



GRAND BEND YACHT CLUB

[click to access GBYC website](#)

Soundings

April, 2008

Respite's 2007

“Northern Adventures”

by David Bannister

2007 was an exciting year for us on *Respite*, as I started racing seriously again for the first time since we acquired the boat in mid-2003. We also entered the 219-mile Port Huron to Mackinac race, with Howard Tims, Rick Zupancic, Randy Brown, Tom Quigley, Brian Hall, and myself (six skippers!) on board as crew.

The adventure was exciting before and after the race, with Rick and I delivering the boat to Sarnia in a 50-knot squall beforehand, and Anne and I getting knocked over by a four-meter breaking wave south of Tobermory on our return!



Limp Sail: Pretty, but slow



The race itself was one of the slower ones on record, with many entrants dropping out. We finished just short of 78 hours to place ninth out of 15 boats in our Cruising B fleet. All but one of the boats that finished in our fleet was within three hours of each other,

so we weren't too disappointed with the results. Plus, the crew and significant others had a great time on the island, all staying at the same Bed & Breakfast.

After reloading several hundred pounds of gear, Anne and I continued on cruising



After the race

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The London Power and Sail



Squadron courses for Spring 2008 started April 1. Boaters have the opportunity to challenge the boating operator's examination. (Next course Fall 2008)

**Next Issue: Contributions
Deadline April 26, 2008**

[click to send by e-mail](#)



through the North Channel for a couple of weeks. One of our favourite stops was at Big Otter Island in MacGregor Bay.

Doug Jones' family (formerly GBYC members) has a cottage on the Island; we had a wonderful dinner there with them and spent a sheltered night behind the Island.

Click for more details and photos of our travels

Notice of Race

submitted by
George Dutka

What follows is for GBYC members additional to David Bannister, who would like to enter the race:



Bayview Yacht Club
Bayview Yacht Club Port Huron to Mackinac
Race Invitation

I am pleased to announce that registration for the 84th consecutive running of the Bayview Yacht Club Port Huron to Mackinac Race is now open. I would like to invite you to participate in the race this year. We have made some changes to our website that should make the registration process faster and easier this year.

We have amended the Notice of Race concerning the Cruising Division to allow boats with a PHRF rating of 60 or higher, (slower), to compete in the division. This was done to enable large cruising boats to participate in the race.

The safety rules have also been updated. We worked with the Chicago Yacht Club during the past months to bring the safety regulations for both Mackinac races into as much parity as possible. In the very near future we will be posting the new regulations and sending out a comparison of the two race's safety regulations. There will be very few differences which should make it easier to prepare a boat to do both races.

Bayview Yacht Club will be holding a Race Seminar on April 9th at 7pm at the clubhouse. The seminar will cover the Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions, Safety Regulations, Equipment Requirements, Cruising Division Rules and how to register to enter the race. We have invited the local sail makers and chandleries to help in assisting the participants equip their boats for the race.

The web address to the Bayview Mackinac Race registration is www.byc.com/mack/register. If you have any questions or concerns just e-mail us at mackinac@byc.com or call Bayview Yacht Club 313-822-1853 and ask for Kerrie Barno.

John C. Burke
Bayview Yacht Club
2008 Mackinac Race Chairman

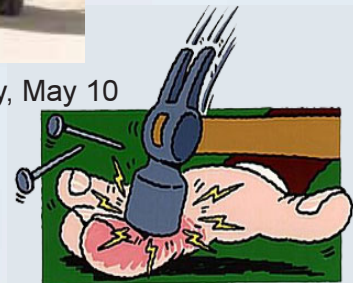
Upcoming Events

Greg Whitlock, the Vice Commodore, (Social Chair), is pleased to announce the 2008 Social Calendar; specific times will be declared closer to the event:

