

MACASSA BAY YACHT CLUB • Winter 2019 •

Macassa Mariner



COMMODORE 2019

Report from John Modesto

Happy New Year to all our MBYC members and their families.

"A" dock required replacement of part of the main tube and a team of dedicated volunteers have been busy working on it. They report the work is going very well and the dock should be back in service before the season starts. These same enthusiastic volunteers are also refurbishing two of the "A" dock fingers and that job is almost completed. A big thank you to the guys!!! The excellent weather has helped a lot. We are well ahead of the game for spring!

The end of November brought the "Live Aboard Boaters" to MBYC. Currently we have fifteen live aboard boats on the docks until April 2019.

I look forward to working with our new Executive in the coming year and welcoming new members of MBYC in 2019.

I wish all an excellent and safe year on the water.



MBYC Directors 2019

Commodore – John Modesto

Past Commodore – Jeff Dziepak

Vice Commodore – Ron Knapp

Secretary – Charles Mitchell Jr.

Treasurer – Adam Wilk

Secretary-Treasurer – Sandy Kovacs

Director - Building Maintenance – Ray Lizée

Director - Membership – Carl Easton

Dock/Yard Master – Marc Campanga

Director - Entertainment – Mark Mackesy

Director - Bar Management – Gord Gleed

Sergeant-at-Arms – Frank Harild

Auditors – Rodger Metcalf, Bill Newman

Newsletter Staff & Contributors

Co-Editors - Ian Fox and

Helena Laidlaw-Allan

Advertising - Bruce McLeod

Club Photography - Bob Mueller,
John Modesto, Helena Laidlaw-Allan
and other contributors.

Macassa Mariner is published

three times a year by MBYC.

The Editors reserve the right to

edit submissions when necessary.

Thank you to everyone who submitted

candid photos. Submissions can be

sent to editor.mbyc@gmail.com

Next Edition of the Mariner: Spring

Deadline: April 1st

Macassa Bay Yacht Club

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Please keep us updated on your e-mail listing and phone # so we can keep you informed of any important notifications regarding our club. Send an e-mail to Carl Easton (Membership) through the Club's website or leave a note at the bar.



Some of the frozen DOCK CREW!



FROM THE BRIDGE

Reports from MBYC Executives



SECRETARY

Report from Charles Mitchell Jr.

Happy 2019 Everyone!

As I sit here trying to write this, I am reflecting on this past year and all the challenges one faces with the purchase of a new/used boat. It

always brings a smile to my face when thinking about our club and how many of you are there to quickly lend a hand or an ear to help each other out. No matter what the challenge may be that we face. Trust me, I had many of a challenge with this new boating stage and experience this past year and many of you came to my aid. Whether it be with advice or even hands on help I can say is THANK YOU. You all don't know how much this club and it's members mean to me and my family. MBYC really shows what we are all about during these times.

I would also like to thank all of the members who supported me in running and becoming your new club secretary. I am both excited and scared at the same time on this new endeavour with our brand new 2019 Executive, and the trust that comes with it. I hope to live up to most expectations as I embark on this new learning experience and challenge. My ear is always available, so feel free to drop me an email or sit and have a drink as I get to know you all even more. I welcome all suggestions and advice. I am here to help our club moving forward.

Here's to 2019 and the new challenges that it brings to us.



BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Report from Ray Lizee

The Club Shower Rooms in the main building look awesome, and we've had a lot of great, positive comments. I remember John Modesto was trying to personally thank

everyone at our last general meeting. I had the list of the main players published in our last newsletter, but when I went over it, I noticed I had missed someone. And that was Jim Bowen. So Jim, thanks.

I was able to contact the architect who originally designed our building, Mr. Victor Pala. After all these years, he is still a practicing architect. He even came down for a visit in November and had a look at the work that was done.

The Access and Security system is installed. We switched from our previous service provider, which was Pasword, and have chosen Sonitrol. They operate systems in quite a few marinas in the area, as well as a lot of municipal buildings. Technically they have an excellent approach to these kind of systems. We now have an FOB readers at the front door, upstairs balcony, and public washrooms. The yard gates will be installed later.

As we mentioned, the upstairs floor is looking tired. We are deciding to go with carpet again, primarily for the acoustics, but also because it is non slip and safe. So keep your eyes and ears open for future announcements and calls for work parties.

And Happy New Year!!



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MEMBERSHIP

Report from Carl Easton

When Sigrid withdrew for personal reasons, I was surprised to hear myself volunteer to be recycled as director of membership and apparently the members present did not object, here I am again. After my mental dust settled, I must admit I am very happy to have a role to play in future developments at MBYC. Interesting times lie ahead.

