

BEACH DIRT

The official newsletter of
TORONTO WINDSURFING CLUB
P.O.Box 534, Toronto, ON., M3C 2S2
[www. Torontowindsurfingclub.ca](http://www.Torontowindsurfingclub.ca)

SUMMER 2006



Bill Mackenzie at Cherry Beach, April 26, 2006
Finally...a windy season!

COMING TO TWC!

Sept. 9 - OSA Regatta #3
Sept. 10 - 24th Mammoth Marathon
Nov. 4 - Annual General
Meeting/Dinner Dance
Speed Sailing

INSIDE

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GONE HIGH WIND SAILING 2006...MARGARITA! HATTERAS!...CHERRY BEACH?

Yes, all you skeptics and naysayers...Cherry Beach! April and May's cool spring weather blessed Cherry Beach sailors with more than the usual quota of easterlies and south-westerlies warming the hearts (if not the toes and fingers) of TWC's shortboarders! June and July have seen a parade of fronts bringing the best winds in recent memory to S. Ontario! (Maybe a silver lining in the global warming cloud?) The photo on the cover is TWCer Bill Mackenzie setting up for a gybe close to the beach on April 26. Although the winds and teeth chattering temperatures seem a distant memory in June and July's heat, it's been a great first half to the season! The great winds are also part of the reason this newsletter was started in late April and is only now getting to you. Your newsletter editor's contract includes a 12 knot plus clause...12+ knots and your editor goes sailing which I've done many times this spring/summer! Sorry for the delay...have a great rest of the season!

Bill



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

There was some concern and anger expressed over the film shoot, which took place at the end of July and caused the closing of the club. I apologize for the inconvenience, but want you to know that we tried our best to disturb the running of the club as little as possible. We did have a club member present on the grounds, throughout the days of filming to try and accommodate those wishing to sail, by opening containers and attempting to help with temporary storage of equipment. By accepting the filming contract, we thought that we could raise extra money to help in the funding of some of our projects.

The Toronto Windsurfing Club has a very good relationship with the city, in that we are open to the public and have no fences to keep people out. We share our rented space willingly with the people of Toronto and we count on our openness to guarantee the club's future, in our chosen location.

A few of you had questions as to how the filming would affect our lease with the city. We have recently signed a 20 year lease with Parks and the only way that the city will allow a sailing club to "sublet" the property is by means of a movie shoot. The raising of extra money by the club will not affect our property rent. All of the sailing clubs operating on city property, are billed at the same rate per hectare and this rate is stated in our lease agreement.

The Board of Directors will try its best to spend the income from the movie shoot in a way that benefits the whole club.

Again, I do apologize for any inconvenience caused and I appreciate your comments. It is good that the Board of Directors hears from its members. We are only human and we do struggle to do what we think is best for you and the TWC.

Thank you,

Jon Matthews (president)





IN THE WIND

WORLD CUP COMES TO TWC in 2007!

Well, not quite, but Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation (TWRC) will build sports playing fields south of Unwin Avenue and west of Regatta Road, to be completed sometime in 2007. TWRC explains these playing fields as interim facilities to fill the need for soccer fields until Commissioners Park (between the Ship Channel and Commissioner Street) is completed in 2016. The fields will be somewhere in the area where the small petroleum storage tanks used to be at 150 (south side?) of Unwin. Lower pics are Unwin Ave. before and after.

COOKING WITH (NATURAL) GAS!

In response to the Government of Ontario's direction to provide more energy for the GTA, TransCanada and Ontario Power Generation have entered into a partnership to develop a 550-megawatt natural gas-fuelled power plant called the (PEC) on the Hearne coal fired generating plant site, on the north side of Unwin Avenue, east of Regatta Road. Originally envisioned as a shared energy facility which would sell steam generated from the combustion heat to Toronto businesses to use as building the heat, PEC will exhaust extra heat into the waters of the Outer Harbour.

Opponents of the plan worry about the additional air pollution and impact on the water ecology in the Outer Harbour while some Outer Harbour sailors point out the fact that some OHSF clubs chose to locate on the north shore of the Outer Harbour to take advantage of the warmer waters!

HERE WE GROW AGAIN!