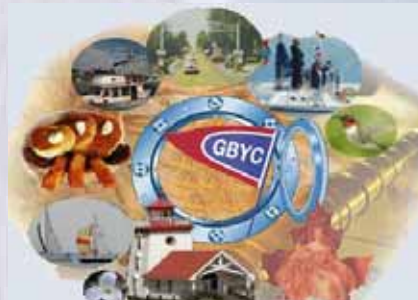


Launch Lunch:
Saturday, April 26

Work Day: Saturday, May 10



Commodore's Brunch: Saturday, May 17



Grand Bend 30: Saturday, June 21



Canada Day Party: Saturday, June 28



Fish Fry: Saturday, August 4



Labour Day Party: Saturday, August 30
(Garbage Pail)



Banquet & Awards Dinner: Saturday, October 4



Haul Out Lunch: Saturday, October 25



Pictures submitted by George Dutka while
travelling in the United States:



Bulletin Board



At the March Executive meeting, Dave Bannister was declared the winner of the “Unnamed Newsletter Contest” for his submission of,

“Soundings.”

Congratulations Dave! And the Editor thanks the membership for sending their suggestions.

Peter and Cheryl Englert made landfall in Florida and are currently travelling north plying their way up the Intercoastal Waterway.



Club Burgees
\$25.00

Notice of General Membership Meeting GBYC
Clubhouse Saturday, May 10, 3 pm

Polar Expedition

Out on the Ice:
Hours of toil for a ship-length of progress



Aboard CCGS Amundsen--Vincent Gagnon, the Amundsen's helmsman at the time, was the first to notice.

“Yes, it's moving,” he said just after 5 o'clock.

The icebreaker's engines had been running at full throttle for almost an hour, starting up after the crew members and scientists spent a second three-hour shift outside in the minus 29 degree Celcius temperature to finish perforating the ice around the part of the ship wedged

tight in a floe.

Initially the propellers were running in forward gear, churning water up onto the ice beneath the ship's hull and clearing the path behind of floating ice. Then Captain Lise Marchand switched to reverse and the floating Arctic research laboratory inched slowly backward.

Now the ship is again stuck and the same manoeuvre is being repeated.

In between, however, those on board were treated to a half-hour of ramming — something novice icebreaker sailors have known about only from movies like *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

In this case it wasn't another ship being rammed but a tough pressure ridge that stretched to the far horizon horizontally in front of the ship. (The not-so-far and much more curved horizon if I am to be scientifically precise with my clichés.)

With several assaults the ship probed the snow-topped ridge. Then it backed up a half-kilometre or so and charged ahead with all 15,000 horsepower. The Amundsen bucked over the ridge, came down clear on the other side, and stopped dead.

For all that sweat in drilling hundreds of holes and for the thousands and thousands of litres of fuel expended, we'd moved forward about a ship-length.

But we now know that we won't be stuck here indefinitely; the ship can be moved by some combination of such devices as flooding the ice with warm water, shifting ballast or fuel between tanks and – in the extreme – transforming ice floes into Swiss cheese.

So the scientists met tonight to map out a campaign of experiments that will draw on their brainpower as much as the last two days have drawn on muscle power.

Click to read more at the The Toronto Star's, Polar Expedition Blog

Click if interested in knowing more about the the ship, CCGS Amundsen: describing the vessel's characteristics, its performance and capabilities, accommodations, communications/data systems, laboratory space, science support equipment, onboard science equipment, its cranes and other vital equipment, its current projects and research history.

Remember When

sailing was just fun? Before there were any organized events, people just went out and enjoyed themselves?

We remember once when the leader of a snipe regatta snapped his mast in the final race, and rather than have a pity party, turned the event into a javelin contest (using the mast). Or when a certain maxi at a prominent regatta was having trouble docking, and the next morning found curb feelers bolted to their toe rail. For this week's video, we wanted to show how dinghy training didn't need to be all about defined goals, and coaches with video cameras. Sometimes all you need is a swimming pool, and a beat up Laser 2 (remember those?).

Good times. Click to watch video.
(Article copied from Scuttlebutt.com)

Speaking of fun... Little Current Yacht Club holds annual cardboard boat racing!



