

COMMODORE'S 2008 MESSAGE

It's been sort of an up & down season from the weather point of view, really a cool wet spring, fairly good summer but with several important weekends rained out and a great fall.

The activities around the club sort of went up & down as well. In the spring we had a lot of work to do to get the marina and clubhouse up to speed. There were several projects started in 2007 that had to be finished up before we could properly open:

- Docks had to be taken apart & welded in the city,
- The ramp on the west side of the building constructed,
- Some finishing work on the accessibility ramp on the south side of the building
- A beam reinforcement under the new part of the upper deck was required,
- The walk way to the NW corner docks finished and
- The new boatlifts for the east side ordered delivered (with wrong parts) etc.
- New buoys ordered and a record number of buoys set out

For awhile we actually were glad for the poor weather because it gave us some extra time to get ready before too many boats came in.

Even so by early summer, despite the fact that we had two new managers, still on their learning curves, we thought we were going to have a great summer. Then on the July long weekend, things took a nasty turn for the worst & we were scrambling just to try & keep operating at an acceptable level. Even though we were lucky enough to get the Valley Girls Food Service to take over the lounge at short notice, our troubles were not over & we realize that we had some problems which led to less than optimum service & social functions in August.

However we survived the summer & have plans in place that we hope will lead to a great 2009 season. Our biggest challenge will be to ensure that we have the right people managing the Lounge next year. Given the bustling Saskatchewan economy, that may be a challenge.

We did have some high points this summer, as well. Demand for slips & buoys are at an all time high with the waiting list longer than ever, even though we had the most buoys ever put out. The high gas prices didn't seem to affect the boating activity too much & maybe by next spring they'll be a little lower?

Based on the numbers we have to date, we believe the club did fairly well this year from the revenue side but once again we spent a lot of money on repairs and maintenance around the clubhouse, marina & grounds and by fall we had to scale back a bit to ensure we had enough funds to make it through the winter & have start up money for next spring.

I can tell you that we will be having our Annual General Meeting likely in early-mid February and that there will be a number of vacancies on the Board of Directors, so if

you're energetic & have good ideas about how to improve RBYC , please consider volunteering for the Board.

With that brief update, I'd like to wish all members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year & we hope to see you at the AGM in February.

Doug Reid
Commodore