



CLIPPER

Queen City Yacht Club

120 Years

September 2009



**Queen City Blues Band
Reunites for 2009 World Tour!**

Editor's Note

Rosalind Ross, Communications

After the tremendous activity around the 120th celebrations things have settled down a bit around the club. With the weather, barring a few tornadoes and a damp but successful Lobsterfest, cooperating with some sunshine and fair winds, members have been enticed onto the lake for the day, the weekend, a few weeks of cruising. Sandy McKnight has posted the "official" cruise lists for those who like to join up with a group for the free wine and munchies at the destination. It's a great way for new members to socialize and learn a trick or two from the old hands. Well, not old exactly, but you know what I mean.

Communications has been really busy with all the historical content this year, so it would be a nice change of pace to get a little bit more racing and cruising material into the next and final issue for the season. If you have a few photos or could key up a paragraph or two, please send your stuff to communications@qcyc.ca

Of course one of the highlights on July 4 was the Queen City Blues Band reunion, that began from a casual conversation with Ken Rodmell and turned into a great night of nostalgia for some and a whole new experience for those who were not in the club during those amazing years. Ken provides the inside info.

Next issue will also provide you with reports from your Board around the fiscal year end, Sept. 30, and the direction for the club's budget and projects for the following year. Haulout is coming sooner than we want to think so enjoy the rest of the season.

Photo credits this issue:

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Pat Whetung

I haven't missed a Pig Roast since joining the club. I openly confess to my 'cracklin' addiction. It is always done just perfectly! My delight is tempered with the realization



that the season is winding down. Just as the "the EX" always signals back to school for students, Pig Roast heralds shorter days in September which reminds me it's time to start planning for haul out, end of season work parties, and the last few barbeques at the mooring.

New members will be building cradles, seasoned members will be checking cradle inspection reports and some will be scrambling to complete work hours before the deadline. It's the rhythm of our club life. We play hard and we work hard.

Your board gets focused on finalizing the budget for the next season and setting priorities for capital projects. The Membership Chair is only months away from the Boat Show while the Treasurer is working on the fall billing and year end reports with the auditor. Entertainment has already started work on your off-season events and the Rear Commodore is busy planning the Champions race and Last Chance Race before awards night. Please be aware that it is critical to communicate with the Yard Chair if you are hauling your boat at the club for the first time. Moorings needs the heads up if you're planning on bringing in a new boat next season. It's all about planning and more planning around the board table. I encourage you to communicate with board members if you have any questions or a change in plans for 2010. Help us to help you.

Jacqui Cook

Government Impacts on QCYC Finances

Much of the time, the club is in charge of its major expenditures and can prioritize choices in the best interests of the club. Oddly, we are facing a triple whammy of Government negative impacts: Municipal Tax Assessments, the Harmonized Sales Tax and changes to other Government regulations.



Municipal Tax Assessments

As the Commodore has discussed at the Spring meeting and in previous articles, many yacht clubs, marinas and other waterfront businesses on leased land are facing significant increases in property taxes. This is due to the new property value assessments announced by MPAC. For 2009, QCYC's property tax bill increased about 300%. We can expect another increase of just under 200% in 2010 and a further 50% increase for 2011. QCYC is working with other yacht clubs and on its own to fight this increase. Our Commodore is leading the important initiative.

However, until it is resolved we must be cautious and factor this increase into our financial plans.

Harmonized Sales Tax

The Ontario Government has announced its intention to harmonize the PST and

the GST beginning July 1, 2010. A big impact of this harmonization will be the application of 8% PST to items that were previously PST exempt. This bill legislating this change has not yet been passed.

Therefore, the specifics and information packages to help businesses plan for the change are not yet available. However, the club is aware of the change and is factoring it into our financial plans as well.

Other Government Regulation

Licensing requirements, garbage disposal requirements and other rules and regulations, combine to increase some costs at a rate faster than inflation.

In the last several years the club has benefited from much good news, financially speaking.

1. We have been full for 3 years.
2. The percentage of members resigning has been low.
3. We have been able to prioritize our expenditures to make noticeable improvements in the club house, grounds, lockers, etc.
4. Our members undertook to finance a major upgrade to the south end of the Club (more than a balcony).

During good times, we can forget that there are risks as well. The club is financially healthy and I believe we are taking the steps necessary to remain so. I don't want to rain on the end of the season, I just thought you would like to know that we are monitoring the financial weather.

So now it's no secret that I plan to 'pig out' of Pig Roast on September 5th....then it's hurry up and enjoy the last days of our 120th season at Queen City.

Need Work Hours?

**Ask the office
or a Board Member!**

