



# CLUB DE VOILE DE LA RIVIÈRE GATINEAU RIVER YACHT

2004 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
*"SAILING INTO THE FUTURE"*

CHELSEA COMMUNITY CENTRE  
Jan 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005

1. Commodore's welcome
2. Adoption of Agenda  
Minutes of the 2004 AGM held Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004
  - Appendix "A" attached
3. Reports:
  - Treasurer
    - Appendix "B" attached
  - Commodore
  - Fleet Captain
  - Secretary
  - Communications
  - Youth Committee
  - Rear Commodore
  - Facilities
    - Demographic implications
5. Proposed by law revisions
6. 2005 Budget Approval Report
8. Other business
9. Elections and appointments for 2005

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## COMMODORE'S REPORT

This past year was a great success due to the efforts of many people and the increased participation in Club activities. The survey of members, conducted in the previous year, indicated that there was a strong interest in having more organized sailing opportunities at the Club. Our new Co-Fleet Captains David Newing and Jos Dion, ably and tirelessly assisted by Neil Rask, delivered by organizing many well-attended themed big boat races, and by organizing learn-to-sail sessions for novice sailors and several fun-filled family oriented sailing events. In addition, several new boats found their moorings on the catwalk, increasing the size of the active GRYC fleet. The Youth Program once again provided a great summer of sailing and swimming to our young members and an increasing number of non-members. The year-end video produced by the youth Program presented at the year-end banquet eloquently summed up the spirit of enjoyment and camaraderie that our summer program provides. An increasing number of young GRYC sailors continue sailing by taking Silver Sail training at Britannia (1 each two and three years ago, three this past summer, and possibly five next summer). This is strong indication that the quality of the Youth Program and the investments made by the Club to enhance their sailing experience is fostering a real love of sailing in this next generation of GRYC sailors. The past summer was the most sailing oriented season in recent memory. The GRYC is continuing to become a more active sailing Club. Congratulations to all who got involved.

The GRYC social calendar was once again full of activities and eating opportunities courtesy of our Co-Rear Commodore's Anne Burbidge and Gonnie De Witte and all their helpers. Club nights were once again very popular and were better supported by volunteers. An impromptu Greek themed evening was a fitting Olympic send-off to Mike, our Manager. To end the season, we celebrated our reason for being, at the best attended Year-End Banquet since I've been a member. It was a great evening.

The past year was marked by many notable events. We started off with an overflowing Annual General Meeting; we avoided a court date with the gate supplier because of the successful efforts of our new Facilities Director, J-F Côté; we had the best attended Bridge Down that I can remember; a self-organized member movement advanced funding and completed the deck resurfacing, one year ahead of plan; we recognized Alan and Joyce Richens at the Ice- Breaker BBQ for their lasting involvement and contribution by naming the north point of the Island Richens Point; I was well drenched by water balloons and parting skies at the Commodore's Sail-past; we were honoured by the donation of an Albacore by René Gachnang, an honorary Club member; we experienced the Olympics vicariously through the posted tales of reporter Mike; and we enjoyed Seymour's witty weekly e-mail newsletters.

We were stunned by the tragic sailing accident and by the death of Cathy Melnychuk from her injuries. We were also saddened by the passing of long time member Bill Stranks, an Albacore sailor until quite recently and a determined ice cream scooper at Club events.

It was also a year of consolidation, introspection and planning after several years of significant infrastructure upgrades (fleet, club house, docks). We managed expenditures to limit the impact of revenue shortfalls. We assessed the demographics of the Club and the impact on long-term sustainability. We improved the tracking of expenditures for all cost centres, allowing for better management and budgeting. We updated Club insurance, providing better coverage at a lower cost. We assessed all of the Club assets and the need to maintain and replace them. We prepared a financial plan to ensure we have the funding in place to do so when needed. The Board will be presenting proposals at the Annual General Meeting to ensure that the Club remains viable and vibrant in the future.

