



TILLER TOPICS



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REPORTS

NEWS FROM OUR COMMODORE



Well, summer has wound down, and with crane day there are a lot fewer boats in the marina and plenty more in the parking lot. October saw our AGM take place and we almost made Quorum (58 out of 60 required) we waited until 7:30 and started the meeting with 58 in

attendance. Items of note this year were a reduction in our insurance costs (\$7,900.00) and a change in the Executive. A big thank you to Al C, Peter W, and Bob A who are retiring from the Executive and a warm welcome to Robb P, Angela R, and Dan R who are joining us as directors. Pat L is moving into the Staff Captain's role (big shoes to fill following in Bob's footsteps). We have also passed an amendment to our Bylaw to allow the Executive to look at other means of voting and attending the meetings.

Going forward I am looking to lead the *Vernon Yacht Club* toward continued positive growth and long-term financial stability. I joined the club in 2007 and have enjoyed watching things improve both in our membership numbers and in our facilities. For the upcoming year I am looking to see an increase in member involvement and more of our members being active in the club.

Here's to a good boating season coming up in 2026 and looking ahead, I hope to see all our members spending more time in the club we all enjoy.

Fred H
Commodore





Basic Navigation and Boat Handling

This course is the next step after completion of the Pleasure Craft Operator's Certificate (PCOC). Learn safe boat handling and navigation using GPS and Chart Plotters. The course consists of online study materials and a once-per-week online (Zoom) session.

Commences **January 21, 2026 at 7:00 PM** (Pacific).
Check out the course at the following link and sign up!

https://www.canboat.ca/course-calendar/?cps_show_course_details_id=360&cps_show_class_id=8963

For more information contact Doug Stewart
<dstewartca@gmail.com> or phone 250-549-5117

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EXECUTIVE 2025/2026 - Introductions



Fred H –
Commodore

From the highly polished and cluttered desk of the Commodore, I'm Fred Haight. My Grandfather was a lobster fisherman in Nova Scotia and I have fond memories from the Bay of Fundy as a small boy barely being tall enough to see over the gunwale to shore, so boating and being around water has been an enjoyable pastime.

I was introduced to the *Vernon Yacht Club* in 2007 at the *United Way Charity Regatta*, met some nice people while being part of a crew in the event and was convinced to join. Getting involved with the operations started with the Boat Show and then different positions on the Board and now I'm your Commodore.

Dave G –
Vice Commodore



I moved to the Okanagan in 2011 from the Edmonton area where I grew up on a lake which instilled a love for water and boating. After joining the *Kelowna Yacht Club* in 2014 I met Sandy "my partner" in 2018 and also became a member of the *Vernon Yacht Club*.

I retired from the motorcycle industry in 2020 after enjoying a 35-year career starting in sales and ending as the owner of a dealership in West Kelowna. I became a member of the executive in 2022 and had a great time using my experience doing trade shows to get our boat show back up after three years off due to covid. When you see me around the club don't forget to say "hi".



Bill M –
Rear Commodore

My wife, Rosemarie and I are avid boaters, relocating to Vernon from the Ellison area in 2019 after I retired from *FortisBC*. As a power line technician with 46 years experience, I was involved in construction, operations and maintenance in the electrical industry in BC and Alberta. My career also afforded me opportunities in labor negotiation, as well as sitting as a sector chairman for two years at the round table of the Banff-Bow Valley Study.

I'm going into my fourth year on the VYC board of directors and my third year as Rear Commodore. It has been a very rewarding challenge. In my role it is my intention to help the club maintain and preserve our rich heritage and culture. The club infrastructure is in constant need of upgrading and repair. We are experiencing growth, and together we can grow responsibly, balancing club needs with a focus on fiscal responsibility, safety, efficiency, aesthetics and respect for the environment.



Liam F – VYC Fleet Captain

I grew up in Ottawa where I learned to sail on Dow's Lake on the Rideau Canal, the lake is about 6 feet deep and not a particularly delightful place to fall into but I somehow still managed to accomplish that.

We moved to Vernon and joined VYC in 2014 and were lucky enough to get a slip in mid 2015. We launched in June and were greeted by several of our members who, unasked, offered to help splash the boat and step the mast. That help was much appreciated and really made us feel like we had made the right choice of clubs. We are still here, still sailing and happy to be able to volunteer our time to help with the operations of the club.

Kate has taken over the Woman's Sailing Program from Carol C, who did an excellent job of running it for many years.

I joined the VYC board in 2020 and have been the Fleet Captain since 2022.

