



Flotilla

July 2011

News and views from the Outer Harbour Centreboard Club (www.sailohcc.ca)

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Thanks for the contributions in this issue: Peter Brayshaw, Jurgen Braunohler, Ralph Drake, Alan Hall, Jason Roth and Angus Ross

Deadline for the next issue: **Wednesday, 14 September.**

The address is at the top of this page, and fer heaven's sake, git yer stuff in on time — or before!

If you send an e-mail story to writeme@kenelliott.ca please back it up with a call to: (416) 363-2974

2011 OHCC Executive		Work	Home	Fax
Commodore	Ralph Drake	(416) 449-0399	(416) 496-0325	(416) 449-0103
Vice Commodore	Peter Brayshaw		(905) 632-8586	
Rear Commodore	Bernie Bieber		(416) 576-4772	
Secretary	Alan Hall	(416) 571-9105	(416) 323-0770	
Membership	Doug Gordon		(416) 694-8221	
Treasurer	Peter Suchanek	(416) 458-9199	(416) 545-0832	
Newsletter	Ken Elliott	(416) 363-2974		
Property (Grounds)	Bob Fahy		(416) 265-3321	
Property (Boats)	Peter Hale		(416) 533-8292	
Yardmaster	John Kiwi Reynolds		(416) 766-9987	
	Clubhouse	(416) 465-1234		

Commodore's Comments

THE OHCC weekend work party was a partial success. The rain that weekend curtailed most of the outdoor yard work and the exterior painting of the washroom trailer building. We are seeking a six-person painting crew that should be able to complete the painting work in one day. Please contact me rdrake@drake-associates.ca or 416-805-3800 if you can help with this assignment. The Men's Change Room painting work was completed, and also some yard work was done.

Our membership is nearly at maximum capacity. I expect we will have a membership waiting list by the end of this season.

OHCC now has a club burgee! Anyone who is interested in purchasing a burgee that is suitable for display on your dinghy, or display elsewhere can contact John Reynolds (416 766-9987). The burgees will be sold for \$20.00 each, including the taxes.

OHCC Cookbook

Veronica Fahy and Tina Agrell have produced the first edition of the OHCC cookbook, and it is for sale to our members. The book contains favorite recipes from some of our members, plus photos taken at OHCC and the Outer Harbour. Cookbooks can be purchased for \$10.00 during the

Tuesday Race Night and Feast or by email from cagrell@cogeco.ca

The Albacore Open on Lake will be held on Saturday, 2nd July. Registration desk opens at 9:00 am, with coffee and muffins being served. Three or four races are being planned, weather permitting. Dinner and award of prizes will occur after races. Cost \$70.00 per two-person crew.

The *Optimist* and White Sail Children's "not for profit" Learn-to-Sail programs will be starting soon and will continue to mid-August. The weekly program runs from 9 am to 4 pm, from Monday to Friday, with early drop off and late pick up available. An optional daily lunch program is also available this season. Contact Alan Hall alan.hall@sympatico.ca or (416) 323-0770 for additional information.

Again we are taking a pro-active approach to reduce areas where mosquitoes will breed, and thus help to reduce spread of West Nile Virus. Each member is responsible to keep the grass cut short on the assigned boat lot and to allow no standing water to occur in the dinghy.

The 39th Annual Dinner Dance and Awards Presentation will be held at National Yacht Club on Saturday, 5th November, 2011. Tickets are available now at a cost of \$50.00 per person. Please contact me at (416) 496-0325 or John Reynolds (416) 766-9987, to purchase tickets.

Ralph Drake, Commodore



Digiquest

IS THERE anyone out there who still doesn't have a computer? who still doesn't have access to the Internet? or who cannot get our famous newsletter without the help of Canada Post?

Depending on whose list you read, there are some fifteen to twenty of our members who haven't registered their email addresses. No doubt some don't wish that information to become public; yet there is still a small, unknown, number who have no such addresses, and who don't want to have anything to do with the new-fangled digi-gadgets.

Some time in the next millennium, our famed newsletter will have to go fully electronic. How, then, are those unwired Luddites gonna access our esteemed OHCC infosite?