I would like to thank many people who contributed to the success this year: Mike Murray for continuing to manage the Club with his normal enthusiasm and efficiency, and for agreeing to return again next year; Neil Rask for his great help as Assistant Manager, his mid-summer role as Manager during Mike's absence, his work at restoring the Club sailboat hulls, and his energy and enthusiasm at organizing sailing training and fun events; Amy Troop who is leaving after three active and safe summers as Youth Program Manager; our energetic Youth Program counsellors and CIT's; and the Youth Committee for their work throughout the year.

I would also like to thank Board members who are stepping down: Laurent Bissonnette (three terms as Treasurer and his second tour of duty on the Board), Anne Burbidge (two terms as Co-Rear Commodore), Maureen Fehr (two terms as Secretary), and J-F Côté (one year as Facilities Director (but coming back as Treasurer if elected)). Enjoy the sun, the water and the catwalk chatting next summer. To all the other Board members who are staying on, thank you. We have found volunteers for all open positions, pending AGM elections.

It will be warm again sooner than you think. Happy sailing.

Richard Yeo  
Commodore

## **FLEET CAPTAINS' REPORT**

The 2004 sailing season at the GRYC was the first directed by co-fleet captains David Newing and Joe Dion. The focus of the season was to benefit from the good state of the fleet built up by the boat maintenance of the last few years and have more sailing and boating events. Our goal was to introduce more adult members to sailing, to develop the cabin boat races and to introduce more family activities, while maintaining traditional events, such as the Sunday open boat races and the Invitational Regatta.

Despite the good state of the fleet, sailing activities were preceded by a fair amount of routine maintenance of club Lasers by Neil Rask and Cameron Smith.

All traditional sailing and boating events were held, including the four Sunday race series, the Commodore's Sail-past, and the Invitational Regatta organized by the Sailing Committee and Sail-O-Rama, organized by Muriel How.

The four Sunday series were held for competitive open boat races, mostly in Lasers, and to allow new young skippers to compete at a higher level. All series attracted enough competitors to be held, but some at the height of summer when families tend to travel, were thinly attended. These races were made possible through the work of volunteer race officials, organized by Heather Gibb, and crash boat operators organized by Joe Woods.

The Invitational Regatta was held as every year, but on a later weekend than in previous years to allow competitive sailors to attend other regattas. In the end the Regatta was a success for GRYC sailors, but it was the first time in memory that the Regatta had no competitors from other clubs. This was at least partly the result of the change in date.

The Commodore's Sail-Past, at the beginning of the season, and the Sail-O-Rama, at the end were held, to general enjoyment.

In addition to these events, in 2004 the Sailing Committee introduced a number of new activities. The Committee instituted a Learn to Sail Program directed at adult members, which was given on seven consecutive Saturdays. These lessons were offered free of charge to all members and attracted about eight new adult skippers. The culmination of the Learn to Sail program was the new Family Fun Regatta which was restricted to allow the new skippers to enjoy the excitement of racing without being discouraged by competing against very experienced sailors. Other events the same day included an oversubscribed Pram boat race in the bay that required several heats to accommodate all competitors.

Building on the growth in the cabin boat fleet of the club and the interest in the previous year's first Big Boat Challenge, a full series of five big boat races was held during the summer. Starting with the Father's Day Whisky-a-Go-Go Big Boat Race and ending in the Fleet Captains' Irish Challenge, these races involved a race to Banana Island, a coming alongside the crash boat to take and identify a preferred drink - to test seamanship -- and a race back to the finish line at the lighthouse. All races throughout the summer were well attended, and all were blessed with good weather and good wind. These races were also made possible by volunteer race officials and crash boat operators.

Other family events were introduced. In July and August, Pram boats races were held on Wednesdays before the club night dinners. These were open to all and were enjoyed by competitors and spectators. Also, inspired by the Olympics and Patti Goodman, the Sailing Committee held an Olympic Pentathlon, that had teams of children, adolescents and adults competing in: running (to the parking lot and back); swimming around the island; canoeing a course; and a sailing portion (cancelled due to thunder and lightning). This was followed by a modest hotdog barbeque prepared by the competitors and their families. Medals were awarded.

