



Aerial photo – a view of LMYC – courtesy of the Essex Regional Conservation Authority



# The Currents

LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club  
2640 1/2 Front Road  
LaSalle Ontario, N9J 2N1

September 2012 Issue

## The Mission to Seafarers

Caring for seafarers around the world



**2nd Annual  
River Cruise Event**  
(in Memory of Herb Lajoie)  
**Thursday, July 19, 2012**  
**5:30 - 9:00 PM**

**Herb  
Lajoie**

**Gone but  
not  
forgotten**

**A special  
tribute**

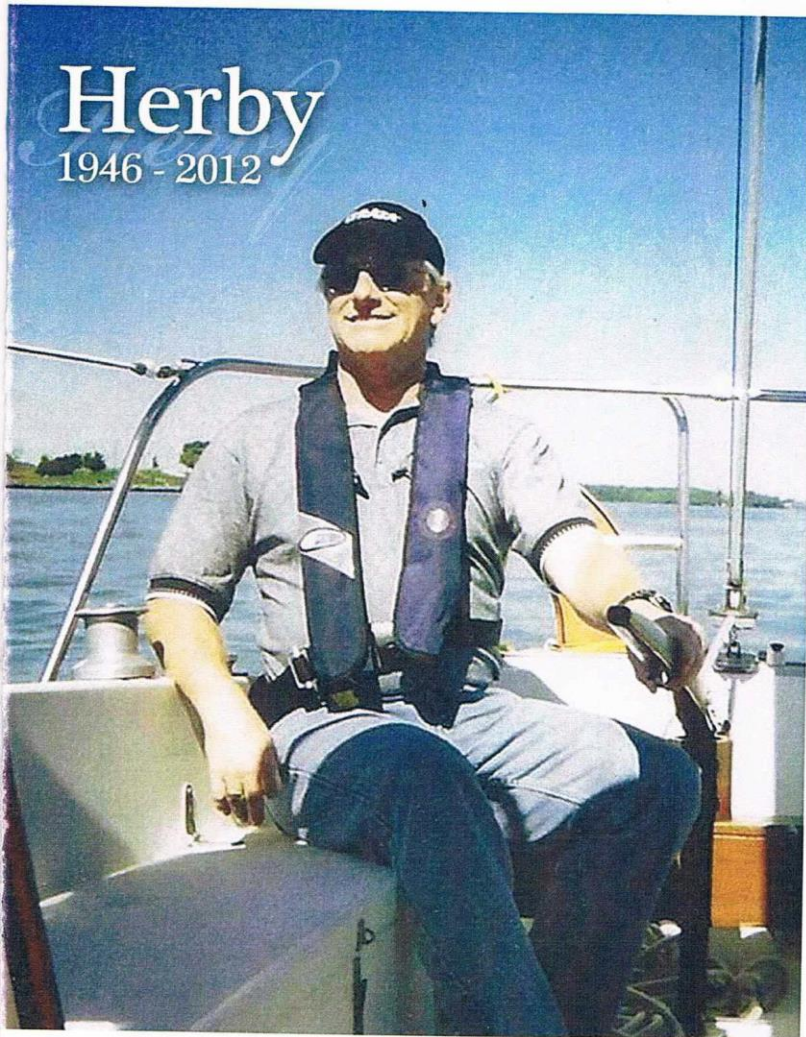
### - Upcoming Events -

**Hospice Race Sunday Sept. 9**  
**The Harvest Moon Race – SouthPort – Sept 15**  
**Disabled Sailing Event on Sept 22/23**  
**Kid's Hallowe'en Party Oct.20**  
**River Rat Race Oct.21**  
**Hallowe'en Party Oct. 27**



Commodore – Bob Reaume  
Secretary – Tony Berends  
House Director – Mike Tyler  
Race Director – Tim McWilliams  
Harbour Master – John Amyot Jr.  
Regalia – John Treacy

Vice Commodore – Dave Nantais  
Treasurer – Tom Smith  
Social Director – Barb Pare  
Cruising Director – John Murphy  
Road and Grounds – Rob Ferguson  
Newsletter Editor – Roger Renaud



Many of you may not be aware, Herb Lajoie and Dennis Pare, coupled with the help of other Mission volunteers, established the first 'Annual

River Cruise Event', and helped to raise over \$7,000 for the Mission.

