



SPRING 2020

from the Commodore

Greetings from the hard

It is early May 2020 and we have only just been able to start to prepare our boats and the club for the summer boating season. The year is not unfolding how anyone expected it would. What a way to start the 75th year of TBYC. The situation with COVID-19 is rapidly changing - however our top priority remains the health and safety of our Members. We are operating with the following principles:

1. The safety of club members and employees is paramount.
2. The Club will follow guidance from scientist and medical experts regarding the “best practices” for eliminating risks associated with the pandemic.
3. The Club will respect directives/orders (both the letter and spirit) from the federal, provincial and municipal governments.
4. The re-opening plan will be flexible in its implementation to accommodate changes that may occur as the situation evolves. “It is great to have a plan – but we need to plan for this plan to change”.

The Board and the Flag Officers are keeping a close eye on developments as well as changes to regulations and directions from government authorities. All members should continue to follow advisories and comply with information provided to the public through the Public Health Agency of Canada, as well as provincial and municipal public health authorities in order to protect themselves and their loved ones.

We appreciate everyone’s patience, help and co-operation as we navigate our way forward. We hope to begin launching within weeks. The good news is that the situation is looking positive and the yard open! Please continue to stay safe and keep healthy.

We hope that soon we will be able to resume regular scheduled social programming, racing on Wednesday nights and the Off-Shore Series, as well as just going out for a cruise or overnight to one of the many destinations that TBYC has frequented over the past 75 years. Like all storms, this too will pass. Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay optimistic.

Hugh Briggs, Commodore

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Docking Reflections and Thanks *Feb 2020*

Tim Radul
Rear Commodore

In the fall of 2019, a well needed effort was put forward at the TBYC water front to restore the docking.

After many seasons of damage incurred by ice on the Mission River, TBYC was desperately in need of new docks and repairs to the existing.

Under the guidance of the new docking director, Don Debruyne, and the dedication of past Commodore Nick Kovachis, the project got underway.

A special long reach backhoe was brought in that could place steel I-beams far out into the water way. With a hydraulic vibrator attachment on the boom, the piles were driven deep into the river mud. The combination of steel set deep into the bottom will give the club many years of solid piling for docks to be secured upon.



Several new docks were put in place in the late fall. These new docks permit TBYC to allow more of our members to utilize docking space on TBYC property.

These efforts by Don, Nick, and others do not go unnoticed. Nick alone spent 100's of hours welding and fabricating up piles and supports for the docks. A well-deserved round of gratitude goes your way.

On a winter weekend, a small work party was out in action repairing ice damage to the docks, and fixing up the skirting. A perfect opportunity while the ice was solid, and footing around the docks easier for maintenance. Nick even shared his lunch.



In the 75 years since the founding of the TBYC, many members (too many to mention) have stepped forward and given considerable time, effort, and commitment to this club. I take this opportunity to reflect and be grateful to everyone who is helping, and HAS helped bring this club to where it is today.

2020 is shaping up to be an unusual season. With continued member support, and effort by many, let's make this season enjoyable and filled with positive memories of a life time.

Tim

Social Happenings

Shannon Whale Social Director

The TBYC Social Committee had all of the regular scheduled programming set to go at the beginning of February but then, in light of the current situation things are going to be different this year.

Boating Abroad Slideshow – was scheduled for April 25th – Postponed – hopefully in the fall

Spring Breakfast – was scheduled for May 9th – Cancelled

Pier Parties – We may have one consolidated small party. It all depends on the marina opening, what the racing season will be, how we're expected to physically distance ourselves etc. – Covid depending

Rendezvous on the Water - CLLS will be hosting an event at Porphyry on Labour Day Weekend

End of Season bonfire – scheduled for September 19th – Covid depending

Fall Breakfast – scheduled October 3rd – Covid depending

Close of Navigation – scheduled November 14th. It may turn out to be a Winter Storage / Christmas party instead of the traditional end of season dinner and awards presentations - it all depends on what happens. Save the date.

Shannon



TBYC Directors meetings

The club executive have been meeting a number of times to discuss how the emerging directives and changing Covid-19 situation affects the club and its activities... in addition to all the usual club business.

It's certainly different virtually, but appropriate relaxation wear and nautical beverages significantly assist.



The Yard

Rob Cameron, Storage Director

One, very small positive that has come out of these difficult times is that, with the yard being closed, traffic on the roadway has been minimal. While there are still some soft spots which have been barricaded off, for the most part the roads on the property are in much better shape than normal for this time of year. Likely, some filling and grading will still have to be done before launch.

