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Rafted at Cole Point in Adolphus Reach on the way to Main Duck Island in mid June are Stace-a-lee (Mike Simic), Sumfun (Bob Forgues), FanaSea (Gerard O'Brien and Colin Baillie), and Storm boy (Rick Jones).

Photo: Mike Simic.

Recent Club Open House attracts interest on Base

AN OPEN HOUSE HELD AT THE CLUB July 19 attracted a good deal of interest from CAF members on Base. Lunch hour in particular, saw a steady stream of people looking to combine a burger and beer with info and a quick tour of the yacht club and facilities.

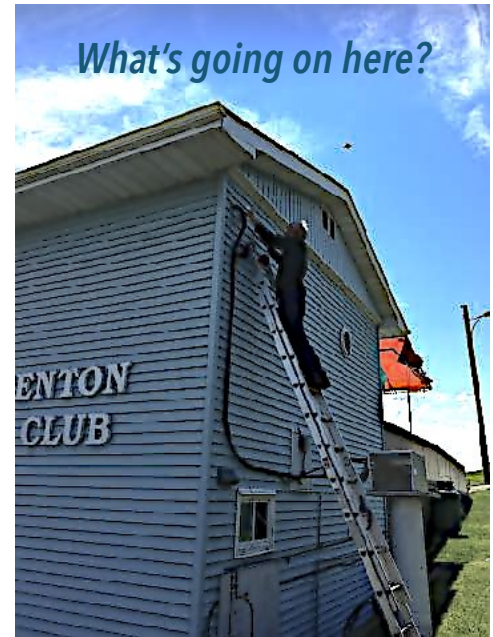
During the day-long event, a rotating team provided Club information including membership costs, dockage, winter storage etc. as well as the availability of sailing lessons. Andy McCabe of North Shore Reaching Sailing School was on hand in the afternoon to field those enquiries.

Although not available for an on-water cruise, the new Tritoon boat (Polaris II) did spark some interest. Several attendees were drawn by the idea that, once qualified, they could potentially book it out for a few hours.

Interestingly, more than one person said they did not know the Yacht Club existed until seeing the poster. Another had assumed the Club would be elite and snooty, so was pleasantly surprised to find it was anything but.

Reaction since the event is encouraging. Rear Commodore Marty Mathias notes that as a result of the Open House we got at least one family and another CF member out for sails on Race Night.

Thanks to Carol Bailey for organizing this event, and to her many helpers who gave up a large part of their day to cook/serve food, run the bar, and/or welcome folks and show them around the Club. Spencer deserves a special mention for cleaning windows and siding, and generally making the Clubhouse look its best.



What's going on here?

Spotted perched on a ladder Rick Tinga is installing an exhaust fan on the outside wall of what was the walk-in refrigerator for the bar. This ventilation fan is necessary to prevent the new (to us) beverage cooler from overheating.



July 10: the Race Team raise a glass in tribute to Bent Rasmussen, one of the Club's most successful racers. Close to 40 people were present including several of Bent's relatives, some having travelled from Denmark to see him.
Photo Dave Flett.

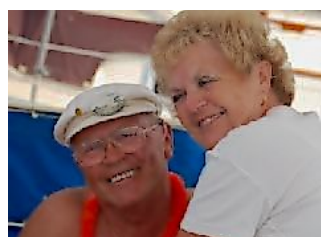
Upcoming events

Aug. 1-5	Club Cruise to Waupoos
Aug 7,14,21,28	Wednesday race night and BBQ
Aug 3	Waupoos Race
Aug 16	Round the County pre-race dinner
Aug 16	Games Night
Aug 17	Pre-race breakfast
Aug 17-18	Round the County race
Aug 24	Family Day
Aug 24	Round the Bay race
Sept 4,11,18,25	Wednesday race night and BBQ
Sept 7	Club Regatta
Sept 7	Steak dinner and Corn boil
Sept. 20	Games Night
Sept. 21	Cradle Day
Sept 28	Work Party
Oct 1	Lift Out

REMEMBERING BENT RANDRUP RASMUSSEN

NOVEMBER 9, 1935 - JULY 7, 2024

BY CHRISTINE FLETT



About 150 family and friends, many of them past or present members of the Yacht Club, gathered at Kenron Community Centre on July 20 to celebrate the life of Bent Rasmussen.

Bent was born in Hobro, a small market town in northern Denmark where his father kept a horse and buggy and ran a delivery service. He learned to sail on a small lake, criss-crossing the water in an open rowboat with an improvised mast and raincoat for a sail.

When he was 17, Bent and a friend sailed 24 kms. down Mariager Fjord to Hadsund. On the way home they capsized. A motor boat picked them up and dragged their boat to shore where they were able to bail it out.

