

The

# ROAR



Volume 29 No. 3

March 2004



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### The ROAR

Monthly newsletter of the  
**Vancouver Rowing Club**

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### STANLEY PARK PAY PARKING

#### Summer Rates begin April 1

All members are advised to be aware that the summer rates and schedules for pay parking in Stanley Park will go into effect on April 1.

Summer Rates are \$1/45min. - \$4/day – 6:00am to 9:00pm

Annual and Seasonal (April-Sept.) parking passes are available through Central Parking 604-684-6634

## Electronic ROAR

Members have the option of receiving the *ROAR* by mail, electronically, or both. If you'd like to change your current preference, email the club at

[office@vancouverrowingclub.ca](mailto:office@vancouverrowingclub.ca) or call (604) 687-3400. If you request email notification please include the address you wish to use to receive the *ROAR*. Members can access issues of the *ROAR* (back to 2001), at the club's website:

[www.vancouverrowingclub.ca](http://www.vancouverrowingclub.ca). Follow the links on the Main Page under 'About Us' pull down menu to the "ROAR" Newsletter' link.



# VRC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 104th Annual General Meeting of the Vancouver Rowing Club was held February 19, 2003.

At 7:12 pm with a full quorum present (59 members registered on the evening), President Neil Stainton called the meeting to order with the introduction of the Executive officers of the Club and the announcement and introduction of the Club's new Honorary Secretary, Roberto Dosil and Honorary Treasurer, Peter Klinkow.

The regularly scheduled business proceeded in quick order. President Stainton presented the club's financial report, which unfortunately lacked audited financial statements. There were a number of wide-ranging questions from the floor on the Financial Statements provided dealing primarily with the relationship with the VRC-RCS, concerns over the accumulating Rugby deficit, financial controls and reporting, and the lack of detail in the Bar and Catering Operations schedule. The membership present voted to accept the Financial Report but not the Financial Statements, which would need to be approved later at either an Extraordinary General Meeting or the next AGM. President Stainton noted that the Audited Financial Statements would be mailed out to all members along with the Annual Report in the next few weeks.

The nominating committee presented the slate of nominees for executive positions, which included the current 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Rene Myrand and Mark Lewis and the current Yachting Director, Gunnar Jonsson; all were elected by acclamation. Mr. Jonsson's election to the executive leaves the Yachting Directorship vacant until the Yachting Executive appoints a new director.

Due to the lack of audited statements, the motion to confirm auditors was defeated and a subsequent motion directing the new Board to review competitive bids for the club audit and empowering the board to select auditors passed.

# Pay Per View Vancouver Canucks



# Chicago Blackhawks



*Drink Specials*

# Friday March 19 5:30pm

## Free to Members and Guests Catch the Action in the Carver Room

### VRC Board of Directors

President Rene Myrand (Rowing)  
1st Vice President Mark Lewis (Rugby)  
2nd Vice President Gunnar Jonsson (Yachting)  
Past President Neil Stainton (Yachting)

**Directors**  
Rowing Andrew Lane  
Rugby Director Andrew Wilson  
Field Hockey Lynn Newman-Saunders  
Yachting vacant



# The Jokers

Apologies for missing the January deadline for those who were wondering...

## NEW EDITOR REQUIRED

The Jokers are STILL looking for someone to take over the editorial duties for the ROAR: If you are interested or have further questions about the responsibilities, please contact:  
Meredith Elliott mer\_elliott@shaw.ca  
Steve Rodrigues steverod10@telus.net

## PRACTICES

Practices continue to run until March 24th.  
(All practices are held at Livingstone Fields)

### Men's Practice Time Update

**Mondays:** 8:00 to 9:30 pm (Last practice is March 22)

**Wednesdays:** 6:00 to 7:30 pm (Last practice is March 24)

### Women's Practice Time Update

**Mondays:** 6:30 to 8:00 pm (Last practice is March 22)

- Combined Division 1 practice
- Jokers 2, 3 & 4 team practices

**Wednesdays:** 7:30 to 9:00 pm (Last practice is March 24)

- Combined Division 2 & 3 practice
- Jokers Orange & Jokers Blue team practices

### For SAFETY REASONS

**Do not leave your bags at the side of the pitch but rather, set up either behind the net or right in the middle of the field...**

## SOCIAL EVENTS PHOTOS

Jokers Orange and Blue hosted the Welcome Back Chill Night...

It was well attended and not only did the 'regulars' show up but there were several new faces out on the town. The food was really good and everyone did a great job of stuffing themselves for the last weekend before serious training resumed and league games began.

Unfortunately, no photos were taken but take our word that it was a good evening.

## STANDINGS as of February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004

### Men's Results

#### A Team (Premier Division)

League competition: 2 wins, 1 tie, 7 losses (2 of which were protested defaults)  
Newcastle competition: 1 tie, 1 loss

#### B Team (Division 2)

League competition: 3 wins, 3 ties, 5 losses  
Newcastle competition: 2 wins, 1 tie, 2 losses

#### C team (Division 4)

League competition: 5 wins, 3 ties, 6 losses

### Women's Results

#### DIVISION 1

Jokers Orange currently first, with Jokers Blue right behind in 2nd place.

Jokers Orange: 10 wins, 4 ties, 0 losses  
Jokers Blue: 9 wins, 1 tie, 3 losses

#### DIVISION 2

Jokers II are currently second with a game in hand.

Jokers II: 11 wins, 1 tie, 3 losses

#### DIVISION 3

Jokers III are currently first and Jokers IV are currently sixth.

Jokers III: 14 wins, 0 ties, 2 losses  
Jokers IV: 4 wins, 1 tie, 11 losses

## England Tour

### August 20th-31st

Victoria Bryan has organized a wonderful tour to England for club members August 20-31. The itinerary involves several exhibition games against clubs in Southampton, East Grinstead, and Portsmouth as well as participating in the Saints & Sinners Mixed Hockey Festival. Included in the package is sightseeing in London and Portsmouth. If one wants to extend their stay, it can definitely be arranged. Please contact Victoria for more information and payment details. Vic1@wwdb.org (Cel) (604) 785-1792 (Home) (604) 448-1783

## GEAR FOR SALE

A website link will be sent out soon to "Members Only", displaying various equipment the executive has acquired for sale to Jokers at very reasonable prices... At the moment, we only have brand new gear, which includes VooDoo, TK, Kookaburra. If things work out well, we might be able to expand the page into a "Buy & Sell". Stay tuned.

