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# COLLINS MIXER

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Collins Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

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**Signal K**

**“I wish to communicate with you”**

277

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# COLLINS MIXER

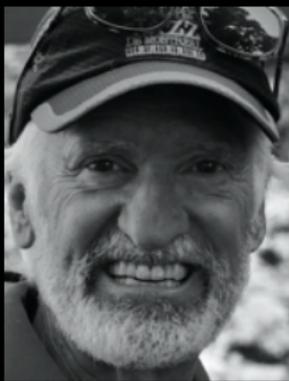
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Collins Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

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## Commodore's corner

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New Season!

We're already seeing several boats in the water in the harbour, and it's great fun. I myself have started work with the crane team, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on your behalf and on behalf of the club for this essential work. We are able to enjoy our favourite pastime thanks to the favourable environment offered by CBM in Collins Bay, but also thanks to the expertise of the team who 'handle' our boats with great care and attention.

I'd also like to thank Doug Thur for agreeing to serve as fleet captain and Julian Leam, our new sailing school OPS manager.

The club still needs volunteers for all the season's activities, and we're counting on your usual involvement.

All the best!

Gilles Brunet - CBYC Commodore

## From The Helm

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Friday April 12th was our first launch and although it was a rainy day, a lot of happy smiles were seen. 8 boats were launched! It is a great start to the season!



Join us for a picture on the lawns by the marina office, for Safe Boating Awareness week on Saturday May 18th at noon. Wear your life jacket and help us share awareness about Safe Boating! Bring your pets in their jackets, and all family members welcome!



Before launching and in between launch days the crew have been busy, rebuilding and redecking some of the tired docks. Everything is looking great and will be ready for the summer season! Along with the docks we have also been checking the power at the docks and main panels for any stray current or potential

problems. We are happy to report that all the shore power and main panels are in excellent condition and safe from stray current!

Our great 2024 crane crew!



Jean, Gilles Collin, Phil and Gerry

We look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming Wine and Cheese in the clubhouse!

Now that boats are being launched and people, children and pets are walking around the yard, please note that the speed limit for driving into the yard is a “dead slow” < 10 km/h speed!

Thank you for keeping everyone safe!

Lori, Gerry and crew!

## 2024 CBYC Seminar Series

“If we can do it so can you”

Our experience sailing south and  
living aboard!

By Dave DePlanché  
and Cathy Trant



The seminar will be Tuesday May 7th at 7pm via  
zoom.

Details will be sent by email to the members.

Doug Thur - Fleet Captain

Lori Buzzy - CMM

## CALENDAR 2024

### APRIL

12 CBM LAUNCH BEGINS

### MAY

11 CBYC WINE & CHEESE - MEET & GREET  
(members & potential new members)

COMPLIMENTARY COFFEE every Friday,  
Saturday and Sunday mornings at the  
gazebo! (Open to all)

18 WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET AT WORK DAY  
(National Safe Boating Week) (open to all)

### JUNE

12&26 DROP-IN GAME NIGHT (Euchre,  
Cribbage, Backgammon) (members)

15 CBM SAFETY DAY (open to all)

15 CBM CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY &  
BBQ ( open to all)

15 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT (open to all)

15 LONG DISTANCE - AMHERST ISLAND  
CHASE RACE DAY (members)

22 SAIL PAST (members)

22 ST-JEAN-BAPTISTE DAY

## CALENDAR 2024

### JULY

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 29 -1   | CANADA DAY EASTWARD CRUISE<br>(members)                        |
| 1       | SAILING SCHOOL START (registration<br>required)                |
| 10&24   | DROP-IN GAME NIGHT (Euchre,<br>Cribbage, Backgammon) (members) |
| 11 - 14 | <u>EYC 2024</u> SODUS BAY YC (NY)<br>(registration required)   |
| 20      | LONG DISTANCE RACE DAY - SIMCOE<br>ISLAND (members)            |