Dennis solicited Herb to assist with the fund raising needs of the Organization. Herb being passionate whatever the undertaking, continued to go well beyond the basic volunteer responsibilities. Herb assisted in the delivery of packages made up of background information about the Mission, to a number of businesses. He was a bulldog and followed through to secure charitable funding to support the Mission's goals and needs.

Herb made such a positive impression on the Mission of Seafarer's Board that he was welcomed as a Board Member without hesitation. In recognition for his efforts, this past 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual River Cruise Event was held in Herb's memory.

The event was sold out.

Herb may be gone, but he will always be remembered.





## Herb Lajoie - Gone but not forgotten....



### Chaplain's Welcome

First of all let me thank you all for your great support of Mission to Seafarers, and for our second annual dinner cruise on the Detroit River. Mission to Seafarers has been a Ministry of St. John's for almost fifty years. It began informally as clergy and members of the parish visiting ships coming to the port of Windsor, but our work has evolved into a more formal Ministry.

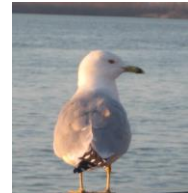
Our volunteers, Greg McCullough and Larry McLaren visit almost every ocean-going vessel coming to the Port, and they use our van to provide all sorts of services to the seafarers. Part of the reason for this cruise is to purchase a new van in a couple of years. But we also use this occasion as an opportunity to familiarize you with the variety of businesses and industries along the Detroit River. We are grateful to Windsor Port Authority, ERCA, St. Clair College alumni association, and to many others for their support and assistance. Many of you have acted as sponsors for this event and we would like to thank you deeply! Finally we offer our sincere appreciation to Herb Lajoie who organized last year's cruise with Dennis Paré. Herb died a few months ago, and this cruise is in his memory. We hope you have a most enjoyable evening.

*Rev'd William Bradley,  
Chaplain*

## The remaining 2012 Social Calendar

Hospice Race	Sun. Sept. 9
Disabled Sailing	Sept..22-23
Pursuit Race	Sept. 23
Kid's Hallowe'en Party	Oct.20
River Rat Race	Oct.21
Hallowe'en Party	Oct. 27
Haul-Out Breakfast	Nov.
Awards Banquet	Nov. 10
Tree Trimming Party	Dec. 7
Children's Christmas Party	Dec. 8
New Year's Eve Party	Dec. 31

**The Royal  
Canadian Legion  
is reserved for  
The Awards  
Banquet on Nov.  
10<sup>th</sup> Tickets will go  
on sale in October.**



## Sail for Hospice

A friendly reminder about the Sail for Hospice event this Sunday.

In order to keep the cost low and maximize the LMYC donation to Hospice, we ask everyone to bring a dish to pass.

LMYC has graciously donated the extra hamburgers and sausages from the Fighting Island Regatta. Hot dogs will be available as well. The cost for the meal will be \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12.

**A reminder to feed the duck!**







This picture was taken September 4, 2012 at Amherstburg. She was heading northbound in the Amherstburg Channel on her way to Detroit to celebrate the War of 1812.

## Report From The Social Director - Barb Pare

**Fighting Island Regatta on August 25** - There was a fantastic turnout of LaSalle Mariners as well as PHRP sailing clubs for the Regatta with a fair weather day. Thank you to Race Organizer, Tim and the Race Committee for a great race. LaSalle Mariners worked as a team to provide a memorable day for our guests. Thanks to the workers who got the grounds ready and the tiki hut built. People spent two days preparing the food and cleaning up. Our LMYC cooks did an awesome job barbecuing the sausages and burgers. We served over 180 dinners with proceeds from the day at \$1785. All the costs related to the food, kegs of beer, the band, porta john and the canopy have been paid from the dinner proceeds with only a small deficit of \$351.72. Positive comments were made about the musical tunes of Wayne, and Tim with guest singer Tim B. The Grey Duck provided the pop, water and ice for the Regatta.

### **Disabled Sailing Event on Sept 22/23 and Pursuit Race (on Sunday)**

Three fundraisers were held to help support this event. We had a 50/50 raffle, a cherry pit spitting contest and a draw for a gift basket. Thank you to Cramdon's and Yvonne McRobbie for donating the items used in the basket. Through everyone's generosity we made \$534.55 from the fundraisers. This money will be used to pay for the expense of hosting **The Disabled Sailing Weekend**, a first time in Essex County Sailing Venture For the Disabled Community. We will need LMYC support during the weekend. If you would like to assist as a volunteer please contact Tim McWilliams, Dave Nantais or Barb Pare.