Learning to navigate the membership spreadsheet that I started developing just after I was first elected has been interesting. The spreadsheet is much bigger, smarter and more complex, than the one I created. I will have to shake a lot of rust off my spreadsheet skills. Sigrid has been most helpful in getting me up to speed with the current system and has offered to assist in any necessary programming to accommodate tracking the FOB system.

I have some ideas which I think will be of benefit to the club. If they make it past executive scrutiny, you will be hearing about them at future meetings.

At this time of year it is not possible to give an accurate membership count as memberships are still being renewed.

At this point in the month about half the regular members and about one third of the social members have renewed.



The new FOB security system was up and running. The FOB Fee can be paid at the bar (\$25).

To ease the transition from the card system to the FOB system, there will be a temporary keypad on the club front door and the rear shower room/washroom door. The code is 241#. This code will cease to function on January 31st or very shortly after. After that date, only fobs will open the doors. There will be six FOB controlled doors: the front door, the main gate, the rear door to the sower/washrooms, the balcony door, the shed door and the office. Members have access to all the clubhouse doors except the office and shed. Shed access will be available to those who have permission.

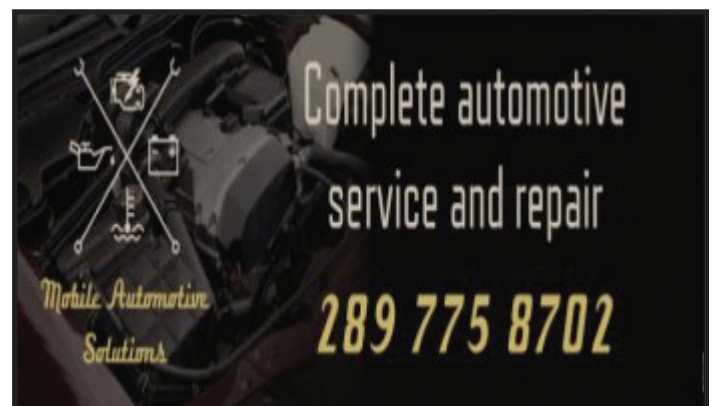
A reminder to regular members to pay for your 2019 membership by January 31st. Memberships not paid by January 31st will be cancelled and associated docking privileges will be revoked.

If you would like to become a MBYC Mariner Supporter and advertise here, or to renew your advertising contract, please contact Bruce McLeod.



CANADIAN TIRE MONEY IS STILL BEING ACCEPTED! THIS IS USED TO BUY TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT FOR OUR WORKSHOP.

PLEASE LEAVE CTC COUPONS AT THE BAR!





ENTERTAINMENT

Report from Mark Mackesy

Since being nominated for Entertainment Director I have been approached by many members offering to help with

the Commodore's Ball, Children's Christmas Party (*Doug Collins was Santa Claus*), Christmas Open House and the other events we have held.

The success we've had is largely due to these volunteers, both regular and social.

We've also started REGULAR FRIDAY EVENTS.

Check out the board at the club entrance for more details. We also introduced "**Saturday Jam Afternoons**" that are every SATURDAY from 3pm to 7pm in the Club Bar. Our first one was on January 16th and was a great success.

Check your Monday Macassa Memo, Emailed each week, to see what's coming up.

Next big event as I write this is "**February Blues Night**" on Saturday, February 23rd in the party room. Tickets will be on sale soon.

Thanks again for all the support. See you at the club!

2019 MBYC Events

•

**Fight the February Blues with...
Music by "Blueswinder" & Good Food**

Saturday, February 23rd
\$20 Southern Supper & Live Band
\$10 Band Only

•

**St Patrick's Day
Saturday, March 16th
Music & Irish Food**

\$

•

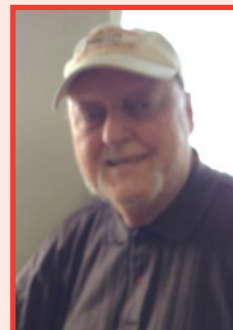
PLUS MORE FUN EVENTS TO COME!

SOCIAL MEMBERS' CORNER



By Tom Falls

As part of an ongoing series of vignettes about some of our Social Members, we turn the spotlight this time on Cliff Goodwin.



Eighteen years ago, Cliff, a firefighter at the time, joined our club with several members of the Hamilton Fire Department.

But Cliff only remained with the fire department for eight years. He had a great entrepreneurial bent and became involved in many businesses over the years. For instance, Cliff was in real estate for thirty years and flipped houses to make a living. He also had a business called "*Accents and Interiors*" which specialized in interior design.

