



Commodore's Confessions

Neil Berman

This season has opened with a boom of shock and awe, not the usual incrementalism. From two great racing Sundays, the Grande docklands feat of that matches London's (UK) Docklands (in relative terms), to the addition of the Club's first cabin day-sailor.

<http://www.the-wharf-in-camera.co.uk/photos/CW0007S.jpg>



We welcome three new board members - Anne Burbidge and Gonnie DeWitte sharing the Rear Commodore position, and Maureen Fehr taking over the crucial secretary portfolio from Jane Foyle, who has shifted seats to continue on the board in the Communications role. Thanks to the board members who have volunteered to continue to serve the club this year - Lee Anne Johnson (Vice Commodore), Richard Yeo (Fleet Captain), Laurent Bissonnette (Treasurer), John Hennessy (Infrastructure), Dave Maitland (Past-commodore). The 2002 golden find, Mike Murray, was treated kindly enough by all of us last year that he has consented to continue to serve as Club Manager. Be sure to continue this seduction so we can hang on to him as long as we can. Thanks also to our cheerful & reliable \$ minder - the GRYC bookkeeper, Pat Doyle.

By now you may have seen the new view of the Islands - looking like a real marina with slips accommodating sailboats pointing eagerly windward. Huge credit is due to the dock team and the prime mover and shaker, John Hennessy, for bringing this to fruition, from a chance visit to Nepean Sailing Club, to the total upgrading of our fleet home. It will take a few years of tweaking to optimally adjust the new mooring, swimming and sunbathing platforms - all constructive suggestions are welcome. Change provides an opportunity to improve our operations and focus on the mission of the club.

Full speed ahead on the Junior Program with yet another bonanza summer planned. Lee Anne Johnson and her team are set to push the envelope yet again. Safety committee work continues to yield benefits with deep-water training again on offer. Summer nights are set to be filled with intense Club Nights - luckily the new plumbing will take care of the load. Note that each Club Night will be hosted by volunteer family(ies), with the indomitable Paul and Mary on hand to provide expert instruction and support.

The Wall of Volunteer Honour will be up again - to avoid being charged for not providing your 2 days of volunteer time, you must fill in your completed volunteer activities on the board. Please make the secretary's job less complicated by complying with this simple request.

Looking forward to a great season.
Neil Berman

PS Any volunteers for 2004 Commodoreship?

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Facilities Report John Hennessy

In my second year serving as GRYC Director of Facilities I am happy to report that we have made some very significant strides responding to urgent and important infrastructure projects and membership priorities. Our five-year plan is still a work in progress, we have all the membership input and have put some structure around the plan. After this season we hope to be in position to effectively address the medium to long-term interests of the club through that plan.

At the AGM we agreed that we wanted to kick-off this season with a massive island cleanup and wow, we did it. We removed over 30 cubic yards of garbage off the island in 3 hours. We underestimated the volume of clutter and overestimated the effort it would take to remove it. Thanks to all for starting the season off on a really great note - the islands look great.

The new docks survived the long cold winter very well and are in excellent shape. The installation of the docks is taking longer and is more tedious than we anticipated. Using a small work crew we are replacing damaged floats, leveling the docks and removing unnecessary hardware to ensure that the docks are safe and secure. None-the-less, we are now ready to receive boats on the new catwalk. We will be tweaking and fussing with the docks for many weeks to come to make them just right - so bear with us.

We are talking to Nepean Sailing Club to see if we can take advantage of their volume pricing for plastic PVC dock edging. Members who are interested in purchasing dock edging for their docks please get in contact with me. I think the price will be around \$100 for 20 feet of dock edging with a corner bumper and installation hardware. We should also consider taking advantage of this offer for club boat docks to protect our investments in the Sandpiper, 420's, Squadrons, crash boats and the remaining fleet.

We did approve a project for kitchen renovations and decided that it would be less expensive, more practical and minimize the impact to the club by having a washing station and a place to store dishes and cutlery on the back deck. To date no member has stepped up to lead this project ... VOLUNTEERS, we have a plan, but we don't have anybody to do the work.