Back in 1975, I bought my first boat. It was a Hobie Cat. I joined the Hobie Class Association and received a monthly newsletter. In one of those newsletters was this great poem which I've saved all these years. - Roger



## Desperata

Go placidly amid the screams and hails, and remember what peace there may be in the silence of starting 40 seconds late. As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all fellow skippers. State your protests quietly and clearly and listen to others, even the port tack boat with no overlap; they too have a story.

Avoid loud and aggressive starboard tackers, they are a vexation to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others ahead, you may sail faster, for always there will be someone with an approximation to the proper sail setting or someone who has sensed the slight wind shift.

Enjoy your clear-astern position as long as the boat ahead can't tack without fouling. Keep interested in the race, whatever your position, for someone up front might foul or capsize. Exercise caution at the start and while on a port tack, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere the water is full of starboard tack boats.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign bargaining. Neither be cynical about the person luffing you over the line, for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is perennial as the ebbing current and momentary calm.

Take kindly the counsel of the Race Committee, gratefully re-starting when over early. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you from the sudden loss of wind. But do not distress yourself with imaginings; you may be just luffing from trying to point too high at that seemingly unreachable mark. Beyond a wholesome discipline be gentle with your boat. You are a child of the regatta no less than the sail and power boats, you have a right to be there. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the race is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with the Race Committee chairman whatever you conceive him to be, and whatever your trials and perplexities of the race may seem, in the noisy confusion of the race or protest hearing, keep peace with your crew.

With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, racing can be beautiful ... Be careful. Strive to stay afloat.

Hobie Alder

## **From the archives.....**

### **The sinking of the Classic 22 aka Baby Viking**

Approximately 35 years ago.... Two intrepid sailors, Dale Souilliere and the author took this pretty little boat out for a sail on a blustery afternoon. Sailing along sprightly??? in what is now our starting area alongside Fighting Island, we were hit with a line squall knocking the poor boat flat. This squall persisted long enough to hold the gunwale underwater swamping the boat.

Since this boat had no bulkhead, she was completely open. Her flotation depended entirely on the bench seats we were sitting on. My partner Dale, at this point standing waist deep in a cockpit full of water on a sinking boat says...."Why are there bubbles, thousands of bubbles coming from our seats with an accompanying scream like a jet engine?" Dale and I, being sharp guys, determined that air was escaping from our flotation chambers- and therefore we were sinking!

We went bow down until the nose of the boat hit bottom. By this time Dale and I, being sharp guys, are standing on the transom, which is just awash. We travelled along with the current; two guys appearing to be standing on the water. For those of a religious bent, this would be a "pause for thought" especially considering who the two guys were. A "rescue" boat appeared, tied a life jacket to the backstay and dropped us ashore.

Having dried out, we headed out to find where the boat has come to rest. No life jacket to be seen. A fisherman noticed someone pick up a jacket. Do you believe it? Someone took our life jacket!!! The boat is gone! Not for long---- Ralph Allen and Carl Durham dragged an anchor for hours and finally hooked on the boat.

### **The Recovery.....**

After much discussion on how best to raise the boat it was decided to get a line attached to the bow. One of the Ferguson brothers dove down and recovered my wallet and fixed a line on the bow. Now a powerboat was brought on scene (Louis Mayrand). What excitement- many people involved- a true club project! The power boat gently applied power and as some predicted, the boat just crabbed sideways. No good. A second powerboat was brought out and secured at right angle to the first boat. Power is now applied to both boats. Finally this flotilla begins to move upstream. Now that there is movement, we no longer need the second boat to stop the crabbing action. What a sight!

Slowly the 22' footer is surfacing- first the top of the mast- then the spreaders shrouded in seaweed- then the deck, water streaming out of the cuddy. Looking for all the world like a hulk from some horror movie.

Now the towing angle has changed and lo and behold our boat begins to dive—all the way to the spreaders. Then the new angle puts her in the surfacing mode. Now we surface again. Like a porpoise, we slowly make our way up the river to the Durham, Allen, Clark canal (about 500 yards north of our club)

At this point, the boat is allowed to sink to the bottom—the line from the tow boat is transferred to the huge bunch of club members waiting on shore. The heaving on this line begins and to everyone's amazement the boat is being dragged on its side through the marsh onto the beach. Total club effort! Recovery complete!

Way to go LMYC!

By George Mooney



This picture was taken August 7<sup>th</sup> at Amherstburg heading northbound in the Amherstburg channel. She played a part in the celebrations of the War of 1812.