



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2026

TILLER TOPICS



REPORTS

NEWS FROM OUR COMMODORE



School's back in and summer has come and gone. Boats are coming out of the marina, and some members are already planning their next season's activities. The yard is beginning to fill up with member's boats and the driest summer on record has taken its toll. As a result of the "Okanagan

Drought" we have water use restrictions and getting boats out of the water is a challenge.

We are also at our fiscal year end and our AGM is not far away. With that in mind and nominations for our Executive closing shortly I need to draw member's attention to the necessity of volunteer support for our club.

Volunteers are essential to a not-for-profit, member-funded organization because they help deliver services while keeping membership fees and operating costs manageable.

Key reasons include:

Cost efficiency: Reduces reliance on paid staff.

Member participation: Gives members an active role in running the organization.

Community engagement: Builds commitment and a sense of ownership.

Skills and expertise: Members may contribute professional or specialized skills.

Sustainability: Creates a broader base of people who can share responsibilities and leadership.

IN THIS ISSUE:

News from our Commodore	pg 1 & 2
Letter from Executive	pg 2
Rear Commodore Report	pg 3
Online Course for Boaters	pg 4
Fleet Captain Report	pg 5
Extremely Low Lake	pg 5
Membership Director Report	pg 6
VYC Annual General Meeting	pg 7
The Security Team is Recruiting	pg 7
Musical Road	pg 8
The Commodores Cup	pg 9
Rib-Off and Silent Auction	pg 10
Rib-Off Introducing the Team	pg 11
SY Grace O'Malley - part 5	pg 12 & 13
Wind to Power - A New Boat	pg 14
Invasive Mussel Management	pg 14
Meet Brodie	pg 15
VYC Office Hours	pg 15
Sailing at VYC Stays Strong	pg 16 & 17
Classifieds	pg 18
Tiller Topics Article Deadlines	pg 18

COMMODORE's REPORT

(continued from previous page)

Benefits to the volunteer? Utilizes useful skills, work experience and develops confidence, teamwork, communication, and leadership. Provides a sense of purpose, fulfillment, and a better insight to the operation of the club.

We are still in need of a few key positions on the Executive, please contact the office or myself.

Fred H
Commodore



DEAR YACHT CLUB MEMBERS,

We are pleased to invite you to participate in our *Vernon Yacht Club* **Members Survey**. You may remember that we posted a member survey earlier this summer, but the number of responses we received back was disappointing, so we are trying again with another survey that is targeted in specific areas. Your feedback is important to us and will help the Club better understand the needs, interests, and priorities of our valued members, as well as identify opportunities for improvement.

The survey is designed to provide an opportunity for members to share their views on the Club's facilities, programs, services, communications, social activities, and overall member experience.

We encourage all members to take a few minutes to complete the survey. Please provide your feedback openly and candidly, as all responses will remain anonymous. As a valued member of the *Vernon Yacht Club*, your perspective is important and we appreciate your participation.

You can respond to our survey by copying the link below into your web browser.

Survey: <https://tally.so/r/Gxj762>

Deadline: October 30, 2026

Prefer a paper copy? Paper copies of the survey will also be available at the *Vernon Yacht Club* Annual General Meeting on Thursday, October 29, 2026.

Where appropriate, survey results and key themes will be shared with the membership.

Thank you for your time, continued support, and commitment to the *Vernon Yacht Club*.

Vernon Yacht Club Executive

REAR COMMODORE REPORT



It's been a busy and interesting summer around the clubhouse and on the docks, with a few changes and upgrades.

Some of the dock fingers are in need of some attention to ensure that they are floating properly. Burton Marine is looking into solutions for this issue.

The outdoor vinyl decking and railings at the gangplank have been replaced, as the old deck coverings were at the end of their life cycle. There are a few tweaks still needed to the project that will be finished later this fall or in the spring, weather permitting.

This year's low lake levels and drought situation have created challenges and changes for our operations. The VYC pump-out can be accessed from the north side of the dock for the time being, as it may be difficult to pump from the usual south side by the boom gantry. Please observe the Greater Vernon water restrictions when it comes to cleaning your boats, etc. as we are tied into city water and are subject to enforcement if we break local bylaws. Ryan is exploring possible options for watering the foliage at the club, likely drawing untreated water from the lake.

The VYC long term planning committee is looking for some members to step up and help guide the future direction of our club.