Pictured here is launch day 2015 with ►
Doug S, Jim D,
Roger P, Kate, and myself



Pat L – Staff Captain

Hello, I am the new Staff Captain at the *Vernon Yacht Club*. I have the tall task of taking over from Bob A, who—as you know—did an amazing job in this role.

I'm married to Julie, have two grown children, and three granddaughters. I am now retired and enjoying this new chapter. I grew up in the Lower Mainland and moved to Vernon 14 years ago to pursue a business opportunity, purchasing Bannister Honda and Bannister Collision in 2012. My team and I were fortunate to be recognized on many occasions, including the *Province's Employer of the Year*, *Okanagan Community Supporter of the Year*, and several *Chamber of Commerce* awards. I was also honoured to receive Western Canada Manager of the Year for both Toyota and Honda.

I've enjoyed being involved in the community as a director with several initiatives, including *Vernon Winter Carnival*, the *Swan Lake Business Association*, the *Literacy Program*, and others.

Julie and I enjoy traveling and golfing, and I'm still playing ice hockey. I'm looking forward to taking on the role of Staff Captain and to meeting many of you soon.

Marta B –
VYC treasurer



I have been a member of the club with my husband Steve since 2010. We are avid boaters and strong supporters of the club and its' events, and we (along with our wonder dog, Reggie), look forward to many more happy years being involved with the club.

We are particularly proud of our groundbreaking, fully-Electric Motor Yacht, the first of its kind on the western seaboard. Stop by and see us on D-Dock for a bevy this summer!



Deirdrie L –
Secretary

Being a Kootenay Lake girl, I am new to sailing Okanagan Lake, having moved here with my husband Thomas, in 2018. We brought the Fiji Nui from Saltspring Island to her new home in the fall of 2022 and promptly joined the yacht club. We both work full time but are super excited about spending every spare minute working on our boat and experiencing the wild, unpredictable Okanagan sailing weather!

Angela R –
Director



With the 2026 Executive I would like to help develop events that encourage members to get to know their dock mates; connect new members with existing members through common interests; and develop family-friendly events connecting members with children and grandchildren.

I am a sailor at heart, sailing in warm climates in winter and powerboating in the summer. In my career as a lawyer, criminal prosecutor and business owner I have developed strong organizational and communication skills. I am also a marine canvas fabricator and operate *Dockside Custom Canvas* with my husband. I have been a director of *Bluewater Cruising Association*; and been part of *Canadian Ski Patrol* and *Rotary* over the years. I am looking forward to contributing to the *Vernon Yacht Club*.



Simon J –
Membership Director

Kim and I have been VYC members for just over four years, and Coldstream residents since the summer of 2021. We relocated from southern Ontario when I retired, and made sure to trailer 'Tabasco', our thirty ft Red Wing sailboat with us. We're thrilled to be here. Since joining the VYC, Kim and I volunteer with the *Bill West Flashlight Brigade* and can be found a couple times per month, strolling the docks, peering at flashing beacons, and checking fenders and lines. We've carved the prime rib, butchered the pig, helped with launches and haul-outs, dined and danced with the best people in town, and just generally enjoyed ourselves. We have a fun club here, so don't be shy. This place is so much more than boat moorage and storage.



Robb P –
Director at Large

Robb and his wife, Anna Brettell relocated from Calgary at the end of 2021 and immediately joined VYC. Both avid sailors, when they are not participating in the Wednesday night racing league, they can be found on *Sonora Brie'ze*, their Catalina 250. Robb is also restoring a wooden Fireball racing dingy that will be launched this spring. In addition, they are both avid skiers, hikers, cyclists and sea kayakers. As you might expect, they absolutely love the lifestyle that Vernon has to offer and love being members of VYC. Robb retired November 1st last year and doesn't miss working a bit. Anna retired in May of this year as she was tired of getting up for work while Robb was sleeping in every day.

Robb has been a board member at *North Okanagan Sailing Association* (NOSA) for the past several years and took over as commodore of NOSA this spring. As a member of the VYC board, he's hoping to build on the spirit of cooperation that NOSA and VYC have been building over the past few years. This past year, Robb also held the position of Racing Chair for the *VYC Sailboat Racing League*, and co-chair of the *VYC Regatta committee*. As a Director, Robb would like to get to know the club a bit better and offer assistance to the other directors on an as need basis.

Mike L –
Director



I've spent my whole career in the airline industry as a pilot. After graduating I was successful in getting that illusive first job flying small bush planes. Later I flew corporate jets for the BC Government. In the 80's I left the Government and joined multiple airlines to fly commercially.