At this point, the yard water remains off until we get through the run of minus overnight temperatures. Hopefully, it can be turned on early in the week of May 11th.



As of Monday, May 4th 2020, only TBYC members are allowed on site to begin boat preparations for the upcoming season, whatever that will look like. Members may engage contractors under their direct supervision to work on their boats in the yard. Members also need to be cognizant of the fact that Provincial directives/guidelines still apply to TBYC. That means at the Mission property you need to respect physical distancing requirements of at least 2metres (6') and do not gather in groups larger than 5 people. To limit access to the Mission property, the passcode on the gate has been changed. Your remote control or card will continue to operate the gate as before. There is a number to call listed on the key pad at the gate in case of an emergency.

While the Clubhouse remains closed, access to the washrooms via the side door is available. You can also access other items normally stored in the front foyer of the clubhouse through the side door: the Club's first aid kit; defibrillator; fire extinguisher and the sign-up sheets for launch bookings (once that process starts).

Given the provincial restrictions on group gatherings and the need for social distancing the annual spring cleanup will be on hold until further notice. Should you find debris or garbage in the yard please solo 'spring cleanup' and toss it in the bin.

Finally, looking a little further ahead, while a number of projects for yard improvement were planned for the summer of 2020 it is likely those plans will need to be scaled back. If it can be done safely within provincial guidelines and "best practices" we may begin to chip away at improving electrical service in the yard and straightening the fence along 108th avenue.

If you are in the yard please take fellow club members into consideration and engage in health-safe practices: maintain proper social distancing, wear a mask, use hand sanitizers where provided and wash your hands frequently. Stay safe; keep our members and their families safe.

Rob

Marina Advisory Committee

Lindsey Niskala, Marina Advisory Rep.

Hello fellow boaters,

As your TBYC representative on the Marina Advisory Committee, I would like to provide an update on the current status at the Marina in regards to Covid-19.

As I am sure many of you are aware, the recent provincial amendment to the Emergency Order now allows marinas to commence preparations for the upcoming boating season. This includes repairing and servicing boats, placing boats in the water (only to be secured to docks for use once the emergency order is lifted), to enable access to permanent residences, support government operations and for transporting goods on commercial barges. At this time, the Marina will remain closed to the public and recreational boating is still prohibited. Boater Services staff are onsite as of May 6th with reduced hours and security services will commence May 15th.

As more updates become available, I will be sure to keep members updated. Our next MAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17th.

Lindsey

Clubhouse Report

Jim Heald, Clubhouse Director

Our Clubhouse is in fine shape, just waiting for the word that we can use it. Sorry to have to tell you but the Clubhouse must remain **OFF-LIMITS** for the foreseeable future. This is in accordance with Government and Health Regulations designed to keep all of us as safe as possible.

The washrooms may be accessed only from the back deck by your TBYC key. Please wait outside, not in the hallway, so that there are no more than two persons inside at any one time. Washrooms are each equipped with a spray bottle of hand-sanitizer for your use. In addition, they will be cleaned daily by our cleaning contractor. Please do your part by helping to keep them in as clean a condition as possible and maintaining Social Distancing. The hallway to the rest of the Clubhouse has been boarded off for the time being.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

Jim



Message from Launch & Haul

Daniel Dimond, Launch & Haul Director

Preparations for this season are now under way, and necessary maintenance is being done as fast as we are able. Please watch your email for updates as to when we will begin launching boats, and how the sign-up process will work.

As we all know, the way we are used to doing things has changed, and it will affect the way we launch boats, step masts, and use the pump out. Limits on numbers of participants, physical distancing and use of basic PPE such as masks and gloves will be part of the new normal. An email will be sent out before the start of Launch with information on how operations will be affected. Please be ready to adapt and support each other as we all try to navigate these changes.

Call out for Launch & Haul Assistants

TBYC is in need of a number of enthusiastic members to join the Launch & Haul team. *Please contact the Launch and Haul Director at: daniel.dimond@outlook.com for further info.*

As we try to find ways to do things with reduced numbers and limited contact, it will no longer be as easy as just finding people around the yard to help when it comes your turn to launch. Having a reliable pool of assistants is a long-term goal of the L&H program that has quickly become more immediate.

The main duties of the Assistant are (but are not limited to):

- walk with the travel lift as it moves and act as a Spotter during all operations
- help connect and position slings
- help hold boats in position in the launch slip
- help with cradle pads, blocking and other supports

This is a physical job that requires good sight, hearing, and the ability to walk, bend and crouch.

