



Collins Mixer

Collins Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE

Stay Home

Or

Sail Away

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Do you have an article, a regular column, a recipe, boat porn or a comment to share? Your contributions and input are welcome at: mixer@collinsbayyachtclub.ca

Commodore's Corner

We are enjoying the thrill, or for some us, living the curse, of unique and exceptional circumstances. Only a few weeks ago it seemed uncertain if we would have any kind of sailing season in the summer of 2020 at all. Recent announcements by our provincial government have me believing that a sailing season this year is actually going to happen, albeit with certain modifications and ongoing restrictions.

As you are aware, the CBYC executive has decided to cancel most of the usual club activities for the season. The clubhouse will also remain closed for as long as social/physical distancing requirements remain in place. We have received very clear guidance from the marina defining acceptable and necessary practices to be followed for as long as pandemic related restrictions and regulations apply. The bad news is that these restrictions prevent much of the direct social interaction that many of us view as a very desirable element of our sailing experience. The good news is, if we understand the real need for these new

practices and do our very best to adapt our behavior as needed, an enjoyable boating season in 2020 is a definite possibility.

Avoiding physical and social contact runs contrary to the essence of our boating community at the Collins Bay Marina. We are a group of boaters who help one another, who share experiences and knowledge, and who look out for each other. The thought of arriving at the marina, going directly to our boats and leaving the marina while having had minimal social interaction is foreign to many of us and is certainly not our preferred approach. However, the pandemic conditions under which we find ourselves are very serious and have caused much real grief to many people in many communities across our country. It is of the utmost importance that we remember that our actions can have very real and serious impacts on our fellow boaters, and that we make the application of physical distancing and other necessary behaviors a top priority while at the marina.

The boating season of 2020 is

shaping up to be a season like no other in recent memory. Again, the good news is that we are going to have a season and we are going to have an opportunity to enjoy our passion of boating in one of the finest areas for boating in the country. We will no doubt from time to time, if we are completely honest, feel some resentment regarding the imposed restrictions. There are times that we may even be tempted to let down our guard and behave as though our circumstances were completely normal. Let's focus on what we can still safely do and look forward to doing the rest when times are better. And those better times will come again!

Be safe. Stay healthy. Do your

part to make the 2020 season the best that it can be.

Bill Amirault

CBYC Commodore

From the Helm

Great news! As of Saturday May 16th at 12:01am, recreational boating is open in Ontario!

We are excited and optimistic for a great boating season!

Please not the washrooms are

open for single use only. Please stand back at the tape until it is your turn. Please sanitize before entering the washrooms. Change the sign on the door to occupied. Before leaving the washrooms, wash your hands, shut off the lights and turn the sign to vacant! Showers are not opening at this time. Remember pumpouts are complimentary this year to encourage you to use your head on the boat!

All of our staff will be wearing masks to help keep everyone safe

A BIG thank you goes to Jean



CORRECTION



White(Moonshadow) for kindly making these for our very grateful crew!

Launch is in full swing, the crew have been working hard to get

the boats in the water safely! It is good to see boats in the water for boaters to be able to enjoy time on the water.

We thank everyone for adhering to the new protocols for this year and helping us keep everyone safe and healthy!

Lori, Gerry and family

From The Editor

This is your newsletter, for you and by you.

Please feel free to submit articles, photos, jokes, requests to mixer@collinsbayyachtclub.ca

Currently looking for multiple contributions towards a multi-source article regarding having pets onboard: training, customizations, considerations, funny and scary stories ...

Cheers
Mark



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Collins Bay Marina

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for Kingston and The Thousand Islands

An Important Message from the Marina

These exceptional times of COVID-19 require that the Marina implement exceptional measures, and its boaters show exceptional discipline to ensure that we all stay healthy and still have a boating season.

In a spirit of optimism and trust in our community, the marina has developed this document to ensure that all who come to the Marina maintain appropriate physical distancing and sanitation measures. The more robust the measures we implement, the more we can protect the safety of ourselves and each other. We all must truly work together for ensuring the health and safety of all of us and our families and to be able to enjoy our summer activities.

