



SAILPAST



Christmas Edition

December, 2017

Merry Christmas



Buon Natale!

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*May you all have a
joyous Christmas
season with family
and friends.*

In Memoriam

Robert Douglas Hickson

(June 14, 1950 – November 15, 2017)

Remembering Bob

Every once in a while, we encounter someone who inspires us to be a better person and, if we are really lucky, we have the chance to share part of our life journeys together through an enduring friendship.



Well, I consider myself lucky because Bob was one of those memorable persons who will forever remain in my heart. And it was more than obvious as we celebrated Bob's life at the Club on December 10, that I was not the only one. With family, friends and Club members (past and present) in attendance, many stories were shared that reflected a life of giving and unparalleled passion for helping others. Several stories also highlighted Bob's ability to stay calm and carry on in the face of misadventures at sea.

One such story that comes to mind begins when Bob, Phil Plumb and I were on the first leg of bringing Flying Colours to FBYC from New Jersey. This trip was memorable in all its facets. It was a non-stop trip that took us through the New York City Harbour and up the Hudson River. Since Phil had previously made this

trip, the need for updated charts or the fact that our GPS showed no chart details seemed irrelevant. All was going well while navigating through New York Harbour when Phil, who was at the helm (per usual), decided to also act as tourist guide and sail past the Statue of Liberty for a closer look. Apparently, Phil's and the Coast Guards' idea of a closer look did not correlate, and out of nowhere appeared a heavily armed escort to keep us from encroaching any further. Bob quietly suggested to Phil to alter course, to which he reluctantly agreed.

But there is more to the story.

In such a trip, sleep is not deemed a necessity. In the wee hours of the next morning, while continuing up the Hudson River, Phil decided he needed a break and went down below for a rest. Bob took the helm and I was left to navigate. A short time later, Bob questioned what through our bleary eyes appeared to be a small house dead ahead. Calmly asking which way he should turn, I guessed port and we instantly ran aground. To my surprise, Bob remained completely unphased by this turn of event and we proceeded to discuss how to remedy the situation. Phil, who was not pleased by this interruption to his beauty sleep, joined the conversation. After what seemed hours of trying every trick in the book and failing to dislodge ourselves, we swallowed our pride and Bob called for assistance. Although we were in the middle of the river, we had just encountered, unknowingly, the infamous mud flats. We were then reassured that the soon-to-be-rising tide would most likely free us. Along with the rising tide, the morning light also revealed the Hudson-Athens "house-impersonating" port channel marker!



This was just another of the many fond memories and stories of good times shared during the celebration of Bob's life. The loss of a loved one and of a good friend, especially at this time of the year, can be particularly difficult. Hopefully, these stories will offer some solace to family and friends. The full house with standing room only was a wonderful tribute of respect for a great FBYC member whose friendship and dedication to the Club touched us all.

On behalf of the family and myself, thank you to each and everyone for making this a special day. After all, nobody does it better than FBYC.

Thanks for sharing the journey my friend... Fair winds.

- Craig Castle



Commodore's Report



Seasons greetings FBYC – The Christmas holidays are fast approaching and I hope everyone has checked off everything from their to do list and have all of their shopping complete. If you are like me – Holiday shopping might even consist of the odd gasket, led lights or fuel filters. I can't help but look outside at the foot of snow and the frigid cold and daydream of bright sunshine and warm breezes.

A big thanks to everyone who came out to our November General Meeting to review our 2018 budgets as well as take in the good company. During this meeting Glen shared insights from a discussion that both Glen & Maureen had with the Alcohol & Gaming Commission of Ontario. There was some discussion about liquor laws as it pertains to consumption as well as the club's role and responsibility associated with our license. What we know – There is absolutely no consumption of personal alcohol allowed within the licensed area regardless of whether the bar is open or closed. Doing so puts our license at risk. That being said - I took the opportunity to reach out to the Council of Commodores to get some ideas from other clubs on how they approach personal alcohol consumption. I have heard back from a few and hope to provide the membership some insights during our next General Meeting as well as propose some ideas pertaining to our

own licensed area – More to come shortly.

