



Fall 2011 Newsletter

Commodore's Report

For medical reasons (again) I haven't been around the club very much this year.

The management committee has been dealing with quite a number of critical issues and I must thank them for all the hard work they are putting in.

We've lost a few members this year, but we've gained many more.

I would like to give my personal welcome to 2011 new members Don Harben, Barbara and Carl Miller, Bruno Kraft and Debbie Symington, Kevin McKee and Shannon Skraba, Fred and Cathy Stackhouse, (new owners of John Fischer's boat), and Dale Boucher.

Gary Campbell, Commodore

Fleet Captain's Report

It is time again to think about hauling out and winterizing our boats. Let us all keep safety foremost in our minds. Nasty accidents are lurking though out these activities.

We are going to have a full yard this year. There are no reserved spaces, but there are a few things to keep in mind.

1 – All the offset spurs must be fully filled, 2 boats per spur, before access to them is blocked.

2 – We should minimize the distance heavy boats have to be pushed.

3 – The really wide cradles have to be stored near the haul out track because these spurs have more space between them.

Other issues are:

1 – We should try to minimize the use of ethylene glycol (the green and poisonous) antifreeze. If used, please collect and dispose of properly. The non toxic, pink, R.V. antifreeze works just as well in most instances.

2 – Use as much reeving as is necessary and practical. A minimum of one pulley (block) and two reeves (lines) should be used on every boat. Generally, more blocks are better. Should your cradle leave the track, more reeves will permit the winch to drag it to shore. More reeving reduces the load on the cable and the winch. The winch brake only works with adequate reeving.

Think before you act and keep toes and fingers attached.

Dave Oberg, Fleet Captain

Fall Events

September 3 to 5 – Corn Roast, Gore Bay

September 10 – Work Party

**October 15 – Annual General Meeting
and Batten Down Barbecue**

October 16 – Club Closing

Corn Roast - Thanks to Grant and Nicki Moffatt for convening this year's Corn Roast in Gore Bay on the Labour Day weekend. The club provides corn, butter and barbecues, while members bring their own meat and drinks. Grant has arranged a special transient rate for club members, so be sure to tell the Gore Bay Dockmaster that you are from NCYC.

Note for art lovers, there's an Ivan Wheale exhibit of paintings at the Red Roof restaurant. He has a gift for capturing the beauty of the North Channel.

Work Party – Remember to record your work party hours in the book so you will be get credit toward next year's Work Party Fee at the rate of \$30/hour. At the September 10 work party there will be a variety of jobs for all. There will be another opportunity to work your hours at the Club Closing, or any time in between. Contact Fleet Captain, Dave Oberg for club approved jobs.

Batten Down Barbecue – Convenors Anne Phillips and Dianne Sharpe will provide a delicious dinner following our AGM on October 15. Gather around to watch the rotisserie cook beef and pork roasts to a turn, and then share them along with baked potatoes, squash and salads, all for \$10/adult and \$5 for children under 12. BYOB and enjoy the final social event of the season

Many thanks to Bob Ducharme for donating a second barbecue to the Club. It has come in handy many times.

Reminders

- Please turn off hoses in the yard after use
- Our Clubhouse is a pet free zone. Please leave pets tied up outside
- Use the Suggestion Box to get your concerns dealt with by the Management Committee
- When in doubt, check Bylaws, Rules & Regulations on www.ncyc.ca or in Clubhouse binder

Pirate Invasion on Family Fun Day!

Pirates raised the Jolly Roger on our flagpole and invaded NCYC on Saturday, August 20, Family Day.



After lunch, judges Cheryl Girard, Gilda Marquette and Norma Young added up the scores for the best headgear, weaponry, jewelry and language to award prizes for the most fearsome pirates to Pat Ferguson and John Marquette (adults), Deanna Rodgers (teen) and Duncan, child pirate.



A group of Nasty Pirates (Ray Girard, Bruce Gervais, Jeff Park) were successfully held off, then later captured one by one and tossed into the brig, where each was forced to reveal a clue to the buried treasure, and a key to the Treasure Chest.



Clues led to a cache of gold covered chocolate coins buried in the sand - their first reward.

Then came a break for Laser races, where **Rob** and **Caleb Smith** successfully defended their championship, closely challenged by **Simon Fortin**, just seven seconds behind. There were several contestants for the prize in the kayak race, won by **Terry Rodgers**.

The key challenge, an activity where ten locks had to be opened by a bunch of keys with no more than three misses, had tie winners, with two perfect scores for **Paul** and **Terry Rodgers**.

Supper of hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad and veggies all provided by **Karen Park** was followed by opening the treasure chest with one of the captured keys. It revealed enough prizes for all the young pirates.

A wonderful Family Day, and kudos to all NCYC pirates, young and not so young, who came in amazing costumes, got into the spirit, and had a ball! **Daryl** and **Karen Park**, assisted by their son **Jeff** did a wonderful job of convening it.