I'm stepping back from the executive this fall after four years on the board. It has been an interesting and rewarding experience and I encourage members to get involved.

Rear Commodore
Bill M



MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES

The bad news is, time flies. The good news is, you're the pilot.

– Michael Altshuler



PETAWATTS
AUTO + MARINE + RV
ELECTRO-FITTING



20 % + 6 % OFF

for VYC members in 2026!

We offer **20% off** (services) and **6% off** (all webshop products) for members!

Use coupon code **VYC2026** or call Attila on 778-692-3024

Marine and RV electronics, batteries, troubleshooting and repairs.
Electric outboards and trolling motors. Solar systems, inverters.
All things electric for your boat or RV! Free consultation.



5000 Silver Star Rd., Vernon, V1T 0A9 www.petawatts.ca (778)-692-3024

Okanagan Power and Sail Squadron, operating as



**CanBoat
NautiSavoir**

Okanagan



Presents

Practical Weather for Boaters

An Online Course

Please join us for a comprehensive discussion on all aspects of Weather for Boaters. Weekly sessions meet Wednesday evenings commencing October 21, 2026 at 7:00 PM Pacific. The course will run for six weeks, and will be conducted online using Zoom communication software.

Course Fee is \$145.00 and includes all materials and final exam.

Please register using the following web link:

https://www.canboat.ca/course-calendar/course-details/?cb_course_id=182

Phone Doug Stewart 250-549-5117 for additional information.



FLEET CAPTAIN REPORT



What an interesting couple of months it has been! There has certainly been no shortage of excitement happening around the Okanagan recently.

In August, we experienced three significant wildfires on the west side of *Okanagan Lake*: one in Summerland, one in Fintry, and the Bradley Creek wildfire in the North Arm.

In response, many of our members generously made their slips available to incoming evacuated boats, and we ended up hosting eight boats that were in desperate need of a place to tie up. Both the office and I fielded numerous calls from understandably panicked residents looking for temporary moorage. The sense I got was that once people knew they had somewhere safe to take their boat, they were able to stop worrying about where they would go and start working on a longer-term solution.

I am very proud of the response from the VYC during this situation and very glad that we were able to assist our neighbours in their time of need. It was a great example of our members stepping up when it really mattered.

Also exciting—although perhaps in a slightly different way—is watching the lake run out of water!

The slips on W Dock that we often use for waitlisted members were really not usable for much of the summer. Once again, our members stepped up and made their slips available for short-term use, and as a result we were able to get nearly all of our waitlist members into the water this year. Thank you to everyone who helped make that possible.

You may have also noticed that it is getting quite shallow over by the pump-out dock, with reports of boats getting caught up in the mud and weeds while trying to get in. Chris N. graciously agreed to move his boat out of D30, on the other side of the pump-out dock, so that boats can continue to get in and empty their tanks in preparation for winter. Thank you, Chris!

I'm hoping October will be a little smoother than the last couple of months. Winter Storage is underway, and preparations for Crane Day are ongoing. Once all the boats that are coming out are safely out, we can sit back, take a breath, and relax for a little while ...

... until Spring!

VYC Fleet Captain
Liam Fitzgerald



Tom M Looks over at the disturbingly low lake level. The slips on W Dock that we often use for waitlisted members were really not usable for much of the summer.

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



Hello once again from your Membership Director. As I look in the rearview mirror at the summer now past, I reflect on the *Wednesday Race Nights*, the fun had on the water in the winds, (and no winds), the burgers and beers and laughs at the Gangplank afterwards. The camaraderie amongst our VYC sailor group is to be commended. After battling it out for boat room around the marks, we're happy to raise a beer or two and laugh about how we squeaked past, or in between one another, stole someone's wind, forced them up or over early. Despite the competitive nature of racing, there's a healthy display of good sportsmanship.

Fire season gave us an opportunity to display what we're about as a community, when our annual 'Rib-off' event was interrupted by mass cell phone Alert and Evac messages. I'm sure most of us know people who were evacuated and needed somewhere to stay. Your VYC opened up the parking lot and any available slips to those forced out of their homes. Others in the club reached out to evacuees to offer shelter and support. Our boating needs seemed to pale, in comparison to the needs of those needing our support. Well done club.

The kids have returned to school. The house is quiet again while they're learning new things, and other seasons are just around the corner. Ski season, Hockey season, and yard cleanup season, to name a few. The boat, we've enjoyed all summer, tends to get neglected now however, and Crane Day is a little over a month away (October 23rd this year).

