



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



## The Currents

LaSalle Mariner's Yacht Club  
2640 1/2 Front Road  
LaSalle Ontario, N9J 2N1

### October 2012 Issue

#### Commodore's Report

As most of you know we have had an exciting month of Sept. with the disabled sailing. It was such an exciting event! We do have plans to run it again next year. The short handed race and the pursuit race were held on the same weekend as well.

Time is starting to run out for sailing, we already had some boats take advantage of coming out early and others preparing to come out. The River Rat Race is on Oct 14th, and that is usually the last hooray for most of us.

We have two guests from Southport. Due to low water they were offered dockage with us for the next month. Lets make them as welcome as possible! I think we had a successful sailing season both in racing and fellowship at the club.

We are going to be hosting a get together with Park Haven Boat Club on Oct 5th, The Halloween Party is coming up, The Haul-out Breakfast and soon the Annual Fall Banquet. Please try to come to some of the events.

There are still many projects if you need Work Hours, Please ask Dave Nantais to line you up. We have painted the handicap bathroom. The ladies bathroom had a little vandalism, but has been repaired.

The Executive are currently looking over the proposed bylaw changes by the Past Commodores, we will be sending the changes out to the membership, then calling a Special Membership Meeting to present them to the membership for a vote.

Bob



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

## A Burgee Exchange...



At the ABYC (Toronto) General Meeting last week, Goran Bulut presented a burgee from the **La Salle Mariners Yacht Club** to Rear Commodore Paul Brennan. Here is a photograph of the ABYC burgee hanging in the clubhouse



of LMYC. Roger Renaud presented the ABYC burgee to LMYC three years ago. Goran was here at LMYC as Rear-Commodore, Sailing for the Disabled.

## - Upcoming Events -

Kid's Halloween Party	Oct.21
River Rat Race	Oct.14
Halloween Party	Oct. 27
Haul-Out Breakfast	Nov. 3
Awards Banquet	Nov. 10
Tree Trimming Party	Dec. 8
Children's Christmas Party	Dec. 9
New Year's Eve Party	Dec. 31



It's a matter of perspective.  
This is the headboard of the mainsail of  
America's Cup Gogzilla

## 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Sail For Hospice Regatta at LMYC (Sunday Sept 9<sup>th</sup>)

A warm and sunny day greeted the participants of this year's fund raising event. After the morning's skippers meeting, the 15 racers headed out to start the race which was sailed on a typical Wednesday night race course. Although the sun was abundant, the wind was not and the race committee, consisting of Yvonne McRobbie, Sue and Bob Reaume and their boat R Escape, wisely postponed the starting time several minutes until a breeze appeared.

Not long after the start the wind disappeared again and then played a game of "peek-a-boo" with the 15 racers for most of the first leg of the race. It wasn't until most of the fleet had rounded the weather mark that the wind finally filled in from the North, making the windward-leeward course a windward-windward course! At least there was enough After the race everyone headed back to LMYC for a great meal consisting of a dish brought by each boat and a BBQ provided by the club.

Once we were all fed and the results tallied up the awards were presented air the make the race interesting, tacking upstream and finishing in Grey Duck Bay.





Erica Colovic, from the Hospice of Windsor was on hand to say a few words and help present the awards.

### JOG Class

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Rick Beresford and crew on Windsong
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Bob Bingham and crew on Dynamite
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - John and Liz Metcalfe on Quattro

### Spinnaker Class

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Jim Beaudoin and crew on Blizzard
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dennis Hendel and crew on Rakaia
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Brad Blackton and crew on Bad Manners

Best Corrected time overall - Jim Beaudoin and crew on Blizzard

It is important to mention that because this is a fund raising event, each boat's crew is urged to canvass for The Hospice to collect pledges. These pledges, along with the boats' entry fees (and \$5 meal fees) are donated to the Hospice of Windsor and Essex County. The boat/crew that brings in the highest amount of donations receives a special award, which is a flag bearing the Hospice's dove. This year's recipients have done this many times. The dove flag again goes to Guy Meseck and crew on DragonFly for raising \$800. Well done!

In all, this LMYC event, run and attended by LMYC members and friends raised over \$4700 this year! Everyone who helped organize, run and put on this event and those who participated and raised money for the Hospice should feel proud for doing such a good thing for such a great cause! I thank you all.

Sincerely,  
Dennis Hendel, Chairperson  
Sail For Hospice





Picture of Fighting Island – Windsor Star, September 28, 2012



**'A Girl's Day Out Sailing'**

From left to right...Maggy Evans, Jenn Tyler, Yvonne McRobbie, Val Gujban, Sue Ouellette and Linda Schreiber

**Take Notice**

The haul out crew is concerned with lower than normal water levels. Boat owners should consider hauling out sooner than later!



