



SAILPAST



April, 2020

Stay Home



Stay Safe

It was a quiet Monday morning in September 2053, when John awoke with a need to go to the bathroom. To John this wasn't just any ordinary day! This was the day he would open the last package of toilet paper his parents bought in the year 2020.

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Frenchman's Bay Yacht Club

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Sailing News

Sail Canada continues to monitor the evolving COVID-19 health pandemic and will provide the Sailing Community with regular updates. The health and safety of our members continue to be the priority. To help provide clear direction to the Canadian sailing community, Sail Canada and the Provincial Sailing Associations are providing the following position statement on COVID 19 and the expected response from sailors and member clubs.

The First and Immediate Priority is for all of our members to Stay Home/Stay Safe and respect the Government of Canada's directive to carefully follow physical distancing practices, to abide by your provincial or municipal regulations, and adhere to regular guidance from your Provincial Sailing Association. The sailing community has the opportunity to be leaders and role models for our broader community and show how our actions can contribute to controlling the spread of this virus. We need to be vigilant and take our collective responsibility seriously for our members and our communities at large.

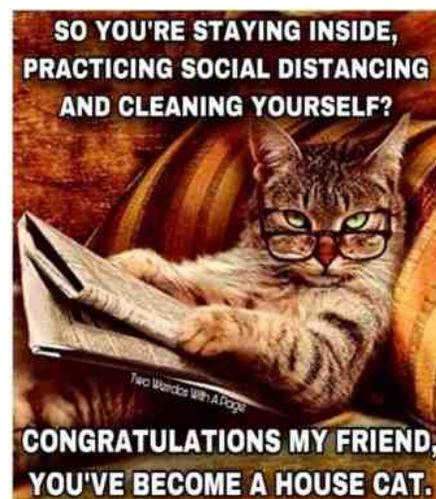
Sail Canada and our Provincial Sailing Associations strongly urge all member clubs, schools and organizations to close the boatyards to boat owners and sailors, and suspend all activities other than those that can be offered remotely, or that are serving the community such as offering take-out food for their members and others if it is safe to do so.

In addition, it is critically important that those returning from outside of Canada (or outside their home province) be extremely diligent and respect the mandated 14-days of self-isolation.

The Second Priority for Sail Canada and the Provincial Sailing Community is to provide re-integration advice when the time is right, and Governments lift restrictions on physical distancing. Sail Canada is forming a Medical Committee that will provide advice on how to safely start sailing again, while still respecting physical distancing and on-water safety.

We ask all sailors to be patient during this time of self-isolation and physical distancing but recognize there will come a time to fully re-integrate back into the sport. Sail Canada and the PSA's see this time as an opportunity to promote the sport of sailing as a great activity to get outdoors, enjoy the water and take part in a sport that is also environmentally friendly. Sail Canada is working on a collective communications strategy that will be shared in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, Sail Canada encourages clubs to stay connected with their members, and join the growing number of clubs across the country that are offering Virtual Sailing races to engage members and those sailors eager to get out on the water, while we wait out the storm.



From the Bow

This has certainly been an unprecedented year. Top of mind daily is the COVID-19 situation and we are doing our best at the Board level to keep the club affairs in order while dealing with the evolving restrictions and recommendations from the Government regarding COVID-19.

Due to the added restrictions, the club is closed and the opening of the sailing season will be delayed. We are hopeful that the delay will be short and that we will be able to still enjoy the season.

We are planning for the worst and hoping for the best. This is a rapidly evolving situation and events are unfolding weekly. So, it will be a matter of time when we will be permitted to reopen.

Being closed does not mean we are not preparing for the 2020 sailing season. We continue to have our monthly Board meetings. In fact, we had our first virtual Board meeting on Monday, April 6, 2020. Thanks to Jeff Blundell and his access to Zoom a video conferencing web application we were able to have the meeting virtually. The health and safety of our members, maintenance of our club facilities and finances and resumption of the operations of our club were some of the topics of discussion at the meeting. The recurrence of high-water levels was also discussed.

In accordance with the latest declaration on March 30, 2020, the Ontario Government extended the March 17, 2020 declaration effective immediately to include the closure of "all communal or shared, public or private, outdoor recreational amenities everywhere in Ontario." This declaration included our club requiring us to close the club to preserve the health and safety of our members and staff. Therefore, members

are prohibited from bringing their boats to the club and working on their masts or docking their boats at the club. The only exceptions to this are the designated Board members who are required to inspect our facilities and ensure that everything is in order. This includes monitoring the water level and addressing flood damage prevention and critical maintenance as required. This is in accordance with the Ontario Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act.