The Youth Program is reported on by the Commodore. Alex Felso, as well as upgrading the pram fleet, acted as liaison between the Youth Program and the Sailing Committee.

Throughout the season, Neil Rask as Assistant Manager ensured that the club fleet was maintained and that boats were properly checked in and out and damage was reported. A volunteer crew has assessed the fleet and will report to the Fleet Captains on necessary repairs.

## **THE 2005 SAILING SEASON**

The Fleet Captains wish to continue, and build on, the successes of last year. Innovations of last year will be repeated: the Learn to Sail program; a big boat race series; a Family Fun Regatta; Wednesday evening pram races and an Olympic Pentathlon.

All traditional events will be held: Sunday Race series with some adjustments to improve participation; the Invitational Regatta, restored to its traditional date; and the Sail-Past and Sail-O-Rama.

In light of interest shown, the season will begin with a pre-competitive Fleet Captains' cruise, named "La Debacle", on May 22, and end with a post-competitive Fleet Captains' cruise, named "Le Gel", on October 9, just before bride up.

A schedule has been prepared and distributed which reflects these plans.

## **LESSONS LEARNED AND ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

The experience of the 2004 resulted in the following lessons:

- There is a demand among non-sailing adult members to learn to sail. We note that graduates of the Learn to Sail Program are sailing regularly, and several of the boats purchased primarily for membership reasons are now being used.
- There is a strong demand for sailing events, including races, for cabin boats. These boats allow for a wider range of participants (adults, teenagers, families) in a competitive but more social environment than single-handed high performance Lasers. As a result there is a need for new, or re-deeded, trophies for cabin boat races.
- There is also a strong demand for more family activities, along the lines of the long-standing Sail-O-Rama. New attempts, such as the Family Fun Regatta, the Pentathlon, and Wednesday evening pram races, have been well received and should be continued.

- The Invitational Regatta needs a great deal of promotion, starting early in the season, to draw in people from other clubs.
- There is a need to identify potential participants in the Sunday open boat races and promote them more and encourage youth participation.

Also:

- Members who previously have not been active in sailing are quite willing and interested in volunteering as race officials and crash boat operators, IF appropriate training is offered.

Therefore, the Sailing Committee suggests the following for consideration:

1. There is a need for a Special Events Committee primarily for the Regatta, as well as other events such as the Sail-Past and Sail-O-Rama.
2. There is a need for more volunteers to support a more active sailing program, and the need for more volunteer training. This could be assisted by appointing a member to the Board position of Volunteer Co-ordinator.
3. Because there are several new adult sailors, there is a need for those managing the Club to place greater emphasis on safety to ensure that eager novices are not overtaken by weather conditions or other situations beyond their skill level.

Finally, the Sailing Committee welcomes comments of members on the sailing activities, and welcomes those who wish to participate on the Sailing Committee.

Finally, the Sailing Committee wishes to pay tribute to the previous Board which showed great foresight in acquiring the new docks, which led to the increase in cabin boat ownership, and in their purchase of the club Sandpiper. Further, the Committee recommends:

That for the next few seasons' money for boat acquisition is targeted at acquiring a second Club Sandpiper.

David Newing  
Joe Dion  
Co-Fleet Captains

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### 2004 NEW MEMBERS

We unfortunately, were not able to offer any new memberships in 2004.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATES:	
Invoices will be sent:	March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
Payment due:	April 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
Expiry of unpaid memberships:	April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
New memberships offered:	May 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2005

### THANK YOU TO THE 2004 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S

Richard Yeo	Commodore
Neil Berman	Past-Commodore
Laurent Bisonnette	Treasurer
JF Cote	Facilities
David Newing and Joe Dion	Co-Fleet Captains
Gonnie DeWitte and Anne Burbidge	Co-Rear-Commodores
Seymour Hamilton and Katherine Fletcher	Communications
John Hennessy	Vice-Commodore

It has been a pleasure working with these dedicated and caring individuals that worked often, behind the scenes, to care for our club and to ensure that you, the members enjoy your days and evenings on the island.



