

THE MASTHEAD

Gatineau River
Yacht Club

Club de voile de
la Riviere Gatineau

VOL 28 No.2 June 1992

The Editor's Note

This is my first attempt at writing a newsletter and my first attempt at working with a computer - so - please bear with me and hopefully the Masthead will continue to be a quality product! I'm using the PageMaker program to put this newsletter together, so, if there are any PageMaker experts out there, please let me know. I could use any tips available - maybe even a lesson!

On with the information for this issue. We have a theme to many of the articles in this issue - safety. The club has been very fortunate to have an excellent safety record and we hope that by stressing safety in this Masthead we will ensure that it is a priority as we head into the heat of the summer months. (As I'm writing this, we have the furnace on and the forecast is calling for possible ground frost - but - I'm optimistic that by the time you read this it will be sunny and HOT!)

As you read through the Masthead you will see various articles about safety on the islands and you will be introduced to some new initiatives that will be used this summer. One of these new initiatives is the Close Call Report form that you can see on page 5, there is also a blurb regarding the first aid kits - the contents, and where they can be found. You will also notice that signs will be put up at various spots notifying people of safety issues such as "How to operate the gas bar-b-que" and "No running on the catwalk"

Hopefully, everyone will familiarize themselves with all of these safety topics and will be able to enjoy an active, accident free summer on the islands.

L. Evelyn Ironside

NOTE: There is a Masthead Drop Off box on the shelves near the office door. Any comments or suggestions you might have can be dropped in the box. Also, if you want to contribute an article or write something for the new "Members Speak Out" column (see page 6) you can just drop the article in the box. If you write the article on a computer, drop off the disc with a note telling me what it's written in and I'll return your disc once I've copied the article!! Please contribute - the Masthead is only as good as the articles in it!!!

GRYC: phone 819-827-2122



NOTICE OF BY-LAW CHANGE

"UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AT THE CLUB"

At the Annual General Meeting in November, the membership expressed some concern about children being on the islands alone. Georgina Pickett and Roger Leclair were asked to look into the issue from a legal point of view, and to report their findings to the Board, for whatever action was appropriate.

As a starting point, the child welfare laws of both Ontario and Quebec were looked into. The Ontario law (which we looked at for comparison purposes) is quite specific that no one may leave a child under 16, without making provision for reasonable supervision and care. The Quebec law speaks in more general terms, placing the primary responsibility for supervising a child with the parents. In the result, as there is no cut and dried legal formula, the question turns on what is reasonable.

These findings were reported to the Board, and the issue was discussed at length. Several points weighed heavily in the Board's decision, most particularly concerns of safety.

First, we considered the inherently dangerous nature of aquatic activities, particularly swimming and boating. Second, the island is quite removed from emergency services such as police, fire and ambulance, and from the watchful eyes of neighbours. Lastly, the island is a large place, and at times no one visits certain areas for hours. Therefore, something could happen and no one would find out about it for some time.

All these considerations convinced the Board that greater precautions are required for children on the island than might be necessary in their home environment.

continued on page 2...

The Board also noted that it is impossible to ask Club staff to supervise members' children - Junior Programme staff are there to look after the Junior Programmers; the Manager is fully occupied looking after Club affairs generally. To ask them to keep an eye out for unaccompanied youngsters, beyond that which hopefully every member does, would be to the detriment of other aspects of Club activities.

Lastly, in fairness to all the members of the Club, the Board felt it had to consider the effects of a possible finding of legal liability, if the Board and the Club did not take adequate steps to ensure the safety of its members.

For all these reasons, the Board concluded that any one on the island alone must be capable of exercising good judgment, staying away from risky situations and protecting themselves accordingly. We decided that the earliest age at which such maturity could reasonably be expected is 14. We are confirmed in this view by the National Life Saving Society which identifies children 6 to 13 as "Young Explorers" and one of the high risk groups.

