for participating in work projects. Lots of members contribute many more than the 16 hours to help the club throughout the year and for that we are appreciative. We need you to be one of those people.

In reality the club members are getting older and we still have lots to do each year to keep the club running smoothly. Your participation is important and our club only works when the members do their part in its operation. Sign up early and sign up often to help out so that we can continue to have a vibrant club and keep our fees low. We have an exciting calendar for social events and dock projects this year with lots of opportunity for members to pitch in.

So come to the club to check on your boat and dream of sailing soon.

See you at the club,  
Vice Out 



JANUARY VISITORS



projects and committees. With webmaster Mark Vallena we are updating the club's website. Steve Brown made an excellent suggestion to build opportunities for expanding members' skills and that will be on the agenda. Perhaps a member-to-member set up will help newer sailors learn from our old salts...


Past-past Commodore Greg Smith has agreed to help interpret the long range plans in the process of upgrading the clubhouse and working with Board. This will be our 'major project' over the next while. Consider that the club was constructed beginning five decades ago; Greg will guide the Board to put the clubhouse in shape for its next 50 years.

So...

Over the years I have visited a number of clubs and can report that

the member DIY model is an attractive way to build relationships while keeping costs down. Sure, there are fancier clubs on the lake, but I would choose this one every time. Having the opportunity to serve at its Commodore is a real honour.

But it's more than an honour, it's an opportunity to help build the club. Should you have a suggestion, or (is it possible?) a complaint, I am always around or onboard our boat at C31.

In wrapping up, thanks to the board for welcoming me; thanks to the folks who supported me in getting here and a special thanks to Cat for her encouragement and sage counsel. After just 35 days, it's perhaps early to count the chickens but I am looking forward to the next two years as Commodore. 

# PAST COMMODORE

Richard Peirce

IT'S that lovely time of the year when you're trudging through slush and snow to get to work and home again, mostly in the dark. You start dreaming of warmer days and sunny skies.



The good news is, Wiarton Willy predicted an early spring! This is a good time to start making boat plans. I've started my spring commissioning list which just seems to get longer each year. It's also a good time to get down to the club and check on your boat. Please make sure you leave your boat in safe condition with your AC cord unplugged and your ladder secured.

Now that I'm living in the Past... Commodore's role, I'm looking forward to doing some long term planning for the club. We have a great club both in terms of our facilities and our people. Looking at the long term is so important to make sure we're in great shape for years to come. As always, if you have ideas, send me an email or drop by *Hacienda II* this spring!

Lastly, I would just like to take a moment to say goodbye to a great friend. George, you will be missed. George was always there to help a friend in need, up for a great conversation, breakfast, sharing a joke and working hard to make our club a better place. Fair winds my friend. 🌊

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We have been at Miami Beach off and on since Jan 9th. There have been some beautiful weather windows which we had to pass on.

We had issues with our chart plotter which delayed our leaving Indiantown.

The Superbowl will be played tonight in Miami and there has been a lot of hoopla across the way here in Miami Beach. Friday we went down the beach and parks where all the sports centres have put up their broadcasting tents.



George Tsapoitis  
1954 - 2020

To many of his long time friends, George was affectionately known as "Crazy George." Those, from the club who knew him well, understood the significance of this nickname. He would jump into every new adventure with both feet! And, his adventures were many and varied.

George traveled in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and even made a bicycle trip across Canada. He chose to spend much time in the Canadian West hiking its mountains and hang gliding off its cliffs. While in the West, he worked at a youth camp teaching wilderness skills, he worked, on horseback, as a ranch hand and as a contractor handyman. When he returned to Toronto, he began employment with the Parks Department and eventually transferred to the East End parks.

In 2012, George bought his first sailboat. Within a short while, he purchased three more boats! See, that's what I mean by jumping in! And, he was not shy in involving himself in the club management. He served a full term as Property Manager and had stepped up to serve another term. His work ethic will be sorely missed around the club.

As a friend, George went out of his way to be helpful. When I broke my leg several years ago, he washed my floor, prepared meals, took me shopping and to appointments. Whatever I needed - George was there.

The club has lost an important contributing member and I have lost a very dear friend, a friendship that has existed for nearly 50 years.

Goodbye my friend. Goodbye Crazy George. You are already missed.

— John Edwards

It rained heavily last night (Friday) and it showered of and on today but is pouring now, tomorrow is supposed to clear. Looks like there is another

crossing window on Tuesday for a few days, so hopefully we will be on our way again this time.