Although the club is closed, we still have an obligation to maintain the facility and to pay our lease, insurance and utilities bills. Dock maintenance including the new service dock will still need to be completed. Therefore, membership and slip fees are still necessary and must be paid for us to meet our financial obligations.

In Summary, we are acutely aware that the Government holds the key to the club's reopening but it is up to all of us to continue to be vigilant and following these five simple rules; Wash hands frequently, sneeze into your elbow, avoid touching your face, keep physical distance of two meters or more and stay home. Once we can manage the spread of the virus, we will be able to resume some of the many activities that we had taken for granted. So please continue to do your part in keeping your families safe. Keeping our families safe will also save thousands of other lives as well.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy

Have a Good Easter Weekend

- Mark

From the Cockpit

I wanted to give everyone an update on the south wall rebuild. We were able to get the old service dock and walkway to A dock torn down in record time in late February, with an early March start on construction. Hawkins Contracting did a great job depositing 40 truckloads of stone to shore up the rapidly failing south wall.

Unfortunately, thanks to months upon months of bureaucratic delays by TRCA in issuing our permit, we weren't able to do this at our preferred time of January, and as luck would have it, we lost the ice just as the contractor finished. Ice always makes the rebuild easier as we can have full access to the work area for steel and wood reconstruction.

And, to further kick us in the shins, Covid-19 decided to mess with our schedule.

So, where does that leave us? Well, there's a bit of good news...We started strong with 4 members (Alan MacDonald, Stu Robinson, Mike Rennie and myself), and when the pandemic concerns started, we went to 3, and finally just 2 people allowed to work on the construction of the service dock, with an aim to at least having the ability to raise masts and have access to A dock for inspection during the spring storm season.

Alan and I are pleased to report the service dock is functional enough to raise a mast now. We have a couple of days work still to provide safe access for dinghy launching once the Provincial government gives us the OK to go forward. On the last day before a complete shutdown of all construction we were able to fabricate a short walkway to the bridge on A dock from the SE corner of the land, at the end of the pathway to B and C docks.

Thank you to Alan, Stu and Mike for their hours of help in sometimes cold weather to hustle and get as much done as possible.

Steve Richardson was also able to get the barge and excavator in for the last few days and pull the old pilings between the service dock and the floating docks, to allow us to extend the service dock out another 40'. The bad news is we have one piling that broke off under the water and we need to find it.

Power is still off to the mast and dinghy cranes. The electrical has not yet been reconnected. We'll get that done just as soon as the government stays we can. The fixed walkway will likely not be completed until we do the extension, which likely will now happen next winter when we have ice access for welding.

Of note, we raised the service dock and the bridge connector 10". You'll notice the mast crane levers are now much lower when standing there! We also brought in 4 truckloads of gravel to raise the SE section of the parking lot by over a foot where it had sunk. Hopefully the result is the service dock and (when completed) fixed walkway will remain dry even at high water. The parking lot should also be dry, or at the very least the puddle drastically diminished. But, there will be some inconvenience to those on A dock getting to their boats this year, hoping that we have a season.

Please give us a little time to get things in order when the government finally lifts the restrictions. We have a shed to move to get at masts, we have steel and wood in the parking lot by the cranes, and we'd like to make the service dock completely safe before anyone uses it, and at the same time we'd also like to work on our boats if we get to launch in the hopefully near future.

The wall construction was completed on budget (with even the added cost of gravel for the parking lot).

The new dinghy chain hoist was installed just before the end of last year, at a cost of \$7,000. The old one had reached it's useful end, and had quietly imploded with just one boat left to haul out.

And last but not least, there was recent discussion amongst the board about water levels and flood prevention, with our general concensus being to wait a bit longer and see how much it rises. However, just a couple of days later, after discussions with the manufacturers of the AquaDam about inventory levels and after measuring the current water level against the predictions, the board decided not to wait and pulled the trigger on purchasing 300' of AquaDam protection for the clubhouse.

