



# BCMS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2009

Happy New Year to Everyone,

I am sure that everyone is anxiously waiting warmer weather so that they can get out on the water. Hope everyone's boat made it through the heavy snow and windy days. Well almost everyone's! Check out the article from Tim.

-Stu and Gaby

## BCMS Christmas Party

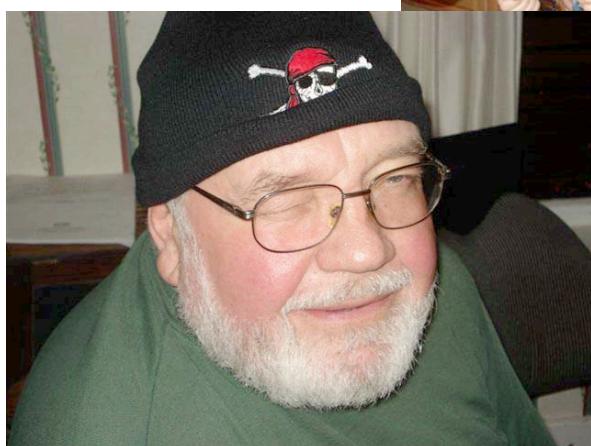
Thanks to Tami and John Harker for hosting the BCMS Christmas party. The food was great and everyone had a good time. The weather cooperated and we were able to walk down to enjoy the carol ships. We even had surprise guests, Garrett and Carly, who had just returned from 2 years of cruising on Lightwave. The highlights of the evening were a cello performance by David Harker and several brilliant songs written and performed by Tami.



*Our Hosts, Tami and John*



*Arrr....*



**The sad story of the MV "Minnow"**  
**By Tim Poustie**



*The 'Minnow' in better days*

**To all my friends in the BCMS,**

With a heavy heart I report that my little motor boat Minnow has been badly damaged. In October, after a good clean up and winterization I found a nice spot for her to spend the winter at my in-laws place in Langley. I carefully parked her next to the pole barn in which my brother in law parks his travel trailer. The thought was that if any of the many trees or branches up there fell down they would most likely hit the pole barn and not the boat. It was a bad call. With the heavy snowfall we had this winter the old pole barn was overloaded and fell over on the 27 of December, directly onto the Minnow!



The damage is pretty extensive; the entire house, helm station, seats and a good portion of the cockpit coaming is destroyed. Miraculously the deck beams held the load and there are no cracks in the hull or deck. She is not a multihull, but she has been a personable, unique and versatile little utility boat for my family for many years, both as originally built and recently as converted to a little sedan cruiser (and sometimes submarine, if it's rough enough).

We all run very unique boats that we have built, designed, modified, rebuilt, sailed, raced, and enjoyed. To a certain extent that is a common bond among us. There becomes an identity, and a responsibility of maintenance that comes with having a unique or rare boat, no matter what the design or building material. I will rebuild her, but it may be some time before you see this boat again. Flying Kiwi will be my new ride for the meantime.

-Tim Poustie

## Romany Cruising

By Richard Woods

As most of you know, we are not Canadians so we have to leave Canada at the end of each summer.

In May we bought one of my Romany cruising designs at a good price and in October we boarded the boat in Norfolk, Virginia for a winters cruise to the Bahamas.

As a shakedown cruise we sailed north to the Annapolis boat show. I first visited Annapolis over 20 years ago. Back then multihulls were considered lunatic fringe, even freakish, in the USA. 10 years ago when I first sailed the length of the east coast USA I saw two other multihulls. Five years ago we saw one every few days. Now they are everywhere. 20% of the boats anchored at Annapolis were multihulls and, later, as we sailed south; we usually had one in sight and nearly always shared an anchorage with another catamaran (rarely a trimaran). Of course the boats we see are the ones being USED, not just stored in a marina (where monohulls still massively out-number multihulls).

After 2 weeks and 400 miles sailing, we returned to Norfolk and joined the stream of snow birders heading south down the 1200 mile Inter Coastal Waterway (ICW). This runs along the whole of the east coast of the USA and allows cruisers to get to Florida from New York without ever going out to sea. It's nickname is "The Ditch". We prefer to call it the Icy W. That is because despite its latitude (pretty much all of it is south of San Francisco) it became bitterly cold whenever a cold front passed over us (one night we had ice on deck). The temperature would drop 30deg F or from 20C to 8C and often lower still. It was not since Alaska, 4 years ago, that we have sailed in weather that cold. So gloves, woolly hats and thick sweatshirts were our usual attire (sometimes day and night as Romany has no heater), even as far south as N Florida.

If you haven't sailed the ICW, imagine the Inside Passage south from Alaska, but without the mountains. I have read that the highest point of land on the US east coast is the 400ft high garbage tip outside New York. Certainly we seemed to pass through an endless succession of marshes, not to mention past expensive waterfront homes. The other main difference between America's east and west coast is that in BC it's difficult to find anywhere shallow enough to anchor. On the east coast it's finding water over 8ft deep that is the problem.

Romany needs a lot of TLC and was in desperate need of a paint job. But it wasn't until St Augustine (the oldest city in the USA) that we found a yard with a 20ft travel hoist where we could get hauled out. We then had 4 days of hard work, sanding the whole boat and painting it, not to mention hiring a car and driving 4 hours each way across Florida to pick up our new Dave Calvert sails.

And of course, as cruisers, whenever we have a car we use it to do laundry, go shopping for food etc. For that is one of the problems with the USA, if you don't have a car you cannot eat. All the food shops are miles from the water. In fact it was actually easier for us to buy food in the remote San Blas islands of Panama than in the USA.