There were usually warnings from our "hammerhead" Commodore.



Co Fleet Captain David Newing at the first ever GRYC Pram Race

WAITING LIST AS OF JANUARY 2005		
Total applications on waiting list	34 families	
Chelsea residents with sailboat	12 families	
Others with sailboat	04 families	
Chelsea residents w/out sailboat <i>(many say they will buy a sailboat as soon as they are offered a membership)</i>	17	families
Other	01 family	

My few years as club secretary were invaluable in realizing the work that goes on behind the scenes of our "friendly" club. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know you the "members" and I wish you all happy thoughts of spring and now I will have time to sail! Yipee!

Maureen  
Secretary

### COMMUNICATION'S REPORT

Communications in 2004 were mainly through the web site and e-mail. Members were sent an e-mail each week throughout the season, and sometimes a second mailing if circumstances changed. All the e-mail was archived on the web, and its content highlighted on the home page.

Next year, Communications will ensure better publicity for both the sailing school and the annual regatta.

As always, your photos and stories are welcome additions to both the week-by-week information and the ongoing electronic archive.

The Communications function is a joint activity of Katherine Fletcher (webmaster) and Seymour Hamilton (scribe).

## YOUTH COMMITTEE'S REPORT

### 2004 Enrolment

The Youth program was at maximum capacity for its first two sessions, with Session 3 at about 65% and Session 4 at about 80%. Of the approximately 90 registrations received for the 8-week summer program, 60% were GRYC members and 40% non-members, with members seemingly to prefer the first two sessions.

### 2004 Sailing/Swimming Information

This past summer's Youth program hosted great sailing, warm water and sunny days. There were many accomplishments ranging from sailing and swimming levels that were conquered, new tetherball champions and lots of 'capturing of the flag'. The bronze sailors were arrived at the camp ready and raring to rig boats and head out on the river while the white sail program saw a number of new sailors this year that will progress through the three levels before reaching their bronze level. The Junior Skippers were exposed to sailing on the yacht club's sandpiper as part of their program. All in all, it was a great summer for the campers.

The following details the achievements in sailing and in the swimming program:

### 2004 CYA Sailing Program

Because we had one staff member less this year, the basic day schedule was altered:

- From... having one general swimming instruction time block and two swimming instructors
- To... having two swimming groups, one of which would stay in sailing instruction while the other was swimming.

Time	Activities
8.00 - 9.00	Supervision
9.00 - 9.30	Warm-up games
9.30 - 12.00	Sailing instruction
12.00 - 1.00	Lunch, Canteen, Free swim
1.00 - 2.00	Swimming instruction—group 1   Sailing instruction
2.00 - 3.00	Sailing instruction
3.00 - 4.00	Sailing instruction   Swimming instruction—group 2
4.00 - 4.30	Clean-up
4.30 - 5.30	Supervision

## 2004 Instructors

The Youth program was fortunate to have the Program Manager, Amy Throop, return for her third year. Amy brought a tremendous amount of dedication, enthusiasm and leadership to the program. As a CYA Green Sail instructor, a Red Cross RLS swimming instructor certification, and an NLS Waterfront lifeguard, Amy taught both sailing and swimming in addition to running the program.

Accompanying Amy, our instructor team was made up of Roma Czop, a CYA Green Sail instructor; Matt Pritchard, a CYA Green Sail instructor; and Bronwyn Pritchard, a Red Cross Aqua Quest instruction and waterfront lifeguard. Bronwyn was also responsible for the Junior Skipper program. As already mentioned, we were unable to find a 5<sup>th</sup> instructor, increasing our instructor to participant ratio from 1:5 to 1:6.

Amy was responsible for instructing the bronze program, while Roma and Matt instructed the White Sail program. With reduced staff this year, we didn't participate in off-site regattas.

Our Junior Skippers program is only open to GRYC members. As the membership is growing up, this program is getting smaller. Bronwyn had only one class in Session 3. She was kept more than busy in the other sessions teaching Aqua Quest swimming and supporting the other instructors.

