



“Soundings”

www.southportsailingclub.on.ca

The newsletter
of South Port
Sailing Club

February 2003

Commodore's Corner :

As we move through to the end of the winter and start thinking about getting our boats ready to sail on Lake St. Clair, a number of our members are already involved in significant sailing exploits. Graham Andrews has an opportunity to be selected for Daimler-Chrysler's entry in the Daimler-Chrysler North Atlantic Challenge. The race will start on June 14 in Newport, running south of the Nantucket buoy and the Grand Banks en route to Hamburg.

Your Commodore had the good fortune to race in Key West (or was that Key Frost?). See elsewhere in this issue for these stories. The cruising grounds of the Caribbean have been populated by our members on numerous charters.

Please make the effort to attend the membership meeting on February 25th at the club where your executive will provide an outline of its plans for the year and provide you with the chance to field your questions. Looking forward to seeing you then.

On behalf of South Port members, condolences to Mainstays Chair Susan Bufton and family on the sudden loss of her father in his 97th year.

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Roster Changes?

If you have any changes of address, phone numbers, Email coordinates, changes in boat particulars, etc., Irene East wants to hear from you. She can be reached at:-

Email: i.east@sympatico.com, or phone (519) 979-8318.

Are you receiving “Soundings”?

If any member is not receiving “Soundings” each month, something is wrong!! Most members should be getting the Email version; if you are not receiving your copy, please call Communications chair Paul Ramey (519) 963-3081. If you do not have Email and need to receive a regular mail copy call Anne Marie Norton (519) 979-0714.

“Soundings” is also posted on our website

www.southportsailingclub.on.ca

For Sale

1979 Viking 22 New Battery 1999 Merc. 5hp 4 stroke roller furling jib. Good condition
Must sell Before launch date!

“Soundings” plans to go to press by the 20th of each month. Get your news, notes, or announcements to John Bufton (Email; bufton@mnsi.net or phone (519) 979-1718

- We're always looking for interesting items about the club, its members and friends, or sailing in general; don't be shy, we need your contribution !

South Port's Executive Team 2002/3

Commodore	Ian Dawson
Vice Commodore	Al Finch
Rear Commodore	hil Peck
Sailing School Committee Chair	Paul Bowsher
Social Committee Chair	Manjit Shaw
Cruise Committee Chair	Lorne Mann
Race Committee Chair	Ted Illi
Property Committee Chair	Robert Linton
Harbour Committee/Harbourmaster	Andrew Barlow
Secretary	Brenda Petro
Past Commodore	Robert Smith
Treasurer	Bill Noakes

Mainstays

Chair Susan Bufton

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 3rd at 7.30pm. Come and help plan our events for this summer.

Harbourmaster

Andrew Barlow

A reminder to all members that the Dockage and Release Forms, which were provided to be included with Soundings and have been on the SPSC website since January 20th, are due in on March 1st. Thanks to Matt Baker for posting the form on the website and making it available so quickly and readily! Launch Day has been set for April 26th, 2003. Please make your plans now to arrive at the Club by 8:00 a.m.. We need everyone's help to make Launch Day work! The Harbour Committee will be inspecting cradles for structural integrity and safety. Unsafe cradles will have to be repaired or replaced by next Haul Out.

If you ever thought you had Fitting Out problems!

The pioneering world cruiser Eric Hiscock recounts in his 1939 book "Wandering Under Sail", his new (wooden) yacht's first day in the water:

"The main water tank arrived two weeks late, necessitating dismantling most of the cockpit; and while the "chippie" was busy doing this, the plumber, wearing heavy plumber's boots, trod on the carpenter's hand, the injured man leapt up and upset a pot of varnish that the painter was using; the rigger's mate turned around to watch the fun, forgetting the halyard he was holding; unfortunately the rigger happened to be sitting at the masthead in a bosun's chair attached to the other end of the halyard. The port spreader broke the riggers fall, but he broke the spreader!"

While labour was a lot cheaper in those days, one can't help feeling that Hiscock, seeing that crew in action on his brand new boat might have preferred to have done things himself.

St. Valentine's Afterglow Potluck Dinner

Eighteen members struggled through the late winter storm to light up the clubhouse with their presence. As usual the potluck food was superb, the company great, and those who weren't there missed a great evening.

