

DOCKSIDE SCUTTLEBUTT

Issue 04-02

April, 2004

The Newsletter of the Fanshawe Yacht Club of London, Ontario, issued six times per year to members and friends of the Club. Edited by Ralph Smith; comments and contributions welcomed and should be sent to:

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Sadly, our club is in serious trouble! We need help to manage the affairs of this club that allows the rest of us to practice the sport of sailing that we so enjoy. Perhaps our past executives have spoiled us by devoting so much of their time to running the club that they made it look easy. However, one can also say that perhaps they spent so much time on club business that they have made others a bit apprehensive about volunteering to follow. The people with the time, those retired, have either been there before or don't feel up to the challenge. Those still working find it difficult to juggle the job and recreational duties so there lies the problem. Now, who has the solution?

We absolutely need a Vice Commodore and need one right now! There is no job in the club that is exclusive to one gender so how about one of you ladies? What about "Job Sharing" - one looking after the Spring Work party and one for the closing? Why not? Carl Holland came to the Executive as Vice Commodore, advanced to Commodore and is fading into retirement as Past Commodore though as that position is charged with recruiting new Executive members, he will likely argue that he is not "retired"!!

You will note from the "Member's Handbook" that the duties of the Vice Commodore are: "Responsible for Clubhouse, grounds, Building Committee Liaison, Club Steward Liaison". This means organizing the Work Parties, interview for the Club Steward position etc but delegation can lighten the load.

Similarly, we need a Fleet Captain! Again, as listed in the Member's Hand Book, the Fleet Captain is "Responsible for all facilities at water level. The Fleet Captain is assisted by the Dock Marshal, Boat Master and the Harbour Master, all of which are in place. Perhaps one could handle this job with a phone and E-mails, leaving the heavy lifting for someone else. Now this is a job for a well organized person that is a master of delegation. Would someone please hold up their hand?? Simply put, we want to sail and to keep the Club running we need decision makers. If what we have done in the past is not effective now, then change we must and do it now!!

COMING UP - - -

Work Parties April 17 and 24 – we need your brawn and brains too – please come and help with your hammer, rake, paint brush or anything else you think would help get the Club ready for the opening. The organizing exec-rep will be in touch with those who have indicated their willingness to help and we hope you too can respond even if you didn't check the appropriate spot on your application form. April 17th – use the North gate – Park opens 23rd!

Commodore's Cup May 22 - This fun event may well need Committee boat help, safety boat help and so on. If you don't intend to enter, perhaps you would like to learn how to run such an event. A good time and place to learn the ropes.

Commodore's Reception May 23 – we may need help to get rid of the wine and cheese. Actually, a great opportunity to meet other members and to get the season underway – all rigged in the fine duds from Lori's Haberdashery! Rain or shine, it's a fine time!

Really, one of the problems at these events is that we tend to “hang” with those we know – I'm as guilty as anyone. So, if veteran members see strangers, please introduce yourself and make newcomers welcome. For the first of my thirty years at the Club, I felt that I was a stranger as fleet members tended to flock together. Now as fleets are not so closely knit, we seem to have become a more “fraternal” group. Please do your bit to welcome those who have recently joined.

Our **Annual Open House will be on May 29 and 30**. Volunteers are always needed both on the water and for other needed jobs. Please come and help recruit new members for our Club. This is always an interesting event as one meets people from all over our area and some who are just visiting. If the weather is good, then we enjoy showing people that we can sail without upsetting!

Finally, don't be intimidated by the **“Open Event, The June Bug”**. If you have a boat and can get off the dock, you are welcome to join in. Remember, these veterans were once novices too. Jump in on **June 5 & 6** and have some fun too! Volunteers will be needed too!!

Last dinner for this season at Archie's will be on April 21. A chance to thank Mike Morris for organizing this fun event – and with me trying to lose weight!!

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Mar. 29, 2004

URGENT!!

THIS REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION!

Fellow Members of Fans ha we Yacht Club;

Please permit me to take a few moments of your time to convey what I, and some of my close associates, consider to be the most URGENT message this club has ever presented to the members. This message could adversely affect the future of Fans ha we Yacht Club, yes you read the words correctly.