Our members are advised that when (not if) that fateful e-day arrives, the newsletter will be on our website four times a year: on or before the first days of January, April, July and October (as it has been for lo, these many years). And a few copies of the paper version just *might* be left down at the club.

Those of you who would still like to receive *Flotilla* by SnailMail: would you please write one of those old-fashioned letters, or make a phone call to our office requesting it? The street address and phone number are on the front page.

Ideas concerning this project would be very useful. Any offers? writeme@kenelliott.ca

Apologies to Albrecht Dürer



More gardening

FOR those of you who want to mess around in what we happily call our club garden: there are all sorts of tools in the lop-sided shed. Please return them after.

Compost: bring all that wet stuff from your kitchen and test the moisture content of the boxes with the probe (hygrometer). Add a bucket of water if necessary; and, this is most important, stir up all boxes.

Under the western maple down front, that patch surrounded by little rocks has persistent hostas, shy ivy, invisible ferns and no-show Snow-on-the Mountain ground cover — and some very aggressive weed: grass of couch, crab or quack denomination. Aside from that, the maple has near-surface roots that take most of the moisture. Please get rid of that naughty grass, then dig over and add a bit of soil, and wetness.

Lilac: remove all small green shoots at base. And cut back the seeds where it bloomed some weeks ago; that makes it grow better.

Dogwoods: use loppers or saw to take out half the trunks at ground level. Prune remainder to

about four to five feet so that you can see over it.

Remove weeds, crab-couch-grass (and any garbage) from everywhere.

Dead elm down front: It's been zapped and it may become a coppice.

Dead ash between rows B and C, disappear it, if it's still dead. If not, cut just above new shoots.

Water everywhere; and work air into soil.

Watch out for the bulbs: tulips, crocus, daffs and particularly garlic, nearly everywhere.

Make pretty the juniper plot in mid-grass down front and get the couch grass out.

Make neat the topsoil pile **outside** double gate. Find new tarp.

Get weeds out of topsoil pile just **inside** double gate.

Old branches, twigs, weeds: to no-man's land north of parking; and the real garbage goes to the Multis' dumpster.



Vice Commodore's Report

What have you done for the Club during the last six weeks?

A BIG THANK YOU to the very few members who cut the central grass regularly, tend the flowers, empty the garbage containers, clean the washrooms, completed the men's change room, organize, prepare the food for the Tuesday feasts plus clean up afterwards, remember to turn up for Race Committee, publish and mail the newsletter, prepare the Junior *Optis*, locate/re-locate racing marks, remove the goose muck on the docks and undertake the many duties associated with the executive responsibilities. It is unfortunate however, that the majority of members, other than paying their membership fees (with many requiring time-consuming reminders), do nothing on a regular basis to assist in the organization of the club or the maintenance of the docks, boats, grounds or clubhouse. That majority appears to think (quite wrongly) that the small number of

hard core members prefer to be involved in club maintenance rather than sail. This was evident (and quite disappointing) when the Commodore prepared a list of necessary/regular duties, many broken down into once per month installments, that no members placed their name on the notice board. And some naughty miscreant even pinched the attached pen!

OHCC has always been a sailing club in the City providing facilities and friendship on and off the water, in a cottage like atmosphere, all at low cost. And it depends on a large number of members all shouldering part of the burden in an organized way. To attend the annual Docks In, Docks Out and Spring Clean, where we need and usually get large number of bodies, is simply not enough. We also need other jobs broken down into small portions, done on a regular basis, so please make a point of signing up on the Facility Maintenance Board, within the next two weeks and cover off all the remaining season's tasks.

Peter Brayshaw



Ride to Conquer

HELLO friends! On the back page of last January's issue of this newsletter, I was asking for sponsorships in my Rides to Conquer Cancer.

This time around I want to thank you for your support. I rode with 4,610 other cyclists early last month, and we collectively raised over \$17.5 million for the fight to conquer cancer.

We survived the forecasted poor weather, and in fact didn't actually see any rain at all (nearly a miracle in this spring of rain!). The logistics of the event were, once again, incredibly well organized, and it was an emotional and very exhilarating weekend.

On <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjUW1hjF>, I've posted a few photos with comments and I'll add more as

they become available. My wife shot some video as well, which I'll post on the Flickr page in a few days when I have finished editing it.