Heads up! Don't forget to winterize. Snow will be here soon enough. There are freshwater tanks, the head, black water tanks, engine coolant, and fuel systems to deal with. Also bilges to dry out, and stands and trailers to check on. It's not a bad idea to check on those trailers early. Air up those tires and if they're split, maybe it's time to condemn them. The boat's going to sit all winter. Give those bearings a shot or two of grease, check the rodents haven't enjoyed the wiring, and see if the lights still work before you tow.

Our AGM is next month too, so circle October 29th. It's your club, and we need your input and direction, so please show up. Blast us. Applaud us. I don't mind which. Come elect a few new faces, or step on up, become a board member and help make us a better club.

Our membership count is as follows;

Regular **325**. Affiliate **36**. Social **100**.

Honorary **1**. Life **7**.

Total Membership **469**.

(Based on 33% of our regular total, we are allowed **108** Social Members).

We were at **473** Total in February btw.



Total number of inquiries of prospective new members have dropped off though, 56 - 58 - 44 for the last three years. I believe we can attribute this to an economic downturn. Ones' disposable income for recreational purposes is being squeezed by an increased cost of living.

Our membership numbers are stable at this time.

Enough from me.

Your Membership Director
Simon J





The Vernon Yacht Club Annual General Meeting

Our *Annual General Meeting* is coming up, and we'd love to see you there.

When: Thursday, October 29, 2026

Where: Vernon Yacht Club

Time: 7 PM

The AGM is an important opportunity for members to come together, hear about the past year at the Club, receive updates, and participate in decisions that help shape the future of the *Vernon Yacht Club*.

We also have Executive Board positions available for the upcoming year. If you've ever thought about getting more involved, sharing your ideas, or helping shape the future of our Club, we encourage you to consider putting your name forward.

So, save the date, join your fellow members for an evening at the Club!

More information regarding the AGM, agenda, nominations, and voting will be shared with members closer to the date.

We look forward to seeing you on October 29!

Vernon Yacht Club Executive



*New Commodore - VYC's newest member
keeping a sharp eye on the docks - photo by David H*

Volunteer Opportunity at VYC – The Security Team is Recruiting

An opportunity is open for all Full Members to volunteer for Your *Vernon Yacht Club*. Our Club runs on Volunteers. Have You been wondering how you can support Your Club? How You can give back to Your club with some of Your time?

A dedicated group of Full Members operates a *Volunteer Security Team* and now we are recruiting.

We provide a late night presence in the Club House and on the marina docks safeguard the building and the Members' boats.

No previous security experience is required. Orientation, training and mentoring with current Team Members is provided to all new recruits.

A commitment of just 3 hours per month is requested. As a benefit all *Volunteer Security Team* Members are eligible to participate in the *Vernon Yacht Club* Rewards Program.

Interested? Here's how to join. Please contact: William W. - Security or inquire at the club office. An email link is also available at the "Other VYC Contacts" page at the Contacts drop-down menu on the *Vernon Yacht Club* website: <https://vernonyachtclub.com/contact-us/other-contacts/>

We hope you'll consider joining the team!

MUSICAL ROAD

As the name implies, a musical road is a section of a road that can make music. And they exist all over the world. "But how?" you ask. Each note is produced by rumble strips in the road, not unlike the warning rumble strips we have here in British Columbia. Varying the spacing of the strips in the road changes the frequency of each note. For example, an E note requires a frequency of around 330 vibrations a second. Therefore, strips 2.4 inches apart will produce an E note when travelling in a vehicle at 72 km/h. When driving over this section the audible rumbling can be heard through the wheels and body of the vehicle, it is heard within the car as a melody. But you better drive the speed limit, because it only works properly if you drive at the speed posted, the song will play off-key otherwise.



Musical rumble strips

The first known musical road was created in October 1995 in Denmark, by two Danish artists. For those that are interested in the boring details, ... the song played was an arpeggio in the key of F major. The idea took off, and now musical roads are known to exist in Africa, Asia, Eastern and Western Europe, Middle East, the United States and South America.

