

# Flotilla

July 2013

News and views from the Outer Harbour Centreboard Club ( [www.sailohcc.ca](http://www.sailohcc.ca) )

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Thanks for the contributions in this issue: Peter Brayshaw, Jurgen Braunohler, Ralph Drake, Alan Hall, Stephanie Mah, Adam Nicholson, Dave Ross, Jason Roth, and Jennifer Zelmer

Deadline for the next issue: **Wednesday, 18th September.**  
The address is at the top of this page, and please, please, get your stuff in on time — or before!  
If you send an e-mail story to [write@kenelliott.ca](mailto:write@kenelliott.ca) please back it up with a call to: (416) 363-2974

2013 OHCC Executive		Work	Home	email
Commodore	Ralph Drake	(416) 449-0399	(416) 496-0325	<a href="mailto:rdrake@drake-associates.ca">rdrake@drake-associates.ca</a>
Vice Commodore	Peter Brayshaw		(905) 632-8586	<a href="mailto:pnvbrayshaw@hotmail.com">pnvbrayshaw@hotmail.com</a>
Rear Commodore	Adam Nicholson		(416) 402-1911	<a href="mailto:adam_nicholson1@yahoo.ca">adam_nicholson1@yahoo.ca</a>
Secretary	Alan Hall	(416) 571-9105	(416) 323-0770	<a href="mailto:alan.hall@sympatico.ca">alan.hall@sympatico.ca</a>
Membership	Katy and David Molyneux		(416) 487-9572	<a href="mailto:djm@integrapro.com">djm@integrapro.com</a>
Treasurer	Peter Suchanek	(416) 458-9199	(416) 545-0832	<a href="mailto:peter@heinkeandsuchanek.com">peter@heinkeandsuchanek.com</a>
Newsletter	Ken Elliott	(416) 363-2974		<a href="mailto:write@kenelliott.ca">write@kenelliott.ca</a>
Property (Grounds)	Ted Mallett	(416) 644-7549	(416) 486-0515	<a href="mailto:ted@mallett.ca">ted@mallett.ca</a>
Property (Boats)	Roger Martin		(416) 485-2169	<a href="mailto:roger@unicell.com">roger@unicell.com</a>
Yardmaster	Dave Ross		(416) 953-6646	<a href="mailto:dave7ross@gmail.com">dave7ross@gmail.com</a>
Volunteer Director	Don Haddow		(416) 902-0725	<a href="mailto:dhaddow@rigers.com">dhaddow@rigers.com</a>
	Clubhouse	(416) 465-1234		

## Commodore's Comments

**O**HCC is continuing with its ongoing improvements to its facilities. The marine railroad for OHCC powerboats has been extended and retrofitted. Our old docks have been replaced with new docks that should serve us well for more than twenty years. The clubhouse interior has been retrofitted with new LED lighting, and a new colour scheme, new trophy case, new whiteboard, new bulletin board and large screen presentation monitor. A WiFi satellite internet connection is now operational.

There is a renewed vitality within our membership group to help provide volunteer time to improve our facility and programs. The excellent response we received from our members confirms that OHCC should be “primarily a self-help club that operates on a volunteer support network,” as envisioned by the founding OHCC executive at inception of our club some forty-one years ago.

I am pleased to report that all the volunteer spring assignments are fully booked. Members that have not volunteered yet should contact Don Haddow [dhaddow@rogers.com](mailto:dhaddow@rogers.com) 416 902-0725 to sign-up and participate.

Our yard is looking great due to the care of a small army of gardeners dedicated to planting, watering and maintenance. Tina Agrell (master gardeneer) is delighted with the efforts of the

entire OHCC gardening team. WELL DONE !

The *Albacore* Regatta will be held on Saturday, July 6, 2012. Registration desk opens at 9:00 AM with coffee and muffins being served. Three or four races are planned, weather permitting. Dinner and award of prizes will occur following the races. Cost is \$70.00 per two person crew.