This is also the time of year that we take a good look at our active member count. Louie and his committee have done a great job keeping a pipeline of new members in the hopper but we could still use some more help. With the upcoming boat show and many members still hanging out in the yard - this would be a fantastic time to talk about our great club, the members and all the benefits that go along with membership at FBYC such as our new harbor entrance, floating docks and by next year – power regardless of water levels J. A big push in our word of mouth advertising will definitely fare us well in keeping our new member pipeline topped up.

Shifting gears - the Commodore's Levee is set for Monday January 1st from 2pm-5pm – I hope you will join Christina and I as we celebrate the New Year with great friends and cheer. As always – feel free to bring along any canapés, finger food or left over snacks to share with all. We will also be raffling off some Canadian prime NY strip steaks, rib roasts & tenderloins from our local Buckingham Meat's here in Brooklin. I can assure that you will not be disappointed.

As always – if you have any questions, comments, concerns or feedback – feel free to drop me a line at commodore@fbyc.ca. On behalf of our family – I want to personally wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and wish you all the best throughout the holiday season.

Cheers,

- Samuel Cummings

Vice Commodore's Reports

Vice Commodore, FBYC

2017 is finally coming to a close and what an interesting year it was!

Though it was a challenging year I would have to say that the members of FBYC showed great resilience and ingenuity in overcoming many of our very unique challenges that 2017 presented us with. We should now be looking forward to a brighter and better 2018 season.

I am hopeful that 2018 will have fewer challenges and that all members, their families and friends can enjoy the benefits and pleasures that FBYC and the sailing community has to offer.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year everyone!

- Mark Chin



Vice Commodore, Fleet

For the Sailors nights this winter at the club we have 3 nights chosen – 2 sessions of travel to warm and sunny places as well as one session on demystifying preparations to go cruising (from super basic to deluxe and extended).

We are looking for suggestions on what members would like for a 4th presentation. We are interested in knowing what kind of speakers/presentation members would like to see as well as specific suggestions for speakers and content.

I am also interested to know if there are members that would consider a basic learn to race lecture of interest. This would be aimed at sailors that know little about racing but would bring a boat out racing or would crew if they knew more about the rules (not really that complicated) and what it takes to race.

Please reply to rcfleet@fbyc.ca.

Thanks

– Tom Wood



'Tis the Season - All About Christmas

Christmas is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed most commonly on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. A feast central to the Christian liturgical year, it is preceded by the season of Advent or the Nativity Fast and initiates the season of Christmastide, which historically in the West lasts twelve days and culminates on Twelfth Night; in some traditions, Christmastide includes an Octave. Christmas Day is a public holiday in many of the world's nations, is celebrated religiously by a majority of Christians, as well as culturally by many non-Christians, and forms an integral part of the holiday season. In several countries, celebrating Christmas Eve has the main focus rather than Christmas Day.

Although the month and date of Jesus' birth are unknown, by the early-to-mid fourth century the Western Christian Church had placed Christmas on December 25, a date that was later adopted in the East. Today, most Christians celebrate on December 25 in the Gregorian calendar, which has been adopted almost universally in the civil calendars used in countries throughout the world. However, some Eastern Christian Churches celebrate Christmas on December 25 of the older Julian calendar, which currently corresponds to January 7 in the Gregorian calendar, the day after the Western Christian Church celebrates the Epiphany. This is not a disagreement over the date of Christmas as such, but rather a preference of which calendar should be used to determine the day that is December 25.

Although it is not known why December 25 became a date of celebration, there

are several factors that may have influenced the choice. December 25 was the date the Romans marked as the winter solstice, the shortest and darkest day of the year, and the first day in which the days would begin to elongate and the Sun would have a longer presence in the sky. Jesus was identified with the Sun based on an Old Testament verse, and the date is exactly nine months following Annunciation, when the conception of Jesus is celebrated, which is one theory on what may have influenced the timing of the Christmas holiday. Also, Ancient Romans had a series of pagan festivals near the end of the year, and Christmas may have been scheduled at this time to appropriate, or compete with, one or more of these festivals. Some scholars disagree with this latter interpretation and state that the Roman Emperor Aurelian placed a pagan celebration on December 25 in order to compete with the growing rate of the Christian Church, which had already been celebrating Christmas on that date.

