

## **The Bow Wave – December, 2017**

### **Season's Greetings to you all – Rob Bittle, Commodore**

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Commodore for the coming year. It is a privilege for me to be a member of AYC and I look forward to working with our outstanding new Board. And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard to maintain and improve our Club - I am particularly grateful to everyone who put their name forward for a Board position at our AGM in November. It's encouraging to see that we have so many competent members who are committed to serving the club. I hope to see many of you at our Wine and Cheese and Kids' Party on Sunday at the Club. Wishing you the very best this season and a very happy new year.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

- Wine and Cheese 2:00 – 4:00 pm with Kids' Party at 1:00 pm – have you RSVP'd? Click here: [social@ayc.ca](mailto:social@ayc.ca)
- Boat Show Dates: January 12 – 21 click here: [Toronto International Boat Show](#)

### **Vice Commodore Dan Peel**

I look forward to serving you again this year as the Vice Commodore. This year in the yard we will be laying out and building the sea container into a storage shed and work shop, adjusting the mast crane, searching for a replacement for the fork lift and looking for a safe portable solution for the kids' play area. If you see items out there that may fit the bill please forward them to me. I would also like to remind everyone of the usual winter protocol:

- Check your cradle pads regularly
- Ensure your ladder is locked to your cradles when not in use
- Clearly identify your car when parked in our lot
- Unplug your boat when not aboard
- Report any damage to winter covers or property immediately.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Wine and Cheese. Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas from the Peel Family

## **Rear-Commodore Ken Daisley**

Thank you for having me once again as your Rear-Commodore. This will be my fifth attempt at the job so I hope I get it right this time! Plans for this year are as follows:

- Remove the dinghy dock and modify the new floating crane to take over the purpose in a dual role - this will allow us more space at the seawall area; I will be looking to get together with our member engineers and metal fabricators to go over a few concepts in the spring
- Add a stray current detector to our inventory of tools that the Officer of the Day would use to check the docks and boats for leaking electrical current - this is very dangerous stuff that we currently (no pun intended) do not control
- Take a good look at the condition of the anchor chains and replace as needed - will be looking for some help mid-season from our qualified divers
- If it floods again . . . none of the above! (just kidding) - this year we are well prepared for the possibility.

Best wishes to you all and Diane and I hope that you have a great holiday.

## **Treasurer's Report, Keith Whalen**

Invoice for Summer 2018

- I will be working with Michael Lafreniere to create the invoices for next summer. For our new members, this invoice will include Senior Dues (\$500), Social Fee (\$30), Mooring Fees (\$1.30 per square foot), Work Hour charges (those short of required hours charged at \$60 per hour) any other costs (e.g. regalia), and applicable HST. Invoice generation will be initiated once your Board confirms any Senior Members who have not completed the required work hour charges.
- Associate Members invoices will be generated at the same time.
- Invoices will not be distributed by email (unfortunately it is far too labour intensive). Invoices will be printed, placed in an envelope and will be in a box (in alphabetical order) by the phone in the down stairs lounge. Invoices are due by January 31, 2018. Merry Christmas!

Regalia For Sale

- Regalia articles will be available for sale during this years' Wine & Cheese - cash, cheque, e-transfer or credit card will be accepted
- Regalia makes a great gift item - think about your First Mate (Admiral) or the crew that makes it happen!

- I am looking for a VOLUNTEER to MANAGE REGALIA in 2018. Do you like fashion? Do you say, "I would not be caught dead wearing that?" Then you are qualified to help your Club manage the 2018 Regalia Program. It's a great way to get your hours and you can make other people look good and feel great about our Club. Interested? Let me know.

#### Account Management Software Project

- Senior Members Christine Montag, Beatrice Shears and I are working together to make AYC accounting simpler and easier
- Right now it is a labour-intensive manual process which can lead to errors
- The new system will provide better transparency of the account function at the Club
- They are excited, I am excited, and I know you will be excited with the results.

Wishing you and yours a very safe and happy Holiday Season.

#### **House Director, Chris Guth**

Thank you for electing me and trusting me with the responsibility to maintain and enhance our wonderful Club House. Being a new and inexperienced Board Member I welcome constructive suggestions from everyone (criticism after the fact and without involvement not so much!) Don't be shy. Please come forward, get engaged and join me in making our Club House a better place that we can all be proud of. I look forward to working with you.

#### **Social Director Alison Honey Woods**

I am really looking forward to acting as your Social Director and organizing some great events for the 2018 season! Please volunteer for the Social Committee and earn some hours. I look forward to hearing from you.

#### **Fall AGM Highlights Bill Morris, Secretary to the Board**

More than 60 people attended AYC's annual meeting in November which attests to the Club's health and vitality. Members and guests heard reports on another successful sailing season - the common theme being AYC's multifaceted spirit of self-help and volunteerism. Despite the challenges associated with record high water levels AYC members came together and donated their time and expertise to implement a number of innovative solutions so we could all use our boats and enjoy the facilities with minimal interruption. Happily, AYC finished up the fiscal year in reasonable financial health – as verified by the Audit Committee.

Among the important business matters, members approved a proposal and process to replace our aging tractors with a larger, newer and more versatile vehicle. This will make it easier and safer to move cradles, maintain our yard lighting, and lift or lug various heavy objects. The members also approved the creation of a new board position.

Starting in November 2018, members will elect a Fleet Captain to manage the Club's racing, cruising and boating safety programs.

Thanks to everyone who put their name forward for a board position. It's encouraging to see that we have so many competent members who are committed to serving the club. The elections produced continuity and a couple of changes. Both Erik Schomann and Richard Armstrong retired, and were thanked for their stellar service. Chris Guth takes over as House Director and Alison Honey Woods is AYC's new Social Director. Otherwise, Rob Bittle, continues as Commodore, as does Dan Peel as Vice Commodore, Ken Daisley as Rear Commodore, Keith Whalen as Treasurer, Ken Chumik as Membership Director, Colin Smith as Communications Director, and Bill Morris as Secretary.

