

# Canadian Fleet Newsletter of the Classic Yacht Association

Spring 2014 – cruising season

## Commodore's Report



It's an honour and privilege for Merva to serve as this season's CYA Canadian Fleet Flagship. I'm looking forward to a fun summer of cruising and showing our little fleet off, as I am sure all of you are too. I'd like to take this opportunity to again invite as many boats as can make it to the Bell Street Rendezvous in Seattle and Pacific Northwest CYA Fleet South Salish Sea cruise, as part of our Canadian Invasion of the USA. The

Rendezvous itself is Friday June 13th to Sunday the 15th, and the South Salish Sea cruise is from June 16th to 22nd. We've been specifically invited as a fleet to visit the South Sound and participate in a USA waters cruise to join our American friends in their waters and enjoy their hospitality. Ken Meyers of the Pacific NorthWest CYA fleet is organizing the cruise and I intend to cross the border into the US with colours flying and

cannons loaded. We always enjoy our American friends visiting us in our waters year after year and it's high time we returned the favour and spent some time enjoying the beauty and fine cruising our hopeful hosts promise awaits us south of the border. Look for an email including registration details for the Bell Street Rendezvous soon!



continued next page


# From Merva's Bridge...

continued from previous page

**A**side from the South Sound Cruise there is only one Rendezvous planned for this summer, our regular Brentwood Bay affair, scheduled for August 26th and 27th... is there any interest in a mid-summer rendezvous somewhere on the mainland? A weekend in July rafted in False Creek perhaps? Or a couple days in Indian Arm? I'm interested in what cruising plans the ships of the fleet may have this summer that may coalesce in a brief mid-summer gathering. Our Fleet Historian suggested a weekend rafted in False Creek so that we may enjoy an Urban cruising experience and sample the fine dining and entertainment we can find in Vancouver. Rafting among the city lights in July would be a great experience... please email me with any suggestions or comments.

Here's to a safe and happy season of cruising and showing our fine vessels.

**Donell McDonell**  
MV Merva  
Commodore  
CYA member #1282



**BURRARD YACHT CLUB**  
*Classic Boat & Car Show*  
2014

*Ahoy, wooden boat enthusiasts.*

It is time to mark your calendar for

**Burrard Yacht Club's  
Annual  
Classic Car and Wooden Boat Show**

The date for arrival is June 6, 2014  
with the show being on Saturday, 07 June, 2014  
Full details and registration will be available on the  
club's website:  
[www.burrardyachtclub.com](http://www.burrardyachtclub.com)

Proceeds from the show go towards supporting the  
Disabled Sailing Association of B.C.

As in previous years, attendees will be able to utilize the club's  
Outstations located at:  
Ekins on Gambier Island  
and Clementine, up Indian Arm of Burrard Inlet  
(for a limited time prior to and following the show)

For further information contact:  
Russ Chernoff at [rmcff@telus.net](mailto:rmcff@telus.net) or Dave Cook at [davecook@island.net](mailto:davecook@island.net)



# Kiwi hospitality

*A Cruise Ship in the South Pacific in February and March: well, I don't know about that... won't I miss the rain and drizzle and ...snow!!!*

*O.K. Peggy, let's do it, but I need to send an email before we go. I hear that there is a Classic Yacht Association in Kiwi land, so I look them up on the net and get a quick, "hello, we are heading your way" off to Rod Marler, the Chairman. Ten minutes later, I get an answer: "We would be delighted to show you our Yachts when you are here. Our Club Captain of Launches (Kiwi for Motor Boats) will contact you."*

**S**o begins my relationship with one of the most hospitable, knowledgeable and downright interesting wooden boat owners on the globe. Captain Alan Houghton emailed me shortly after Rod's message, asked for pertinent info on our arrival date and location and the amount of time we would have available.

We got off the cruise ship in Auckland at 08.30 and Alan arrived at 08.31 with a "people mover" to accommodate Peggy and I as well as Peggy's sister Gail and husband Ken.

With a running commentary on the local sights and points of interest, Alan chauffeured us to the first of six Classic Yachts

(excuse me: Launches) he had arranged for us to see.

Peter Boardman's "Lady Margaret" was first on our list and this breathtaking 1940 Bridge Deck cruiser set the standard for the balance of our tour.