## Canadian Men's National Tour

The Men's National Team departed for a tour of South Africa on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004. They played a series of test matches against the South African National Team as well as one game against Germany. From there, they will move onto Greece to partake in an Olympic play-off competition before moving on to Spain to participate in the Olympic Qualifying Tournament.

The Olympic Qualifying Tournament begins March 2<sup>nd</sup>.. One can read about all the details of these on Field Hockey Canada's website:

[www.fieldhockey.ca/e/nationalteams/men/](http://www.fieldhockey.ca/e/nationalteams/men/)

We would like to wish the National Team the best of luck, especially fellow Joker, Mike Oliver.

**TRIVIA QUESTIONS:** How many sisters are currently playing for the Jokers this season? How many have played in the same year during season past? Ask Meredith...she should know.



## JUNIOR SEASON ASSISTANCE

Believe it or not, it's time to think about some spring/summer hockey opportunities. And, we're actually not talking about Mixed Hockey yet...although that information will come.

Last season, the Jokers women's section successfully grew from 3 teams to 5 teams. It would be great to expand the club to 6 teams next season and also look further down the road...One way to do so is to have a feeder system into VRC Jokers:

### Richmond Field Hockey

The Richmond Field Hockey Club has a very successful junior program, and the Jokers have actually reaped the rewards of this system with several current and former Richmond juniors playing on our teams. Many of these players will be coaching for the Richmond club during the Junior League season from April to July. However, even with this support, their club could use more coaches as the number of junior teams has expanded over the years. So, here is a call to arms for coaches and umpires...

The Richmond junior teams range from Under-10 up to Under-18 with groups at all ages in between. Most of the teams require a commitment of one practice night a week and one game per weekend. AND, there is always a need for help to umpire the junior games. ANY help would be greatly appreciated. All practices take place on fields in RICHMOND - Minoru Park is one of them.

If you are interested in coaching or umpiring, please contact Earl Osipov: eosipov@vanhosp.bc.ca (604) 271-2990

Earl can provide more information as to which teams/age groups are still looking for coaches as well as which fields each team practices on. Hopefully, as a result, we can pick up more and more players from Richmond.

### Jokers Junior Program (Under-10):

Field Hockey BC began a BC Schools program this year to introduce the sport to Grade 3 and 4 students. Subsequently, the Jokers have agreed to take on the running of an Under-10 program so these new enthusiasts have a place to continue playing from April to July. As a result, WE NEED COACHES...

The commitment will not be as much as the Richmond program. Helping with the Jokers Under-10 sessions will be only a commitment of one night of coaching/leading mini-games a week ~ most likely on Monday night at 6:30 at Livingstone (at time of print, the executives have not been able to secure a definite time from the Vancouver Parks Board).

If you are interested, please contact your team captain/coach so that they can pass your interest onto the Jokers executive and program organizers. More information will be available on: [www.vrcjokers.com](http://www.vrcjokers.com)

There are about 275 boys/girls participating in the BC Schools program and it is anticipated that approximately 60 or more will sign up for the Jokers Under-10 Spring League. These kids will be split up into smaller groups and be put through some drills and then involved in small games. We will most likely require about 8 to 10 volunteer coaches...you'll get a t-shirt!!!

## WANDERERS sighting...

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, combined Jokers men's and women's teams took on touring teams from Sydney, Australia.

The men prevailed 7-0 and the women also came away with a shut-out victory of 3-0. Congratulations to Mr. Caldecott who performed admirably in net for both games, especially in the second, when his bladder was full from all the half-time/full-time/ and in-between shots beer-drinking.

After the games, all teams went down to VRC where the Jokers hosted the Wanderers until about 10:00pm when the Aussies had to oblige their curfew. The Jokers, of course, did not leave that early and partied until being kicked out of the clubhouse again.

Thanks to Rick Underwood and Peter van den Berg for organizing the teams, and to Victoria Bryan, Barb McDaniel and Kelly Rodrigues for looking after the food and drinks for the evening.

A couple photos from the game can be found in the Gallery of the Field Hockey section: [www.vancouverrowingclub.ca](http://www.vancouverrowingclub.ca) If you have photos you would like to see on the Field Hockey gallery, please submit them to: [mgreen@taymor.com](mailto:mgreen@taymor.com). We are looking for some more team photos and action shots from your games...

And, if you have gossip from any event or in general, you can also send that information in too!!! The Litzenberger sisters will gladly take phone calls but are reluctant to give out their phone #'s...

## SUMMER HOCKEY

**Remember to check when Mixed Hockey begins...for fun, sun, and recruiting more players to the good side of hockey ~ the Jokers club.**

[www.vancouverrowingclub.ca/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=27](http://www.vancouverrowingclub.ca/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=27)

Even if you intend to take a bit of a break this spring and summer, do drop by once in a while and never shy from bringing out a friend/new player. Keith needs his entertainment too.

## The Weekend to End Breast Cancer

Kira, from Jokers 3, is working with The Weekend to End Breast Cancer (Aug. 20-22) and would like to propose a way for teams to keep in shape while raising funds for a great cause during the spring and summer months. Please check out their website: [www.endcancer.ca](http://www.endcancer.ca)

The foundation is hoping to attract 4000 participants and over 8 million dollars in donations! Be a part of this amazing event!

If anyone is interested in learning more or discussing this, please feel free to email or call Kira: (Work) [klummin@endcancer.ca](mailto:klummin@endcancer.ca) (604) 684 9255 or (Home) [klm6of7@yahoo.com](mailto:klm6of7@yahoo.com), 604 723 4716



## CALL for JOKER EXECUTIVE

The Jokers are in need of a **Men's Captain** and another member at large, due to current executive stepping down because of new appointments and moving away. Please contact Peter van den Berg if you think you can help out the club: Pvd71@hotmail.com

With the season coming to a close, please think about the above mentioned positions as well as others you might be interested in taking on (please check this link for a list of positions: <http://www.vrcjokers.com/php/volunteers.php>). It has been rumoured that some current executive members will be stepping down this year so YOUR club needs your assistance!!!