Our passion to be on the water must be tempered by our sense of community: we are all in this together and our priority must be focused on all of us coming through these unusual times healthy.

Please read this document carefully. Input to the creation of this COVID Code of Conduct came from a variety of sources including Ontario Sailing and other provincial sailing organizations. Members across Canada are working to keep clubs safe with these commitments.

As the situation evolves, we will continue to evolve and change as we learn more and see our efforts in action.

We wish you all good health and the best boating season we can have!

Gerry and Lori

Collins Bay Marina COVID Code of Conduct

Everyone who comes to the marina must first read this document and be ready and equipped to fully abide by its provisions. This is strictly for this initial marina opening and launch and will evolve as the COVID restrictions evolve.

As a customer of the marina and boat owner, I agree to the following to help ensure the health and safety of everyone associated with the marina.

In this first phase of opening, I will **only come to the marina to prepare my boat.**

I will not, under any circumstances, come to the marina if I have any symptoms of COVID-19 or if anyone I am living with has such symptoms. Please refer to the provincial guide for guidance <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/> (If you have a condition whereby you are immunosuppressed or have a chronic illness, you should consult your physician or public health resources to help you decide if you should come to the marina.)

When at the marina, I agree to abide by all government mandated physical distancing measures such as maintain 6 ft from others and not congregating in groups. If this means waiting in my car or returning at another time, I will do that. Physical distancing is the greatest tool to keep everyone safe.

I agree to sanitation measures of bringing hand sanitizer and using wipes to wipe down any door handles, or shared areas before and after I touch them in addition to the sanitization by the marina. To protect others, I will carry a face mask with me and if risk of a situation of becoming near someone occurs will ensure my face mask is worn over mouth and nose.

I will only bring a maximum of one other person with me to work on boat and do my best to have that person be someone from my own household. I recognize I am fully responsible to ensure that they respect these directives.

If I hire a contractor to work on the boat, I am responsible for that person's conduct at the marina. They will be shown these rules and must fully respect them. They must adhere to the marinas insurance and WSIB policies

I will recognize and respect the closure of the clubhouse and all dock areas and will stay away.

I will watch for and follow signage and other directives as this evolves from the marina staff and stay current with the situation.

Commitment These are not normal circumstances. All boaters are asked to be flexible and polite and to compromise when necessary.

All boaters shall comply with these directives. The marina reserves the right to reprimand anyone for not following these directives, insist that they be followed and, at the sole discretion of the marina, ask the individual(s) to leave the property.

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CBYC 2020 SOCIAL SEASON

Well times have sure changed around the world and we find ourselves in a very non social environment. Our team at CBYC will do our best to get through this pandemic and be socially responsible, all events are cancelled unless conditions change dramatically. We had our first zoom wine & cheese in May, and it was a huge success. Stay connected to your fellow sailors via zoom or anchored out in our great lake. Let me know if you have any ideas for social via
zoom

Make the best of your situation, there are always silver linings.

Cheers

Liz Taylor Reid

Social@collinsbayyachtclub.ca

The travels of isabella II

Ketching Up



In this issue, we explore the Bahamas, arriving in the Berry Islands in mid-December. We spend a windy Christmas in Nassau, then work our way through the Exumas, Long Island, Conception Island, and Eleuthera, ending in the area of Spanish Wells, where we anchor under lockdown for a month.

Christmas... and its Winds

We sailed into Nassau Harbour just before Christmas, dodging tour boats, jet skis, and row upon row of cruise ships. We intended to pick up our children, Emma and Alexander, for their Christmas visit, then escape to the Exumas. But shortly after arrival, the full fury of the "Christmas Winds" hit us, pinning us to the dock for days, and unable to depart. So, we saw the highlights of Nassau (there are some!) and a lot of the low-



Pig Beach, Exumas



lights (lots of those). We finally made our escape, along with dozens of other sailboats, on a calm Christmas morning. We enjoyed a four-day abridged tour of the northern Exumas before Emma and Alex sadly left us to fly home from Staniel Cay.

