
COLLINS MIXER

Collins Bay Yacht Club Newsletter



273

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Collins Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

Commodore's corner



Hello dear readers.

You will notice our new Mixer look that our editor (a.k.a me) redesigned for you.

We had a great Annual Meeting in November and were able to adopt the new bylaws and elect the 5 directors of the club.now.

Here are the five directors of the CBYC board:

- Gilles Brunet
- Shelley Nickerson
- Lisa Harvey
- George Dew
- Bill Amirault

During our first board meeting on December 6th, we elected me as Commodore, Shelley as vice-commodore, Lisa as our secretary, George as our treasurer. Thanks all.

We have a new Membership Captain; Wendy Hope who accepted this responsibility and a Women's Sailing captain Suzanne Stevenson.

We are still looking for a fleet captain, a Sailing School OPS Manager, and a club historian.

We are happy to announce that the club has now two co-directors for the Sailing School season 2024; Andrew Hope and Dave Nickerson.

I want to thank all of you who are volunteering again this new season.

Please accept my best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year!

Gilles Brunet - CBYC Commodore

From The Helm

Gerry and I had the opportunity to attend the annual Boating Ontario Conference and to our surprise we were honoured and awarded for our achievement within the Clean Marine program; with the highest achievement of Diamond Elite which recognizes our outstanding commitment to the Clean Marine Environmental program! This award is shared with all of you, as everyone of you have committed and pledged to help us protect our marina, waterways, and environment with our Clean Marine Customer Pledge. We are pleased to share this award with you!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a great 2024!

16 weeks until launch 😊!

Gerry and Lori



New Service at CBM

We are happy to offer a new service; the test of your marine VHF antenna system. Done by a telecommunication professional of more than 20 years experience with antennas, Gilles Brunet will be able to:

1) perform a quick SWR test of your VHF antenna at the base of your mast. This simple test will tell if your coaxial cable, your connectors and your antenna are OK, specially around the Channel 16. We consider the availability of a good VHF CH16 radio an essential part of your safety devices. This quick test will be offered during the Haul-Out season so you will be able to proceed to the repair recommended by Gilles during winter.

2) test the compatibility with an AIS system, installed or planned to your vessel communication system. This SWR test will focus on the two AIS frequencies.

These two tests will be offered at a fee of \$25 each. If you are interested, you will be able to order them on the Haul-Out form.

Also, during the regular season you will be able to order a more exhaustive test of your VHF antenna system where Gilles will diagnose the impedance of your transmission/antenna system from inside your vessel. This one hour diagnostic will be available for \$120.

**Have a great Holiday Season.
Lori and Gerry**

Our New Vector Network Analyser



Cruise Captain

“A happy Christmas to everybody.

Look forward to another season of three informal cruises, on three long weekends. Join when it's convenient for you! More thoughts on planning would be welcome.

All good wishes!

Peter MacKinnon - Cruise Captain

If you are interested by electric projects for your boat, visit Pacific Yacht Systems and their video library. [Here](#)

Bill Amirault



About CBYC membership

[http://collinsbaymarina.com/cbyc/about/
membership/](http://collinsbaymarina.com/cbyc/about/membership/)

From the editor

Hello dear readers.

This month we are happy to introduce a new design that I hope will better fit on your mobile devices. As we understood from our last survey, most of our readers use a mobile device like a smartphone or a tablet to read the Mixer.

So we designed a narrower edition that is easier to read in your hand.

We also now have two separate editions, one in English and one in French so you are able to open the one you prefer when you get our email blast from Mailchimp at the end of each month. We abandoned the ePub format that was not quite popular.



Please send me your feedback.

Gilles Brunet, Mixer Editor

Mixer archives [here](#).

News from our Sailing School

As of the date of our Annual Meeting, we did not have a candidate for the Sailing School Director Position. A call went out for volunteers as your Board of Directors considered the unfortunate possibility of having no CBYC Sailing School for the 2024 season. We are extremely grateful that there will be a CBYC Sailing School for 2024!

Andrew Hope and David Nickerson have stepped forward and offered to serve as co-directors of the sailing school for the 2024 season. The sharing of this critical responsibility will result in a reduced commitment of time and energy for each of the co-directors. This partnership also supports the CBYC Board of Directors goal of spreading the work associated with the sailing school across a larger volunteer base thus reducing the commitment of everyone who is involved.

The position of School Ops Manager is still vacant. Perhaps a work sharing arrangement is also the best solution for addressing this requirement. If you are Interested in sharing the function of school ops manager with other club members, please contact Andrew or Dave.

Planning for another CBYC Sailing School season has already begun. Do you see yourself able to be involved in some way?

Many thanks to Andrew and David for their critical and timely support of the CBYC Sailing School!

Bill Amirault - CBYC Director (Past Commodore)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Fleet Captain

The Fleet Captain is responsible for ensuring safety during club events and in coordination with marina staff, around the marina. It involves confirming the currency of the club's AEDs and informing the marina of any safety issues that arise or are brought to their attention by club members. The FC is responsible for the organization of seminars for the club either in person or via Zoom and managing the mentoring program.

Club Historian

The Club Historian is responsible for the maintenance and safe-keeping of the archives of the club. This includes retrieval and assembly of photographs, articles, documents and electronic media that members may want to view. The Club Historian also provides articles depicting the history of the club or events of interest.

Please contact one of the five board directors.