## COACHING CLINICS

Field Hockey BC will hold several Level I Technical courses over the next months. We encourage all Jokers to sign up- they will not only help with your coaching (we're hoping you WILL definitely coach during the junior season - please see the articles about the Richmond Field Hockey Club and the Jokers Under-10 program) but will help you gain a better understanding of skills and tactics required to better your own game.

Please check their website for more information: <http://www.fieldhockeybc.com/>

If you successfully pass the course and agree to help coach a Jokers senior team (men's or women's) for the entire duration of the 2004/2005 season, the club will reimburse your fee, and also cover your Level II Technical course, should you wish to pursue that seminar too.

Go to the National Coaching Certification Program: <http://www.coach.ca/e/nccp/>

## LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

VFHL and VWFHA league playoffs are almost underway...Be sure to read your weekly eZine THE JOKER and/or check [www.vrcjokers.com](http://www.vrcjokers.com) to see when teams play so that you can go and support your Joker clubmates!!!

**MEN:** Jokers B is making a run for Div, 2 playoffs as well as the B Shield title

**WOMEN:** Jokers Orange and Jokers Blue will be battling for the Div, 1 title

Jokers II will be trying to secure the Div. 2 title.

Jokers III will be looking to take the Div. 3 title.

**SUPPORT FELLOW JOKERS!!**

## Rugby Standings

### DIVISION: VRU Div 1

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	D	PTS	PF	AVG	PA	AVG	
CAPILANO	12	11	1	0	0	44	396	33.00	137	11.42	0.917
UBC	11	9	2	0	0	36	447	40.64	131	11.91	0.818
SEATTLE	9	6	3	0	0	24	317	35.22	185	20.56	0.667
MERALOMA	11	7	4	0	0	28	291	26.45	189	17.18	0.636
ROWERS	12	7	4	1	0	30	271	22.58	198	16.50	0.625
SFU	11	5	6	0	0	20	281	25.55	320	29.09	0.455
POCOMO	12	3	8	1	0	14	189	15.75	314	26.17	0.292
BRIT LIONS	9	2	5	1	1	10	103	11.44	298	33.11	0.278
SCRIBES	11	1	8	0	2	4	56	5.09	380	34.55	0.091
BURNABY LK	12	1	11	0	0	4	77	6.42	477	39.75	0.083

### DIVISION: VRU Div 2

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	D	PTS	PF	AVG	PA	AVG	
CAPILANO	12	11	1	0	0	44	370	30.83	92	7.67	0.917
BAYSIDE	13	10	3	0	0	40	262	20.15	131	10.08	0.769
ROWERS	11	8	3	0	0	32	306	27.82	131	11.91	0.727
SEATTLE	12	8	4	0	0	32	279	23.25	154	12.83	0.667
RAVENS	12	6	6	0	0	24	207	17.25	239	19.92	0.500
POCOMO	12	5	7	0	0	20	167	13.92	299	24.92	0.417
UBC	12	4	8	0	0	16	208	17.33	280	23.33	0.333
KATS	13	4	7	0	2	16	169	13.00	232	17.85	0.308
MERALOMA	12	3	9	0	0	12	195	16.25	278	23.17	0.250
BURNABY LK	11	0	10	0	1	0	52	4.73	385	35.00	0.000

### DIVISION: VRU Div 3

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	D	PTS	PF	AVG	PA	AVG	
UCCKAM	11	10	1	0	0	40	339	30.82	52	4.73	0.909
CAPILANO	10	8	1	1	0	34	253	25.30	62	6.20	0.850
GIBSONS	11	8	3	0	0	32	378	34.36	74	6.73	0.727
UBC	11	8	3	0	0	32	322	29.27	193	17.55	0.727
MERALOMA	11	6	2	2	1	28	210	19.09	97	8.82	0.636
ROWERS	10	5	4	1	0	22	209	20.90	150	15.00	0.550
BRIT LIONS	7	3	3	0	1	12	66	9.43	115	16.43	0.429
SFU	8	1	6	1	0	6	68	8.50	173	21.63	0.188
SCRIBES	12	2	6	0	4	8	79	6.58	196	16.33	0.167
ROGUES	10	0	9	0	1	0	5	.50	659	65.90	0.000
BURNABY LK	9	0	2	0	7	0	15	1.67	85	9.44	0.000

### Div I Second-half Schedule

Sat, Jan. 31	Rowers	19	SFU	8	Field 2	-2:30P
Sat, Feb. 7	Rowers	52	Scrives	0	John Hendry (Trout Lake)	-2:30P
Sat, Feb. 14	Abbotsford	30	Rowers	12	Brockton Oval	-2:30P
Sat, Feb. 21	Brit Lions		Rowers		Brockton Oval	-2:30P
Sat, Feb. 28	Rowers		Meraloma		Connaught Park	-2:30P
Sat, Mar. 6	SFU		Rowers		Brockton Oval	-2:30P
Sat, Mar. 13	Rowers		Richmond		Sea Island	-2:30P
Sat, Mar. 20	UBC		Rowers		Brockton Oval	-2:30P
Sat, Mar. 27	Meraloma		Rowers		Brockton Oval	-2:30P



# RUGBY



**G**reetings to all VRC rugby players and supporters. Due to a huge volume of requests, please note that this installment of the *Roar* includes VRU schedules and standings. Remember, our website: [www.vancouverrugby.com](http://www.vancouverrugby.com), has weekly updates available. Hopefully, this information sharing will help communication surrounding games and events.

It is with a very heavy heart that I sit to write this article. As many of you are aware, the Rugby Section lost one of its own. Christian Cruz, Division I scrum half, took

his own life February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004; he was 22. This obviously came as a great shock to many of our members.

Christian was loved and respected at VRC and in his private life. His creative play on

the pitch was inspiring; always the "little guy" who would push all those big forwards around. Ever since he came to the club as a Junior, he led by example and was never afraid to do what had to be done.

Christian's courage, loyalty and pride infected older and younger players alike. He believed firmly in building and maintaining team cohesion and worked tirelessly to this end.

When healthy, he never missed training. He captured the Div. 1 Most Valuable Player Award in 2003 after being described by Coach Sabell as "the epitome of what an MVP should be". His clever instinct, his



## Christian Cruz, 1981-2004

driven heart and his undying determination will be sorely missed.