Graycliffe Cigars, Nassau



Snorkelling with a



Checking out the mega-yachts at Atlantis.

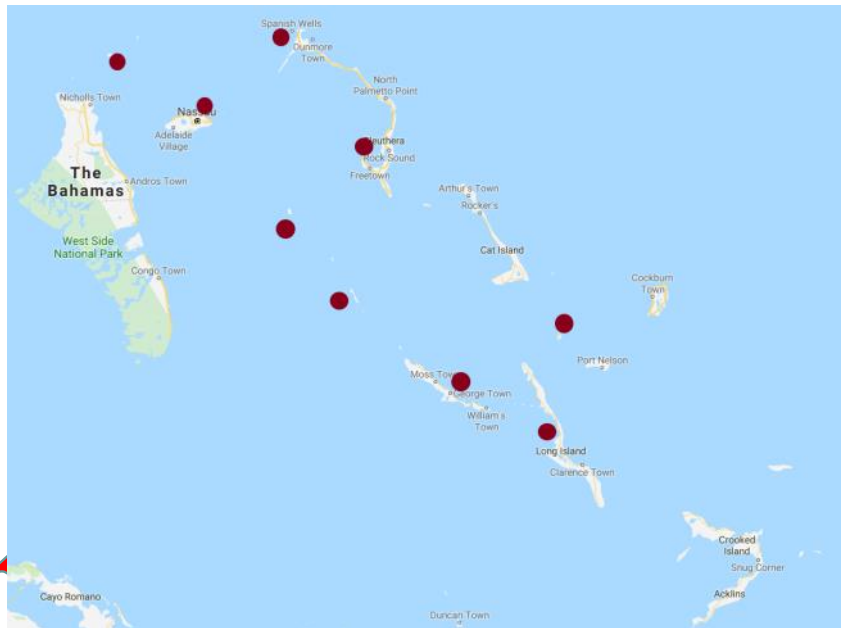
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WEATHER AND PASSAGEMAKING

We were surprised, and often a little discouraged, by the extensive influence of the frequent strong weather fronts that are part of the wintertime climate pattern in the Bahamas. Generally, our passage planning was driven by the arrival every few days of a front with winds as high as in the 30 knot range. This required us to analyse the direction and speed of the arriving winds which would then dictate the type of shelter options we needed. It was not unusual to be held in an anchorage for four or five days while the winds howled. In December and January, we often had only a few days between these fronts. Just enough time to get to another destination and shelter. It became a way of life, although a frustrating one when we found it was often too windy to travel to places we wanted to visit or to do basic activities such as launch the dinghy, snorkel, or paddleboard. On a positive note, however, this trend mostly abated by February and virtually all our days were sunny and comfortably warm, but not too hot. With prevailing winds from the east, the fronts generally brought some associated westerly winds which were great opportunities to sail to destinations that were lying to the east. In an environment with so much wind and current, we sometimes found ourselves in the unusual situation of “floating” over our anchor. This disconcerting situation would hap-



Acquired Knowledge

- * Travel and activities need to adjust to the weather you are presented with
- * Super shallow water can be navigated with low stress when you understand the tides
- * How to differentiate between gentle nurse sharks and the other, more bitey kinds

Exumas

We spent most of our time in the spectacular Exumas. This really is a cruising paradise, with deserted beaches, a multitude of beautiful anchorages, and many small islands, or cays, to explore. We rarely had to sail more than a handful of hours to reach a new destination and many places were worthy of a multi-day visit. The highlights for us:

- ◇ Black Point Settlement, a classic Bahamian community on Great Guana Cay. The people are exceptionally welcoming and friendly, there are several great restaurants, a waterside laundromat, an oceanside blow hole, and many back roads to explore.
- ◇ Snorkelling at Thunderball Grotto, of James Bond fame. You have to be here for slack tide which often means it is busy, but on one of our visits here, we had the whole grotto to ourselves—magical.
- ◇ Visiting the pigs at notorious Pig Beach and marvelling at the collection of tourists who flock there—many in a quest to get over-the-top Instagram photos. And of course, the baby pigs are very cute.
- ◇ Miles of sand flats to explore at low tide at Salt Cay