In 2016, I retired from active flying but stayed on part time as an instructor pilot until Covid hit, then I retired again! In 2019, we moved to Vernon and joined the *Vernon Yacht Club*. I am married to my wonderful wife, Oana who is a Pathologist at VJH. We have a blended family with 5 kids (3+2), aged from 36 to 27. For my club activities, 3 years ago I moved into Keith Danielson's very big shoes as I took the reins of Crane Day. I can't thank Keith enough for keeping a close eye on me and making sure I didn't step in a pothole! I am also sitting on the Technology sub-committee, which is an interesting job.



Ron R –
Director

Over the years I have applied my listening and problem-solving skills in both my work and in the community. My community work has included providing critical leadership to the several community organizations including *St. John Ambulance Canada*, *North Shore Rescue Team*, *First Aid Ski Patrol*, *Alpine Club*

of Canada, *West Vancouver Community Foundation*, and the *Canadian Club of Vancouver*.

My wife Katy and I finally saw the light and moved to the Interior, landing in Vernon, to be closer to our daughter, Dr. Stephanie Royston, known as the Visiting Vet. Having bought my first boat, I have changed my membership at the *Vernon Yacht Club* from Social to Regular Member. I am glad to continue to contribute to the Club as one of its directors.



As a member of the 2026 Executive, my goal is to help lead the VYC toward continued positive growth and long-term sustainability. I'm passionate about fostering a welcoming and engaged community where both new and longtime members feel connected to the club's vision and future. Collaboration, communication, and steady progress are key values I hope to bring to our team as we move forward.

Professionally, I am the owner and operator of *Reico Construction*, a company specializing in custom home building, renovations, and additions. My background in general contracting has given me strong organizational and leadership skills that I believe will serve the club well. I'm excited to contribute to maintaining and enhancing the facilities and member experience that make the *Vernon Yacht Club* such a special place to belong.



Gerald G –
Past Commodore

My wife, Annie, and I have been members of the *Vernon Yacht Club* since 1996 and we have enjoyed the Club immensely. Annie and I have delighted in all the social events, meeting other members and forming lifetime friendships. We really take pleasure in boating and hanging out with other members who share the same interests. Annie and I are fond of volunteering at the Club that's really delightful and fun. I have been a member of the Executive Committee for about 10 years, Commodore for 4 years, and I am now the Past Commodore.

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD CAPTAINS

Heaven Can Wait (HCW) is looking for volunteer Captains. The HCW pontoon boat runs an incredibly significant service for our community right from the *Vernon Yacht Club*. VYC has supported HCW since its inception 32 years ago.

HCW is a 100% volunteer organization that offers boat trips on Okanagan Lake to numerous community groups in the period Jun 1 to Sep 30. Over 60 organizations use this service.



Heaven Can Wait Pontoon



Prior to Society being formed in 1992, first few rides were on this make-shift boat

Approximately 50 Captains are needed annually to support the schedule of four trips per day, five days per week. A Captain commits to working with a specific team of volunteers for a few hours one day per week. Training is provided. Many members of VYC already volunteer with this community service.

Would you like to join the roster of Captains? Please email [chiefcaptain\(at\)oqls.org](mailto:chiefcaptain(at)oqls.org) to indicate your interest. Thank you.

MEET OUR NEW CHEF: APRIL BRINGS SOUTHERN FLAIR TO THE KITCHEN

We're thrilled to welcome April, our new chef, who has quickly become a valued member of our kitchen team! April joined us in the late summer and now works regular hours, bringing her unique culinary background and energy to every shift — especially on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

Originally from Arkansas, April spent nearly a decade in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, training under prominent chefs and refining her skills in both Texas and Arkansas. Before moving to Canada, she worked at the Arkansas Country Club, thriving in a fast-paced, members-only environment.

April's move to Vernon was inspired by love — she met her partner, Ashley, and relocated to Canada. Now, after two years here and with her work permit in hand, April is working toward permanent residency and embracing life in British Columbia.

April's passion shines when she's making Mexican food, her favorite cuisine to cook and eat. This Sunday, she'll be serving from an exciting new menu for NFL Sunday, and she's also known for her delicious chicken and waffles — a nod to her Southern roots.

Please join us in welcoming April to our community and stay tuned for more of her flavorful creations!



MEET MIRIAH: OUR NEWEST GANGPLANK TEAM MEMBER!