It is seen as both a unique attraction and a nod to years of investment in the area's transportation. It also adds flair to once-overlooked routes. For example, there is the popular US Route 66. It spans approximately 2,448 miles (3,940 km) across the central and southwestern United States, running from Chicago, Illinois to Santa Monica, California. Eight stretches of musical roads have been installed there. US company 66 Musical Roads LLC was commissioned to develop these stretches of musical highway for America's 250th celebration in 2026, and also to celebrate the 100th birthday of the historic road. Songs like *America the Beautiful*, *Take It Easy* and of course *Get Your Kicks on Route 66*, can be heard along the way.



Sign next to a musical road in Tijeras, New Mexico



It's the kind of roadside surprise you don't see—or hear—every day. Now, wouldn't that be something ... if we could only have something like this at the *Vernon Yacht Club*. If you stick to the speed posted in the marina, a VYC jingle will play. DJ Steve, can we make this happen?

For Tiller Topics

Detmer Deddens



EDITORS NOTE:

Last Names in TT

It has been policy of the club to not include last names in *Tiller Topics* for fear scammers will take advantage of people online. However, *Tiller Topics* does include last names when a member has a boat for sale, when a member with a business advertises, and when the member, such as a story writer or a member being recognized, chooses to have their last name included when asked by the editor.

THE COMMODORES CUP WITH A VYC / NOSA CONNECTION

This was our second year bringing the U35 SCR (*Storm Castle Rock*) crew to the Commodores Cup at *Kelowna Yacht Club*, and after a 5th-place finish last year, we came back hungry for a podium.

It started rocky — literally. Before Race 1, we noticed our motor mount had split. We taped it and hoped for the best, but mid-race, while leading, we heard a splash and watched our motor drop into the water. Crew member Jacob L hauled it back aboard with one arm, while our competitors on *Squirrely* watched in disbelief. Minutes later we ran aground near the windward mark, broke free, and still snuck a photo-finish 2nd place.

Between races, gracious members of KYC built us a new motor mount on the spot. When our old Mercury gave one last puff of smoke and died, we scrambled — luckily, I'd just bought a Santana named *Razzle Dazzle* with a spare motor aboard. Twenty pulls later, it roared to life.

Race 4 was the one that mattered. We had a clean start with minimal boats around us, then on a port tack upwind we came within six inches of *Squirrely's* bow — the whole crew was screaming at me



U35 Commodores Cup NOSA VYC Crew

KELOWNA YAMAHA & MARINE

WE'RE YAMAHA.
**WE SELL THE BOATS
YOU NEED.**
FOR WORK. FOR PLAY. FOR LIFE ON THE WATER.

**YOUR YAMAHA
AUTHORIZED
SALES & SERVICE
DEALER**

YAMAHA WAVERUNNERS
POWER. PERFORMANCE. PURE FUN.

MARLON BOATS
TOUGH. RELIABLE. READY FOR ANYTHING.

YAMAHA SUPERJET
LIGHTWEIGHT. SIMPLE. SERIOUS FUN.

YAMAHA 255XD
PREMIUM COMFORT. BIG WATER CAPABILITY. UNFORGETTABLE DAYS.

**COME SEE US AT THE VERNON BOAT SHOW
FOR EXCLUSIVE BOAT SHOW PRICING!**
NEW & PRE-OWNED | FINANCING AVAILABLE | PARTS, SERVICE & ACCESSORIES

LEGENDARY BRANDS

LOCAL PEOPLE

EXPERT SERVICE

SCAN TO TEXT US
FOR MORE INFO
OR BOAT SHOW
INQUIRIES!

YOUR OKANAGAN DESTINATION FOR
BOATING, POWERSPORTS & MARINE ADVENTURE.

876 McCurdy Pl, Kelowna, BC V1Y 8C8 | 250.763.1010 | www.kelownayamaha.ca

not to go above, and somehow it worked. A bad rounding at the windward mark dropped us to 5th, but a lucky wind shift lifted us past two boats while others got headed sailing away from the mark. With our spinnaker still catching air in the dying breeze with over 50 boat lengths behind, we crawled past *Fossil Squared* and then *Always Something* — undefeated all weekend — to take the gun. Word came over the radio: no more races today. That first-place finish locked in 2nd overall, by a single point.

We also took home the Regattatude award for best sailing vibes on the water. Huge thanks to my crew — Emily A, Finn LP, Jacob A, and Jacob L — for a wild, unforgettable regatta and our best finish yet. I'm already looking forward to getting back out there on *Razzle Dazzle*.

