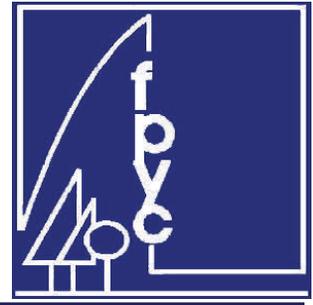


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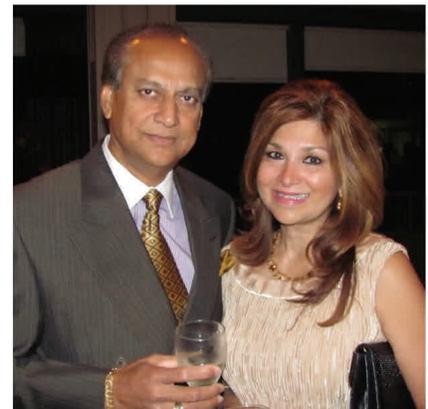


December 2015

Fifty Point Yacht Club www.fpyc.ca

2015 Issue #12

Commodore's Ball 2015



Photos courtesy of Paul Charles



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From the Bridge...

Stephen Middleton, Commodore



Well here we are in the run up to the holidays and I'll just bet that some of you are still recovering from the ordeal of lining up all night to get the very best Black Friday deals. Or maybe not. You may be like me, missing some essential wiring that makes lining up for hours to buy stuff seem somehow irresistibly attractive. Lucky us! We aren't compelled to get out and join in the frenzy. So, what else happened in November?

First there's the Commodore's Ball. And a great time was definitely had by all! If you are in any doubt about this, just ask any of the 74 of us who were there. You missed a good one. The Beacon, as expected, did a fine job on the dinner. And the music? The band is called "Introduction" and from first their note, to the end of the final number around midnight, the dance floor was hopping. Leading up to the ball, the executive had been discussing ideas for alternate venues and formats for the end of season party. Following the event, and after hearing from a number of you, we have a strong recommendation that next year should be an exact repeat. It was a winning combination.

The second, and very final event of the season, was the Annual General Membership meeting. The details of the proceedings will be posted on the website, including the board reports, member input and direction to the board. One of the key items was the charge from the membership to evaluate the level of financial reserve we really require. Check out the Treasurer's report for details on the reserve amount. As the report shows, the reserve has been reduced over the past two years, but there is a general opinion that it is still well over what we really need and that the extra should be put to use for the benefit of the club membership. This will be a priority for the board going into the new year. We will be coming back to you with a recommendation on the level at which we should maintain the reserve funds, and a process for deciding how to employ any amount over and above that requirement. If you want a say in this, be sure to keep an eye on the website and future editions of Scuttlebutt. Also, check your spam filter. I am convinced that a number of you are missing special communications from the club because they end up in your junk mail.

Enough about business for now. This is 'tween season, the time 'twixt haul out and launch, the perfect time for using up those superfluous contractions and for sharing stories. Those of you who were at the Commodore's Ball have already heard this one. For those who weren't there, but would like to recreate a little of the atmosphere in which the story was first told, have yourself a great meal, retire to a comfortable chair with a bottle of your favourite beverage, sit back, get comfortable and read on.

This is the story of the FPYC Rudder. Now if you haven't heard about the Rudder, you are not alone. Personally, I only came to know about it since becoming Commodore, and until very recently did not know the complete story. You may have seen the rudder in the marina office. Obviously old, wooden and bearing a brass plaque for each of the past commodores of FPYC. It was while preparing some words for the Commodore's Ball that I decided to find out more about this piece of club history.

Where's the first place you go at Fifty-Point when you have a question? Nancy of course! As usual her answer was right on the money, "Let's ask Bruce MacKenzie, he remembers everything." And that is how, a couple of days before the Ball, I came to have a conversation with Bruce, wherein he first told me to say "Hello" to all of you, and then he told me the tale of the FPYC Rudder. Now I am writing it into the club archives (a.k.a. Scuttlebutt).

The Tale of the Rudder

The story starts with the McCullum brothers, a name with a long history in the Grimsby area. The brothers owned land at Fifty Point, including four acres beside what is now the marina office, and the land where we now have the cradle compound.