After attending a meeting last Friday, and hearing the following words "*maybe we shouldn't open the club this year*", suggested by more than one member, I promised to write this note to convey the seriousness of the matter to you my fellow members and 'yes', beg for some immediate HELP.

No organization can survive without leadership, Fanshawe Yacht Club included. Our club requires eight members on the Board of Directors consisting of Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Fleet Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, Sailing School Director and Nominating Committee Chairperson (traditionally the Past Commodore) From the first four officers, (called Flag Officers) as of this date, only one position has been filled, yes that means THREE vacancies for 2004.

Also consider the following ramifications. If this trend continues our club will have ZERO Flag Officers for 2005. Our present Commodore, Steve Currie, who stepped forward as a new member, cannot and certainly is not expected or will he fulfill four jobs. He and our club URGENTLY REQUIRES NEW VOLUNTEERS! In plain simple language we cannot carry on and survive without some immediate assistance! ! !

Sincere thanks to all our present and past volunteers. Your dedication has been the lifeblood of Fanshawe Yacht Club since its inception over fifty years ago.

This urgent plea is directed to all members.

- 1 New members. Welcome aboard. Your new ideas, constructive criticism and support is urgently solicited. Please step forward.
- 2 Present and returning members. These fall into numerous categories. With a little reflection you know your status.

A Those that presently carry the load, again thank you and please continue.

B Those that do the very minimum, your club requires more from you.

C Those that contribute nothing, and yes, you exist! This is most unfair and will no longer be tolerated by your fellow members. Excuses are not good enough.

Consider the following. Last year our club registered one hundred and twenty one members. A motion at the Mar. 15, 2004 general meeting passed with fourteen total votes. Absolutely disgraceful! Where was the representation from the remaining over one hundred families? This unfortunately reflects the apathy within our club and continuing lack of support for our Directors. I suggest either this ceases or our club will likewise cease. Now to the excuses mentioned above. You can't invent any new ones as they have all been aired before. Spend the time you waste on excuses volunteering your time to support our Directors. The satisfaction you receive is in direct proportion to the effort you apply.

When you volunteer, rest assured, you will not be inventing the wheel. Many members have previously assumed these positions and will be honored to guide and assist you in your new endeavors. Please volunteer before your phone rings. Permit me to remind all you very capable ladies, your services would also be very much appreciated.

Mr. Commodore, I address this paragraph to you. Please don't get discouraged as you have done and will continue to offer outstanding service. I feel certain some volunteers will offer their services to share your load and lead Fanshawe Yacht Club to at least another fifty successful years.

As most of you are aware, my family and I, along with our relatives, friends, neighbours and other grateful guests have shared thousands of enjoyable hours at Fanshawe Yacht Club over the past four decades. As a small token of appreciation in return for the pleasure and satisfaction received, we have also volunteered to the best of our ability and will continue to do so as long as possible..

I conclude by stating I make no apologies for this epistle. It will possibly anger some of my friends and draw additional support from others.

I feel confident you will volunteer to fill one the three unfilled Flag officer positions.

THIS IS AN URGENT MATTER.

Respectfully submitted, Doug MacKenzie

And - - -

A MATTER OF GREAT CONCERN!

Last year we celebrated our 50th Anniversary, and we should be very proud of our accomplishments over the years. It took many volunteer hours to shape our club to its present state. Many of our members served as flag officers starting as fleet captains.

We now have reached a stage where we have a hard working Commodore to lead us through the 2004 season, but nobody has volunteered to fill the other three positions; Vice & Rear Commodores and Fleet captain are still needed.

Unless these positions are filled immediately we will face a real disaster next season. So if you receive a phone call to step up to the "PLATE" please do not hesitate to say "YES".

The only other solution to this problem would be to hire outside personnel to run our club and the cost would be reflected in much higher membership fees.