Pack rat disease can strike at any age!

Grand Bend News:

The Tundra Swans came and are about to fly away. There are only 500 left. After this weekend, it's unlikely there will be any behind the Lambton County Museum. They're quite a ways back from the road and people should take binoculars with them in order to see them.



I can remember when thousands of them used to arrive, and they stayed for a much longer period of time. What beautiful birds they are. It's such a treat to see them in their natural habitat. Seems the bulk of them flew to Long Point where the water was open. The fields at the Thedford Bog were frozen a little over a week ago when most of them arrived. It's only the arrival of warmer weather that thawed out their water supply that enabled the few that did arrive. Perhaps more of them will come on their return journey from the Arctic.

Friday morning's web cam shot of the Ausable River and the mouth of the harbour. Only slivers of snow have not melted, with the end of the North pier being free of ice. As you can see, offshore snow and ice remain. Lots of snow fell in Grand Bend this year with higher levels of water predicted--which is great news for owners of sailboats.



Water quality is an ongoing concern for Southern Lake Huron. Boaters need to ensure their holding tank systems are in good repair and healthy, ecological practices are in place with stewardship of the Lake in mind. It's very easy to pollute the Lake, and extremely difficult to restore its pristine character once it's been compromised.

Boating Kerfuffles



Click to watch Caddyshack video on How Not to Boat

Click to watch instruction video on how to catch fish

The Ultimate Personal Water Craft Repellent

BottomJob Cartoons



The Larder



Make Ahead, **Chili Con Carne**

- 2 to 3 pounds lean ground beef
- 1 large chopped onion
- 6 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon dried ground cumin or to taste
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano or to taste
- 2 tablespoons chili powder or to taste (or fresh chilies



- Salt to taste
- 2 teaspoons fresh ground black pepper
- 3 to 4 cups tomato puree, tomato sauce, or fresh tomatoes, coarsely chopped (or a combination of all three)
- 2 to 3 (14 1/2 ounce) cans beef broth*
- 1 to 2 tablespoons molasses**
- 2 cans black beans or kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- Grated sharp cheddar cheese
- Sour cream
- Chopped green onions



* Feel free to substitute red wine for some of the liquid. Water may also be substituted for some of the liquid.

** Molasses helps cut down the acidity of the tomatoes. Honey may also be substituted.

In a large pot over medium-high heat, saute ground beef, onion, and garlic until the meat becomes gray in color. Add cumin, oregano, chili powder, salt, pepper, tomatoes, and beef broth. Reduce heat to low and simmer, covered, approximately 3 to 4 hours, stirring often.

Note: Additional beef broth, water, or wine may be added as needed. Add molasses to taste to cut down the acidity of the tomatoes. Add beans and continue to simmer another 30 minutes. **During the last 30 minutes of cooking, do a lot of tasting and adjust seasoning to taste.** For maximum flavour, cool chili and refrigerate overnight so flavors will mellow. When ready to serve, remove top layer of solidified fat, reheat chili over low heat, and serve in large individual bowls. Set out garnishes for your chili-chopped green onions, sour cream and shredded sharp cheddar cheese make great toppings. (Makes 8-10 servings)

Instant Trifle (Serves 4, Prep Time 5 minutes), extracted from Boat Cuisine,

- Ingredients: 4 thick slices swiss roll or stale cake
Choice of fruit: blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, etc.
4 tablespoons sherry
1 tin ready-made custard

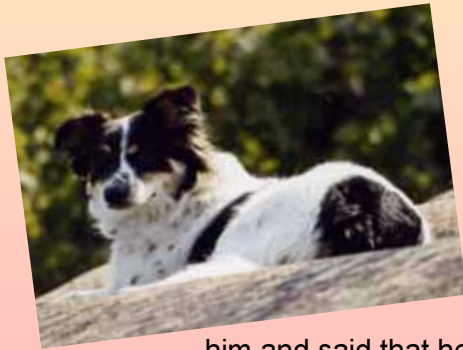


- 1 x 10 oz/275g tin cream
 - Optional Chocolate shavings and walnut pieces
 - 1) In individual bowls place 1 slice swiss roll.
 - 2) Pour a tablespoon of sherry over each.
 - 3) Spoon over some fruit and a little juice.
 - 4) Divide the tin of custard between each dish.
 - 5) Add the cream and smooth over.
 - 6) Sprinkle some chocolate shavings and/or walnut pieces if desired.
- Serve