The Assistant is paid \$10 per launch or haul. The time will not be counted towards volunteer hours.

The Assistant will be expected to commit to a full block of launches/hauls for the day. Weekends can be split into a morning and afternoon block if unable to do a full day.

If you have ever wanted to become more involved in the club this is an excellent opportunity. The service you will be providing to members is much appreciated and you will find many thanks for your efforts from those you help.

Daniel

TBYC Mast Crane Operation

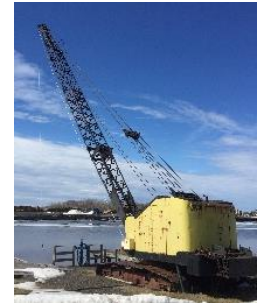
Daniel Dimond – Launch and Haul Director

Dear Members,

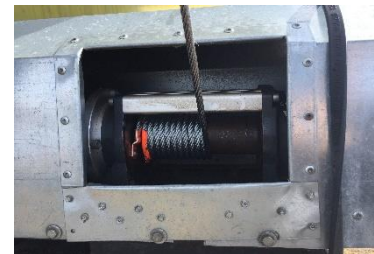
A new winch cable has been installed on the mast crane. To help keep it in top condition, please ensure:



That the cable always remains loaded by not resting the plumb weight on the dock or boat.



That the cable is always winding smoothly around the drum, and is not binding or bunching at one end.



Policies and Best Practices

Maximum Load: 500 lbs / 225 kg

The Crane is for stepping masts only. Do not lift people, boats, or other objects.

For use by persons with mast stepping experience only.

Please ask for assistance if you need it, there are many helpful and knowledgeable folks within our membership.

The boat owner is responsible for ensuring adequate assistance is available for the safe raising or lowering of the mast. A minimum crew of 3 is recommended.



Ensure the person operating the winch is familiar with the controls and the signals you will be using. Agree on simple hand and voice signals, and who will give them.

A call of '**Stop**' can be given by anyone and should be acted on immediately.

Consider the use of tag lines to control the mast, and to retrieve your sling or loop after it has been raised.

Never stand under the load!

When it comes to connecting your mast to the crane there are many options. Each mast is different in weight and balance, and there is no one solution for every case.

Some folks prefer to use stout rope and good knots, while others make use of slings and shackles, and sometimes a combination of techniques is necessary.



Whatever your method take your time, double check your rigging, and communicate clearly so there are no surprises.

There are slings of different lengths stored in the control box, along with two different sized shackles. Feel free to use them but please, treat them with care and, return them in good repair to the box after you are done.

If you have questions or concerns about using the mast crane please contact the Launch and Haul Director or Facility Manager. Their contact info can be found on the website or through the member directory.

Thanks to everyone for using this club resource safely and responsibly.

Daniel Dimond – Launch and Haul Director

Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior

Paul Morralee Past Commodore

Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior (CLLS) will be offering limited programming, events, and services this season as a destination for TBYC Members. Docking, interpretive tours, house rentals and amenities such as the sauna will continue to be offered. The host keeper and artist in residence programs may operate in accordance with Covid-19 health regulations. If you are interested in reserving a space for the host keeper program please refer to their website.

CLLS will be hosting another Rendezvous on the Water event at Porphyry on Labour Day Weekend to coincide with the arrival of the Monarch Butterfly and include a corn roast. Last year 163 club members, along with the SUNORA regatta visited Porphyry Island. For further information go to ccls.ca.

Silver Islet Harbour

As many have heard, the Silver Islet Safe Harbour is being repaired after being closed for the past five years. The repair funds come from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada who are responsible to maintain the infrastructure. The harbour repairs include: reinforcing the north breakwater, removal of old wooden docks, installation of a new pier (parallel to the Burnt Island Channel), boat launch (new location) and floating docks. The new floating docks are to align with the breakwater and will provide 12 slips, including space for charter operations.

The construction work has recently been stalled due to Covid-19 pandemic. Upon lifting of provincial regulations, it's expected the work will take another month to complete. The harbour management & revenues will be managed by the Silver Islet Harbour Association, with board representation from the Silver Islet Yacht Club, Silver Islet Campers Association and the Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior.



SUNORA

Calling all sailing vessels. All power vessels.... SUNORA 25 - "The Reunion".

It may be all for naught, but hopeful planning is occurring for the 25th SUNORA regatta. That's 25 years of boating to some of the most beautiful harbours on Superior's North Shore, with evenings spent mooring with others for social fun and comradery. If you're a sailor, you're pitting your skills against the rest of the fleet in daily races from anchorage to anchorage. If you're a powerboater you'll have time to explore and discover places along the way.

