



## NCYC Fall 2010 Newsletter

### Commodore's Report

We are still basking in warm memories of our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Wasn't that a party? It was a great success and the work of many hands, ably led by Cheryl Girard and her committee of Ray, Anne Phillips Carol Piper Curtis and Chris Bassett. Even the weather cooperated, although the Friday night thunder storm had us worried. All our activities were carried out under cloudy skies, but not a drop of rain. And the food was fabulous!

The Cardboard Cruiser race brought out the creativity of young and not quite so young members. Nine very different designs built from cardboard and held together with duct tape - lots of duct tape! Some didn't get far before sinking, but five made it across the finish line intact, and three made the return trip. I don't know who had more fun, the participants or the spectators. Ken Barnes and Bob Legault took the trophies for first and second place, while Noemi Lavigne's boat, skippered by Chloe, got a special award for making the two way trip. Don Young convened the event.

The kayak poker run, convened by Pat and Dianne Sharpe was won by Robert Godbout with Lucille Legault second. The horseshoe competition was hotly contested with Henry Buettel and Bob Ducharme edging out Francine Buettel, with Norm Brown, (Heather Clarke subbing for Norm). Dave and Trish Oberg convened it. Then came three successive Laser match races, organized by Len Kitchener and Bob Legault, followed by a three way race to determine that Rob and Caleb Smith won overall closely followed by Richard Fortin.

The afternoon arts and crafts event showed another facet of several of our members, consisting of oil and watercolour paintings by Chris Bassett, Bob Legault, Tim Ruthenberg and Carole Lynn Campbell, photography by Don Young and needlework, ranging from Stacy Smith's charming sundress, Chris Margett's sweater, and exquisite quilts, etc. created by Cheryl, Carole Lynne, Anne Phillips, Colleen Ross, Diane Kenney and Rose Tammi. We knew we had creative talent, but were blown away by the extent of it! Chris Bassett did a superb job of arranging the display.

And then dinner for 129 - Anne Phillips, Tom Tammi and crew outdid themselves. Our very special guest was Founding Member Stu Keller, who kept us all enthralled with his stories about our club's beginnings. We were honoured to have Stu and Jane with us, along with Liz Durham, all from Meldrum Bay. Sadly, health concerns kept Founding Members Paul Carlross and Art Richard from attending.

Other special guests were past Commodores Jim and Ann Roxburgh from Bolton, Don and Sue Francis from Kanata, Simone Fortin, Nick Houben, Colleen Ross and many family members. All Past Commodores present were introduced to great applause, as were all who have ever served on the Management Committee. While every one of our members has had a hand in building this great club, these have provided leadership through the years.

The evening ended with music in the clubhouse, an open mic, that showed an amazing array of musical talent by our members, MC'd by Chet Beeswanger, who was also our event announcer. We are now much more aware of the diversity of talent among our members!

Sunday's breakfast of Tim Horton's coffee and doughnuts set us up for another full day. Bob Legault called the Skippers' meeting for the Club Cruiser Race immediately afterward and nine club boats and one visitor set off for the start line. A few hours later, a gourmet lunch was followed by the discussion of Founding Member Joe Moody's book, Medicine Man to the Inuit, led by Norma Young. Then Carol Piper Curtis spoke about her History Project, now published into an impressive book of memories provided by our members. Several members want copies. Adelle Larmour, aka DeLong, then spoke about her recently published book, Until the End: Memoirs of Sinter-plant activist Jean L. Gagnon. Her explanation led to several sales, as it tells a great story!

By then the racers returned and all enjoyed cocktails and yet another wonderful meal together. Bob presented visiting boat Shadow with the first place flag, while Seabiscuit with Bob and Lucille took second and Walkabout with Ken Barnes' family was third. Ken's bonfire on the beach brought the celebration to a close.

It's hard to believe that the season is winding down, but it has been a wonderful summer! We welcomed five great new members, Elaine and Rick Bradley, John and Gilda Marquette, Richard, Florence and Simon Fortin, Scott and Chantal Campbell and Gary and Vickie Wilton.