The Outer Harbour Sailing Federation Water Sport Day Camp will be starting on July 2, this year, and will continue to August 30. Kids/Youth from seven to 17 years old can participate in sailing, rowing, windsurfing and soccer this year. The weekly program runs all day, Monday to Friday, with an early drop off and late pick up available. For additional information, please contact Allan Hall at [alan.hall@sympatico.ca](mailto:alan.hall@sympatico.ca).

As in past years, we are taking a pro-active approach to reduce areas where mosquitoes will breed, and therefore we will help reduce the spread of West Nile Virus. Each member is responsible for keeping their grass cut short on their assigned boat storage lot, and that no standing water occurs inside their boat.

The 41st Annual Dinner Dance and Awards Presentation will be held at the National Yacht Club on Saturday November 9, 2013 at 18:30 hours. Tickets are available now at a cost of \$55.00 per person. These can be ordered by mailing cheque payable to the Outer Harbour Centreboard Club, C/O Drake & Associates, at 40 Wynford Drive, Toronto, Ontario M3C 1J5.

**Ralph Drake, Commodore**

## Ontario Sailing

*Go Fast Coaching at OHCC  
Tuesdays, July 23 and 30*

AS PART of an *Ontario Sailing* initiative to provide coaching to Ontario sailing clubs, Thomas Fogh will be at OHCC on Tuesdays, July 23 and July 30. On the first evening, he will do a quick

pre-race brief, watch and record the race, and then provide some tips at the de-briefing — ideas that can be put into action during the race the week after. There's no need to sign up in advance — just be there, all ready to go.

A big thanks to Ontario Sailing and to Thomas for this opportunity to improve your racing skills. Hope to see you on the water — with breeze!

**Stephanie Mah**

## From the Yardmaster

HERE are some friendly reminders to keep OHCC safe and enjoyable for all.

- **Noise:** Please respect other members' quiet enjoyment of club facilities. Please refrain from playing amplified music.
- **Standing water:** It is every boat owner's responsibility to prevent standing water in their boat. Mosquitos can breed in standing water, and are not only annoying but also carry and transmit West Nile Virus (WNV), a potentially deadly disease. It is unacceptable that a few boat owners are putting all other OHCC members at risk of contracting WNV.
- **Trailers:** There is no trailer storage at OHCC. You can store your trailer in your spot with your boat on top or use a combi system. If your boat is temporarily off site, and you are storing only your trailer in the spot, *it should be clearly marked* at the tongue with your name and berth identification. All other trailers will be removed at the owner's expense.
- **Spot maintenance:** It is your responsibility to keep the grass cut under and around your boat and to help cut the laneways. It is also your responsibility to remove litter around your boat. Thanks. See you down there. **Dave Ross**

And the Executive goes a little bit further:

**Etiquette** — Guidelines are proposed in order to keep appropriate conditions for the quiet enjoyment of club facilities for our members. They should be maintained at all times throughout OHCC:

- **Noise:** No amplified sound anywhere except at organized club events pre-approved by the Commodore. Please wear personal headphones when listening to music.
- **Children:** Parents are solely responsible for the safety and supervision of their children. Non-swimmers should wear life jackets.
- **Pets:** Keep all pets on a leash. Please scoop.



## Ride to Conquer

OUR Albacore sailor, Jason Roth, together with his son, once again raised funds for cancer research. He writes: There were 5,020 riders in this year's event, and we collectively raised over \$19 million for the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation. Without your help, we wouldn't have been part of this amazing weekend.

For the past six years, this cycling journey has been much more than a two-day trip for me. It's a fantastic challenge and it raised an unthinkable amount of money for

cancer research, but what moves me the most are the meaningful stories of the enduring impact that The Ride has on people personally, here across Ontario and all over Canada.

After yet another successful Ride, it's hard to express how grateful I am to you who have contributed; it has helped our vision to conquer cancer in our lifetime. **Jason**



The *Ride to Conquer Cancer* is an annual charitable fundraiser held in various locations across Canada and Australia. It is organized as a non-competitive cycling event that sees thousands of riders travel over 200 kilometres (120 mi) over two days. It was first held in the Toronto area in 2008 and raised \$14 million for the Princess Margaret Hospital. The event spread to Montreal, then Calgary and Vancouver in 2009 and then to Brisbane two years later.