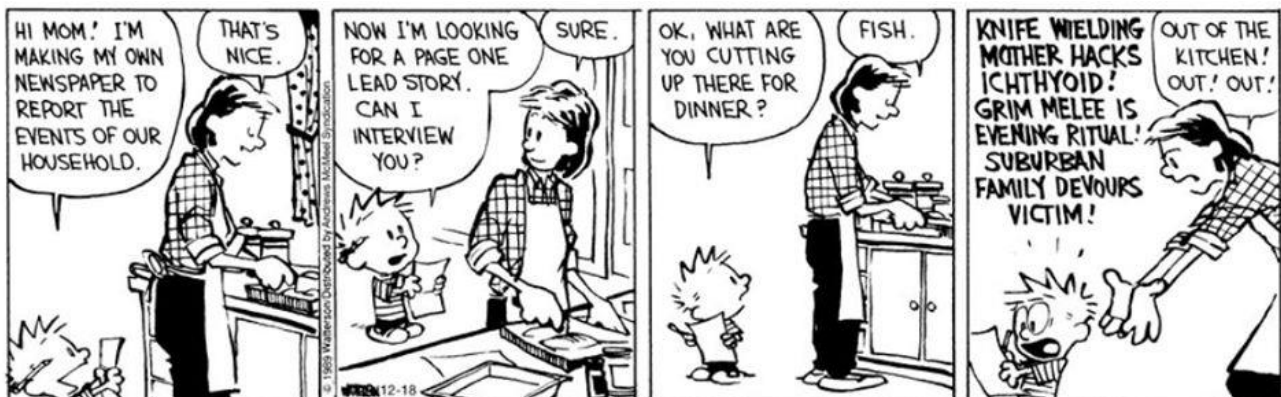
This year the destination is Rossport, and the dates July 25th to Aug 1st. Maybe you've always wanted to participate, but never found the time. Maybe you did it 20 years ago and you'd like to try it again. If you are newer to boating, there's possibly no better way to experience our great shoreline than with a group.

Things may change significantly depending on how the Covid-19 situation plays out... we're hoping Sunora can happen... it may have to be a little less social and with solo anchoring ... but it may be just the thing needed this season. If you have interest, see info on the club website tbyc.on.ca under Programs and let us know.

breeze from the Newsletter editor

It's been a while since a newsletter dropped down the companionway, and hopefully this will be a new start. As starts go, this boating season is regrettably one of the more challenging and will require some new practices and procedures to ensure all are as safe as possible.

Although it says TBYC newsletter on the masthead, it really is *your* newsletter, and its quality drastically improved with some submissions, ideas, or suggestions. If you have a story of any sort, some advice, maintenance tip, a suggestion for reading or place to visit, please send it in. It doesn't have to be even close to Pulitzer material to be of interest and appreciated. And if there is something you'd like to see in the newsletter, please let me know. *Andrew* aghail@tbaytel.net



Calvin and Hobbes Bill Watterson

TBYC Board of Directors

Commodore	Hugh Briggs	807-344-0654	hbriggs@tbaytel.net
Vice Commodore	Vic Miller	807-683-7073	cmiller@tbaytel.net
Rear Commodore	Tim Radul	807-626-6936	tim.radul@gmail.com
Past Commodore	Paul Morralee	807-472-5190	
Secretary	Rowan Seymour	807-472-5190	rowan173@gmail.com
Treasurer	Chris Saunders	807-630-1511	chris.saunders@tbaytel.com

Committees

Fleet Captain Sail	Geoff Hall	807-473-7556	denlow@live.ca
Docking	Don DeBruyne	807-629-1324	brendon@tbaytel.net
Launch & Haul	Daniel Dimond	403-870-9152	daniel.dimond@outlook.com
Storage	Rob Cameron	807-627-3618	tbyccameron@gmail.com
Bulletin - newsletter	Andrew Hail	807-344-6578	aghail@tbaytel.net
Mission Clubhouse	Jim Heald	807-476-4671	jaheald@netscape.net
Marina Advisory	Lindsey MacDonnell	807-474-9768	lindseyniskala@icloud.com
Community Engagement	Eric Hansen	807-624-7496	ehansen@aviationintertec.com
Social	Shannon Whale	807-344-5914	ShannonWhale@yahoo.ca
Membership	Craig McDonald	807-964-1700	wintersolstice@tbaytel.net