Respectfully submitted

by Hans Schaffner

NOTICE AND AGENDA

FYC General Meeting: April 19, 2004

7:00 Call to Order

7:05 Minutes of previous meeting

7:10 Vacancies on the FYC Executive

7:15 Committee Reports

- Boat house – Brian Perry/ Len MacDougall
- Summer Games – Rick Goldt
- PR Committee – Cliff Lonsdale
- Trillium Grant Projects – Steve Currie

8:15 Officers' Reports

- Treasurer – Michelle Patten
- Sailing School Director– Josephine Scarlett
- Membership Committee Chair - Otto Biskaborn
- Fleet Captain - (Moorings / Docks) Vacant
- Rear Commodore (Racing /Social Committees) – Rob Penninga
- Vice Commodore (Buildings & Grounds, Steward, Project list.) – Vacant
- Past Commodore (Nominating Committee) – Carl Holland
- Commodore – Steve Currie

8:45 New Business

- Mike Morris – Waive re-instatement fees for former members returning to the Club

9:30 Meeting Concludes

Date, Time and location of this meeting:

- - - - - UTRCA, Board Room, April 19/04, 7:00 pm - - - - -

This is an important meeting – the last one before the season opens - please plan to attend with your input!! We understand that Mike's motion creates an amendment to the Constitution, thus needing the circulation of the proposed change and it's inclusion in the agenda.

A JOB POSTING

FOR THE POSITION OF FANSHAWE YACHT CLUB

CLUB STEWARD

The subject position, the description of same described herewith, will be issued on a contract basis.

Costs for supplies and equipment will be borne by F.Y.C. A cash float will be supplied, receipts are required for all expenditures.

All expenditures over \$50.00 must be approved by the Board Liaison.

The Steward or Custodian shall report to the Board of FYC, specifically the Board Liaison, who for the calendar year 2004, shall be the Commodore. Any concerns should normally be directed through the Board Liaison.

It is Club policy that it is the responsibility of the USERS of the FYC facilities leave the buildings and grounds reasonably clean and tidy.

HOURS OF WORK:

Spring Schedule: 7 weeks – April 29th 2004 to June 16th 2004
8 hours per week - Flexible Schedule

Summer Schedule: 11 weeks - June 17th 2004 to September 1st 2004
4 hours per day Monday to Friday
11:30AM to 3:30PM

Fall Schedule: 6 Weeks – September 2nd 2004 to October 13th 2004
6 hours per week - Flexible Schedule

RESPONSIBILITIES of STEWARD

Spring and Fall Schedule:

- Minimum weekly, or as needed, cleaning of washroom, main chalet and kitchen

- **Minimum weekly, or as needed, emptying of all garbage containers in the buildings and club grounds and transportation of the garbage to the U.T.R.C.A. dump. Litter or Trash collection is limited to closing the bag in the can, removal and replacement with a fresh can liner**
- **Periodic, as needed, grass cutting of trailer sailor area and main dock**
- **Periodic checking of all safety boats, tenders, club barge etc., excluding Sailing School equipment, to ensure that there is sufficient gas, that there is appropriate equipment in each vessel and the vessels are securely tethered, free of rain water and in appropriate locations**
- **Visually check the club grounds for tidiness and take action where appropriate**
- **Report any deficiencies to the Board Liaison**
- **Perform minor maintenance tasks as requested by the Board Liaison**

Summer Schedule:

- **Daily cleaning of washrooms, main chalet and kitchen**
- **Periodic, as needed, emptying of all garbage containers in the buildings and club grounds and transportation of the garbage to the U.T.R.C.A. dump. Trash collection is limited to closing the bag in the can, removal and replacement with a fresh can liner**
- **Periodic, as needed, grass cutting of trailer sailor area and main dock**
- **Daily checking of all safety boats, tenders, club barge etc., excluding Sailing School equipment, to ensure that there is sufficient gas, that there is appropriate equipment in each vessel and the vessels are securely tethered, free of rain water and in appropriate locations**
- **Ensure that there is sufficient gas in the storage sheds at all times**
- **Daily visually check the club grounds for tidiness and take action where appropriate**
- **Report any deficiencies to the Board Liaison**
- **Perform minor maintenance tasks as requested by the Board Liaison**
- **Replenish supplies as required**

METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR SERVICES:

A cheque will be issued in the amount of \$500.00 on each of the following dates:

- \$300.00 May 27th 2004
- \$500.00 June 17th 2004
- \$500.00 July 8th 2004
- \$500.00 July 29th 2004
- \$500.00 August 19th 2004
- \$500.00 September 9th 2004
- \$500.00 October 14th 2004

THE TOTAL CONTRACT VALUE IS \$3300.00

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- A valid driver's license and daily use of a vehicle will be required
- The cost of the required U.T.R.C.A. vehicle permit will be borne by the steward
- The steward will be required to keep a logbook of all duties and tasks undertaken and supplies used during the course of the contract. The logbook will be supplied by the club
- A copy of this document will be kept in this logbook

Correction

Last issue, we identified the staff person in the CLL Access Boat as John McKay – I think it should have been John McVeigh – sorry about that John!!