Tyler Roos
Sailing School Director of NOSA



RIB-OFF AND SILENT AUCTION

A GREAT SUCCESS

The *Vernon Yacht Club's* annual Rib-Off on August 1st proved once again to be a memorable evening, bringing members together for great food, music, dancing, and a wonderful cause. Despite challenging weather conditions, including a huge windstorm and the beginning of the *Bradley Creek Forest Fire*, the event was well attended, and a good time was had by all.

The evening featured four grilling teams, with two members on each team, who worked hard for days to prepare their ribs and compete for the coveted Rib-Off awards. The ribs were delicious, and the competition was enjoyed by everyone.

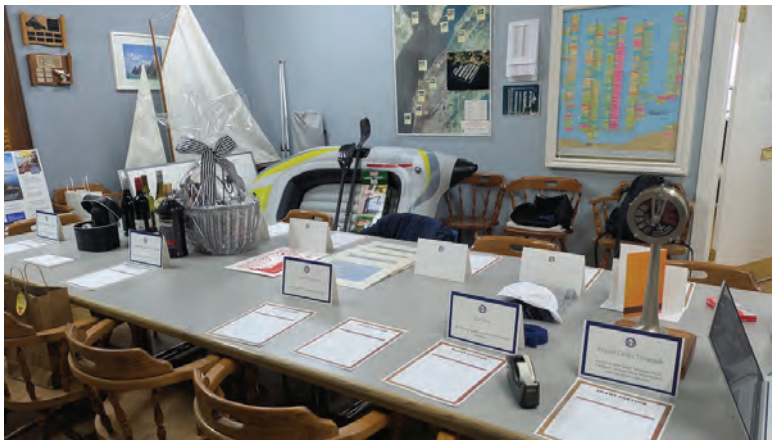
The club kitchen did a fabulous job preparing a selection of side dishes to accompany the barbecued ribs, making for a delicious dinner enjoyed by all.

Adding to the festive atmosphere was the music of entertainer Dave Procyshen. His music was perfect for the occasion and had members up dancing and enjoying the evening together.

The *Captain's Care Club* held a silent auction as part of the evening's fundraising activities. Thanks to the generosity of club



The Rib Off Dinner and Dance with Musician Dave Procyshen



Silent Auction Items Generously Donated by Many Members

members, approximately 20 items were available, ranging in value from \$25 to \$450, with a total estimated value of about \$2,500. Items included a wonderful variety of donated products, gift certificates, services, artwork, gift baskets, gourmet treats, and recreational experiences. A 50/50 draw was also held, and Barb L walked away the winner!

Members had the opportunity to preview the auction items during the afternoon and place early bids, followed by a final opportunity to check their bids after the Rib-Off

presentations. The bidding closed at 8:00 p.m., and the winners were announced shortly afterward.

The silent auction and draw raised \$1,789.50 for the *Captain's Care Club*, whose mission is to support special projects that enhance the *Vernon Yacht Club* beyond its regular operating budget. The funds will help support future club improvements including a new emergency transport chair coming soon.

A heartfelt **thank-you** goes to all the donors who contributed auction items, the grilling teams, the kitchen crew, the volunteers who organized the event and auction, and everyone who attended and supported the evening.



THE RIB-OFF GRILLING EVENT

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEAM

The grills were fired up, the sauces were flowing, and the competition was officially underway at this year's Rib-Off! We had seen each team hovering over their BBQ's like new parents checking on a sleeping baby. That was dedication.

Our first team was our defending champions Dustin, Steve and Dad. Dad Dave brought along his secret family recipe. Last year their legendary recipe won them the competition, and there was a lot of curiosity about what made it so special. Whatever was in it, they certainly weren't giving away any secrets!

Next up were Vernon and Alex, also known as the *Jetty Deck Crew*. If you had been around for the pancake breakfast, you already knew these guys could feed a crowd. The big question was whether they could successfully swap maple syrup for barbecue sauce. Thankfully, they managed to keep the two separate!

Brian and Ron were Rib-Off veterans. Brian had won before, so he knew exactly what it took to claim victory. Of course, that also meant that if he didn't win this time, he would have absolutely no excuses!