Chris' shirt says it all - "Live Life Go Sailing"



**Don't forget to feed the Duck!**



"a man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser today than he was yesterday."

-Pope



A fun time was had by all - On Friday night October 5, LMYC had our party for the Park Haven Boat Club. Everything went well. We met a bunch of great people and had a night of story telling and game playing. It was a great night. – Bob Reaume



## Sailing for the Disabled

....There were hugs, kisses, tears, smiles and countless Thank You. This truly did show the very best of LMYC members and their families. There is so much that could be said but the words would be no match for the impression this event has left upon each and every member who participated and helped out. - Dave Nantais



Those of you who so graciously gave of your personal equipment and belongings....you made all the difference in the world. Those who offered your time and energy equally made all the difference. - Dave Nantais





## Sailing for the Disabled - Sept 2012

Like many members, I volunteered to help with the Disabled Sailing Weekend. All I knew about it before hand was that the club was going to be the host for some kind of boats coming from Toronto. I had observed several meetings that Tim McWilliams , Dave Nantais and Barb Pare had with Christine Easterbrook. at the club. Looked interesting!! My task, along with Bob Mackenzie was to greet the participants , go over a list of rules, describe our facilities and be helpful. Little did I realize what a wonderful

and rewarding experience this would turn out to be. I believe our first participant Saturday morning said it all. Bob and I read the waiver to a gentleman who was visually impaired . As you may know waivers can be daunting. We had to stress, that at any time if the participant felt concern about the water splashing in their face of the heeling of the boat, they were to yell "no" and the boat would flatten, and come back in. He was assisted into the boat with our own personal lift crew. Out he went. Almost an hour later, back he came. I asked what he thought. This man who was not very verbal said "Can I come back next year?" Those same sentiments were echoed time and again.

I was asked repeatedly by family members... "Why is your club doing this?" Can I give you some money? My son, daughter, wife, husband will never forget this! On Saturday, we had a married couple, both in wheel chairs, who wanted to celebrate their 17th wedding anniversary by going sailing. The stories go on and each volunteer can tell you theirs.

Many who signed up Saturday returned on Sunday. Two of our members, Phil Smith and Patrick Holland assisted by Jerry Angus and Scot Pillon, took mobile but challenged participants out on their individual boats. Ralph Allen's pontoon boat got a real workout taking out family and friends. It is hard to remember a time in my 35 years at LMYC, that I have been so proud of our club! - Yvonne McRobbie





It was a great opportunity for the Membership of LMYC to showcase our facilities and have the participants experience what we do on a regular basis. The volunteer members from the Club were inspired by the positive attitude shown by the attendees and they certainly made our experience with the event a memorable and rewarding one.

For a first time event at LMYC the response by the disabled community and the Club volunteers was fantastic. Not only did the participants come for the sailing but were eager to help out in any way they could. Many were asking if they could come again to the next event. One persons suggested that they were interested in starting fund raising so that the event could become a regular part of LMYC with an ongoing sail training program. These comments are from Gloria Basden. She was working in the kitchen and making sure that our guests were comfortable while waiting their turn.



It was so nice to see all of us working together to create a most positive experience for both the participants, their families and the members as well. Every where you looked people where genuinely happy to just be a part of it. The camaraderie was spectacular. – Bob Reaume

## **From the Disabled Sailing Associations of Ontario's web-site...**

### **DSAO Makes New Connections in Windsor**

Earlier in September, a couple of hearty DSAO volunteers travelled to Windsor at the request of the LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club there to show interested community members how the Martin 16 works for disabled sailors. They had an incredible turnout (24 people went out in the boats over the weekend), and the club was very supportive and interested in what the DSAO can offer. A DSAO chapter in Windsor could be coming soon! Many thanks to Goran and Gwyneth for all of their hard work on this event.

## The Martin 16....

The Martin 16 design combines stability, maneuverability, control and lively performance. It attracts sailors from the ages of 10-and-under to 70+, from 40 kg to heavyweights, from novice to national champion. In addition, the boat is ideal for sailing schools and training clubs, while it is also accessible for seniors and persons with disabilities.



The Martin 16 has design features that make sailing accessible to all sailors with mobility impairments. Stability, adjustable seating and specialized control systems make it user friendly for sailors with any level of physical ability. The Martin 16 offers optional automated systems for steering, sail sheeting and bilge pumping. By incorporating the needs of high quadriplegic sailing, the Martin 16 is the most accessible One-Design on the market, providing high quads with 'sip and puff' options, enabling them to race competitively.



**Assistive Technology** - The Martin 16 Power-Assist System is a modular, self-contained, portable power-assisted steering and sheeting system, that can make almost any sailboat accessible. Power-Assist Systems are used on the Martin 16, Sonar, Freedom 20, Catalina 22, Cal 20, 2.4mR and Challenger Tri-maran, and even a Tripp 40 offshore sport boat!