As far as hobbies go, Cliff has been very involved in drag racing where he placed first in the National Hot-rod Association Division #1. An avid basketball player, Cliff competed in the Ontario Basketball Championships where his team won four years in a row.

Cliff has a love for music and he plays the drums in two bands, "*Know Show Smith Band*" which plays rock and roll and "*Blues Winder*", a blues band.

Cliff has three children, all entrepreneurs. His son Shayne, is a general contractor, Michael, his other son, owns a digital media company and his daughter Tracey, owns and operates an interior design business. Tracy has decorated high end homes in Niagara-on-the Lake.

I very much enjoyed my interview with Cliff; he certainly has had an interesting and full life. He loves coming to our club and has a lot of stories to tell.



YEAR END REPORTS FROM THE BRIDGE

Reports from MBYC Executives 2018



Year End Report from MEMBERSHIP 2018

By Sigrid Neumann

It is hard to believe that over a year has passed since I took on the position of Director of Membership.

I quickly found out that it is not just about keeping records. Many situations cropped up during the year that required careful consideration and at times were debated at great length. They included challenges to selection of new regular members, disciplinary matters, selection of a new provider for membership cards, building access and how best to accommodate our live aboard neighbors from next door by reaching an acceptable contract with the City of Hamilton. It became evident that each member of the Executive provided valuable and unique insight to topics of importance to our club.

I would like to thank all the executives but particularly **Sandy Kovacs** and **Barry Costello** for helping me interpret our bylaws and get a grasp on governance. **Adam Wilk** always helped me with my sails and mast so that I would have more time for **Alecja Wilk** to teach me "Accounting for Dummies". It was with regret that just when I felt like I had really learned my job, I had to step aside and deal with some looming health issues.

In December I unexpectedly lost a wonderful friend (Stephen) and will be losing another one (Patricia) in February. Both are casualties of cancer. I am thankful for the Knot-a-Breast ladies who will be a reminder every time I see them on the water, that there are survivors of this horrible disease and that we should never lose hope.

Carl Easton is no rookie at membership or being on the executive and with a little updating of software and equipment, he is ready to take over the management of our database. I am pleased that he has stepped up to take over my duties. Please refer your questions to his email: membership@mbychamilton.org

If you have not already done so, do not wait until the last minute on January 31st to renew your membership and to refresh your application, if you are applying for regular membership. We need details about your current boat for which you have a license or a registration. Do not forget to pay the administration fee of \$20 when you submit your application for Regular Membership. It is required, in addition to the \$65 Social Membership fee, each time you complete the application for Regular Membership. Please make sure that your sponsors are Regular Members and that their names are clearly indicated on the application form.



Year End Report from DOCK/YARMASTER 2018

by Jack Allan

As I pass on my duties to Marc Campagna, I wish to thank everyone who helped me to keep the docks in good condition in 2018.

Especially **Jim Bowen**, who helped me with the paper work that goes with the job of Dock/Yard Master, leaving me to concentrate on the dock maintenance and other issues.

Haul-out went well in October, although we had to bring the crane back for a second day. We ran out of time and light to continue safely the first day. The taking out of each boat was timed this year.

By the end of the year we had the materials to complete and install the new 40 ft section for Dock A. With the weather cooperating, the crew rebuilt two old finger docks as well.

With the live aboard boats coming to the club in October, as a bonus, to expand the hydro capacity to some of the large boat docks, the city updated some of the clubs wiring.

With all of us working together as a team, I am sure Marc will get a lot of support, as the new Dock/Yard Master 2019.

JAM AFTERNOON @ MBYC

**On January 12th we had our first
SATURDAY JAM AFTERNOON
in the Clubhouse from 3pm to 7pm.**

It was a great success!

Various musicians played, including members of MBYC.
Greg Coderre cooked pork roast for sandwiches
(sold out!).

Thanks to Monika Minnis
for organizing the
event and Darlene
Miller and Rose Marie
Baptista for their help.

Mark Mackesy,
Entertainment



AROUND THE CLUB AND BEYOND



MBYC REGALIA *By Martha Newman*



As many of you know, I have taken on the task of ordering and supplying a new line of club regalia.

I have selected a variety of jackets, sweat shirts and collared sport shirts for men and women.

A display was set up in the upstairs meeting room during the club Christmas Open House as well as the Dart Club Christmas Party, so that folks could come and browse, try on things and then place orders for anything they were interested in. All orders being paid for at the time with cash or cheques.

I really want to thank so many members for their positive feedback and numerous orders.

