

S U M M E R 2 0 1 6

# The Currents

Official Newsletter of the LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club

Editor, Dennis Paré



## Flowers Bloom

There is a flowerbed at the east end of the lawn next to the parking lot. This was planted some number of years ago as a memorial to one of the early members of LaSalle Mariners, Bill Pitt. Bill was quite active and well liked by other members. The first electrical services at the docks was Bill's project. After he passed away his wife offered to plant a flowerbed and be responsible for tending that plot. There was a plaque of commemoration when it was started that has weathered away over the years but the flowers still grow prolifically!



The Bill Pitt Memorial Garden

## Mariners Wildlife

We had our share of nests found on boats this spring as birds found convenient shelter in winter covers, on decks and even on propellers.



## Women's Sailing Adventure is Popular

The Women's Adventure is proving to be well attended again this year. This series offers novice female sailors a chance to learn the ropes of moving a boat with wind. A number of Mariners, both men and women, donated their time and their boats to see that our guests not only learned some sailing techniques but had a good time, one and all!



Brad Blackton's crew blast along!



Jz Dandy Zipping

## Summer Maintenance

Of course everyone knows that LaSalle Mariners is a member maintained club. There are no permanent employees. Our own members do most upkeep. Here we see the lawn mower man, Dutch (Patrick Holland), enjoying a sunny day in the fresh air and keeping the lawn in spiffy shape.

*Photo by Lothar Bauer*



## New Boats Appearing

This year we find boats that are new to LaSalle Mariners in our wells.



Above is P.C. Rob Ferguson with another new addition. Hard to say which is his baby. This J92 is 30ft. long by 10 ft. beam. The boat has a shoal draft keel. If you look carefully at the bow you can see what looks like a sprit sticking out. Actually that is a slide-out spinnaker pole for an asymmetrical chute.

**Navigators Note :** The buoy formally known as D82 in the Ballard's Reef channel has been renamed DFB. See our Course 3 and 4.

## Blessing of the Fleet ... Tradition Continues



The Blessing of the Fleet is a long-standing nautical tradition, which has been held for many years at our club. Being Mariners we have added our own little twist with the added feature of the "Dressing of the Fleet". In the photo to the left are Ann and Lothar Bauer winning first place in the Dressing competition. Note

Ann in her LaSalle mariners coordinated colours. Over 60 members and guests including the Mayor of LaSalle, Police and Fireboats attended.

*Photos by Lothar Bauer*





## Vice-Commodore's Report

Hello everyone. Summer is in full swing and the weather has been great! The Monday and Wednesday night racing is going strong and it's great to see so many boats out for the fun.

The unfortunate thing is that the weather hasn't co-operated every time we try to have a work party, and because of this there are still LOTS of things that need to be done around the club. So, I'm asking you to help me and our Roads & Grounds, Shawn, and step up. Volunteer to help him get some of the major stuff done. Our club is in great need of some repairs, and they need to be fixed before someone gets hurt. Our club is very busy with activity that we all enjoy and it would be terrible if there were an accident because of something we just neglected. Besides, what better time is there to do your work hours...while it is a warm and not cold and rainy!

Please contact myself (Val) at 519-980-8574 or Shawn at 519-981-9384.

## Past Commodore's Dinner

April 30



The Past Commodore's Reception and Dinner was well attended as family and friends gathered to offer our thanks to Robby Ferguson. It must have been a busy year for Robby with the demands of the commodore's position plus the many jobs associated with his own growing family. Robby is among only two families that have bragging rights that both father and son have held the Commodore position at the club.

## That Special Magic Lamp



*As told by the man of many stories, Ralph Allen.*

There is a sailboat mobile in the southwest corner of the clubhouse. Have you ever taken time to really have a look at it? Sherm Reuther, an early honorary member of L.M.Y.C., built this mobile sometime in the mid-seventies. It started out as a wind vane toy to be held with two hands. On the first try-out the mobile spun so fast that the sails blew apart.

Back to the drawing board. Sherm and Jüergen Hendel, a founding member, decided that converting it to an inside lamp made more sense.

The sailboat models on the mobile represented boats owned by club members of the day. The C&C 25 was Molly and Ralph Allen's. The Bonnie Sloop was Jüergen and Curly's. The two others, the small sloop and the 36ft. ketch were boats built and sailed by Sherm and Rita. The 36 ft. ketch was used for a race committee boat for our regatta once or twice. (Wow, a boat both built and sailed by one of our members. What a concept! Editor)



## Spring Clean Up

The photo below shows the hard working crew that showed up for spring spruce up at the club on Saturday April 9. Nippy weather with occasional snow flurries did not dissuade the workers from their tasks. The annual fill-in-the-pot-hole exercise is appreciated, I am sure, by every vehicle driving in and out of the club. As always our sea cadets were there to lend their helping hands. Breakfast by Blacktons. Yum!

*Photo by Lothar Bauer.*



## Andy K.'s Famous Chicken



Andy K. shared his delicious chicken and all were impressed at the Blessing of the Fleet pot lunch luncheon. Recipe is below. Enjoy!

- remove skin and fat from chicken and boil for 5 to 10 minutes. Boiling before BBQing keeps meat moist.
- let meat cool and apply paste, Tandoori or Curry mixed to taste with ketchup and oil. Also add Ginger or garlic for variations
- blend in a very small amount of red food colorant on the tip of a knife
- marinate for an hour or two and grill up the meat on the BBQ

Supplies from Indian store at 275 Wyandotte

## Name That Sanding Slave

Here's a photo to help remember that spring commissioning can be a bit messy at times! Here we see \_\_\_\_\_. Can you put a name to the person covered in the dust?

Hint: Initials are J.H.



## 😊 John Murphy Repowers



Rebuilding the 50 + year old Volvo Pent engine in Stewardship was a particular challenge as most of the parts are factory obsolete and not available. This model MD11C has proven to be a most durable workhorse over the many years and worthy of a serious rebuild. Initial diagnosis was that it was burning oil with a severe and unbalanced tick over. On teardown burnt valves and a marred piston were revealed. Searching far and wide we found good used heads on EBay, new valves in England (\$\$), and gaskets and piston rings in Greece ( not so \$\$). Of course, there was a list of supporting items that needed our attention in so many mechanical ways and voilà the engine is finished. *Trevor Sinclair*

*Retired Marine Mechanic*