



North Channel Yacht Club  
P.O. Box 175  
Elliot Lake, Ontario, P5A 2J7  
[www.ncyc.ca](http://www.ncyc.ca)

## Newsletter, Winter 2010

### Commodore's Report

2010 will be a busy and exciting year for the North Channel Yacht Club as we will celebrate our 40th anniversary. Plans for the celebration are well underway. Cheryl Girard's committee has planned some very entertaining activities – more on that later – and we intend to invite the founding members as our honoured guests. We hope that all of you, whether full, associate or sustaining members will mark the dates on your calendars and plan to join in the fun.

I was honoured to be elected Commodore at the 2009 AGM. Of course the Management Committee works as a team, and the Commodore is only one member. As Secretary for several years, I have seen first hand how hard this group works, and how well they work together for the good of the Club.

Two of our members have retired from the committee and deserve our grateful thanks for their many years of service. Russ and Ken will be greatly missed. Both have always been dedicated to improving club facilities and I am confident that they will continue to do all they can, even as they take more time just to enjoy sailing.

Three very capable members continue to serve as Members at Large; Grant Moffatt, Equipment, Jakob Cornelis, Buildings and Dave Margetts, Water. We welcome two new members to the Committee, Anne Phillips and Tim Ruthenberg. Anne and Tim have already proven their worth as good club members. Anne has done a superb job as Social Convenor, and we know she will be a great Secretary. Tim is always ready to help in any way he can, and our yard will be in good hands under his supervision.

Al Kenney is our new Vice Commodore. Tom DeLong has the skills needed for the position of Fleet Captain. Both have proven track records, and will fill their responsibilities admirably. Rear Commodore Ray Girard has assured me that he will continue to act as project manager for club projects. He is a superb organizer, and I am grateful that he will continue to keep us all on track to accomplish what we need to do. It should be a great year!

**Norma Young, Commodore.**

### Fleet Captain's Report

Well it is January 2010. There is plenty of snow on the ground, and the north wind is blowing. Don't be depressed. The boat show is on in Toronto and three and a half months from now there won't be any ice in Serpent Harbour (I hope).

As the new Fleet Captain I would first like to thank our past Fleet Captain, Ken Barnes for handing over to me a very well organized portfolio. The majority of the really big jobs are complete. Don't worry though there will be lots of routine maintenance that needs attention. I hope the snow and ice doesn't change things for the docks and club equipment and spoil that idea

**Safety** - This is an area that I am concerned about. We have had a couple of close calls and near misses during the 2009 boating season. The moving, launching and haul out of boats is when the risk of danger is highest. There are boats in our yard that weigh thousands and even tens of thousands of pounds. Let's give them the respect they are due.

The club over the years has developed procedures and regulations to deal with these issues of safety. These documents are easily found now on the club's web site. I would suggest all members take some time over the remainder of the winter season and review these procedures. Section 1 in the document covers most of the safety related regulations at the club.

I have a couple of other items that need to be covered. The mooring field and dock space. If you wish to move in the mooring field please let me know by March 1. Those folks looking to have a dock space for the summer, remember it is a first come, first served offer. There are four spaces available and as of this writing there are just three left.

There, I think I have all the business end taken care of for now. In closing I hope you all enjoy fair weather and favourable winds for this upcoming season. The NCYC is planning a big birthday party this year so let us all enjoy a great 40th boating season at our club.

**Tom DeLong, Fleet Captain**

## Newsletter, Winter 2010

### **Annual General Meeting Report**

There were 43 members at the AGM in Elliot Lake, including all five of our American members! Greetings were shared from Cruising Members Jon and Candy Gill and Pat and Dianne Sharpe. Three proxies were received.

Some of the highlights of the meeting:

1. Jack Behrend volunteered to take over the Dock Box Condo, and will be contacting those who had indicated an interest.
2. We have reached the threshold where we must register for GST. 5% will have to be added to your dues, but the club can claim GST spent on purchases.
3. Projects approved in Principle are clubhouse modifications and flooring, shower house floors, beach regeneration, repair of one mast rack.
4. Referred to Rules & Regulations Committee: Moving of members' boats, Rules re; boats left at dock without owners aboard .

Thanks to convenors Colleen Penniston and Chris Margetts for arranging the venue, a delicious roast beef dinner and a DJ playing danceable music. Thanks to all who donated great prizes for the raffle. All the money raised will go to support our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

#### **George Oldenburg Trophy**

Congratulations to **Gary Campbell** on winning this year's George Oldenburg Trophy. Over the years, Gary has put in countless hours for the club, for a big emergencies or small ones; e.g. our failed sewage system, to put a derailed boat back on the track, to dive for a lost pair of glasses, etc., etc.