Off the field, Christian was the rugby ideal: a friendly guy who would share a conversation with anybody. He befriended every

be a source of motivation for the VRC Rugby Section. Christian believed in this club. As cliché as it sounds, we need to do it for him. Both the second and first divisions are within reach of championships.

We need to refocus after this horrible tragedy and use our hearts to fuel our bodies. Turn up to training, get mentally prepared for games and play beyond your size, as Christian always did.

Train hard, work hard, play hard

*Jamie Overgaard*

member of the club and kept those ties tight. Those closest to him, literally dozens of VRC rugby members, rated Christian among their closest and dearest friends and his passing leaves a huge whole in the hearts and minds of VRC rugby. Christian, we will all miss you. Rest in Peace.

I am confident that Christian's passing will





# Yachting

## A WEEKEND OF FUN

24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

**A**wards night has turned into a serious fun event. Instead of sitting through hours of people receiving prizes for things that most of us had forgotten the moment we lost, we now have some serious talent making this a real pleasure. Last year, you will no doubt remember Matt and Sabrina's fabulous "Court of Bad Boo-Boos" when dressed in a judge's wig, Matt had everyone in stitches going over some of the major cock-ups that we got up to with our boats. How do you follow that act?

Steve Creagh and Ruth Blomgren, as Fleet Captain and Entertainments Officer respectively, set about doing something different rather than try and match a great act. They succeeded beyond our dreams with a show that must have taken months of preparation. They based a video show on the TV show "The Price is Right" and used the catch phrase "come on down!" with extravagance, bringing people to the front to answer multiple choice questions as to what they *should* have done in the circumstances that they found themselves. Like going aground!

There was much competition between Ed Karadontis (*Quantum Sails & Dusty Mac*) Julie Kadar (*Kalira*), Claude Gagnon (*Elle*) and Alex Cregan (*Argosy*) as to who went aground with the greatest aplomb. All were awarded new depth sounding devices in the shape of 6ft sticks to prod over the bow to find bottom, as it seemed that they were unable to read their depth sounders with any efficiency. In Claude's case it always seemed to be near Wreck Beach!! Mon Dieu! All the while the questions were shown on the big screen and the answers had us all in stitches. You really had to be there. There were others too numerous to mention who were also honoured. Great sports all of you.

Matt and Sabrina, acting as hairy Racing

Officer and beautiful assistant, gave out the prizes as we sat down and ate our baron of beef, accompanied by a couple of very nice bottles of wine at the table, thanks to Peacock & Martin. Then, after food, we were treated to "the Show" and luckily it was *after*, because I don't think we would have been able to swallow for laughing.

I went home full of bonhomie and three prizes for *Perihelion*. Damn, I was proud of my little ship and her crew. I fell into bed well pumped for the following race day.

Everyone was primed to be aboard by 9am as I wanted to be away early in case I needed to set a pin for Div. #2 boats. If there is not a suitable freighter, I would have to set the course using this pin. And what do you know? Even Jason was almost on time!! So off we went to do battle (some of us feeling better than others after the night before!)

There was a freighter in the right place, there was a reasonable breeze, and we set about getting some practice with the spinnaker, and with my best shouting voice!! But that was as far as it went as the wind died to nothing and 22 boats started drifting about. The race was postponed and we settled down to wait for the breeze to fill in and give us another fun day. But it was not to be. After two hours our Committee boat called the race and let us all go home. A huge let down, but at least we could look forward to a nice steak and kidney pudding at the club that Jodi had promised. This was not to be either, as she had a disaster, the poor girl. Her roommates failed to refrigerate the pie as asked and by the time she went to pick it up it was about to walk off the table all on its own. So she came up with a replacement in a big hurry, and we were treated to a chicken and vegetable curry on pasta instead. Well done Jodi and to those who helped. We love you all!

A fun weekend, even without a race, and look how many are out there! Next time it will blow a gale.

## Awards Night The Nautical Boo Boos Quiz Show

Featuring Tail Gunner Steve Creagh  
Edited by Lyle McKenzie

**T**hose of us who attended the recent Awards Night were treated to a wonderful presentation by Steve Creagh that had us rolling in the aisles with laughter. Talk about bringing the house down. Steve is a born entertainer and a stand-up comedian, (at least that's what he told me). When a helicopter pilot sets you in his sights, it can be more intimidating than a Dean Martin roast.

Steve roasted some club members for running aground and other nautical misdemeanours. As follows are some highlights from his presentation which do not do justice to what occurred. As the saying goes – you had to be there. Steve's presentation was backed up with big screen visuals & audios, which unfortunately we don't have here.

The **Bent Prop Contestants** featuring, in no particular order, even though they all think they are the best thing since self tailing winches:

**Claude Gagnon**, translated from French to Latin = Runagroundus Alloticus

Claude's Hobbies

- o Sand sculpture
- o Jogging in the dunes
- o Digging for sand dollars
- o Beachcombing, AND

**FAIRING KEELS...**

**Alex Cregan**, translated from English to

Latin = Bitchicus alotus

A close cousin to...runagroundus frequentus.

Alex's Hobbies

- o Studying tidal pools
- o Watching the tide go out
- o Watching the tide come in, AND

Fairing Keels

**Julie Kadar**

Whose personal goals this year are to learn how to read a depth sounder and figure out how to repair gelcoat.

Julies Hobbies

- o Soil sampling



- o Rock collecting
- o Exploring shallow waters
- o And you guessed it

#### Fairing Keels

**Edward Karadontis**, which strangely enough when translated from English to Latin means Edward Karadontis.

#### Ed's hobbies

- o Building sand castles
- o Playing beach volley ball
- o Mending sails while tanning on the beach, and yup yet again

#### Fairing Keels

To reduce your draft and get off the sand you should:

- B) Harden up your awesome white sails
- C) Tell Jane to dig faster and harder and get you another beer while she is at it.
- D) Throw your heavy old North sails overboard

#### Answer is

- C) Tell Jane to dig faster and harder and get you another beer while she is at it.

When you run aground, once again, on Spanish Bank which is the closest café to get a coffee, while waiting for the tide to rise?