I will be setting up displays and taking orders every month from now through Lift-in and early summer



so that everyone can purchase regalia for the 2019 boating season. A notice of the dates will go out to the membership via email. As well, I will post notices ahead on the club house bulletin boards.

A reminder that crew neck t-shirts in navy and white as well as embroidered caps in 2 colours are always available on a cash and carry basis through the bar when staff are on duty. (See the glass display case at the entrance to our upstairs club room)

Along the way... we are hoping to revise the regalia information and contact data on the MBYC website. In the meantime, inquiries can be made at the bar and I will in turn contact the members directly.

I welcome any input you might have as to items that I might want to add to our selection of club regalia.

Many thanks for your support.

Colonial Group

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MBYC CHRISTMAS 2018



HAUL-OUT 2018

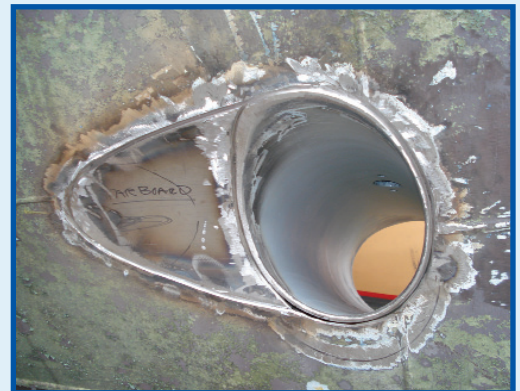


HAUL-OUT 2018



Good news for fellow MBYC boaters who are worried about being squashed when they see this coming. Tom Baldwin's "Charlie James" should be more maneuverable next season..... Finally a bow thruster!

Photos.... Top right: During construction Bottom right: Finished!





How often have I dreamed of taking a boat over to Europe?

At 17 I was determined to work a ship to make the crossing. Although I made the crossing and lived there for a period, it was not to be by ship.

Now, at mid life, a more realistic opportunity may arise in retirement. This past summer we went to visit Malita's parents in Apeldoorn, The Netherlands, who are enjoying their last days on this earth.

Joining us on the boating portion of our trip was Malita, my wife and our children: Josiah, Daniel, Thomas, Chantal, and Natasha plus Malita's brother, Gerrit and his wife Michaela, who live in Germany.

Malita left a week earlier with Josiah and Chantal, as there was enough room in Oma and Opa's apartment for part of the family. Natasha, was already living in The Netherlands, seeking medical treatment for a few lingering diseases, she is still trying to shake, since her internship in Suriname.

The plan was for Thomas and I to fly over a week later and then for Daniel meet us sometime during our stay. Daniel is establishing a business in the Philippines and breaks away last minute. The plan was to find an Airbnb® close to Apeldoorn for part of our stay and then find some adventure for the rest of the days.

Well adventure we did find! Even in my best adventurous spirit I could not imagine what was in store. We found a small ship chartering company in a little town called Woubrugge, southwest of Amsterdam. The most efficient way to get from our Airbnb® was to rent a small cargo van, load up a few bicycles, and luggage. With three of the children in the back seats, the remaining three of us squeezed in the front. I think the family was a bit anxious to see what kind and size of boat that I had rented, but oh well the adventure had already begun! When we arrived at the docks everyone was pleasantly surprised. Though the boat designed by Laan, was originally constructed in the 1950's of steel – the design was efficient and well laid out. With a length of 11 metres (around 33 feet) and a beam of 3.25 metres we were able to house 7 people comfortably and on two occasions, on the trip, we entertained a visiting family on board!



We entered a working dockyard to access the boat; in fact, we were able to drive the van right up to the edge of the water and load up our luggage, food and bikes! The boys happily claimed the cabin in the bow, the girls took the berths in the galley. Malita and I were able to cozy in the stern cabin.

We were amazed at the attention to detail for such an old refurbished boat! Not sure of the type of wood but it was all stained and varnished in numerous layers to perfection!

The weather was unseasonably cold at night. In The Netherlands our boat was referred to as a ship, named the "Albatros". It was a good thing she was equipped with a diesel heater! We set the thermostat a little high at 70 degrees and fell asleep.

Before the sun was up I depressed the glow plugs for 15 seconds and turned the key. The 6 cylinder diesel rumbled to life on the first turn! The galley was soon converted into a dining room and tea was steeping on the stove. The boys threw in the lines and we were soon approaching our first bridge!

The "Albatros" stood 2.5 metres above the water line and the windows on the deck were able to fold down so that we could pass under many of the bridges ahead.