Two major projects will have been completed by the time you read this. The Shower Building floors are clean and bright thanks to Mike Dupuis and crew, and the clubhouse floor will be levelled, repaired with new linoleum installed in the kitchen, serving areas and washrooms.

Boats are being hauled out and covered before our members disperse to the ski hills, or to warmer climates. We'll keep in touch as we wait for spring and the next boating season..

Norma Young, Commodore

## Fall Events at NCYC

**September 4 -6 – Labour Day Cruise  
and Corn Roast**

**September 11 – Fall Work Party**

**October 16 – Annual General Meeting  
and Batten Down Barbecue**

**October 17 – Winterize and close up  
Club Systems (formerly  
Dock Out)**

### Thank you All

Many thanks to Gary and Carole Lynn Campbell, who stepped in at the last minute to convene the Corn Roast. Without them we would have had to cancel it. The weather was not ideal, but it's always warm in the Clubhouse!

Thanks too to Heather Clarke and Robert Godbout who will convene the Batten Down barbecue that follows immediately after the AGM. The next day's Dockout lunch will be Shepherd's Pie, made from leftovers by Anne Phillips crew.

So many members worked hard to make Our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorable that we can't name you all. Some, went above and beyond, and deserve special mention. They are Ray Girard, Jon Gill, Tom Tammi, and Al Kenney who improvised our canopy using saplings and a boat tarp. They also laid a new patio by the barbecue. Our leader Cheryl Girard and Louise Buckingham who beautified our gardens, and with Diane Kenney decorated the dining tent with fairy lights and table centrepieces, ably assisted by Cal's children and Bob Smith's grandchildren. Ray Hortness, who spruced up the telephone box, electrical box and reviewing stand. All who helped in the kitchen, notably Tom and Jocelyn Baader, the Margetts, Bob and Doris Ducharme with friend Beth, Anne Phillips and again, Tom, Cheryl, Louise and Diane. And Kevin Lavigne with Noemi and Chloe. We all worked together and that in itself made it a great success!

Cal and his family worked long hours to make our clubhouse and grounds shine for the event. His son Terry spent ten hours on the weed whacker to clean up the yard!

A wonderful happening was the interaction of the young people, who assisted with the set up and enthusiastically entered into all the fun activities. Our Dockmaster's children and the children of members got to know one another and had a great time. Let's keep the momentum going, perhaps by planning an annual family fun day next year!

### From our Website:

#### To North Channel Yacht Club Members,

My wife and I had the opportunity to sail in the North channel for the first time aboard our Catalina 30T, *Angel's Wing*. Weathered in at Bear Drop for an extra two days, we had a great time swimming, and lying about.

Behind schedule, ice and fuel low, and needing a pump out, we heard about the North Channel Yacht club. Perfect.

Approaching Serpent River in a stiff blow, I called ahead and got a prompt reply on 68. Advice on the channel, dock lines for a port tie, and help with the brisk wind. We arrived to find Calvin and his family ready for us. Great service. And he invited us to tour the club house and explained how your rail system works. What ingenuity. Fascinating. And he told us of your planned celebration the following week.

With all the beauty of God's creation, we had a truly wonderful time. And one of the special highlights of our trip? Calvin and his family.

We hope you had a great anniversary celebration. If any of your members are touring Lake Michigan, I hope you will stop in to see us in Charlevoix. We will try to return the kindness.

Jack and Margaret Messer

Northwest Marine Yacht Basin Association,  
Charlevoix, MI

### Fleet Captain's Report

Well what a sailing season this has been. Our fleet has some fine new additions. The weather this summer has been terrific. We have increased the membership with a great group of newcomers. To top it all off was an awesome 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary party with all the bells and whistles.

But now it's that time of the season to haul out and put things to bed for the winter. I would like to remind the membership to please keep safety the first order of business as you are hauling out this fall. The yard will certainly be much tighter this year with the addition of some larger boats to the fleet. As we fill the yard coming back toward the launch rail please

be sure all the rails are being used to capacity. For our new members be sure to have your sponsor or at least one experienced member helping as you haul that first time on the rail system and if you are not sure of something please ask. For our experienced members take your time and be safe.