Of all the things that we have done, I am most excited about our recent purchase of 1986 SandPiper sailboat by GRYC. We can thank Steve Woodley for commissioning the boat and agreeing to be the interim custodian of the vessel. We will be establishing some simple rules and policies to govern the use of the boat. The SandPiper is available for all adult members to use who have a demonstrable ability to sail and agree to make themselves familiar with the SandPiper procedures. Steve has offered to provide short orientation and familiarization cruises for members who wish to use the boat - you can contact him directly.

Perhaps the social committee can start a name the boat contest and we can christen the vessel at our first club night.

We still have some ambitious plans for the remaining season. The bathroom renovations have started, we will have the road graded and address the parking situation, finish the back deck with benches and railings, install a steel mesh front gate with a lock/access control, finish repairing and updating the crash boats and purchase a new rescue boat.

Many of us should be very proud of the effort and work that has been contributed thus far - we still have a lot of work to do and we still need a concerted effort to complete the jobs that we have slated for this 2003 year.

We are still trying to get better at communicating and trying to distribute the work over more of the membership. Speaking of communication it is a daunting task to try to co-ordinate both the projects and matching our 500 man-days of volunteer labour to those jobs. We need a matchmaker, a club member

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who agrees to be the single point of contact for coordination and scheduling of projects with members and project leaders.

The following is a brief update of what we have accomplished during the past two seasons;

1. Cleaned up the islands
2. Purchased, transported and installed over 500' of new docks
3. Extended the back deck
4. Installed new laser racks
5. Installed a new hot water tank
6. Installed a new water pump and water lines with winter drains
7. Installed new lights in bathrooms
8. Almost completed the repairs and updates of the club crash boats
9. Installed new security lights with motion detectors

Thanks for the support, happy sailing and enjoy the facilities.

John



**From the Fleet Captain
Richard Yeo**

This season, the winds of change and renewal are blowing at the GRYC. Many improvements to Club and sailing facilities are taking place to make the Club better for us to enjoy.

We will start off the season by bringing the sailing fleet back up to good condition. This will be easier to do than last year and should be easier to maintain through the summer. Seymour Hamilton has agreed to continue as boson responsible for maintaining the boats. All sailors are responsible for keeping the sailing equipment in good order. We will need the cooperation and care of all members to ensure that our boats can be kept in good order and that we are notified of any deficiencies promptly so we can address them.

Our boat maintenance efforts this year will concentrate on sailor-proofing the boat rigging to minimize damage and loss, on repairing the leaky Laser hulls, on rejuvenating the sails, on restoring the Albacores, and on providing quick repairs as the summer progresses. We are acquiring a used Laser in excellent condition to add to the fleet. If any members have Lasers or Laser parts that they would be willing to sell or donate to the Club, please contact me. There seem to be a lot of Lasers in the racks that only get wet when it rains and they could be put to good use.

As approved at the AGM, the Club has purchased a Sandpiper sailboat (keel-boat) for use by Club members through the efforts of John Hennessy. The goal of having this boat is to make available a broader sailing experience on the Gatineau River to allowing families, sailors with creaky joints, and other enthusiastic sailors not interested in dinghy sailing. We are developing guidelines and procedures for use of this boat. Members will have to be certified by the Club for use of this boat. Users of this boat will be expected to participate in maintaining it, clean it, set-up it up in the Spring and put it away in the Fall. We will appoint a member to coordinate this group and be responsible for the care-taking of the boat. Members will have to reserve the boat with the Club manager. Usage will be monitored to ensure equitable use by certified members. This is a wonderful new addition to GRYC sailing. Let's make good responsible use of it. Members wishing to make use of this new Club facility should contact me for details.

This year we will be improving boat mooring and launching facilities. The new catwalk is in place, an amazing feat, thanks to John Hennessy, Erik Rask, Mike Murray and the crew of keen dock-workers. We will be re-using sections of the old catwalk to improve docking facilities. Some improvements we are looking to make include replacing old deteriorated docks, providing a proper sailboard launch dock,

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providing dry docking facilities for the 420s and possibly the Albacores, and improving docking at the Point.