* * * * *

The Pacific Ocean flows "downhill," from east to west: The sea level in the Philippines is normally about two feet higher than the sea level on the coast of Panama. (Source: CNet)

* * * * *

And once again – Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring Solstice, or March 21.

PLEASE NOTE - CALENDAR CHANGES!!

There are some changes to the calendars you received with your renewal package mostly due to the scheduling of the Ontario Summer Games on “our” lake in August. Further, the brochures of our Sailing School have had to be changed and we reproduce correct versions below.

Referring to the Calendar, we advise that the Commodore’s Cup Regatta and the Reception on the Sunday following will take place on May 22 and May 23 as the Commodore is away on the weekend prior. See the “Coming Up” page.

Back to the Calendar – The Adult Sailing School starts of May 24 and 25 are removed as well as the events on June 29 and August 23. The Youth-04 class will be suspended during the Summer Games from August 16th to the 24th. Simply put, this course runs August 9th to August 13 and then August 23rd to the 27th. The Awards Night and BBQ will be held on August 26th.

2004 COURSE SCHEDULES:

YOUTH DAY PROGRAMS (ages 9 – 18)
 Course duration: 2 Weeks, Monday to Friday
 9:00am – 4:00pm (Including Canada Day
 July 1 and Civic Holiday Aug. 2).

Course No.	CYA SAILING LEVELS			
	White Sail	Prc Bronze	Bronze	Dates
YTH-01	I II III	PB	IV V	June 28- July 09
YTH-02	I II III	PB	IV V	July 12 - July 23
YTH-03	I II III	PB	IV V	July 26 - Aug 06
YTH-04	1 st Week: White Sail all Levels PB Bronze IV & V			Aug 09 - Aug 13
ONTARIO SUMMER GAMES August 16-20 NO LEARN TO SAIL COURSES				
YTH-04	Continued 2 nd week			Aug 23- 27
YTH-05	Skills Week: White Sail III + Bronze IV & V			Aug 30- Sept 03

ADULT EVENING PROGRAM

(ages 18 years and over)
 Course times: 6:30pm – 9:30pm.* (See table below).
 ASC (Adult Sailing Course) White Sail I through White Sail III offered in each course .

Course No.	Dates	Sequence
ASC-01	May 31-June 30	Mon & Wed
ASC-02	June 01-July 01	Tue & Thurs
ASC-03	July 05-Aug 04	Mon & Wed
ASC-04	July 06-Aug 05	Tue & Thurs
ASC-05*	Aug 09-Aug 23	Mon & Wed night & Two Sats 9am - 4:30 pm
*pm hours may vary		

All Adult Courses require a minimum of four and maximum of 18 students.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

At the February General Meeting, we were fortunate to have Al Will, Executive Director of the Ontario Sailing Association attend with an excellent slide presentation illustrating the value of belonging to this organization. First, and likely the most recent visible example, Al Will, with his experience with the OSA, was of great help to Marc Lacrousiere in putting together our application to the Trillium Fund. This venture, viewed with favour by the Trillium people, allows us to rebuild our Sailing School fleet, construct a lift for disabled sailors in the Community Living London group and deal with the deteriorating concrete walk/wall to the School docks.

Further, in order to exhibit a needed level of credibility for our Sailing School, our instructors must have accreditation from the OSA. We can then assure the public that in fact our School can provide qualified instruction. In addition, we are kept informed of changes in legislation that affect sailors. In fact, the OSA is a defender of sailors and often appears at public forums as an agent on behalf of Ontario sailors. In essence, not belonging to a recognized organization as the OSA would make our Club no more than a group of people sailing their boats with no regard for the perpetuation of the sport we dearly love.

