

# *Tiller Topics*

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Vernon Yacht Club  
7919 Okanagan Landing Road  
Vernon, BC V1H 1H1

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I purchased one square for the Grey Cup Final game at the club. My square won the first quarter score. Couple of weeks later while at my physiotherapist I was given the ultimate reward of having the Grey Cup in my arms. Mark Washington wasn't too bad either beside me.....

Now if I only knew which side of the ball to throw.....

Dagmar Mrazek

Do you have ideas for Tiller Topics. Do you have an opinion you would like published? Tiller Topics gratefully accepts your submissions. Please drop them off at the club or e-mail them to [tiller@vernonyachtclub.com](mailto:tiller@vernonyachtclub.com)

# VYC - 2011—2012 Executive

7919 Okanagan Landing Road, Vernon, BC V1H 1H1

Name:	Position:	Home:	Work:	Cell:
Mike Thomas	Commodore	545-8501	545-8501	549-0320
Lawrence Johnson	Vice Commodore		260-8003	
Ed Kinnear	Rear Commodore	542-7551		307-7120
Betty Labelle	Staff Captain	542-2228		306-0727
Jerry Spelchan	Fleet Captain	545-4564		549-0051
Patrick Lett	Treasurer	545-9115	545-7117	938-3113
	Secretary			
Tim Amy	Past Commodore	542-6322	833-2444	833-2444
Allen Dubeski (Dir. at large)	Director 1 Year	549-4531	545-9188	558-8478
Marlise Hutter	Director 1 Year	546-0466		309-0899
Craig Williams (Publicity)	Director 1 year	503-8993	558-1111	503-8993
Jaron Chasea	Director 2 Year	542-0800		550-9859
Larry Gilchuk	Director 2 Year	558-9893		558-8526
Barry Stack	Director 2 Year	545-8345		309-7738

## Contact Information

phone 545-5518  
 fax 545-0388

Email Address: office@vernonyachtclub.com  
 Website: www.vernonyachtclub.com

Office hours: Monday and Thursday from 8:30 am until 2:30 pm.  
 Office Manager: Marnie Williamson

Bar Manager: Rick Reichelt [phone 558-5598 (home) 309-2311 (cell)]

**Important Notice to All Members:** If you access the clubhouse with your key card and are confronted with **the alarm going off while you are inside**, please follow this procedure: Re-swipe your card at either entrance. Then call the security company and identify yourself and have them cancel the alarm. The phone number is posted at both entrances. If you fail to do this, the club can be billed up to \$150.00. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

\* **Submissions for Tiller Topics** can be sent via e-mail to: tiller@vernonyachtclub.com  
 \*\***Deadline for submissions:** the second week of each month.

### Tiller Topics' Team to date:

Hanny Kooyman - Layout & Design  
 Rebecca Phillips - Proof Reading  
 Frances Warner - Proof Reading  
 Cees Kooyman - Mailing  
 Terry Rudersdorfer - Website  
 Allen Dubeski - Advertisement

### Regular Contributors:

Dave Atkins - Messing about in Boats  
 Carol Craske - Valley Girls; Racing  
 Lisa Gallie - Fitness/kayak  
 Ron Heuman - Security Team  
 Bob McDonell - Sailing Fleet; Sailing Lessons  
 Rebecca Phillips - VYC Store  
 Patricia Rudersdorfer - Humorous View  
 Doug Stewart - CPS News

**Executive members** and many occasional writers and photographers.



# Commodore's Report

## Mike Thomas



### Welcome to all

our members to another great year at our Club!

We had our first Executive meeting for 2012 just recently. The meeting went very well and everyone had some really good ideas to present for the coming year. Among other things, it was agreed that we should have at least one fun event every month [sometimes two]. Two of these events are **very** important to our Club. They are the annual Boat Show as well as the Vernon Yacht Club Charity Regatta. We have already formed a Committee which is composed of three of our executive members who will assist our Boat Show Chairman, Mr. Dan Irvine, with his efforts to make the Boat Show as successful as ever.

We are also seeking another competent Club member to be our Chairperson for the V.Y.C. Charity Regatta. This volunteer will lead a group of enthusiastic individuals whose responsibilities will include: obtaining sponsorship for the events, food management, advertising and promotion, organizing

the sail boat races, protocol and finally, entertainment. These are all rewarding tasks and we are asking our members to get involved and in so doing, contribute to the success of this combination of a fun event and a charity fund raiser. Interested members can contact our Office Manager, Ms. Marnie Williamson and we will have someone contact you.

