



HARBOUR CITY YACHT CLUB



HARBOUR LIGHTS

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April 2011



Members and guests line the rail at the clubhouse in thick fog on January 1, 2011. Photo by the Commodore.

NEW YEAR'S DAY LEVÉE

A dozen or more members and guests braved a very rainy, foggy day to venture over to the clubhouse for the Commodore's New Year's Day Levée, hosted by **Nigel** and **Diane Napier-Andrews**. Those travelling on Rodney's water taxi had an adventure around the harbour when his compass became confused, taking twice the normal time for the journey, clanging through ice flows and sticking on a few unexpected sand bars. Others travelled by the more secure route on the ferry and were kindly picked up by TIM staffer **Terry Heward**, who is wintering at the marina, and who also brought dry logs for the clubhouse stove.

Copious snacks and beverages were available and consumed with gusto by Immediate Past Commodore **John Darby**, Past Commodore **Liz Lytle**, **Jann Coppen**, **Paul Peachey**, back from Florida for the Boat Show, with **Trish Campbell**, plus **Peter and Claudette de Konig**, and **Nancy Kendrew**, all wintering at MQW, **Ted Koell**, **Ralph Thomas**, **Florian Gmeiner** and **Shannon Lyon**, here from University for the holidays.

Boats were checked and found well wrapped and the new sea wall and paving at the marina dock was much admired.

FEBRUARY SOCIAL

Twenty six members along with friends and marina boaters and staff gathered on Saturday, February 5 at The Pilot Tavern on Cumberland Street, with a light snow falling outside. Singer and guitarist **Mark Caruana** entertained the crowd with popular songs ranging from A to V ... "Ain't no sunshine when she's gone" to "Volare." The board of directors were well represented with the Commodore, past Commodores **John Darby** and **Liz Lytle**, directors **Carolyn Callaghan**, **Todd Fraser**, **Jim Ivison**, **Blaine Evans** and **Diane Napier-Andrews** (looking tanned after a month in Costa Rica) in attendance.

Others noted in the crowd were life member **Ralph Johnston**, **Chris Diamond** and **Susan Hannan**, **Nick Cooper** plus his daughter and guests, **Doreen Green** and **Dennis Halfpenny**, **Jann Coppen**, **Judith Schutz**, and **Ken and Yetta Ducharme**, who are surviving the winter on their boat at MQW. Marina staff included **Karen Crow**, **Gord Balantyne**, **Krysten Evans**, and **Jeff Maher**, with boaters **Tracey LeGrand**, **Leslie Wall** and **Derek Saint**, who organized the venue and the food, which was delicious.

MANDATE TO IMPROVE

Your new Board of Directors has met twice since their election at the AGM in November, most recently at the Commodore's residence on February 9. Rear Commodore and Cruise Director **Greg Charron** reported on the reciprocal privileges discussed at a recent Lake Ontario Cruising Clubs Association meeting. Your Board is committed to ensuring this key benefit of membership continues full strength, in spite of some other clubs efforts to limit the privileges of marina based clubs. With this important issue in mind, **Saleem Kassum** has rejoined the Board in the new role of Reciprocals Director.

Also discussed at some length was the question of club house and grounds improvements and it was determined that we should renovate and improve the interior of the club this year. All members are asked to volunteer for the work parties. Efforts will start with the annual Spring Clean Up on Saturday, April 30 under the leadership of Director **Liz Lytle**. Please let her know if you can lend a hand.

The cruising schedule will be announced shortly and will be posted on our website with a full schedule of activities for the season. The social schedule is still under discussion, but ideas are welcome as always. The next Board meeting will be in early April. Please use the club's email address to send the Board any issues or concerns you might have.

ANNUAL FEE REMINDER

Annual fees were not increased this year, in spite of a strong appeal from the Treasurer, so paying your dues on time is one way to keep our cash flow up and the club's finances viable. Inevitably, they will have to go up next year, as we prepare to build up our reserve for future club house repairs and improvements.

Reminders that fees are due by April 1 have been sent individually to every club member. They are still only \$300 for a voting couple (a \$100 discount on two individual memberships) and \$200 for senior voting members. Social or crewing (non-boat owning) voting members pay \$100. Non-resident members, those who were once senior voting members but who have moved their boats far away, pay \$50.

If members cannot pay the full fee by April 1, we still extend the post-dated cheque privilege, but the first cheque must be in the club's hands by April 1. Other cheques should be post-dated May 1 and June 1. After July 1, please add a \$20 late payment fee.

The membership renewal form can be found on the website and can be filled out in one of two ways: either as a downloadable PDF to be filled out by hand and sent in with your cheque, or given to any Flag Officer or Director, or as an interactive online form that goes electronically to the club's email address.



Members of your Board hard at work. Clockwise from foreground: Liz Lytle, John Darby, Saleem Kassum, Doug Shrigley, Diane Napier-Andrews, Blaine Evans, Todd Fraser and Greg Charron. Photo by the Commodore.