This year we were not able to hire a Blue Sail instructor. We had to look outside the club to find individuals to certify our Bronze Level sailors. Jeff Garrett of Britannia this did work out for the most part, but due to wind and conflicting schedules, two candidates were not able to try their Bronze Five exam. Blue Sail instructors, although not essential, bring a level of enthusiasm, experience, knowledge and capability that the older sailors need and appreciate.

The counsellor's were dedicated to a safe, fun and active camp. There were weekly theme days, lots of games, crafts and of course, "canteen". The Youth banquet was a very special evening that allowed the campers to celebrate their summer days together with a camp video (thanks Neil), awards for all campers with a karaoke theme.

A significant addition to this year's camp was the active involvement of the Counsellor's in training (CIT's). The CIT's included Alex Moon, Katie Yeo, Chloe Piché, Bailey Cerson, and Haley Melko and Dominic McRae. Each of the CIT's contributed to the camp in a very meaningful way. They assisted with the sailing instruction, swimming supervision and in overseeing the organization of many camp games. Although two CIT's were scheduled per session, at times, more were allowed to help out - they were interested and we were short one staff. We introduced a CIT trophy—a good motivational tool, something for the CIT's to look forward to at the Banquet, and confirmation of participating in a formal program. Congratulations to Bailey Cerson!

In addition, the Assistant General Manager, Neil Rask participated in camp activity by overseeing 'canteen' and in the de-rigging from the days sailing as well as the camper-led clean-up activities and After Four supervision.

### Fleet

**Prams** - were in great shape this year, the new rudders and the rudder retainer system worked well. There has been a suggestion that the prams be repainted in the old style (zee red baron, the eight ball).

**Squadrons** - have been excellent teaching boats, seating up to 3 kids in each boat. They are sturdy and self-bailing and can be used by all sailing levels, as their sail power to boat size ratio is manageable. They are unfortunately slowly breaking down. One centreboard snapped out and another one of the boat began to sink. They are more difficult to mend as they have foam cores that need more time to dry out. Their repair should be taken up with the bosom so that they are stored properly, and hopefully used next year. If the club were to purchase new vessels, simple slooped rigged, like the squadrons would be the most widely used.

**Lasers** - our lasers are slowly dying. A lot of repair work needs to be done in order for the lasers to be up-and-running for next summer. Many are slowly sinking due to spider cracks and gunnels and transom leaks. The lasers are an excellent teaching boat for many different levels and it would be sad to see their use being limited to the older members. The racing lasers are in excellent shape; they seemed to be the only lasers that got any attention over the summer.

**420's** - Are still in good shape with all parts in good working order, one of the tiller extensions have been replaced (Thank-you Richard). The beach was an excellent idea for night storing and has prolonged the life of the boats. I still feel that the use of these boats should be limited to those who are trained and know how to use them. There are some members who may like the extra cockpit space, over the squadrons, but to not have the level of understanding of all the components of the boats.

### 2004 Financial Report

See the Treasurer's Report for more detail. The revenues fell short of the budget for several reasons:

- We received only the HRDC Summer Careers programs grant; the Canada Young Canada Works grant was not available to us
- Sessions 3 and 4 were not filled to capacity

<b>2004 Youth Committee</b>	
Youth Committee Chair	Lee Anne Johnston
Registration	Sylvie Delisle, Sheila Wolvin
Fleet Liaison	Alex Felso
Staffing	Elizabeth Roscoe, Sylvie Delisle
Grants	Barb Babinski
CIT	Barb Babinski
New member	Marjorie Wiebe
<b>Safety</b>	John Pomeroy