## Rear Commodore's Report

**I**T HAS been a rough spring for sailing and racing at OHCC, from the soggy weather to the problems with the docks but we move ahead and look forward to the summer.

I'm happy to see that the new sign-up sheet has been working well, although I forgot a few of the names like Ross King and George Roth. I apologize for that. I will create new sign-up sheets that will include any names I missed, as well as the new racers who have been coming out.

On July 23 and July 30 (Tuesdays) we are glad to announce that we will have Thomas Fogh from Ontario Sailing to provide coaching for anyone that shows up and who wants to participate. This is generously provided by

Ontario Sailing and is free for all club members. There will be a briefing before the race on those evenings. More information will be posted soon around the club and on the club's website: [sailohcc.ca](http://sailohcc.ca)

As a reminder, if you have a race that you are supposed to run this summer and you find that you can't get there, please make arrangements to switch with someone else. But if you are unable to make changes, please notify Commodore Ralph Drake or myself, and we'll try to find someone to switch with you. Races only work out well when there is a committee to run them.

The Commodore's Ball is on November 9th! Come and collect your awards or you could be surprised by who wins and who may get special prizes!

All the best, and I wish you fair winds!

**Adam Nicholson**

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## Vice Commodore's Report

### Getting to the club

Members who arrive via Cherry Street will be well aware that the repairs to the Cherry Street lift bridge are well behind schedule. The latest rumours have the bridge opening for single lane traffic at the end of July.

However, in the spirit of equality the City and TTC have decided to impede traffic travelling from the east that uses the Lakeshore/Leslie route. Lakeshore, which has had three lanes each way plus turning lanes, will be reduced to two lanes each way, plus a turning lane. Leslie between Lakeshore and Commissioners, which has had four lanes will be reduced to three, and Leslie, north of Lakeshore will be closed indefinitely to allow installation of tram tracks. Access to Tim Hortens will be only from the west bound Lakeshore with a new entrance/exit adjacent to the Price Chopper. And access to Loblaws and Burger King will only be available for west-bound Lakeshore traffic. But bike trails on the north side of Lakeshore, and the parking for spaces on Commissioners adjacent to the allotment gardens will see little change, so you will clearly see where the City's priorities are.

**Docks:** The new docks broke adrift and had to be returned to the manufacturers for repair. At the time of writing this article, the eastern docks are now back, though some adjustments are required to the mooring weights, and the western docks should be in position by the time you read this, thanks to the efforts of Roger Martin, Rick Needham and Jim Erven. When members use the docks they should take care where they step, to avoid placing a foot in the gap between each floating section.

**Cruising Program:** In the last issue of this newsletter, the idea of forming a Cruising Program was launched. At Docks-In, which was attended by about thirty or so members, a group of six people expressed interest. Therefore, based on this proportion, some twenty members of our club may be interested in this cruising idea. Now that other priorities have been dealt with, I am e-mailing those six people for their ideas and, if positive, I plan to e-mail all members soon to outline a tentative plan or advise abandonment of the idea.

**New Storage Shed:** Unfortunately the contractor (a school practical work project) was not able to complete the construction, nor was some of the prefabricated material prepared in accordance with the plan. However, Frank Whittington arranged delivery of the material and Ted Mallett, assisted by Ken Clarke, Charles Wakefield and Jurgen Braunohler have commenced construction. A big thank you, to you all.

**Porter Airlines:** The company made a presentation at the Council of Commodore's meeting and the gist was that the expansion of the runway will not create an expansion of the existing No Boating areas. In addition, the noise levels of the new CS 100's will be only slightly higher than the existing Q 400's; and the CS 100's will use the identical descent flight path over our club premises as the Q 400's.