**A well deserved honour!**

### **NCYC History Project**

Club historian **Carol Piper Curtis** has been collecting memories of the club. Carol intends to publish them for our 40th anniversary in August. The deadline to include your stories and photos is the end of March, so please don't delay. It will be much more interesting with your memories included.

Send them plus any photos you would like to see posted on our Website to Carol at [pipercurtis@persona.ca](mailto:pipercurtis@persona.ca) or by mail to 27 Colwill Drive, Elliot Lake, ON P5A 2Z6

### **NCYC Website**

Have you checked out [www.ncyc.ca](http://www.ncyc.ca) lately? It's a mine of information. We are grateful to our Webmaster Mike O'Reilly who keeps it current and attractive. Asked before the AGM if it is possible to track how many visitors our site attracts, Mike told us that in October there had been 23,606 hits! This can be a powerful tool for promoting our club.

If you have something you want to sell, club members can advertise boating related items in the want ad section for free! Once sold, though, please remember to remove it.

Do you want to check out one of our rules? The entire Rules & Regulations document is posted there, as well as our Constitution & Bylaws, membership applications for both full and summer members, and more.

It's winter and you want to remember summer fun at an NCYC event. Check out the photographs.

Read about our Cruising members. There's a direct link to Sharpie's Dream's blog, and Jon and Candy periodically write to tell us how their cruise is progressing.

Tell anyone who asks about our club to go to our site for answers. If they don't find them, specific questions can be directed to [secretary@ncyc.ca](mailto:secretary@ncyc.ca). All they have to do is ask!

### **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Report**

In April of 1970, five young boaters from Elliot Lake, Paul Carloss, George Hammond, Stuart Keller, Dr. Joe Moody, and Arthur Richards formed an unincorporated association that they called the North Channel Yacht Club. Five years later the club was incorporated and became what it is today. This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> year of our club's existence and it is only proper that the event be noted and highlighted.

Anne Phillips, Carol Piper Curtis and Cheryl Girard are busy organizing a memorable event. The event will be an action-packed, fun-filled weekend for members, their family and friends on August 21<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. The event is centred around the well attended cruiser race, but the activities will not be limited to the cruiser race.

On Saturday morning the members will be served a warm breakfast of pancakes and sausages to ensure high energy levels. The building of the

## Newsletter, Winter 2010

cardboard dinghies will start on Saturday morning. Watch for details in the next newsletter. The horseshoe competition will also start soon after wards. For those more high energy members a kayak race will be organized.



*“But tonight will be romantic, dear.  
We’ll drink wine while you watch me  
work on my boat.”*

At noon a lunch of chili, burgers and dogs will be served to replenish the burnt calories. Right after lunch, the adventurous cardboard dinghy builders will race their personally designed, constructed, commissioned and launched cardboard dinghies around a set course back to the beach (or more likely to disaster). When the afternoon winds pick up, the laser sailors and wannabees will be given a chance to show off their stuff in organized round robin match racing.

If that's not enough (or too much for some), **Chris Basset** will be organizing an art event during the afternoon where the artistic talents of our members will be displayed for our enjoyment and sale. Photos, paintings, films, sewing projects will be displayed for your pleasure and to highlight our many talented members.

For those looking to clean out your dock box of valuable treasures, flea market tables will be available throughout the weekend.

After a fun filled afternoon on and in the water, our talented and dedicated convenors will serve a banquet of steaming hot roasts with full trimmings. Prizes for the day's activities will be presented after supper. The day will finish with a bonfire..... and that's only the first day.

On Sunday morning **Kevin Lavigne** will wake up our day with Tim Hortons coffee and donuts. **Bob Legault** and his team will instruct the racers at

the skippers meeting and the cruiser race will follow.

Those less interested in racing, will be invited to join a chat group to discuss Dr. Joe Moody's book “Medicine Man of the Inuit” where High Tea will be served.

The afternoon events will be topped up with pot luck hors d'oeuvres and a pot luck supper. The prizes for the day's event will be presented after supper and a second bonfire will close the festivities.

The notice for this event is sent out early to make sure you can add this event to your summer plans. Mark your calendars.

Tickets for the event will be available at the Spring Planning Meeting. The ticket price has not yet been finalized but will be around \$15, for all the events, for the entire weekend.