We're excited to welcome Miriah to our Gangplank crew! She's already making a great impression and says she loves it here: "Everyone's so nice to each other, and people are always willing to help." Miriah brings years of experience from her time at *Rosters Sports Bar*, where she worked for three and a half years, and she's also spent time serving and working in a hospital kitchen.

Originally from Armstrong, Miriah grew up on a farm near Caravan Farm and recently moved to Vernon. She's an Okanagan local through and through, graduating from PVSS in 2017. Family is important to Miriah—her relatives still live out by Caravan Farm, and she enjoys spending time with them, especially helping out with her sister's new baby.

Miriah's partner, Colton, is passionate about sailing, and while she's not a sailor yet, she's open to learning. "Colton was in the sea cadets and wants to get on a sailboat with me!" she laughs. That shouldn't be a tall order at VYC.

They love to travel around BC and hope to see more of Canada before venturing further afield. But she's taking her time to decide. "I feel really lucky to be here," she says, and we're lucky to have her!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

While many of our snowbirds have flown south for the season, the *Vernon Yacht Club* remains active and festive as we begin to wind down 2025 and prepare for an exciting start to 2026.

We are now operating on winter hours, which means on Saturdays the Gangplank is closed after 3:00 pm—except when the clubhouse is booked for private functions. We have solid bookings for private Christmas Parties which bring welcome activity into the clubhouse during the quiet season.



Photo by Ashlin M



Photo by Ashlin M

For a little late fall fun, Karaoke returns November 27, with the next session planned for late January. Ladies Night on Thurs Dec 11 will raise Christmas spirits with wreath and table centerpiece making while Tanya Lipscombe strums and sings to the season. On Dec 14 members can look forward to our always – popular Christmas Sunday Brunch with Santa, and a Wednesday Christmas Dinner special on Dec 17, two great ways to celebrate the season together. Don't forget our regular Wednesday Night Dinner Specials and Friday Steak Nights all fall and winter!

And for sports fans, NFL Sunday Football on the big screen is a regular feature, with a special menu, to make game day even better.



Photo by Bob A

Please note that the Gangplank and Clubhouse will be closed December 22–30 to give our staff a well-deserved holiday break. Warm wishes to all members and staff for a Merry Christmas and a joyful holiday season! We'll reopen on December 31 for our New Year's Eve Party, with ticket information coming soon.

Behind the scenes, December is a key planning month — not just for VYC, but for all Okanagan Lake yacht clubs. Staff Captains will meet in early 2026 to finalize the 2026 Okanagan Lake Yacht Clubs Schedule of Events, including the Commodore's Ball, Invasion, and other special invitation events that unite clubs up and down the lake.

For members staying local this winter, there's plenty happening — stay warm, stay connected, and enjoy the season at your club.

Pat L
Staff Captain



FALL SAILING SOCIAL

THE TURKEY TROT

The *Turkey Trot* is a favourite social sailing race for *Vernon Yacht Club* sailors, and this year did not disappoint. Eight boats eased their way out of the docks on Thanksgiving Monday and gathered near the start line in front of the club. At 11:00 am the starting sequence began, and the fleet eventually drifted across the line on nearly calm water.

The boats fanned out toward the west side of the lake, heading for the Forestry Camp at the Evelyn Recreation Site. Under sunny skies, the morning's chill gave way to a welcome north wind, turning the race into an exciting spinnaker reach



Cimmaron Finishing the Turkey Trot



Best Newcomer Skipper Greg L receiving an Award from Bob A



toward the mooring buoy. Squeamish crews rounded the mark in precariously shallow water while others “pretend rounded” close by, then set off on the return leg as the breeze began to shift and fade. Winds turned fluke on the way home, testing skipper’s skill as they tried to finish before the 3:00 pm deadline.

Remarkably, every boat that entered, finished the race—something that has never happened in recent memory. *Bare Necessities* crossed with just two minutes to spare at 2:58 pm. On the fast end of the spectrum, *Flying Phil* and Tim aboard *Liquid Assets* were miles ahead, finishing at 1:15 pm for line honours and a well-earned bottle of rum. Fred M, solo sailor on *Rapid Transit*, claimed the Mystery Time prize and another bottle of rum. Just two minutes later *Blues in Sea* arrived, followed by *Pegasus X*, where Greg L. and Kendra earned rum honours as the best newcomer racers, then *Cimmaron*, *Cygnus*, and *Ahoy Polloi*.