*2026 Top Dogs Brian D and Ron
Accept the White Aprons and Wine*



Runners Up L to R Dave C, Dustin C, and Steve



*A Solid 3rd Place Finish Centre L to R Vernon P and Alex
Missing Due to Wild Fire are Cody and Adam*



*A Lot of Work Goes Into
Preparing and BBQing
Ribs to Perfection –
Thank you Rib-Off Teams*

And then there were Cody and Adam, the New Kids on the Block. These contenders will hopefully have better luck next year. Cody was being evacuated from his home on the Westside because of the wildfire. With the ribs still on his smoker, we needed a way to get them to VYC. A lone sailor braved 40 knots winds to cross the lake dodging the air traffic zone to retrieve them – mission accomplished. Talk about dedication to the Rib-Off!

By the time the competition arrived, the teams had spent days shopping, trimming, seasoning, smoking, checking temperatures, losing sleep, defending secret recipes, and probably explaining to their spouses why the backyard had smelled like hickory all week.

All four teams put in an incredible effort, and the final results were incredibly close. After the tooth judging was complete, Brian and Ron were declared the winners—by a toothpick!

Along with the coveted bragging rights, each team received a BBQ apron and two bottles of wine, so in the end, everyone went home a winner.

A huge congratulations to all four teams for making the Rib-Off such a fun—and very tasty—event. And a special thank-you to everyone who came out, cheered on the teams, sampled the results, and helped make the evening such a success.





SY GRACE O'MALLEY PART 5

VERNON YACHT CLUB'S PIRATE SHIP

THE WELL (G)ROUNDED SAILOR

Naramata's south side is a dreamy place to anchor and a perfect place, sheltered from the northerlies, to wait until an engine part gets delivered to Summerland. Yanmar diesels from the 1970's, YSE 12, have external oil lines, pressurized oil lines. Single cylinder engines make a concerted effort to vibrate themselves to pieces and if you are an oil line attached to the outside of one well, good luck. We'd been running with a repaired oil line, but the new one was ready, so an afternoon anchored off Summerland was in order while I picked it up. And that is where this story begins.



Grace O'Malley Dockside at VYC with Captain Dan and Lorna Enjoying the Foredeck Life

Leaving Summerland is a bit like life. Some kind of plan and a little local knowledge is a great thing. A prominent feature of the lake bottom geology, for anybody who is paying attention, is a huge sandbar just north of SYC. This well documented shallow area is not so far offshore that everyone on the beach can't see you stuck out there, but far enough off that someone who neglected to consult the chart might assume they were "far enough". I had reassured my wife, my son, and the dog that our recent adventures leaving the *Penticton Piling Pavillion* were behind us, and was settling in for a beautiful afternoon motoring up to *Reluctant Dragon Cove* in a gentle southerly...when it happened. I wasn't looking to put myself in the biggest category of boaters, those who have run aground, but this became my new default category. I'd joined the club nobody volunteers for. We were not moving, my wife was not talking, the gentle southerly was laughing and plotting, and I was gunning the shinola out of the poor little diesel, thinking about pressurized oil lines (the new one was not installed yet).



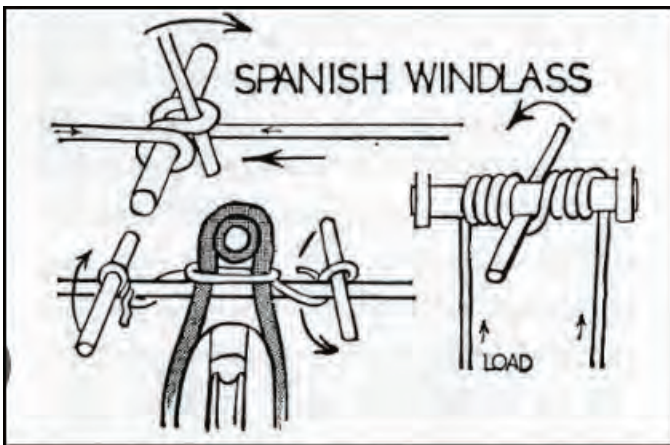
Lake leader:

Canada has more lakes than any other country in the world. Its water-rich landscape includes hundreds of thousands of lakes, many large enough to rival small seas. From vast shores to quiet bays, it's a sailor's paradise.

Sailors are lucky. We know it. I knew I was lucky this wasn't a rocky bottom. I knew I was lucky the southerly winds were just kidding around and lucky that polite conversation would resume ... soon ... just as soon as I could get all 23,000 lbs moving, backwards, astern, the other way. Seeing as how I was the only one talking anyway ...

