

FALL 2015

The Currents

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LASALLE MARINERS YACHT CLUB

Editor, Dennis Paré



Fighting Island Regatta a Perennial Success

As always the Fighting Island Regatta was well attended again this year by both boats and people. With a field of 49 boats in five different classes there was plenty of action on the racecourse. A special feature of this year's race was the, "Dodge the Freighter Contest". Four freighters went down the course as sailboats tacked this way and that. After the race activities included the traditional krinski sausages that everyone likes so well. Sailing, good food, good fun, yet again at LaSalle Mariners. Don't miss it in 2016!

New Laser Dinghy

LaSalle Mariners is now the proud owner of a Laser dinghy. This one or two person vessel is sitting on the club's dinghy dock. Lasers are one of the most popular one-design class boats in the world. This boat adds to the number already in our club fleet.

Designed by Canadian, Bruce Kirby, with over 200,000 sailing worldwide, this is a boat that has proven capabilities and excitement.

Thursday evening is the regular time for informal racing and just messing around on the water with dinghies. Brad Blackton is serving as our Laser coordinator. He welcomes all club members to come on out and give dinghy sailing a try.

Save the Date

River Rat Race

Oct. 17

Last club race of the year. Don't miss this fun event for crew and all.

Darts Night

Nov. 4, @ 7:00 PM

The Dart night people are always ready to welcome new faces.

Awards Banquet

Nov. 14

Our own gala event where sailor friends gather to celebrate the season of racing.





Vice Commodore Heather and Alan Johnson



Chris Wysynski our hard working Roads and Grounds guy up a pole installing lights; sprucing up for the Fighting Island Regatta.

Race For Hospice

This year's Race for Hospice was blessed with fine sailing weather, sunshine and good breeze. We all went FAST! Nine boats took on course three. When they returned a fine meal was served for all.

Falcon, Brad Blackton and family, had some challenges on the course but took home the most important flag of the day. Falcon's crew raised over \$900 in pledges for Hospice. Photos from the event are on the right.

Safety Training Seminar

On a fine July 28th evening a crowd of Mariners gathered at the clubhouse for instruction and discussion concerning safety with boats on the water. This no charge event was clearly a hit as Alan Johnson from the Windsor Sail and Power Squadron was peppered with questions. Alan knew how to engage the people present; as he understood that this group held many an experienced sailor. Time was not wasted on basics but the more advanced procedures of using your marine band radio and proper use of flares, what and when best to use, were discussed. Old salts such as Bob Bingham were given an opportunity to share their experiences and anecdotes.

Alan also brought along informational booklets for people to take and study such as, *Distress Signaling* and *Boat Notes Your Guide to Boating Safety*. Other goodies were there such as a DVD, *Distress Signaling*. A humour book, *UNDERWAY*, put the funny side to some of the scary situations that sometimes arise while out on the water. Even our cuts were covered with a waterproof bandage case.





From the Editor

This is my fourth edition of the Currents since taking on the duties. Thanks to all who contributed.

Made in the Shade

There were some very hot days this summer and that sent many of us scurrying to find some shade from the beating sun. Our own Mike Tyler improvised, as good sailors do. Mike found that a beach shade could be just the thing to serve as a cockpit awning.



Photo by Barb Paré

Mariners Host Junior Sailing

The instructors, Jordy and Peter from Ontario Sailing came out for a week's fun and sailing instruction Aug. 17 to 21. A group of 14 children aged 8 to 14 were eager to take the dinghies out for some exercise on the Detroit River. A variety of weather conditions presented the challenge and the novice sailors found their way to deal with both light and heavy winds. Regular capsizing just added to the adventure. Happy group photos above.

Archives Boat Photos Project

Don't miss your chance to have your boat included in the club records. A photo album is being assembled with pictures of all the club boats. A 4" x 6" matte finish would be best but submit whatever you have. Past Commodore, Phil Smith, is the man to see to get your boat in the history books.

Committee Boat Faithful

It's time for us to remember the fine folks that go out week after week to man, and certainly woman, our committee boat. Give some thought to the number of races this club sponsors in a season. We start with Shake Down Regatta, Spring, Summer and Fall series club racing plus the many other weekend races we squeeze in. All of these events need a start boat and finish boat to make the racing happen. Then there is the scoring up of these races. Committee boat personnel are out there to keep all of these events organized. A big **THANK YOU** to all those Committee boat people that make it happen.



Treasurer's Tips

A reminder from our hard working Treasurer, Yvonne McRobbie, that winter storage for boats staying on club property will be billed out on October 1. Get your cash ready!

Tim And Christina



Our own Tim McWilliams found his shipmate and fireworks developed. The happy couple are honeymooning in Grenada. Tim writes that the sailing is great!



Adaptive Sailing Weekend

An annual event that brings out the best in the sharing spirit of our members held on Saturday and Sunday September 26 and 27. Dave Nantais heads up a committee that brings sailing opportunities to those who might never have a chance to try sailing otherwise.

Photo by Lothar Bauer



The Tale of the Telephone



A tale from that old man of the sea, Ralph Allen (a founding member of LaSalle Mariners)

When LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club purchased the property the clubhouse sits on there was only electrical service to the building. No water, no gas, no sewage. All these have come along over time through the efforts of the club members.

No telephone either. A club member living on Martin Lane would flash her back door light to alert those at our clubhouse that there was a phone call for them. In those days many of the members had young children and the Ladies Auxiliary, (remember those?) had concerns that they would be out of touch with their family and childcare worker when at the club. These ladies provided food and organization for many events and parties. Being a resourceful and thrifty lot, as sailors are, the ladies accumulated a small profit from sales of tickets for food and such. The Auxiliary then offered to pay for a phone for the clubhouse. There was some objection from the menfolk who found the isolation to their liking (wives could not reach them at the club) but democracy ruled. With a yes vote and, of course with the regular grumbling, a phone was installed.

From the Social Director

Unfortunately our summer is coming to a close. But we are having a great season anyway. Our regatta was a fantastic day, good air, good food, and great fun. The Junior Boom program was great, with children having lots of fun as usual.

October 3rd, we are having a WINE & EATS, a sold out event!!

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR MAKING MY JOB FUN!! *Val Guiban*