## The Boo Boo Bunch

#### Starring:

#### **John Hamilton**

Whose personal motto is "damn the freighters, full speed ahead"

#### John's Hobbies

- o John is a collector of anti-fouling paint samples.
- o In particular John prefers to collect samples from foreign freighters at anchor during races.

#### Chris Boswell

#### Chris's hobbies include

- o steering his boat without its wheel
- o And...Diving to free his spinnaker sheets from his prop shaft

The first phone call you make when your wife falls overboard and disappears should be to?

- A) The new girlfriend
- B) Your insurance agent
- C) The old girlfriends
- D) The Coast Guard

What was missing from your boat when you

left the dock?

- A) A Steering wheel
- B) A Steering wheel
- C) A Steering wheel

The correct call to your crew when your wife goes overboard is;

- D) Man overboard

If you said anything else, you're screwed Chris!!!

Which ship is closer to you?

- B) Is the closest ship and PROBABLY the last you will ever see!!!!

#### **Denise Boswell**

Whose favourite saying is "damn that water's cold" Or "Chris where the hell you going? Chris? Chris? Chris, this isn't funny get back here!

Denise is the West Coast trading water Champion and the only competitor to have perfected the one-handed bucket dip back flip entry and for extra style points does it off the back of her Hunter 42.

Flipper was a ??? And could tread water with his tail.

When you finally swim to shore after watching Chris sail away. Your first call should be to?

- A) Your lawyer
- B) Your old boyfriend
- C) The other old boyfriend
- D) Me

Denise you're not really gonna answer that are you?

*That's all folks, The end*

## From Your Publicity Officer

#### *By Lyle McKenzie*

The Roar Yachting section is your monthly newsletter and many of you have responded positively by submitting articles and stories or answered the Story Teller quiz.

I encourage the membership to keep this momentum going. If you have a story, or want to tell us about your boat, have a maintenance tip, an announcement, a suggestion on how to make the club even better, a complaint, or want to run a free ad in our Classified section; please contact me at [adriftwithlyle@hotmail.com](mailto:adriftwithlyle@hotmail.com).

Happy & Safe Boating.

## The Devil To Pay

### What have I gotten myself into?

*By Steve Creagh*

It is amazing how a little chit chat in the bar, can take on a life of its own. Someone mentioned that they were thinking of doing the Southern Straits Race and I piped up that it might be fun to do. A challenge was issued and I accepted. Now, I have to get the boat prepped for the race. Easy, right? I wish.

I now have to get my boat an official PHRF, Ca-Ching 35 bucks please. But before you can get the rating you need to measure your sails and add sail numbers, Ca-Ching 135 bucks please. Oh, but to get the sail number you need to call BC Sailing, no problem the lady on the other end says, Ca-Ching 85 bucks please. Now the rules say that you need 2 throwable lifesaving devices so a Lifesling looks like a good idea, Ca-Ching 160 bucks. We also need strobes for all crew, Ca-Ching 150 bucks, it also requires a secondary night lighting system, Ca-Ching 25 bucks. New radar reflector, Ca-Ching 100 bucks.

Now, by the time it is all added up, including the new radar for night sailing and the custom built radar pole to go with it, things are starting to really add up. So far its 3000 bucks and climbing and that's without getting a spinnaker all set up or the diver to polish the hull. So now I am thinking what the #%^\* I have spent 3000 bucks and don't even have a crew, but that's OK for a few more bucks they will be fed at least.

### The Bottom Line

The cost of racing in the Southern Straits Classic, 3000 bucks and climbing rapidly, but the look on Fleet's faces when we pass them, PRICELESS.

## CLASSIFIED

### Buy & Sell

Want to buy an inflatable without a leak or sell your priceless nautical heirloom? You can reach 428 of your fellow Yachting Section members with a free classified ad. Just e-mail us your details and we will include it in this column.



by Evan Seys

# POLAR BEAR RACE

(Or racing from the perspective of the back of the fleet...NOT )

## FEBRUARY 22

I think the black plague was making an appearance in the Lower Mainland this weekend, because half my crew seemed to be away sick! I got a call from Jack Cooper telling me he was not well, and then I had three calls from entertainments officer Peter Moore, the first one to say he was sick and wouldn't make it, then another to say he was feeling better and would make it, and then finally at 9.30am race day, I called him and he was sick again. Jeez! Then Brett was busy with mid term exams and Georgia (galley slave and all around good person to have aboard) sent breakfast things to the boat with Jason (late AGAIN!!!) because she had a bad back.

This was getting silly, as I had also hurt my back moving a huge sofa. Thank heavens for Gareth who was going to cry off too with much work to do on his old car to get it ready for selling, but eventually realised that a day out on the water was better than any day polishing! So, we ended up with Brian, Dennis, Nadine, Jason, Gareth and myself. This meant that we only had three people aboard who were familiar with the boat and one of those was on the wheel, so it was up to myself and Gareth to get the foredeck sorted on the old Perihelion, while the others dealt with the trim, main and mizzen.

This was all fine and dandy in theory, but we needed WIND to do anything and when we got to the start line, there was NO WIND. This had happened the last few races and it was getting tedious. But the sun was out and there was hardly a cloud in the sky. If

we had to float about, this was the place to do it. The temperature was about 13 in the shade and almost HOT in the sun.

We decided to head off to Jericho to catch a breeze that seemed to be hanging on down there, and get a bit of practise with the

was dying and I could just see us not getting off if this carried on. But finally we could see our sequence about to start for Division #2 so I quickly had Jason put the boat in gear and give her a shot towards the line before the five minute horn went off. This worked well,

because by the time we reached the start line the wind had died to nothing and we ghosted across the line with a small amount of momentum left from the "burn" five minutes before. A great start, but then the light boats all passed us one by one as we wallowed about. I had the 'chute up and down so many times just trying to move the boat anywhere that I thought we would have a mutiny. Finally, with 'chute flapping



'chute. It was just great to see the boat move in these light airs. Then I got a call on the radio that the race was about to start as a line of wind was heading into the bay. I looked back at the start line and then at the line of wind, and sure enough, there was a faint breeze almost everywhere EXCEPT at the start line! But we hastily packed away the spinnaker and headed at top speed back to the QC buoy and the fleet.