Georgetown

Love it or leave it. Our sense is that people fall in to one of these two camps regarding this town in the Exumas. For hundreds of cruisers, this is their wintertime destination. They arrive, plonk down their anchor, and leave again in the spring. We didn't want to miss experiencing this fabled destination. We visited two times, each time spending a few days. On our first visit, we enjoyed beautiful hiking trails on Stocking Island, stocked up on supplies, and had a beer at the famous Chat N Chill. At the height of the season, during our second visit, there



A Family Islands Sampler

The Bahamas out islands, around 700 of them, are also referred to as the Family Islands. Home to small communities, friendly people, deserted beaches, and natural marvels, this is the real Bahamas. One could spend



Our personal beach in the Berry Islands.

years exploring here, and we met many cruisers who do just that. Most islands are no more than a pleasant day sail from one to the next, but you do have to plan your schedule according to the prevailing easterly winds. We were particularly taken with Conception Island, an uninhabited and pristine National Park, where hiking trails lead you to beautiful coastal views and you can take your dinghy inland along the mangroves to explore turtles, rays, and sharks living in the shallows. There was great snorkelling here and we shared the whole experience with only about 10 other boats. With no light pollution, the night sky was a spectacular blanket of astronomical sights. Long Island was also a favourite destination. Home to the world's deepest blue hole, bat caves, great restaurants, and spectacular scenery, we enjoyed renting a car for the day in order to take it all in. In all of these places, we often were the only visitors at the time, one of the outstanding perks of these islands. The Berry Islands are a small chain of mostly uninhabited cays



Left: The pristine coast of Conception Island

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Long Island. Above, Dean's Blue Hole was fun to snorkel and the extensive cave



THE ENGINEER'S CORNER: ALLEN'S STATS AND STUFF

Depart USA (West Palm Beach / Lake Worth) - 11 Dec 2019 Return to USA (St Augustine) - 19 Apr 2020

Length of Stay in Bahamas - 130 days, 111 days at anchor

Total nautical miles travelled - 1210.6 nautical miles

Total number of passage days - 41 (89 days at rest to enjoy the environment, communities, relax, read, and ... wait out the wind)

Total number of unique destinations visited - 25

A Day in the Life

Even in paradise, daily chores still need to get done. On a boat, these activities tend to take a little longer than they do on shore. Let's look at grocery shopping, for example.



Firstly, if the weekly delivery boat, referred to locally as the mail boat, has not recently arrived to your particular community, you can expect that there will be pretty much

nothing to buy at the store. So, you wait. If the boat happens to break down, you could be waiting any number of days for food to arrive. Assuming the boat has replenished the local store, we hop in the dinghy, find the closest community dock to the store, tie the dinghy up, walk to the store, do our shopping, lug it all back to the dinghy, load it from the dock to the dinghy, (let me just catch my breath here,) drive the dinghy back to the boat, trying to



keep it dry and out of the splashing waves, unload the groceries from the dinghy to the deck of the boat, (another quick breath), move the groceries down below and jam all the sweet new items into whatever space you can find. By then, it must be Happy Hour! Laundry is another workout. Only a few communities have laundromats, so a bit of research and experience is key to laundry management. Our favourite laundry facility was in Black Point Settlement, Exumas. What a view! A trip to the



These eggs had a traumatic dinghy ride back to the



Cuts are All the Rage

In order to move amongst the islands, it is sometimes required to travel through narrow passes of water called cuts. The tides can rush through these cuts with great force, producing highly turbulent waters with massive stand-



ing waves, known as rages. We have heard some harrowing tales of boats mercilessly tossed around in a rage. To avoid getting caught in this situation, we always tried to time our cut passages to match wind conditions



with tidal slack water. Even so, when the water was calm, as above, the speed of the accelerating current was



Surrounded By Nature, Living With Local Creatures

It is easy to get up close and personal with wildlife here, mostly because they are conditioned to interaction (and associated feeding) with humans. From the pink iguanas on Leaf Cay to nurse sharks everywhere, and even tropical fish at