Gilles Brunet - Commodore





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Photo of the month



Camber Sands, England

Lets talk with chatGPT

Gilles: Can you explain to me why I have to ground my RF marine radio on my boat? Is it to protect it against the thunder or for the radiation pattern of the antenna?

ChatGPT: Grounding an RF (Radio Frequency) marine radio on your boat serves multiple purposes, primarily related to safety, system performance, and protection against electrical interference. Here are some key reasons why grounding is important:

Safety:

Grounding helps to prevent electrical shock hazards on the boat. It provides a path for electrical currents to safely dissipate into the water or ground, reducing the risk of injury to passengers and damage to equipment.

Lightning Protection:

Grounding is crucial for protecting your radio equipment during thunderstorms. If your boat is struck by lightning, a properly grounded system provides a path for the electrical energy to dissipate harmlessly into the water, minimizing the risk of damage to the radio and

other electronic devices on board.

Interference Reduction:

Proper grounding helps to reduce electrical interference or noise in the radio signal. This interference can be caused by the boat's electrical systems, and grounding helps to mitigate potential issues.

Radiation Pattern and Performance:

Grounding is important for maintaining the optimal radiation pattern of the antenna. It helps to ensure that the radio waves are transmitted efficiently and that the antenna performs at its best.

System Stability:

A well-grounded radio system contributes to overall system stability. It helps to prevent voltage imbalances and potential damage to sensitive electronics.

Here are some general tips for grounding your RF marine radio:

Use a Grounding Plate:

Install a grounding plate beneath the waterline of your boat. This plate provides a low-resistance

path for electrical currents to dissipate into the water.

Connect to the Boat's Common Ground:

Connect the radio's grounding conductor to the boat's common ground point. This may involve connecting to the boat's grounding system, typically a bonding system that ties together various metal components on the boat.

Minimize Grounding Resistance:

Ensure that the grounding connections have low resistance. This involves using appropriate conductors and keeping connections clean and corrosion-free.

Follow Manufacturer Recommendations:

Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines and recommendations for grounding your specific radio equipment. Different radios may have slightly different grounding requirements.

By properly grounding your RF marine radio, you not only enhance the safety of your boat but also ensure the effective and reliable performance of your communication equipment. It's an essential aspect of maintaining a well-functioning marine radio system.

Gilles: I totally agree.

Nicholsons Point lighthouse

The Canadian Coast Guard is conducting a review on Nicholsons Point lighthouse as it has reached the end of its lifecycle. The purpose of this review is to make sure we continue to meet the Level of Service (LOS) provided in the area by either providing an updated structure or finding another solution that meets the needs of the users. Since Collins Bay Marina is the closest harbour to the aid to navigation, I am reaching out today to ask for your assistance in circulating a user survey to the members of the marina or any interested, local boaters. User feedback is the most valuable tool when completing the LOS review as it provides information that is very difficult to gather without years of experience navigating in the local waterways. I have provided the link to the survey below. You are most welcome to circulate the survey to anyone you choose and they may pass it along as well, or, if you have any questions please feel free to respond to this email and I will be more than happy to answer them for you.

User Survey : <https://forms.office.com/r/BSPSnPjQyE>

Hailey Smith
Aids to Navigation Design and Review Specialist
Canadian Coast Guard



A Boat Recipe (Literally!)

Question: What do a neighbourhood cookie exchange, sailing, and a 3D printer have in common? Answer: With the exchange coming up, our well-known boat obsession, and a new toy in the house, someone had the bright idea of making 3D printed custom cookie cutters.

A little experimentation found that it worked well with one simple form to cut the outline and another with interior detail that is pressed into each cookie before baking. Here are the forms and the delicious results.

Technical information:

- This was done with a ginger snap recipe; anything that makes thin, crisp cookies should work well and other styles are worth a try.
- The cellos visible in one picture are another special design for a musician friend.

George Dew & H el ene Carri ere



The 2024 Captains

Role	Name	Boat (slip)
<u>Commodore*</u>	Gilles Brunet	Garuda (C23)
<u>Vice Commodore*</u>	Shelley Nickerson	Panacea (B28)
<u>Past Commodore*</u>	Bill Amirault	Luffin Life (C08)
<u>Secretary*</u>	Lisa Harvey	Mirza (D23)
<u>Treasurer*</u>	George Dew	Melba j (D13)
<u>Fleet Captain</u>	Vacant	
<u>Cruise Captain</u>	Peter MacKinnon	Bittern (E22)
<u>Membership Captain</u>	Wendy Hope	Shimmer (B13)
<u>Social Captain</u>	Liz Taylor Reid	Horizon Dancer (E12)
<u>Clubhouse Captain</u>	Lisa Bayne	Karuna (C05)
<u>Race Captain</u>	Glenn Reid	Horizon Dancer (E12)
<u>Sailing School Dir.</u>	Andrew Hope Dave Nickerson	Shimmer (B13) Panacea (B28)
<u>Mixer Editor</u>	Gilles Brunet	Garuda (C23)

Collins Bay
Marina

Lori & Gerry
Buzzi

Perfect Waste
of Time

Sailing School
Admin.

Darlene
Amirault

Luffin Life (C08)

Sailing School
OPS Mgr.

Vacant

Webmaster

Mark Sansom

Dream Haze
(C30)

Women's
Sailing Chair

Suzanne
Stevenson

Sailing School
Keelboat
Manager

Richard
Dickson

Windsome
(E30)

Historian

Vacant

- ✓ The members with an * are the directors of the board of the club.
- ✓ The CBYC email addresses are in the role titles

Feel free to contact us for any question or suggestion.