President Jon Matthews recently managed to negotiate with the City, the placement of additional storage containers on the site. This will allow storage boss Jerry Caplan to release some new storage spaces to storage hungry members. Talk to Jerry if you're interested.

With future growth in mind, Jon has also alerted the City to the fact that we will ask to lease a larger area of land

BEACH SAFETY FOR A BUSY BEACH!

A windy season, an ever more attractive site and busy programs have resulted in unprecedented traffic on TWC's lawn/beach. On many occasions, the clutter of sails and boards have made it impossible to walk in a straight line anywhere on the lawn. The 'clutter', much of which is avoidable, presents a significant hazard, especially if rigs and boards are not positioned safely.

1. Put your board/rig away as soon as you're finished sailing.

If you leave your rig/board on the beach/lawn

2. Whenever possible, leave your rig and board attached...both are far less likely to take off in gusts.
3. Position rig and boards relative to wind so that they are least likely to take off. Generally this means board nose facing the wind, and rig (still attached to board) angled down wind. If you're not sure how to do this, check what the 'pros' are doing or ask. Sincere questions are not stupid and the person you ask will be flattered you asked.
4. Position fins down...sticking into the sand or grass if possible...they're less likely to puncture other people and other people's sails AND they tend to anchor your equipment.
5. Never leave an unrigged sail unrolled on the ground without some weight on top of it. Don't leave your rigged monofilm sail in the sun on the grass...it burns the grass and shortens your sail's life by the number of hours you leave it in the sun.
6. Tactfully remind members who forget about Windsurfing Beach/Lawn safety.

In a recent general e-mail to members, we reminded members that windsurfers bear the primary responsibility for their own safety. Windsurfers are also responsible for the safety of fellow sailors and beach creatures. (We share the beach with our pets!)

Safe sailing!

TWC Board of Directors





24th Annual Mammoth Marathon

Around the Toronto Islands Windsurfing Race

Sunday September 10, 2006

(Part of Mammoth Race Weekend)

Registration fee \$25 includes lunch and great prizes!

Three races available

- Learn to Windsurf
- Short Course (around the Outer Harbour)
- Around Toronto Islands (15+ miles, tricky sections...not recommended for beginners)

Event t-shirts for \$10.

9.00 am to 10am Registration

Rigging frenzy

10.30 am Skippers meeting

11.00 am General start

11.15 am Learn to windsurf start

12.30 to 3.00 pm Lunch

4.00 pm Awards and prizes



Learn to Windsurf races on Mammoth Marathon Sunday, Sept. 10th (Tom Mae)

Again this year, there will be a Learn to Windsurf(LTW)race on Mammoth Marathon Around Toronto Islands race day (Sept 10). LTW students will be able to reserve any board/sail from the LTW program by speaking to an instructor.

In preparation, LTW staff will present Mammoth Marathon race tips on Sept. 9, the Saturday prior to the race. LTWers may want to do the Outer Harbour (short) course in front of the club instead of the Learn to Windsurf Race.

Fun races are a great way of honing windsurfing skills as sailors must go around specific marks to complete the course. Sailing around specific marks both upwind and downwind will truly test what has been learned. It is a great test of windsurfing abilities! This is a fun filled day with lots of great prizes for all and I encourage you all to come out and sail in one of these races, or at least cheer on those that do!

Five

BLASTING AWAY IN MARGARITA ville (...hum bars from Jimmy Buffet tune with almost same name) (Wes Skronowski, Chris Kuryllo reporting)

Over a dozen TWC members and friends got the 2006 season off to an early start in Margarita in March; some for a week but most for two weeks. Temperatures were tropical as is to be expected and Margarita delivered with its renowned March winds. Trip participants came back raving about the time they'd had, the wind, the busy almost crowded windsurfing community in El Yaque, the inexpensive prices, and gas at 7 cents a litre! (ironically, no place to go) Keep in touch with the 2006 trip group and watch the website to learn what's brewing for 2007. 2006 Margarita tripper Mike Chupricove is working on renting a floor in a beachfront villa, raising the possibility of a Hatteras style common house.



Photo Chris Kuryllo

Pirate Pilot Graham low flying!



Photo Chris Kuryllo



Photo Chris Kuryllo

Ear to ear wind grins!