For those of you that haven't been at the previous few general meetings, these are basically large water-filled tubes that will surround the clubhouse in a continuous barrier in the event of water levels high enough to potentially breach the interior. Our insurance deductible is \$25,000, so the feeling is spending \$8,000 as an additional insurance policy is likely far cheaper than the repair cost should we flood. The dam should last a good 8-10 years minimum. We'll likely purchase another shed for storage. It will be delivered to the club on April 14, and we'll leave it stored until we see where water levels are in May. It will only take us a day to set up and fill if needed. High water is around June 9.

All this means our reserves have taken a beating, but thanks to diligent penny counting by our committee chairs and treasurer, we'll still have a good amount in the bank.

And so, for now, we're sitting in a holding pattern along with all of you. Staring at empty slips and pining to be prepping boats for launch. I sincerely hope to be seeing all of you shortly under far better circumstances.

Stay safe all.

- Glen

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South Wall Reconstruction Progress

While work has currently been suspended due to the COVID-19 restrictions, there has been significant progress on the reconstruction. Here are some photos that show the current state.







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Club News

Jonathan Oliver has provided the following link. You might enjoy reading a sailor's thoughts on isolation.

https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2020/apr/04/i-live-alone-on-a-boat-at-sea-how-to-be-happy-in-isolation?CMP=Share_AndroidApp_Gmail

Falcon Cup

The COVID 19 pandemic is creating a lot of havoc in the sailing community. We can't get together, boat launching everywhere has been postponed, yacht clubs are closed, businesses are closed and certainly not prepared to discuss sponsorships.

Because of all of the above we have decided to cancel the 2020 version of the Falcon Cup. For those of you who have helped to promote this event, we thank you.

It is our plan to work toward a 2021 version and we can only hope that the pandemic is over by August of next year.

Thanks, once again, for your help. Stay Home and Be Safe.

- Alan May

Upcoming Events

All events have been canceled for the duration of the pandemic.



Social Distancing at its Best!



Club History

A few years ago, Jim Dike, a founding member of Frenchman's Bay Yacht Club, wrote a history of the club which is worth sharing with everyone.

In this, and upcoming issues, we will present that article in full.....a piece at a time!

Looking back 25 years - and Beyond

Intimate Cottage Clubhouse

Our beloved cottage clubhouse was a warm, intimate and friendly place, and it met our needs very nicely, until our membership started to exceed its capacity. Many interesting story can be told about the social functions held there and the nights spent sitting in front of the stone fireplace with friends.

As membership increased over the late sixties, however, it became very apparent that the cottage clubhouse would no longer meet our needs. In late 1971, it was decided to build a larger clubhouse. This action represented a significant change in the club status and not all members supported the idea. In fact, in 1972 more members left the club as a result of this controversy than in any other year.

An Ambitious Project

As a single project, this was undoubtedly the most expensive and extensive project the club had undertaken to that time. Don MacRae, our Commodore in 1971, volunteered to lead the project. He kept a diary of the progress of the building of the new Clubhouse. He also spent an incredible amount of time overseeing the

project. The almost-completed clubhouse was opened at our Sailpast in 1972.

One of the more heated discussions as a side issue of building of the clubhouse was our lovely stone fireplace. What should be done with this significant and sentimental part of our past? This issue was discussed at many general and executive meetings without being resolved. In the end, the fireplace was hit by a piece of construction equipment, and partially destroyed. It was now unsafe and had to be removed. It may have been accidental, and then again it may not have been accidental. Some of our members are not really sure to this day.

The new clubhouse was constructed in such a way as to provide for future expansion as necessary. The area now known as the Regatta Room was left open as a breezeway and used for storage until 1980. It was then closed in and the fireplace was added to bring it to its present attractive state. In order to avoid having to get a bank loan, the members paid a one time assessment to meet the cost of building.

Dock Expansion Program

One of our more recent major efforts has been the expansion of our slips to provide more dockage for the larger boats our members have been buying. Another ambitious project this year was the complete updating of the kitchen and bar area.

With the move away from the Blue Jays in the late sixties, and early seventies, keel boats brought a much larger component of extended cruising into the club. For more than a decade many members have cruised Lake Ontario, and as a result of reciprocal privileges, visited a great number of yacht clubs. Our reputation as a cruising club has been and still is among the best on the lake.

Making Dreams Come True

Not only have our members cruised Lake Ontario, but many have gone further afield. The Caribbean has been and continues to be a favourite destination for our members. In 1983 Newport was also a popular destination because of the increased Canadian interest in the America's Cup.