### AUGUST

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 3-5 | CIVIC HOLIDAY WESTWARD CRUISE<br>(members)   |
| 10  | CHATEAUBRIAND BBQ (open to all)  |
| 24  | LONG DISTANCE RACE DAY - PIGEON<br>ISLAND (members)  |
| 24  | SAILING SCHOOL END OF THE YEAR<br>BBQ - CERTIFICATE PRESENTATIONS (SS<br>participants & parents) |
| 24  | SS TWO GENERATION REGATTA (SS<br>participants & parents)   |

## CALENDAR 2024

### SEPTEMBER

31-2 LABOUR DAY CRUISE TO WAUPOOS  
(members)

28 LONG DISTANCE RACE DAY - FROST  
BITE (members)

28 CHILLIFEST & VOLUNTEER THANK YOU  
PARTY (open to all)

### OCTOBER

### NOVEMBER

2 CBYC WRAP UP GALA (members)

## BATTERY COLLECTION

HOUSEHOLD, LITHIUM ETC DROP OFF  
OUTSIDE OF OFFICE!

*PLEASE DO NOT PUT IN GARBAGE!*

MARINE BATTERIES CAN BE DROPPED OFF  
AT THE WELDING SHED

A NIGHT OF FOUR DECISIONS  
CELEBRATE THE NEW SEASON WITH CBYC SEASONED  
AND NEW MEMBERS

## WINE & CHEESE

WITH CBYC

Saturday May 11th 4-7  
Onboard the SS Maria Club House  
BYOW (Bring your own wine).  
Cheese & Crackers will provide by  
CBYC  
[social@collinsbayyachtclub.ca](mailto:social@collinsbayyachtclub.ca)

## From Membership Captain

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LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER 2024

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



The summer months are quickly approaching and I hope that you are planning to renew your membership in CBYC for the 2024 season.

The good news is that the membership fees will remain the same as last year at \$150 for full members. Please don't forget to invite and encourage any of your dock mates who have not yet joined to give us a try. The one-time initiation fee is only \$100 in addition to the regular fee. Our calendar of events for the year has also been set and I'm sure will continue to evolve. Our season kick-off wine & cheese will take place on May 11th so I hope to see everyone there.

Please feel free to use this link to our membership page [collinsbaymarina.com/cbyc/about/membership/](https://collinsbaymarina.com/cbyc/about/membership/) to obtain the membership form. Payment may be made by e-transfer or cheque.

## DID YOU KNOW?

...that membership gives you access to our floating club house, the SS Maria, and to the barbecues on the back deck.

The club house has become a popular gathering place for us to prepare meals and enjoy hours of camaraderie and information sharing and, as the saying goes, the more the merrier!

Please feel free to get in touch should you have any questions or suggestions at [membership@collinsbayyachtclub.ca](mailto:membership@collinsbayyachtclub.ca)

Cheers

Wendy Hope - Membership Captain

## 2024 Cruise

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We are thinking of adding a flotilla component to our cruises. Any reaction would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

Peter MacKinnon - Cruise Captain

LaSalle Causeway not expected to open by start of marina season.

Read the Kingston News article [here](#).

## About CBYC membership

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If you desire more information on membership:

<http://collinsbaymarina.com/cbyc/about/membership/>



## From the editor

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You might wonder why the flag of Signal K on front page. According to Wiki: ‘The International Code of Signals (**INTERCO**) is an international system of signals and codes for use by vessels to communicate important messages regarding safety of navigation and related matters. Signals can be sent by flaghoist, signal lamp ("blinker"), flag semaphore, radiotelegraphy, and radiotelephony. The International Code is the most recent evolution of a wide variety of maritime flag signalling systems.’

Read the third article on my Cerbo project, you will understand why I refer to Signal K.

PS: If you want to share your sailing conversation with a conversational bot, please do so!!! Enjoy your reading!

Gilles Brunet, Mixer Editor



Mixer archives [here](#).