Bent met Sonja when he was 24, and he liked her – a lot, enough to promise that if she married him he would take her to Canada. He made good on that promise. One week after their wedding, with barely a word of English between them, they boarded a plane for Toronto. They settled in Hamilton where Bent, a certified painter-decorator, was able to find work.

A man of many talents including carpentry, Bent built a sailboat in the yard, hand-forming the wood by heating damp towels in the apartment, then running downstairs and wrapping them around the planks to shape them. For sails, he used a pair of Sonja's sheets. Bent also made Penny Puck Pool tables similar to those he had played on in Denmark. Over the years he made more than 400 tables, including the one we use at the Club for Games Night.

Moving to Trenton in 1969 Bent and Sonja joined the Yacht Club in '72. Bent had an O'Day 22 which he described as "the slowest boat in the Club." He was still able to win races on handicap. In 1977, he traded it for the Ranger 29 which he named *Zest For Life*.

Bent participated in all club races as well as those run by other clubs. He took part in at least seven Round the County races, breaking his boom on one occasion. Over his 52 years, Bent won more trophies than he could count but he always denied having any special skill for sailing, just an inherent understanding of wind. Adding, "farmers always know which direction the wind is coming from."

In 1987, Bent crossed the Atlantic with Ted Richards, a former Commodore. The trip took them from Almeria in Spain to Gibraltar, the Canary Islands, Bermuda, up the eastern Seaboard to New York and to Trenton, a distance of 5000 miles. Bent confessed the trip "had its scary moments, the waves at times were so big...but I would do it again in a heartbeat!"

Another memorable trip took place in winter 1988-89 when Bent and John Seddon, each in their own boats with Bill Phillips as passenger, set sail for the Bahamas – a trip they all remembered fondly.

Originally from farming stock, it's no surprise that Bent had a large and productive garden. His friends at the Club will miss the seasonal gifts of rhubarb, tomatoes, squash, raspberries and plums.

We will also miss the stories of events from years past, and the quiet humour with which he told them. During his Celebration of Life, Bent was described by many as being a "true gentleman." All agreed his boat was aptly named – he had a tremendous Zest for Life. His truly was a life well lived. We are privileged to have known him.

Donations in memory of Bent may be made to the Hospice in Quinte or to the Cancer Society.



Bent's Main Duck Island flag cleverly reproduced on a cake by Lois Irwin using strawberries.



Bent's home-made boat with bed-sheet sails.



Zest for Life.



Dockside Party in 2006.



Bent's Ghost ship at Waupoos

The 2024 Quinte International Air show!!!

PHOTOS BY DONA NEVES



WW2 Lancaster Bomber visible just above the trees.



The Italian Airforce Aerobatic Team ("Frecce Tricolori").



The Canadian Snowbirds in formation.



One of the Vintage planes at the air show, a British WW 2 Lancaster bomber.

Wasn't that a 'dockside' Party !!!

With several back-to-back activities at the Club this spring, attendance at the Dockside party was a little lower than usual but those who came had no trouble letting down their hair. Themes included "Bananas and Bunnies" (Mike and Stacy Simic) and "Camp Take Your Time" (Brian Coughlan and Dona Neves).

These are some of the pictures submitted from that day.



Theme Bunnies and Bananas: Allen Dalton in Banana suit with Stacey and Mike Simic (G dock). Photos: Mike Simic

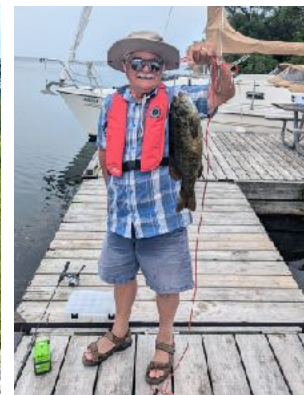


Above left, Eric Lawlor (F dock) hosts members on board his boat Layalee. Brad Power also participated on F dock. Centre and right, more pictures of Mike's "Bunnies and Bananas" theme, taken this time by Dona Neves.



The theme for Dona and Brian's boat (B dock) was "Camp Take Your Time" – sounds perfect for those lazy summer days!

Bass fish fry on Main Duck Island



Once a haven for Run Runners, Main Duck is known now for its great bass fishing, prompting many a trip by Club members. Above, enjoying their feast are Mike Simic, Gerard O'Brien, Rick Jones, Bob Forgues and Colin Baillie.

Main Duck has no mammals, only birds, turtles, frogs and snakes, specifically the Northern Water Snake (below) and Garter Snake. Reptiles are so prolific, the "Ducks archipelago" is known unofficially as the "Galapagos of the North."