The Board does appreciate that no two children are the same, and that some are more mature than others of the same chronological age. However, there is no way to assess each child individually, and enforcement would become a major issue.

Therefore, in accordance with Article 14, subsection 1 of the By-Laws, which gives the Board authority to make By-laws, valid only until the next Annual Meeting, the Board has adopted the following:

Any child under the age of 14 must be accompanied while on Club property by someone over the age of 14 who is responsible for that child.

Club staff have been directed to ask children who are alone who is looking after them, and if they are unaccompanied, to send the child home, or to call the child's parents and arrange pick up.

This item will be placed on the Agenda of the next Annual General Meeting, for consideration by the full membership. We realize that this is a difficult decision, any comments - for or against - can be directed to Georgina Pickett.

Georgina Pickett
on behalf of The Board



WORK CREWS

Thanks to John Seally for an informative article in the last Masthead concerning management of the Club, and the respective roles of the Board and the Crews.

The Club is run by volunteer labour, and its success depends in large measure on everyone chipping in. Members usually help out on their crews for at least 2 x 1/2 day annually (not counting clean-ups in the Spring and Fall, or duty officers for sailing). This year, we're investigating getting Workers' Compensation coverage for our 'volunteer' workers - more on that in the next Masthead.

For those who can't or don't want to put in the labour, there's a \$25.00 "fine". Last year, people were on the honour system, but this year, crew chiefs will be asked to report at the end of August whether there is anyone in their group who should be "charged".

Come on out and pitch in! You'll find you meet more people, and the Club will benefit too.

The Board

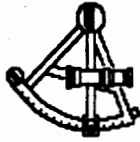


MEMBERS' MAILBOX

The cost of postage for a mailing to all our members runs about \$35.00, and that doesn't count the cost of stationery. We've decided to try and eliminate some routine mailings by having a Members' Mailbox in the Office. There you'll find an accordion file, divided alphabetically. Items such as invoices for fees paid will be left there for you to pick up when you're on the island.

The Masthead and personal correspondence will continue to be mailed. We encourage you to use the mailbox to leave notes for other members - but remember, we can't ensure either delivery or confidentiality.

The Board



Commodore's Hoist

So! We're finally underway! Lot's of things have been going on. The Island Committee has been going great guns in terms of getting things in ship shape. The harbour crew has been busy changing the cable on the catwalk as well as designing, building and designing and designing the crashboat dock. You'll be hearing about the work of the Junior Program later in this issue and information from the Communications, Finance and Social Crews will be updated in this and other Masthead issues.

I would just like to say that it's great to see such enthusiasm on the part of everyone - please keep it up!!

I, on behalf of the membership, would very much like to thank **Alain Godbout** and (el presidente) **Johannes Godbout** for the stellar job they did with the Masthead during the past year. In their last edition, Johannes mentioned that they will be taking a break from hard-core club activity for a while. After the amount of energy and effort they put into everything they did at the club, no-one can say that the rest is not well deserved! Guillaume, (the Godbout's son - only new members will need the introduction) has accepted a position as head instructor of the Valleyfield junior program - we wish him well! Evelyn Ironside will be taking over editorship(?) of the ol' newsletter, we all wish her an enjoyable tenure.

I would like everyone to know that, in keeping with tradition, I beat Hamish in my first race of the season! (Editor's Note: It obviously doesn't take long to start a tradition at the GRYC - Hamish has only been a member for two years!)

As was witnessed at the **New Member's Bar-B-Que**, we have finally been able to welcome into the club a large chunk of those on our rather sizeable Membership Waiting List. Sandy Lorimer has done an excellent job of keeping track of all the interested people and notifying those who we were able to welcome. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members who came out to the event and to everyone who contributed to make it its usual great success. Even though it was the official first day of summer, the temperature was more like late fall so it was a pleasure to see that the event was still quite well attended.