### 2004 Special thanks

**Kevin and Liz Stewart Jones** for managing the trophies for the Youth program.

### 2004 Recommendations

1. Revise registration procedures. Most participants want to confirm their registration earlier, especially non-members
2. Push back the NLS waterfront course later in the summer when the water temperature is warmer
3. Keep the participant pledge
4. Attempt to hire a Blue Level sailing instructor to the Camp. This will alleviate stress on both the staff and the parents of the Bronze Level campers.
5. Enforce the two CIT's per session
6. In terms of the size of our fleet, at this moment we have enough boats to satisfy the needs of the Junior Program. We need to focus on repairing what we have or replacing what we can't fix. Assign one individual who is reliable enough to come in and fix what needs to be fixed. This should be the only job that this individual holds at the club because it requires diligence and time.
7. Properly store powerboats and ensure there is someone to deal with motor malfunction if it arises. The powerboats are essential to the teaching process; lack of boats reduces the student teacher on-water time.
8. Add an additional breakdown week to the Program Manager's contract.

## 2005 Summer Camp Registration Procedures

The camp will move registration up, and possibly with one registration evening for everyone. Members will maintain their priority.

Four camp sessions will be held starting on:	
Session 1:	June 27 - July 8
Session 2:	July 11 - July 22
Session 3:	July 25 - Aug 5
Session 4:	Aug 8 - Aug. 19

The Youth program hours will be scheduled from 8:00 am until 5:30 pm with instruction from 9:00 until 4:00 pm, clean up from 4.00 to 4.30pm, and post program care available at an additional fee until 5:30 pm.

### Instructors for 2005

The youth committee will be inviting applications from last year's instructors to determine their interest in returning to GRYC for the summer of 2005. Depending on their interest/availability, the search for new instructors has begun. We are hopeful to have at least two or three returning instructors for the next camp.

The CIT program will continue to be improved this year with earlier requests from CIT participants and earlier notification of the schedule to participating CIT's.

### 2005 Goals

There are a number of key issues that the Youth committee will address in their organization of the 2005 camp to ensure a successful youth program. These include:

- Ensuring visible advertisement
- Holding registration earlier

2005 Youth Committee	
Youth committee chair	Lee Anne Johnston
Registration	Sylvie Delisle, Sheila Wolvin, Marjorie Wiebe
Fleet Liaison	Alex Felso
Staffing	Elizabeth Roscoe, Sylvie Delisle, Lee Anne Johnston
Grants	Barb Babinski
CIT program	Barb Babinski
New member	Nancy Landry
Safety	John Pomeroy

## REAR COMMODORES' REPORT

"What summer" is probably the sigh from most of you. As for the weather.....the lazy, hazy days for which we waited all summer only showed up in September. And by that time, the kids were back in school and most of us were back at work. This cooler than normal weather had some effect on the social events, but in overall the social season shone! Many club events were well attended and members were treated to great food and fine entertainment. Here are our combined recollections of the summer of 2004.

## VOLUNTEERS

First and foremost: A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO WERE THERE TO HELP AND SUPPORT US.

## THE SOCIAL CALENDAR

The social season officially began on June 12th with the "Ice-breaker" Bar-B-Q. Many smiling faces returned to the Island to hang-out, catch-up and dine-out on a GRYC feast. The Workun-Hill's, who joined the club during the summer of 2003, received their official welcome and appreciation gifts were presented to various retiring board members.

On June 27, the club presented the 'Commodore's Sailpast'. At this awesomely silly affair the Commodore hopes to stay dry, while the eager participants make sure that he gets soaked. Lots of fun was had by all, and after the boats were moored and the participants (more or less) dried off, every one moved to the club house to indulge in champagne and strawberries with real whipping cream. Many thanks to the whipping ladies.

On July 1, the club produced its 2nd version of Canada Day celebrations. Many families enjoyed their dinner on the deck and then settled down in their boats and on the catwalk for "Pyro Paul's" marathon light show. It was a perfect evening and a spectacular show. And it certainly beats hanging out with the crowd's downtown.

The 'Ladies Pink Sail' took place on July 17. This annual sail-and-paddle event included some first-time attendees who indicated on their return with "glazed-over eyes" that they would certainly participate again. Bouquets of thanks to the organizers of this decadent affair.