Rapid Transit Fred M Wins 2nd Place

By mid-afternoon, boats were secured and crews had migrated to B Deck by the gate for a relaxed post-race social. There, sailors swapped stories about tricky winds, tactical gambles, and the occasional rigging mishap while awards were presented. It was a simple, friendly race and a thoroughly enjoyable day on the water — exactly what the *Turkey Trot* was meant to be. Truly one of the best *Turkey Trots* in recent memory.

Bob A

Social Race Organizer



Post Turkey Trot Review on B Deck

SAILOR'S WIND UP PARTY

The *Vernon Yacht Club* hosted its annual Sailing Racing Wind-Up Party on November 1st at the Gangplank, marking the official close of the 2025 Racing Season. The event was very well attended, with more than 60 sailors gathering for a celebration of the season's accomplishments and a potluck dinner. Everyone contributed excellent dishes, and special thanks go to Alpine Delights for providing a delicious raclette. The club was buzzing with stories from a season of adventures, with many arriving in retro sailor outfits including a few pirates.

MCs Ben and Cindy took to the mic, with a lighthearted rivalry between Cindy the “true Captain” and Ben the “scallywag Pirate”. The entertainment included a historical boat trivia quiz, several



The Wind Up Potluck Table

lively rounds of Pictionary featuring memorable moments from our 2025 racing adventures and the *Guess That Retro Sailor* game. Can you guess who's who? Identify Vernon sailors from photos taken in their youth. ▽



*Jack Sparrow (Ben) and Blackbeard (Dave) of **B** Fleet, Entertain the Massive Crowd on Hand for the Sailor's Wind up*



***A** Fleet Winners Ayesha - Don & Carol C Cathy A, Molly C*



A spinning wheel offered a fun, unique way to give away door prizes to all. Some of the notable events sailors had to draw in Pictionary were, docking in high winds, getting a line wrapped in the prop, sailing in no wind and kiting a spinnaker.

(article continues on next page)

SAILOR'S WIND UP PARTY *(continued from previous page)*

After dinner, the focus shifted to the awards. Robb P and Dave H presented the Series Trophies and Rum Series prizes to all winners.

Congratulations to the overall series winners:

- A Fleet: 1st Ayesha, 2nd Storm Castle Rock 3rd Mystique
- B Fleet: 1st Stormy, 2nd Valuta, 3rd Cimarron

Carol C was the honored recipient of the *Rob Ladan Award* this year. Carol commented, "Sailing, particularly racing, has been a pleasure of my husband and mine since we moved to Vernon in 1988. The friendships are lasting and memorable. Shortly after arriving, Lyle Enns introduced me to 'scoring' the races and after the race is over that is where I have been ever since." Carol has recently trained and



B Fleet Runner Up Valuta - Bill C
(Winner Stormy was a Wind Up No Show)



Host Cindy K and
Race Chair Robb P
Present Awards

passed this scoring role on to Deb Z. Huge thanks to Carol for all her years of score keeping.

The windup party was planned by Ben and Cindy (*Sea Raven*), Dave H (*Eaglemoon*), Darla & Wayne (*Eclipse*), and Ken & Doris (*Jesse*). Thanks to the team and all B fleet skippers and crew who assisted with dishwashing and cleanup.

Now we set to dreaming of next year until we're all back on the water in 2026.

Cindy K & Ben K



Boating Tip of the Month... Tip #9) Watch for Sandbars!



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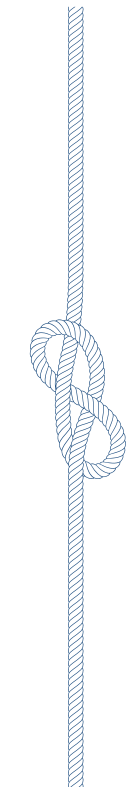
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SV GRACE O'MALLEY

VERNON YACHT CLUB'S PIRATE SHIP

Some stories have long beginnings. Boat stories are like that. I could tell you that in 1970 a man named Ron Cooper built a boat in Kamloops named *Zenaida*. But where did the “boat” come from. What set of sea conditions or design requirements led to that underwater profile, that sheer, that pointed stern. Going back to Colin Archer, born 1832 in Norway to Scottish immigrant parents, would be a good start. Archer’s yard contracted to build North Sea lifeboats, rescue boats and pilot boats. Refining the double ender with his design partners formulas, Archer’s boat-yard produced hundreds of boats including over 120 double enders. Another “Archer” of note is arctic exploration vessel *Fram*. This 1893 128-foot vessel is still on museum display. I’ll just skip to a wiki quote below to sum up his career as a pioneer in “double ender” pilot boat/rescue boats.