One of the mandates of the Management Committee is to make all of the members aware of safety issues for themselves and for their fellow members. Please take a few minutes the next time you go to the island and make a point of familiarizing yourself with:

- 1) the locations of phones and emergency numbers
- 2) the first aid kits
- 3) the safety equipment - flotation devices, reaching assists, etc.

Perish forbid that you should ever need to use them, but in case you do, it's good to know where they are!

We will also be posting some safety rules on the noticeboards around the club.

We have also tentatively scheduled a **St. John Ambulance First Aid course** which will take place on the two consecutive Saturday's (18th and 25th of July). It is a great course and, as above, should you ever encounter the need..... Please keep your eye on the white board at the Clubhouse front door for updates regarding this training. If you are interested in attending, please call Jeremy at the Club - 827-2122 to register your name.

'til next time,
John Pomeroy

FEE REMINDER: Just a reminder to those members who have not yet paid their annual fees, or made alternate arrangements with the treasurer. Interest at 5% is charged on all accounts outstanding after May 1st. Please add this amount to your fees when you submit them
Georgina Pickett - Treasurer

From The Secretary

As you probably have heard, our closely guarded secret -- how wonderful GRYC really is -- has leaked out! We have had a large number of applications and inquiries for membership this year. Too many! As a result, we have developed a waiting list for future members, having invited seven new members to join us this year.

We are asking potential new members to find a current member to sponsor them. This is indicated by a signature on their application form. If there is someone that you would like to invite to put their name on the waiting list, ask Jeremy or myself for a membership application form and do make sure that both you and the potential new member sign it before sending it in.

The Board has discussed the on-going problem with identifying members and non-members on the islands. Last year we tried the bracelets, but it was only partially successful. This year, we have decided that a photo gallery featuring a photo of each "membership" might help us all to recognize each other. The photo sessions start at the Sail Past. If you cannot be at the club that day, please send us a group picture of you and your family. These will be mounted on the walls of the stairwell as soon as we get them. Make sure you identify yourselves if you send in a picture, so we can label it properly!

In this MastHead I have also provided a list of active members of GRYC. If any of the information provided is incorrect (names and phone numbers only), please let me know so I can make the corrections.

Sandy Lorimer
Secretary

New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to the Club:

- Pamela Cullum, with her two sons Paul & Mark.
- Beth Macfie and Paul Fydenchuk, who have already graced the catwalk with their Siren.
- Pauline and Michael Smith, with their four children - Matthew, Jamie, and the twins, Alison and Timothy
- Nancy and Douglas Sturdevant
- Christina Vanhove
- Amanda Shaughnessy and Ian Tambyn with their two sons, Matthew and Walker
- Christopher and Yvonne Weber and their four children - Fiona, Victoria, Bjorn and Sabina

Membership Cards

Membership cards are available for those members who wish to use the facilities of other sailing clubs.

If you need one, please contact:
Sandy Lorimer - secretary

230-2546

As a cost saving measure, they will not be distributed unless asked for.

Clubhouse Use for Private Parties

No private parties can be booked on Tuesdays or Thursdays or nights the Club is having events.

Call the manager to book your date - Jeremy - 827-2122

There is a \$25 fee and a returnable \$25 deposit.

The maximum size of parties is 30 people, parties of 10 or less do not have to pay a fee.

No more than two parties can be booked in any one week so call well in advance to be sure a space is still available.

Club members can still use the islands when parties are booked.

Parties should always respect the neighbouring properties, keeping noise levels etc. in mind.

Fleet Captain's Log

We had five keeners out for the first race of the year, the Commodore's Opener on a very cool May 24th weekend. It was blowing stink so yours truly demonstrated how to go into irons on the starting line and later how to do a death role!! The rest of the Fleet did not take my lead?? Bruce Lorimer swept the series followed by Malcolm McHattie. I let John Pomeroy cross the line before me because he only had time for one race! I thanked my extra winter 'Dig Pounds' and the heavy weather for allowing me to cross the line in front of Guillaume Godbout - that doesn't happen very often.

