



Ripples

January 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE

2015 is in the record books, for better or for worse. I think the highlight for the year for me was the reconstruction of the North Dock at a price that didn't break the bank for us. All in, construction and design was completed for below \$150,000.00.

All the credit goes to Doug Clark and Dave Chamberlain who spent a ton of hours managing the whole project from beginning to end. I also can't thank the volunteers enough for their time installing the lower wood, cleats and finishing touches to the dock. There are utility issues to resolve for the whole North end but I'm confident that Doug will get it straight by this boating season.

It was an honor to work with the Board last year and would like to thank Shannon Brown, Paul Cannon and Gui Alvarez for their efforts. This year we have another great board to run the Club with a lot of returning Board members and some great new members coming on for a two year term. Some are serving for the first time on the Board. I hope this brings new energy and ideas that will take us into the future.

Our growth and future depends not just on what the Board does but also on an active membership. Your participation at the Club and your promotion of the Club to friends and colleagues is what will keep YYC energized and growing.

See you in the Spring.

Chris Guard, Commodore

MESSAGE FROM VC FLEET

Happy New Year everyone! The 2015 YYC Fleet Award for Sailing Fortitude goes to the proud owner of the Pearson 30 "Lucky Lady" -- the only vessel left in our harbor as of January 1st!!! Now that MUST break a record at YYC. Can anyone recall seeing a Club sailboat floating at the dock on New Year's Eve in years gone by?

As we settle in to the long winter, I want to keep your spirits up by reminding you that sailing season is only a couple months away! But if you simply cannot wait, a group of YYC-ers are heading over to the Toronto Boat show in mid- January to participate in some pre-season dreaming. Also, I am in the midst of planning the Club boating-events calendar now, so if you have an event you want posted, or would like something added to the calendar for this season please get in touch as soon as possible. We are looking forward to trying some new racing events this year so keep an eye out for more information on the YYC Vanguard 15 Regatta and the YYC C&C Owners' Rally and Regatta.

Wishing you all a New Year full of health, happiness, fair winds and following seas.

Kathleen Murphy, VC Fleet

MESSAGE FROM VC HOUSE

As the Holiday Season comes to an end, I hope many of you had a chance to enjoy the several events and parties that were held at the Club. I want to personally thank all of the folks that volunteered to help decorate the Club and brought the holiday spirit and feel to all of those who attended.

With P.C. Mary Alice and her committee kicking off the season with the Wassail Bowl, and to close the festivities out with our New Year's Eve party Chaired by Bev Roach and Donna Huggins, everyone did a fantastic job. I would be remiss in not mentioning the Fireworks display on New Year's Eve, orchestrated by Commodore Chris Guard and his band of Merry Men.

I hope everyone has a great start to the New Year and I look forward to seeing you all at some of the upcoming events that we have planned over the winter months at Club.

Jeff Waas, VC House

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

One of the official jobs of the Secretary is to track membership dues, with an emphasis on those that are over 3 months due. In this age of multiple email accounts, texts, mass mailing campaigns, etc, sometime things can slip through a crack. Josie and I will occasionally reach out to ensure members are aware of their outstanding balances. The intent is just to be pleasantly persistent, primarily to ensure the member is aware. If you are a member who wishes to only pay once a year or at your convenience, please let Josie know that so she has one less tail to chase.

The board members hosted a holiday party for the employees of the club. It was great to see employees of the club and their family members themselves relax and enjoy a nice meal, without having to lift a finger. They make our season great, so we tip our hat to you for your service.

And finally, in the words of the legendary Ron Burgundy, "You Stay Classy Youngstown Yacht Club."

Bryan Mackey, Secretary

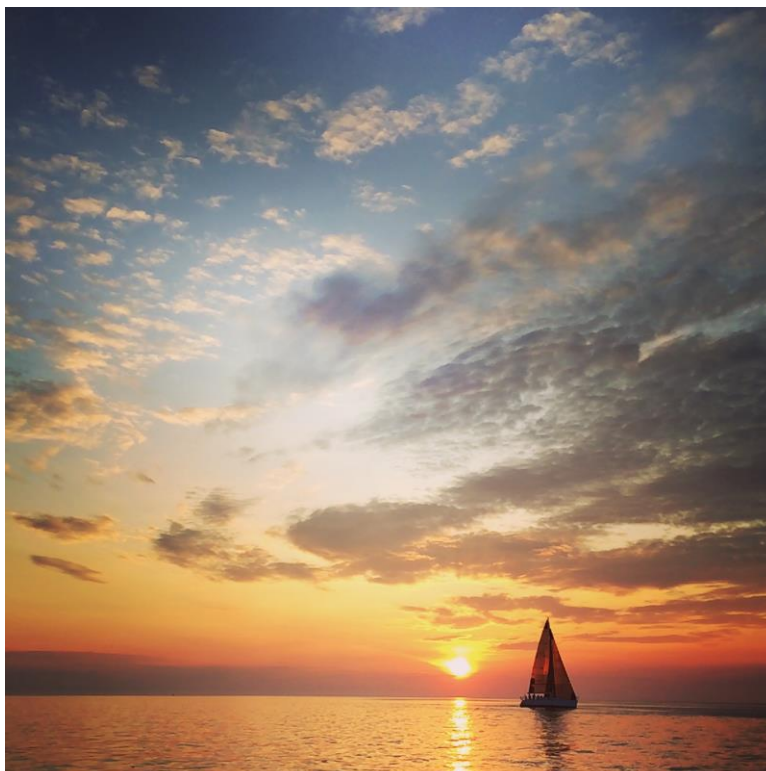
MESSAGE FROM JR SAILING DIRECTOR

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday with your family and friends. As we begin the new calendar year we are only 5 months away from a new Junior Sailing year. The Junior Sailing Committee has already met to begin planning for next season and we are well on our way to achieving many of the goals we have established. One of those goals is to upgrade our Club 420 fleet. We are researching the purchase of a couple of newer, lightly used boats to replace two of our old 2002 models. The idea is to try and rotate the fleet every few years by selling a couple of old boats and buying a couple of new ones. This will be more financially realistic than purchasing a fleet of boats all at once and will allow our kids to remain competitive when traveling to regattas. We are also looking to purchase some new sails for the same reason.

The focus of our program has historically been racing. In recent years there has been an interest in providing an alternative for kids who love to sail but may not be interested in competition. Another goal of the committee is to develop a program that fosters the love of sailing while focusing on non-racing skills and activities. We are in the early stages of sketching out a program to fit this need. Incorporating a keel boat into this program would provide the opportunity for young sailors to learn about boat maintenance, docking, cruising, and general seamanship. We are looking into the possibility of adding a keelboat to the fleet.

Of course all of this costs money. The Youngstown Junior Sailing Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization that depends on donations. We are in need of volunteers that are willing to spearhead fundraising activities. If you are interested in helping please email me at mikededario@hotmail.com.

Mike DeDario, Junior Sailing Foundation Director



Picture from Nicole Mackey's cell phone