This first Bridge we had 10 cm to spare! Right after the bridge, we saw a cute little bakery on the left of the canal so we tied up and ventured on land to buy some pastries! This was absolutely surreal.

The canal, the old churches with their melodious ancient bells, the Dutch tending to their gardens, countless windmills, farmers working the fields, people on bicycles everywhere, and boats of all shapes and sizes. A smorgasbord of sights everywhere you looked.

Our first destination port was Leiden, where we where to meet Gerrit and Michaela.

They had left from Germany the same morning. Gerrit loves to drive, and has a rather sporty diesel auto. Mind you who would not love to drive the autobahn where a driver can properly test the power of their machine!

The timing could not have been better. We found a berth and not 5 minutes later Malita saw her brother on the other side of the canal!

Gera (nickname for Gerrit) and Michaela were amazed with the space on the “Albatros” and motored with us for the rest of the day towards Amsterdam! The level of the canals are much higher than land (*Much of Holland is under sea level!*) and one can see for miles ... at a few points we crossed, by canal, right over the highways. Then we came to Schiphol Airport and, by way of tunnel, passed right under the runway.

We entered Amsterdam at dusk near the impressive corporate district and tied up right below the Philips Tower. Gera and Michaela took us out for dinner at a fabulous pizzeria. They ordered a very good red wine to go with the delicious eats.

The plan was for our guests to take the train back to their car and we to find a safe place to tie up for the night. In the morning we unloaded the bicycles from the swim platform. We had three bikes so the six of us doubled up and sped into downtown Amsterdam. We were late for church!

I have to give the utmost respect to my family, they adapt to the venture quickly. Speeding through the cobblestone streets of the city without a care in the world! We would have made it on time if we did not have to wait for a canal bridge that was letting some boats through. Oh yes and I believe Natasha read Google® maps upside down for a bit.



Morning tea on the boat.

We had decided to worship at the oldest reformed church in Europe. We did not know it was in the heart of the very active red light district! We parked the bikes and headed inside the Church. The service was a bit dreary, probably because it was all in Dutch. We did enjoy hearing the old pipe organ and looking up at the amazing architecture. The acoustics were simply incredible.

Eventually we found our way back to the “Albatros”, loaded up the bikes and decided to attempt to take the boat into the city by way of canal. Before the trip we needed to purchase detailed canal maps that indicated the height of the bridges and the opening times of the ones that needed to be lifted. This was especially important when going into a city with such a boat turning a boat around could be extremely challenging to impossible. The boys would chart our path and the girls would scrutinize their decisions. It was splendid to navigate the old narrow canals and the low stone bridges while witnessing the bustle of the city on both sides!

The plan was to get out of Amsterdam and head to Utrecht. However, just outside of the city we came across a bridge, that was too low and it would not open till 6am the next day. We had to moor just in front of the bridge, which took a bit of maneuvering and courage but soon we were sound asleep after another full day of delights.

Story to continue in a future MBYC Mariner.

John Vanderkruk is a Regular Member of MBYC.



Finding a place to rest on the canal.

COMMODORE'S BALL 2018



KNOT-A-BREAST DRAGON BOAT TEAM



Happy New Year to our Macassa Bay family!

We wish you all a happy and healthy New Year!

In 2018, from May until September, our dragon boats could be found out on the Bay practicing Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings in preparation for the World Champions in Florence, Italy. All those practices and drills paid off with our third World Title.

Some of the team will be heading to Florida for our Training Camp in April, where Coach Kathy Levy and Coach Doug Jones from the Welland Warlocks will prepare for the 2019 season and end with a Regatta in Tampa Bay.

We have started our indoor training at the YWCA on Monday evenings and the Welland Flatwater Centre on Saturday mornings. There will also be Training camps and Fitness Testing for us to ensure we are ready to start our on-water season in style.

Knot A Breast received an Award from the City of Hamilton on Wednesday, September 26th and gratefully acknowledged the presence and support of our Macassa Bay friends.



Our team outside City Hall 2018 with the MBYC Past Commodores Bill Mitchell & Jeff Dziepak.

WANTED!

**For a variety of reasons, Mariner is getting fewer contributions from members.
We need folks to contribute articles and/or pictures.**

Looking for a way to volunteer at MBYC? Believe you can write?

If you think you can write a couple of hundred words on a marine or Club-related topic, we want you!

We will edit your submission for spelling/grammar. Submissions are always subject to review for content suitability. Send your submissions via email (preferred) to editor@mbyc.gmail.com or drop your article addressed to Helena Laidlaw-Allan, Mariner Newsletter.

CRUISING AROUND THE LAKE

