



# The Bow Wave

## Alexandra Yacht Club

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

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### Commodore Rob Bittle

While you are reading this I will most likely be soaking up sunshine on a beach down in Mexico. Your Directors have been very busy preparing budgets for the coming year and I am amazed at the ambitious initiatives they are considering. There are so many new and exciting additions to club life at the AYC – movie nights, cruise planning, in addition to the usual social events, but I do not want to steal the thunder from the ones responsible for these fantastic plans. For my part I have begun to task a committee to project our finances into the future so that we can begin some much needed infrastructure improvements. The committee is just in the formative stage and there is little to report at the moment however we intend to explore means by which to increase revenues in a constructive fashion. We should no longer project our image as “the cheapest club on the lake”. Each and every one of us has worked very hard to contribute to the benefit of the club we all enjoy and should take pride in the achievement.



Our Officer of the Day program is a starting point for us to improve our image with little or no financial cost. I think we can and should do a better job of greeting our visitors. Let's put our heads together and come up with a plan to make the AYC one of the best destinations on the lake.

The Boat Show has come and gone and we haven't really had a taste of winter thus far. I hope not too many of you have been bitten by two-foot-itis. I really just want to wish all of you the best in the coming year and fair winds and full sails.

### Vice Commodore Dan Peel



As you may know, the Board is considering the need to replace the waste pumps for the Club House. I have received and am currently reviewing a number of quotes that we have requested. Stay tuned for further information. The crane has been booked for our Launch Day: Saturday, April 30th, 2016. Please mark your calendars! As a reminder kindly check your winter covers and pads over the course of the winter. Also, please inform us if you are leaving your vehicle in the yard for any length of time.

#### Mark your calendar!

##### 2016 notable dates:

- March 19<sup>th</sup> – Hug Your Boat
- April 20<sup>th</sup> – Spring Meeting
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Spring Dock Party
- April 30<sup>th</sup> – Launch
- May 7<sup>th</sup> – Spring Yard Clean-up
- June 18<sup>th</sup> – Sail Past
- August 13<sup>th</sup> – Hot Summer Nights
- September 17<sup>th</sup> – Hog Fest and Almost-Around-the-Island Race
- October 15<sup>th</sup> – Fall Yard Clean-up
- October 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> – Haul Out
- October 29<sup>th</sup> – Fall Dock Party
- November 16<sup>th</sup> – Fall General Meeting
- December 4<sup>th</sup> – Wine & Cheese



### Rear Commodore Ken Daisley



Our docks are clear of birds and boats and the bubbler is keeping the electrical supply free and clear of ice. We are working to develop options for a new dock electrical supply to be considered by the Board and the membership. The idea is to get the power supply up high and dry off the bottom of the basin. Very soon I will be developing a dock layout chart that will show all the docks, their respective sizes and the current occupant. This is very useful on Launch Day (April 30th) as well as OOD dock assignments.

That's all for now. Keep warm and see you all in the spring.

### Secretary Paul Oliver

I am pleased to report that all member correspondence and Board Minutes are up to-date. Recently I have had a few inquiries from members about the process for changing their boat. As per AYC Rules, when a new boat is introduced into the Club, prior approval must be received from the AYC

Board. To request Board approval, please send the Board, via the Secretary, a letter requesting approval for the new boat. Please include any pertinent information, including: the beam, length, weight and type of boat, as well as the anticipated arrival date. The Board will then review the request.

The Spring General Meeting is planned for April 20th, 2016. You will be receiving your meeting package in early April. If you require a meeting proxy prior to that, please let me know and I will email you a copy so that you have a little more time to get it signed and returned before the meeting.



### Treasurer Keith Whalen



Well, by the time you read this, if you have not paid your "2016 Summer Invoice" you have made a commitment to pay the larger number on that invoice . . . them's da rules, and rules will be applied! Currently, your Board Members are reviewing historical financial expenses to help inform drafting an operational budget for this year. Once we complete this process I will post our budget on the members side of the website. Life Members Diane Wait and Senior Member Alison Manzer are busy separating, scanning and preserving

our historical records and artifacts. The intent is to preserve records prior to the move to 2 Stadium Rd. I must say, I had the opportunity to peruse the hand written minutes of a meeting from 1910 (I think). What is old, is new! The club changes, the faces of the club change, but the issues, they remain the same! Insurance, Fees, Moorings, clubhouse and membership come to mind. I believe this year holds lots of promise to invigorate our club through socials and cruising activities. Cheers!



## House Director Richard Armstrong

Richard is currently on assignment in Florida.



## Social Director Erik Schomann



Ahoy AYC members! When I first stepped up as Social Director, there may have been a bit of a misunderstanding as I thought I was going to be "Socialist Director", vanguard to the proletarian revolution to transform AYC into the first of the Great Lake yacht club soviets to be organised along Marxist-Leninist lines.