In other business, Commodore Currie, resplendent in his new red FYC vest acquired through Lori's Duds, advised that one new CL14 is in our possession. The boat builder wants his money when the boat is ready and we won't part with the money until we have the painter in our hand. To avoid having to trailer the boat to London in the nasty weather of January, Steve has the boat stored in the Fonthill area on the property of a relative. We will have some new boats for the Open House!! Now if we can just get students to treat them kindly!!

We have received a plaque from the Trillium Foundation recognizing the participation of that group in our Club and it will be displayed in the Chalet.

Those involved with the improvements at our Club are fretting over the cost and type of upgrading of the walkway to the School docks that would be the best for our needs. There is some consideration given to purchasing the floating rubber like docks that the rowers use. These can be put together like a Lego set – maybe our kids can do it!

LETTERS

Hi Ralph...

Thank you for the Scuttlebutt E-Mails, I always enjoy keeping up to everything that has been going on at Fanshawe . I have had a few changes lately... and STILL have not got my Laser out on the Chesapeake Bay (yes I know I should be ashamed) however I have ordered a new Radial Rig for my Laser which should be delivered when I get back to Newport New from this trip, and be ready for a test drive. My New Years resolution was to get the Laser out on the bay at least once.

I am actually writing this message from Regensburg Germany. Due to recent changes in my job, my role has been expanded, with the result that I will only be in Newport News sometimes and the rest of the time will be in an office in Regensburg Germany. (and elsewhere such as Italy and Changchun) I will continue to be "based" in Newport news (therefore will keep my house), and will still have responsibilities in Newport News... what is new is, I will now be traveling a lot more. I will have to see how I survive the travel but so far so good. The whole situation has come up suddenly. I have only been in Virginia now for less than 2 years, so it is a bit of a surprise to have this happen so quickly, however.... here I am! I am hoping to get a small apartment, rather than have to live in a hotel quite so much.

I thought some of those of German Heritage would get a kick out of this... I am struggling to learn a little German, and would like to learn as much as I can although at the moment the task seems very daunting.

I hope all is well and I am thinking the ice should be off the lake any time, and everyone at Fanshawe getting geared to a new season very soon !

With best regards, Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Anne

Editor – Wow! What an experience and achievement!. Anne is a wonderful example of what can be accomplished when ability, perseverance and congeniality are combined. Our loss is certainly Siemen's gain! Anne, we will watch your career blossom with admiration and tell everyone we are friends with a celebrity!!

LETTERS

Ahoy Mr. Smith:

Hope your trip to the Sunshine state was good and all went well..

In working away at the Luger, I have found a new easier way to get the mast up. Stolen from Macgregor Boats new Macgregor Millinium26 this system is compact and can be duplicated for about \$25-\$30.00 and takes the struggle outta getting it up -- if you know what I mean.

Anyone wishing to see my version can give me a call or see what Macgregor sells for \$150.00 at www.ne-ts.com under Macgregor specs in the index.

What I have been using on the VN23 was OK but this is even better.

Sailor Mike

MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Each year, at the Commodore's Reception, a member who has contributed greatly to the running of our club in a way other than serving on the Executive, is honoured with the "Member of the Year" award. This "keep-sake" plaque and the large trophy to be displayed by the recipient for a Year, is presented at the Commodore's Reception. However, being busy with the ongoing problems of directing our club affairs, some deserving person could be overlooked. Therefore, members are encouraged to submit their own recommendations directly to either Steve Currie or to Carl Holland as our Secretary John Bryant will be on vacation for a while.

To be ready for the presentation, the recommendations should be sent by or brought to the General Meeting of April 19.

OUR LIBRARY

John Bryant is assembling a collection of nautical books that will be available in our "Members Room" in the Chalet. However, to hold books, we need a bookcase. If you have such an article hidden away not used and would like to donate it for the cause, please give John Burgess a call at 472-0049. He will thank you profusely!!

FANSHAWE YACHT CLUB

Third General Meeting

UTRCA Headquarters, Monday, March 15, 2004

Commodore Steve Currie opened the meeting at 7:08 pm. 19 members were present plus one guest.

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting: Moved, John Bryant, seconded Mike Morris. The Minutes were accepted with one correction – Jens Biskaborn pointed out that the FYC Website is entirely the work of Kevin Biskaborn.