“In 1892 several of his pilot-boats rescued fishing boats in a severe offshore gale on the southeast coast of Norway, and after a design competition, he received an order to design a rescue boat for the Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue (*Norsk Selskab til Skibbrudnes Redning*). This 47-foot boat proved so seaworthy that 33 were built, giving Archer and his shipyard a reputation for durable and safe ships.”

Archer’s smaller designs have been colloquialized as North Sea Lifeboats, Pilot Cutters etc and they are all of these. From **33’ Pilot Cutters** to a 150-foot three masted Barque Archer’s oak boats influenced hundreds of marine architects and set design guidelines for a generation.

Hmmm...where have I seen those lines before? Jump ahead to California in the 1960s. William Atkins’ recreational re-designs and further William Crealock’s production boat lines influence the **Kendall 32**. These moulds led to the fiberglass **West sail 32**, and a host of other Archer influenced production boats.



The Westsail 32 is a direct descendant of the Archer 33’ Pilot Cutter



Pilot cutter *Pitkäpaasi* built 1898 as one of eight for the Finnish pilot department 1898-1903

By 1970 you could buy plans from *Samson Marine* to build this boat in ferro-cement. This cheap home build method, if done right, can endure decades of hard use. Poorly built examples generally had shorter careers and some never left the backyards where they started. Others left the yard but never saw the sea. *Grace O'Malley* is this boat.

(continues on next page)

Zenaida's only voyage was from Kamloops to Okanagan Lake, not the intended South Pacific. *Samson's* ferro-cement boats based on *Westsail* kit plans are only occasionally encountered now. Salt water is a more dangerous environment for a rebar frame but there are well maintained decades old examples still cruising. And then there are the ones who never saw salt water.

Now picture a 1970 Kamloops back yard, a pile of rebar and chicken wire, two loads of special sand and pallets of cement mix. Now add 20 years, a dream, a divorce, a move, a cherry orchard, and a curious young Real Estate agent who was NOT looking for a boat.

I first spotted a tattered tarp over what looked like a bowsprit poking out from behind a barn in Oyama, early 90's. A chance encounter had me talking to her builder, Ron Cooper and the connection was made. He had this project boat and a basement full of new sails and rigging. I had an inkling. The mast was a blank on sawhorses beside the boat. What Ron, now in his 80's, also had was an imminent deadline from the orchard owner to move the boat. See where I'm going with this? Stay tuned for the next installment.

Dan I

SV Grace O'Malley 

FALL CRANE DAY 2025

Thank you to Mike L, Keith D, Liam F, and Robb P for organizing the Crane Day! Some skippers were at the club early at 7 am to move boats into position to expedite the crane out. By 9 am all the small boats were parked, and *Ri* was on its trailer waiting to be transported home. Then the fun started with 22 more boats to be lifted. Those boats took all day and into the dusk by the time *Grace O'Malley* finally landed. Luckily the weather cooperated and we didn't get rained on. And thankfully the kitchen fueled up the steady stream of hungry sailors with



Dragonflying

*Onlookers
Amazed*



*The Best Feeling
When the Crane
is Done*

egggers in the morning and then chili later on. The club's lower parking lot now has that crowded, wintertime feeling about it. Now we can enjoy the winter and come back in the spring to get ready for the next boating season.

Story by Carol C

Photos by Carol C
and Keith D



LADIES NIGHT

GET YOUR SEXY BACK – SPICY AND SAUCY

VYC ladies and their friends turned out in large numbers for this topic! It was super fun, hosted by the wonderful Linda W and organized by a small team of wonderful members – Kim M, Corrie W Linda W and Sarah K.

There were some amazing door prizes and a rocking 50:50 with the winning (50%) being a rocking \$270 taken home by Andrea, a guest of one of our members!

At the event we had some incredibly wonderful and supportive experts to laugh with us, share their knowledge and products / services:

Intimate Wellbeing – two local ladies who now have a great business with an appealing line of specialty products they have developed — they described their business as "a sexual wellness boutique for midlife women"

Casa Bella – a local clothing and bedding store with an amazing lingerie section

Vixen Photo Studio – another local gal who has a Boudoir photoshoot offering which is all about feeling comfortable with our inner vixen

North Okanagan Skin and Laser – another fabulous local entrepreneur that coached us through the latest in how you can treat the ravages of time with care!