## Your new Fleet Captain

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Recently I volunteered to be the Fleet Captain for Collins Bay Yacht Club. Since this time I have been given a wealth of information about my responsibilities. The Fleet Captain is responsible for ensuring the safety of members and non members alike during club events. I also work in conjunction with the marina staff to resolve and more importantly to prevent any safety issues that are brought forth by you. I will also be responsible for the club's AED machines, seminars, workshops and presentations that the club will offer. Two main events will be the responsibility of the Fleet Captain: Safety Day and the Sail Past. More information will be coming on these events soon.



Two programs have been in the works by our Club. The first is a mentorship program where we will try to pair boaters with the expertise of members and those that seek their help. The mentorship program is designed to provide information on basic boat

maintenance, seapersonship (my spelling!), cruising, racing and marine electronics to name a few. If you would like to offer your expertise in any of our marine areas, please email me at [fleet@collinsbayyachtclub.ca](mailto:fleet@collinsbayyachtclub.ca)

A second program involves tool lending. From my experience this program will be much more challenging to offer. To date, discussions are in their infancy.

Being new, I am open to all types of discussions concerning these proposals. Feel free to contact me at any time using the email above or drop by and say hello, I am on slip C4 and my boat name is Scaramouche.

Doug Thur - Fleet Captain

Welcome to our new

Sailing School Ops Manager



The pieces to the 2024 Sailing School are gradually falling into place. We can now confirm that Julian Leam of SV Toucan Duet will take on the Sailing School (SS) Ops Manager role this season. For those of you who have yet to meet Julian, he is definitely a man about CBM and a most interesting character. While the Stars & Stripes flown from his transom indicates an American connection, his strong British accent belies his true roots. A graduate of the University of the

West of England in Mechanical Engineering and a recent retiree from Bechtel Corp. where he wrestled with nuclear generating station construction projects, Julian is certainly up to any technical challenge that revolves around maintaining CBYC's sail training and coach boats. Perhaps more importantly, Julian is blessed with a wonderful sense of humour and a very energetic blond 'first mate/supervisor' who keeps him laser focused! While a package of this nature doesn't come along very frequently, our access to Julian's services will regrettably have a sunset as the good ship Toucan Duet is scheduled to depart for southern climes Fall 2024.

**Andrew Hope & Dave Nickerson**

**Co-Directors, CBYC Sailing School**

## **Attention all racers &**

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## **want to be racers**

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Interested in racing or being part of a crew come out on Thursday May 9th @ 6:00pm to the CBYC club house where you can meet fellow sailors to ask about crewing or get tips for racing your boat.

We will be catching up with our racers, paying our racing dues, and discussing the season.

Looking forward to seeing you all

Glenn - Race Captain



## EYC 2025 is returning to CBYC!

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Yes, it's true – In 2025, CBYC will be hosting the annual Eastern Yachting Circuit (EYC) Regatta for the third time since CBYC's inception.

EYC is an umbrella organisation for clubs in the eastern end of Lake Ontario and the St Lawrence River. EYC's primary focus is to arrange for an annual regatta, which alternates between the USA and Canada while rotating among its member clubs each year.

It began many years ago as a way of allowing families to “cruise” to the racing venue, have three days of competition and social gathering, and allow the return home all within one week. This is why the event is a Thursday through Saturday event – giving the family Sunday to return home.

The EYC 2025 event will be July 10 – 12, 2025.

Thursday 10th - a 20 – 25 nautical mile distance race,

Friday and Saturday – course racing (up to 5 races over 2 days)

Social (dining and dancing) events will be held each night after racing.

To make this event successful, we need the support from the members of CBYC prior to as well as during the event. The intent of this event is that it will be revenue neutral, or better yet, revenue positive. And secondly we want to support our own membership by re-investing where possible.

Our immediate need for support is as follows:

Event Planning – Build the budget and more importantly create the marketing plan (promotion and sponsorship) for the event.

