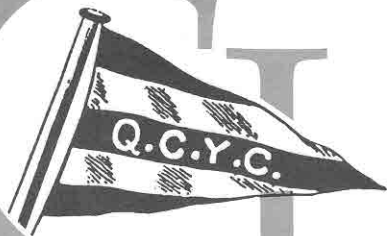


CLIPPER



QUEEN CITY YACHT CLUB - FEBRUARY 1997



{on assignment}

Now, about those piles...

VICE COMMODORE

Hi and a Happy New Year.

It's Tuesday, January 21, just after our freezing weekend. I had a call from Commodore Moira on Sunday past to tell me the furnace in the Snug Bar had quit and everything was frozen. Oh, the joys of a management position. Fortunately Harry responded to solve the problem, for which I am eternally grateful. On the same phone call I found out that the Burns Supper, which is turning into an annual event, was on for the January 25 weekend. Hopefully everything is in order for this great Malt Whisky and Haggis appreciation evening. We will still be having a few social functions during the next two months so if you are interested give me a call.

Now that the Boat Show has finished we hope we have attracted enough new members to make up for the ones we are losing. On the financial front we need all the new members we can get but I'll let treasurer Steve tell you the news. Talking about the Boat Show, thanks go to Gail Smith for organizing the booth and the list of members to staff it. Thanks also to those members who helped out.

The Restaurant and Bar situation which was discussed at the AGM will be resolved before March. We will be sending a survey to you asking for your opinion on the food and beverage service at the club. The survey is being developed by Dan Aronchick. The Management Committee had a meeting in Dec. 96 with a restaurant specialist, Hussein Tavakoli, who is a friend of Fleet Captain Ratch Wallace. At this meeting he made many valuable suggestions which will help us manage this facility in a more professional manner.

There are some projects which will

require some attention this year. I have inherited the garbage storage enclosure problem from Moira. (Amazing the jobs you get as Vice.) I will be working with Grounds Chairman Bob Peat on this. The Pile Caps will, we hope, be completed this year - water level permitting. For the new members who don't know what I'm talking about, this is not a medical procedure. These Piles are supporting the clubhouse and the caps, which are concrete, sit on top of the piles, which in turn support the steel beams which support the club. ENOUGH, EH!!!

Needless to say we will be looking after your interests with great care. Till the next report I wish you the best.

NORRIE,
VICE COMMODORE

FLEET

Contrary to long standing rumours, the demise of the Algonquin Queen is not imminent. The vessel, with some serious corrosion prevention measures (to be undertaken this Spring), will likely last without hull replacement for five to ten years.

The current plan is to clean out the interior of the vessel, weld up the potential leaks and then epoxy the interior and exterior to prevent further corrosion to the hull. This project will start late January and towards launch date other mechanical matters will be addressed. A report with recommendations by a local marine engineer has been tabled with the Management Committee.

As for the Robbins the intention is to launch with normal preparation and attend to any deficiencies as they arise.

The overall concept for fleet this year will be ordered in this manner:

- Safety in equipment and vessel operation is our uppermost concern
 - Schedule maintenance by the Launch Captains as published in the Clipper.
 - Economic considerations such as fuel purchasing options to be re-examined
-

WHAT'S IN:

Launch Captain

WHAT'S OUT:

Tender Driver

- Continuity of boarding policy on behalf of the members by the Launch Captains so that visitors and guests will financially assist to reduce the traditional deficit in this department as per club rules.
- Assistance by the Fleet Captain to all members in all matters of navigation and vessel handling should they request such assistance

As to the orderly hiring of Launch Captains and the discipline of same, the intention is to bring them on as soon as possible and train the new personnel in terms of boat handling and personal decorum on the grounds as expected by the membership. We have already hired one Launch Captain for this season.

Best regards,

RATCH WALLACE,
FLEET CAPTAIN

More on garbage...

GROUNDS & STUFF

Having been selected as Grounds Chairman by a unanimous vote I would now like to inform the club that I have the brownest thumb in history. The only thing I have been able to grow in my life are kids and even two of those are stunted. Hopefully with my committee of one (Marlyn McDonald) and aided by Bill & Diane on flowers, my shortcomings will be overcome. If anybody has any suggestions please tell Marlyn or myself and we will try to act on them.

One suggestion is that the old rock garden be grassed over. It takes a lot of work to cultivate that area and usually by midsummer it is just an eyesore. Another area suggested is by the winch house. Hopefully we will also be finishing the locker blocks and enclosing the garbage bins at each end of the blocks. This will stop the bins from meandering around the yard (we hope).

Finally I would like everyone who brings over anything that is too large to fit in the garbage pails to be responsible for getting rid of that item i.e. if you bring a fridge, take your old fridge back to the city and get rid of it yourself. It seems a little strange that with a relatively stable membership over the last fifteen years that our garbage output has probably quadrupled to the point that we now have to build a very expensive garbage area at one of the most scenic points of the club.

I hope everyone has a lovely summer and enough sailing to last through next winter.

GROUNDS,
BOB PEAT.

BACK IN THE YARD

The yard is still there! So are most of the boats and it is only about 10 weeks or so to launch.

Launch is tentatively scheduled for the weekends of April 12/13 and 19/20. Easter is a week early this year, falling on the last weekend in March. Considering the weather last year and the difficulties some members experienced in getting their boats ready, it seems prudent to wait to the second weekend after Easter to minimize crosshauls and dragging the launch out over more days than is absolutely necessary.

With respect to the yard itself, I am proposing, in co-operation with Grounds, an upgrade and expansion of some of the electrical system. Grounds lighting is also on the agenda as part of the overall planning around club improvements. All of this, of course will be subject to the availability of funds and keeping an eye on a balanced budget. I would like to improve access to power in the northwest corner of the yard to take some of the load off the circuits near the tree on the west side and to weatherize that set of plugs to minimize the number of members we electrocute in the next year.

*Like Eric
Clapton...
get unplugged!*

While I am on the subject of power, I want to remind **everyone** that boats are **NOT** to be left plugged in during the winter unless there is someone in attendance. I don't have to remind members of

the disastrous "accident" at IYC a few years ago and the consequences if we have a fire in the yard in close proximity to the lockers and all else that you hold dear. I know many people just leave one end plugged in to save their spot but we have no way of knowing that and it is not fair to other members who are being careful to unplug. If you left your plug in and came back a week later to find it unplugged...no complaints!

If you have special launch requirements, please let me know well in advance and I will make every effort to accommodate your request. See you in the Spring or just around the corner.

GARRY BAKER
YARD

NEWFOUNDLAND BOUND

Those of you who know Bill Mascall are well aware that he and Debbie are about to embark on a cruise to Newfoundland in a flotilla of boats to celebrate the 500th anniversary of John Cabot's landing in June of 1497.

Saturday, May 10 features a Sailpast of the Newfoundland bound squadron, a Blessing of the Fleet by Father David Mulholland and a roaring gun salute from HMCS Haida. All this to be followed by a Lobsterfest and send-off party at Harbourfront for the flotilla.

Bill has arranged for participating boats to gather and hold over at QCYC (amongst other clubs) prior to the Sailpast and departure on May 11. The flotilla is expected to arrive in St. John's, Newfoundland by June 28 just in time for Canada Day celebrations. For more information call Bill or Deb at 322-0358.

