

Onboard

APRIL 2021 BAY OF QUINTE YACHT CLUB



Itching to hit the water again

Photo: Dale Holland



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore

Ian McPherson

Vice Commodore

vacant

Rear Commodore

David Mitchell

Fleet Captain Sail

Dave Render

Fleet Captain

Dinghy/Sail Training

vacant

Treasurer

Louise Mitchell

Secretary

Linda Pearson

House Director

Floris van Ooyen

Bar Director

vacant

Grounds Director

Steve Macklin

Marketing Director

Dale Holland

Entertainment Director

Martin Smit

Past Commodore

Steve Macklin

David Mitchell *Rear Commodore*

Excellent response to recent survey

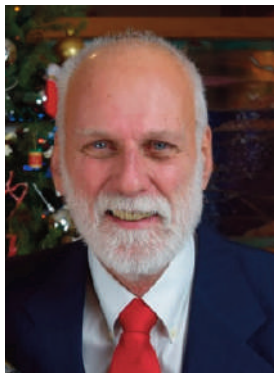
A wish to the BQYC membership that you are all staying safe and healthy and this year will be better than last. In the spirit of looking ahead the **membership cards** have been printed and will be delivered to the club in the next couple of days for you to pick up. Also the **Directory** will be ready to post online around the date for Lift-in and as usual if you need a hardcopy for your boat then let me know at membership@bqyc.ca

We have been receiving some inquiries about membership which is outstanding, and we would like to welcome **David Groen** to BQYC.

With regard to **Long Term Planning** the Board and LTP Committee combined efforts to conduct the survey that 114 people responded to and that is over 48% of the membership which is an absolutely awesome response. We are now reviewing and analysing the considerable amount of feedback and a recap will be sent out in the near future. We'd like to thank everyone for their participation in this very important planning step. The focus for the LTP is now to a) analyse the results and b) start to analyse the priorities noted in the survey. Please if you have any questions contact me at membership@bqyc.ca

Respectfully, David

New House Director Floris van Ooyen



Why take on the House position? It was a matter of responsibility and the ability to give back to the club encouraged by the fact that there weren't others looking to fill the position at the time.

We elected to join a club because of the social connections with a group that works and sails together. Linda and I live in Brighton and joined BQYC in Jan 2018. Our boat didn't show up in Belleville until sometime in August that year. We've always been boaters and are sailors (again) this time with a CS 36 docked in Victoria Harbour. Funny, I was at the hardware store the other day for some toilet parts.

Introducing myself at the store as BQYC House Director so as to put the purchase on account I mentioned that the position of director isn't what they'd think. I had the privilege of repairing the ladies' toilet that day.

Wear your club proudly

With the promise of a new season it's time to consider buying a new burgee, jacket or ball hat. Our supply of old stock dwindled down to one hat prompting us to replenish in a style resembling our fine stock of embroidered outerwear. Just ask at the bar and one of our fine barpeople will be glad to show you what is available. Navy baseball hats are available with a white mesh on the back or a solid hat with an adjustable strap on the back

Myron Lasko, *Regalia*



Greetings members!

So far 2021 is shaping up to be a better year than what we experienced in 2020. As of now our region continues to see low COVID numbers and we remain in the Green zone. The vaccine is starting to roll out across the province with the hope that at some point in the future it will allow the relaxation of the restrictions that we have been living with for a year now. What will all this mean for BQYC in 2021 - some changes, but not that many. Here is how I expect things to play out at our club this summer.

- 1) Government restrictions will prevent us from hosting our regular large in person events and dinners.
- 2) Summer hours will start right after lift-in on Sunday May 2nd.
- 3) The patio will open with the warmer weather and the indoor seating will remain open.
- 4) Adult Learn to sail will not be held this year due to the dependency on members teaching with their own boats.
- 5) Racing at BQYC will start in May and we expect the season to progress normally.
- 6) Regattas will not likely be possible due to current COVID restrictions on competitions between groups from different regions
- 7) We will hold a Sail Past in June but there will not be a formal event at the club afterwards.
- 8) We plan on running a smaller Junior Sailing program

Overall this is a better story than what happened in 2020, but not what we were hoping for.

As a board we are continuing to look for ways to add value to your membership in light of the COVID-19 impacts. With this in mind, for the 2021 season, we are offering free use of the club owned paddle boards and kayaks for all members. Waivers will still need to be signed and turned in to the bar prior to taking them out. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer to the being back on the water.

Thank you for your continued support of BQYC! I'm sure everyone is as excited as I am to see the days getting longer, the ice melting and the temperature rising. Soon we will be back on the water and enjoying the club patio. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with everyone after coming out of a COVID-19 induced hibernation.

Long Reach Bar Update - Ian McPherson

Beginning May 2nd the club will return to our summer hours and with the increased hours comes the need to hire additional staff. We have started the process and you will see new bartenders training in April and working the rotation beginning in May.

Product Updates:

Guinness will be back on tap this summer!

Meyers Creek Brewing:

We have 3 beers for sale from our local brewery available at the bar. All materials are sourced from Ontario to make these great beers. Give them a try to see if you have a new favourite.