Don McCullum, nicknamed “Blinky”, due to a bad eye, had a business pumping water from the lake to the cottages along the shore from Fifty Point. Obviously a wise business man, you could say he was invested in infrastructure.

Freeman McCullum’s nickname was “Frogman”, because his piece of property included marshland. Freeman is reputed to have had a cement business, although no one can recall any project that he ever completed. Freeman came into possession of a steel hulled lifeboat off a laker. The name of the laker isn’t known at this point, but it is known that he got it from Evans McKeil of McKeil Marine (a company that is still in business - you can Google it, and if you are inclined to investigate maybe more can be added to this story in the future.)

Now Freeman had the idea to turn the lifeboat into his own personal cabin cruiser. He started by putting in an engine that he took from a Ford Truck of the model T vintage. Yes, although it pains me to admit it, seems that the original 50 Point “Sailor” was in fact a Power Boater. He also added a steel rudder to replace the wooden one (see how this all starts to come together, and you thought I was just rambling). Next came a cabin, built out of barrel staves. By now you should be starting to get a picture of this craft. Locals called it the “African Queen”. Freeman actually launched it from the marina a few times, cruises that inevitably ended with a call to Bruce, from one of the houses along the shore, telling him that Freeman was on the rocks and he had better come out and tow him off.

Sometime after the Queen’s maiden voyage, Bruce saw the wooden rudder laying around Freeman’s property and decided it was a piece of local history, and that before it disappeared into the mud, it should be preserved. With Freeman’s blessing, the rudder was cleaned up and to recognize the yacht club, and our contribution to Fifty Point, Bruce had the past commodore’s names added and presented the rudder to FPYC at the 2001 Commodore’s Ball.

So there you have it, a piece of FPYC history. Check it out next time you are at the Marina!



The Commodore's Ball—2015

By Paul Charles

The 2015 Commodore's Ball was organized by Geraldine Waud and John Dickhout with help from quite a few members including the Commodore and First Lady. They did an excellent job of showing off the club and providing a wonderful event at the Beacon in Jordan. Nautical flags decorated the dining room and Commodore Stephen Middleton gave a very interesting talk on the history of the club and our Rudder which displays a list of all the Commodores who have served since the beginning of the club in 1984.

The meal was scrumptious (as always at the Beacon) and the live band kept the partiers on their feet with just the right selections and a beautiful sound.

Awards were presented to the photo contest winners, first prize going to Cate Baldwin for her excellent photo taken off the transom of Island fever.

Many thanks to all those who worked on this event and thanks to those who came out to celebrate another great year of boating at Fifty Point Yacht Club.

Photo Contest Winners

First Place, Cate Baldwin



Second Place, Sue Millar



Photo Contest Winners

Third Place, Lembit Raudnask



*Honourable Mention
Dave Goede*



*Honourable Mention
Don Wood*



*Honourable Mention
Tracy Russell*



The Commodore's Ball—2015



Photos courtesy of Paul Charles

The Commodore's Ball—2015



Photos courtesy of Paul Charles



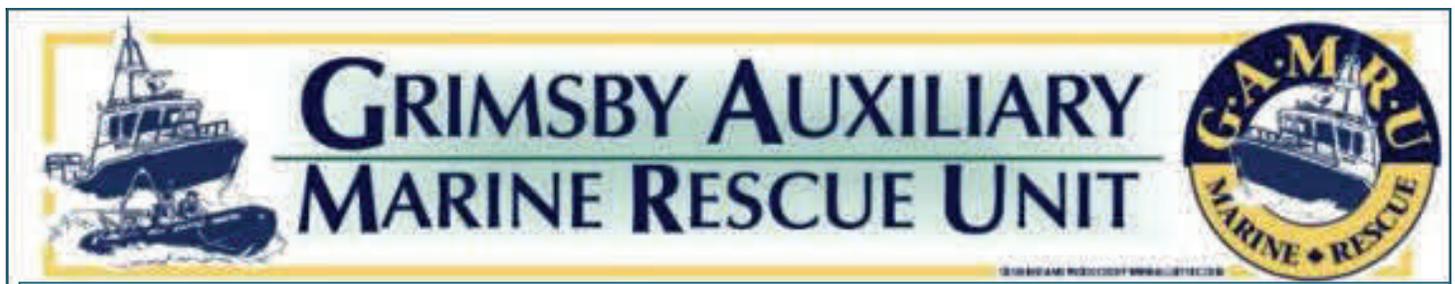
**JOIN YOUR
FPYC FRIENDS
FOR AN AFTERNOON
OF
CURLING
ON**

Saturday, February 6, 2016

**We will be having a mini bonspiel at the Grimsby Curling Club
on February 6th**

If you don't curl, come out and watch!