The Nativity stories of Matthew and Luke are prominent in the gospels and early Christian writers suggested various dates for the anniversary. The first recorded Christmas celebration was in Rome in 336. Christmas played a role in the Arian controversy of the fourth century. In the early Middle Ages, it was overshadowed by Epiphany. The feast regained prominence after 800, when Charlemagne was crowned emperor on Christmas Day. Associating it with drunkenness and other misbehavior, the Puritans banned Christmas in the 17th century. It was restored as a legal holiday in 1660, but remained disreputable. In the early 19th century, Christmas was revived with the start of the Oxford Movement in the Anglican Church. Charles Dickens and other writers reinvented the holiday by emphasizing Christmas as a time for family, religion, gift-giving, and social

reconciliation as opposed to the revelry that had been common historically.

Many popular customs associated with Christmas developed independently of the commemoration of Jesus' birth, with certain elements having origins in pre-Christian festivals that were celebrated around the winter solstice by pagan populations who were later converted to Christianity. These elements, including the Yule log from Yule and gift giving from Saturnalia, became syncretized into Christmas over the centuries. The prevailing atmosphere of Christmas has also continually evolved since the holiday's inception, ranging from a sometimes raucous, drunken, carnival-like state in the Middle Ages, to a tamer family-oriented and children-centered theme introduced in a 19th-century transformation. Additionally, the celebration of Christmas was banned on more than one occasion within certain Protestant groups, such as the Puritans, due to concerns that it was too pagan or unbiblical. Jehovah's Witnesses also reject the celebration of Christmas.

Prior to and through the early Christian centuries, winter festivals—especially those centered on the winter solstice—were the most popular of the year in many European pagan cultures. Reasons included the fact that less agricultural work needed to be done during the winter, as well as an expectation of better weather as spring approached. Many modern Christmas customs have been directly influenced by such festivals, including gift-giving and merrymaking from the Roman Saturnalia, greenery, lights, and charity from the Roman New Year, and Yule logs and various foods from Germanic feasts. The Egyptian deity Horus, son to goddess Isis, was celebrated at the winter solstice. Horus was often depicted being fed by his mother, which also influenced the

symbolism of the Virgin Mary with baby Christ.

The pre-Christian Germanic peoples—including the Anglo-Saxons and the Norse—celebrated a winter festival called Yule, held in the late December to early January period, yielding modern English yule, today used as a synonym for Christmas. In Germanic language-speaking areas, numerous elements of modern Christmas folk custom and iconography stem from Yule, including the Yule log, Yule boar, and the Yule goat. Often leading a ghostly procession through the sky (the Wild Hunt), the long-bearded god Odin is referred to as "the Yule one" and "Yule father" in Old Norse texts, while other gods are referred to as "Yule beings". In eastern Europe also, old pagan traditions were incorporated into Christmas celebrations, an example being the Koleda, which was incorporated into the Christmas carol.

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'Tis the Season - All About Santa

A number of figures are associated with Christmas and the seasonal giving of gifts.



Among these are Father Christmas, also known as Santa Claus (derived from the Dutch for Saint Nicholas), Père Noël, and the Weihnachtsmann; Saint Nicholas or Sinterklaas; the Christkind; Kris Kringle; Joulupukki; tomte/nisse; Babbo Natale; Saint Basil; and Ded Moroz. The Scandinavian tomte (also called nisse) is sometimes depicted as a gnome instead of Santa Claus.

The best known of these figures today is red-dressed Santa Claus, of diverse origins. The name Santa Claus can be traced back to the Dutch Sinterklaas, which means simply Saint Nicholas. Nicholas was a 4th-century Greek bishop of Myra, a city in the Roman province of Lycia, whose ruins are 3 kilometres (1.9 mi) from modern Demre in southwest Turkey. Among other saintly attributes, he was noted for the care of children, generosity, and the giving of gifts. His

feast day, December 6, came to be celebrated in many countries with the giving of gifts.

Saint Nicholas traditionally appeared in bishop's attire, accompanied by helpers, inquiring about the behaviour of children during the past year before deciding whether they deserved a gift or not. By the 13th century, Saint Nicholas was well known in the Netherlands, and the practice of gift-giving in his name spread to other parts of central and southern Europe. At the Reformation in 16th–17th-century Europe, many Protestants changed the gift bringer to the Christ Child or Christkindl, corrupted in English to Kris Kringle, and the date of giving gifts changed from December 6 to Christmas Eve.



