

April 2015

Founded in 1934

President's Message Spring 2015

For those of you who live near the 1000 Islands in the winter...WOW what a winter!!! We haven't seen that much snow in a long time and the river froze solid for longer than it has in years. Perhaps this means that during the summer boating season we will have higher water levels... perhaps not too high.

One of the joys of living near the 49th parallel is the diversity of the changing seasons. The renewal of spring, the heat of summer, the brilliant colours of fall and the bracing cold and beauty of winter provide constantly shifting opportunities for play and wonder.

If you have not already started I am sure now is the time to make that list of summer projects you want to tackle. Painting those chairs, fixing that broken dock section, replacing that dripping tap and reorganizing your tackle box. Of course there are always the spring "surprises" you may find waiting for you when you first open the cottage.

"Why does the list continue to expand instead of diminish?"

Remember, owning a summer home on the river is a therapy project...the work never ends...it simply changes.

This summer, at our famous 1000 Islands Association shore breakfast we hope to have some exciting things planned for you. I don't want to spoil the surprise so I won't say anything more but please plan to join us at **8:00am, Saturday July 18th** at the 1000 Islands Playhouse dock for another fun and educational morning.

For some of you this summer may be a first, for others one of many gloriously anticipated seasons. Either way we all look forward to having a fun and safe season.

Both the Town of Gananoque and the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands have been searching for a solution to the loss of the contractor/loading dock that was in the mouth of the Gananoque River.

Looks like a new location will be in the works shortly. TLTI is looking at a location at the North end of the River, behind the Clock Tower Mall.

Gananoque doesn't want to lose a valuable aid to local business and residents, so it may have a different location as well.

Either or both would be a welcome and far superior addition and change from the old location.

Thank you to all the councilors who have helped to arrive at a satisfactory solution.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on the river in 2015!

Yours in safe boating

Cheers

Thornley Stoker





Gananoque Municipal Marina, February 27. The snow is over the (frozen in) level of the floating docks. The ice will not be gone from the Marina until mid April, unless there is a major change in the weather. The St. Lawrence River is just starting to show signs of break up on March 27.

Photos by John Goodwin, Mudlunta Island and Ottawa



The Thousand Islands Antique Boat Museum in Gananoque received \$250,000 over 3 years in federal funds from the Canadian Thousand Islands Community Development Corporation. Tom Russell TICDC, Gord Brown MP, Susanne Richer, Bob Easton and Joe Pal from the Museum.

Photo by Wayne Lowry

2 for 1 deal for the Rideau Canal this Spring.

Motorized and non-motorized boaters who purchase a single-lock-and-return pass or a 1 day pass between May 15 and June 30 will be able to redeem 2 for 1 coupons available at all lock stations, boat shows and marinas. There will also be enhanced operating hours this year.

Gananoque Intermediate and Secondary School

students from grades 11-12 in the construction technology class are seen working on 4 Optimist dinghies for the Museum which will be sailing in front of Gan. this summer. The boats will be launched in June at the Museum opening. A Boat Building Program at GISS began in the Fall.



The students are working on Optimist Sailboats, which are small sailboats that children up to a maximum of 90lbs will learn how to sail.

The beginnings of a Volunteer Program are underway, starting with a Restoration Program - Approximately a dozen local men will be working on restoring a Cliffe Craft boat over the winter season in the Museum's workshop on the waterfront. (If anyone is interested in taking part in the Volunteer Restoration Program please contact Rebecca Keyes at [613-483-1567](tel:613-483-1567) or rebkeyes@gmail.com.)





Harry and Marjorie Heagy summered many years on Huckleberry Island in the Admiralty Group before selling to Jim Wallace, the current owner, after Harry died.

Marj left us last summer but she bequeathed a very substantial financial gift to TIA. It wouldn't be appropriate to just add the gift to operating expenses so we are currently examining ideas that will provide a sustaining memory of the Heagy's love for the 1000 Islands. TIA currently provides a scholarship award to a student in Canada and one in the U.S.. Perhaps something along those lines to a student who wishes to continue education in environmental studies partially underwritten by the Heagy family and TIA.



On Board Lyulin !

What I did last summer.

One item off the bucket list. I've always wanted to see Lake Ontario from the deck of a freighter.