In closing, I am sorry to announce that a valuable member of our team is leaving us. Teri McLennan has been our Executive Secretary for the last two years and she is off on a great adventure along with her family, to the land of the duck-billed platypus and the kangaroo. I am sure you will join me as I wish them all the very best of Good Luck on their quest.

At this time, we would like to welcome Ms. Marlese Hutter to our Executive team and give her our collective thanks for "coming aboard".

That's it for now,

Best regards, *Mike*




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## Fleet Captain's Report

Jerry Spelchan



**I wish to express many** thanks to all members that attended the AGM, and for electing me in as Fleet Captain for 2012. I look forward to being of service to you for the next year.

Due to last year's expansion our wait list is smaller than it has been in previous years though our move list is quite long. I don't foresee any problems with accommodating most member's requests and needs.

On that note I would like to ask all members to be patient as new moorage and moves will not be

assigned until late February or early March, as we are waiting for all members to have the opportunity to pay their dues and claim their slips. If you are on the wait or move list I will be in touch with you in that time period.

My goal is to make every member have a great Yacht Club experience in the coming year.

Jerry

## Staff Captain's Report

Betty Labelle



**The New Years party was** a great success again this year.

Unfortunately, due to the BC Liquor Control Board Regulations you will no longer be able to use your Yacht Club 'Bucks' to purchase wine to take home. Also cases of steaks - if you wish to purchase steaks you may do so but you will have to pay for them, instead of using your Yacht Bucks.

Your Yacht Club Bucks can be used to purchase merchandise from our store or in the clubhouse.

There will be a **Super Bowl party on February 5**, hopefully everyone will come out and join us.

Sunday brunches will still continue from 10 to 1pm, and Friday dinners are still continuing.

Betty Labelle

# Cabo to Barra de Navidad... A Xmas in Mexico

By Barb and Richard Rotteveel

**B**arb and I prepped feverishly on the day prior to leaving on our 3 day journey towards the Gold Coast of Mexico. Provisions were stored and mechanical items checked and re-checked. We made last minute stops and discussions with the friends we have developed in Cabo to wish them and their families a wonderful holiday. So with our ice chest block full and our visions of the next adventure looming, we were off ... the delightful mist of Cabo San Lucas memories still wafting in our heads. First stop was actually 2 miles down the beach for one last night. Our plan was that being 2-3 miles away from the main zone of Cabo, we would enjoy a great night's sleep and depart refreshed and



full of vigor early in the morning. Of course we forgot that when Cabo parties (which is mostly all the time), the entire area is part of the celebration. Our chuckles at 4 am as we listened to a mixture of Mexican rap, hip hop and electro beat versions of favourite Christmas songs were spontaneous and genuine. Sunrise and off we sailed towards the rocks of Los Frailes 3 days away.

Buoyweather predicted that we would encounter mild seas and light air so we anticipated a fairly easy couple of

## Mexican Anchorage

nights but that was not the case. The wind piped up to a nice 25 knot breeze which tested our reefing skills and gave the autohelm a lot of time off. The real upside was we were hitting a steady 7 knots toward our destination and the Peterson was dialled into the 15 foot seas. We decided at about the 24 hour mark that we would perform the ritual cursing of this computer site as we vented our frustration

*Cont. page 7*



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at having to ride this rocket sled at breakneck speed for such a long period of time. Our chant and rant towards darn Buoyweather could probably be heard in Cabo and as usual worked wonderfully as day 2 saw calm seas and perfect cruising conditions. This combined with a coarse change to Ipala made for the start of a perfect day. If we were to have a major problem and not survive any of our trips folks who found our log book would notice that in times of absolute

bliss we miss 3-4 hours of log entries due to the fantastic sailing, fishing and wildlife. Both Barb and I are generally such consistent

record keepers, we even have our Sirius on hourly shutdown so we take regular readings. Our hours on this trip have been filled with amazing sights of phosphorescent fish and dolphins at night and sailing as perfect as you see in those lottery winner commercials. Our next hurdle was going to be Cabo Corrientes or (cape of currents) prior to landing in Ipala. Our prior ventures into this region had made us a bit nonchalant about this fabled cape. Stories weaved by dock-bound cruisers told tales of great terror and adversity that would pucker the orifices of seasoned fisherman, only to reveal beautiful crossings where we scratched our heads wondering "So when is it going to get tough?" This crossing of the Cape proved to be a bit more challenging than most other times at sea. The currents that converge here twist and turn with no pattern to decipher and the closest thing that I can relate to you



on this is taking a sailboat through a mogul run at your favourite ski resort. Of course, this run lasts about 5 hours and the moguls are 12 ft high. Seeing the Bay at Ipala was a welcoming sight as the days at sea, although beautiful and full of a variety of sailing events, we were ready to set anchor and relax ....we made it to the Gold Coast!

