

S U M M E R 2 0 1 5

The Currents

Official Newsletter of the LaSalle Mariners Yacht Club

Editor, Dennis Paré



Spring Series

The Spring Series of club races finished up on June 17 for the "A" Fleet only. The evening saw such a variety of weather that everyone, skippers and crew, were constantly challenged with adapting to the light then heavy, then no winds, accompanied by rain then dry, then rain. Who knew? Results were Rakaia was the only boat to cross the finish line.

"B" and "C" fleets will have a make-up race scheduled for a later date.



Jockeying at the Start



Summer Sailing is in Full Swing!

This edition of the Currents features some of our club members out there exercising their boats. One of the favorite ways to do this is the club series of races, of course. There is still time to enter into the summer and the fall series. There is always room at the line for another competitor. With Monday J.O.G. (white sail only) and Wednesday P.H.R.F. (Spinnaker allowed). Talk to Race Director, Dennis Hendel to get you and the crew squared away for these fun evening races.



Rakaia in action



Kyrre



Quattro

Save the Date! Social Directors Report

The Women's Sailing Adventure was held and the Regatta was June 20th, we had no problem getting 60 women to sign up. In fact after the first week of advertising we accomplished our goal and turned women away because of a full program. Also not having a problem with club members volunteering their boats. We thank the skippers that offered their time and their boats, and everyone that helped us put this fun event on. This has become an event that people look forward to, and a fantastic way to bring new crew to the club. All monies we collected from the BBQ were donated to Disabled Sailing, and Junior Boom.

Our next major event coming up is Junior Boom Program, in August then our ever famous Fighting Island Regatta the following weekend. We will have a new menu, new fun events and great music. So mark these events down and get ready for a FANTASTIC SUMMER!!!

Val Gujban Social Director



Junior Boom Aug. 17 - 21

- Chris Edwards is the organizer
- Phone 519-915-6579



LaSalle Mariners and Ontario Sailing Association are offering a one week learn to sail program at the yacht club's facility. Basic sailing skills are taught such as wind direction, points of sail, knots, tacking and jibing a boat. Two Canadian Certified Instructors direct the course.

A great summer memory in the making for your child or grandchild ages 8 to 14!

Blessing of the Fleet 2015 Style

The Blessing of the Fleet is a long-standing nautical tradition, which has been held for many years at our club. Being Mariners we have added our own little twist with the added feature of the "Dressing of the Fleet".

The event was presided over by our chaplain Fr. Hilton Gomes. Guests included the

Mayor of LaSalle, Ken Antaya, a bagpiper, Colour Party from the Royal Canadian Legion, LaSalle Police and LaSalle Fire Services.

Treasurer's Tips

Our Ontario Sailing/ Sail Canada membership cards are in the clubhouse. There is one for each member with your name on it. Also you will find discount cards for Mark's Work Wearhouse. One per card please. To check other deals/ discount available to members of Ontario Sailing/ Sail Canada. Please check their respective websites. For www.ontariosailing.ca check under 'Members & Services' pull-down menu. Please note that this page is now password-protected for members only. The password is....2015support (case sensitive)

From the Treasurer, Yvonne McRobbie

Raising the Flag Pole

In the December 2014 issue of the *Currents* a headline story was the fierce storm, which blew over the flagpole on our lawn. Well, happy days are here again! The crew shown below came to work and raised up that very same pole after some clever metalworking.

Photos by Lothar Bauer.



The Fighting Island FET Trophy



As told by that ancient Mariner himself, Ralph Allen.

The Inter-Island Regatta Trophy, now known as the Fighting Island Regatta Trophy, Fastest Elapsed Time, was donated by founding members Curley Ellis and Jürgen Hendel for the 1964 race. At the time, LaSalle Mariners was meeting at Charley Maker's place, now Holiday Harbour. The barometer in the trophy is still in working condition today. It is the oldest trophy at our club.

In 1964 LaSalle Mariners consisted of 3 or 4 sailboats and 5 or 6 powerboats. By 1967 the regatta was attracting upwards of 40 entries. A well-known local artist, William Stidworthy, did a watercolour of that 1967 fleet at the dock. Ralph Allen fondly displays this memento of that early competition at his home.

Jürgen and Curley, sailing a Shark, were the winners the first few years then the boats from Grosse Isle began making their mark. Charley Parker from Grosse Isle was awarded the trophy in 1966.



Harbour Master Shots

Harbour Master Brian Casey is a steady contributor at our club. His work has benefitted every member. But, as we all know, all work and no play makes Brian a dull boy.

In the snap below we see Brian waterskiing our dingy dock down the north harbour. I want to see this trick on a slalom course!

Photo by Brian Casey

(Don't ask me how he pulled this selfie.)



Commodore Reminisces



Commodore Rob and his parents Carol and Bob have been LaSalle Mariners for many, many years. Below are some of Rob's fond memories.

- the many Christmas parties on Santa's knee
- Sailing over to Crystal Bay on Dad's Shark and climbing on the Metcalfe's Abbott 22'; it seemed so cool...it had a table.
- sitting at the, "Table of Knowledge", drinking up the wisdom doled out by such old salts as Jürgen Hendel, Dell Darling, Ron Stuebing and Ken Robitaille
- watching magic shows performed by past member John Barker (?)

Spring Clean Up

As always there was an annual spring cleanup of the club's property. And, as always, our resident Sea Cadet corps pitched in to spruce up the property.

Photo by Lothar Bauer.



High Water Makes an Appearance

As we see in the photo below the abundant rain this season has resulted in high water at the docks. We haven't seen such water levels since the 1980's. Careful climbing up on your boat decks, and I do mean climbing! Please take care when tying dock lines.

Photo by Brian Casey



From the Editor

Thanks to our contributors for this summer issue of the *Currents*. If you would like to have an article featuring your LaSalle Mariners event just contact Dennis. If you like I will interview and write the story. Photos of club activities with or without a story are always welcome.