We arrived to find the committee boat (handled by Anthony Averay this time) manoeuvring to anchor the boat and make the start line. Dora Lee was doing the job of starting the fleets and for some reason forgot a minute in the sequence, so there was some considerable confusion with Division #1 as they had to be recalled and had to go through the whole thing again. All the time the wind

aimlessly and the boat headed for False creek, I decided to cut the losses and let everyone go. Give them a chance, you know!!

Then we could see a line of wind forming ahead and with it a big wind shift, so I think we made the right decision to revert to the genoa as the fleet ahead of us picked up the wind and roared off. I could see *Southwind III* roaring across the bay having rounded the first mark. That boat just GOES, and Terry always sails best single-handed!

But he was almost half a lap ahead before we got the same wind. Little *Equinox* had kept their spinnaker up and found herself in trouble getting it down as the wind hit, so we passed them gathering speed to the first mark. But the fleet got away from us as we rounded the freighter and headed north across



By Ruth Blomgren

# Drunks On Docks

## Three Sheets To The Wind

the bay in a blast reach. The breeze had risen to 14kts and we were making 7.5-8 knots. THIS was sailing! What a treat. If it hadn't been for the North Shore, we would have kept going. But thinking better of making a dent in Dundarave, we prepared to gybe and hoist the 'chute again for the run home.

We had been catching the fleet but this was too much of a handicap as we rounded the last freighter and saw the leaders heading home! But the sun was out and we were sailing! What more could we want? We headed home, still in front of *Equinox*, so we weren't last!! This is GOOD! We crossed the line in close company with some of the Div. #1 boys and we were overhauling them, so we must have been going well! But it was over almost before it had begun and all too quickly because of the long delay at the start. We headed for home with a sort of quiet glow inside us. This had been a good day.

At the club house, the results were read out for our division and sure enough, we were NOT last! Not only that but we had beaten *Brer Terrapin* as well as *Equinox* by the time handicaps had been calculated into the equation. The winner was *Catalina Blue* in our nine boat fleet (*Arluk II* had quit just before the start because he "wanted to have lunch"!!). But then that's what our division is all about. Do what you like, but ENJOY IT! Full results are on the website at [www.vancouverrowingclub.com](http://www.vancouverrowingclub.com).

This had been a great day. The Div. #1 boys had gone straight to windward and round a freighter and back. This meant that we had the two fleets crossing which was interesting and proved our seamanship. Plus, Vancouver Traffic had routed a log tow through the anchorage and as a result, right through the Div. #1 fleet. This split the fleet. Those that got stuck to the north suffered with little breeze while those who went south managed to keep the wind and came off best before the wind finally settled down. *Lordelpus* pulled off another great win on this day when we had a total of 24 boats out there.

The next race in two weeks is the last of this Polar Bear Series so we look forward to a good wind up party after, and let's hope we have fair winds and a sunny day – ALL DAY.

After Awards Night, wandering back to our boat, I decided to participate in the Polar Bear Swim. It was a split second decision that I made while flying through the air towards the edge of the dock. I've never been one for timetables, so the fact that I was 24 days late, didn't even enter into the equation. Polar Bear swims are all about being drunk and making a fool of yourself in front of lots of people. Well, I only had an audience of one (Steve) but he seemed pretty impressed (or is that depressed). And apparently I had the other part of the equation down pat too.

At the end of our dock we have a T-intersection. There are three pilings in the centre with a triangle of water around them. We call it the swimming pool, because one of the former tenants down here used to put little rubber ducks and her grandkids in there to splash around. Go to the left and you end up at Jonathan and Kuro's boat, go to the right and you find our boat. I decided to split the difference. At midnight. On a freezing January evening. Loaded down with a 15 pound knapsack, \$300 glasses, and little, if no, sense of balance. Yeah, the dock was slippery with green algae, and Steve can attest to the fact that I'm a klutz and I trip all the time, walk into open drawers and closed patio doors, but enough excuses.

All Steve heard at the time was a large splash because he was ahead of me. When he turned around, I'd already bobbed to the surface with a look of amazement on my face, wondering how I could sue the marina owners because obviously someone had removed a few planks from the dock without telling us. The nerve!

Steve, with super human strength, managed to pull me up onto the dock but not without knocking me against the pilings and other hard surfaces – a few dozen times. You may think that falling in the water was embarrassing enough, but no, read on. Ever seen a cat that's fallen in the water? They come out soaking wet and shaking like a leaf, looking so pathetic with their fur matted on to their little ribs. Well, I don't have fur, but that pretty much describes what greeted Steve once he got me to my feet.

Apparently going down into the boat in my condition was not an option. Instead I had to suffer the indignity of being stripped of all my clothes while standing in the cockpit of our boat. My little white bum hanging out for any passing boats to

see. I wasn't so worried about them, they wouldn't know me, it was the neighbours I was worried about. No one has asked to move to a different dock, so I assume that they weren't privy to the show. I got towelled dry the best I could, spent the night on the couch, and awoke to Don King hair. Steve and I then spent a few minutes checking out the bruises, lumps, bumps and scrapes that I had received, and took inventory of my belongings. It turns out the only thing I lost (besides my dignity) was my glasses.

The last bit of self esteem I had went down the drain when I wandered up to the local laundry mart with two soaking wet bags of clothes. Joanne took one look at me and said "what happened to you?" Was it THAT obvious? She gingerly picked up one of my gloves between two fingers, (taking great care to hold it out as far in front of her as she could) and tossed it into one of the washing machines. You don't have to hit me over the head with a brick. I took the hint, and shoved the rest of the clothes into the washer myself. She then proceeded to spray disinfectant on the folding table where I had deposited the bags. What other deflating thing could possible happen to me now?

Oh, did I tell you it was race day? Needless to say, I stayed on shore, and showered, while my husband and crew went out and sat drifting in English Bay for the day (no wind). I told Doralee and Jodi about my misadventure while we got food ready - already starting to embellish my story a little bit. By the time the racing fleet had gathered in the Trophy Lounge, I was getting teased left, right and centre. Thanks DL and J. All I can say at this point is, I think I've got a really good chance of getting the Wet T-shirt award at next years Awards Night.

