

# THUNDER BAY YACHT CLUB

Supporting boating since 1945

## THE BULLETIN



SEPTEMBER 2024

### from the Commodore

Hello fellow TBYC members,

Summer has begun winding down! In my opinion, it has been a wonderful summer with plenty of opportunities to enjoy all the splendour our Thunder Bay waters present.

Upon talking with many local boaters, I got a sense of many pleasurable adventures had by many people at different destinations. Stories were positive with tales of social gatherings, BBQ's, fishing, and encounters with some beautiful scenery. To say the least, as Commodore I am very pleased by all that I heard.

If you have any stories or photos, please share them with the newsletter. Sharing our adventures is a good way of building the boating community.

On a sadder note, haul-out is just around the corner. This activity is something we all should begin preparation for. A couple of key notes to consider are as follows:

- prepare a list of items needing to be repaired in the fall or upcoming winter.
- oil changes before haul-out can help to remove oil contaminants that can cause pre-mature wear.
- cleaning up your cradle storage spot with clutter put away ahead of time ensures an efficient haul-out.
- prepare to catch winterizing glycol, and follow proper handling of this substance. Please note storage of glycol on the water front is NOT ALLOWED. Contact Nick Kovachis for proper storage methods.
- when the time comes to haul-out, have 2 assistants available to assist.

All these items will ensure a streamlined end to your boating season.

Let's all enjoy the remaining weeks and weather. Make a point of being on the water with friends and family in these remaining days. Weather permitting.

*Tim Radul*

Commodore



### Upcoming Dates

**Last Haul-Out**      *October 27....2nd weekend past October 15*  
**Close of Nav**        *Saturday, November 9*

Contents	page
From the Commodore	1
Membership	2
Destinations	2
Launch and Haul	3
Social	3
Storage	4
Racing	5
Lighthouse Flashes	7
from the Newsletter editor	8
Board of Directors	8

## Membership

Shannon Whale - Membership Director

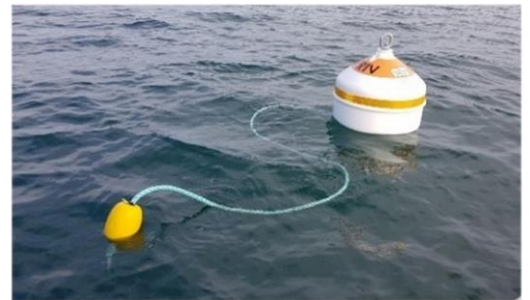
Kyle Stroomer has stepped down as Membership Director, so I will be sitting in until the next AGM when I will likely run for the position.

There has been a lot of interest and membership applications over the summer. Richard and I have started the onboarding process and will announce the new members, once approved, next newsletter.

*Shannon Whale*

## Destinations

After another season of busy usage, the mooring balls at Sawyer Bay, Tee Harbour, and the Welcome Islands will shortly need removal and replacement with winter gear. Help is always needed for this task and if you can offer some assistance, please contact Morgan Ellis, or the Rear Commodore.



## 29<sup>th</sup> SUNORA - Superior North-shore Regatta

SUNORA 2024 took place through the last week of July and went to RedRock and back. Seven boats and their crews enjoyed a race/ cruise between some of the most beautiful harbours along our fabulous Lake Superior shore.

Banquet, pot-lucks, dinghy races, waterfalls, and some close racing from anchorage to anchorage were part of the fun, along with great camaraderie and a journey in the safety of others. Overall 'podium' results were *Giant Flyer*, *Sirocco*, and *Neverland*. Put it on your schedule for next year... when we celebrate a tradition of 30 great years of family sailing adventure.



Photo: Andrew Hail

## Shoreline clean up

For the past number of years, Thunder Bay Yacht Club members have helped clear sections of the Sleeping Giant Provincial Park coast of debris and garbage. Although the event was not formally held this year, portions of park shoreline and the Welcomes were walked and cleaned. A fair bit of plastic debris from bottles, rope, straws, balloons, to even a toilet seat lid and hypodermic needles (alas) were removed.

Please walk a beach and pick up any garbage or debris... the waters edge sure looks better without it.

## Launch & Haul

Mitch Sandberg - Launch & Haul Director

Hope everyone had a fantastic summer on the water with some great boating, racing and cruising.