—Chris & Elizabeth on *Groovin*



## REAR COMMODORE

John Greenham

THE official off-season of sailing is at its mid-way point and with the Toronto Boat Show in our rear-view mirror the remaining winter months will seem to drag on. Of course some of your fellow TH&SC members have been enjoying a very active winter calendar at the club. The Levee was well-attended, the Robbie Burns night was again enjoyable, thanks to Meredith and Lindsay, and Jessica and Hazel made our BVI Dream Night very enjoyable. Painkillers, need I say more? It's actually making me think, I should book a trip to the BVI, who's in?



Organizing the Club calendar for the coming season is pretty much complete. Thanks to my Social, Racing and Cruising teams It looks like we're in for another wonderful season. Traditionally the club's largest event is Sailpast, scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>—please mark your calendar as this will be another wonderful event. Our racing team wants to challenge this

fact and are organizing the Summer Blast Open Regatta August 22nd. Be sure to mark your calendar for Summer Blast as you truly won't want to miss out this year.

Our social team met on a cold



### SOCIAL TEAM

January day and came up with many ideas to help make all of the TH&SC events enjoyable and fun. A special thanks To Randy, Jackie, Rebecca, Richard, Laurie, Isabel, Meredith, Lindsay, Martin, Susan, and Peter. The

next few events on the calendar are:

- Euchre Night Feb 29
- Spring Social March 14
- Sarah Douglas (meet an Olympian) April 15
- Racer Meeting April 22
- Launch May 2

I'm sure I will see many of you at all these events, and watch your inbox as I will be sending out more reminders than ever.

We're working on making our coffee area a bit more eco-friendly and will soon have T H & S C mugs for your coffee enjoyment, Be sure to clean yours when you're done. :-)

Again, I would like to remind you all, that if you have or want to

help, feel free to reach out as my ears will be open and I'd be happy to take a helping hand.

Keep your head down and focus on Spring as it will come. See you around the club. ▲

## HARBOUR MASTER

Paul Evans

From Feb. 5th when this report was submitted, it is only 87 days until Launch.



There is a lot that needs to happen before then.

I have sent a list of jobs to Ways and Means and will summarize those here. If you are interested, please contact [waysandmeans@thsc.ca](mailto:waysandmeans@thsc.ca) and copy [harbourmaster@thsc.ca](mailto:harbourmaster@thsc.ca) please.

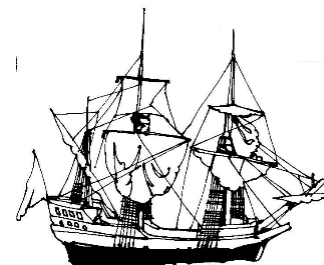
The jobs are (with approximate dates):

- Prep barge for use March 28 weather permitting
- Replace any needed barrels April 4 or April 11
- Put bridges on April 4 or April 11
- Re-board docks April 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26.
- Reroute power cables April 25
- Prep *Shadow* for launch April 18
- Prep *Mac1* for launch April 18
- Replace windows on *Shadow* April 25

These jobs all need to be done before launch as well as preparing your own

boat of course.

Anyone willing and available to work during the week would be greatly appreciated. Just let me know when and I will try to organize work parties. Here's hoping the weather cooperates. Many thanks, Paul. ▲



Friday in summer you come for dinner on the patio—in winter come early, bring your dinner and stay for DARTS at 7. We have darts to lend. What else is there to do in winter? Give it a try.



## FLEET CAPTAIN CRUISING

Miranda Wheatstone  
Albert Kerek

**A** FEW weeks ago, during a record downpour, the Humber River swelled its banks, flowing through our yard at 4 knots and four and a half feet deep. With my shoal draft I could have motored up the ten miles, or so, from the lake and anchored over my patio which got me quite excited about the whole climate change thing.

With record high water levels, sailing clubs who can launch are looking for places to go, places with floating docks and great facilities. TH&SC is one of those places.

As a result, a number of reciprocal cruises have been arranged for this coming season.

With the help of my co-cruising captain Miranda Wheatstone and our Rear Commodore John Greenham we will do our best to encourage and assist all members in joining us on these club cruises. We're looking forward to serving you all as your Cruise Captains in 2020.—AK



## RACING CAPTAIN

Martin Osborne

**H**ELLO everyone I know it's officially mid-winter because the Toronto Boat Show is over for another year, the days are definitely getting longer and I believe we are only 90 odd days away from launch! I think for a lot of us who aren't lucky to be away somewhere in the sun and sand the nice weather can't come soon enough for us!