I'm thinking of starting a support group called MADD (Mothers Against Dock Drunks). I'll be the founding member, but I'm sure I'll get lots of people showing up for meetings. Ever since my little mishap, I've heard stories about other unfortunate dunkings by various members of our club. I get the feeling that it's an unwritten initiation into the yachting section.

You're not really a yachter (or a rugby player) until you've weaved your way down a dock in various stages of inebriation, fallen into the briny, bobbed to the surface and yelled out "who pushed me?" 'Cause of course, it's never YOUR fault.



By Lyle McKenzie

## VOYAGES

### Happy New Year

We have had a relaxing time cruising around the Hauraki Gulf. Lots of good walks ashore. Last year was too cold to tempt us to swim but this year it was very refreshing. New Year was spent anchored off Waiheke Island with 178 other boats - a popular spot. The highlight was Great Barrier Island 40 miles off the coast, pop. 1000. Size about Isle of Wight (I think). Volcanic in origin with a moderate mountain centrally. No reticulation as they call it (mains power, water & sewage). Wonderful variety of anchorages from totally land-locked and protected to more robust on the ocean side. Some old kauri forest remains and a lot of regeneration of native bush. Rare birds that have not survived well on the mainland abound. Excellent views from the top of Mt Hobson (621 meters!). Climbing from sea level it does feel quite steep though. On the ocean side long white sand surf beaches. Best viewed from the boat with an off-shore breeze. People subsisting or 'escaping' from the rat race. Marvellous sound of the 'leg rubbers' (cicadas) in vegetation. Kaka (large parrots) raucously shouting from the tree tops. Brown teal (very rare) paddling round the boat asking for scraps. Despite our refusal to feed them they still visited; one even sat on our side deck and preened in a relaxed way. Large kingfishers are common and are often found deep in the forest. One evening a pair of bottle nosed dolphins followed a boat into our anchorage. Several children dived in to swim with the dolphins followed by less brave adults. In the end nine people were swimming with the dolphins who appeared to be enjoying it as much as the people. As they left the anchorage they swam by and dived under our keel as if they could sense that we were watching. The boat seems to be sailing surprisingly fast. Is it all the old magazines we have thrown out or those days we spent rubbing down the old antifouling with wet and dry? Or maybe just the dead generator we removed. It helps that there is plenty of wind most of the time except when we were becalmed off the Coromandel peninsular with the tide against us. Why didn't we motor? Because the alternator that we had had serviced was overheating and melting! The joys of messing about in boats.

Brian and Clare, *Lantana Camara*

# Polar Bear Race Series

## Some Notes from the Deck of *Lordelpus*

Wow, 24-25 boats now on the starting line for the Polar Bear Series in English Bay every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. The word is spreading and new boats show up every race. Great racing with lots of adventurous competitors, well organized, après race soup or buffet, and great camaraderie in the bar. What's better? This or the couch.

Race 8, 9 & 10 witnessed two new entries that you won't want to bet against for future races. *Allons-Y*, a Beneteau First 36.7, bred to race and *Roadrunner*, a Dash 34 recently purchased soon outfitted with brand new sales by Joe De Ponte. Both boats scored well and this is just a warm-up of things to come. They will be hard to beat once they get their shake-down races under their keel.

*Elle* skipper "Napoleon BonaClaude" decided to get serious in cette campaign. We know he has a great boat with a racing pedigree that, under the former name *Bloodstone*, dominated the Vancouver racing scene for several years. Claude intends to restore that former glory with a pre-season le grande \$5000 purchase of a nouveau main sail. The sail was tweaked by the maestros at the sail loft and understandably, Claude now wants to win.

In no uncertain Gallic terms, he has informed his crew that there are now Rewards & Punishments on board *Elle*. French pastries for the boys for a win and "le grand baguette" for the girls. A loss...we'll see what can happen pour le derniere place.

James, formally known as Butch, early in the series was whacked in the mouth by a swinging shackle which resulted in a broken tooth. An accident while doing bow duty? Je ne sais pas.

In the 8<sup>th</sup> race, *Elle* was doing tres bien in trois place rounding the freighter mark but came out the other side, fell into a hole and let the entire fleet walk by. Claude then ordered a garcon overboard drill. Chris Barry was on the fore deck, and for some strange reason the doused spinnaker sail was draped over the open forward hatch. Voila, Chris takes one gigantic step for Claude and fell through the hidden hatch down into the sail locker below. An accident - je ne sais pas. There is also the possibility that Claude, while in the club bar, overheard someone say "Down the Hatch" and he mistook this for a race tactic to get to the sail locker quicker. Claude, le carpenter, has been seen recently in the workshop, forging what appears to be "le gang de plank."

*Argosy* is currently in first place in Division I but in Race 8 Alex Cregan took a dive to the canvas

and finished dead last. The only possible explanation was he took a fall to preserve his competitive boat rating. You see if he wins every race, then the rest of the competitors can protest and have his rating reduced. Over the years Alex has culled a respective rating of 185, which together with his talent & experience makes him almost unbeatable. In order to protect this rating he needs to deliberately throw a race from time to time.

Now, I don't believe for a minute that Alex was just preoccupied with his incessant chatter and emptying of the green bottles prior to start, which could result in missing course information about rounding the nearest "in your face" freighter. Alex is too much a professional to not know where the race was heading. What possible explanation could there be for following a fishing boat out to UBC campus after the gun when the first mark was the closest freighter anchored at Kits beach. When all other boats crossed the finish line, *Argosy* could still not be found using the binos. We would have sent the Coast Guard out except there is an obscure Maritime Law against having more than 24 empty beer bottles on board at any one time. Alex, you sly fox.

**Quarter Ton Racing.** Edward Karadontis of Quantam Sails has proposed a Division 3 Quarter Ton class for our club racing, beginning with the Sun Tan Series. What a great idea. The original ¼ Ton Class was established by the IOR International Off-Shore Rule and this class races both at the National Level in many areas including Canada, U.S.A. & Europe, and as The Worlds Quarter Ton Cup. There is a serious pedigree of renowned world-class sailors and boats competing in the ¼ Ton Class.

