

W I N T E R 2 0 2 0 / 2 1

The Currents



Official Newsletter of LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club

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New Board Elected for 2020-2021



Commodore
Chris Wysynski

Vice-Commodore
Jeanine Draper



Secretary
Marianne Burke

Treasurer
Tony Berends



House
Mary Jane Hutchinson



Race
Walter Argent



Social
Mary Nantais

Social Director's Note

I would like to wish all of the members a very Happy Christmas and better times in 2021. I wish I could give you a list of parties that we could enjoy but it seems we put one foot forward and two back.

Stay safe and healthy. Hope to see everyone soon. Mary

2021

Happy New Year

LaSalle Mariners River Rat Race 2020 Style



2 Photos Walt Argent



Photo from proud mom, Heather

Andrea Hill in the S2, Ginger, sends in some of her experiences for this event below.

“We had trouble with the Rat Race as we had a shackle come off the spinnaker when we were launching. It took a while to sort it out as it was fairly windy. We did try to get it flying again but we had to relaunch. Despite the problems the boat was quick and we had a great race. My boat does well in air and it did perform well aside from our spinnaker issues. I think the course was good considering we couldn’t do a normal course and it was great that we got to do the triangle at the south end of the course.

For 2021 I would like to upgrade a sail or two and have some projects on the boat such as rebedding the stanchions, and some other minor improvements. My crew and myself are very much looking forward to the 2021 racing season. Hopefully we will be able to cross the border safely and participate in our one-design regattas again as we have really missed this year. However, it has been wonderful to race at L.M.Y.C. considering the current pandemic situation. I am so grateful to Walt for making that happen for us.”

Heather Naysmith gives some of her thoughts on the River Rat Race below.

We had a beautiful sunny day for the Rat Race. The wind was up and down and very shifty. We had a beat to the turning mark. After rounding the final mark we popped our kite and sailed back to finish in front of the club. Top speed on the down wind leg was just over 10 knots.

We had a beautiful day and everyone was enjoying their own parties on their boats after the finish. Special thanks to the race committee. We had our newest member accept the Rat this year on behalf of Roadkill. Isla may not have raced this year but she enjoyed the after-party.



On the left here’s a photo of Andrea and her faithful crew from the warmer, happy, no mask, days of the 2018 regatta.

Race Director's Plans

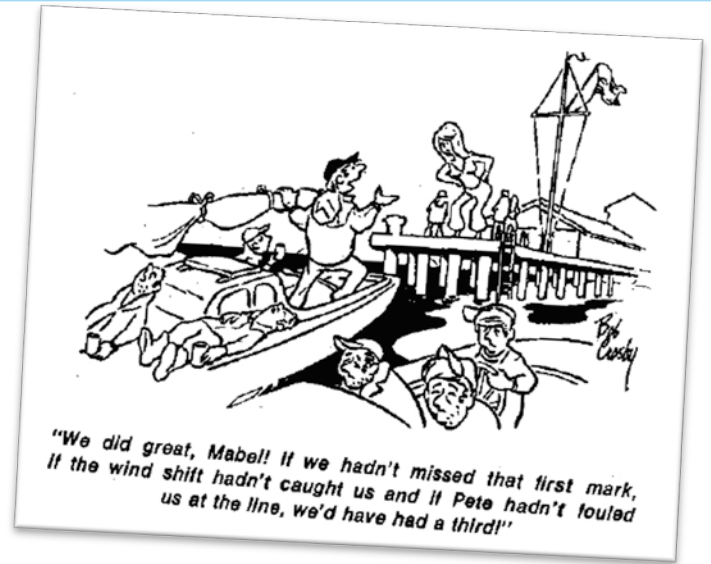


Well, Happy New Year and welcome to 2021. I am so glad to see 2020 in the rear view mirror and only looking forward.

As of now I am hoping to return us to our traditional racing schedule with 3 classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings. We will meet hopefully in March at the clubhouse to discuss the upcoming season and check out the latest in the 2020-2024 Rules of Racing publication. For 2021 we'll play it safe and stay in the Canadian waters beginning with Shakedown in May running over to Leamington. Pelee Island at the end of June. Regatta the last week in August. Dingy Regatta in September and River Rat in October. I think everybody was comfortable with the 2020 course design for the Regatta and River Rat so I'm planning the same for 2021. With luck we can be a little more sociable.

If you are new to the club or had the fortune of purchasing a new boat, please reach out to the Essex County PHRF (<https://ec.phrf.ca/>) to obtain a rating. We'll be on the water before you know it. Until then stay safe. Cheers!

walt



Reprint from the December, 1980 *Currents*

Hospice Race



This year's edition of the annual Race for Hospice was held on Sunday, October 4. Chris Wysynski convened the event hosting nine boat entries. The weather that day was grey and rainy with light breezes.

Brenda Morgan of Shark Bait brought in the top single effort amount, \$1,400. The real news for this charity-raising event was that the final total donated came to a tidy \$5,565.

In the photo above we see Christine Drouillard , in proper Covid mask attire, displaying the unique Hospice Race winning flag and trophies. To the left Chris is handing over a big cheque to the Hospice representative.

Bring Spring!



Here's a shot of the mighty Ratso, skippered by Dave Evans, hard on the wind, rail down, storming up the river on a sunny day. This should get the blood stirring for 2021 sailing season!

Got a postcard from St. Nick yesterday. He's in the Grenadines.



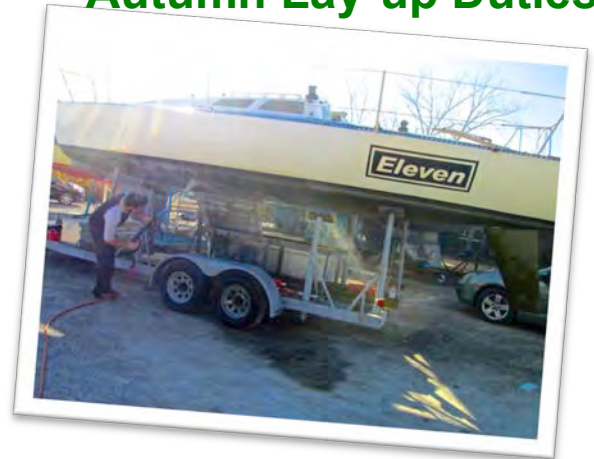
Christmas Tree Brings Memories

New Years is a time to reminisce on the past and the good times enjoyed at LaSalle Mariners. It's also a time to give thought to the future with resolutions and making plans for improvements.

Below is a photo from a while back, before the clubhouse remodeling. Santa came and there was many a jolly holiday party. Recalling good times brings a smile to your face and a spring to your step.



Autumn Lay-up Duties



Here we find photos of two of our club members carefully preparing their boats for the winter season.

Above Brian Dawes showers off the bottom of his Olsen 30. In the distant past (it seems) the club would hire in a crane to lift each boat out of the water and we would pay a couple of workers who had a power sprayer. Now we have a club lift and pressure washer. What convenience!

To the right we find Sarah and Justin Taylor carefully tucking a tarp around Kerry, their pride. This Viking 28 has served many a sailor with distinction.



Looking For Crew?

Many a skipper searches for good replacement crew in the off-season. The photo to the right we see three eager prospects just packing away their Christmas decorations.