Catering – Are there any members in the industry that would be interested in taking on the contract for Food and Beverage operation? Given that CBYC does not have permanent facilities large enough to handle the anticipated crowd (50 boats with an average of five people per boat – that's 250 bodies) which will be a captive audience. We are willing to look at a single entity providing the service or

splitting the work between a group – open to ideas!

Entertainment (local bands or DJ's) to create the fun atmosphere.

Public Relations – An event such as this undoubtedly will need to adhere to legal expectations (Liquor licensing, Municipal By-Law compliance, Fire Codes). Naturally, we want to stay ahead of that, so having someone focussing on that would be useful.

EYC 2025 Ambassadors for promotion of the event around the east end of Lake Ontario as they cruise around. We want to build and keep the excitement up.

As the saying goes, many hands make the work light. Please share your interest and suggestions with the Regatta Coordinator

Bill Visser at [eyc2025@collinsbayyachtclub.ca](mailto:eyc2025@collinsbayyachtclub.ca).

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

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### **Women's sailing Captain**

The Women's Sailing Captain coordinates and helps facilitate women sharing information/ experiences, as well as practicing sailing and boating skills together in a positive, encouraging, and respectful learning environment.

Please contact one of the five board directors.

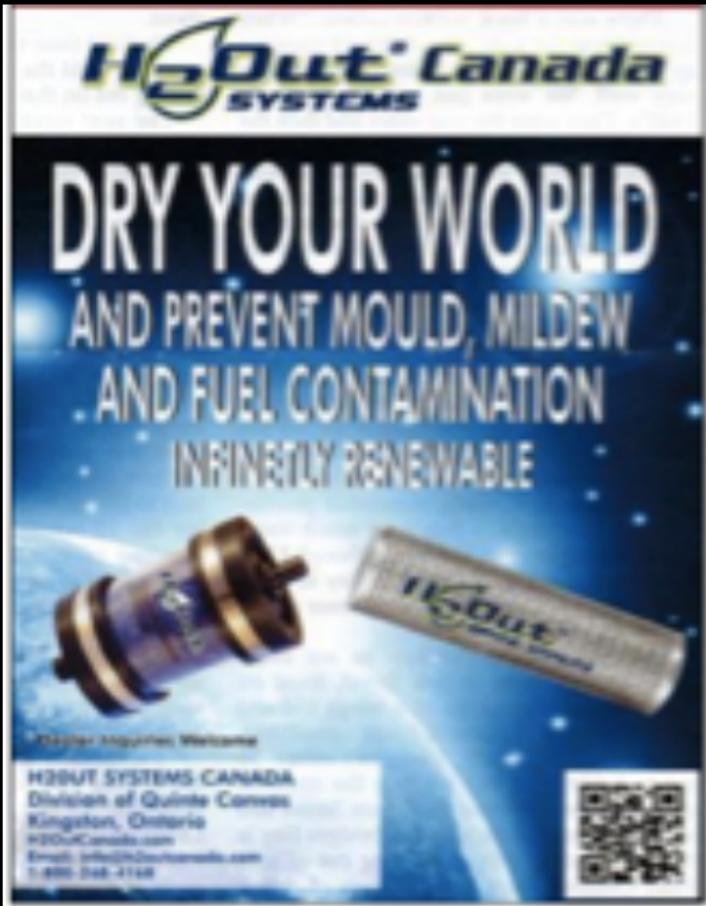
Gilles Brunet - Commodore





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# Boating Comfort



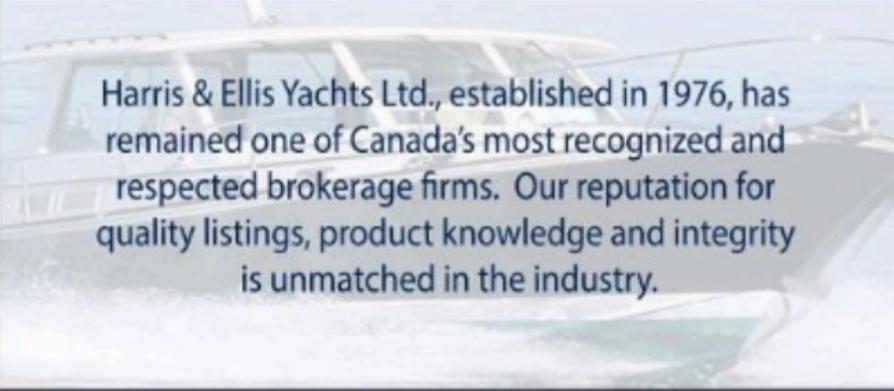
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## Photo of the month

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Ketch 22 and Ben-Varrey, Rock Sound

Eleuthera, Bahamas.

April 2024

## Green MIX

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### THE CARBON COST OF SAILING

#### WHAT THE RESEARCH DOES NOT DO

##### -Part 3-

The report's authors were keen to emphasize that they were not aiming to stymie certain solutions, but rather to identify the real-world use cases in which these systems are the best to choose, and to highlight where more development and investment is required. They also noted that the research focuses on propulsion systems, while there are a whole host of other areas in which a pleasure vessel could reduce its carbon footprint, from building materials and manufacturing processes to supply chains, shipping, and disposal. Similarly, how a vessel is used will have a big impact.