On the racing front though there is lots of exciting news for 2020. PHRF-LO our official handicapping organization for racing on Lake Ontario announced at the annual meeting this year that the much anticipated Point to Point formula for distance races would be ready for observation trials this year and ready for full implementation in 2021. This should make the scoring for these types of races a much fairer for

(Continued on page 8)



## TREASURER

Helen Rigler

**I** WAS so saddened to hear of the passing of George Tsapoitis. He was one of the first people to befriend me when I joined TH&SC and I valued his friendship.

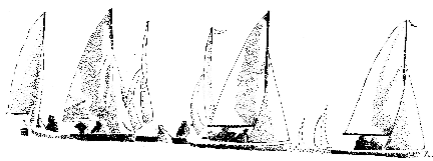
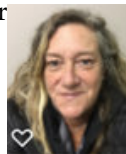
George was a long standing member of our sailing club and went above and beyond helping the club and fellow members. He will be missed by many. Bless you George.

I'm pleased to have Jeffery Hocking as our Ways and Means co-ordinator for 2020. I expect that all will support him in his efforts to align work with club members.

Payments have started to roll in for 2020 fees. Be reminded the full payment is due by February 29th in order to avoid the additional 10% late fee.

Our audit committee will start reviewing 2019 books shortly. Thank you Deb Bradley, Peggy Wheatstone and Andrea Barkley for volunteering.

I'm looking forward to an early spring—fingers crossed. 🚢



## WAYS AND MEANS

Jeff Hocking

**H**ELLO, I am excited to serve the club in the role of Ways and Means! I hope that I will be able to serve the membership well in communicating the work that needs to be done and recognizing the hours that have been completed.

In service of that goal, we are planning to recreate a paper hours receipting system that will consist of three parts to be signed by the project supervisor. This method has been used in the club in the past. One part will be kept for the supervisor, one will go to the hours coordinator, and one will be for you to keep for your own records. Look for further details in the near future along with announcements regarding upcoming projects. 🚢



## CREW WANTED

by Aubrey Millard

**W**E are presently on a mooring buoy in Bahia del Sol, El Salvador. Judy will be flying back home the beginning of February, and I will be taking *Veleda* 2300 NM up to Puerto Penasco, Mexico to put it on a truck to be shipped to Chicago, some time in mid-February.

I am sending this to a few friends whom I trust as reliable sailing crew, and may have some time available in mid-February for a two to three week (1055 NM) passage from El Salvador to Barra del Navidad in Mexico. I will be stopping in Puerto Chiapas, Mexico to enter the country, with a few days stop in Acapulco, and a few other short anchorages to obtain fuel. Most legs of the passage will be between 120 to 240 NM. The estimated speed of advance for *Veleda IV* my Ontario 32 is 100 NM in a 24 hour period. Barra is accessible to an international airport a taxi ride away.

I will remain at anchor in Barra del Navidad until mid March when I will need crew for another two to three week passage from there up to the northern end of the Sea of Cortez, Puerto Penasco. On this 1050 NM passage, I will be stopping at Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan, as well as a few overnight anchorages for fuel if necessary.

In Puerto Penasco I will be alongside for a few days and loading *Veleda* on the truck, after which I (we) can bus up to Tucson or Phoenix to fly back to Toronto. Judy may or may not come down to assist. We will be OK for our passage from Chicago to the North Channel Yacht Club in Spragge, Ontario in early May.

The transport by truck has not been finalized yet, but we should know within a week. There are international airports a taxi drive away from all the destinations we will be using.

I would appreciate 1 to 3 crew for each of the passages above. I am a bit limited as I am recovering from a torn tendon in the rotator cuff of my right shoulder, but it should be 90 % operational by mid Feb. hopefully.

Would you pass this on to other sailors you may know who might be available.

Aubrey 🚢



# NEW YEAR'S LEVY



# ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT



A Scottish Grace

Doon wi' yer heid  
And up wi' yer paws  
And thank the lord  
For a guld pair o' jaws.

Anon



## Michael Flynn

1951 — January 13, 2020



With sadness Past Commodore Patrick Flynn announced the passing of his brother Mike on January 13 due to complications of a ruptured aneurysm. In 2002 and 2003 Mike was head of Ways & Means at TH&SC while Pat was Commodore. Pat said "Michael found the club after we acquired a Hobie 18. After a few adventures with that boat we purchased *Spectra*, a Mirage 26 from Gary Bishop with sail number 31 and proceeded to learn how to sail it. Working clubs certainly got a willing participant with Michael. As I look back through family photos I see many many work parties, so life just carried on as normal!" Our condolences to the Flynn families.