FYC Executive

Commodore Steve Currie and Past Commodore Carl Holland reminded all present that the Club Executive still needs a Vice Commodore and a Fleet Captain to function effectively, and urged members to volunteer for these posts, even though they might have served in them previously.

Committee Reports

Boat House committee – Brian Perry -Nothing to report this month.

Public Relations committee – Cliff Lonsdale

The committee would like to hold a presentation event for the Trillium Grant to create media interest, and needs an occasion when most of the members are at the Club; two possibilities are the Commodore's Reception and the Open House. The Disabled Sailors Association would like to demonstrate their AbleSail dinghies at the Open House, and this too might create media interest. The PR committee has now taken over responsibility for the Open House and is working to arrange the O.H. as well as the media events.

Trillium Grant projects – Personal Lift

Otto Biskaborn, Ross Green and Steve Dietrich have volunteered to form a committee to deal with the proposed Hoyer Lift for disabled sailors. Maureen Tomchik of Community Living London has called the Commodore to let us know that Steve Dietrich will be the liaison between FYC and CLL on this project.

Sailing School - Josephine Scarlett

Registrations at March 15, 04 are Adults: 2, Youth 21 - about normal for this time of the year.

Advertising:

Bobby Hampton has given a new look to the ads and posters, and Fred Eidt and Mike Morris have been distributing them to our outlets. Thank you all! Bobby is also part of the FYC Public Relations committee and is coordinating the Trillum presentation for the new CLI4's. Tentative date is May 16.

Position of sailing school manager:

Two applications were received, from Jeff Eames and Fred Eidt. Both had excellent resumes, but Jeff's work schedule could not fit with the needs of the sailing school. We have sent a letter to Fred Eidt offering him the position, and the official signing of the acceptance letter will take place on March 28 2004 at the Sailing School committee meeting. We sent an email to Jeff, inviting him to visit the sailing school on his return from overseas.

Instructors:

Fred Eidt and Larry Monger are revising the sailing school curriculum. We had a good group of instructors last year; Fred has contacted all of them and most are willing to return for the 2004 season. Fred and Larry will both interview applicants for the position of Head Instructor and report back to the Sailing School Committee with their recommendations.

YM/YWCA contract:

Wally Mackinnon: I have been in contact with the program director, Krista Gillespie and have emailed her the changes to the sailing school program dates for 2004 to accommodate the Ontario Summer Games. The Y summer brochure giving the busing schedules will be available at the end of March.

Sailing School

Floating docks: Repairs needed to slip #2: a new 2x10 wood beam is required together with its hardware before the docks can be installed in water.

The 2004 sailing school committee has been very busy gearing up for the season. You're a great group of volunteers - thank you all!

Membership: Otto Biskaborn

Otto reported 77 full membership applications received so far including 5 new members and 10 crew members. There are still 35 members from last year that have not renewed their memberships.

We have 32 mooring, 33 trailer and 5 rack applications.

Reports from Officers

Secretary: John Bryant

John Bryant has sent a letter to the Trillium Foundation acknowledging arrival of two recognition certificate plaques from the Foundation.

Treasurer: Michelle Patten - The Treasurer is on vacation.

Fleet Captain: Harbour Master Joe Hochstenbach is doing some of the Fleet Captain's tasks until a volunteer for the Fleet Captain position can be found.

Rear Commodore: John Burgess may take on part of the Racing program this year. He has suggested he might try organizing informal races on Wednesday afternoons in addition to the established Wednesday evening events.

Vice Commodore: Steve Currie

Steve will carry on with the Vice Commodore's duties to open up the Club until another member can be found to take over. For 2004, one important item he would like to tackle is replacement of the leaky plastic water piping in the Clubhouse with copper piping. This project was included in the 2004 budget.

Commodore: Steve Currie

Steve would like to investigate the possibility of using removable "J Floats" – black square interlocking poly floats – as an alternative to a concrete walkway to the sailing school docks. These floats that cost about \$8 per square foot are already in use as a removable dock at the Rowing Club across the lake. The Trillium Grant money for the walkway repair would cover the cost of the floats we would need.

New Business

Dogs at FYC

Cliff Lonsdale would like to be able to bring his dog to sail with him at FYC. After some discussion at the February General Meeting, Steve Currie agreed to put Cliff's motion to allow dogs at FYC into the March agenda.