Romany was re-launched on Nov 24th and we headed south again towards West Palm Beach, just north of Miami, to prepare for our crossing to the Bahamas. More on that next time.

You can see much, much more on our website [www.sailingcatamarans.com](http://www.sailingcatamarans.com). Go to the Latest News page and scroll down until you get to the Romany Cruising link.

**Richard Woods of Woods Designs Sailing Catamarans**

See more about his designs at <http://www.sailingcatamarans.com>

You can also email him at [woodsdesigns@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:woodsdesigns@tiscali.co.uk)

### **Tracks on the Water a new book by Robert Harris**

If you are interested in a copy of *Tracks on the Water*, Robert Harris's book about his life in Yacht Design, please contact Robert at 604-873-8761. Bob Harris is one of the pioneers of Modern Multihulls (and long-time BCMS member), with many innovative Multihull designs to his credit. This interesting book is about Robert's early life and the story of his yacht designs from the 1950's to the present. Stuart thoroughly enjoyed reading this book over the Christmas Holidays. The cost is very reasonable at \$15.00 per copy. If you are really nice, you might be able to talk him into signing a copy!

### **Malcolm Tennant**

Malcolm Tennant, multihull designer from New Zealand who designed Gilbert and Sullivan, passed away recently. Check the following link for the multi hull review article about Malcolm.

<http://www.multihullreview.co.uk/cms/?q=node/458>

### **Cow Bay**

2009 will be the 30th Anniversary of the Cowichan Bay Regatta and it would be great if we had a big turnout from the BCMS folks. We will have a cruising division if we have enough prior interest from Multihullers in the Northwest.

It is a great party and a great sailing venue (the best of the year) and it is always good to meet fellow Multihullers.

-Tim Knight

### **Upcoming Boat Shows and Events**

**Seattle Boat show** Friday Jan 23rd to February 1<sup>st</sup> [www.seattleboatshow.com](http://www.seattleboatshow.com)

**Vancouver boat show** Feb 4 to 8th

Tim Knight has informed us that Halsey Sails is giving away a free pair of sailing gloves for any quote provided at the Vancouver Boat Show. [www.vancouverboatshow.ca](http://www.vancouverboatshow.ca)

**Van Isle 360 race** is scheduled to run from June 6th to 20th. [www.vanisle360.com](http://www.vanisle360.com)

The **BCMS Port Browning Sail-in** will occur on May 16th to 18th.

### **Wanted**

Greetings from Reno Nevada! I am a new member and I just bought Colin's Smailes trimaran. She is available for a partnership or to purchase with financing? My goal is to keep the boat but I live in Reno so I need someone to take care of her. Here is an ad. 1987 10 meter Rodrigues open wing trimaran, loaded, heater, roller furler, diesel, autopilot, sleeps up to 4, new dodger, enclosed cockpit, 5 sails, fresh bottom paint, GPS, epoxy construction, Surrey slip. \$30k will finance but would prefer a 1/3 or 1/2 partnership

[multihuler@aol.com](mailto:multihuler@aol.com) 775 827 2786 Stephen Marcoe

*Next Meeting Date:*

**7:30 PM Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> @**

**Rusty Anchor Pub**

**Captain Cove Marina**

**6100 Ferry Road**

**Ladner, BC**

## **2009 Directors List**

**President:** Bob Davis ph: 604-583-9396  
Email: [bob.davis@kwantlen.ca](mailto:bob.davis@kwantlen.ca)

**Publicity:** Alec Mackenzie ph: 604-538-0917  
Email: [alec@arguscontrols.com](mailto:alec@arguscontrols.com)

**Past President:** John Harker ph: 604-940-7084  
Email: [mjharker@telus.net](mailto:mjharker@telus.net)

**Racing/Sailing:** Karl Uthoff ph 604-323-0122

**Vice Pres:** Jamie McKerrow ph: 604-596-1721  
Email: [mckerrow@questairinc.com](mailto:mckerrow@questairinc.com)

**Member-at-large and Mid-Island Rep:**  
Gary Astill Ph: 250-756-8998  
Email: [gastill@shaw.ca](mailto:gastill@shaw.ca)

**Treas:** Marlene Mackenzie ph: 604-538-0917  
Email: [alec@arguscontrols.com](mailto:alec@arguscontrols.com)

**Member-at-large and CBCYC Rep:**  
Glen McDonald ph: 604-940-8621

**Newsletter:** Gaby Kerr 604-534-7120  
Email: [sgkerr@telus.net](mailto:sgkerr@telus.net)

**Membership:** Stuart Kerr ph: 604-534-7120  
Email: [sgkerr@telus.net](mailto:sgkerr@telus.net)

*If you have not already done so it is time to renewal your membership  
for 2009*

*You can also renew online and pay with PayPal at  
[http://www.bcms.bc.ca/member\\_order\\_form.html](http://www.bcms.bc.ca/member_order_form.html)*

**THE British Columbia Multihull Society**

Box 101, 5010 – 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Delta, B.C. V4K 3N5

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL January 1 – December 31, 2009**



**PLEASE PRINT**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partner's Name (if Joining)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation** \_\_\_\_\_

\$35	\$ _____
\$ 5	\$ _____
\$25	\$ _____
\$2	\$ _____
\$15	\$ _____

**Total Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque     Cash     Money Order

I prefer NOT to have this information made public

**PLEASE UPDATE INFORMATION REGARDING BOAT:**

Trimaran \_\_\_\_\_ Catamaran \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Launched \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sail # \_\_\_\_\_ Construction or Mooring Location \_\_\_\_\_

Attached is a photo of my boat for the BCMS web page \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else?  
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