The next two Sundays were rainy and low on wind, though Bruce L. was rumoured to be aimlessly wandering around the island with his 'hat?' in his hand looking for a breeze while the rain dripped off his nose.

Hamish McIntosh
Fleet Captain

Vice Commodore's Report

Would you believe it? As of mid-June, the first two sessions of the Junior Program are almost full and the last two almost half full!!! The response has been great, keeping the Junior Program Crew Chief, Paul Hanvey, and his crew members more than busy.

In keeping with the past several years, the intent of the Program is to encourage junior aged club members to enjoy water activities and to gain skills and confidence in the GRYC environment. We have changed the Program slightly this year - the 6-8 year olds will be more integrated with the 9-14 age group. We hope to see more of the Rascals earning swimming badges and the juniors more involved with the ecological side of life at GRYC. Sailing is still the core activity for the older participants and will be introduced to the Rascals.

We are pleased to welcome back **Kristin Drysdale** and **Adam Welsh** as instructors this year. **Josh Cohen** has graduated from being a participant in the Program to 'assistant', Congratulations Josh! - we hope you have a great time! Joining us this year are: former GRYC junior program participant, **Ellen Lauder**, who will be primary keeper of the Rascals, and, **Karin Lavia** who brings with her many experiences of working with children's programs. Karin will assume the role of Program Manager.

So, we are looking forward to June 29th - opening day! Should you have any questions, please call either Paul Hanvey (827-2032) or me (827-0379).

Lee Anne Johnston
Vice Commodore

Safety

Close Call Report Forms

A close call is an accident that almost happened. In an effort to avoid serious accidents, we would like to have members start filling out these Close Call Report Forms any time you do have a Close Call.

If we have these forms as notification, we may be able to do something to avoid future accidents - similar to the one you almost had!

The forms will be available outside the office in the Clubhouse. Once completed, they should be given to Jeremy - the manager.

Thanks for your cooperation!
Hamish M.

CLOSE CALL NARRATIVE REPORT

Name: _____

Date of Incident: _____ Time: _____

Weather Conditions: _____

Activity: _____

What was the behaviour immediately prior to the incident?:

What went wrong?: _____

What was the result?: _____

What injury could have ensued?: _____

Why/How was injury avoided?: _____

Additional information to clarify the incident: _____



Canoeing and Exploring

A canoe is a simple craft. It is not much more than a log that has been halved and hollowed out, given two pointed ends and can be propelled with two paddles - forward, backward and sideways. But, in its' simplicity lies its' versatility. You can use a canoe for a short paddle around the GRYC islands or canoe across the continent and even the western hemisphere. The canoe is a vehicle to be explored and to use to explore as far as your imagination and daring can take you.

A canoe in particular is low, long and narrow. It has a rounded bottom, more or less, depending on the model. This low profile and rounded bottom gives the canoe more stability than you might think (a kayak on the other hand has a rather flat bottom so it overturns easily). More drownings involving canoes are the result of people falling overboard than the result of the canoe overturning. To avoid falling out or causing the canoe to overturn, all you have to do is keep your weight low. The other danger of being in a low craft is being swamped by waves or other boats - its best to avoid going out in stormy weather and to try to stay away from high traffic waterways. So, the low, narrow canoe is best suited for exploring the rivers and narrow waterways that riddle Western Quebec and Canada.

In writing this column, I hope I can encourage you to explore different ways of using the canoe and to promote some interesting canoeing activities such as the Fall Colours Canoe Trip. Keep in touch! I can be reached at 246-2819s

Robert Wilson

Members Speak Out

Thanks to Robert Wilson for his suggestion!

We will be reserving a spot in the Mast head for a column open to the members to 'Speak Out' about the GRYC and its activities and surroundings. Here's a chance for you to give voice to your thoughts, to comment about events, to express your concerns and to ask questions about what you don't understand.