Our racers have transferred their success in Blue Jays to Keelboats. Cliff Styles has carried the Club colours to the Mackinac race on Lake Huron. Murray McCulloch has carried the club colours with "Sunshine" to the New York Bermuda Race and formed part of the Canadian Team in the Onion Patch races off New York. Locally FBYC has always been successfully represented in Lake Ontario events with one the high points being Jack Picketts "Mandrin" being selected as Boat of the Regatta at Royal Week. Our success in Lake Ontario events is continuing and we expect it will do so in the future

Not to be outdone, our Junior Sailors have been successfully representing FBYC all over North America, and it looks like it will get even better.

Our trophy cases are filled with tangible recognition of the efforts of both our racers and cruisers. For the less fortunate, who get found out, there is always the "Bent Piling Award."

Active Community Participation

The club has always prided itself on its participation in the life of the community, in which it is located. We have sponsored a baseball team in the West Shore Baseball league for years. We have held sailing outings for handicapped children and the Big Brothers organization. In some years we have sponsored a youth to go on a 10 day trip aboard the

Brigantine. Currently, the clubhouse is used by the Ajax Pipe band for their practices sessions on Sunday afternoons, although we are not sure whether this will endear us to our immediate neighbours.

Our Club has also supported the sailing community over the years, with one of our most notable efforts being fund raising for the historic 1983 Canadian entry in the America's Cup 12-metre event.

One of the strengths of FBYC has been the quality of our Wednesday night racing and later in the year on Sunday afternoons. While some of our racers often win Regattas outside the club, it does not necessarily mean that the same people win in club races. This is due in part to the fact that a great many of our club racers have, over the years been very successful in outside regattas. Now they restrict their racing to club competition. In short, some of the best racing occurs in our own club races.



My Self-Isolation Diary

Day 1 – I Can Do This!! Got enough food and wine to last a month!

Day 2 – Opening my 8th bottle of Wine. I fear wine supplies might not last!

Day 3 – Strawberries: Some have 210 seeds, some have 235 seeds. Who Knew??

Day 4 – 8:00pm. Removed my Day Pajamas and put on my Night Pajamas.

Day 5 – Today, I tried to make Hand Sanitizer. It came out as Jello Shots!!

Day 6 – I get to take the Garbage out. I'm So excited, I can't decide what to wear.

Day 7 – Laughing way too much at my own jokes!!

Day 8 – Went to a new restaurant called "The Kitchen". You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have No clue how this place is still in business.

Day 9 – I put liquor bottles in every room. Tonight, I'm getting all dressed up and going Bar hopping.

Day 10 – Struck up a conversation with a Spider today. Seems nice. He's a Web Designer

Day 11 – Isolation is hard. I swear my fridge just said, "What the hell do you want now?"

Day 12 – I realized why dogs get so excited about something moving outside, going for walks or car rides. I think I just barked at a squirrel.

Day 13 – If you keep a glass of wine in each hand, you can't accidentally touch your face.

Day 14 – Watched the birds fight over a worm. The Cardinals lead the Blue Jays 3–1.

Day 15 – Anybody else feel like they've cooked dinner about 395 times this month?



Time to Laugh!

Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.

I used to spin that toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.

I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.

Still haven't decided where to go for Easter ----- The Living Room or The Bedroom

PSA: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.

Homeschooling is going well. 2 students suspended for fighting and 1 teacher fired for drinking on the job.

I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog..... we laughed a lot.

So, after this quarantine.....will the producers of My 600 Pound Life just find me or do I find them?

Quarantine Day 5: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.

My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I pee it cleans the toilet.

Day 5 of Homeschooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.

I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?

I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.

Classified Ad: Single man with toilet paper seeks woman with hand sanitizer for good clean fun.

Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year".... I'm offended.

Better 6 feet apart than 6 feet under

Raw toilet paper for sale \$20



Some assembly required

More Laughs



I'm giving up drinking for a month.
 Sorry, bad punctuation.
 I'm giving up. Drinking for a month.

CRITICAL ADVISORY

8pm is now the official time to remove your day pajamas and to put your night pajamas on

We thought we'd have flying cars by 2020.

But no, here we are teaching people how to wash their hands

Day 2 without sports. Found a lady sitting on my couch. Apparently she's my wife. She seems nice. 😎

A Final Thought on Human Nature!





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