### RACING CAPTAIN— CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

everyone, it will certainly be interesting to see what effect it has on our weekend races.

Speaking of distance races, some really, really exciting news is that this year's Summer Blast Regatta is going to be a single day medium distance race vs. the usual around the buoys racing it has typically been. We are hoping that it will make it more fun for everyone involved as there will be divisions based on handicap and ability with great prizes in all the divisions. We are hoping to revive interest in neighbouring clubs coming

to participate in the weekend long regatta and from what I am seeing from a food and party organizing standpoint this is going to be a regatta you don't want to miss! Registration will be only through Yacht Scoring and will be limited on a first come first served basis. So follow this link and register today!  
<https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=11789>

Also, you can follow the regatta on Facebook by searching for TH&SC Summer Blast Regatta. Please search out our page, like us, and share it

## SHELLBACKS



### THE SHELLBACK CLUB.

"Keel Laid 1934"

Celebrating 85

**February 19<sup>th</sup>: Ron and Pam Mazza** will share their recent adventures in **Vietnam and Hanoi**.

**February 26<sup>th</sup>: Boundless Sails from Baddeck, NS .. to a Rescue at Sea.** Neal Heatherington will share the harrowing tale of a rogue wave, a lost 38' vessel, a mayday heard by Captain Wendell Hendricks of the Ardmore Sealifter who navigated the 700 foot oil tanker to the sailboat.

**March 4<sup>th</sup>: Sally & Noel Lien** recently sailed the **English Channel to visit the South Coast of England and also took a side trip to Turkey.** They will, inimically share their impressions and thoughts about their journeys.

**March 11<sup>th</sup>: Angus Armstrong**, Harbourmaster Emeritas, will give us an update on the status of the plans for the **Waterfront of Toronto**, including plans for the mouth of the Don River.

**March 18<sup>th</sup>: Rob Mazza** returns again this year. He has documented his **Tour of the Canadian War Memorials at Vimy, Beaumont, Hamel, Dieppe and Juno Beach, the Five Canadian Pilgrims in Northern France.**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>: Gerri Staples** takes us back to the mountains with her story of **Trekking Machu Pichu.**

**April 1<sup>st</sup>: Aubrey and Judith Millard** speak of their adventures sailing **The Med.**

**April 8<sup>th</sup>: Chris Hope** takes us to the **Atlantic Leg of the Volvo 60 Around the World Race.**

**April 15<sup>th</sup>: Bill Hutton Rescued at sea** - reflections, second thoughts and lessons learned. How a routine six-day passage turned into a midnight transfer to a 750ft bulk carrier.

*Be a Shellback, come often, bring friends and enjoy the combination of good food, friendly people and interesting and often unique presentations about nautical and maritime topics, the Toronto Waterfront and sometimes outdoor adventures.*

*The Shellback team is Dianne Leggatt, Skipper, Graham Dougall, Purser & Second Mate, Elspeth Fanjoy, Mate, Ron Jenkins, Webmaster, Philip Morton, Music Director, Judith Alltree, Chaplain and many others who help throughout the year. Volunteers welcome!*

Call or write Dianne Leggatt, Skipper, for any reason: 416 486 6025 or [dianne.leggatt@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.leggatt@gmail.com)

often to build the interest for what is going to be an amazing weekend!

I am really looking forward to seeing all the regulars back out on Wednesday nights and hoping that there might be a few more of you who find time to come and join in the excellent racing and camaraderie that we experience every week out on the course and of course back at the club after racing.

I also hope that we will see everyone out on April 20th to meet Sarah Douglas an Olympic hopeful Laser Radial sailor! It should be a fun night for all!

See you on the line!

Martin



# BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS NIGHT



## Trevor Kane is for Sale!

### San Juan 24

Year	Length	Beam	Draft	Location	
1978	24'	8'	4' "	TH&SC	

#### Description:

Trevor Kane is a 1978 San Juan 24 sailboat in great condition. New Evolution Tri Radial Racing Laminate Genoa. Like new crisp UK # 3. New rigging 2017 New Tohatsu 6hp "Sail Pro" sailboat motor! Trailer, clean & ready to sail, great day-weekend sailer and competitive club racer.

Contact: Greg Smith for Price



416-930-4569



gcsails@icloud.com