Close encounter with a ray

popular snorkelling spots, we were frequently approached by wild animals. The animals that were more wary were the more prized encounters. Sea turtles and rays are abundant in The Bahamas and we did see many of them. They usually took their leave as soon as they became aware of us. In Nassau, we were treated to the sight of rays launching themselves out of the water just off our stern—the only place we saw this behaviour. On the rare calm days, we had a front row seat to the spectacle of “eat and be eaten”,



Above: A Nurse Shark cruises the shallow waters at Staniel Cay.

the seemingly exhausting life in the cuttlefish world.

Left: Pink Iguanas at Leaf Cay. A Cuttlefish nestles in to the safe refuge of our



The boat was frequently visited by Needle-

Water, Water Everywhere

The Bahamas is encompassed primarily of water, and this element is nothing short of stunning. It comes in myriad hues of blue, is as clear as the finest gin, and shallow enough to keep those of us on a deep draught sailboat well up on our toes. Curiously, it was also here that we passed over the deepest water we saw, at over 11,000 feet. We never tired of the visual feast of colours and the clear view of upcoming coral heads, not to mention the entertainment value of the window on marine activity. While the water



So Much Potential

The Bahamas appears to have all the right ingredients for world-class tourism development. We found evidence throughout the islands of efforts to take advantage of that potential. Interestingly, many of those projects have failed and their sad remnants are left as eerie shells of wasted money. Everything from mega-resorts to high-end housing develop-



Former golf resort at Great Harbour Cay, now lies in ruins

opments literally litter beautiful islands, sad victims of money ill-spent. It became a casual

project of ours to search out these places and do some exploring. While each failed project has



Abandoned road building machinery lies rusting, Great

Sharing the Fun

We were thrilled to have our friend Susan from Kingston visit us in the Exumas. Having helped us bring the boat up from Annapolis, she is very comfortable onboard. While we had a few windy days at anchor, we also shared some great exploration around the mid-Exumas, including the mandatory visit to Pig Beach.



Stopped in Our Tracks

We arrived at the island of Eleuthera on March 14th, just as it was becoming blatantly obvious that the world was shutting down due to COVID-19. We were able to explore the great community of Rock Sound, load up on groceries and fuel, and enjoy what we knew would be our last restaurant meal at the beachfront Wild Orchids restaurant. From there we made our way north along this beautiful island and ended up anchoring amongst the small cays of Meeks Patch, just outside of Spanish Wells. Here, we spent three weeks mostly confined to the boat as we watched our situation change almost daily. Initially, we could go ashore to do some yoga and swimming, and bought supplies in Spanish Wells, but ultimately we were completely confined to the boat by the Bahamian government's guidelines for foreign yachts.



Isolation yoga on a deserted beach near Spanish Wells

With the country in full lockdown and severe restrictions for us, we decided it was time to make our way slowly home. We sailed west over to the Berry Islands to meet up with our Collins Bay Marina friends Dave and Cathy on *Ketch 22* and on April 17th, our boats departed together. We sailed for three days, jumping into the northward current of the Gulf Stream, often reaching over 11 knots of speed! We encountered very little marine



Our last restaurant meal—Bahamian craft



News from the Sailing School

It will come as no surprise to anyone that preparations for the activities of the Sailing School this season were unusual, in the extreme. Instead of preparing the dinghies, coach boats and keelboat for service, we were preoccupied by the question of whether learn-to-sail programs for youth and adults could even be delivered safely in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

In the end however and despite our best efforts, a very difficult decision has been

made to cancel all youth and adult learn-to-sail programs at the Sailing School for the 2020 season. No Sailing School boats will be launched and no courses delivered. This is the right decision to protect the health and safety of participants, instructors, volunteers, club members, their families, marina patrons and our community at large. At the end of March, not long after the onset of the public health restrictions ordered by the Government of Ontario, the Sailing School made an initial decision to continue accepting registrations for its 2020 summer programs. At the same time, we undertook to gather as much information as possible on guidelines for teaching sailing adapted to the current situation. Four webinars delivered by Ontario Sailing for member clubs through April and May were followed closely by the Sailing