Tom DeLong, Fleet Captain 2010

### **Safety First**

Would you stand underneath a refrigerator suspended from a cable? You are in the same dangerous situation if you step behind a boat being hauled out. Please never stand behind a boat being hauled out unless your wheels are securely chained. And be sure to stay behind the transfer car when pushing (never pulling) it to or from the launch rail. Our rules regarding haul out are clearly stated on our Website Rules and Regs. Please follow them to the letter.

Sometimes we are tempted to take shortcuts or become careless, but don't do it. In our 40 year history we have only ever had one injury while moving boats in the yard, and we don't want to have another.

### **Yard Report**

A \$2,400 budget was provided to accomplish the yard work deemed priorities by the Management Committee. This included the purchase of a nut splitter (we now have two, one large and one small) to repair a loose joint in the launch rail, 2 loads of sand for the beach, a load of ballast for storage rail leveling, a load of granular "A" to fill potholes, topsoil to plant new gardens, paint for the storage tanks, fuel dock and picnic tables. A major priority was to spruce up and beautify the grounds for the 40<sup>th</sup>.

Looking ahead, additional planning will be required. Winter storage capacity must be closely monitored as club members bring in new and larger boats. At some point we may need to launch and haul in a specific order unless new tracks are added. There is room toward the mast rack area.

Mast racks – Should they be realigned to line up with storage rails? Is there a need for more mast storage?

The dock box area should be re-designed. Should we build a pad for dock boxes?

Drainage is a concern. Beach drainage needs to be improved to prevent it from washing away in heavy rains. This is an environmental as well as an aesthetic concern.

Tim Ruthenberg, Member at Large

### **Management Committee Nominations**

When the Commodore asked all who had ever served on this vital committee to stand and be recognized at the dinner to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup>, it was an impressive number. We have been well served by this dedicated group!

Several members of the current Management Committee are ready to step down after many years of service. The committee consists of 10 full members, and with just 54 boats we have a small pool to choose from. Speaking from my own experience, I have found it very rewarding to work with a great group of people to keep this club functioning well. The 20 work party hours is a bonus.

Please give careful consideration to serving on the Management Committee if approached by a member of the Nominating Committee.

Paulette Roslyn began her term as **Treasurer** in 2004. She has done a fantastic job keeping track of all our finances and will be sorely missed when she retires. She is not willing to stay on, but will continue to keep the books for one more year while she trains her successor. If you have good computer skills and are willing to learn, please offer your services as Treasurer. Paulette uses Quick Books, but our accounts could be kept using another bookkeeping program if you are more familiar with one.

### **Now Available in Hard Cover!**

A History Project can never be finished – we keep on making history – but Interviewer and Editor Carol Piper Curtis has tracked down former members and requested stories about the North Channel Yacht Club from current members. It has now been published to great acclaim. Well done, Carol!

The first printing led to a second, as demand for copies rose. Ordered in batches of 10 the price, including shipping, is \$47, single copies are \$55. Four are on the waiting list for the next printing, so get your order in.

If you would like to own a copy, please contact Carol at 705-848-6750 or by email at [pipercurtis@persona.ca](mailto:pipercurtis@persona.ca)

### **Members' News**

Congratulations to **Bob and Lucille Legault** who carried our colors to the Cooper Cup Race from Little Current. Not only were they first in their class, but were first overall! And congratulations on celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary just a week before NCYC's 40<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Chris and David Margetts**, who have just celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary at the west coast with all of their children and grandchildren.

ManMac Challenge Race from Mackinac to Little Current Victoria, the Mirage 27 owned by new member **Gary Wilton** took the challenge. He wrote: "We had a great race and I am happy with our achievements. I learned a lot about the capabilities of our boat and improved my skills(a stormy night on Lake Huron has that effect).

We were the smallest boat and the only double handed crew to race. After really rough conditions on the first night and covering 80 miles, it was a bit disappointing to be in a dead calm in the morning 15 miles from Gore Bay and unable to complete the first leg. Five hours and only making one mile made me say uncle and start the motor. Half of the fleet were also unable to finish. With the corrected time we placed 15th for day two. We were ahead of a lot of much bigger boats". Well done, Gary.