We will continue to encourage members to learn how to sail and junior members to participate in Club racing. We will try to revive the past Club tradition of sailing before Club nights with sailors making themselves available to teach aspiring sailors if there is interest.

The schedule of racing events is posted on bulletin boards around the Club and on the Club Web site at www.gryc.ca. Race results, updated sailing information and interesting sailing links are being posted on our Web site thanks to Katherine Fletcher. Check it out.

This season we are introducing keel-boat racing to the GRYC racing schedule since we now have an impressive fleet of keel-boats. The first Big Boat Challenge for day sailboats will be held on Fathers' Day, Sunday June 15 starting at 1:30 pm. It is proposed to have either a sail up to and around Banana Island and back or an around-the-marks race. If there is enough interest, we will schedule other events through the summer and make this a regular part of the sailing racing schedule. Please contact me if you are interested in participating.

The big sailing events every season are the Commodore's Sail Past, June 22, and the GRYC Invitational Regatta, August 2-3. The Commodore's Sail Past is a not-to-be-missed fun-filled family sailing event where mayhem on the water is expected from all. Strawberries, champagne and goodies follow. The GRYC Invitational Regatta is the main event and last year attracted 33 boats including many junior sailors but no GRYC adult Laser sailors. This year we are hoping to increase the number of local and guest sailors. We will be having a Regatta BBQ on Saturday night and are planning to have a party with a band to make the whole event more inviting and enjoyable to all Club members and our sailing guests. Our Regatta has become known as one of the best Regattas in the area. Mark your calendar, and come out to sail, watch, cheer, eat and party.

Other activities that we are considering include a boat rigging clinic to help members become familiar with proper club boat rigging, and maybe, if there is interest, an on water racing primer clinic to allow new and rejuvenated aspiring racers to practice starts, etc., without any race day pressure.

As usual, all of the sailing related activities require people to organize and run them as well as members to participate. I would like to suggest that sailors and parents of junior sailors consider contributing their two volunteer days to sailing related activities. This would allow us to gather a group of sailing enthusiasts together, new and experienced, to help with these activities and spread the work out.

This year will be the last year of my term as Fleet Captain since Club by-laws limit a Board member's term to three consecutive years. The Club will need someone to assume the duties of Fleet Captain next year. Please contact me if you are interested.

If you have any ideas, want to help out with sailing, or are interested in the activities mentioned above, please call me (827-2953) or send me an e-mail (ryeo@travel-net.com).

Sailing is more fun when lots of people do it together. There will be more sailing available to be done than before at the Club this summer.

Come out and enjoy it.
Richard Yeo



**From the Secretary's Desk
Maureen Fehr**

The club has taken on an entirely new dimension since accepting this position as secretary. I can honestly say that I am still in awe at the immense dedication and abundant energy this team of individuals has. Every single member on this board gives excessively more than 100 %. One really should see it from the inside!

It's been a fast and turbulent jolt to become part of this crew. The secretary's post has a high learning curve so thanks to all of you that have been so kind and supportive while I learn the ropes. A special note of thanks goes to Jane Foyle for her much needed assistance with the transition.

Hopefully- I will get a chance to meet many of you this summer, as it is always nice to match faces to names. You will most likely find me keeping a watchful eye on my children so please take a moment to introduce yourselves.

The club is running at full tilt and there is only one new family membership being offered this summer. We extend a warm welcome to "long-time club wannabes" Brenda and Casey Cerson and their daughters Seana and Bailey.

**See you on deck
Maureen**



**Communications
Jane Foyle**

It is with some relief that I have passed on the duties of secretary to Maureen and have taken on a more minor role as Communications Director.

In this position, I will continue to maintain the Club's e-mail list, which currently runs at about 140 addresses, communicate on behalf of the membership and put together the Masthead. If you are not currently receiving e-mail from the club please be sure to drop me a note at foyapp@ca.inter.net. The list is becoming quite onerous to manage, so please accept my apologies if I have missed you and be sure to let me know if this is so ~ I will be certain to include you for the upcoming season.

**Nice to see you all again
Jane**



SUMMER GREETINGS FROM THE REARS **Anne Burbidge and Gonnie de Witte**

Sunshine, sailing, swimming, smiles.....and social events.....the sights and sounds of summer on the Island. Once again, this year, club members will be assured of Social Events to please everybody.