School's member volunteers. The webinars covered important health and safety considerations for club activities in general, as well as learn-to-sail activities more explicitly during the May 19 webinar. The social distancing and other public health restrictions that are expected to remain in effect in Ontario throughout the summer clearly make it impossible to deliver effective and safe learn-to-sail courses. While disappointing for all involved, the situation is especially regrettable for the School's six youth instructors who were counting on the summer employment opportunity as well as the families who year-in and year-out entrust their school-aged children to our CBYC summer camp for quality care and learn-to-sail instruction. I want to be sure to acknowledge the countless



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Vacant Position for 2020 CBYC Executive

The following position is available on the CBYC executive for 2020:

Sailing School Operations Manager – The Sailing School has a director, Robert Mackey, and Administrator, Keith Davies. To function efficiently and share the work during the summer season, we need an Operations Manager.

Portfolio: SAILING SCHOOL OPERATIONS MANAGER
Responsibility statement updated by: Robert Mackey and Richard Dickson
Date: September 16, 2019
Primary purpose of portfolio:
The Operations Manager is <i>responsible</i> to the Director, and <i>responsive</i> to the Dinghy Program Manager and the Keelboat Program Manager. The Operations Manager oversees the day-to-day equipment needs of the dinghy and keelboat sailing programs of the Sailing School.
Specific responsibilities/obligations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Ensure all Sailing School equipment is maintained to a high standard and meets all legal requirements at all times.■ Assist with the coordination of pre-season dinghy and keelboat equipment preparations as well as post-season winterizing.■ Report any operational issues in a timely fashion to the Sailing School Director.■ Contribute to the development and implementation of assets replacement planning.
Volunteers required to assist in fulfilling the specific responsibilities/obligations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ To prepare the boats and equipment at the beginning and the end of each season.■ To assist with repairs to boats and equipment throughout the season.
Key Challenges:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Maintaining the safe and smooth operation of the Sailing School.■ Responding to day-to-day equipment issues.

We need you! Please give serious consideration to these positions and feel free to discuss with any member of the executive.

Claudia Stevenson

Past Commodore

CBYC Storage Locker

For Sale: Metal-tech 4 ft x 41 in x 23 in Steel Portable **Scaffold** \$45



SOLD

Please email mixer@collinsbayyachtclub.ca with "scaffold1" in subject line

For Sale: Inflatable tender

2014 Zodiac Cadet 250 RIB (2.5m) with oars **SOLD**

For Sale: Outboard

6 hp Mercury motor with external tank \$1000

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For Sale: Men's Flotation Jacket

Never used, Size M \$45



Please email mixer@collinsbayyachtclub.ca with "jacket1" in subject line

For Sale: Honda Long Shaft 15 HP

20xx Honda 15 HP Long Shaft Engine

Please email mixer@collinsbayyachtclub.ca with "long15" in subject line

For Hire: Able Bodies

Need Help? Tarp removal, Cleaning, Washing, Scrubbing, Sanding, Polishing, Painting, etc?

Please email helm@collinsbaymarina.com with "Able1" in subject line

For Sale: Ozone generator \$35



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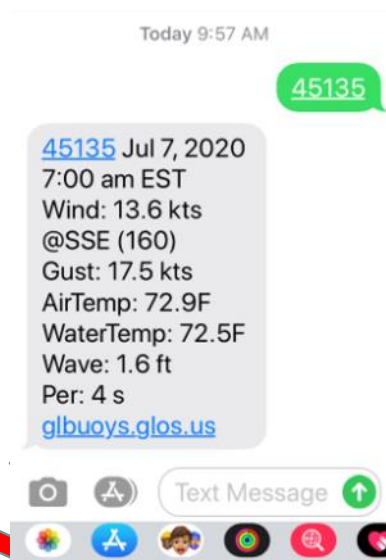
Text a Buoy, get Weather

You probably know that you can get weather data from Great Lake buoys via the internet. For example, here is a link to Prince Edward Point buoy 45135 <https://bit.ly/3iy1MGd>.