This Month's Feature Furry Friend,
Drum roll please for:

Nipper



His owner, Bill Newton, the Wharfinger, reports that he is the second person that adopted this puppy. He was bought by a mother and father for their daughter who was going through an emotional trial in her life. The puppy proved to be too high spirited for the young lady and was returned two days later. They, in turn, took the puppy to the Zurich Veterinary Clinic. The parents asked the veterinarian whether he knew of someone who could give him a good home. Bill Newton had just lost his dog, Skipper, an Australian Shepherd; the vet called him and said that he had this beautiful puppy he wanted him to see.



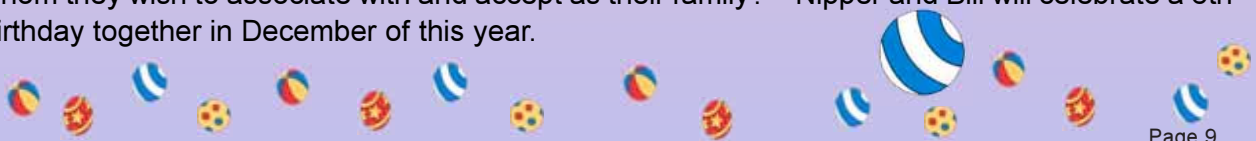
Whether it was love at first sight, I do not know. But Bill related to me how Nipper got his name. As mentioned earlier, his previous dog was named Skipper and this puppy kept nipping at Bill who would admonish him with, "Stop nipping me, Skipper." I, as an aging Editor readily acknowledge being easy to confuse and can therefore readily see how when an owner is irritated by what the puppy does, that the phrase gets wrung inside out to becoming, "Nipper, stop skippering me!"



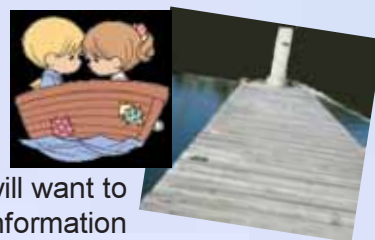
Any of us that walk the docks at Grand Bend find Nipper a familiar sight. I have observed that whenever Bill gets on his boat, "Last Lady," that Nipper enthusiastically jumps on, displaying his physical agility. Nipper is after all a Border Collie who aspires to be active. This breed wants to go places, be active and is not suited to a sedentary life style. They're super, highly intelligent animals and have been used for hundreds for years for herding sheep and other animals. I'm wondering if Bill ever thought about training him to steer the boat. Nipper would, with a modest amount of training, be more than likely be able to accomplish that feat. No autohelm would be required if Bill would take the time to show him how to steer; this would give Nipper something to do to relieve the boredom of being a dog. Many dogs don't even realize they aren't human beings--and believe they're an equal to any person on this planet. Some dogs order their owners around just to show which one is the boss!



Would Nipper be one of those? Bill, you may be interested in reading these stories about other owners of Border Collies...there's another owner like you that has their dog as second ownership and they are delighted with how well the Border Collie adapted to an owner that was as enthusiastic as the dog. Do people choose their dog or do some dogs, like Nipper, make the decision about whom they wish to associate with and accept as their family? Nipper and Bill will celebrate a 6th birthday together in December of this year.