Haul-out is coming soon .... please remember to have minimal fuel on board for power boats, holding tanks pumped out, dinghy removed from boat. For sailboats, either the forestay or backstay must be removed prior to entering the slip.

Make sure your blocking is prepared and/or cradle is ready for your boat to sit on for the winter. Your storage area should be tidy, grass cut, and without debris or hazards. Ensure the pads can be positioned unaided in the appropriate orientation to receive the boat without needing anyone to be under the boat to hold them.

Reminder to have minimum of 2 helpers per boat to assist with haul-out, blocking, and cradle.

Ensure you have marked where your slings go if you don't already have stickers placed yet. It is also recommended for sailboats to mark the keel to show the correct placement of boat and cradle frame.

Make sure your mast has your boat name marked on it and is put away on the storage racks with radio aerials, instrumentation, and spreaders removed. Radar units should be placed on the top rack or removed as they could get broken or can interfere with other masts.

Please review the Launch and Haul policy and Guidelines for mast hoist operation found on the website.

If you have any questions or need any help with haul-out or mast removal please contact me at 807-633-4959

*Mitch Sandberg*

## Social

Aaron Tator - Social Director

Greetings Boaters,

It's been a great season out on the lake for the TBYC community. We've all had a blast getting together on and off the water. Though haul-out season is rapidly approaching, there are still lots of good times ahead. It is however time to start thinking about post-season get togethers.

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, November 9th at 18:30 - Close of Navigation.** *Close of Nav* will return to the main hall of Goods & Co, in the old Eaton's building. We've gathered feedback from last year's event, and are looking forward to an even better party this time around.

Please send your favourite photos from the season to add to the evening's slideshow; and start tallying things up for the "Most nights on the hook" award. Email [social@tbyc.on.ca](mailto:social@tbyc.on.ca) with your photos and stats once your season is done.

Stay tuned for ticket purchase details.

*Aaron Tator*



## Storage

Nick Kovachis - Storage Director

The roadways are in good condition and ready for haul-out. Thanks to Richard Matheson for coordinating and arranging deliveries of various roadway materials. And thanks to the volunteers that participate whenever we ask for help. It is what makes our club so successful.

**Mast Storage** - All masts must be stored either on your boat or on the mast racks. Please ensure that adequate identification is located on your mast. This would be your name or your boat name written in marker either on the outside of the mast or inside the base opening. A tag or sticker is okay provided it is easily located. Remember to return the mast carts to the proper storage area between the steel mast racks where they are protected from damage by vehicles or machines. Please do not leave the carts in front of the boathouse or behind the clubhouse. Remember to follow the storage guidelines and ensure that your masts are properly prepped for storage. This includes removal of radio aerials, instrumentation, and spreaders, and properly securing all lines, cables and misc. hardware. If you have a Radar dome on your mast it should either be removed or your mast installed on the top row of the rack ensuring that you are not interfering with any other members property or storage.

**Grass Cutting** - The yard is in pretty good condition. Thanks to everyone who maintained their own site and volunteered to maintain the common spaces. The tick situation was minimal and the same with our groundhog population. We used volunteers and a contractor to cut grass where required. We will continue to do so in the future to maintain reasonable grass height. Most of the sites that were cut involved using weed trimmers due to the extreme height of the grass. We will continue the cutting program next year to help reduce ticks and groundhogs.

**Storage Sites** - Any member whose storage site backs on to a fence is responsible to maintain their site to the fence. If you require fill let me know and we will try to fill in any holes or at least deliver material to your site. Remember that no boating material or storage frames should be stored against the fence. It will eventually cause the fence to lean out and require repair. If trees are beginning to grow, they should be trimmed down and removed. Please take the time to clean your site of debris and old storage materials. Some of the storage sites are messy and we would like everyone to work on tidying up the yard. Remember you are the owners of the club and we all have a responsibility to be respectful of each other by ensuring our sites are tidy.

**Parking** - Remember to park in a location that will not interfere with the Haul-Out process. Keep your vehicles off of the roadways and no vehicles should be parked in front of the clubhouse. If the Travel-lift needs to use that route there is no room for cars along the shore. If your curious about who's hauling out you can log in and review the planned schedule.