ICOMIA CEO Joe Lynch explained, 'This isn't to tell people what to do but to help them make the best decision for their use case and allow industry to find solutions, by providing a set of data. It is a point in time study for most popular types of vessel currently in use. We hope to expand this out to more use cases and more emerging technologies, such as foiling, in due course, and aim to turn the work into a more usable life cycle analysis tool as a basis for solid decision making to help decarbonize the marine industry.' The research did not interrogate the use of recycled goods, for example repurposed pre-used car batteries, or

the re-engining of existing yachts, and nor did it pit one type of vessel against another. It also didn't give weight to local considerations, such as the need to reduce pollution or noise in ecologically sensitive environments, or increased user enjoyment or a reduction of maintenance.

'This is a decarbonization report rather than a usability report,' said Lynch. 'There are many other reasons to choose electric-based criteria such as noise, smell, cost, maintenance and so on,' acknowledging the focus is very much on the global carbon emissions of a vessel's lifecycle.

Subscribe to Yachting Monthly [here](#)

ICOMIA report [here](#).

Part 4 next month



Gilles on Garuda

## Abandoned boats a threat to Canadian waters

By Camille Vermet, Radio-Canada, March 9 2024.

In Canadian waters, some 1,500 derelict boats are deteriorating, threatening marine ecosystems. Aware of the problem, the federal government is struggling to get rid of these abandoned boats, which is causing concern and impatience in coastal communities.

"It's just awful. Look at all the garbage piling up on the stern and the moss growing on it," laments Michael Simmons, pointing his finger at a dilapidated boat anchored in Brentwood Bay, British Columbia.

A volunteer with the non-profit Saanich Inlet Protection Society, Michael Simmons regularly patrols these calm waters. "This boat has been anchored here for as long as I've lived here. For 23 years."



## TECH CORNER

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### My CerboGX project.

When I started this project, I knew I would play with NodeRed to create my flows but I didn't realize that I would discover Signal K. Ouf! What a discovery for me who likes networks and data. Victron Energy endorses both open standards, nice.

You know I am sure now NMEA200, the network we install in our boats to connect the MFD (plotter) and the different meters (depth, speed etc). What is [Signal K](#)?