I have had a few weeks or so to rest, and work on hill climbing before I started my next Ride to Conquer Cancer in Calgary, which was held on the last weekend of June.

Thank you once again for your support! With your help, I raised over \$6,100 for this year's rides, and I've raised \$19,700 over the course of the four years I've been doing this. **Jason Roth**

PS - for the data geeks out there, here's the GPS data from the recent weekend's ride: Saturday: <http://connect.garmin.com/activity/91929737> and Sunday: <http://connect.garmin.com/activity/91929733>.

Help me **Ride To Conquer** again this year!

Website !

IF YOU haven't heard about it, I'm delighted to tell you that we have a new website. It has the same address as before: www.sailohcc.ca, but is redesigned, new and improved. And there is lots more to come from your fellow-member volunteers: we are building our Sailing Community on the net and promoting Toronto's Outer Harbour sailing experience.

With events, photos and information about our

club we plan to make more features available as time goes by. You can register your kids for the youth sailing program and, in the future, you can update articles on the sailing fleets. If you want to volunteer to write blogs, to update our history or to add information on any aspect of sailing, send an email to me or to any member of the executive.

We welcome your suggestions as we try to make this website more interactive, and strive to be your club house away from the water.

alan.hall@sympatico.ca

Calling all kids! BOOK ONLINE

Teach a child to sail, to learn life skills, team work and safe boating.

OHCC's Youth Sailing Program develops the potential of young sailors who get access to an excellent youth sailing program in a "Development Centre" supported by the Ontario Sailing Association.

Don't miss out on Toronto's best Learn-to-Sail programs for youth ages seven to 17, and running from June 27th to August 26th. Take advantage of an Early Drop Off program at 8:00 in the mornings and a Late Pick Up until 5:30 pm, with an optional Daily Lunch program. Club membership is not required to enroll in our programs. The whole family can learn to sail in a friendly family-oriented atmosphere.

The *Optimist* Racing program is designed for youth from ten to 15 years old who have achieved *Optimist* Skills III or White Sail III level. The Bronze Sail programs are designed for youth from ten to 17 years old who have completed their White Sail III level. Students learn advanced sailing skills and an introduction to racing in Toronto Sailing Canoe Club's fleet of 420s. The Silver Sail VI and Gold Sail VII are eight-week programs designed for youth 15 to 18 years old. Students compete in multiple regattas during the summer. The Racing rules and advanced tactics are taught.

There is no other sport, educational activity or training a child can under-

take that builds character like sailing. It teaches team work and the consequences of decision making.

Sailing requires an awareness of the wind, an understanding of unseen forces and a competency of technical skills which are relied on to chart a course and to return home safely. What other experience can you begin as young as the age of seven, and then spend a whole lifetime mastering?

The Program

At Outer Harbour Centreboard Club / Toronto Sailing & Canoe Club we offer Toronto's best Learn-to-Sail programs for youth ages 7 to 17 Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm **Alan Hall**

The Course Offering

Optimist and White Sail Dates

Session 1: June 27 - July 1	Session 4: July 18 - 22	Session 7: Aug. 8 - 12
Session 2: July 4 - July 8	Session 5: July 25 - 29	Session 8: Aug. 15 - 19
Session 3: July 11 - 15	Session 6: Aug 21 - 5	Session 9: Aug. 22 - 26

Cost per week: Age seven to 13: \$205.00; Age 14 to 17 \$231.65 HST included.

Optimist Racing and Bronze Sail Dates

Session 1: July 4 - July 29

Session 2: August 1 - August 26

Cost \$850.00 HST included.

Silver and Gold Racing Dates

Session : July 4 - July 26

Race Team (includes use of club boat) Cost: \$1,695.00 HST included

Race Team (Bring your own boat) Cost: \$1,555.00 HST included

Go to our website www.sailohcc.ca to register online:
www.sailohcc.ca/about/youth-sailing-program/