**Plastic Containers** - Please collapse any jugs when your disposing of them in the appropriate bin. We pay by the bag for disposal fees and the smaller the volume the better. There are plastic bags that the jugs eventually go into to be disposed of by our service provider.

**Waste fluid storage** - Please use the appropriate storage barrel to dump any oily water, glycol, or contaminated fuel. Engine oil goes in the blue containment tank. Engine filters go in one of the stand-up garbage cans. Do not put any contaminated products into the general waste bin. Do your part to ensure we are compliant and respectful to our environment.

*Nick Kovachis*



## Racing

Bob Vander Ploeg - Fleet Captain -Sail

### GOOD NEWS!

Our racing fleet has recovered to pre-COVID levels of participation. This year twenty-two boats registered for the Wednesday Night Series, and another seven boats have entered one or more single races, or the Offshore Series. The Monday and Friday pursuit races also have more boats racing than in past years.

### RACES ABANDONED

Two Wednesday Night races were abandoned this season so far: one for safety reasons (lightning), and one because no boats finished within the mandated time limit (2.5 hours after the last start).

### "THE FINISH LINE"

"*The Finish Line*", our post-race social gathering, successfully returned in 2024. After racing on Wednesday nights, crews take turns to provide food for hungry sailors at the Temple Reef Sailing Club building on the end of Pier 1. Results are announced at about 9:30 PM. The race committee is very thankful for the permission from Temple Reef Sailing Club to use their building.

### MAYOR'S CUP

This year marked a new race event, the Mayor's Cup. The trophy was given more than twenty years ago for a race to be run on Canada Day. In the past decade, participation on that holiday had declined, so a decision was made to create a new Mayor's Cup race. This race is run on mid-summer Wednesday evening in place of the regular Wednesday night race, using a pursuit race course around navigation buoys inside the breakwall. Before the Club had a committee boat, that's how all the Wednesday night races were run. The race is open and free to all club members. The intent is to use the Mayor's Cup race to showcase our race fleet to the public by having the event near shore, and to encourage new and retired racers to come out for a fun event. This year the class winners were: A Class, *Mongoose* (Mitch Sandberg); B Class, *Rumba* (Geoff Hall); C Class, *Felucca* (Alastair Grant); and JaM Class, *Aeolus* (Jeff Yanchuk),

### REMINDER

Beginning September 18, Wednesday Night races will all start 15 minutes earlier. The first warning signal will be made at 6:00 PM.

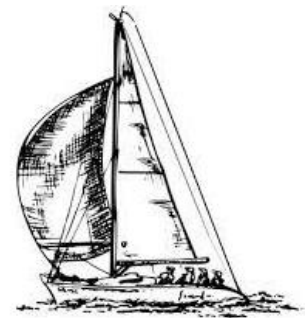
There are only a few racing events left on the schedule:

- Thunder Bay Triangle Race - Sept 7,
- Around the Welcome Islands Race - Sept 22,
- Chilly Buns Race - Oct 5.

### CLUB BOATS ARE FAST!

As always, our Club's racing boats have performed well in out-of-town events:

- Around the Apostle Islands Race, Bayfield WI: *Northern Harrier* (Chris Wells) 8<sup>th</sup>, *Bobsled* (Bob Vander Ploeg) 17<sup>th</sup>
- Bayfield Race Week: - PHRF C Division: *Bobsled* 1<sup>st</sup>, *Northern Harrier* 3<sup>rd</sup>, *Mongoose* (Mitch Sandberg) 6<sup>th</sup>, *Gong Show* (Casey Sellers) 7<sup>th</sup>, - PHRF D Division: *Pennycress* (David Clarke) 1<sup>st</sup>
- 100th Anniversary Bayview Mackinac Race: F Division: *Northern Harrier* 8<sup>th</sup>
- Lake Superior International Race: *Northern Harrier* 1<sup>st</sup>, *Gong Show* 2<sup>nd</sup>, *Bobsled* 5<sup>th</sup>





## AMETHYST WEEKEND

TBYC boats were invited to participate in the annual *Temple Reef Sailing Club Amethyst Weekend Regatta* over the weekend of Aug 17/18. Ten TBYC member boats raced, and several more sailed down to be spectator boats and provide crew accommodations. This event, hosted by Ross and Nancy Bailey for the past fifty years, has become the standout fun racing event on our calendar. The wind and weather were fabulous, the water was warm and the hospitality warmer.