With the anchor fast and the fishing town of Tehuالمixtle in front of us, we prepared our snorkel gear. The commotion on the shore was too distracting not to investigate but what we really

found was that the commotion was due to a huge fin in the water. This fin and the animal it was attached to raced through the shallows splashing and turning as schools of fish leaped from the water. Even with my eagle eyes, I could not positively identify whether it was a massive Manta Ray or thresher shark. As we stowed the snorkel gear we got the SUP 's (Stand Up Paddleboard) ready to venture towards the beach. We had a delightful surf in and wandered around the tiny town drinking in the warmth of the sun and the people. A few beer and shrimp cocktail (verses cerviche which we thought we had ordered we

really need to bone up on our Spanish) sent us back out to Impulse fully relaxed. We ended up playing with the phosphorescent fish and basically toddling around for the evening before we went down for a good night's sleep. As the night wind howled through our rigging, Barb and I congratulated ourselves on our ground tackle choice and anchoring technique as we held fast. Great restful night saw us sleeping in until 7:00 am then pulling anchor for Chamela. This day sail was incredible as we started the day out with numerous breaching whales, steady breeze and fish!! One after another and sometimes 2 at a time we were busier then crazy hauling in fish, releasing them until we got the right ones. We lost 2 monster fish due to snapping high test lines on one and running the spool out on another. After all the drama and cleaning up what looked like a scene from your favourite splatter gore movie...blood everywhere...we had filled our cooler with fish for ceviche

and pan fry for a few meals. More whales and we were settling into anchoring at Chamela.

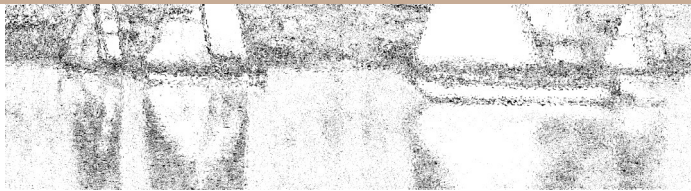
This place had very little writing in the cruising guides so our expectations

were such as a nice quick anchorage and off we go. Little did we know we had sailed into a little slice of heaven that paradise was named after...but you will have to wait for that story.





# CALLING ALL MEMBERS!



**T**he Vernon Yacht Club has sponsored the VYC Charity Regatta since 2001 providing a significant portion of the annual fundraising for the North Okanagan United Way. The event has been driven by a small and dedicated group of VYC members who feel it is time for new ideas and renewed energy. A small group of Yacht Club members have met to discuss direction and to explore options to take the event to a new level, but are searching for new minds and great ideas to lead the event to greater success in fundraising and participation. Could you be the one of them?

For past events there has been an overall Chairperson, but also individuals or committees for sponsorship, financial, food and entertainment, advertising and promotion, Charity

interaction, protocol, and the sailing races. There are openings for assistance in all of these areas, but a competent Skipper to command the ship is of critical importance. A regatta can be far more than sailboat races however and we see this as being the best area to expand the VYC profile in the community as well as added funding for our selected charity. For past events there has been an overall Chairperson, but also individuals or committees for sponsorship, financial, food and entertainment, advertising and promotion, Charity interaction, protocol, and the sailing races. There are openings for assistance in all of these areas, but a competent Skipper to command the ship is of critical importance.

Other options could include any waterborne activities for VYC members and/or the public. To find out more details about the position of chairperson or to jump on board and help in any other area, please contact Mike Thomas ([mike.thomas@shaw.ca](mailto:mike.thomas@shaw.ca)), Pamela Miller ([pamela.freshoutlookfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.freshoutlookfoundation@gmail.com)), or Bob McDonell ([bob@mqn.ca](mailto:bob@mqn.ca)).

We would be pleased to meet with you to discuss the event, the history, and the ideas for the future.