Others would most likely enjoy hearing about your concerns or sharing a story you have to tell about life at the GRYC!

To submit your piece, just leave it in the Masthead Drop Off Box out side the office in the Clubhouse. We are looking forward to hearing from lots of members!

NOTE: You must sign your submissions or they cannot be used.

Masthead



The Wishbone

This is usually a column about sailboard use but, since I haven't even used mine yet this year, and, stay in keeping with the safety theme of this issue, I've decided to write about safety in the sun. This does apply to sailboarding - it's so much fun once you are out on your sailboard that you could forget how much time has past and end up with a bad sunburn - if - you're not using sunscreen. This takes me to my topic - being fairskinned and freckled, I've become an expert on sunscreens!! So I'll pass on what I can to you!

First of all, you have to be careful of what brand you choose. Some sunscreens are classified as cosmetics and others are classified as over the counter drugs. The cosmetic products do not have to prove that they really are effective to the SPF rating they advertise - in fact, they are not supposed to advertise an SPF rating at all but many of them do! Others get around this by displaying a number and hoping that the unaware consumer will assume that the number is an SPF rating. The way to ensure that you get the protection you think you are getting is to purchase a sunscreen classified as a drug. You can tell them apart from the cosmetics because the drugs will have either a DIN or GP number on the bottle.

You should purchase something with a rating of at least 15 and that says it protects against both UVA and UVB rays. Most, if not all, of those classified as drugs should have protection against both rays. These sunscreens tend to be a bit more expensive but it is worth the cost to get the proper protection. My dermatologist has recommended a particular brand that has been extensively tested - so - if you're interested, just let me know and I'll pass on the name.

Stay safe,

Have fun in the sun,

Evelyn Ironside

Members Speak Out

Since this is our first go - the column is very short - lets make sure there is more in it for the next Masthead!

"What happened to the Long Up River Race? The is an event Camille and I have enjoyed in the past and are looking forward to again. Can we expect to see it this year?"

Robert Wilson

Any answer to this? Whatever it is - I'll publish it in the next issue!

Gatineau River Yacht Club Active Members
(as of June 22, 1992)

Barbara APPLEFORD	827-9996
Duncan BAILEY	741-3880
Laurent BISSONNETTE /Anne WILSON	827-1753
Pat BLACK	827-0465
Jean-Louis & Yolaine BOUCHER	745-5150
Hani & Anne BOULOS	749-1347
Trice CAMERON & Michael EGAN	827-4340
Nini COHEN & Roger LECLAIRE	238-7583
Heather & Martin CREW-GEE	643-1805
Pamela CULLUM	827-2068
Gonnie DE WITTE	726-6364
Margaret DES BRISAY	235-5714
Jack DES BRISAY & Anne BRAND	827-4311
Philippe & Monique DEZIEL	827-0551
Marc & AC DOLGIN	827-2171
Bryan & Catherine DRUMMOND	827-2195
Claude DUGUAY & Pierrette RAYMOND	827-0083
Roger DUPUIS & Danielle PRONOVOST	827-2335
Gayle EKSTRAND & Kent OMHOLT-JENSEN	827-3243
Blair & Lynn ERSKINE	827-2037
Richard GARLICK & Catherine MORRISON	827-4889
Patrick & Viviane GLORIEUX	523-7002
Alain GODBOUT & Johannes MARTIN	561-4535
Jennifer GODFREY	232-7259
Jane & Michel GRAVEL	827-0518
Peter GUY	827-2093
Ian & Lise HAMMOND	747-9794
Ernest & Gloria HANFF	741-2607
Paul & Louise HANVEY	827-2032
Jean-Pierre HARDY & Nicole CASTERAN	
Don & Diane HENNING	827-1828
Carroll HOLLAND	761-1761
Keith & Jane HORNER	728-2253
Muriel HOW	827-1274
Evelyn IRNSIDE	827-0580
Bill & Jan JOHNSTON	827-2154
Lee Anne JOHNSTON	827-0379
Catherine & Michael JOYCE	827-1335
Louk & Yvonne JURGENS	827-3635
Alex KER	594-8132
Martti & Diane LAHTINEN	827-0899
Lucie LAROSE & Pierre RHEAUME	827-0592
Patricia LAVERGNE	827-4969
Robert & Monique LEE	827-2989
Robin LETELLIER & Celine BUJOLD	827-2001
Mette LOCKWOOD & Brian MacLEAN	827-0802
Bruce & Sandy LORIMER	230-2546
Beth MACFIE & Paul FYDENCHUK	827-4237