"Recognizing that dogs are permitted in the rest of the Conservation Area and that the FYC wishes to be inclusive and welcoming to responsible dog owners, be it resolved that:

1. Members may bring dogs on to FYC property under the following conditions:
 - (a) dogs will be on a leash of no more than 3 metres at all times;
 - (b) dogs will remain at all times under the supervision of a responsible adult who will take immediate action to “stoop and scoop”;
 - (c) no dogs will be permitted inside the club house;
 - (d) dogs will be kept away from the children’s play area and the operations of the sailing school;
 - (e) the member is responsible for ensuring that the dog does not become a nuisance or interfere with other members’ enjoyment of the club facilities.
2. Infringement of any of these conditions will be grounds for the committee to ban a particular dog from the grounds for the rest of the season in the case of a first offence and permanently for a second one.”

After discussion the motion was amended as follows:

- 1) “On a trial basis, for one season only, members may bring dogs on to FYC property under the following conditions, etc: “
- 2) “Dogs will be on a leash not exceeding 2 metres length at all times”. (This is to conform to the UTRCA’s regulations in the rest of Fanshawe Park.)

Amendments Moved: Hans Schaffner; seconded Paul Chesman. Amendments approved.

Amended motion moved: Cliff Lonsdale, seconded Paul Chesman

Votes for the motion as amended: 8. Votes against: 6. The motion is accepted.

Obstacles to members returning to the Club after an absence – Mike Morris

Mike pointed out that the re-instatement fee charged for a former member to rejoin the club after an absence of one year or more was a significant deterrent. He proposed the following motion: “That the re-instatement fee now charged for a former member to rejoin the Club after an absence should be waived.”

Moved by: Mike Morris. Seconded by: Doug Mackenzie

There was general approval of this measure, but since the motion was not announced to the membership in advance, it was tabled until it could be published in the “Scuttlebutt” prior to voting at the April General Meeting.

**Motion to Adjourn: Doug Mackenzie, at 9:20 p.m.
Next General Meeting: Monday, April 19, 7:00 p.m. at UTRCA
headquarters.**

**John Bryant,
Secretary, FYC.**

Editor – We know that all dog owners are responsible and all their dogs are obedient and totally harmless. Had I not been on vacation, and been at the meeting, I would have lobbied for an amendment that dog owners bringing their “friends” on Club grounds provide proof of liability insurance because by allowing dogs on site, we as a Club are accepting responsibility for their behaviour!! Also, why was this “motion” not advertised to the Membership as a whole? Fourteen people voted, during Spring Break, to change a fifty year old rule with an 8 to 6 vote in favour??

CLUBWARE

Lori Chesman has been busy over the winter expanding the list of FYC identified items available to our members. Enclosed is the two-sided order form that shows the articles and their prices. These goods are priced to cover our costs and her efforts are not expected to contribute to our profits but are intended to let the public know who and where we are. To get rigged in time for the Commodore’s Reception, please give Lori a call at 659-4633.

One item not listed on the form, and in stock, is the FYC lapel pin. I wear a pin on my cap and also in my lapel when attending a function like the Power Squadron or when necessary, at a funeral for one of our members where my affiliation with FYC is not known. A handy item at a cost everyone can afford.

CLASSIFIED

For the last few issues, we have had nothing to advertise for sale. Nobody buying or selling? This service is available at no charge to members.

PHILOSOPHY LESSON

Submitted by our Resident Philosopher, Bob Hendry

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "yes."

The professor then produced two cans of beer from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the grains of sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things -- your family, your children, your health, your friends, your favourite passions--things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car.

The sand is everything else--the small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. Play another 18. There will always be time to clean the house, and fix the disposal.

"Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the beer represented.

The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of beers."

Editor – Thanks Bob – That makes a lot of sense!!

FINAL COMMENTS

With the season start-up close at hand, and with a heavy work load created with the Boat House construction, dock repairs, new boats for the School, "person lift" for the Access Dinghy and so on, it seemed important to publish the minutes of the March meeting as a lot of us were away at that time. There was a lot discussed and it is apparent that our Executive has been extremely busy. However, Commodore Currie feels he is virtually running the Club by himself, though doing it very well, but he doesn't like having to make all the decisions when others should have some input. Further, the work load involved is more than one "volunteer" should be expected to carry.