The modern popular image of Santa Claus, however, was created in the United States, and in particular in New York. The transformation was accomplished with the aid of notable contributors including Washington Irving and the German-American cartoonist Thomas Nast (1840–1902). Following the American Revolutionary War, some of the inhabitants of New York City sought out

symbols of the city's non-English past. New York had originally been established as the Dutch colonial town of New Amsterdam and the Dutch Sinterklaas tradition was reinvented as Saint Nicholas.

In 1809, the New-York Historical Society convened and retroactively named Sancte Claus the patron saint of Nieuw Amsterdam, the Dutch name for New York City. At his first American appearance in 1810, Santa Claus was drawn in bishops' robes. However, as new artists took over, Santa Claus developed more secular attire. Nast drew a new image of "Santa Claus" annually, beginning in 1863. By the 1880s, Nast's Santa had evolved into the modern vision of the figure, perhaps based on the English figure of Father Christmas. The image was standardized by advertisers in the 1920s and continues through the present day.

Father Christmas, a jolly, stout, bearded man who typified the spirit of good cheer at Christmas, predates the Santa Claus character. He is first recorded in early 17th century England, but was associated with holiday merrymaking and drunkenness rather than the bringing of gifts. In Victorian Britain, his image was remade to match that of Santa. The French Père Noël evolved along similar lines, eventually adopting the Santa image. In Italy, Babbo Natale acts as Santa Claus, while La Befana is the bringer of gifts and arrives on the eve of the Epiphany. It is said that La Befana set out to bring the baby Jesus gifts, but got lost along the way. Now, she brings gifts to all children. In some cultures Santa Claus is accompanied by Knecht Ruprecht, or Black Peter. In other versions, elves make the toys. His wife is referred to as Mrs. Claus.

There has been some opposition to the narrative of the American evolution of

Saint Nicholas into the modern Santa. It has been claimed that the Saint Nicholas Society was not founded until 1835, almost half a century after the end of the American War of Independence. Moreover, a study of the "children's books, periodicals and journals" of New Amsterdam by Charles Jones revealed no references to Saint Nicholas or Sinterklaas. However, not all scholars agree with Jones's findings, which he reiterated in a book-length study in 1978; Howard G. Hageman, of New Brunswick Theological Seminary, maintains that the tradition of celebrating Sinterklaas in New York was alive and well from the early settlement of the Hudson Valley on.

Current tradition in several Latin American countries (such as Venezuela and Colombia) holds that while Santa makes the toys, he then gives them to the Baby Jesus, who is the one who actually delivers them to the children's homes, a reconciliation between traditional religious beliefs and the iconography of Santa Claus imported from the United States.

In South Tyrol (Italy), Austria, Czech Republic, Southern Germany, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, and Switzerland, the Christkind (Ježíšek in Czech, Jézuska in Hungarian and Ježiško in Slovak) brings the presents. Greek children get their presents from Saint Basil on New Year's Eve, the eve of that saint's liturgical feast. The German St. Nikolaus is not identical with the Weihnachtsmann (who is the German version of Santa Claus / Father Christmas). St. Nikolaus wears a bishop's dress and still brings small gifts (usually candies, nuts, and fruits) on December 6 and is accompanied by Knecht Ruprecht.

Although many parents around the world routinely teach their children about Santa Claus and other gift bringers, some have come to reject this practice, considering it deceptive.

'Tis the Season - Christmas Movies

If you have the time, you might want to relax during the season by watching some or all of these Christmas movies.

Some are classic.....some not so..... and the genre's range from comedy, drama, action/adventure, horror to love and kids.

Enjoy!!!!!!! (in no particular order)

