Commodore’s Corner

Well, here we are with the Olympics over and the hangover cured! That was some party that Vancouver put on. Peggy and I spent most of the Olympics at our condo in downtown Vancouver and thoroughly enjoyed the buzz of Robson Square activity: the crowds were huge but well behaved without any hint of rowdiness.

Now it is on to boating season 2010, with a great list of activities planned by the Canadian fleet and our cousins in the Pacific Northwest.

The first event of the season is the June 12 BYC/CYA show in North Vancouver being co-ordinated by Dave and Patricia Cook. If this show lives up to the standard set last year, it will be a real blast. In addition to classic and other wooden boats, there will be a classic car show in the BYC parking lot. What a lot of great vehicles participated last year.

The PNW’s premiere event at Bell Street pier in Seattle follows on June 18 to 20. This is simply the biggest gathering of classics in North America. The location close to Pike Street Market makes this a truly great event and I urge all of you to attend as a Canadian flotilla.

The AGM of the Canfleet threw its support behind Russ and Dee Chernoff who act as CYA coordinators for the Vancouver Wooden Boat show scheduled for August 26 to 29. We hope to dramatically increase Canfleet attendance at this show in 2010. This is truly a one of a kind event featuring a whole host of nautical activities ranging from sea shanties to knot tying and many more. Russ will reveal more details as we get closer to the date.

The marquee event for the Canfleet is the Brentwood Bay rendezvous slated for August 31 to Sept 1 at the Brentwood Inn. More information on this will be forthcoming from Mike and Sheila Ogden and Donnell MacDonnell in the near future. This is a chance to hang out with fellow CYA members without the pressure of crowds and a formal show.

The Victoria Classic Boat Festival enters a new era this year as the long time sponsor, the Victoria Real Estate Board has been replaced with new partners. The show is set for Labour Day (Sept. 3 to 6) weekend as usual and John West will tee us up on this great event.

In addition to all of this, there is just great cruising in the Gulf Islands, Princess Louisa, Desolation Sound and beyond.

Best wishes for a great boating season and we hope to see you on the water!!

Mike O’Brien, Commodore

For Sale

Gin Fizz
1952 Chris Craft
45’ LOA - 12’ Beam
Twin Chev 350’s
$80,000 in recent upgrades
Asking $29,900
Call Ross @ 604.987.9918 or 604.314.0494
The Vancouver Maritime Museum, home to the venerable RCMP St. Roch known for its voyages through the North West Passage, celebrated 50 years. The museum provided entertainment, maritime crafts and tours. The celebration took place on the weekend of August 9th 2009 with visiting vessels representing various facets of the marine community.

The museum has been entrusted to protect and preserve irreplaceable artifacts also providing valuable education to school children through field trips. For those unfamiliar with the museum, it is located on Kitsilano Point at the entrance to False Creek and Granville Island. It can be accessed by vehicle or by water using the small False Creek Ferries that connect with Granville Island, Science World along with the Concorde Pacific development accessing Yaletown.

There is a small man-made harbour in need of refurbishing available for temporary moorage for vessels with a heritage theme. The SS Master attracted many visitors young and old who had never experienced the shrill of her whistle or the quietness of an operating steam engine. She is a piece of history the CYA should embrace.

The MV Working Girl represented the smaller but no less important harbour tugs. She is presently being used by the Heath family of North Vancouver for holiday cruises and is moored at The Mosquito Creek Marina.

The MV Portage Queen is a restored captain’s gig that dates back to 1874. She is owned by Gary Cook of North Vancouver. The 5-HP single cylinder Easthope is reportedly to have been sold to Nelson Bros. Fisheries in 1938 for the princely sum of $306.90. Like Master; these engines have their own rhythmic sound. The MV Forest Ranger II is one of the many vessels used by the B.C. Forest Service that patrolled the B.C. Coast with the Government Forest Rangers and log scalers. She was constructed at the Forest Service Marine Depot on the Fraser River in 1953 and auctioned in 1984 when much of the fleet was decommissioned. She is currently moored in Sydney and is a founding member of the Ex Forest Service Vessel Squadron. Forest Ranger II is owned by Doug Mitchell and can be found attending various maritime functions.

A 40 foot Viking vessel constructed to half scale was launched in 2001 by the Norwegian House Society and is skippered by Marian Hammond. She takes small groups on sailing and rowing trips for a small donation.

The SV Storm Bay of Hobart is currently on a hiatus during a world tour that began in Sandy Bay Tasmania, Australia. The owners are Chris and Margie who are acting harbour masters for the Heritage Harbour. The MV Alondra represented the pleasure craft segment of the marine industry as she was built for pleasure. She was registered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary during the Second World War. Alondra is moored at Burrard Yacht Club in North Vancouver.

All of the invited vessels that attended the celebration were open for the viewing enjoyment of the public.

David Cook, Fleet Director member #942

photo by: Chuck Heath
Welcome our new members!

Donnell McDonnell
Merva
1932
Builder Morriss
Length 39’
Beam 9.9’
Power diesel
Home Port - Victoria

George and Manya Egerton
Mysterion
1927
Builder - Arbuthnot
Length 50’
Beam 12.25’
Power Buda Diesel
Home Port Shelter Island, BC

Peter and Laura Andrews
Tarka
1939
Builder J.J. Taylor and Sons
Length 30’
Home Port Canoe Cove, BC

Affiliate/Associate Member
Tony and Barbara Fisher
The Mystic Cassie
Year 1967
Design Chris Craft Corinthian
Length - 43’
Beam 13’
Power Twin Diesel
Home Port Lunenburg, N.S.