Spiritleaf – another amazing lady entrepreneur talked to us about the aphrodisiac effects you can safely enjoy with some of her store products

Wahoooo!

Coming soon:

December 11 – Christmas Centre Pieces and Music with Tanya Lipscombe

January 15 , 2026 – Chocolate making and appreciation

Also, read all about November Ladies Night with the 'Art from the Optimist Attic' event in the next issue.

HALLOWEEN STEAK NIGHT

A HOME RUN SPOOKTACULAR TIME!

It was simply too tempting not to celebrate Halloween on Friday, October 31st at the club. The ghouls and gals came out in their finest, and the grills were alive with the sizzle of steaks cooked to perfection. Our spooky steak night transformed into an unforgettable evening, no doubt helped by the elixir poured by our spirited bartenders.



Everybody was game for a good night including MC Stevie B spinning spooky Halloween tunes and dance favorites that kept the energy high all evening.

Stevie B had to compete with the final game of the World Series between our Blue Jays and the Dodgers. He and all those rising from the netherworld did everything possible to help the Jays come out on top including summoning Beetlejuice three times!

The costumes were fabulous as members took their Halloween spirit to the next level.



All the Rock Stars and Groupies were there. There may have been a bad biker dude lurking about.



(article continues on next page)



HALLOWEEN STEAK NIGHT *(continued from previous page)*



Be sure to check out the photos — can you **guess who is who?**

Dr. Rocker and his associate were checking the temperature of the party — and it was definitely running hot. They even brought a few souls back to life! Beetlejuice, Lydia Deetz, Captain Ahab ... what a cast!



Thank you to everyone who joined us and made the night so special. Should we plan a Halloween Party next year on a Saturday night? We can't wait!



MEET HILDA

OUR NEW OFFICE ASSISTANT

We're pleased to introduce Hilda, the newest member of our *Vernon Yacht Club* office team!

Hilda brings a wealth of experience, having worked as an administrator at NOSA for two years after retiring from a career at BC Hydro, where she ran hydroelectric generators. She's called Vernon home for about a decade, though much of her working life was spent out of town.

Originally from northern Ontario, Hilda's journey for employment has taken her across the country and into our community. When she's not keeping the office running smoothly, Hilda enjoys sailing on Okanagan Lake and exploring her creative side through fibre arts, especially weaving. You can see her work at *Artsolutely Holiday Artisan Market & Fundraiser* at the *Vernon Community Arts Centre* through the month of December.

Please join us in giving Hilda a warm VYC welcome!

Vernon Yacht Club



GREY CUP PARTY

SCORES BIG AT VERNON YACHT CLUB!

On October 16, 2025, the *Vernon Yacht Club* was alive with excitement as football fans gathered for a Grey Cup party to remember!

The event brought together the best of both worlds — NFL Sunday football and the CFL's championship spirit—creating a festive atmosphere that had everyone cheering.

The crowd was a vibrant mix, with plenty of Saskatchewan *Roughriders* fans, and a handful of loyal Montreal *Alouettes* supporters. The game itself was a rollercoaster, sometimes seeming lopsided but ultimately delivering a thrilling see-saw battle. The tension peaked when the *Alouettes* dropped the ball on the three-yard line in the final seconds, missing a chance to tie the game — much to the delight of Stampeder fans!



Stampeder Fan Central



*Stampeder Warrior
Head Dress*

No party is complete without great food, and this one delivered. Special thanks go out to April for developing NFL (and CFL!) Sunday food specials, which have already become a hit with a growing crowd. One fan known to the editor attempted to sample the entire menu as well as the halftime Hot Dog special (burp)! Be sure to check them out throughout the winter! Corrine and April, outdid themselves with delicious offerings, including the ever-popular “fumble fries,” which were especially enjoyed by Stampeder fans after that dramatic last play of the game.

The excitement didn't stop at the game. Door prizes were given away each quarter, and the squares raffle saw Doritt coming up big three times or four times! Greg B's brother-in-law walked away with the 50/50 winnings—congratulations! The lovely gift baskets produced by Grace all found happy homes with avid fans.



Grey Cup Goodies



*CFL Deco and
Half-Time
Hot Dogs*



It was a night of football, food, fun, and fantastic prizes—a true celebration of the Grey Cup spirit at the Vernon Yacht Club. Thanks to organizers Pat L and Dave G and to everyone who joined in and made it such a memorable event!