They passed the torch to **Rob Smith**, who has great ideas for next year's Family Day. Let's keep the ball rolling!

Sunday's Cruiser Racers were undaunted by threatened showers, and eight yachts left the dock after Bob Legault's Skipper's meeting. Perfect Peace was on station as the start and finish boat, and despite light winds and a few raindrops, five boats finished the shortened course.. The winner was **Bob Legault** with crew **Chris**

Leppan. **Eino Halinen** with daughter **Karen** and **John Gamble** pulled ahead of Team Oberg at the last minute to edge them out for second. **Team Oberg**, consisting of **Trish, Dave**, his son **Erik**, daughter **Lisa** and brother **Ken** took the third place flag. Many thanks to Bob Legault for convening a successful race and potluck supper.

And still more that weekend ...

Nathalie Brunet, daughter of Louise's friends Monique and Andy, and **Gilles Brunet's** niece, arrived with five friends on their **Cross Canada Canoe Odyssey**, just in time to join our potluck supper. Their project won the Canadian Geographic Expedition of the Year award, and will be featured in a future edition of the magazine. The voyage to raise public awareness of the importance of Canada's fresh water resources began in April in Vancouver and they plan to finish in St. John NB by the end of September. An impressive group of young people, they graciously answered many questions about their amazing adventure. They paddle their three canoes between 30 and 65 km. every day, and portaged their canoes over the Rockies. To learn more, go to their website at

<http://cancanoeyodyssey.sportisite.com/home>

We were honoured to have them stop at NCYC, and wish them well on their travels. Gilles and brother Andy escorted the crew on Hakuna Matata as they paddled through Lake Superior. Gilles also followed them on the next leg of their journey, as far as the Killarney.

Unwelcome Stowaway

Glancing toward his anchor locker, **Ray Girard** thought he was seeing things –the rope seemed to be moving. Checking further, he was shocked to find that somehow a snake had found its way in. Cheryl has a deadly fear of snakes, and Ray is not that fond of them either. He reached for their boat hook and poked around, trying to hook the snake and pull it out – no luck. Frantically hauling the rope out, hoping that the invader would be pulled from the locker, eventually all of it lay on the deck. But the snake had now shifted into the adjacent locker compartment.

Cheryl glanced idly up from her book to ask Ray what he was doing that was making so much noise, and if she could help. "No, no, everything is fine," was his terse reply. Finally the snake wound itself around the boathook, and Ray gave it a mighty shake, hoping to knock it into the lake, but no, it hit the deck close to where Cheryl sat reading. Amazingly, she didn't notice! A final lurch and the dreaded reptile was thrown into the drink.

After a sleepless night, Ray finally told Cheryl that they had been unwitting hosts to a snake. Their plan to head to Gore Bay for a theatre production changed, when

Cheryl declared, "Oh no, we are heading straight back to the club." There every nook and cranny on Perfect Peace was checked and cleaned, so they are now sure that she is snake free.

But how did the snake get there? They had been considering getting a couple of kayaks, and were offered one on loan that was just lying face down on the grassy beach. They loaded it onto their deck, intending to try it out while they were at anchor. The only possible explanation is that a milk snake had found a cozy bed in the kayak, and its sleep was undisturbed while they moved it. If you see two **very** tightly covered kayaks upright on the sand, far away from the long grass, they belong to Ray and Cheryl.

Members' News

Our deepest sympathy to **Karen** and **Tim Ruthenberg** on the death of Tim's Mother recently, in Ottawa.

Congratulations to **Bob and Lucille Legault**, who had decided that this would be the year to do several races and concentrate on doing well in them. They carried our NCYC burgee to the Cooper Cup in June, where they placed first overall. Later that month they were 1st in their class and 2nd overall at the Eaton Cup at Little Current. Their successes continued when they came 2nd in Leg One of the MacMan Challenge from Mackinaw Island to Gore Bay with **Bill Mawhinney** as crew. Then Bob and friend Chris took first place at our own NCYC cruiser race. They plan to take part in more races in Little Current on the 10th and 11th of September.

Ray Hortness, ably assisted by crew **Dave** and **Trish Oberg** and **Bob Ducharme** sailed the second leg of the MacMan Challenge and finished fifth in their class. **John Gamble** is also an intrepid racer, and we hear that new member **Bruno Kraft** has lots of racing experience.

Bill Sellars and **Jeanie MacVoy** weathered Hurricane Irene safely. Bill writes, "The highest wind that we saw here was 35 Knots, just a normal gale. All of our two day seaman like preparation worked well. We had lots of lines to pilings and lines rigged with springs on snatch blocks so that we could change the attitude of the boat, I got up every hour to adjust lines. We did not have a big surge, but high tide did take the dock to the top of the pilings. " We hope that **Sharpie's Dream** and Anne and Terry's **Quality Time** fared as well.

If you find a vest you don't own among your warmer clothes it could be the one **Fil Dupuis** missed after the Club Opening. Contact her at filomenadupuis@gmail.com

That's all for now, Norma Young, Editor