### **Ken Chumik, Membership Director**

- In the New Year I will start to review our waiting list and select 3 or 4 who show a willingness to go onto a swing mooring for a period of time - Board interviews will take place during the winter months
- The final version of our 2017 Work Hours report is attached and is now posted on our website - there will not be any more changes as the season is now complete
- Our new gate security project is on track for January activation - Remaining FOBs will be distributed to Senior Members at the Wine and Cheese and Associate Members in the New Year

Best wishes for the holiday season.

### **Racing 2017 Summary**

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the 2017 AYC Thursday Night Racing series. Overall results:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place: Anelare - Stephen Brown
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place: X-tra X-tra – Bill Morris
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Koole Sailin' - Joe Koole

Special thanks AYC Fleet Captain Gareth Clemo who continues to show great leadership in supporting and promoting the AYC racing program. Thank you Gareth!

### **Invitation from Senior Member Don Williams (Poster attached)**

On Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> the Great Expeditions Club of Toronto will be meeting upstairs at AYC for the yearly Christmas Social and Slide Show Presentation. We want members of the AYC to know that they are most welcome to come and join in. It should be an interesting, fun and memorable time. The slide show will be on Vietnam. The potluck dinner begins at 6:00 pm so if planning on participating (in the potluck) then please have your contribution heated and available by 6:15 pm. The slide show will start at about 8:30 pm, after the group has enjoyed the pot luck dinner social.

- All AYC members are welcome but please RSVP to Don Williams directly at [soundscape@rogers.com](mailto:soundscape@rogers.com) so that we can plan accordingly
- No Charge for AYC members
- Great Expeditions members \$5/member
- Proceeds to be donated to AYC
- BYOB to share with group
- Bring Potluck Food/Snacks to Share with Group
- Parking will be very limited so please do not bring your car.

Come Out and Meet Some New People!

Don Williams

[soundscape@rogers.com](mailto:soundscape@rogers.com)

### **Fire Extinguishers, Health and Safety Officer Robi Roncarelli**

When Was The Last Time You Used a Fire Extinguisher? Like most of us – never. But practice is good. So – If you have old/unapproved fire extinguishers on your boat and plan to upgrade them as per the recent Government notices – don't discard them. Keep them and next spring after launch we will stage one or two Fire Extinguisher Practice Sessions where you can practice using an extinguisher, properly and safely, on a real (small, carefully staged) fire. And we will arrange for proper disposal of your old, used extinguishers. Expect a reminder in the New year

## Sailing Simulators – Off-season Sailing Anyone?

- cWind is a realistic 3D sailing simulation game that openly admits it was designed for those who cannot keep their minds off their boats when they are at home, or even the office! The app is designed for beginners and is equipped with tutorials and for hardened mariners looking to refine tactics and stay sharp in the off season. The simulator has a wide range of available boats, utilizes a complete instrumentation panel and when you are engaged in a regatta, against the computer or online against others, the app applies ISAF racing rules. The app is a fun way to learn how to sail in realistic settings, or if you just need that sailing fix when getting on deck just isn't an option. <http://www.cwind-game.com/home.html>
- SailX follows similar lines to cWind, although it takes a more professional approach. The simulator has several user levels (registered, bronze, silver, gold) that opens up a wider selection of options depending on your level. SailX boasts the largest fleet to choose from and has numerous endorsements from professional and Olympic sailors that identify the simulator as a great way to continue refining their tactics. Although admittedly to gain the full advantages of the simulator it is necessary obtain Gold member status. <http://www.sailx.com/>
- The American Sailing Association has also developed their own app that is a little more focused on gaming rather than simulation, but is still highly realistic and is equipped with several in-app training courses that are ideal for up and coming sailors. ASA's chairman notes that "this is not just a game, it is brand new way to learn and retain the fundamentals of sailing". The app truly is a cross-over between gaming technology and educational software. <https://asa.com/sailing-challenge-app/>

## Virtual Reality (VR)

Simulation and training in the off season need not be limited to your handheld devices however, as the advantages of Virtual Reality (VR) have penetrated the sailing world. Although with a higher cost than a standard simulation app for your tablet or phone there are noticeable advantages of VR. VR has advanced to such a degree that America Cup teams have honed their skills through VR training, and militaries are also employing VR to train sailors.

Aside from government VR programs that most utilized by professional sailors is MarineVerse that was founded in early 2016 by Greg and Olga Dziemidowicz. The VR experience puts you back on the deck of a boat without ever leaving dry-land and is equipped to both teach new sailors and challenge veterans with realistic situations. The flagship of MarineVerse is VR Regatta. VR Regatta has three modes, learning, relaxing and racing. The experience has a real-time feel that allows your senses to adjust to the experience in a way a standard app can't.

VR can even be taken further, as it has been for training of America's World Cup teams who not only use VR but have taken it further with a professional grade virtual sailing simulator with a cockpit simulator platform that operates on hydraulically actuated legs. MarineVerse is currently working to develop their VR simulator for home use with HTC Vibe, Oculus RIFT, Gear VR and Google Cardboard to make it more cost effective for consumers.

So, as you look out your window and see the snow piling up and the temperature drop fear not, spring is but a few months away and in the meantime, there are a number of virtual sailing experiences that let you return to the helm from the comfort of your own home.

Hope to see you on Sunday at the Kids' Party and Wine and Cheese,

Colin



Colin Smith

AYC Communications

[Communications@AYC.ca](mailto:Communications@AYC.ca)

[www.AYC.ca](http://www.AYC.ca)