Edward is suggesting that the smaller boats are left behind pretty well after the start and a new Division 3 with boats 22 ft.- 28ft. (any boat within this length, not actual ¼ Ton standards), would create some excitement and allow for more competition within a smaller boat size fleet. There are hundred's of boats in The Lower Mainland, including San Juan 24, Santa Cruz 27, Cal 25, Hunter 25, Tanzer 22, C&C 26-27 and many others in this length.

We need to form a committee to promote this and send out an invitational challenge to every yacht/sailing club in The Lower Mainland plus e-mails/phone calls to every boat owner we can find. I can visualize the QT T-shirts and Vancouver Quarter Ton Cup presentations already.

*Let's Go!*



SELL YOUR  
TREASURES  
OR  
BUY EVERYTHING  
YOU NEED  
**SATURDAY**  
**March 13**  
**10am-2pm**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT:  
JACK PETERS 604-273-0492  
OR  
ROLLIE PRESTON 604-828-1725

## Name That Story Teller

BY LYLE MCKENZIE

Last month Reid Dobel of *Luna Sea* submitted the following which is well worth repeating, as it is a beautiful example of how powerful literature can be. Try this, if you dare!



*"The captain in the first place, is lord paramount. He stands no watch, comes and goes when he pleases, and is accountable to no one, and must be obeyed in everything, without question, even from his chief officer. He has the power to turn his officers off duty, and even to break them and make them do duty as sailors in the forecabin. Where there are no passengers and no supercargo, as in our vessel, he has no companion but his own dignity, and no pleasures, unless he differs from most of his kind, but the consciousness of possessing supreme power, and, occasionally, the exercise of it."*

Only one submission from Brent Sands and he got it right. "Hi, the answer is "Two Years Before the Mast by Richard Dana Jr. "

## Upcoming Events

This is your club. Join your fellow members. Support these events. Make a Roar of it.

### Polar Bear Races

Sunday March 7

Come and join in the fun. Power boaters can volunteer to be committee boat for a day (we'll supply the know-how) and sailors can test themselves against other diehards all in a fun atmosphere. Why wait for the Suntan Series?

### SAFETY DAYS

March 13 & 14

### COAST GUARD INSPECTIONS

To all Moorage Members:

Our annual Safety Days are the weekends of March 13/14 and March 20/21 with the evening of Wednesday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) available as well. Appointments for inspections can be made through the VRC Office (604-687-3400) at half-hour intervals from 9:00am-4:00pm. DBC Marine Safety Systems will be on hand to inspect fire extinguishers on the Saturday of both weekends; they will also have safety items for sale at special discounted prices.

Safety inspections check that boats comply with federal equipment requirements. This includes navigation lights, flares, fire extinguishers etc. Safe Boating Guides detail what your boat requires. Guides are available online at: [http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/obs-bsn/sbg-gsn/main\\_e.htm](http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/obs-bsn/sbg-gsn/main_e.htm).

A current Courtesy Coast Guard Safety Inspection is required in order to renew your moorage contract, April 1. The club will not renew mooring contracts of any member fails to provide proof that their vessel has successfully completed a Safety Inspection **prior** to April 1, 2004. Please submit a copy of your inspection with your renewal form. If you anticipate a problem with compliance or have related questions, please contact Safety Officer, Stewart Elliott at 604-521-5523.

### Boater's Night

hosted by

### Quantum Sails

Friday March 12

Boater's Night is March 12 at 7:00 P.M. with guest speaker Edward Karadontis, sail guru from Quantum Sails.

Ed will talk about the five or six basic control lines that most sailboats have (halyards, backstay, sheet, traveler, Cunningham, outhaul, and car or block positions). Racers and cruisers alike will get something out of this seminar because we all want to get the most out of our sails.

Pencil in this one for "Go Fast" performance.

## Annual Spring Cleanup on The Docks

Saturdays in March

Our Staff Captain, Claude Gagnon needs volunteers for the Annual Spring Cleanup on the docks. Housekeeping, power washing, changing planks, small repairs, etc. Every Saturday in March 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon, March 6, 13, 20, 27.

This is not heavy work and it needs to be done. Claude is offering a reward for your efforts. Pizza and beer are available beginning at noon in the club and a video presentation of the Van Isle 360 Race and other famous worldwide races.

Choose your Saturday and come out and make a day of it.

Call Claude at 488-9116.





## CLUBHOUSE HOURS

### OFFICE

Monday to Friday 9 am–7 pm

Saturday, Sunday 10 am–2 pm

### LOUNGE HOURS

CARVER ROOM (LOWER LEVEL)

TROPHY LOUNGE (STREET LEVEL)

Monday Closed

Tuesday 5-10 pm Carver Room

Wednesday 5-10 pm Trophy Lounge

Thursday 5-10 pm Carver Room

Friday 5-10 pm Carver Room or Trophy Lounge

Saturday Noon-10 pm Carver Room

Sunday 2-9 pm Trophy Lounge

## COMING EVENTS

### CLUB

March 8 VRC Board Meeting

March 19 Closed Circuit Hockey

April 11-12 Easter - Club Closed

May 13 South African Wine Tasting

### FIELD HOCKEY

March 20 Trivia Night

April 24 Awards Night

### YACHTING

March 12 Boaters Night

March 13 Safety Inspections

March 14 Safety Inspections

April 16 Boaters Night

May 7 Pub Night

May 8 Sailpast

### RUGBY

March 6 Rugby Captain's Dinner

March 27 Party

May 1 Rugby AGM

### ROWING

# 2004 March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Rugby Captains Dinner
7 Polar Bear Race	8 VRC Board of Directors Meeting	9	10 Rowing Executive Meeting	11	12 Yachting Boaters Night	13 Yachting Safety Inspections
14 Yachting Safety Inspections	15 Yachting Executive Meeting	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Field Hockey Executive Meeting	19 Closed Circuit Hockey Canucks vs Black Hawks	20 Field Hockey Trivia Night
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Rugby Dance
28	29	30	31			

# 2004 April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 VRC Board of Directors Meeting	6	7	8	9 Good Friday Club Office Closed	10
11 Easter Sunday Club Closed	12 Easter Monday Club Closed	13	14 Rowing Executive Meeting	15 Field Hockey Executive Meeting	16 Yachting Boaters Night	17
18	19 Yachting Executive Meeting	20	21	22	23	24 Field Hockey Awards Night
25	26	27	28	29	30	