Back Roads Vanilla Porter

Stoney Lonesome Extra IPA

Golden Hour Wheat Beer

Wonder Berry Cranberry Sour coming in May.

Near Beer:

I have been researching and taste testing craft near beers to try and find some better offerings to carry at the club. I think you will be surprised at how good these are, I know I was. Give them a try and let me know what you think.

Athletic Brewing - Run Wild IPA

Partake Brewing - Stout

Summer Hours

Mon	4pm to 9pm
Tues	4pm to 9pm
Wed	4pm to 9pm
Thurs	4pm to 9pm
Fri	4pm to 9pm
Sat	1pm to 7pm
Sun	2pm to 6pm



Lift-Incheck your date

Lift-In will be split across 2 days this spring due to crane availability. The **East side** (Hastings Crane) will be on **Friday April 30**. The **West side** and front lawn (Lakeshore crane) will be on **Saturday May 1st**. Registration will be through email invoice as we did in 2020. Watch your email for registration and lift-in details in early April.

House-keeping Do's as you work on your boats.

1. Do follow Covid guidelines. Wear your mask when not able to socially distance and when entering the club.
2. Do keep your ladder locked up when you are not there.
3. Do unplug your power cord at the outlet when not at your boat. Don't make others guess if it is in use.
4. Do clean up if you make a mess from paint stripping or sanding. A drop cloth or shop-vac will do the trick.
5. Do be mindful of neighbour boats when sanding or using a pressure-washer.
6. Do properly dispose of waste antifreeze and oil. It does not go in or left beside the BQYC dumpster.

Water Levels

The water level is 6 feet below the lawn at the club and is 6 inches below the historic average for March. We have not seen water this low in a long time. I predict no flooding in 2021!

Photos: Steve Macklin



Ladies Sailing

Dear Lady Sailors,

When newly named Fleet Captain **Dave Render** sent out an e-mail to all members looking for help with various aspects of his job, three members volunteered to take on Ladies Sailing. Ironically, all three were men; myself, **Dale Holland** and **Dan Steinitz**. So we have now formed the Ladies Sailing Committee.

The advantage of having all men on the Committee is that, since our biggest task is being your Race Committee, none of you will have to take on that responsibility and miss a night's racing. Nonetheless, anyone who wants to join us will always be welcome.



Of course, we won't do anything without running the ideas past all of the lady sailors and reacting appropriately to your responses. The majority will always be deferred to. Following are some of our initial proposals. We'd like to hear back from you, whether you like our ideas or not. So please respond if you plan to participate in the Ladies Racing Program.

Schedule: We plan to have a 7 race Thursday evening series with each racer being able to drop two races.

We think more races is more fun and having two drops enables people to miss a race or two and not be severely penalized. The first race will be June 3rd, a little later than past years to give you time to practice and get your crew organized if you so wish. I'm sure the Committee could be talked into organizing a practice race before the schedule begins if you so choose. We plan to have 2 races per month with the 7th race being September 2nd. We haven't confirmed the exact dates of the other races as we need to see if there are conflicts with other events (EYC for example) but it should be finalized soon. **The Long Distance Race** will be September 12th, to take advantage of our usually glorious September weather.

Scoring: The Long Distance Race will be a stand-alone event, no longer worth two races in the evening series. There will be awards for the evening series, for the Long Distance Race and the Overall Champion which will be determined by taking the boat's final standing in the Evening Series, their finishing position in the Long Distance Race and adding them together. The boat with the lowest number of points is the winner.

Courses: We feel that the regular club courses are not well suited to your series. They can be too long with too many long reaches with little opportunity for passing. It usually becomes a parade and the only leg that matters is the first beat. So we plan to have customized courses for you. These will be displayed on the board at the stern of Wally on red or green numbered placards. For example, with the start at Mark 6, a red #2, a red #3, a red #5 and a red #6 would mean that the course was 2 to port, 3 to port, 5 to port and finish at 6. We want to have the flexibility to give you shorter courses, more beats, lots of opportunity to pass and be passed. We want to see who is most skilled at starting, tacking, mark rounding, whisker pole setting, etc. On occasion, the start line may not be at a mark but possibly a line set up in the middle of a leg between the committee boat and an inflatable mark. This gives us even more flexibility to set up the best possible course. We hope you agree. And on a particularly beautiful evening when the days are long, we may have two races and store the 2nd one in the bank to use if one of our scheduled evening races is postponed or cancelled. This will avoid trying to organize a make-up race.

Spinnakers: There have been some suggestions that if a boat wants to use their spinnaker, they should be allowed to with the handicap of the boat being appropriately adjusted. Please let us have your thoughts on that.

After Race: I've noticed a certain lack of post-race camaraderie, unlike the Wednesday evening series. This is probably because no food is served and people want to get home and eat their dinners. We had a clever plan to solve that but unfortunately the COVID-19 regulations appear to make that impossible. But we are aware of the issue and we will do everything we can to solve it. Please send along your thoughts.