Above: a couple of pretty good looking catches — (talking about the fish here.) Word is, Mike's filleting skills need a bit of work. Good thing someone saved the fish before he swung the axe again.

Photos: Mike Simic.



Some pictures of Club boats on the dock in Schoolhouse Bay, plus (right) Main Duck's second most iconic landmark (after the lighthouse) namely, the frequently visited, eco-friendly gravity-fed composting human relief station.

Photos by Bob Forgues.

Main Duck citizenship ceremony and flag presentation

BY CHRISTINE FLETT

DID YOU KNOW MAIN DUCK ISLAND HAS ITS OWN FLAG? And that flag is presented to new citizens during their appointment ceremony?

Well, now you do.

The Flag, designed by Bent Rasmussen sometime in the dark ages, forms an essential part of the Main Duck Island citizenship ceremony, a tradition developed by the self-appointed guardians of Main Duck, namely Bent, Bill Phillips and John Seddon.

Islands have a way of calling to people – and this one in particular, spoke to them. Remote, wild and uninhabited, Main Duck can be challenging to get to, but over the years it became their favourite destination. They would go several times a season, partly to fish, but mostly to relax and drink rum.

The idea of conferring citizenship on like-minded club members, probably had more to do with the amount of dark stuff they'd consumed than any altruistic feelings for the island's well-being. But I digress.

Bill jotted down some appropriate words, no doubt with input from John, and Bent made a suitable Flag – a simple design, straight-forward like the island – red duck on white ground flanked by broad vertical red bands.

An eye witness account of the actual ceremony describes it as "brief and uncomplicated." It took place at the water's edge in Schoolhouse Bay – kinda like a baptism, of sorts.

Bill (whose booming tones could be heard in downtown Kingston even when whispering) would recite the text which, being Bill, he would have committed to memory.

Did you ever hear Bill recite *Albert and the Lion* by Standley Holloway? Word for word, entirely from memory, in broad Lancastrian dialect... But again, I digress.

Bent presented the inductee with a newly-minted Main Duck Flag. He made these flags himself with a stencil and paint, but at some point he ran out. Lois offered to make more, and she did, but she got the stencil backwards which meant the duck was facing the wrong way! Bent called them as "counterfeit" flags, and would have nothing to do with them.

Back to the story. A shot (or four) of Dark Rum completed the proceedings. There might even be a trumpet fanfare if Bent could find the instrument in his boat. Making the trumpet sound, was another matter. Ask Dave Flett, who managed to do it — once.



Main Duck Island Flag designed by Bent Rasmussen.

At any rate, when Bill left Trenton in 2019, he sent the text to Bent in order that the ceremony might continue without him.

Therefore, with legacy in mind, it is herewith reprinted below, so that no future Club visitor to the magical island can ever claim ignorance of this important ritual.

BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE CARE OF MAIN DUCK ISLAND,

I, Bent Rasmussen, holding the title of Master of the Sacred Flags, do appoint _____ (name) _____ as a citizen of Main Duck Island including the satellite island of Yorkshire.

_____(Name)_____promises to respect his/her new status and to leave this precious island as pristine as he/she found it. Try not to upset any snakes and to feed the Great Turtle.

A word of advice, do not use the extensive ground vegetation if you run out of toilet paper.

To complete this ceremony, offer a libation to the Great Lake Ontario. Rum, the darker the better, is preferred. If not, then anything except Crème de Mente.

Bill Phillips.

Thanks to Rick Tinga for the above.

Easy and refreshing Summer Sides

WATERMELON PIZZA

Slice a large circle of Watermelon. Garnish with slices of red onion, avocado, cucumber or zucchini.

Sprinkle with torn basil and balsamic. Add crumbled feta cheese.

Slice into six pieces, and serve.

Enjoy the easiest pizza ever!!



MINI MEATBALL BITES

Skewer some small or mini meatballs with a selection of burger toppings, such as melted cheese, shredded lettuce, sliced onion, pickle, tomato etc.

You can make your own meatballs or use ready-made.

These are so easy to make and perfect for an impromptu last-minute event.



WATERMELON AND CUCUMBER SALAD

1 small or ½ large watermelon, peeled and diced

1 English Cucumber, cubed

Fresh mint or basil leaves, hand torn

1 cup crumbled feta cheese

Optional: diced avocado and finely sliced shallots or red onion

Honey-Lime Dressing

2 tbsps honey

Fresh lime juice

2 tbsps extra virgin olive oil

Pinch of salt

In a large salad bowl mix together watermelon cubes, diced cucumber and fresh herbs. Lightly sprinkle with salt. Pour the honey-lime dressing on top. Gently toss to combine. Crumble feta cheese over the salad and a little fresh ground black pepper.