Turns out, I won't be organising the Communist Party but a bunch of different parties and instead of a workers paradise built in the spirit of Chairman Mao, we'll be having cheeseburgers in paradise served in the spirit of Jimmy Buffett. I think this way is going to be quite a bit more fun and less messy. Our first party of the season is the ever popular, Hug Your Boat event being held on March 19th starting at 14:00. I'm happy to enlist any volunteers looking for work hours hoping to contribute to making this event another AYC success. Please email me if you are

interested ([social@AYC.ca](mailto:social@AYC.ca)). Before then, we are organising some off-season Movie/Social Evenings where we'll be screening films relating to sailing, Open-Mic-Nights with Karaoke and up-and-coming comics from Second City (and anyone else brave enough to take the mic) as well as game nights and trivia with prizes and surprises. Watch your screen for information as these plans become more solid. We're also stepping forward into the 21st century with a social media strategy to help keep people abreast of these activities as we hope to run them weekly. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts for the club will soon be set up to provide platforms for our membership to keep in touch, share photos, experiences, sailing jokes and fishy tales, all with the hopes of strengthening our tradition of community and comradery. I'm looking forward to an amazing season serving as your Social Director and if you have any ideas or suggestions you'd like to make to enhance the social life at our club, please contact me. Fair winds, my friends!

## Membership Director Ken Chumik

The board is ankle-deep in developing a plan for the repair and maintenance of club facilities that will take place over the next 5 years. There is a great deal to consider including an increase in initiation fees to new members. As membership director I was asked to hold off on taking on any new members until the plan has been developed. Prospective members will be placed on a waiting list which I hope to be able to act upon in the spring. We currently have a few applications for admission for vessels over thirty feet. They will be individually considered. Associate membership may be offered until docks become available. I anticipate that there will be one boat on a swing mooring and no boats under thirty feet on the waiting list. The Club needs to stop and look into the future and your membership director is in agreement with the Board's decision to hold off on the admission of new members until this assessment has taken place and all is understood by AYC membership. Enjoy the balance of the winter and we will see you at the next event....Hug your Boat ....





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Founded 1906



**Alexandra  
Yacht Club**

## Cruise Captain Don Williams

Thank you to all those that have emailed me [cruisecaptain@ayc.ca](mailto:cruisecaptain@ayc.ca) and let me know your thoughts and preferred weekends for some summer cruises this season - 90 days away, yikes!!! I am busy working on this now however most other clubs have already booked their cruises hence our choices are somewhat limited. We must plan earlier next year and we will. Currently — and this is subject to change — we will be having a midweek cruise to The Oakville Club which has a luxurious clubhouse, pool, bar and just a short walk uptown to beautiful Oakville. Bring your kayaks (or use one of theirs for free) and your dinghies and your bikinis and speedos as they have a nice pool with bar. We will also be cruising to The Wilson Yacht Club mid-summer on a weekend. We will anchor and/or raft and dinghy in, which is not a problem there, to the two hot-spots 'The Boathouse' and 'The Sunset Grill' - both with live music and dancing. If you get there early enough you may be able to secure a spot at one of the three yacht clubs or the marina. I am still working on others. Please email me with your preferences!

## Communications Director Colin Smith

I have two wonderful offers from our members to tell you about:

Are you missing the fresh breeze in your face from a cold Lake Ontario wind? Here's help - come spend an afternoon or evening skiing for Free at Skyloft Resort in Pickering. Rental equipment is available. Free passes for groups of up to four are available. A relaxed safe hill, the highest spot on the Oak Ridges Moraine, with a variety of runs from beginner on up. Riding the chair lift is a great spot to chat (and dream) about boats and summer cruising and racing plans. Give me a call or email me — Robi Roncarelli (Barca Nostra) at 416 822-3495, or [robipixel@bell.net](mailto:robipixel@bell.net).

And . .

Take Flight! Take advantage of our resident pilot who is always looking for some adventurous folks to take up for a ride and split the cost of the airplane rental. Don was a Flight Instructor for many years and then a Commercial Pilot for many more, holds all current licences and is always happy to make that short walk across to the island to our neighbourly airport. The plane holds four so the cost is pretty reasonable if everyone contributes equally, including Don! Don't be shy – email him to set up a time for a 40 minute flight over Toronto and the GTA. He will likely let you 'take control' if you are in the front seat. He can be reached at [donwilliams@lifescape.ca](mailto:donwilliams@lifescape.ca) or [cruisecaptain@ayc.ca](mailto:cruisecaptain@ayc.ca) or just give him a call at 416.545.7245. The winter is a great time to fly – clear skies, comfortable temperatures (plane is heated) and not a lot else going on. Take flight with Don Williams!