1. Star Wars Holiday Special (1978)
2. 12 Dogs of Christmas (2005)
3. A Merry Friggin Christmas (2014)
4. Alone for Christmas (2013)
5. An All Dogs Christmas Carol (1998)
6. Christmas on the Bayou (2013)
7. Christmas Bounty (2013)
8. Christmas Magic (2011)
9. Happy Christmas (2014)
10. Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas (2011)
11. K9 Adventures: A Christmas Tale (2013)
12. Deck the Halls (2006)
13. Princess for Christmas (2011)
14. Christmas with Holly (2012)
15. His and Her Christmas (2005)
16. Love at the Christmas Table (2012)
17. One Magic Christmas (1985)
18. Recipe for a Perfect Christmas (2005)
19. Surviving Christmas (2004)
20. The Year without Santa Claus (1974)
21. The Christmas Candle (2013)
22. The Christmas Spirit (2013)
23. On Strike for Christmas (2010)
24. One Magic Christmas (1985)
25. Santa Paws 2: The Santa Pups (2012)
26. The Search for Santa Paws (2010)
27. The Road to Christmas (2006)
28. The 12 Trees of Christmas (2013)
29. Snow Buddies (2008)
30. Santa Buddies (2009)
31. Reindeer Games (2000)
32. It's a Wonderful Life (1946)
33. Elf (2003)
34. Home Alone (1990)
35. The Snowman (1982)
36. Charlie Brown Christmas (1965)
37. Scrooged ((1998)
38. Miracle on 34th Street (1947)
39. Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)
40. Nightmare before Christmas (1993)
41. Arthur Christmas (2011)
42. A Christmas Carol (1938) - original version
43. Scrooge (1951) - Alistair Sim version
44. Holiday Inn (1942)
45. National Lampoon Christmas Vacation (1989)
46. Babes in Toyland (1934) - Laurel & Hardy
47. Bad Santa (2003)
48. Mickey's Christmas Carol (1983)
49. White Christmas (1954)
50. Love Actually (2003)
51. Black Christmas (1974)
52. Christmas in Connecticut (1945)
53. Polar Express (2004)
54. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (1964)
55. A Christmas Story (1983)
56. Holiday Affair (1949)
57. Emmett Otters Jugband Christmas (1977)
58. Jingle all the Way (1996)
59. Nativity (2009)
60. The Christmas that Almost Wasn't (1966)
61. Yes, Virginia (2009)

'Tis the Season

The Bucket List

1. Go look at Christmas lights
2. Have homemade hot chocolate
3. Bake Christmas cookies together
4. Build gingerbread houses
5. Light a fire
6. Have a pajama day
7. Have a "no screen time" day
8. Take a photo with Santa
9. Watch a Christmas movie
10. Wrap Christmas gifts
11. Make s'mores
12. Got eat at a favourite restaurant
13. Get some Christmas books from the library
14. Read Luke, Chapter 2 verses 1-20
15. Have breakfast for dinner
16. Buy Christmas gifts for a child in need
17. Start an advent calendar
18. Mail Christmas cards
19. Go to a local Christmas festival
20. Have a Christmas music dance party
21. Have a picnic by the Christmas tree
22. Make an ornament or Christmas decoration
23. Wear Christmas pajamas
24. Do a random act of kindness
25. Make the house smell like Christmas



25 Days of Christmas

1. Drink hot chocolate
2. Call an old friend
3. Play in the snow
4. Build a gingerbread house
5. Go ice skating
6. Make a Christmas card
7. Eat chicken stew
8. Make a homemade gift
9. Sing Christmas carols
10. Bake cookies
11. Decorate the Christmas tree
12. Build a snowman
13. Make dinner together
14. Game night
15. Attend a tree lighting
16. Random act of kindness
17. Read a Christmas story
18. Snuggle on the couch
19. Watch a Christmas movie
20. Give someone a secret Santa gift
21. Start a new Christmas tradition
22. Write a letter to Santa
23. Build a pillow fort
24. Open your Christmas Eve gift
25. Celebrate Christmas



Entertainment

Thursday night Yoga

We are very please to have Taryn returning to the club to lead us in our Thursday evening yoga. Next session begins January 11,2018. On the first evening, please allow extra time to sign up and pay. Sign up options are: pay upfront - 12 wk for \$100 - best value! Less committed: 6 wks for \$60 or drop in for \$12/class. Bring a yoga mat, water bottle, towel and belt.

Skating on the bay

Stand by for an impromptu skating party! Weather permitting,we invite you to dig out your skates and get them sharpened. If you are local, and able to monitor ice condition, please email entertainment@fbyc when the bay is ready for skating. Hot chocolate and snacks will be provided!

Mark your calendars for: St Paddy's Dinner on Sat, March 17 (more details to come) and Sat., April 21 for the Launch-into-Spring Potluck - and then we're putting the boats back in the water! Yippee!!