Fiona MACKENZIE	837-1245
Warren & Marilyn MAJOR	827-0529
Leonard MAX & Deborah EDWARDS	827-3234
Malcolm McHATTIE & Isabelle ROBERGE	827-2935
Hamish McINTOSH	827-4607
David & Janet MILLEN	827-2684
Peter MORGAN	827-4971
Graeme & Laura PARKINSON	225-4763
Georgina PICKETT & John GILLESPIE	567-2655
John POMEROY	827-2342
Pierrette RAYMOND & Claude DUGUAY	827-0083
Tim & Brenda ROBINSON	745-0434
Nancy RUDELL	827-1360
Margaret RUDOLF & Dana VANIER	233-6711
Henry SANO & Marie MALTAIS	684-1218
Anneke SCHWARTZ	729-3247
John & Aloise SEALLY	733-7535
Fred & Jane SIMPKIN	827-4787
Pauline & Michael SMITH	827-0135
Roxanne SOMORJAI	827-3191
Bill & Eileen STRANKS	827-1833
Konrad & Marie-Claire STUDNICKI-GISBERT	827-0774
Nancy & Douglas STURDEVANT	820-0775
David THOMPSON	830-6735
Darcy & Nancy THORPE	827-4883
John & Colette TRENT	827-1025
Gerry & Yvonne van GREVENHOF	827-0097
Christina VANHOVE	749-9918
Constantin & Brenda WACHMANN	722-9647
Doug & Marie-Claire WALLACE	827-0646
Blake & Jane WATSON	827-3583
Winston WEBBER	238-8909
Chris & Yvonne WEBER	827-2809
Judy WHITE & Michael LONG	827-0758
Robert & Camille WILLSON	246-2819
Roger YOUNG	728-4434

Missing Persons

Our correspondence to several members has been returned as 'unknown' or 'moved', or we just haven't heard from them. Can you help? If you have an address or phone number for any of these members, please call either:

Sandy Lorimer (Secretary) - 230-2654 or
 Georgina Pickett (Treasurer) - 567-2655.

Thanks

- George Blakeney
- Joan Buchanan
- Peter and Lorayne Forget
- Paul Grodde
- Joseph and Sands Isuru
- Monty and Pamela Lassere
- John Tennant
- George Koch
- Laurie Watson

First Aid Kits

In an effort to maintain a greater level of safety on the Island we have decided to have fully stocked first aid kits easily and readily available to the membership.

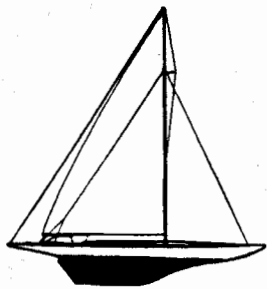
One kit will be located, as always, in the office just behind the desk. But, since the office is often locked, another kit will be placed just outside the office door. Yet another kit can be found in the large crash boat.

If you find that anything in the kits is missing, or about to run out, please inform me by contacting me directly or by slipping a note in the suggestion box (the same box as the Masthead Drop Off Box).

Thanks,
 Jeremy (Manager)

The Gatineau River Yacht Club

**30 Years of Sailing Tradition
on the Gatineau River**



**Gatineau River Yacht Club
P.O. Box 3,
Chelsea, Que.
J0X 1N0**