KARAOKE NIGHTS AT VYC

The Gangplank was full of easygoing energy on October 16th as karaoke fans drifted in for what turned into another memorable night. MC Stevie B set the tone early with a strong blues number that had the room smiling before he



Karaoke Crowd



Karaoke Crooner Detmer D

finished the final note, and soon singers—regulars and first-timers alike—were stepping up to the mic with confidence.

A highlight of the evening was a friendly battle of the crooners, with veteran Ken H defending his unofficial title against spirited challengers Detmer D and Greg B. Each brought their own style and earned plenty of cheers.

Karaoke is quickly becoming a staple of VYC nightlife, thanks to Stevie B's inspirational song collection, great sound setup, and talent for helping everyone feel at ease. Whether you sang, cheered, or simply enjoyed the atmosphere, it was a fun, relaxed night of music.

We're already looking forward to the next Karaoke Night on Thursday, November 27th.

Dinner begins at 5:00 PM with Corrine's Thursday special—the Big Stevie Double Burger & Fries — and drinks from Grace and Miriah behind the bar. Singing starts around 7:00 PM and carries on through the evening.

Whether you're ready to take the stage or just want to soak up the fun, it's sure to be another great night at the club.

See you there—and maybe we'll hear you too!

Vernon Yacht Club



**Come to the Club
for Dinner at 5:00, Drinks
& some Karaoke Fun!**

Thursday, November 27
Start time: 7:00 PM



Dinner & Dance

The clubhouse was buzzing with Bavarian spirit on October 4th as members gathered for our **Oktoberfest Dinner & Dance**. Authentic MC translator Wolfgang helped kick off the evening, bringing a lively festive mood to the room as he translated announcements and welcomed guests in true Oktoberfest style.

Many guests arrived dressed in traditional Bavarian wardrobe — dirndls, lederhosen, and all — adding wonderful colour and charm to the celebration. Congratulations to Corrine S and Bill M, this year's costume winner and runner up, who captured the spirit of Oktoberfest perfectly.



Bavarian Buffet Goers



Wardrobe Winner Corinne

Our talented décor team — Gerald, Annie, Susan, and Rob — transformed the space with charming “piggie farm” centrepieces and vibrant posters that set just the right tone for the evening.

Behind the bar, Grace and Ryan kept refreshments flowing, while in the kitchen Corinne and April served a delicious lineup of Austrian and German favourites, from schnitzel to bratwurst with all the classic sides. Staff Captain Bob offered authentic Bavarian plum streusel and strudel for dessert.



Festive Wardrobe

Deirdrie and Thomas ▽



Rosemarie and Bill M with Sarah K

The James Taylor Trio kept the dance floor lively throughout the night, rounding out a celebration filled with great food, festive music, and fall cheer.

Prost to another successful Oktoberfest at the **VYC!**



GANGPLANK - WINTER HOURS

FOOD SERVICE HOURS & MENU

Monday:	Closed	
Tuesday:	Winter Menu	5:00pm - 8:00pm
Wednesday:	Special, Appy's & Pizza	5:00pm - 8:00pm
Thursday:	Winter Menu	5:00pm - 8:00pm
Friday:	Steak, Salmon BBQ or Chicken	6:00pm - 8:30pm
Saturday:	Soup & Sandwich	12:00pm - 3:00pm
Sunday:	NFL Menu Special	11:00am - 5:30pm

Takeout menu available Wed & Thu nights 5:00pm-7:30pm & Soup or Sandwich on Sat 12pm-2:30. Please call in Advance. Gang Plank Menus unavailable during special events & private functions.

BAR HOURS

Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	4:00pm - 9:00pm
Wednesday:	4:00pm - 9:00pm
Thursday:	4:00pm - 9:00pm
Friday:	4:00pm - 10:00pm
Saturday:	12:00pm - 3:00pm
Sunday:	10:00am - 6:00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday thru Friday:	9:00pm - 2:00pm
Saturday:	8:00pm - 4:00pm

Bar staff can be reached at 250-545-5518 during Gang Plank Hours.

Tiller Topics ARTICLE submission DEADLINES!

- Mon JAN 12, 2026** – Jan/Feb/Mar issue (*Christmas & New Year's edition*)
- Mon APR 6, 2026** – Apr/May issue (*Boat Show edition*)
- Mon JUN 8, 2026** – Jun/Jul/Aug issue (*Commodore sail-by & Summer edition*)
- Mon SEP 7, 2026** – Sep/Oct issue (*Summer Event reports*)
- Mon NOV 16, 2026** – Nov/Dec issue (*AGM & Executive introduction edition*)



VERNON YACHT CLUB DIRECTORY

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