You may not know that you can also text a buoy for current weather conditions through a nifty US service. Text the number of the buoy you want data from to either 866-218-9973 or 734-201-0750 (US long distance charge may apply) and you will receive a return

message with the current weather.

Here's an example of the automated response you will receive:

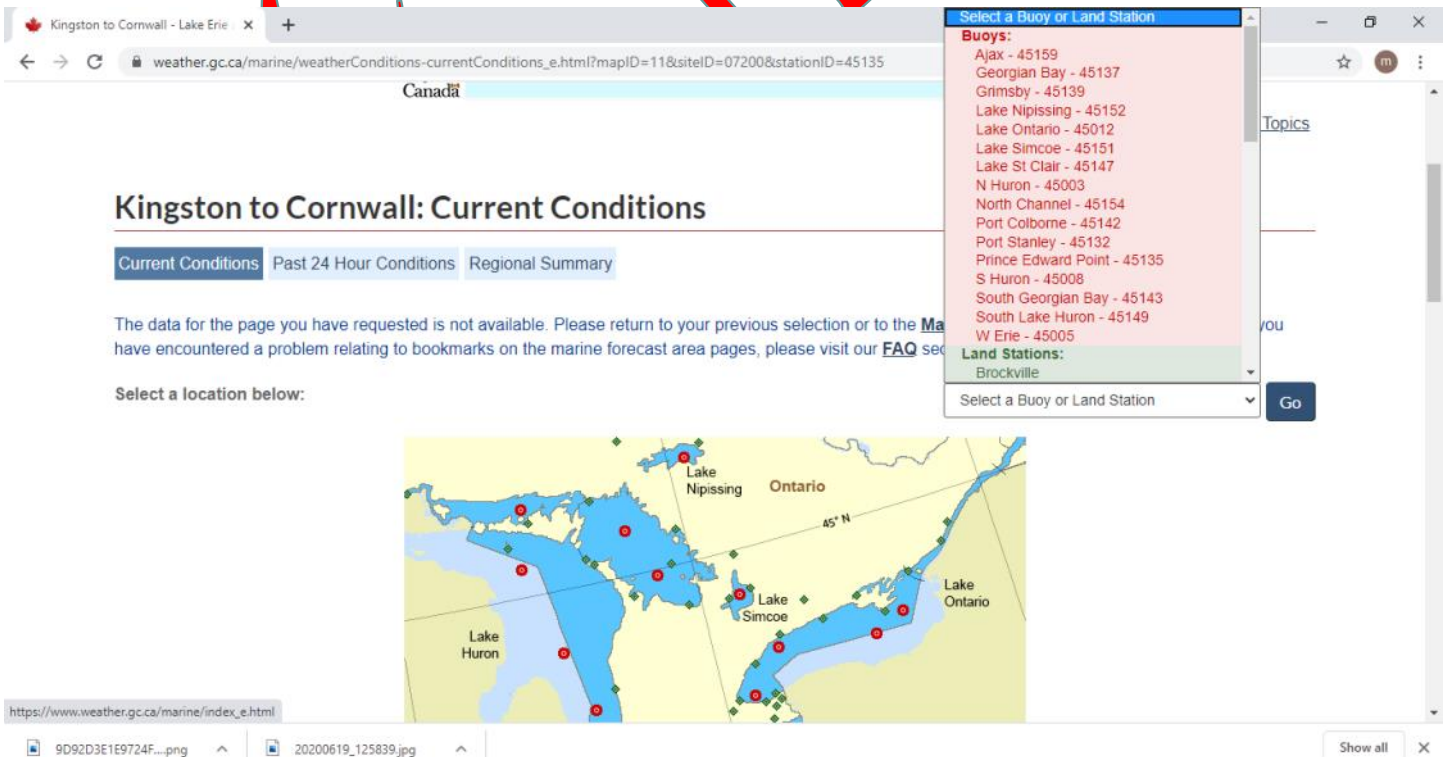
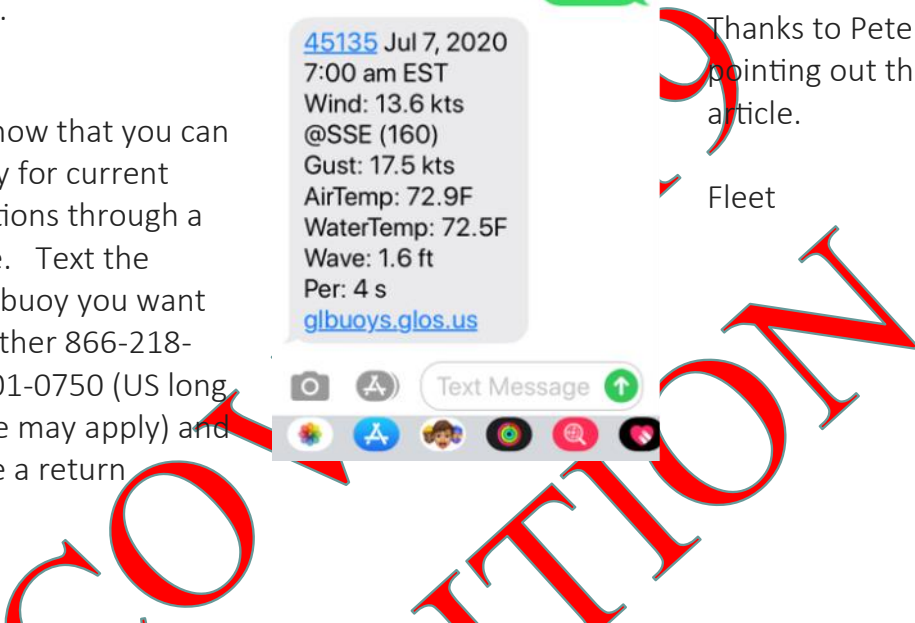