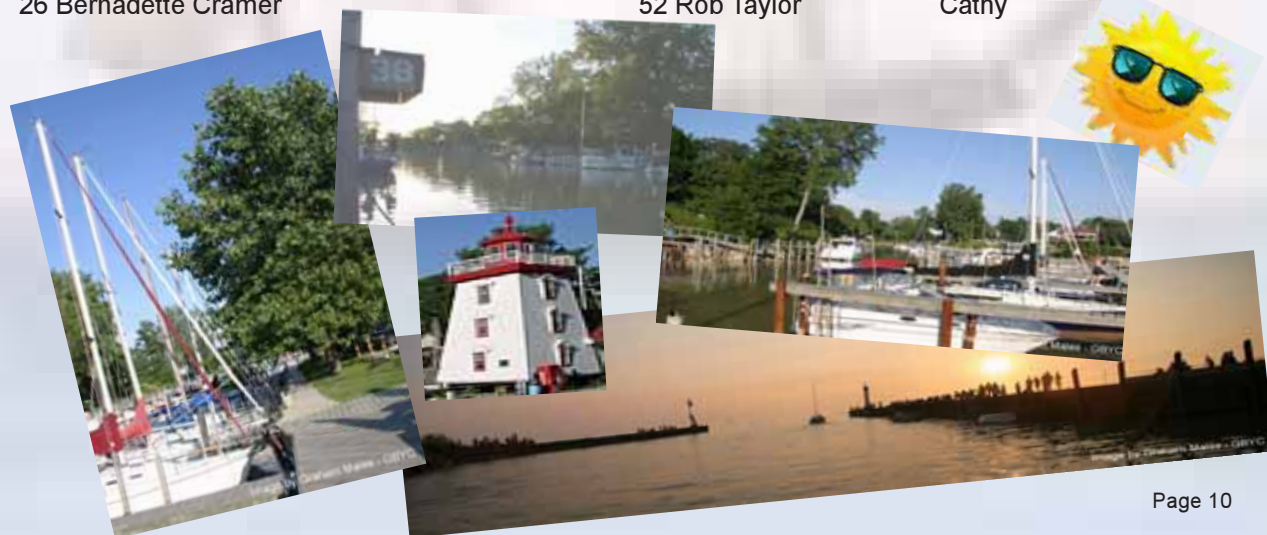


Slip Allocations



The boats are going in the water on April 26th and most members will want to know where their slip is. Bill Newton, the Wharfinger, includes this information in the newsletter for the membership to know their dockage location:

#	Member Name	First Mate	Boat Name	#	Member Name	First Mate	Boat Name
1	Dennis Apostolides		<i>Odyssey</i>	27	Tom Quigley	LeAnne	<i>Nessie</i>
2	John Hood	Alma	<i>Missy</i>	28	Don Chalmers	Jane	<i>Odysseus</i>
3	Stephanie Donaldson	Ted		29	Greg Whitlock	Beth	<i>Seabreeze</i>
4	Susan Giles			30	Bill Ive	Jean	<i>Ragamuffin</i>
5	Nigel Gough		<i>Brigand</i>	31	Paul Gunning	MaryLou	<i>Malinka</i>
6	Harry Harris		<i>Leviathon</i>	32	Bill Vezina	Carol	<i>Family Affair</i>
7	Private			33	Richard Barr	Laura	<i>Jeeppers Crow</i>
8	George Dietrich		<i>Nautlius</i>	34	Howard Lampe	Mary	<i>Lampe Launch</i>
9	David Bannister	Anne	<i>Respite</i>	35	Trevor Mills	Ann	<i>MEERA</i>
10	Bill Newton		<i>Last Lady</i>	36	Stephen Ord	Patricia	
11	Bill Foy	Jane	<i>Anam Cara</i>	37	Peter Englert	Cheryl	<i>Event Horizon II</i>
12	Rick Zupancic	Sandy	<i>Grand Cru</i>	38	Private		
13	Robert Laidlaw	Mo	<i>Zig Zag</i>	39	Bruce Johnston	Deb	
14	Craig Coleman	Darylene	<i>Summer Heat</i>	40	Chris Diepitro		<i>Amici</i>
15	Bill Gray	Barbara	<i>Slow Motion</i>	41	Herb VanWaterSchoot	Mary	<i>Bacchus</i>
16	Dave Maguire	Jennifer	<i>Tempus Fugit</i>	42	Fred Frankakis	Kate	<i>Rocinante</i>
17	Ray Rogolino	Kat	<i>Jigsaw</i>	43	George Dutka	Suzanne	<i>Trekker</i>
18	Howard Tims		<i>Odyssey</i>	44	Mark Compton	Laura	<i>CopOut</i>
19	Dale Hughes	Deb	<i>Oasis</i>	45	Ole Hammerberg	Claudia	
20	Randy Brown		<i>Impetuous</i>	46	Dan Balch		
21	Gerry Jean	Beatriz Jean	<i>Lazy Bones</i>	47	Brant Gingerich		
22	Robert Schwalm	Rose Marie	<i>Rose Marie</i>	48	John McPhee	Mike	<i>Schipperke</i>
23	Bill Morrison	Shelagh	<i>Ataquari</i>	49	Werner Heitzman		<i>Sundowner 245</i>
24	Kyle Proctor	Danielle	<i>CopOut</i>	50	Rita Davis		
25	Sylvia Gozzard	Haydn	<i>Scorpio</i>	51	Dan O'Rilley		<i>Sea Gar</i>
26	Bernadette Cramer			52	Rob Taylor	Cathy	