(article continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)



Spanish Windlass Illustration - How to Self Rescue a Grounded Boat

... it seemed a good time to explain “kedging off”. I never did hear whether my explanation about lowering the 45 lb Danforth into the canoe, paddling against the wind, letting out rode, setting the anchor, climbing back aboard and Spanish Windlassing our way off (no winches installed yet) inspired any confidence, but as I said, sailors are lucky. The brazed oil line didn’t blow, the southerlies didn’t increase, and the reverse prop wash gradually washed the sand down both sides of the keel. A gentle rocking from the small waves and we inched ever so slowly back to safer depth. This was a perfect example of old school

design, see previous articles, and the rounded forefoot underwater profile making it possible for a sailor to avoid the ultimate embarrassment of having to be hauled off by a power boat. Yes, I considered my self a sailor, just pre-mast and sails, but that’s for another chapter. Stay tuned.

Dan Irvine

– To be continued in the next Tiller Topics.



Past issues of Tiller Topics are on our website in the VYC Member Private Page, click on Tiller Archive.

Boating Tip of the Month...

Tip #1) Apply hand-brake firmly in the yacht club parking lot!



UP TO **\$1,000**
YACHT CLUB
REBATE!
Call For Details!



Call 'MOLOKAI'
on VHF 16

Let us do the hard work, so you can spend more time Boating!

-RESIDENTIAL-
-INVESTMENT-
-RECREATIONAL-



Steve Bertram
PREC*

-OR-

for Landlubbers,
250-306-7575

* \$1,000 Rebate represents 10% of the Earned Fees, up to a Maximum of \$1000. For example: \$500 Rebate if Flex Realty Earns \$5,000. Call for details!

WIND TO POWER

A NEW BOAT ON THE BLOCK

Long-time Vernon Yacht Club members Allen and Mary Ann D. have officially made the switch from wind to power, trading their 40-foot Beneteau sailboat for a stunning Bavaria R40 Coupe named Infinity.

Brought up all the way from the coast, Infinity and her twin Volvo Penta engines have completely transformed their time on the water. Judging by how often they've been spotted exploring Okanagan Lake lately, they are thoroughly enjoying the cruiser's



*Infinity the new Bavaria R40
Coupe Style Cruiser at VYC*

comfort and stability over the Beneteau. Allen and Mary Ann are making the absolute most of their new powerboat adventures!

*Allen and Mary Ann D
are Excited About Infinity*



INVASIVE MUSSEL MANAGEMENT

Katlin, this year's student with OASISS, ran the Invasive Mussel test station at VYC. This is an annual program which VYC has sponsored and assisted for 10 years.

The test system was installed in mid-June and was monitored biweekly looking for Zebra and Quagga mussel traces.

You may have seen Katlan on the docks carrying out her assignment. If you are interested in learning how the system works, feel free to check the website at www.gov.bc.ca/Invasive-species. Another test station will be put in place in 2027 if you would like to see it in action.

Thank you again for the support shown to this very important issue.

Rob Mathews, VYC member



OASIS Zebra Mussel Student Worker

MEET BRODIE

PUTTING HIS PASSION FOR COOKING TO WORK

If you've been enjoying food and refreshments in the Gangplank, you may have seen Brodie quietly working away, learning the ropes and picking up new skills with every shift.

Brodie's interest in cooking began two or three years ago, and he got his first real kitchen experience at Long John's about a year ago. He joined the VYC kitchen this spring and has been learning plenty from Chef Rob and the rest of the kitchen team ever since.

Originally from Surrey, Brodie has been connected to Vernon for years, visiting family here during summers and winters before making the move about five years ago.

On the day we caught up with him, he was busy preparing a cream sauce with onions, butter and cream while keeping an eye on a steak cooking nearby. It was clear that Brodie is taking his new craft seriously.

When he's not cooking, Brodie enjoys going to the gym and gaming. His current favourite is *Limbus Company*, a turn-based strategy game. He's also getting into Vernon's outdoor life-style. He learned to skate last year and is hoping to try skiing this winter.

So, the next time you see Brodie working away in the VYC kitchen, say hello.



Vernon Yacht Club Office Hours

As summer comes to an end, **our summer office hours are coming to a close.**

As of **Tuesday, September 8, 2026**, the VYC Office has returned to our **regular hours:**

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

We're looking forward to getting back to our regular schedule and continuing to assist you throughout the fall!

Gang Plank and Kitchen hours remain the same until later in the Fall. A notice will be sent out and will also appear in the next Tiller Topics.

Thank you for your understanding, and we'll see you at the Club!