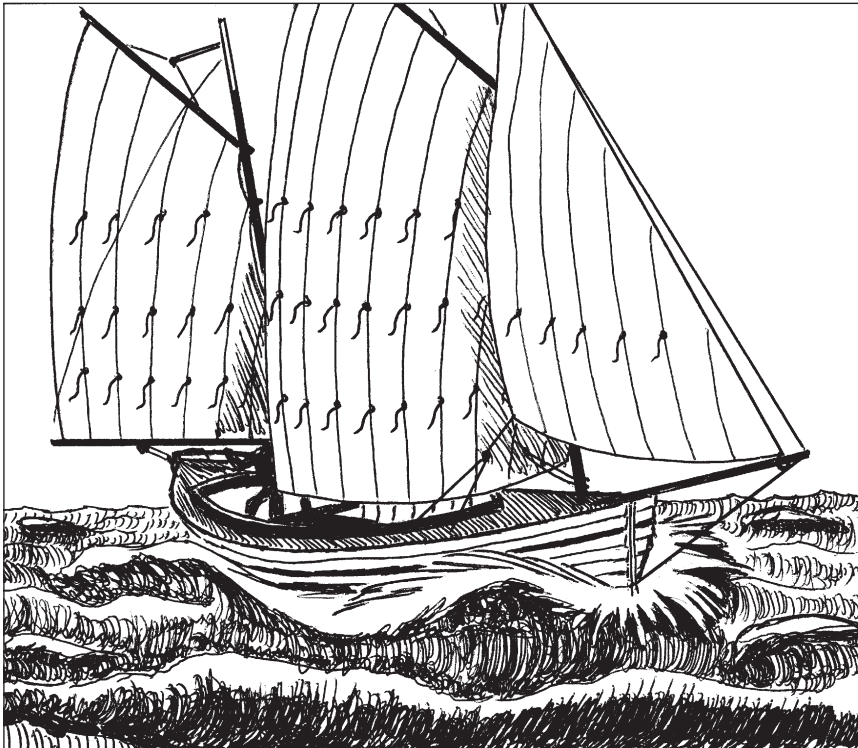
A Great Lakes Saga

by Jurgen Braunohler

The presentation, Sailing the Great Lakes, ended in applause from the crowd at Elliot Lake City Hall. It had begun aboard cruising dinghy Bonita at the Outer Harbour Centreboard Club in Toronto and finished with Bonita's chase of the re-built, War of 1812 brig Niagara, where a "fast reach sent spray sweeping the foredeck as we raced to make the rendezvous" (July 2007 Flotilla), as she stormed past Toronto's Gibraltar Point. In between, the history, geography, folklore and environmental issues of the Great Lakes came to life, as experienced by Jurgen Braunohler, OHCC member and Bonita's skipper. Here then, excerpted from that presentation, comes a Great Lakes saga.

THE replica of HM Schooner *Bee* was in the process of coming about onto the other tack, as she dodged the rocky shoals of Georgian Bay's 30,000 Islands. I secured the throat halyard for the lowered topmast staysail, then ran to my next station. More orders followed: "Tack the flying jib! Ease the foresail!" The command of "let fly and haul!" was my signal to haul away furiously on the jib sheets. As she fell off on the new tack, I put my back into heaving on the other throat halyard, to re-hoist that stays'l, bellying hard in the wind, but now shifted to the opposite side of the ship. Then, as the ship's lookout, I scanned for further hazards, having already warned of the

Drawing: Jurgen Braunohler



A Mackinaw Boat

islet we had just avoided.

In the early nineteenth century, there were no buoys, lighthouses or navigational charts to warn of hazards. The survey of the Great Lakes begun in 1815, was the first carried out by Britain's Royal Navy outside of its home waters and was headed up by Lieutenant Henry Bayfield. He worked out of the naval dockyard at Penetanguishene, first envisioned by Governor Simcoe for the defence of Georgian Bay and connected by road to the town of York, which later became Toronto. Yonge Street was the first road. But it was Bayfield's work that laid the foundation for the marine charts that opened the lakes to navigation, including the early steamers that cruised up the coasts of Georgian Bay and Lake Superior.

Rocks and shoals were not the only hazards for shipping. The absence of weather forecasts and the presence of a lee shore in every direction onto which a ship could be driven in a blow, were other hazards. Then too, much Great Lakes travel was done in large open boats by settlers and surveyors, as well as fishermen, who sailed two-masted, open mackinaw boats during the nineteenth century. The conditions of pioneer travel are still occasionally tasted by modern youth, like those aboard the whaler *Boomerang*, once skippered by the author, outward bound from Key Harbour, Georgian Bay while pitching into a heavy chop.