HATTERAS CAPERS 2006

(Bill Quantock reporting)
Participants in the 2006 version of TWC's Hatteras Caper enjoyed warm temperatures, a variety of winds and the usual camaraderie and cuisine! Week one provided warm temperatures and good shortboard winds early in the week and even warmer but less windy days later in the week. Week two brought a warm beginning followed by a cool, windy end to the week this year. Over forty TWC members and friends enjoyed Hatteras sun, wind, and casual ambience. No one managed to get marooned this year, unless you count one member's mini-van. The tow truck carrying my mini van to the repair garage got stuck in the sand driveway... and managed to dig itself in up to the axles! Refunds bought this year's accommodation costs to \$240/person/week. We've already reserved the same houses and dates for next year and since Easter weekend comes one week earlier in 2007, we may rent one house for the earlier week. Applications for the 2007 trip will appear on the website in late September.



Photo Bill Quantock



Photo Simon Milne



INSTRUCTION

FIRST KIDS CAMPS WERE A BLAST! (Ian Matthews reporting)

In mid July, Toronto Windsurfing Club played host to two weeks of kids camps. In total, 22 students aged 12-16 participated in the club's first annual kids camps. These camps were organized by Andree Gauthier and taught by Simon Rickard, Paul Carr and Ian Matthews. The first week brought less than perfect weather, with a mix of thunderstorms, heavy fog and no wind.

These storms forced us to be creative, coming up with games like 'Simon Says', Windsurfing Ultimate Frisbee and Capture the Flag on boards, allowing us to work on balance. We did, however, manage to get on the water between thunderstorms, with the kids catching on quickly. On only the second day, they were working on freestyle tricks, including a few duckgybes and a body-sail 360 inside the boom. Although some of these were admittedly accidental, it was clear from early on that the guys had talent and were having a good time.

Even with the poor weather, everyone had a blast in the first week, with four students returning to participate in week two. The second week's weather proved much better as we were able to sail all but one day during the week. We even got a number of the students to come out for Wednesday night racing. Both weeks were a blast, with the instructors having easily as much fun as the kids. We are looking forward to possibly expanding the program in the following years in an attempt to bring more young people to the sport.

Thanks Ian, Simon and Paul...you're all great ambassadors for the sport!



Photo Tom Mae



Photo Tom Mae



BEGINNERS' TIP – THE RESET BUTTON! (Simon Rickard)

Throughout the summer(s) I've come across difficulties that students encounter while trying to learn our unique sport. From foot position to harness lines, I've heard it all, but one magical manoeuvre has the ability to fix many problems. The "Neutral Position" or "RESET BUTTON" has come to be the friend of many surfers. This action can bring board and sail from any position back to a set position every time and allow one to "restart" on the water without getting off the board.

To do so, one must first place their front hand on either the mast or the uphaul rope and keep it straight up while standing on the board, the back hand rests in the air awaiting its next command. This will bring the board 90 degrees (perpendicular) to the wind and make your sail hang downwind of you. The board will come to a rest position at which point you can decide whether it's time to go again. Once ready, place your back hand on the boom and pull it in to accelerate and go. This manoeuvre can be done in any wind and allow time to improve with minimal frustration.

Small tricks like this help a lot in learning to windsurf. Go out and try new things! You never know...you might even find a new trick to keep the wind at Cherry Beach!

CHOOSING A FIRST BOARD (Tom Mae)

New windsurfers often ask how to choose a first board. For new windsurfers sailing in light winds and gradually progressing to stronger winds, a board between 160 litres and 250 litres is recommended. There is an old rule of thumb for choosing a board for lighter winds. For each pound you weigh you allow one litre of volume. Therefore a person weighing 160 lbs could consider a board with 160 litres or more and a person weighing over 200 lbs will need a board with over 200 litres for fun light wind sailing.

A wide, stable board allows concentration on learning to control the wind with the sail without worry about falling off the board. (Using a smaller sail that you control, rather than one that controls you, is essential)

A kick-up centre board gives better windward performance, and can be retracted when the wind picks up and the fin takes over. The ability to handle stronger wind conditions will come with practice, which is really fun!

