

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB

Membership

In any club the basis of its future viability is its membership. We in the GBSC are very fortunate in having a vibrant and interested membership, but we must always be on the look-out for new members. I would like to encourage you to ask friends to join us in our Saturday Races (as crew or in their own boats) and invite them to the Pub Meets so they too can meet us and learn to enjoy the sailing experience.

Skipper's Profile

Bob Stickley

Like many other members of the Garden Bay Sailing Club, Bob started sailing at the age of 20, a little later than some. It was the summer of 1961 and he was at that time in pilot training. His sailing began when his Godfather, who was a member of the Port Credit Yacht Club, asked him to crew. Lake Ontario can be counted on to develop a fair breeze by the afternoon, and Bob's experience "on a Star or Dragon or something equally slippery" was enough to ignite his interest in sailing.

Bob's Air Force career was not often in sync with his desire to develop a sailing resume. However, in 1978, while he was flying CF-104 Starfighters in West Germany, he managed to take a week-long sailing course in Bavaria, with the US Armed Forces R&R department. The fleet was made up of beautiful wooden boats from the 1930's

and 1940's. No two were alike and there were no motors. Lake Chimsee has the reputation of going from "light and variable to gusts of 50K" in very short order. If pressed, Bob will tell you about an attempt to dock in 30K which almost went flawlessly.....I can hardly wait to ask what happened!!

Upon returning to Canada in the summer of 1979 Bob, Carole "und die kinder" shared a C&C 38 with old friends, and explored the Gulf Islands. As a result, when he was posted to Petawawa, his exuberance got the better of him, and he decided to take Carole dinghy sailing one cool October afternoon. It is unclear if this cold and wet experience was the reason that he did not go sailing again for 8 years!

When he was posted back to West Germany, in the summer of 1988, he took the family sailing in the Greek Islands for two weeks. It was during this trip that the sailing bug was truly lit. But once again he had to wait until 1997 when he purchased a 1976 Ranger 26, which he aptly called *Starfighter*. She is, as Bob describes her, "a solid, easy to sail boat". A little later he started to venture out with the GBSC Saturday racers, and with the help and suggestions from friends and competitors he was able to gradually make significant changes to his trimming. This soon resulted in his being the boat to beat. "The Saturday races with good friends continue to be

an important and highly enjoyable part of my life and retirement".

Next Pub Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Saturday, 16 March, at the Garden Bay Pub. Please mark your calendars.** As usual it will take place at 12 noon, or after the race is over. Call David Twentyman or Tom Barker on Saturday morning, to find out if there is a race.

Summer Cruises

Charlie Park brought forward a list of potential week-end cruising destinations, and after a full discussion it was agreed that the first cruise would be on **May 25/26 to Secret Cove. Mark your calendars.**

The schedule for the two day cruise/race will be published in the next Newsletter, but we will probably make the start of the race at the mouth of the Pender Harbour and sail down to the black can off Thormanby Island.

Boats can either anchor out or moor at the docks.

Subject to confirmation that the "Upper Deck" is open we will have a communal dinner upstairs.

If there are any suggestions or items that you would like added please let me know so that they can be included.

This is our first Cruise and I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

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Regatta Events and Dates

The following are some of the races this year:

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| Southern Straits | March 29 |
| Around Thetis Regatta | May 11 |
| Swiftsure | May 25 |
| GBSC Secret Cove Cruise | May 25 |
| Single Handed Vancouver/Nanaimo | June 1/2 |
| Around Bowen Regatta | June 8 |
| VanIsle 360 | June 8-22 |
| 23rd Annual Malaspina Regatta | June 29 |
| SIN Regatta | June 29/30 |

It would be nice to see a few boats from the GBSC entering some of these events.

If anyone has any other races that they know about, and would like them added, please let me know.

GBSC Summer Series 2013

The new series starts on April 6, just one month away. This event runs every week end until the end of September. It is a very easy way to test out your nerves in our friendly weekly races in scenic Pender Harbour. All crews get points just for crossing the Start line, then performance points are added based on the Adjusted Race Results. So More races entered = More points!

Boomerang Race

Last year we had one of these races and depending on interest we could try it once again this season.

Request to Share our Newsletter

The Newsletter often contains events which require the input/help/ assistance of our partners and I would ask you to please relay the dates and other pertinent information to them. Many times in the past, wives have told me that they had no idea that there was the requirement for finger food or whatever, and arrived empty handed as a result. The summer cruise, above, is an example of such an occasion where it would be tactically correct to give a heads up that their participation, food, etc. may be required!! It is in your camp now.

Garden Bay Sailing Club Membership Dues

At the time of writing there are only **ten** paid up members for this year. It would be appreciated, if you have not already paid, that you do so as soon as possible. As you know we reduced the Annual dues this year in the hope that we would encourage more people to join our club, not the reverse. Please send your cheque to Tom Barker. Thank You.

Boating Web Sites

This is the beginning of a list of sites that may be of interest to you. If you have any additions please forward them to me as soon as possible. Our plan is to have them under links on our website:

Racing : www.Americascup.com
www.sailinganarchy.com

Sails Makers: www.Northsails.com
www.UKSailmakers.com
www.doylesails.com
www.leitchandmcbride.com
www.northsailsdirect.com
www.evolutionsails.com

Rigging: www.swrigging.com

Marine Forecast: www.theweathernetwork.com
www.weatheroffice.gc.ca

Boat Building: www.duckworks.com