**Peter MacLean** also participated, crewing on a friend's boat. We hope that he too enjoyed the challenge.

Lady Lou has had two visits from **Olivia, Russ and Louise's** adorable little granddaughter. She came for the 40<sup>th</sup> and again for the Corn Roast. She seemed quite at home at NCYC and was certainly the centre of attention!

Our deepest sympathy to **Karen and Tim Ruthenberg** on the sudden death of Karen's much loved Father.

Condolences also to **Dave and Pat Ferguson** on the death of Dave's Mother at the end of July.

NCYC's fishermen must have been slightly envious when young **Simon Fortin** caught a huge Muskie, right off our dock. Well done, Simon!

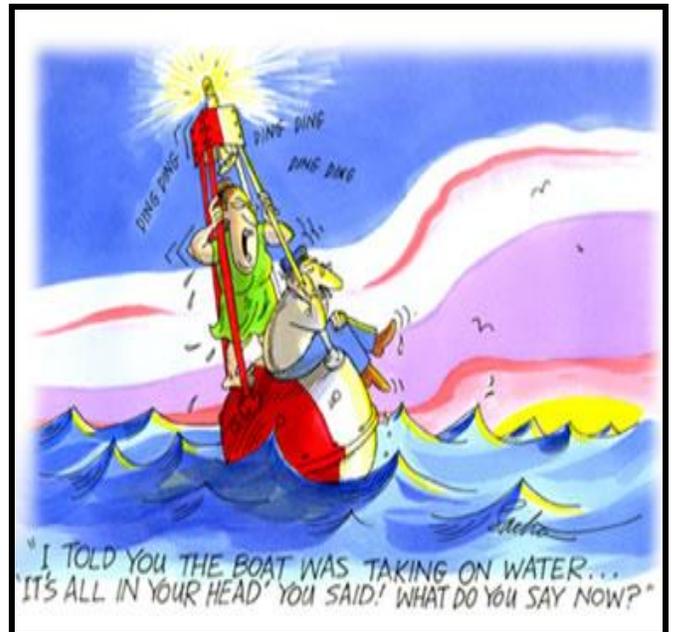
A note from **Jack Behrend**: "Joyce and I are at home in Olympia Washington and my "new life" couldn't be better. We've made several trips up Mt. Rainier (driving) and several around the Olympic peninsula. Next week we go to the wooden boat show in Port Townsend. We like to take our 2 person kayak around the lake which we overlook.

The plan now is to load Barney the German Shepherd and Joyce the Irish beauty in the car and head for the club in the late spring. This takes more planning than running up from Chicago. I figure the trip is about 2000 miles.

Bill and Jeanie are getting along OK according to their blog. I miss you all and Nightwatch."

We too have been hearing about **Bill Sellars and Jeanie MacVoy's** adventures on the high seas. They have enjoyed the spectacular scenery in the St. Lawrence, meeting friendly live aboards and sharing the waters with pods of whales and other sea life. They have been on Nemo since they left Chicago in early May, and are currently in Halifax, where they were battered down to await Hurricane Earl. After it hit, we were relieved to hear this: "We survived the hurricane with no damage. Halifax ended up getting a direct hit. The worst part is that Earl was a tropical storm when it hit here, no longer a hurricane. Well it was very intense, and it was only half the strength of a big hurricane. I don't want to be in a real hurricane. Boats broke loose, masts came down. It hit at low neap tide so that the storm surge took the harbor back to normal high tide. Anyway all is well with us."

Let's hope they can continue to stay out of harm's way.



What he should say is "Quick, call John Marquette on Channel 16. He'll know what to do!"

Read all about **John and Gilda's** sailing adventures bringing their Nonsuch 26, Peniel, to the Club for the first time, and then about their Dramatic Rescues in the two attachments to this Newsletter. They are definitely the kind of folks you want near you in an emergency!

And that's all for this issue. The NCYC Newsletter is a cooperative effort with input from many members. Thanks for reading it.  
Norma Young, Editor