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# Vernon Yacht Club Minutes Summary

By Teri McLennan

January 9, 2012

- New Kitchen ranges will be arriving soon.
- Will be looking at upgrading kitchen floor.
- May look at upgrading the fridge in the kitchen as well as other improvements.
- Will be prioritizing a renovation list for washrooms, bar etc.
- (2) New fulltime members and (4) Associate members!
- Feb 5th there will be a Super bowl Party!
- Looking at doing a Casino night for Charity in March.

*Teri*

*Full executive meeting minutes are available in the office.*

This will be Teri's last Minutes Summary and last contribution as VYC secretary. She will be moving to Australia.

Thank you for your dedication towards VYC, Teri. We wish you all the best in your new country.

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## Messing About in Boats

by  
Dave Atkins

Last month I mentioned that I was not as impressed with the Gulf Islands as I used to be. I was asked WHY and so I will attempt to explain why I made that remark. People and places change over time and sometimes the changes do not line up over time.

I have been a sailor since I was a teenager and with a couple of exceptions I have been a dinghy sailor and racer. In the early 1980's I got my first keel boat and we trailed it down to the Coast on three occasions, and thus started my acquaintance with the Gulf Islands. I discovered that the enjoyment of a cruise was equally shared between comfort with the boat and how it sailed and comfort with the onshore facilities and marinas. We also chartered after I changed my own boat for a smaller one. I recall a very enjoyable two week cruise in a C & C 27 traversing the gulf from north to south and back again.

In the early 1990's I qualified as a CYC cruising instructor and spent the next several summers taking new sailors out for a weeks cruise around the Islands and teaching them the 'ropes'. Those trips were enjoyable. The students were all delightful to have on board and the boats, mostly C&C35s, were a pleasure to sail.

The marinas were generally easy to deal with and there never seemed to be a lack of moorage. We did anchor out some of the time, that was part of the learning process. The cost of moorage was generally reasonable. Towards the end of my 'instructional' years I was starting to notice changes at some of the marinas. There was a trend to upgrade facilities and offer more shore-side facilities and generally, it seemed, to move 'up market'. A good example was Bedwell became Poets Cove.

By the late 90's I retired from instructing 'Cruise and Learn' but did do a few charters with friends, over the next several years. I think the big difference in satisfaction was with the boats. On a couple of occasions we were given Hunter boats and I did not

like the way they felt when sailing. It is likely a personal preference but it does affect the enjoyment of the cruise. Also the marinas seemed more crowded and expensive. The last charter we did was a bit of a disaster. The weather did not cooperate and we ended up motoring around, but I can't blame that on the Gulf Islands. The boat, a Catalina 30, didn't fit well with my wife who is shorter than average. I had sailed the Catalina before and had been pleased with it, but hadn't anticipated the discomfort of my wife and it all affects the enjoyment of a trip.

Enjoyment is such a subjective thing and the changes I have experienced over the years in the Gulf Islands have affected my enjoyment. Places have changed, for example Ladysmith used to have a welcoming comfortable marina at the head of the bay, but now it is filled with big ugly boat sheds meant for the ever increasing fleet of large powerboats, but that maybe just my bias showing!

Dave



# CPS News

Vernon Power & Sail Squadron



February, 2012

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## Saving Boaters' Lives Begins in the Classroom!

## Take a Safe Boating Course From CPS

## Coming Events

VHF Radio Course—April, 2012  
The Boating Course commences late February or March 2012

## CPS Course Lineup

### The Boating Course

This is consistently our most popular course. The Boating Course will be offered in late February, 2012. Course duration is 13 weeks. Covers all major aspects of boat handling and introductory navigation. For more information or to pre-register, go on-line or phone Simo at 250-542-5525.

### The Maritime Radio Course

The course leads to the VHF Marine Radio operators certification, the ROC (M), which is legally required to operate a VHF Radio on the water. The course will be presented again during April, 2012. Register on-line or call Doug at 250-549-5117.

**For more information and to pre-register for courses, please call Simo at 250-542-5525.**

## See Us on the Web!

Vernon Power & Sail Squadron [www.cpsvernon.ca](http://www.cpsvernon.ca)

Does this page look different to you?

Due to severe computer problems it was all that could be retrieved - A manual rendering of what is usually contributed by Doug Stewart.