Cam McWhirter's *Bella* won the Windsense Trophy, awarded to the winner of the keelboat class.

## BRIGADOON

Amethyst Weekend also marked the 50th birthday of *Brigadoon*, a C&C 33 Mark I presently owned and raced by Chris Unsworth and Sarah Graham. *Brigadoon* has a long and proud history in our Club and was previously owned and raced by Bob Walsh. Dozens of sailors who have crewed on *Brigadoon* helped to celebrate (with cookies!).



Photos: Lucy Keetch

## SAILORS ARE SOCIABLE

The race committee is planning a monthly sailors' social series for the winter months running Nov through to April. Ideas for education and/or entertainment are welcome. In 2025 a new edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing will be published, so part of the series will be a rules workshop to bring racing sailors up-to-date on changes to the rulebook.

## IMPORTANT MEETING

An open meeting will be held in late October to debrief our season. All racing sailors, skippers, and crew are encouraged to attend. The goal is to improve our racing program for next year. We need to know what worked, and what didn't. Comments, criticism, and questions will all be welcomed.

If you are new to, or retired from racing, and need support or information this meeting is especially for you.

*Bob Vander Ploeg*



Photo: Aaron Leiterman

## Lighthouse Flashes

Paul Morralee - Community Relations Director

As summer fades away, leaving behind cherished memories, where did you spend your summer and how did you enjoy Lake Superior?

This summer at the Porphyry lighthouse it was bustling with Yacht Club activities and support. The club offers free access to the lighthouse for all members, and by mid-August this year, 200 members and friends arrived by boat, showing an increase of sixty people compared to the previous year. The SUNORA event held their awards night on the island after exploring the north shore for a week. It's always inspiring to hear stories and witness newcomers discovering the north shore with the guidance of experienced boaters.



Visitors learn about Porphyry light station and its features

People visit to see the Trowbridge Lighthouse Tower.



In other lighthouse news, the Trowbridge Light 100-year celebrations were successful with many visitors in attendance. A highlight of the season was the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada repairing 80 out of 100 steps to the light tower. Additionally, a small dock was installed at the No.10 light tower for access, and plans are in place to add a mooring ball next year. The No.10 (Shaganash) Light has long been a stopover for kayakers journeying through the island archipelago.

This summer also featured the Annual Lighthouse Carnival at Porphyry, with fish & chips (former commodore Vic Miller as head cook), and live entertainment from Scott Van Teeflen. Many thanks to boaters and volunteers who made it a great event.

Next year holds promising opportunities to explore the attractions and destinations of Lake Superior, a treasure trove waiting to be explored.

*Paul Morralee*

Managing Director, Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior, [www.clls.ca](http://www.clls.ca)  
[clls.managing.director@gmail.com](mailto:clls.managing.director@gmail.com)

No 10 Lighthouse opened up for access work





## from the Newsletter editor

My appreciation to those directors who submitted information for this newsletter. And thanks to all of you who read it. Although primarily communication from the club, it is also every member's newsletter, and certainly improved with your submissions or ideas. If you have a story of any sort, a boat project, a maintenance tip or advice, a suggestion for some reading or place to visit, a photo, etc., please send it in. No matter how small, any submission will be of interest and welcomed. And if there is something you'd like to see in the newsletter, please let me know.

Have a great remainder of the boating season.

*Andrew Haill* aghaill@tbaytel.net



## TBYC Board of Directors 2024

Contact information for the Board of Directors is listed within the member side of the website, ... or make a general inquiry to [admin@tbyc.on.ca](mailto:admin@tbyc.on.ca)

Commodore	Tim Radul
Vice Commodore	Rowan Seymour
Rear Commodore	Chris Saunders
Past Commodore	Vic Miller
Secretary	Lindsey MacDonnell
Treasurer	Dave Saunders

### **Committees**

Membership	Shannon Whale
Social	Aaron Tator
Community Engagement	Paul Morralee
Bulletin - newsletter	Andrew Haill
Mission Clubhouse	Graeme Saukko-Sved
Storage	Nick Kovachis
Docking	Don DeBruyne
Launch & Haul	Mitch Sandberg
Fleet Captain Sail	Bob Vander Ploeg
Marina Advisory	Morgan Ellis
Facility Manager	Richard Matheson