'In the last few years, it has become clear that there is a real need for a new communications protocol for the marine industry that will address the needs of a changing and ever more interconnected world. There are a number of existing marine data protocols, some that are proprietary such as Raymarine's SeaTalk interface, but the two most popular were both developed by the National Marine Electronics Association (the NMEA):'

'Both NMEA standards are fundamentally local area serial networks designed for limited deployments in simple environments. NMEA 0183 is normally limited to 4800 baud (or 34,800bps in high speed mode) and one transmitting device. NMEA 2000 works at a significantly higher bit-rate (250kbps) and allows multiple devices to transmit on one shared bus, but it is limited to 50 devices on a bus. These decisions may have been perfectly rational twenty or thirty years ago, but

today we need something more capable and extensible.’

‘Although all NMEA standards are published and available for use by any developer and therefore are technically “open standards” anyone wishing to use them must not only pay for the standards but also sign a license agreement which restricts how they can be used and in the case of NMEA 2000, a non-disclosure agreement. Hardware manufacturers are also obliged to have their equipment ‘certified’ before they can sell it, an expensive process for small companies. In essence, this prevents the release of an open source application developed using these standards and presents a high cost of entry for smaller developers.’

Finally, and most importantly, both NMEA standards and the other proprietary protocols in the industry were developed when the instruments on the average boat were much simpler and much less capable. In a world where your home thermostat is connected to the Internet and the number of worldwide Internet connected devices is projected to exceed 70 billion by 2025, it seems archaic that your boat is still an island to itself.

After all, there are lots of other boats out there, and lots of other sources of information, all of which could be of interest and benefit to you. In the modern connected world, shouldn't you be able to access that information from your boat wherever you are and on whatever device you want?

To move forward we need to think in a connected way, a way fundamentally different from NMEA protocols. Sun Microsystems famously coined the phrase The network is the computer, and Signal K reflects that global peer-to-peer concept.

**Key Victron ENERGY reasons to support  
Signal K:**

- It aligns well with Victron connectivity and gels well with Victron Energy's Venus OS – used in the Color Control GX & Venus GX and in home brewed projects such as Izak Burger and Alan Major's Raspberry Pi running Venus.
- It fits well with the Venus OS Beta program.
- No other major manufacturer is supporting Signal K at this level.
- Signal K is Open Source, so development, progress and usefulness in the field is fast.
- Plenty of scope for home brewed projects.

I hope this article will give you some interest in this great new protocole.

Gilles on Garuda

## Top 4 Mistakes Boaters Make When Using VHF Radios

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Get the most out of your VHF radio and ensure you're heard every time!

For most recreational boaters, VHF radios are a better lifesaving tool than the omnipresent cellphone, even as more boaters use cellphones for emergency on-water communications. Why? The VHF radio remains the only tool at the boater's disposal that can summon those potential rescuers on the water nearest you – sometimes with the press of one simple red button – saving critical rescue time.

To help boaters get the most out of their VHF radio, the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water reveals the top mistakes boaters tend to make when using VHF radios. The same concerns can be applied to Canadian boaters and **Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons** has added information to their article to provide Canadian boaters with the resources needed to effectively operate a VHF Radio in Canada.

Read the article from Canadian Boating [here](#).

Phil Morris

## Is Your Boat Launch-Ready?

This early spring-like weather has left many boaters longing for summer anchorages and antsy to get back out on the water. Though you may feel ready to launch once the ice breaks, it's crucial to ensure that your boat is properly serviced and maintained. Spring service and annual maintenance are vital in preventing breakdowns and ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience on the water.

Boats are equipped with numerous systems, each requiring careful attention to ensure proper functionality. From the engine to electrical systems, steering mechanisms to hull integrity, thorough inspection and testing are necessary to identify any potential issues before they escalate.



Read the complete article [here](#).

Lori Buzzi

# 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>	Doug Thur	Scaramouche (C04)
<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.

Julian Leam

Toucan (B19)

Webmaster

Mark Sansom

Dream Haze  
(C30)

Women's  
Sailing Captain

Vacant

Sailing School  
Keelboat  
Manager

Richard  
Dickson

Windsome  
(E30)

Historian

Vacant

EYC2025  
Coord

Bill Visser

- ✓ 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.