The existing number of flight movements (arrivals and departures) of approximately 118,000 per annum will increase to 130,000 in 2018 and this is still below 1967 levels. In summary, the expansion plans of Porter Airlines would not appear to be any detrimental effect to our club.

**Peter Brayshaw**

## Water Sport Camp

**T**HE 2013 Water Sports Camp recently held a successful Open House on the north shore of Lake Ontario. Those of you who found your way through the detours, marathons and bridges under construction witnessed the smiling faces of children and parents; there were over fifty eager participants in this year's TRY-IT Open House held on June 9th. With the whole-hearted support of volunteers from all eight OHSF clubs and sponsorship from Greg Robertson Insurance, Loblaws and Price Shoppers we were able to sell \$2,000 in sailing to eager families who were in attendance. OHCC put on our usual good natured event with five *Optis* in the water between the Multihulls and our eastern dock. The efforts of our many volunteers made it possible for young children to experience idyllic sailing conditions. The low winds were especially appreciated by many young newcomers to our sport. The children were eager to get out on the water with our experienced instructors who were able to give them one-on-one attention.

A unique aspect of our camp is the opportunity to learn three water sports in two half day combinations or on their own. Children can graduate from *Optis* onto Windsurf boards when they are 12. At the age of 13 they can take up rowing. These are great sports for life, offering

a combination of fun and fundamentals which encourage core fitness and cross training.

We are pleased to announce that we have already achieved 80% of our sales target for the summer and will be hosting approximately eighty-seven no-fare and sixty-two full-fare kids. Shells & Sails, a partnership of RowOntario and Ontario Sailing, funded by a Trillium Foundation grant, were on hand with Greg Douglas, a past member of two Canadian Olympic Sailing teams and a contender for a spot in the 2016 games in Rio. He took kids out on *Picos*, and other coaches took people out in shells. All our clubs hosted families and their children, showing them a wonderful day with great weather and a much appreciated barbecue lunch.

We are nearly full in July and are beginning to fill spots in August with students from last year. Our goal is to book the remaining sailing weeks with a combination of full-fare and no-fare kids. We also have the capacity to book eight wind-surfing and seventeen rowing spots. Tell your friends about the camp and direct them to our website: [www.outerharbour.net](http://www.outerharbour.net) where they can register online. Look for the button under the video. I would like to thank everyone for all their help in making this a fun-filled Open House. We really appreciate your support. **Alan Hall**



Photo: AshtonPal

## The Bridge

**A**CCORDING to the Toronto Port Authority, the **Ship Channel Strauss Trunnion Bascule Bridge** may be re-opening at the end of July to single lane traffic. It continues to be available for pedestrian and cyclist use.

The bridge was closed to traffic last November to perform critical repairs and maintenance on the structure itself and the approaches. It will remain open (with traffic signals) to single lane vehicle traffic only, until the City of Toronto completes the remaining repairs.

In case you haven't already figured it out, vehicles may also access the Outer Harbour clubs by going east on Commissioners Street to Leslie, over the single lane bridge on Unwin Avenue, and take the coastal trail back to Flotilla Road.

For more info on the Ship Channel Bridge closure, please contact Pamela McDonald, who is Director of Communications and Public Affairs at [pmcdonald@torontoport.com](mailto:pmcdonald@torontoport.com) or 416-863-2028.

## Battle of Lake Erie

by Jurgen Braunohler

**"BEAT to Quarters!"** came the order. With a drum roll, the crew of the USS *Lawrence* went to battle stations, as did the other eight warships anchored at Put-In-Bay, western Lake Erie. It was September 10th, 1813, and the dawn light revealed the six ships of the British squadron bearing down with a favourable southwest breeze. But that wind would be a hindrance in tacking the square riggers out of the Bass Islands anchorage. And yet, this was just the opportunity that Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, aboard the flagship *Lawrence*, had been waiting for, and the reason he had come there. The turning point in the War of 1812 was finally at hand.