We, that is Anne and Gonnie, also known as the right and left Cheek, are to ensure that everybody will enjoy those events to the fullest.

CHEEK CHAT

The Season kick-off will be the ICE BREAKER on Saturday June 7. Please come one and all to discover how others survived the winter. The first group of volunteers has already signed up and are ready to serve you a delicious meal and a great time. We've also ordered that special Sunshine for the day.

Club nights. (Wednesday evenings in July and August)

The volunteer format will be somewhat different this year. Mainly to allow the Johannsens, who are the main stay of this tradition, to partake in the fun. Paul and Mary will continue to prepare the meals, but we are asking for two families per Wednesday night to set-up, serve, clean-up and lock up. It will be their responsibility to recruit the necessary helpers. (Except for the BBQ BOYS, who have already signed up for the summer). This is a great event to get some volunteer duty in.

Sign-up sheets can be found in the club house and on the Island's main bulletin board.

Note: since Club nights should break even, costs will increase marginally.

Children will still be able to dine for a TOONEY,
Adult members can feast for \$5.00 and guests can enjoy the GRYC hospitality for \$8.00

August Regatta

The festivities will be expanded. There will be a band to liven up the party on Saturday night.

September

Two Weddings (club members) have been planned.....the fabulous setting of the Island in its fall colours, should make those events very special.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for their volunteer time during the 2002 season. Without your participation, this club would not run as well as it does now. We hope that we can continue on your volunteer support during 2003. Special NODS to Pat Curry and Marc Levac for the terrific 2002 year-end extravaganza. They have offered their skills again for 2003. And last, but by no means, least: we are very grateful to Mike Murray and his wife Beth Clark for all their efforts. Their amazing abilities allowed us all to enjoy a memorable 40th Club Anniversary.

Have a great summer. Just remember, we perform our duties based on the MOOSE-SHIT-PIE theory. Not familiar with this theory?

Just ask
Anne Burbidge, Gonnie de Witte your REARS for 2003

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Vice Commodore's Report Lee Anne Johnson

The 2003 Youth Program can't wait for summer! We've hired our instructors, upgraded the CIT program, arranged for a waterfront lifesaving course and held registrations.

The program is nearly full, with a few openings in the first and fourth session. We're so pleased to welcome Amy Throop back as Program Manager. And, we're delighted to introduce our four new instructors. As you can see, they're very qualified.

Position	Instructor	Years on Staff	Qualifications
Program Manager Swimming Instructor Sailing Instructor	Amy Throop	2 nd	Red Cross/RLSS Swimming Instructor CYA Green Sailing Instructor Waterfront Lifeguard* Certified small craft operator
Swimming Instructor Sailing Instructor	Emilie Major	1 st	CYA Blue Sailing Instructor* Red Cross AquaQuest Instructor Waterfront Lifeguard* Certified small craft operator
Junior Skipper Leader Swimming Instructor	Bronwyn Pritchard	1 st	Red Cross AquaQuest Instructor* Waterfront Lifeguard* Certified small craft operator*
Sailing Instructor	Chris Garrard	1 st	CYA Blue Sailing Instructor* Certified small craft operator
Sailing Instructor	Roma Czop	1 st	CYA Green Sailing Instructor Certified small craft operator

*achieving

The 2003 program is being run in the usual fashion (i.e. 4, 2-week sessions), and you can find specifics on the Youth Program pages of the GRYC Web site (www.gryc.ca).

Note one change for this year - in an effort to help our children learn the importance of de-rigging and camp clean-up, we are integrating both into our daily routine. All sailors de-rig at 4pm; all campers clean up at 4.15pm. Therefore, the **first pick-up is at 4.30pm**; the After4 program runs from 4.30 to 5.30pm. **Last pick-up is no later than 5.30pm.**

And finally, I'd like to acknowledge the hard work of the Youth Committee: Alex Felso, Elizabeth Roscoe, John Pomeroy, Barb Babinski, Maria Lyons, Sheila Wolvin and Sylvie Delisle.

Thank you so much!
Lee Anne