Typically, 160 litre+ boards have a retractable centreboard. Once a sailor has progressed to the point that they can sail fairly well upwind without a centreboard, there will be more boards from which to choose.

Weight is a factor and you will need either a board that will hold you above the surface of the water, or enough wind/sail-size to get you moving onto the surface. It takes a bit of time to be able to handle the larger sails (7.5 to 12 metres) that many windsurfers use today.

Board weight is also a consideration, if you want to be able to lift up and put your board on your car's roof racks without help. The lighter the board the greater the cost. Consequently, also it becomes more fragile and must be handled more carefully.

You are best to choose a board for your abilities and the predominant conditions you will sail. For example, in Maui winds are stronger and steadier than in Ontario, so board and sail sizes will be smaller in Maui than here. Many people who have sailed well on an older style longboard of 220 litres or more, move to a board of 120-140 litre size and find they are no longer having fun. This problem might be solved by buying a 180 litres to 220 litre or more board (depending on sailor weight).

It's always best to try a board before you buy one. Thanks to Silent Sports, Toronto Windsurfing Club has a few premium rental boards available for practice students to try. Ask your instructor about them, next time you come in.

One board will get you going, but as you get more into the sport of windsurfing, you will want different boards and sails that suit the conditions of the day. You may end up with one all round board for light to medium wind (suitable to teach friends and family), and a second or third board, for stronger wind!

For more help in choosing your first board see; ["Your First Board"](#), Start Windsurfing insert with July 2006 Boards magazine, ["Picking the Right Big Board"](#), Windsport magazine summer 2006,



A racer grows...Ian Matthews on 3m, 4m and 11m sails



New instructor Andrew at work.



Shortboardin in May

LOCK AND ROLL SECURITY AT TWC...EVERYONE'S JOB!

TWC has become Canada's busiest windsurfing club with around 500 members and the public using the site. With so many people, security can be a problem. 2005 and so far 2006 have been good years with little damage or vandalism. Let's keep it that way!

Everyone of us must be part of the solution;

If you're putting your stuff away in your trailer and don't see anyone around, holler that you're going to lock trailer 'X' and if no one protests...LOCK YOUR TRAILER!

If you're last to leave the site, CHECK THAT NO TRAILERS HAVE BEEN LEFT OPEN, CHECK AND LOCK THE CLUBHOUSE, THE WASHROOM AND THE GATE!

Lock and roll!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT RAINBOW FLEET EXPLAINED

Did you know there are at least four races going on each time the starter's signal begins a Wednesday night race? That's right...four; a Gold Fleet race (expert sailors with proven track records) Red Fleet race (for seasoned racers working towards the top) Blue Fleet race (for racers with some experience) and White Fleet race (racers in their first or first couple of years of racing)...so if you're wondering about trying racing and having to battle some of Canada's best light wind racers, you start racing against others just like you...the White Fleet.

Race boss Paul Carr (and present Wed leader) has completed tentative 2006 Rainbow Fleet assignments (Paul's decisions are based on previous racer record and experience) and we've included the top five in each fleet as of race 35 (August 15, 2006). Way to go guys and gals!

Points are awarded according to finishing position (eg. First scores one point and tenth scores 10... and low score is best) You can check Wed race results on the racing pages at www.torontowindsurfingclub.ca

TENTATIVE 2006 RAINBOW FLEET PLACEMENT

Ranking as per as of August 15, 2006.

GOLD	RED	BLUE	WHITE
Paul Carr – 27	Jon Matthews – 86	Tom Mae* - 143	George Eastman - 258
Ian Matthews – 44	John Darling – 101	Chris Hope (G2) – 162	Gander Tawaststjerna – 312
Nick Cox – 47	Bill Quantock - 116	Duke Duyck – 184	Colin – 440
Mike Keltz – 50	Jerry Caplan - 118	Paul Fish – 273	Jason Mednick – 488
Andre Gauthier - 79	Steve Hill - 120	Mike Chupricove (G11) - 317	Julia Chabanyuk - 494



SPEED SAILING AT TWC (and beyond)