An article about this service can be read at:

<http://www.rockthelake.com/buzz/2018/07/text-a-great-lakes-buoy-and-itll-text-you-back-with-the-latest-water-conditions/>

Thanks to Peter Feltham for pointing out the Rock the Lake article.

Fleet



Boat Porn

"emphasizing the sensuous or sensational aspects of a nonsexual subject and stimulating a compulsive interest in their audience"



Photo by DMS

Nature Porn

"emphasizing the sensuous or sensational aspects of a nonsexual subject and stimulating a compulsive interest in their audience"



Photo by DMS

Marina Porn

"emphasizing the sensuous or sensational aspects of a nonsexual subject and stimulating a compulsive interest in their audience"



Photo by DMS

The 2020 Executive Committee

Board Position	Name	Boat	Contact
Commodore	Bill Amirault	Aslan	commodore@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Vice Commodore			vicecommodore@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Past Commodore	Claudia Stevenson	Tamara C	pastcommodore@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Secretary	Ruth Cass-Beggs Smith	Drifter	secretary@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Treasurer	Jacque MacKinnon	Bittern	treasurer@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Fleet Captain	Bruce Anderson	Sielu Lintu & Investors Group	fleet@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Cruise Chair	George Dew	Melba J	cruise@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Membership Chair	Ed Nash	Bay Breeze	membership@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Social Chair	Liz Taylor	Horizon Dancer	social@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Clubhouse Chair	Glen Reid	Horizon Dancer	house@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Race Chair	Hans Mertins	Moondance	race@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Sailing School Director	Robert Mackey	Tingirrautalik	schooldirector@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Newsletter Editor	Mark Sansom	Dream Haze	mixer@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Webmaster	Mark Sansom	Dream Haze	cbyc@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Women's Sailing Chair			womens.sailing@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Collins Bay Marina	Lori & Gerry Buzzi	Perfect Waste of Time	helm@collinsbaymarina.com
SUBCOMMITTEES			
Sailing School Administrator	Keith Davies		school@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Sailing School Operations Manager			school@collinsbayyachtclub.ca
Club Historian	Robert van Dyk	Day Dreams	history@collinsbayyachtclub.ca