## Sailing for people with Disabilities...

Power-Assist Systems are now in service at DSA programs and on private boats in Canada, USA, UK, Japan, Greece, Australia and Puerto Rico. At Mobility Cup, Canada's International Regatta for Sailors with Disabilities, more than 15 high-level quad sailors use Martin 16 Power-Assist Systems to compete on the same starting line with 45 other sailors. The Power-Assist System has changed the lives of these sailors, and more like them each new season.



## The Report from the Race Director

Well it would appear that Mother Nature was fairly kind to LMYC this year. Mostly pleasant race evenings and fantastic weekend racing weather has seen us though to the end of the 2012 race calendar already.

I would like to thank all the racers who came out and made our program a great success. There were multiple evenings where the number of racers out for our Monday/Wednesday races outnumbered what I saw for participation at some of our sister clubs regattas! Of course you can't have a very good race without a great Race Committee to start and finish everybody, so I'd like to thank all those who pitched in and offered their help for RC this year. An especially big Thank You goes out to John and Monica for being so faithful and reliable for Wednesday evenings.

We hosted an event that wasn't racing, but it could spawn a whole new breed of racing at LMYC. I'm talking about the Disabled Sailing Experience Event that took place on Sept 22 & 23. Over the course of those 2 days LMYC played host to two fantastic instructors from the Disabled Sailing Association of Ontario. They in turn were able to allow 23 of our Essex County residents who are physically challenged to experience the power, and liberating feeling of commanding their own specially adapted sailboat. I can say that the smiles and gratitude expressed by the participants made this a real top shelf event! A very big Thank You goes out to the LMYC community that pitched in and volunteered your time and resources over that weekend. It was truly inspiring to see what was accomplished by everybody.

I'm looking forward to seeing everybody at our Fall Banquet coming up on November 10!

Cheers,  
Tim McWilliams  
LMYC 2012 Race Director



## Did you know?

From the minutes of LMYC Board Meeting dated Nov 24, 1987

### Old Business - Rental House Demolition

Three estimates for the cost of demolition were received

1. \$3300. 2. \$2700. 3. \$1900.

Royal Trust has given us permission to proceed. A \$25.00 permit from the township will be required. Motion to accept the lowest bid and proceed by Gord Clark, seconded by Phil Smith. Motion Carried.

When you drive into the entrance to the club it seems inconceivable that there was once a house there with our road way beside it.

Does anyone have a picture of it? - Red.

## Go Girl !

The Short Handed Race was held on Saturday September 22 with a start time of 9am. This race is called a short handed race because a skipper has the choice of either one crew or going it alone. There were 6 boats competing: John and Melissa Vandereerden in the double handed group, and Tony Berends, Christine Drouillard, Bob Bingham, Craig Morrison and John Murphy, who all sailed single handed. The course was from the start mark at the mouth of the Detroit River to the Colchester Reef, to the Detroit River Light and back to the start mark. Approximately 20 miles.

The race started in light air up to Colchester Reef. After turning the mark the fleet was hit by a severe thunderstorm. All skippers handed the storm in a seaman like manner by starting their motors, with Christine being able to reduce sail and continue on. "Everyone was caught in it but turned on their engines".... and the quote continues...."It seemed pointless to turn on my engine as it would have just been out of the water anyway. So I just sailed!" She was the only one to finish. Congratulations, and a whole bunch of new respect are in order. A trophy well deserved! Cheers! Yeah!

The participants were treated to a steak dinner on their return to the club. There were many stories to tell, and for sure Cristina's will be heard for many years to come. - Ed

## Putting the boat to bed for the winter

Here are a couple of useful links that talk about winterizing the boat.

NOTE: The live links can be found in the email message where you found this October newsletter

<http://www.sailingmates.com/winterizeyourboat.htm>

<http://www.sailingmates.com/winterizeyourboat2.htm>

[http://www.sailingmates.com/Sailing articles index.htm](http://www.sailingmates.com/Sailing%20articles%20index.htm)

<http://sailing.about.com/od/boatmaintenancerepair/a/Winterizesailboatwater.htm>



In 2009, I had the privilege of being the start line area mark boat for the Mobility Cup's week long regatta, hosted by ABYC. Mobility Cup is Canada's international regatta for sailors with a disability. It is a world-class event, featuring competitors from throughout Canada and from around the world. Watching the courage and determination of these sailors is something I will continue to be inspired by. Check out the web-site.

<http://www.mobilitycup.org>



**A special 'thank you' to Bard and Dennis Pare and to Yvonne McRobbie, for their ongoing help and contribution in putting these newsletters together. They always come through when asked. Many thanks. -Roger**