So, you were sailing really fast huh? Seemed like you were going almost as fast as Finian's record 48.70 knots? Well, here's a chance to see how your speed stacked up against speedy sailors from TWC ...or the rest of the world for that matter! Wait for a windy day, set your GPS to record max. speed in knots, sail very fast, and e-mail your results (Speed in knots, Sailor name, Date and Location, Board and Sail, Verification [TWC Board Member, TWC member, friend you paid or no verification]) to Bill Quantock ibillyq@rogers.com

We'll update TWC's Speed Sailing page

(http://ca.geocities.com/ibillyq@rogers.com/speed_sailing_at_twc_explained.html) by posting results submitted on the Speed Sailing page once a week. At the end of the 2006, we'll award the Christopher Hope TWC Ontario Speed Sailing Cup to the fastest TWC sailor. Results submitted must be achieved after July 15, 2006 and cannot be results achieved prior to this date.

Nick Cox, Chris Hope, Eric del Junco, Bill Mackenzie, Bill Quantock, Keith Whiston, Igor Renkas and occasionally instructors Ian or Simon all have GPS units and may be coaxed into loaning them if you promise not to go faster than they do. TWC will purchase club GPS units to facilitate Speed Sailing activity and these will be available for directors, Simon or Ian to sign out/in for you.

For an idea of how other organizations handle speed sailing, visit Montreal Windsurfing Association at http://www.apvm.ca/club_gps.html (polish your French skills!...our neighbours from down the river show 61.7 km/h [33.29 knots] as their top speed!), Boards Magazine Speed Sailing Ladder <http://www.boards.co.uk/gps/>, Navman Maui Speed Challenge Series <http://www.maui-speed.com/> and check how TWC's own Norah Hunter (3rd Women's as of this writing) Ted Hunter (2nd Masters as of this writing) are doing!



PJ PHELAN FOUNDATION PUTS WIND IN RS:X PROGRAM AT TWC! (Jon Matthews reporting)

Last year, the 2008 Olympic board, the RS:X, became available for racers and several TWC members have already purchased one. Our RS:X fleet grew bigger very quickly in May this year!

Due to the generosity of the PJ Phelan Foundation, TWC now enjoys the use of two complete RS:X's with two rigs each for aspiring racers to train on and race!

The P J Phelan Foundation was established by CARA foods founder Paul Phelan and is now overseen by his son. In conjunction with the Canadian Yachting Association, it supports about 20 of Canada's high-performances sailors.

The Phelan family has had a long involvement in Canadian sailing. Paul Phelan was a past president of the Canadian Yachting Association. His son, Paul David Phelan, was on the national sailing team in the 1970s and was a top-ranked windsurfer in the 1970s and 1980s.

The fund was first established as the Helen and PJ Phelan Foundation and gave money to various charities. When P.J. Phelan died, his son dedicated the foundation to Canadian sailing.

Mike Keltz oversees the use of the Phelan RS:X's and has indicated that they will be lent to experienced racers for club or regatta racing. See Mike if you're interested. We are grateful to the Phelan Foundation for its generosity and look forward to having Paul David join us at the beach to sail the RS:X's!

RS:X?FORMULA?LONGBOARD? WHICH WILL RULE WED NIGHT RACING IN 2006?

On any given Wednesday night you will find TWCers rigging RS:X's, Formula boards and Longboards to do friendly battle in the Wednesday night race series. Sails vary from traditional raceboard 7.5's to 11+ m sails on the Formula boards with everything in between. Recently, the 2008 Olympic board, the RS:X has become a popular Wednesday night choice as young and experienced racers alike hone their skills at making this new breed go as fast as possible.

With the first half of the season finished, all three types of board have shown their strengths, with the RS:X, Longboards and Formula all having had their nights. Our prediction for the second half of the 2006 race season? It'll be great! So come on down and join the gang for racing and a barbecue any Wednesday night! See you on the start line!



DAVID HAYES COMPETES ON WORLD STAGE AGAIN!

TWC's own David Hates recently competed in the Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship which took place in Weymouth, Great Britain (the same venue which will be used for the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition) from July 12-21.

277 sailors from a record breaking 63 nations competed, 29 in Boys Windsurfing where David finished 11th in the RS:X class. Way to go Dave!