Vernon Yacht Club Office

SAILING AT VYC STAYS STRONG

It's been another exceptional year for sailing at VYC, with plenty of wind right from the get-go and beautiful, warm weather through much of the summer. Things were going wonderfully until August 1, when the *Bradley Creek Fire* in the *North Okanagan* brought fire, smoke and extreme heat to the North Arm and affected boating for a time.

Our annual *Vernon Regatta* went off exceptionally well this year. Although the fleet was a little smaller than usual, with about 14 boats from throughout the Okanagan taking part, there was still plenty of exciting racing, great wind and good camaraderie on the water and at the banquet. The race officials did a terrific job setting up a full schedule of races, and a great dinner and music made for a very successful and memorable weekend.



Smoky Okanagan Skies in August Caused Problems For Many



Hot Summer Sun Brings Out the Poor Man's Bimini During Club Racing

Even better, every boat managed to finish on both days. Three boats from Vernon took part, giving VYC a strong presence at the event.

VYC sailors were also well represented at other regattas around the lake. Two Vernon boats competed in the *KYC Blossom Time Regatta* and again in the *Penticton Grand Prix Regatta*. Vernon also had representation at the *KYC U35 Commodore's Cup* in August. That article, and more about that crew, can be found on page 9 in this issue.

Our regular Wednesday night and Sunday racing also had a solid turnout. B Fleet averaged 10 to 12 boats on most evenings, while A Fleet was a little smaller, with three to four boats competing. It has been especially encouraging to see so many new crew members joining us this year, with both members and non-members from different parts of the community getting interested in racing.

Just two weeks later came the *End-to-End Regatta*, which was different this year as it took place in the spring rather than the fall, starting in Vernon and finishing in Penticton. It was also different because we had wind – lots of it – with strong northerly winds on both days. The conditions were ideal for some serious sailing with plenty of spinnaker action.



German Exchange Student Oscar Gets a Taste of Okanagan Lake Sailing with Kris and Bob

SAILING AT VYC STAYS STRONG

(continued from previous page)

Some races had to be cancelled during the spring, summer and fall series because the wind was simply too strong, while at least one was cancelled because of the fire, smoke and heat. Two of the four *Rum Series* racing days remain before the crane arrives on Friday October 23rd to signal the end of the season.

VYC sailors have also been active in introducing sailing to the wider community. At the *Boat Show*, members welcomed the public aboard our boats and took them out for an hour or two to give them a taste of what sailing is all about. We also hosted several sailing adventures for local societies raising funds through silent auctions.

The *Canada Day Social Sail* brought about a dozen racing and non-racing skippers together for some fun on the water, with



Vernnon Regatta Sailing started the Season off Big Time



Big Wind and Long Race Courses Defined the Penticton Grand Prix Regatta in September

Saturday, November 7, with our traditional potluck followed by the awards presentations.

All in all, it has been an exceptional year on the water: great racing, strong participation, new crew, new boats, regattas around the lake, and plenty of opportunities to share the enjoyment of sailing with the community. As the season comes to a close, there is plenty to celebrate – and plenty to look forward to when we get back on the water next year.

Bob Annand
Racing Chair



Even in Light Winds Racing Can be Exciting and Challenging



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE – Santana 525 Sailboat and Trailer

1978 Santana 525 Sailboat and trailer in great condition comes with a 4 hp Mercury motor which runs well, 1 like-new jib sail and a 2nd jib sail, 2 main sails, 2 spinnakers, and 1 storm sail. Also new running rigging, a new battery, and anchor plus rode. Extras included.

\$4,500.00



Condition: **Used – Good**
Call Kate at **250-307-7070**



**OKANAGAN RESTORATION
SERVICES LTD.**

Always ready. Always there.

250.542.3470 Vernon 24 HOUR EMERGENCY 1.888.665.6775 www.okrestore.com

Tiller Topics ARTICLE submission DEADLINES!

Mon NOV 23, 2026 – Nov/Dec issue (*AGM & Executive introduction edition*)

Mon JAN 25, 2027 – Jan/Feb/Mar issue (*Christmas & New Year's edition*)

Mon APR 12, 2027 – Apr/May issue (*Boat Show edition*)

Mon JUN 14, 2027 – Jun/Jul/Aug issue (*Commodore Sail Past & Summer edition*)

Mon SEP 13, 2027 – Sep/Oct issue (*Summer Event reports*)