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Bronwen or Eric Young 250 260 6559 or [baeyoung@telus.net](mailto:baeyoung@telus.net) (Vernon)



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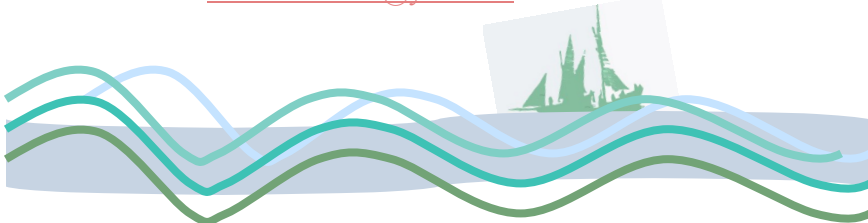
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We are offering a unique alternative to chartering a sailboat in some of the best sailing areas in the world. Our club will be sailing in the waters of Mexico for the next few seasons with opportunities for sailing in other popular cruising locations. These cruising adventures will give anyone who is dreaming of setting sail for the cruising lifestyle a good first hand look at the experience for a fraction of the cost. We offer cruising tips as well as hands on experience to whatever level you would like. The cost will be less than renting a small 1-2 star hotel room. The club is ideally suited for couples, but can accommodate same sex friends as well. Please contact us for the full details and itinerary. Join the *cruisincanucks* on our Mexican adventure!! Contact: [cruisincanucks@yahoo.ca](mailto:cruisincanucks@yahoo.ca) call 760-459-2959.



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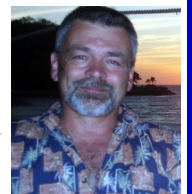
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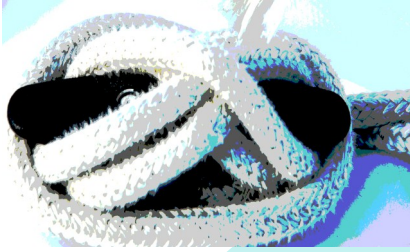
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February..... New Year Resolutions..... Super Bowl..... Sweethearts..... Leap Year!

**T**he second month of the new year - have we all been true to those new year resolutions? Likely not, as human nature tends to follow the path of least resistance, so we settle back into our perfectly acceptable comfort zones. For those who follow the sports scene the first week of February will be dominated by Super Bowl hype! The VYC being no exception as great party plans are being developed for the big game, so come on down! All this heavy adrenaline rush will be followed by the emotional dreaminess of heartthrob romanticism symbolized with hearts and flowers. Sigh!!! And, we have an additional day to celebrate the end of often the coldest month of the winter season. And then, the long awaited March and Okanagan Spring, (weather that is).

February also marks the end of the Winter Security Program at our Club. To date there have been no known intrusions or untoward activity directed at our Clubhouse, land stored boats or boats stored in the marina. Our NE signal buoy has been defective for a couple of months, however it is

being looked into by our resourceful local Auxiliary Coast Guard detachment. The Security Team has been very vigilant throughout the winter months, continuing to provide excellent security coverage during quiet hours at the Club.

As we move into the our fourth year of the VYC Security Team Concept, members are encouraged to consider becoming part of the Team. It is an excellent way to make a valuable contribution to the well-being of our Club. We are, after-all, a member driven Club and what we do not do for ourselves we pay for. What is important to note is that the members who contribute on the Security Team do a better and more conscientious job for our Club and fellow members' property than those who we would have to contract. Interested in helping out? Let Marnie in the office know and you will be contacted. In the meantime, 'Happy Valentines Day', keep vigilant at the Club, and think 'boating'!

Ron 



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# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>2</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>3</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—23:00 <b>Friday Night Buffet</b>	<b>4</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 12:00—22:00
<b>5</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 10:00—18:00 <b>Sunday Brunch</b> 10AM- 13:00 <b>Super Bowl Party</b>	<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>8</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>9</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>10</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—23:00 <b>Friday Night Buffet</b>	<b>11</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 12:00—22:00
<b>12</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 10:00—18:00 <b>Sunday Brunch</b> 10AM- 13:00	<b>13</b> <b>VYC Executive Meeting</b> 7PM 	<b>14</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>15</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>16</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>17</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—23:00 <b>Friday Night Buffet</b>	<b>18</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 12:00—22:00 <i>No buffet</i>
<b>19</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 10:00—18:00 <b>Sunday Brunch</b> 10AM- 13:00	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>22</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>23</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>24</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—23:00 <b>Friday Night Buffet</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 12:00—22:00
<b>26</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 10:00—18:00 <b>Sunday Brunch</b> 10AM- 13:00	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	<b>29</b> <i>Lounge Hrs</i> 16:00—20:00	