Although the summer weather never really heated up, the ever-popular Club Nights were well attended. The new format, where (a minimum of) two families volunteer their services and take charge of ALL THE CHORES during the evening (including setting up and cleaning up) got a big boost this summer thanks to the "threat issued by 007 and 008". On many a club night, volunteers were tripping over each other to help out. We want to thank all of you who stepped up to the plate and were there to make this social event the success it is.

APOLOGIES to all of you who had minimal servings at the last club night of the season. It is an event that creates a guessing game for food requirements. We will try better next year, and will also look into extending the club night season with one more night in the last week of August.

We can't thank the Johanssen's enough for the dedication to this wonderful event. And we hope that we can count on the members' continued support with the same format during the summer of 2005.

And on a positive note: for the first time ever, this event broke even.

The GRYC annual REGATTA was this year held in the weekend on July 23. Due to conflicting activities at other clubs, this event was not as well attended as in other years. However, it was a great sailing event and participants enjoyed amazing home-made breakfasts and tasty lunches. The Saturday evening affair featured a sumptuous Bar-B-Q Thanks to all the volunteers who made this a great weekend a wonderful success.

As does every year, Labour Day Monday brings us the "Muriel How event" also known as "Sail-a-Rama". It is the day of the GRYC birthday bash. As usual, Muriel How and her crew skilfully handled all the particulars. It was a beautiful day and the event was well attended. The activities were fun, the creativity amazing and the prizes just wonderful. Thanks to the spiky punch (or more likely the organizers), everybody had a great time.

And then, we had the amazing Awards Banquet, which this year was attended by more members than ever. On October 2, Pat Curry/Marc Levac and their crew transformed the clubhouse into a party palace. There were the fabulous pumpkin center pieces produced by Tim & Fatima Martin; the scrumptious dinner prepared by Janet Bradley; the Rockwell's who made the place jump until midnight; and the sailing awards which were bestowed on the deserving winners. A memorable end to a marvelous season. Thanks Pat, Marc and crew for taking on this special challenge, year after year.

And so ended our second year as Rear Commodores (also known as the "left and right cheek", or 007 and 008). We would like to acknowledge the support of all members and thank all volunteers who made the 2004 social season possible. The club would not be the same magical place without your efforts. And Manager Mike, assistant Manager Neil and Beth (Mrs. Mike) we wouldn't be able to do this job without you. Thanks for always being on hand to assist, help and guide us and to keep us smiling.

See you in the spring of 2005

Anne and Gonnie

On a closing note, the 2004 AGM marks the end for this "left cheek". The last two years have afforded me an opportunity to better understand the inner workings of this club. It has been a wonderful experience. Your board is a tremendous group who dedicate many hours to maintaining a club worthy of your support and respect. It has been an honor to sit amongst these men and women. In particular, a large bouquet should be presented to my right cheek, Gonnie de Witte. We agreed to accept the "Rear Commodore" position only in a shared capacity. This situation has worked better than anticipated. We recommend this idea to all.

Best of luck to the board of 2005 and see y'all in the river.

Anne Burbidge

## FACILITIES DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This was my first year on the board of directors of the GRYC.

The plan was to have a small year in terms of facility project and we held true to the plan.

As reported at last year AGM, the year started out with a small court claim case to resolve. Luckily it went very well. We settled in mediation. The club was being sued for 2000\$ and we settle for 200\$ with a restored relationship.

During summer 2004, we did not start many new facility projects but completed many which had been started in previous years:

- Installed the mesh and the sail boat on the gate to make it look more friendly yet hard to open without knowing the combination of the lock.



- Completed the resurfacing of the deck thanks to an enthusiastic crew led by Mike Lemay. As you can see it continued to get well used.



- We also had a large crew at work to change many floats under the docks and rebalance the floatation. See an example of the before and after.



- As the "new" club house is 27 year old, we had to replace some of the support posts which were rotting.



- Finally a small crew finished the side walls of the stair case and started our wall of fame with vintage pictures of the founding years,

The year 2004 was mostly a year of reflecting and planning to guaranty that we can continue to enjoy our wonderful club and ensure it will live on for a very long time.

J-F Côté  
Facilities