New Members

Please welcome two of GBYC's newest members, Ole and Claudia Hammerberg.
Ole and Claudia with their new boat



Ole reports, "This is our first "new" boat, a Capri (a 1998 Pacific Seacraft Ericson 333) on the day she arrived in early February from Florida. She is sitting in her slings at Bayfield. In spite of being "winterized" in Florida, everything (toilet, filters, air conditioning etc.) were frozen. The morning she was delivered, the temperature was -15 degrees Celsius. The Capri was brought into the Bayfield Marine Service shop to thaw out. Luckily nothing was damaged, presumably due to seawater and some antifreeze in the lines. Needless to say, we were rather anxious."

The name of their boat is unknown at this time, but they'll be docking in Grand Bend. There are several new members, just thought I'd introduce these two to the membership because they took the time to sent pictures.

Videos and Pics

Hannu's Boatyard is a site by a Finnish guy who offers free plans for two dozen simple plywood boats you can build, along with photos illustrating the build process of each.

The FLIP research vessel is the only ship in the world having the ability to flip from a horizontal position to a vertical position while at sea

Video of the flipping ship.

Video of fastest human powered boats in the world. Kinda neat idea for a personal watercraft...at least they don't have those noisy engines.



Video Boating accident compilations
Why does watching someone hurt themselves tickle the average person's funnybone?



Pictures of a Giga yacht:
When you're rich enough, you just take tropical paradises with you.

Giant Airplanes,
Airbus Beluga

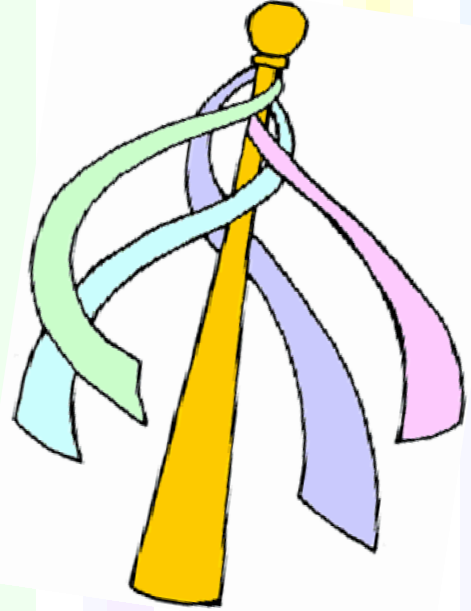


Since July 2004, children and Polar Bears have been swimming together in Cochrane, ON.





May 1



Click to hear
Al Jolson sing
April Showers

Happy May Day

Smile!