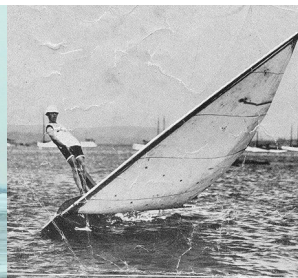
Lyulin is a bulk carrier flagged in the Ukraine with a Bulgarian crew. She was built in China in 2011. Length overall is 186m (604'). One 6 cylinder diesel engine 9,792hp and bow thruster of 1,000hp. She is carrying a full load of bulk, raw brown sugar from Brazil, going to Redpath in Toronto.



I boarded at 7:00am from the deck of the Cape Vincent Pilot boat and climbed a 20' rope ladder, hand over hand, up the side. She never slowed down. Flights of Stairs inside the superstructure led me out onto the bridge, over 70' above the water. Once introduced to the Captain, I had a tour of the ship and was shown a private cabin where I could rest later in the afternoon. I was served 2 delicious meals, lunch and dinner with beer. Bulgarian, of course. I was on the bridge for almost the whole trip, 16 hours. The voyage was uneventful, Lake Ontario was dead calm and the only rewarding sights were the CN tower and the mist over Niagara at sunset.

We were unable to dock at Clarkson (Redpath) as it was occupied so we made for St Catharines where she was to anchor for the night at about 11:00pm. The most exciting part of the cruise was climbing back down the rope ladder to the Port Weller Pilot boat in the dark! That first step was a bit unsettling. Love to do it again!

David Orr



Membership Fees

- Single Membership: \$50.00 (Includes one Breakfast)
- Couple Membership: \$75.00 (Includes two Breakfasts)
- Family Membership: \$100.00 (Includes Breakfasts for 2 adults and 2 children under 18)
- Business Membership: \$100.00 (Includes two Breakfasts)

Memberships run for a calendar year. Reminders are sent in the April Newsletter with your Boat Decal. If you haven't done so already, please send your membership fees or pay on-line with PayPal to avoid being dropped from the mailing list. We need your continued support to maintain and improve our programs.

New Members most welcome.

Canadian Address	U.S. Address
P.O. Box 274,	P.O. Box 718
Gananoque, Ontario	Wellesley Island,
K7G 2T8	NY, 13640

TIA Executive Officers

Thornley Stoker- President
Ormond Murphy - Past President
Marilee Chisamore Secretary-Treasurer

Directors

Allison Burchell-Robinson - Membership
Troy Donovan - Fresh Ideas
Bryan Jones - AGM Coordinator
George Kittredge - Membership
David Orr - Shoal Markers/Newsletter
Paul Regan Jr. - Heritage Foundation
John Taylor - Environment, Membership
Ken White - Shoal Markers
Bruce Wilson - Parkway Clean-Up
Emeritus: Graham Armstrong,
William Hale



New Canadian Customs Facility. Next time you cross the border by vehicle, check the north-east side of the current Canadian Customs buildings. In the picture above, where you can now see the 1000 Islands Tower, was previously a tree covered hill. That entire area is being leveled for new check-point facilities. There may be delays entering Canada weekday mornings caused by blasting. This should be finished by the end of June. The 9 existing booths will be moved north-east and will become 13 with capability for 2 NEXUS exclusive booths. Construction should start near year end 2015 and could be open sometime in 2016.

Interesting web sites:

Weather and water levels: glakesonline.nos.noaa.gov

Web Cam looking east from Binnacle in Admiralty

Group:

<http://clients.scherzisystems.com:9999/binnacle/>

1000 Islands Bridge Canada:

http://www.tibridge.com/weather/Ca_WebView.jpeg

1000 Islands Bridge U.S.:

<http://www.tibridge.com/weather/WebView.jpeg>

Border crossing wait times:

<http://www.ezbordercrossing.com/list-of-border-crossings/new-york/thousand-islands-bridge/#.VRBhZeGmo6I>

Got your NEXUS card yet?

A NEXUS card is available for "Trusted Travellers" who apply online. \$50.00 for 5 years gives you speedy, easy entrance to Canada or the U.S. by boat, airplane and automobile. It can also help speed security checks at airports.

<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/nexus/menu-eng.html>