Andy Thomson

Captainandy46@gmail.com

(613) 966-5864

BQYC is going forward planning Sail Training in 2021

We will be running our Junior Sailing Camps in July and August with reduced class sizes. Ontario Sailing has provided guidance on how to successfully and safely run day camps. We are lucky to be using single-handed Optis and Lasers so are well set up from a Covid stand-point.

We also plan to offer Adult Dinghy lessons in the evenings in July and August in single-handed Lasers. Hey members, maybe this is your summer to try Laser sailing. We have some great instructors.

We did make the tough decision to not run Adult Learn to Sail Keelboats this year. It traditionally would start with inside classrooms in April and then involve students rotating through members keel boats each week. It is too early in the Covid recovery to be mixing people in close quarters and we did not want to expose members or students to potential risks.

We will be reaching out to the membership for help from time-to-time with our sailing training programs. Please lend a hand when the ask goes out.



Photos: Steve Macklin





Goose poop

We are going to take a swing at reducing the Goose poop on the lawn this year with a 3-prong approach. Each of these approaches has had some success at other clubs.

1. At the dinghy ramp and on the lawn we will install two AwaywithGeese Amber Lights. They emit a blink at night which the geese do not like.
2. We will place a plastic Coyote decoy randomly around the lawn. It has been nicknamed. "**Wally E Coyote**"
3. On the west side and south point water edge (away from us humans) we will try Goose fences. This is essentially a fishing line placed at Goose level of 18" high.

Lets see if it helps this summer.

Steve Macklin - Grounds

Susan Smith *Club Historian and a Past Commodore*



The Downburst of 1991

With Lift-In on the horizon the story of possibly the most challenging Lift-In during BQYC's history seems appropriate.

On March 28, 1991 a massive "Downburst" struck BQYC and knocked 23 boats off their cradles and did extensive damage to the clubhouse and grounds. High winds cut a swath across the tip of Victoria Park in the early hours of that Thursday morning, however Trenton's weather bureau denied claims that it was a tornado instead calling it a "Downburst". It started with a massive clap of thunder which was heard throughout the city and was followed by heavy rains and high winds. Small boats were flung over 500 feet, a small Nutshell was thrown across the harbour ending up in the radio station parking lot, the covered patio was destroyed and much of the club roof was gone. Twenty three boats were knocked off their cradles, some with extensive and many with superficial and cosmetic damage.

Difficult times bring about a shared concern for others and this event was an excellent example of the caring of the boating community and BQYC members. Many members of the boating community rallied together to help our club in our time of need. Members from yacht clubs around Lake Ontario, both in Canada and the USA called to offer their support. Members of Ontario clubs arrived at BQYC with food for the volunteers, offers of help and support over the days that followed.

The emergency lift that weekend was a challenge as several boats were leaning on neighbouring boats and there was concern about a domino effect. The lift was long and tiring but went smoothly under the leadership of **Trevor Waller** and **Les Ash** with a multitude of volunteers who gave up their Easter weekend to help.

There is a scrapbook of photos and articles in the Long Reach Lounge for anyone wishing to learn more about the "Downburst of '91".



Quickly, word of the disaster spread. The *Intelligencer* sent a news team to the trouble spot. Canadian Press, this country's largest news service, hoisted up the telephone lines with calls to Belleville, seeking the story of the terrible tornado. Radio and television stations hummed with the news of the freakish phenomenon — tornadoes, after all, aren't as rare as Unicorns in the Quinte area, but they are very unusual. So media curiosity was understandable. But just when we thought we had the story straight, *Something Happened*.

A couple of meteorologists were dispatched from CFB Trenton to the Belleville harborfront by Environment Canada. They arrived several hours after the event, and their assessment of how the damage occurred surprised a lot of people.

Yes, the meteorologists agreed, *Something Happened* at the yacht club. But it was not a tornado, they insisted. The wind that toppled boats and tore a one-tonne air conditioner from its nest was the result of a "severe downburst from a storm front that moved in," said the meteorologists.

The experts further explained that the area would have sustained "much more twisting damage from a tornado. It was just a very strong wind."

So Environment Canada, acting on the meteorologists' report, still agreed that *Something Happened*. But now it was not a tornado, it was a "downburst."

We tried in vain to locate "downburst" in the *English Universal Dictionary*, the *New Lexicon Webster's Dictionary*, and *Oxford Pocket Dictionary*. But obviously it is a word in the vocabulary of those charged with explaining the weather. And we would never contest their knowledge. After all, we all know how often the weather folks are right in their forecasts.

Still, we were puzzled because we knew *Something Happened*, the people at the yacht club knew *Something Happened*, and in spite of the experts' testimony, it was tough to surrender to the "downburst, very strong wind" theory in lieu of those flying boats.

Then, we found the answer.

In the March 23 edition of *The Intelligencer*, we reported that Sidney Township had received a notice from Solicitor General Mike Farnan that April was tornado month in Ontario.

The day *Something Happened* at the yacht club was March 25. That's four days before the beginning of April, tornado month. So it obviously could not have been a tornado after all.

Those crafty weather folks — you just can't fool them, eh?



Goodbye
winter of 2020!



Here's how
Moe Pelletier coped

Photos by Wayne Peterson