St. Patrick's Night Potluck Dinner

March 15th., BYOB, 6.30 onwards. Bring a dish with either an Irish theme or something green! Sign up sheet at the clubhouse.



Forthcoming Events

Cards Nights	March 8th and 22nd
Mainstays	March 3rd
St. Patrick's Day Potluck Dinner	March 15th
Spring Fling Dinner/Dance	Early April; Date to be announced

A Transatlantic Challenge

Daimler-Chrysler is sponsoring 'King's Legend', a Swan 65, in the 2003 Daimler-Chrysler North Atlantic Challenge (DCNAC). Employees interested in racing on the boat were invited to apply. Out of approx. 800 applicants, three local sailors Graham Andrews (Scallywag), Don Alp (sails with Graham on Scallywag), and Len Strahl (WYC) made the short list of 30.

On the Feb. 14-16th the 30 sailors flew to the Annacortes Islands for a training camp (a.k.a. 'Survivor') weekend. Additionally, they were required to submit a comprehensive sailing log and references. The 30 will be cut down to a core group of 5 who will join together with a German contingent along with the skipper and tactician to become the crew of King's Legend.

There are 55 boats registered for the DCNAC, ranging in size up to 155 ft., and it will be the largest transatlantic race to date. The race begins in Newport in June and ends in Hamburg, Germany. The finish will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Cuxhaven Yacht Club on the Elbe River near Hamburg. A good party is likely! The best of luck to Graham and our local sailors!

Noakes/Beaudoin Olympic Campaign

Craig and Nick are continuing their campaign for a spot on the Canadian 470 Olympic team. They competed in the ROLEX OLYMPIC CLASSES REGATTA in Miami Florida where they competed with the best in the US as well as Canada and some European sailors. There was almost 2 weeks of sailing training as well as the Regatta. They have a schedule of Regattas set up for 2003 which includes the 470 Worlds in Cadiz Spain in September and the Canadian National Qualifiers in Halifax during October.

Key West Racing Ian Dawson, Commodore

"After years of dreaming about what racing in the Straits of Florida must be like, I finally got the chance to go down and sail on a Melges 24 at Key West Race Week last month. What an experience! Turquoise waters, stiff breezes, and actually being able to sail 6 straight days in January, and fresh seafood as good as Nova Scotia. My impression of the event was that big league international sailing is truly a money game. At the top of these fleets, talent is a given (or purchased) and the financial commitment makes the difference. There were 285 boats from 20 countries racing on 4 courses, including our fleet of 57 Melges 24's. The ID35's looked small in the harbour and the Farr 40's were a dime a dozen. Matching lifejackets, sweater, shirts, foul weather gear, support boats and more new sails than one can shake a stick at overwhelmed the eye. With first class parties, sponsorship and race management, I got to thinking that our local events are like AHL training camps in comparison to an NHL roster. The weather forecasting was impressively accurate, available to all competitors in the morning after a meteorologist had spent all "day" in New Zealand poring over computer models half a world away. Far removed from Wednesday night racing on Lake St. Clair, the local connections were still there. Sean Grayson (crew of Jane and Andrew) was racing on the Sydney 36 "Boulder" from Detroit and Curtis Florence (sometimes crew of Mo Regnier) was racing on the winning Mumm 30 entrant "Foreign Affair" from Australia. So how did we do? Well, after (mercifully) deciding not to race on Friday when the wind was blowing at 25 knots, gusting to 30 with temperatures not quite reaching 50°F at 7:30am, we figured our 26th place finish in race 6 was about as good as we could have hoped to do in that fleet. A final result of 42nd was the most painful and humbling, yet exhilarating experience I've ever had."

March 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <i>Clubhouse duties G & J Richardson</i>	3 <i>Mainstays meeting 7.39pm</i>	4	5	6	7	8 <i>Cards & Games evening 7.30pm</i>
9 <i>Clubhouse duties\ T & L Rindlisbacher</i>	10	11 <i>Executive meeting</i>	12 <i>Mens Lunch</i>	13	14	15 <i>St Patrick's Day Pot Luck Supper</i>
16 <i>Clubhouse duties M & B Salter</i>	17	18	19	20	21	22 <i>Cards & Games evening 7.30pm</i>
23 <i>Clubhouse duties R Shore</i>	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 <i>Clubhouse duties P & D Soles</i>	31					