For the Americans, Perry's arrival to establish a naval presence and to challenge the British control of the lake was rather urgent, following a string of military defeats. With the nightmare of overland travel, dominance of the waters guaranteed movement of troops and supplies. British determination to stay in control was evident with the arrival that year of a Royal Navy contingent under Commodore James Lucas Yeo on Lake Ontario to replace the battle-inexperienced Provincial Marine. He, in turn, sent Captain Robert Barclay to take charge in Lake Erie. Of special importance was completion of the flagship: the three-masted, 19 gun HMS *Detroit*.

At Fort Malden, near Detroit, Barclay had considerable trouble in obtaining men and supplies. These problems were aggravated by the capture of materials destined for the building of his flagship during the American attack on York (future Toronto) earlier that year; all causing de-

lays. It also meant that, once he encountered the enemy, he hardly had the manpower to put up a fight. Also, he was also under orders to put military transport duties first, before seeking battle. In spite of all this, his ships spied on Perry's progress near Erie, Pennsylvania at every opportunity, especially the building of the two 20-gun brigs at Presque Isle: the *Niagara* and the *Lawrence*, the latter named after the captain of the ill-fated USS *Chesapeake* (See *Flotilla*, Oct., 2012)

Barclay was off-station on a transport mission on the day Perry's two brigs were floated over the Presque Isle sand bar, re-loaded and armed. The rest of the fleet also slipped away unobserved.

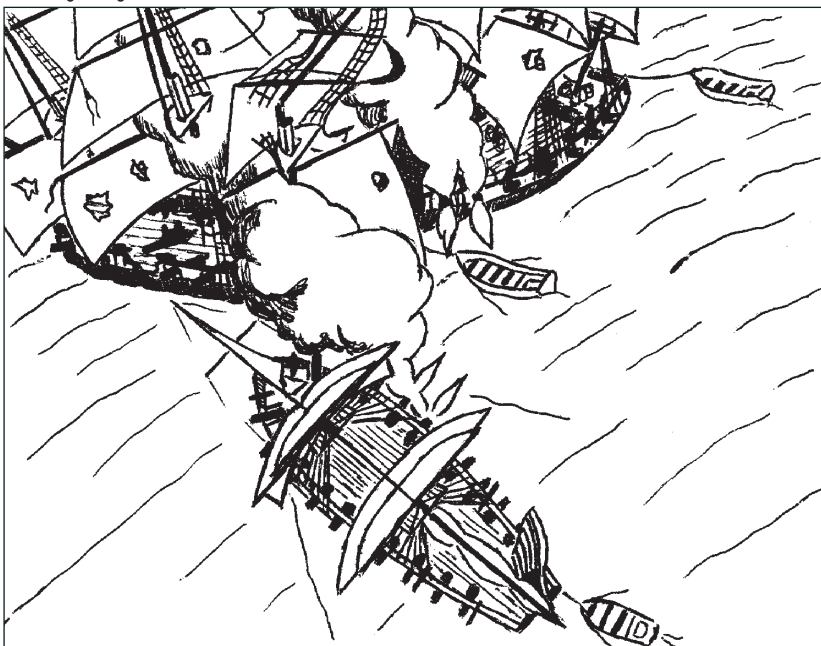
Pressured to deal with the American threat, Barclay knew where to go and found the American squadron at Put-In-Bay. Suddenly, a wind shift to the southeast turned the tables in Perry's favour. In the van, and running before the wind, was the *Lawrence*, preceded by two small schooners. The rest of the fleet, strung out in light winds, converged at an angle, from behind, on the British line, which was on port tack. And just before noon, at one mile range, the *Detroit* opened fire on the *Lawrence* with her long guns.

It took Perry forty-five minutes to close the distance to two hundred yards, under severe pounding and bring his deadly, short-range carronades into action. In the melee that followed, the *Lawrence* was completely wrecked, with eighty percent casualties. The *Detroit* lost all her guns except one and most of her crew. Under heavy fire, Perry abandoned *Lawrence* and furiously rowed to the undamaged *Niagara*, which had lagged behind and re-hoisted his flag bearing the last words of the *Chesapeake's* Capt. Lawrence: "Don't give up the ship." He quickly worked *Niagara* close aboard *Detroit*. Then, with a rending crash, HMS *Queen Charlotte* smashed into *Detroit's* stern as she came around, jamming her bowsprit in the flagship's mizzenmast.