*Lady Margaret*

Then it was off to see the newly restored Ngaio. WOW what a job Ian Kohler and Lancia Hicks have done on this lovely 1921 "Dreamboat" style launch. This 38 footer is built of that lovely New Zealand Kauri wood with each plank running the full length of the boat. Ian and Lancia have added fuel to the fire of debate on restoration methods by encasing Ngaio in fibreglass and epoxy, while retaining not only the beautiful lines but also returning her to her original dark blue colour. Her designer and builder was Arch Logan whose name is revered in N.Z. much as Herreshof is on the East Coast of the U.S.



*Ngaio*

Next we were off to see Dick and Colleen Fisher on the 1960 woody, Akarana. As you can see from the photo below, I fell in love with her 813B Gardener Diesel in the huge walk around engine room! She is a converted 65 foot Pilot Boat built to go anywhere in the daunting Southern Ocean.



*Akaran's Gardener*



*Akarana*

# ...hospitality continued

And then, on the other side of Auckland there was Linda. At 47 feet from 1927, she presents an imposing sight, very unlike most of our Canadian and Pacific North West Yachts. With her low wheelhouse at the very aft of the boat and her high freeboard she presents a tough and seaworthy appearance. Boatbuilder and educator Robert Brooke did a four year restoration on Linda, completed in 1995 after she was largely destroyed by fire. Her appearance today totally belies her near demise.



*Linda*

For a change of pace Alan then escorted us to the “modern” classic from 1965, Trinidad. At 52 feet, Trinidad also carries considerable panache having been built by another of the Kiwi icons, Salthouse. She has just completed a complete re-coating of her brightwork using a product called Awlwood MA (Uroxys). From the gleaming appearance of this vessel, some research on this product would be worthwhile.



*Trinidad*

Last, and maybe the best for last, it was on to Alan and Robyn’s own boat the beautiful 1927,

29’6” Raindance. In many ways Raindance reminds me of the Canfleet award winner Alondra in her adherence to the original construct of the boat. Stepping aboard Raindance is like being transported back in time. And yet her simplicity of line

and fittings is in total harmony with her purpose and feels as functional today as it was in 1928.



*Raindance*

Well, after the whirlwind tour and the awesome hospitality, Peggy and I relaxed on the harbour ferry back to the luxury of our cruise ship, wishing that we had more time to actually experience classic cruising in the land of the Kiwi.

Thank you Alan!!  
(see Alan’s blog at waitematawoodys.com)

*Mike O’Brien*  
*Euphemia II*  
*Life Member*  
*CYA #319*



The Canadian Fleet of the Classic Yacht Association is compiling a list of volunteer crew for future cruises.

An experienced crew member is required for Adelante MV August 26th to September 1st, 2014. Adelante will be Cruising from Vancouver to Brentwood Bay to Victoria and back to Vancouver.

For more information contact Shirley Howdle, Vice Commodore Canadian Fleet.  
Email:  
Shirley.howdle@gmail.com



## New Member

A hearty welcome to Dave Sharrock owner of the Spartan III. She was built by Victoria's Rodd Bros in 1926. Spartan is quite unique with her huge wheelhouse and trunk cabin with no aft deck. This makes her a roomy 45 footer on her 12 foot beam. Although currently on Bowen Island, we understand Spartan will soon be relocated to Vancouver Island.



## Tragic news

The Beautiful vintage vessel, Slainte (ex: Neverhome) was destroyed by fire in March of this year. Brian McClements advises that she caught fire at mid day in her berth at Burrard Yacht Club in North Vancouver. No one was aboard at the time and there were no injuries. BYC members noted the smoke and flames and alerted the fire department immediately as well as taking action on their own. We are happy to report that there was little damage to adjoining boats or the BYC docks and sheds. Unfortunately Slainte is a write off.

Brian tells me that after the shock wore off, he was impressed with the efficiency of the insurer. Brian will craft an article for the next newsletter on the difficult process of claiming insurance in these circumstances along with some tips for dealing with insurers and surveyors.



*Mike O'Brien*  
*Cdn Fleet Historian*

## *Canadian Fleet Officers*

*Commodore  
Donell McDonell*

*Vice Commodore  
Shirley Howdle*

*Rear Commodore  
George Egerton*

*Treasurer  
Wolfgang Duntz*

*Past Commodore  
Garth McBride*

*Fleet Historian  
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