ONE OF CANADA'S BEST WINDSURFERS RETURNS TO ACTION

(Bill Quantock reporting)

On Saturday July 15, one of Canada's most competitive windsurfers thrilled TWC members with a talk on his career racing windsurfers. Murray McCaig grew up in Manitoba, learned to windsurf as a youngster on Lake Winnipeg and went to the Barcelona in 1992 as one of the favourites to win Olympic gold. His story of determination, endurance and dedication and the heart-braking accident in which Murray was hit by a police car while bicycling in the Barcelona Olympic village and unable to compete in the races enthralled TWCers and was an inspiration to all present. Thanks Murray and welcome to TWC and Wed. Night racing!



Photo Bill Quantock

Murray McCaig answers a TWC member.

Late August/September Windsurfing Calendar

August 24-27 Canadian National Windsurfing Championships at Kingston

- Windsurfing Canada - John Darling – fwdsail@idirect.ca

Sept 9 - OSA #3 Regatta at TWC – Jon Matthews – matthews_jon@rogers.com

Sept 10- 24th Annual Mammoth Marathon (around Toronto Islands Windsurfing race)

- Mike Tindall – mike@tindall.ca

Sept 15-17 - CMWA Fall Wrap-up and (Women's Clinic on 16) - Port Bolster

-Stephanie Todd - surfit@rogers.com

Sept 17 - last Learn to Windsurf classes

Sept 21 - TWC Hatteras 2007 registrations available on web page

- <http://ca.geocities.com/ibillyq@rogers.com/>

Sept 27 - last Wed night race at TWC

Oct 4 - Wed night race wrap up session location TBA

Oct 14-Nov 4 - CMWA Hatteras Trips to Avon, NC

David Culliford- d_culliford@hotmail.com

Nov. 4 - Annual General Meeting (TWC) and Dinner Dance (Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club) - advance tickets only



TWC's new boat 'Crib' out for its first run.

TRAILER DAYS AT TWC

Late in April this year, container boss Jerry Caplan and crew replaced some of the older, smaller containers at TWC. New interior framing and a coat of Sherwood Green were added so quickly and efficiently that by the end of May, one long time member and former president of TWC was hard pressed to identify which containers were the new ones! Our Learn to Windsurf program now has its own full sized container and new spots have been added to accommodate some of the storage waiting list. Congratulations and thanks to all who were involved in this improvement to TWC! Stay tuned for further planned improvements to the site!



Geez...I shoulda taken up windsurfing or powerboating!

GOOD TIMES AT BOARDFEST 2006 (Paul Carr reporting)

This year's Boardfest was another big success. We had 15 eager OSA racers going at it in gnarly NW wind conditions, with David Hayes emerging at the top of the pack. On Sunday, we had beautiful sunshine, moderate temperatures and more fluky NW wind. 70 members and guests turned out to enjoy the music and BBQ, and we even managed to get in some figure 8 slalom races late in the afternoon.

A big thanks goes out to all the volunteers that make Boardfest such a great event each year.

See you at Boardfest '07!

KUDOES ACCOLADES AND JUST PLAIN THANKS!

According to its mission statement, Toronto Windsurfing Club is managed by volunteers. Great things happen at the beach, mostly because of the volunteers in our club and great thanks are owed to the volunteers. We know we'll probably miss some outstanding volunteer effort (there have been many) but here are some (we hope most)

Thanks gang!

Jerry Caplan and team for the spring 2006 container upgrade

Luciano De Lellis of Pro Glo Paints [Pro Glo Paints](http://www.proglo.com) for generously supplying top quality paint free of charge for the painting of our new storage containers.

Andree Gauthier – vision and organization of our Kids Camps.

Alex Grigonis – general help and extra security during the night movie shoots

Marcus Hartmann – extending our parking area

Tom Mae and crew – website re-design and LTW re-vamp

Jon Matthews – organization of Ontario Windsurfing (CMWA pres., OSA rep, TWC pres...Phew!

Robert McNeil, who has spent much of his free time inspecting and repairing our storage containers and in particular ensuring that they are properly ventilated.

Bob Shuttleworth – scouting out and setting up the new TWC boat, firing up the lawn irrigation system

Mike Tindall and the spring cleanup volunteers who helped clean up our club site on May 6.