**We have a limited number of participants,
so go to the fpyc.ca
Website and register today!**



A Group of Volunteers with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Dedicated to The Safety of Life on The Waters of South Western Lake Ontario.

Christine's Galley

Squash and Apple Soup



Ingredients

1 cup butternut squash, peeled and diced into 1 inch cubes
1 cup spy apples, cored and sliced and tossed in flour
1 cup sweet white onion chopped (I used red)
3 Garlic cloves, peeled
4 tablespoons of butter
Salt & Pepper
1/2 teaspoon of nutmeg
2 cups Vegetable stock (I used chicken)

Preparation

Season the squash, apples, onion and garlic with the butter, salt and pepper and nutmeg.
Bake in preheated oven 450 – until soft (mushy) about 30 minutes.
Puree in blender (food processor) adding some of the stock if needed.
In stockpot add the puree and the stock to consistency you like.
Bring to a boil and taste.
Serve with topping of sour cream and chives



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| Sheepshank | Granny Knot | Square Knot |
| Hangman's Knot | Sheet Bend Double | Tiller's Hitch |

BECAUSE YOUR POCKET DOES.

December Race Report

By Garry Cooke

World Sailing Events:

Solo Around the World Record Attempt: GryphonSolo2



The American sailor Joe Harris is attempting to break the around the world solo non-stop sailing time of 137 days in his Class 40 yacht “GryphonSolo2”. He left the USA (Newport) was on Sunday November 22nd, and at the time of my writing this he is nearing the equator heading south.

His attempt will take him south to Antarctica, then he will circumnavigate the frozen continent leaving it to starboard, and then return to Newport.

You can follow his progress on the internet at <http://www.gryphonsolo2.com/>

Trans-Atlantic Race: Transat Jacques Vabre

This race from France to south America created some surprises this year, with some of the brand new designed IMOCA 60’s suffering major structural damage. Of particular note, is the withdrawal of Hugo Boss (Alex Thompson) from the race with his new boat.

These new boats are all carbon fibre, and take about 40,000 hours to build! They are incorporating some new design features, such as foils (which also appeared in the last running of the Americas Cup). Check out the website: <http://www.alexthomsonracing.com/>



Trans-Atlantic Race: Mini-Transat

This race from France to Windward Islands in the Caribbean, and is run in very small boats (6.5m or 21.3 feet).

Diane Reid and Nathan Baron from Canada have made previous attempts in this class.

This race has just finished, and these little craft can attain speeds over 10 knots. Hang-on tight! They have evolved over recent years to look something like a bath tub, with round blunt bows and flat aft sections. They do plane however, but I would imagine they will slam quite heavily in a head sea! The website has French and English, <http://www.minitransat-ilesdeguadeloupe.fr/>



Pub Nights are Starting on January 28th at 6:30pm on Thursday nights

We will be running a pub night at the end of January at the Judge & Jester in Grimsby.

Paul Charles will be giving a presentation on how to take better pictures, particularly regarding the recent photo-contest at FPYC. (for more information, see page 16).