With both ships locked together and dead in the water, Perry seized his chance. His crew frantically followed orders: "Elevate! Make ready! Fire!" A deadly broadside of grapeshot swept the British decks, after which he switched to double loads of round shot to blast the enemy to smithereens, finally raked them lengthwise to maximise flying splinters. With Barclay's surrender after 3:00 pm, the British lost the town of Detroit, Lake Erie and their Indian allies; the American army invaded Canada, which spurred peace talks.

The brig *Niagara*, raised from the bottom of the lake a century later, has been restored to sailing condition. Owned by the *Flagship Niagara League*, she continues to be a roving, public ambassador for the City of Erie, Pennsylvania. 🚩

Drawing: Jurgen Braunohler



USS *Niagara* attacks

## 2013 OHCC Race and Events Schedule (continued)

Date	Event	Responsibility	Start
<b>July 1 (Monday)</b>	<b>Canada Day</b>		
July 2	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 1	Bob Fahey	7:00 pm
July 4	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 1	Darwin Hourie	7:00 pm
July 6 (Saturday)	OHCC Albacore Open (On-Lake)	G. Chu/Ralph Drake	9:00 am
July 9	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 2	Alan Simpkins	7:00 pm
July 11	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 2	Frank Reid	7:00 pm
July 14 (Sunday)	Club Regatta	Webb/Nicholson	11:00 am
July 16	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 3	Peter Suchanek	7:00 pm
July 18	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 3	Adam Nicholson	7:00 pm
July 23	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 4	Frank Whittington	7:00 pm
July 25	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 4	Ted Mallet	7:00 pm
July 30	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 5	Rick Needham	7:00 pm
August 1	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 5	Bernie Bieber	7:00 pm
August 3 (Saturday)	Round The Finn	Contender Fleet	2:00 pm
<b>August 5 (Monday)</b>	<b>Civic Holiday/Harbour Masters</b>	Gordon Chu	2:00 pm
August 6	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 6	John Reynolds	7:00 pm
August 8	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 6	James Stanley	7:00 pm
August 9	Albacore Friday Night	Gordon Chu	7:00 pm
August 13	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 7	Roger Martin	6:30 pm
August 15	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 7	Charles Wakefield	6:30 pm
August 20	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 8	Stephanie Mah	6:30 pm
August 22	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 8	Joel Magnan	6:30 pm
August 27	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 9	Heather Macnaughton	6:30 pm
August 29	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 9	Dave Ross	6:30 pm
Sept 1 (Sunday)	Dufferin Bell Bouy	Roger Martin	2:00 pm
<b>Sept 2 (Monday)</b>	<b>Labour Day</b>		
Sept 3	Summer/Fall Tuesday Race 10	George Wilson	6:30 pm
Sept 5	Summer/Fall Thursday Race 10	Michael Smits	6:30 pm
Sept 28 (Saturday)	505 Championship/Contender Regatta	Angus Ross	9:00 am
Sept 29 (Sunday)	505 Championship/Contender Regatta	Angus Ross	9:00 am
Oct 6 (Sunday)	Octoberfest	Bernie Bieber	1:00 pm
<b>Oct 14 (Monday)</b>	<b>Canadian Thanksgiving</b>		
Oct 19 (Saturday)	Docks Out/AGM	Ralph D./Adam N.	9:00 am
Oct 20 (Sunday)	TMCC Multihull winter boat yard configuration		
Nov 9 (Saturday)	Commodore's Ball — National Yacht Club	Comm. and Rear Comm.	6:30 pm
<b>Nov 11 (Monday)</b>	<b>Remembrance Day</b>		
Nov 16 (Saturday)	OHCC Yard Clean Up	Ted Mallett	9:00 am