In spite of the dangers, travel by boat on the Great Lakes was much preferred to the hardship of overland travel through the wilderness. But there were tragedies, and one of the biggest occurred in September, 1882. The steamer *Asia* had departed Owen Sound on the 14th, destined for the lumber camps of the north shore. She had an improperly stowed cargo of men, horses and supplies that left her top heavy. Then the killer storm of the century swept lakes as she cleared the tip of the Bruce Peninsula.

Asia would not respond to her helm in the overpowering wind and heavy beam sea that battered her to pieces. As she rolled over and foundered, the superstructure was ripped off by the air pressure, and the panicked passengers took to lifeboats; they capsized or swamped and sank. Over a hundred people, including women and children perished. But two teenagers, Dunk Tinkiss and Christine Morrison managed to reach a lifeboat with the captain and some others in it. Rolled over repeatedly by waves, all save the two youths drowned or froze to death and they alone reached shore near Point au Baril. They were finally rescued by an Indian in a sailboat, very likely a mackinaw boat.

Because of the *Asia's* loss, the Canadian Hydrographic Association was founded the following year to survey shipping lanes and to regularly update navigational charts. ◀

2011 OHCC Race and Events Schedule (continued)

Date	Event	Responsibility	Start
July 1 (Friday)	Canada Day		
July 2 (Saturday)	OHCC Albacore Open (on Lake)	Gordon Chu/Ralph D.	9:00 am
July 5	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 1	Bob Fahy	7:00 pm
July 7	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 1	Darwyne Hourie	7:00 pm
July 12	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 2	Alan Simpkins	7:00 pm
July 14	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 2	Frank Reid	7:00 pm
July 17 (Sunday)	Club Regatta	Webb/Bieber	11:00 am
July 19	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 3	Peter Suchanek	7:00 pm
July 21	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 3	Ted Rosen	7:00 pm
July 24 (Sunday)	Harbour Masters	Gordon Chu	2:00 pm
July 26	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 4	Frank Whittington	7:00 pm
July 28	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 4	Neil Smith	7:00 pm
August 1 (Monday)	Civic Holiday		
Aug 2	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 5	Rick Needham	7:00 pm
Aug 4	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 5	Bernie Bieber	7:00 pm
Aug 7 (Sunday)	Round the Finn	Contender fleet	2:00 pm
Aug 9	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 6	John Reynolds	7:00 pm
Aug 11	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 6	Heather MacNaughton	7:00 pm
Aug 12 (Friday)	Albacore Friday Night	Gordon Chu	7:00 pm
Aug 16	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 7	Roger Martin	6:30 pm
Aug 18	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 7	Jim Erven	6:30 pm
Aug 23	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 8	Stephanie Mah	6:30 pm
Aug 25	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 8	Joel Magnan	6:30 pm
Aug 30	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 9	Robert Bartlewski	6:30 pm
Sept 1	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 9	Charles Wakefield	6:30 pm
Sept 4 (Sunday)	Dufferin Bell Buoy	Roger Martin	2:00 pm
Sept 5 (Monday)	Labour Day		
Sept 6	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 10	David Provan	6:30 pm
Sept 8	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 10	Mike Smits	6:30 pm
Sept 10 (Saturday)	Contender Weekend	Neil Smith	11:00 am
Sept 11 (Sunday)	Contender Weekend	Neil Smith	11:00 am
Sept 24 (Saturday)	505 Regatta + Contenders	Angus Ross	9:00 am
Sept 25 (Sunday)	505 Regatta + Contenders	Angus Ross	9:00 am
Oct 2 (Sunday)	Oktoberfest	Bernie Bieber	1:00 pm
Oct 10 (Monday)	Canadian Thanksgiving		
Oct 15 (Saturday)	Docks Out/AGM	Ralph D. /Bernie B.	9:00 am
Oct 23 (Sunday)	OHCC/Multihulls winter yard configuration		
Nov 5 (Saturday)	Commodore's Ball - National YC	Comm./Rear Comm.	6:30 pm
Nov 11 (Friday)	Remembrance Day		