There are lots of cries for "Help" in the foregoing and we hope there are some responses. Anne McEwen showed us that a female is quite capable of handling the job though she also did a lot of the work herself. It is hoped that some of you will discuss this problem and come up with ideas of how to spread the work so everyone has a good time which is what it's all about. Maybe we should have a seminar in "How to Delegate" a la Tom Sawyer!

Our Treasurer, Michelle Patten also puts in a lot of hours looking after our finances. Following is a copy of the Balance Sheet that reflected our position as of December 31, 2003. This "snapshot in time" illustrates that our financial position is quite healthy and though the audited statements and budgets for 2004 are done, they are quite extensive and too much to be reproduced here. Copies could be obtained, if interested, by calling Michelle.

Fanshawe Yacht Club
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2003

	Dec 31, 03
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Bank of Montreal - General	58,303.17
Investments	
BMO GIC	25,174.45
BMO - Accrued Interest	490.00
Total Investments	25,664.45
Total Chequing/Savings	83,967.62
Other Current Assets	
Prepaid expenses	1,619.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,619.00
Total Current Assets	85,586.62
TOTAL ASSETS	85,586.62
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Fees Payable to CYA/OSA	98.00
GST Collected	2,064.48
GST Paid	-2,038.93
Accrued liabilities	1,800.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,923.55
Total Current Liabilities	1,923.55
Total Liabilities	1,923.55
Equity	
Trillium Foundation Trust	26,793.60
Replacement Reserve	39,813.04
Net Income	17,056.43
Total Equity	83,663.07
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	85,586.62

For the Email viewers – The picture of the Peterborough Lift Lock has not been reproduced here as it will take forever to up and download as is the face/cover page. However, here is the written text and my comments which appeared below them –

“The 100th Anniversary of the Peterborough Lift Lock will take place this summer and will be celebrated the weekend of July 9 through 11. Opening ceremonies are on Friday, the 9th at 1500, with live music, a theatrical take on the building of the lift lock and a laser light show and fireworks.

The Saturday and Sunday will be filled with an Antique and Classic boat show, free cruise rides up and over the lift lock, a turn-of-the-century fashion show and more theatre as well as events geared to children. For more information, call the Friends of the Trent-Severn Waterway at 1-800-663-2628 or see the website at www.trsw.com.

Editor - This looks like a fun event in July that doesn't conflict with anything on our calendar. The above was “taken” from the London Line, the newsletter of the London Power and Sail Squadron. Permission to reprint is pending but I doubt if Al Hinge wrote this!

Another omission from this sending is the two sided Clubware order form that was inserted in all the Canada Post mailings.

SEA FEVER

By John Masefield

I must go down to the sea again,
To the lonely sea and the sky
And all I ask is a tall ship
and a star to steer her by;
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song
and the white sail's shaking
And a gray mist on the sea's face
and a gray dawn breaking

I must go down to the seas again,
for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call
that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day
with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume
and the sea-gulls crying

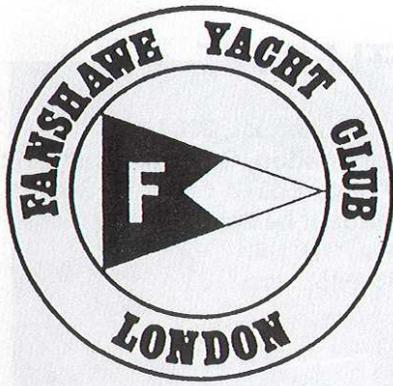
I must go down to the sea again,
to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way,
where the wind's like a whetted knife
And all I ask is a merry yarn
from a laughing fellow-rover
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream
when the long trick's over

--and another by John Masefield

"We were schooner rigged and rakish, with a long and lissome hull,
And we flew the pretty colors of the cross bones and the skull;
We'd a big black Jolly Roger flapping grimly at the fore,
And we sailed the Spanish waters in the happy days of yore."

From the Ballad of John Silver

If you like poetry and sea faring writings, try John Masefield though
his bio says he didn't really like the sea. If only I could write like he!



DOCKSIDE SCUTTLEBUTT

