

TUG 20th Anniversary Boat Cruise

By Kumar Rajendra

What a day for sailing! Blue sky, warm weather, a majestic and romantic sail boat flying TUG marine flags, beautiful women and men wearing colorful outfits. Yes, we were celebrating TUG's 20th anniversary in style.

The concept was hatched at a TUG board meeting where the TUG board members unanimously voted to organize an event to celebrate TUG's 20th year in existence. We wanted it to be a summer event so that our membership and their spouses and friends could come together and enjoy one another's company. Keeping with the group's acronym "TUG" (as in tug boat), we decided to host an event that involves sailing. We searched around and we all once again unanimously fell in love with the look and feel of "KAJAMA".



Photos by Léo Lefebvre



Léo Lefebvre and I made a personal trip to KAJAMA to make sure it meets with our expectations. We formed a 20th Anniversary committee consisting of **Léo Lefebvre, Wende Boddy, Kimberly McNally, Jay Burford, Vaughn Dragland** and myself. We had monthly conference calls to discuss the details of the event. My hats are off to my fellow committee members, who despite their busy time schedules were able to spend time on planning this event.

Vaughn Dragland did the research and came up with the marine signal flags that spell T. U. G. He also arranged for the custom-made burgee with the TUG logo on it. Thanks to the captain of the KAJAMA, the marine signal flags and the burgee were allowed to fly high on the mast of KAJAMA for the duration of our cruise. Vaughn also designed the flyer that was sent with the TUG magazine as well as the e-mail blasts that were sent promoting the event.

As usual Wende Boddy organized all of the behind-the-scenes activities such as responding to ticket requests, decorations, registration etc. It was her idea to give leis to every guest that attended the cruise. It was amusing to see her walking around with those two spears (cake knives taped onto bamboo sticks with good old duct tape) that we later used to cut the cakes. Speaking of cakes, we even had three special cakes – each of which was decorated with an icing version of one of the TUG marine signals.

The staff of **Great Lakes Schooner Company** did an excellent job from the start. They were very professional and obliged to almost all of our requests. This was evident; as everyone on board would agree with me that the whole event was a huge success!



Photos by Léo Lefebvre



In the days leading up to August 17, the weather was somewhat unpredictable. This whole summer has been either muggy or hot or with heavy showers. However on that day (as if we had pre-ordered it) the weather was a beautiful sunny and calm summer evening. The captain mentioned as per the latest weather reports, that the conditions were ideal during the duration of our cruise. We even ordered a nearly full moon for the evening! As we promised in our flyer for dancing and dining under the stars we had the bonus of moonlight to make the atmosphere more romantic. We had good food and drinks and wound down the evening gazing at the Toronto skyline that was lit up like a Christmas tree, or admiring the reflection of the moon on Lake Ontario, or counting the stars that we city and suburban dwellers rarely get to see.





Sponsors are Special!

By Jay Burford

My wife Pat and I, along with our friends Aubrey and Betty Hicks have just returned from the TUG 20th Anniversary Cruise on the sailing ship Kajama. What a wonderful, dare I say “perfect” evening! With the faultless weather, beautiful scenery, and great food and music, the 120+ members, families and friends of TUG had a fantastic time. (See the accompanying article.)

Our thanks go to the TUG organizing committee, especially **Kumar Rajendra**, as well as to the staff and crew of the Kajama. However, an evening like this requires some really special people in order to be successful – our sponsors. In addition to TUG itself, we had some incredible support from two other companies:

First **Canon** printed our stunning colour advertising flyers with the pictures of the Kajama along with the map to its location. With their support we were able to get the word of this exciting evening out to our many members and friends. Thank you very much Canon, and we look forward to a long and enjoyable relationship.

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Next **i3** has been a great supporter of TUG activities. They subsidized part of the Executive Breakfast at our Annual TUG TEC last April, and then they funded one of the charity holes at the Annual TUG Golf Tournament in June. When we were looking for sponsorship for our 20th Anniversary Cruise evening, i3 stepped forward once again. We all thank you i3, for your on-going support for current events, and we look forward to your support for future TUG activities.



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Vaughn Dragland



Once again we thank all the members, their family and friends who attended the event, the excellent contribution by the organizing committee, the event co-sponsors **Canon** and **I3 Tech Group**, the draw prize contributors **Able One**, **Aon**, **Canon** and **Rogers**, the staff of Great Lakes Schooner Company and the crew of KAJAMA, for helping us make this event a memorable one. For me personally, I am reminded of this special evening every time the mighty KAJAMA sets sail – as my office overlooks Lake Ontario. I am also reminded that TUG is embarking on its own adventure – its second twenty-year odyssey.



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