Of course, we will need a lot of volunteers, organizers and convenors to pull off all of these activities. With your involvement, participation and help we can make this day a special and memorable event for our club. Stay tuned for more information and please don't be shy to volunteer to help.

**Cheryl Girard**

### **Social Convenor**

The calendar of events for the 2010 boating season is attached. Convenors are needed for all events. Convening an event is a fun way to put in your hours and get to know fellow club members.

As Social Convenor, Anne Phillips is available to assist you with details. Please call Anne (522-0487) or email her at [tapp@tyenet.com](mailto:tapp@tyenet.com) to sign up or if you have any questions about convening an event. She will be pleased to provide you with full details, including how many work party hours each event qualifies for.

Convenors are also being sought for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary weekend of August 21 and 22. Call or email to Anne to convene an event.

### **Members' News**

**Pat and Dianne Sharpe** have enjoyed every minute of their cruise, as those who were

## Newsletter, Winter 2010

following their blog will know. Unfortunately they have had to return to the frozen north, as Pat's Mom needed to be placed in a care facility. Pat has found a private nursing home, and his Mom is doing well. Dianne is currently in Thunder Bay visiting family. He and Dianne plan to stay in Toronto until the beginning of March, in order to be able to visit and be sure that his Mom is settling in well. Sharpie's Dream is in Tarpon Springs for the moment, although they hope to drive down to move it and haul it out at the marina John Fischer kept his boat. They would like to spend the summer in the North Channel if they are able to find a boat to rent, and return to continue their voyage next fall. For anyone interested in sailing south, they recommend the Loopers Association, which has been very helpful. Check it out at <http://www.greatloop.org/>

### A note from Russ Buckingham...

Ahoy Friends:

Just a quick update for all of you at the NCYC.

This has been a trying time for Louise and I but we're getting through it quite well, thanks to the support from family and friends.

As you read this I will be finishing 3 weeks of Radiation therapy. This is already making a positive change. The side effect of a very sore throat is starting as predicted but, should soon disappear. Generally, I'm feeling great.

Doctors agree that R & R is prescribed after treatment so we'll be visiting my long lost brother on the West coast of Mexico for March and part of April. Temperatures mid 80's and sun are guaranteed. We'll be looking for rides on sailboats whenever possible.

Mid April should be time to get started on boat stuff at NCYC so we're looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Thank you all for your concern. We're lucky to have friends like you!

**Russ**

### And from the Gills on Isle of Skye..

We are sitting in a Laundromat in Ocean Springs, MS. We got here on Wednesday and decided to stay and wait out a front that was going through. We will start heading east towards FL - hopefully tomorrow. We are really looking forward to being back in the North Channel again! Hope to be there sometime in July. (at least that is what we are thinking just now.)

Weather has been cold enough here that there have been fish kills. The Ocean Springs Harbor is full of dead white mullet.

James Benjamin is still with us. He is becoming a better crew member all the time! He keeps us on our toes. This morning, he jumped out of bed just before 7 and said, "Everybody up! Get Clothes on! Don't Dawdle!--we have too much to do to get things ready!"

**Candy & Jon**

**Two beautiful granddaughters**, both born in Edmonton!

**John and Yolanda Gamble** welcomed granddaughter Sophia Martha on Sunday, November 22. She joins her big brother. And Luna Socorra Fox was born on January 3, making **Colleen Ross** a first time grandma. Congratulations to the new grandparents.

### **How to Identify a Canadian Boater**

- He knows what a Robertson screwdriver looks like.
- She knows how fast a 15 [km/h](#) speed limit is.
- He takes a "two-four" to a party.
- She wears thongs on her feet.
- He leaves a "loonie" as a tip in the coffee shop.
- She drinks pop, not soda.
- He dreams of [cruising](#) somewhere the water doesn't get hard in winter.
- She knows the French equivalent of "sugar-free" from reading bilingual pop cans.
- He thinks everyone has a holding tank... ..don't they?
- She wishes she could get a "double double" delivered to the anchorage.
- They own serious wool boating sweaters due to childhood frostbite.
- He never calls for marinas on channel 16.  
(It's a joke eh!)

And that's all for this edition. Thanks for reading it. The Newsletter is a cooperative effort with input from many members, whose contributions are gratefully acknowledged. If any member of the North Channel Yacht Club has information to be shared through your Newsletter, please contact Norma Young at [ddyoung@sympatico.ca](mailto:ddyoung@sympatico.ca) or at 705-671-3396