

S U M M E R 2 0 2 0

# The Currents

Official Newsletter of the LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club



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## Ice Swan

Here's a photo from March 12 of a big swan standing on a submerged cake of ice. When you start to think it is just getting too hot pull this shot out and stare at it for a bit. Cool !

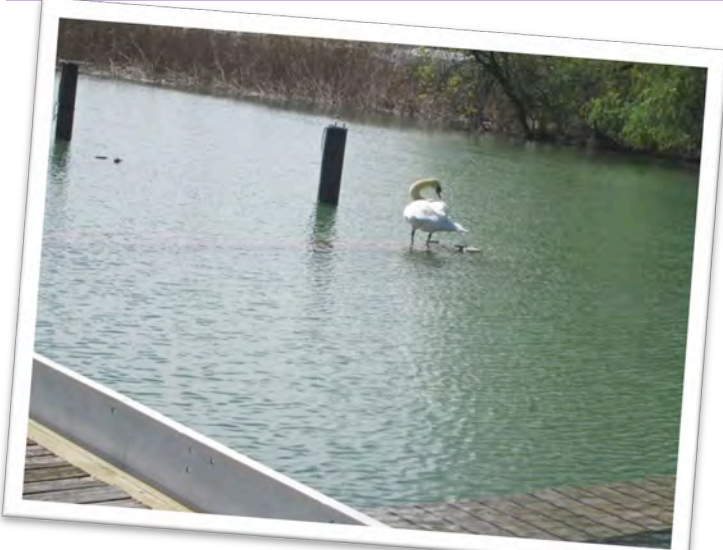


## Blessing of the Fleet, July 4

Upper left shows Ralph Allen with Padre Father Stan Fraser tiptoeing through the guano to get to the point. Lower left we see Frank Mamara half way up the mast to take his blessing. Lower right blessings for the remodeled clubhouse as Commodore Dave looks on.



Pictorial Report: LANDSCAPE and DOCKS RECONSTRUCTION



This has been a year of many trials for the LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club. Pandemic restrictions, high water and even a water main construction project that blocked entry to the club grounds on a number of days. Our club Directors have worked diligently to lead us through this maze of difficulties. One of the most challenging was the raising of the land and dock reconstruction on the south harbour. Above left we see a swan enjoying the flooded docks. Upper right there is work yet to be done but it is coming along. Left shows the raised docks and land approaches. All work was done most economically using the old walkways (leftover scrap pile on the bottom left). Improvised ground cover sheets made from used soybean bags (bottom right). Commodore Dave and Vice Com. Chris worked like Trojans.

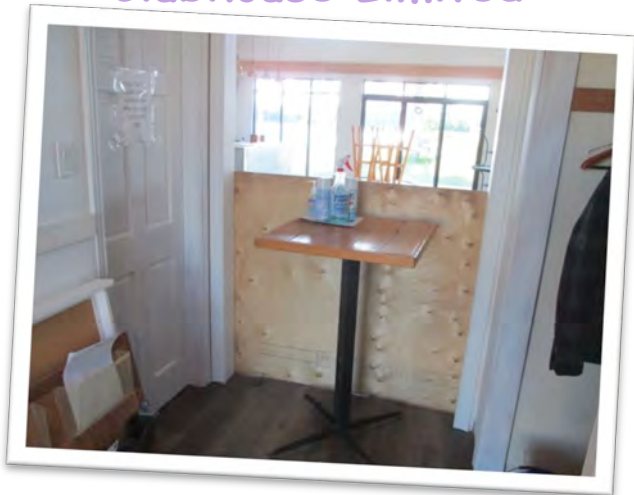


## Harbourmaster Update

The south harbour is in usable condition, after a lot of hard work from members. More improvements are slated for the fall. I'm asking those south harbour boat owners, those in the north harbour, to move over. I have set July 15<sup>th</sup> as the last day for launching. Any boats left in the parking areas will be moved to the storage area beside the garage. I've been keeping a watch on the weed growth, in both harbours, and it looks like there will be a work party formed, by the end of the month, to drag the harbours.

Brian Casey

## Clubhouse Limited



The shot above shows the hall to the clubhouse main room blocked. Access limited to the washrooms (heads) only. Better days ahead.

## Race Chair's Decision ???



Ralph Allen our spinner of special LaSalle Mariner tales comes with another.

What to do when Mother Nature takes over?

It's Shakedown, early 1970's. The race was started at the south end of Bob-lo (Bois Blanc Island). At the 9:00 Horn there were about 25 boats milling about at the start line. The air was very light but we were moving. By noon the Fleet had managed to advance somewhere between Colchester and Middle Sister Island. As R/C Chair and also racing my C&C 25 I had the prizes on board. What to do? I started the Iron Jenny and motored over to Put-In-Bay, arriving about 5 - 6 PM. The rest of the fleet toddled in behind me about a half hour later. Prizes, consisted of 24 bottles of wine. How to award these without any finishing boats? After much consultation, I -we- the L.M.Y.C. Brain Trust decided to take the entry forms and draw for wine. This was popular with the racers making a happy bunch as everyone won a bottle!

## LaSalle Fire Services Action



On the morning of June 30 the LaSalle Fire pumper truck wheeled onto the club property for an inspection and test of the dry hydrant. There is a large white and red pipe on the north side adjacent to the roadway. This pipe runs back under a dock and down into the canal. Its purpose is to supply water to the fire department pumper if and when they need such to fight a fire. Here we see the crew shooting out a stream of over 1000 gallons of canal water per minute to a height reaching 80 feet in the air.

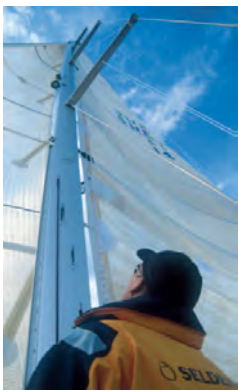
## Season Starter

This season is like no other in the fifty some years of LaSalle Mariners history. For a while this Spring it was in question whether we would have a sailing season at all. Things have improved somewhat and Flip Bergeron was ready to take the opportunity. In a flurry of quick effort he was the first to launch his boat this Spring earning the honour of the prestigious

"RUBBER DUCK AWARD"



## Good Reference



**HINTS AND ADVICE**  
on rigging and tuning  
of your Seldén mast

This comprehensive manual can be found on the web. It is a 90-page instruction for Selden mast tuning but any aluminum extrusion mast should follow the same procedures. It's free!

<http://www.seldenmast.com/files/1587561657/595-540-E.pdf>

## Eager Sailor



Above we see one of our newest members, Derek DeBono fitting out his classic Contessa 26. 750 examples were built between 1965 and 1990. Contessa boats were built in the Toronto area. Derek bought the boat two years ago and spent time and money to bring it back to the fine condition of today. These boats have amassed a sterling reputation as long distance cruisers. The boat features a full keel to keep her stiff and stable. Derek thinks the boat has a racing rating of 258 which should make it quite a challenge to overcome by class competitors.



**CLOSED ?**

**Once in a  
lifetime.**

**Let's keep that  
happy thought.**

## From The Social Director

Unfortunately, there are no social events planned at this time. I am hoping to be able to offer some event later this summer.

Mary Chesnick