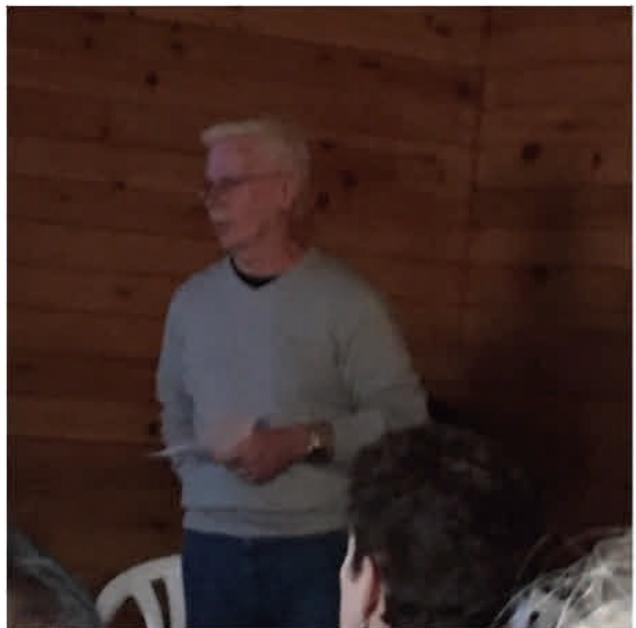
We are still looking for volunteers for February and March, pub nights. Please give me a call or e-mail me if you are interested.

Curling Afternoon on Saturday February 6th

We will be running a mini curling bonspiel at the Grimsby Curling club in February. No experience is required, and we will show players how to release the rocks, and brush etc. If you are interested please sign up on the sheet on the website or contact me. We only have room for a limited number of curlers, but additional spectators can sit and view the activities from the comfortable lounge. Come out and play or support your fellow club members!

FPYC *Annual General Meeting*

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held at Ingledale House on Sunday, November 22nd and approximately 36 members were in attendance. A variety of information of interest to FPYC members was discussed. Please take the time to read the minutes on the [FPYC](#) website, or contact one of your executive for more information.





Contact: D.J. Doug Nixon (905) 537-9426



Ask to join FPYC - Fifty Point Yacht Club



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Photography Seminar at Pub Night

By Paul Charles

The first pub night of the winter will be held at the Judge & Jester on Thursday, January 28th at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and the seminar will begin at 7:30 p.m. Meals are ordered from the menu with separate bills so you pay for your own—very simple!

The seminar will be focused on getting the best out of your Android phone, iPhone, tablet, iPad, or even a real camera! Simple things like resolution, telephoto and a little on composition will be covered and I'll do my best to answer your questions.

Looking forward to seeing you, and yes, bring your photographic device, whatever it may be!

Please let me know if you plan to attend so we can advise the pub at paulcharles191@gmail.com



Escort Boats Needed!

We have been contacted by a representative of The Lake Ontario Crossing - Canada's only open-water distance race for paddle boarders. The 32 mile, point-to-point course will start from either Fifty Point or Niagara-on-the-Lake. The course matches the standard established by the Molokai-to-Oahu crossing in Hawaii and the Catalina Classic in California. The race weekend is set for September 10-11, 2016.

The group is looking for a number of boats to escort paddlers and is asking if the yacht club or individual members have any interest in joining the event? Boats will be asked to escort one or two paddlers across, most taking 5-7 hours, and they would be appropriately compensated.

Requirements are a motorized craft, open water capable and able to transport two paddlers and two 14' boards if necessary. A marine radio is required. Skippers and boats do not require any other certification. The escort boats follow the paddler or show him the line if visibility is poor, and be there to call for help or provide transport in case something goes wrong, or they can't finish the race.

The number of boats needed is not fixed yet, but right now they are trying to sign-up as many interested skippers as possible. Registration will be capped at 40 paddlers, at a max 2-to-1 paddler-to-boat ratio.

Anyone interested can contact Lake Ontario Crossing at niagara2toronto@gmail.com and check out the website at www.Niagara2Toronto.ca



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Join Us for Pub Nights!



The first pub night of the season will be on Thursday, January 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the Judge and Jester in Grimsby.

Paul Charles will be providing a presentation on photography.

We are still looking for speakers for February and March pub nights. If interested give me a call Garry Cooke a call or e-mail (*contact info at the front of Scuttlebutt*).

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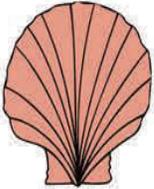


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- 33' Ontario Yachts Great Lakes 33'-1982.....SOLD.....
- 31' Sea Ray Sundancer 310-1998- beautiful turnkey express, low hrs, stern thruster, new canvas, great condition, new survey...\$49,900
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Wishing you and your family all the very best

For the Holiday Season!