Euchre Tournament

Come out Friday, Jan. 19th Pub night for a Euchre Tournament. Bar opens at 7 pm, tournament begins at 7:30. Cost is \$10 to play, includes pizza and snacks. Rules: stick the dealer, no time limit - each team finishes their round. Bring your friends!

Super Bowl Party

Sunday Feb. 4 is Super Bowl Sunday. Time to be confirmed, but we are planning a 'fingerfood' potluck, beginning at 5:30. Bar will be open. Join in the fun - 50/50 board, and more.

Yoga Retreat Day

Saturday, Feb. 10, 9:15-4:00pm at FBYC in the Flagroom. 4 different yoga sessions, including guided meditation, sailor's flow, deep stretching restorative session, light lunch provided and other fun perks.

Early bird special: \$65 if you sign up & pay by Jan. 13, 2018 Regular price: \$80
Space is limited!

Please email entertainment@fbyc.ca for more information or to sign up for events.



Sailing School

Kid's Winter Party



Dec 2nd was our third annual Kid's Winter Party. We had 30 young sailors come out for an afternoon of fun and games with friends. Many of them were sailing school kids, our youth race team was there, and lots of kids and grandkids of senior members also joined in the fun.



It is so much fun to see these young people laughing and playing and forming memories that will last a lifetime. FBYC is a huge family and this is the next generation... who knows, somewhere in this photo might be a future FBYC commodore. (hint: She's in the back row near the middle.)



Thanks to all the senior members that came out to help.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years from the FBYC Sailing School Committee.

- Jeff Blundell

Ships of Yesteryear

This is our final article on Ships of Yesteryear.....hoped you enjoyed the series.

With thanks to Bob Stobie who loaned his book "The Best of Sail" for this series of articles.

"The Best of Sail, 1977 Printing, Grosser and Dunlap, ISBN 0-448-11840-8"

THE " STAR OF INDIA."

LLOYD'S Register shows three well-known ships under the name of Star of India. The last of these, however, was the old New Zealand trader, Euterpe, renamed by the Alaska Packers' Association. She was an iron vessel of 1,197 tons, built at Ramsey Bay, Isle of Man, in 1863, and notorious as being the slowest sailer in Shaw Savill's fleet. In the 'nineties she was bought by the Chilians, and from them she went to San Francisco to form one of the salmon canners' fleet.

The other two Stars of India were both launched in the same year, 1861. The larger of the two was a big New Brunswick-built full-rigger of 1,697 tons, which found her way to Liverpool and the ownership of W. Herron. This Star of India possessed a very unenviable reputation amongst seamen, for she was commanded for a time by the notorious Captain Bailey, about the hardest bucko and most unpopular skipper under the red ensign during the 'seventies and 'eighties.

We now come to the third Star of India. There is no doubt that this Star of India was by far the finest of the three ships, the best built and the fastest sailer. Launched in July, 1861, from the well-known yard of Stephen at Dundee, she was frigate-built, a superb wooden

passenger ship intended for the first-class Indian trade, where she at once took her place amongst the famous Blackwallers.



*"Star of India"
Built 1861 Blackwall Passenger Ship*

Her owner, Joseph Somes, was one of the biggest and most successful shipowners of the first half of the 19th century. He began his career as an India husband, that is to say, he owned East Indiamen, which were taken up and employed by the Honourable East India Company.

When the H.E.I.C. charters expired, Joseph Somes bought the pick of their ships—such superb Indiamen as the Earl of Balcarres, Thomas Coutts, Lowther Castle, George the Fourth, Abercrombie, Robinson and Java. This last, by the way, is still to be seen swinging to her moorings among the coal hulks at Gibraltar.

These big East Indiamen were replaced in course of time by a succession of smaller ships, such as the Europa, launched in the Thames in 1851 ; Merchantman, a Sunderland-built ship ; Canning, built at Moulmein ; Eastern Monarch, the pride of his fleet, which was built at Dundee in 1856 and burnt at Spithead, when just arrived home with troops in 1859 ; Tyburnia, Glasgow-built, a very well-known ship in her day ; Dartmouth, built

by Stephen in 1859, and the Peeress, built the same year at Sunderland.

Then, in 1861, the Star of India was added to the fleet. She was built of ten and twelve years' material and classed fourteen years A1. Her registered tonnage was 1,102 gross and 1,045 net ; whilst her measurements were : length, 190 feet 4 inches ; breadth, 34 feet 2 inches, and depth of hold, 22 feet 1 inch.