Here’s your chance!

This is YOUR newsletter!

Contributions in
the form of
pictures, articles, tall tales,
even rants (within reason)
are welcome!

Tell us about:
a new product
a recent project
a boat looking to be saved
a galley recipe
a good bottle of wine,
you get the idea ... 

Please send your
contribution to:

Mike O’Brien
Or
Ted Aussem

Name the newsletter
Submissions to date:
The Gudgeon and Pintle,
The Cutwater,
Bilgewater

C’mon, there’s got
to be more suggestions
out there.
Remember,
your Commodore
has promised a
Fabulous Prize
to the author of the
winning entry
Hello! I hope everyone enjoyed a fantastic summer and is experiencing the enthusiasm being displayed by all the athletes participating in the Olympics. With spring and summer just around the corner many of us will be preparing for upcoming events and rendezvous. One particular event that is very enjoyable is the annual Burrard Yacht Club Classic Boat and Car Show, located in North Vancouver, B.C. The event is open to the public for a donation that goes to support the Disabled Sailing Association.

It is being held on the weekend of June 12, 2010. The following is a brief summary: Vessels and vehicles arrive on Friday June 11, 2010 with a meet and greet barbecue that evening on the deck of the clubhouse. Saturday, June 12, 2010, vessels are asked to be available for viewing upon invitation by the skippers from 1000 hours until 1600 hours. During this period vessels can elect to be judged if desired by both the public and a set of judges or decline being judged. Saturday evening there will be a dinner and prizes awarded based upon the judging for both the boats and the vehicles. Following the award ceremonies a dance on the breakwater. The location enjoys a spectacular view across the harbour to Vancouver and Stanley Park. Of special note, security will be provided around the clock. For vessels arriving from outside the lower mainland, extended moorage facilities will be provided in order to accommodate individual time tables for both the crossing to the event and home. This event is not restricted to CYA members, but is open to all wooden vessels (new or old with a classic design) i.e. Tugboats, Fish Boats, Forestry Vessels, Tenders, Cruisers etc. that are in show condition. If any of you know of individuals having older style vessels that might wish to attend please have them contact myself at the following:

David Cook
Phone: 250-339-7239
Fax: 250-339-7258 E-mail davecreek@island.net

A fee of $30/person (limit two/vessel) covers dinner.

On behalf of the CYA and Burrard Yacht Club we wish you a warm welcome to one of the most friendly get togethers you will experience all year.

David Cook, Fleet Director
member #942
Life is bowl of cherries?

There are 2 kinds of boaters, those who have gone aground and those who will go aground. Never come into a dock faster than you would want to hit it.

We all know these and other cliches regarding boating. Talking with others about our adventures on the high seas we tend to embellish our accomplishments as seafaring men and women. No problem is too big and any sea conditions can be overcome. Its funny how quickly the dock talk becomes history when things head south.

Last July Susan and I decided to take our Amanha to Ganges to for a relaxing weekend. Susan invited, Helen, a friend of hers to join us. We usually cruise without guests so I took this opportunity to demonstrate my responsibility as the skipper and familiarize our guest to our boat. Susan’s friend informed me she was an experienced boater and didn’t require my dissertation on the merits of seamanship as written by Chapman.

The day was beautiful; sunshine, no wind and calm seas. Our course across the Gulf of Georgia was from Point Roberts to Active Pass. Since the weather was favourable we decided to move to the upper deck. The women were sun tanning as I steered for Active Pass. Sue went below to bring up some snacks. Her friend decided she would sit on the bench seat at the helm. Sitting facing the stern she stood up and turned to face inboard. As I turned to look in her direction all I saw was a pair of size 6 running shoes attached to a pair of legs that were below the shoes.

MOB MOB!!! Well versed skipper that I am, I knew the drill: spot the person, slow down, and turn the vessel towards the MOB.

WHOOPS, boat won’t slow down; bolt has fallen out of the throttle! At that moment Susan is coming up the hatch to the fly bridge with a large bowl of cherries. Look out, look out, Helen’s in the water. (Sue) What!! (Bob) She fell over the side!

I race to the lower helm, slow down the boat and locate Helen in the water. We bring the boat close to MOB and she swims to the boat. I lift her on to the swim grid as we all join in nervous laughter.

Helen’s primary concern is that her hair is ruined and wants to know where she can shower and redo her hair. Susan explains this is the Amanha not the Taconite and therefore doesn’t have those amenities.

We continue on to Ganges (staying below): Helen and Susan laughing about her dunking and blaming the skipper for the event. I laugh but I am feeling the effects of a mishap that could have had a different outcome.

What did I learn from this? Problems and mishaps don’t just happen but are the result of a series of little events or conditions that lead to the end result. Clearly, I should neither have been embarrassed about my passenger orientation to the boat, nor should I have simply accepted her assertion that she was an experienced boater. I, as the skipper, was legally and morally responsible for this potentially tragic accident.

Bob Shaw, Vice Commodore
Member #1050

Amanha is for sale!
Asking $55,000
No, not because of the story above, but because Bob has recently purchased Tsona, a 1950, 48’ Ed Monk design built by Allen Shipyards
1937 Ted Geary design, built at Malcolm Shipyards
34’ LOA, single Ford diesel
Contact Bob at:
rg.shaw@shaw.ca