In appearance the Star of India was a typical Blackwaller, with built-out quarter-galleries, big stern windows, long poop, and much-cluttered-up main-deck. Her plain sail area was a moderate one, but large stunsails and other flying kites added a knot and a half to two knots to her speed in favouring winds. The Star of India was, of course, painted Blackwall fashion, black topsides and white strake, black masts and spars, except for white lowermasts, bowsprit, boom and gaff and doublings. This was strictly in imitation of the Royal Navy, and the boats also were painted Navy fashion, black topsides and white bottom. On her maiden voyage the Star of India sailed for Calcutta direct from Dundee, under the command of Captain H. Morris.

Her best-known commander, however, was Captain C. Holloway, who had her for over ten years. With the opening of the Suez Canal, most of the Blackwall passenger ships, which had been carrying passengers and troops to India and back, round the Cape, were driven out of the trade by the P. & O. steamers using the Canal. Luckily for their owners, the beginning of the 'seventies found the Australian and New Zealand emigrant trade booming, and most of the London passenger ships were at once transferred to this run.

On her first New Zealand voyage the Star of India sailed from London for Lyttelton on September 26th, 1873, with three hundred

passengers in her 'tween-decks, consisting, according to one of them, of a very mixed lot of English, Irish, Scots, Swedes, Danes, Germans, and even Poles and Russians. Most of these emigrants had never seen blue water before, and when the ship ran into the usual gale in the Bay of Biscay, seasickness and fright added to the homesickness of the passengers.

After a steady, successful life under the red ensign, the Star of India was sold in the 'eighties to Captain Michelsen, of Sandefjord, and for the next half-dozen years she voyaged to and fro across the Atlantic barque-rigged and timber laden.

She eventually went the way of so many of the old British wooden ships which were forced in their old age to earn a hard living under Norwegian colours and a windmill pump ferrying lumber across the stormy Atlantic.

Star of India was abandoned in mid-Atlantic in 1892, but she remained afloat for some time, being sighted to the South of the Line by the barque Criffel, which was bound out of Iquique from Cardiff.

No sadder end can be imagined for a fine ship than to become a derelict, drifting on the ocean currents, a lonely object, garbed in weed and tatters, helpless yet menacing, a terror to her sisters, until, at long last, the day comes when a slow dive to Davy Jones's locker spell: " Finis."

Steward

The last few days have shown that we are in the midst of winter now...even though it is still technically fall.



Christmas is just around the corner now. The following are the Regatta Bar hours for the holidays.

Friday, December 22nd - bar from 7:00 P.M.

Friday, December 29th - Closed - the only closure for the holidays

Friday, January 5th - bar open from 7:00 P.M.

The Entertainment Committee and Junior Sail are coming up with some events during the winter. Keep an eye out for details.

Merry Christmas everyone! Hope to see you at the Commodore's Levee - January 1, 2018!

Cheers!

- Maureen Tutty

Upcoming Events

Social Events

Every Friday Night (7:00 pm) - Pub Nights
in the Regatta Room
- closed December 29

Entertainment

Monday, January 1 (2 pm - 5 pm)
- Commodores Levee

Friday, January 19
- Euchre Tournament

Sunday, February 4 (TBD)
- SuperBowl party

Club Business

Saturday, January 6 (1:00 pm)
- Long Range Planning Meeting

Monday, January 8 (7:30 pm)
- Executive Meeting

Monday, February 12 (7:30 pm)
- Board Meeting

Monday, February 26 (8:00 pm)
- General Meeting

Yoga

Saturday, February 10 (9:15 to 4 pm)
- Retreat

PARA

Thursday, January 18 (7 pm)
- Meeting

Sunday, January 28
- PARA Course

Tuesday, February 6 (1900-2130)
- Para Course

Tuesday, February 20 (1900-2130)
- Para Course

In the News

Following the 2017 World Sailing Annual Conference, World Sailing has made a number of rule changes to the 2017-2020 Racing Rules of Sailing, effective January 1st, 2018.

These rules directly affect: Definition Party, rules 63.1 and 64.4, while also adding a new rule 63.9.

More details about the changes and corrections can be found on the World Sailing website, [here](#).

If you have any questions concerning this update, please contact World Sailing at rules@sailing.org



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