



“Sounding

The newsletter
of South Port
Sailing Club

April 2002

Let the Season begin!

Commodore's Corner :

Good to see all our Members again working on their boats, and a welcome to new Members.

Launch Day went uneventfully, which is how well organized launch days should go! A tip of the cap to Harbourmaster Andrew Barlow and all members involved. What makes us a club, and not just a marina, is the way we can come together as an organized team and pull off events like our annual launch in a professional way, to the benefit of everyone.

Please remember that following launch day we need everyone's co-operation in cradle storage, yard clean-up and mast removal. May 11th. is Property Chair Bob Linton's Clean – Up Day, please turn out to support him, and remember that there's a Pancake breakfast and lunch included, so bring the family to help.

Remember all masts and gear must be off the club lawn one week prior to Sailabration (Sunday June 2nd) to enable picnic table set-up and grass cutting.

Our club activities don't just happen, they occur because busy people volunteer; please help the Club and your fellow Members when you can. In turn they will be happy to help you.

Those who are racing, please let our Racing Committee Chair Ken Blyth know, in order to assist forming Classes - even if you will not make the first races.

The U.S.A. has clarified I.68 regulations so Cruise Committee Chair Bob Layfield is planning trips to our friends at Crescent Sail Yacht Club, North Star Sail Club, Great Lakes Yacht Club and others.

Forecasts remain for deeper water and hopefully a successful start to the 2002 season. Have a good summer!

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“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 2001/2

Commodore Robert Smith
Vice Commodore Ian Dawson
Rear Commodore/ Membership Committee Chair Al Finch
Sailing School Committee Chair Paul Bowsher
Social Committee Chair Laura Lehmann
Cruise Committee Chair Bob Layfield
Race Committee Chair Ken Blyth
Property Committee Chair Bob Linton
Harbour Committee/ Harbourmaster Andrew Barlow
Secretary Brenda Petro
Treasurer Bill Noakes

**"What
does your
boat look
like
inside?"**

"OPEN BOAT SUNDAY", JULY 28TH

Three seasons ago South Port had a successful "Open Boat Day", when we opened the club property to the public and invited them to come aboard our boats and see what sailing and SPSC is all about. The event was well received and now the Mainstays are planning a repeat.

The Mainstays are planning the open house on Sunday July 28th. Again it is a chance to publicize the club to the local community and to encourage new members. Also it gives everyone a chance to see our boats inside as well as outside.

An entrance fee will be charged and refreshments will be served. Boat owners willing to participate please contact Judy Finch or Sue Bufton so that we can get an idea of the number of people willing to join in.

Tuesday Night Dinghies – Race Officers needed!

Matt Draisey has gallantly undertaken to organize Tuesday night dinghy events again this year, but he can't do it all! He needs some volunteers, and sends this plea:-

"I am looking for volunteers for dinghy race committee duties on Tuesday nights. If you would like to participate you can email me at mattdraisey@aol.com telling the dates for which you would be available and whether you would like to volunteer for more than a single Tuesday night."

Full details and dates of the dinghy racing program are available on SPSC's website:
www.southportsailingclub.on.ca



Forthcoming Events

Spring Clean up May 11th

Property, Mainstays and the Social group are planning the Spring clean up as a family event. Work will start at 8.00 am, with a pancake breakfast served 8.30-9.30, afterwards more work, then a gourmet lunch will be available, still more work, but finishing around 2.0pm.

Cards Evening

May 4th

Mainstays

Flower planting May 15th

Cheese & Wine Cruise May 23rd

Cruising

Cruise to Thames River Y.C. May 25/26

Property Notes

Bob Linton Chair

Garbage Reminders - Keeping South Port's costs down

Emptying the club garbage container costs approximately \$2,000 per year. The club pays for removal of all garbage. To assist in keeping this cost down, if any garbage you have could be taken home and put out with your household garbage it would be appreciated.

Oil

The Club cannot dispose of oil. Please take any oil home and if you live in the area covered by Essex / Windsor Solid Authority you can leave up to two (4L) containers per collection (sealed with a screw on cap, clearly marked "Used Motor Oil". The club can only dispose of oil when one of your fellow members picks up the oil and adds it to their own waste! That's not fair.

Batteries are the same.

When batteries are left at the Club another member will have to clean up after you by taking it home for disposal. Most battery suppliers will dispose of old batteries for you.

Get your work hours in!

Volunteers always needed. There's always a list of tasks (some minor, some needing a special expertise) waiting. Give me a call and I can help you get your work hours in!

Cradles

Many of our wooden cradles are approaching the end of their useful life; Property Chair Bob Linton undertook to develop some plans for the club; here's his report:

"The Club is at a turning point with the long term plan anticipating more space needed for dry-sailing and general expansion. We need to plan to maximize our use of the property and members should consider the following:

Club concerns

Age of cradles - replacement issue.

Insurance concerns - boats tipping,, wooden cradles represent increased fire hazard.

Space concerns within the long-range plan– stackable/ folding cradles will free up space.

Long term Strategy

Encourage more dry sailing.

Allow more cars to be parked (in front of stacked cradles).

To require all members to have collapsible cradles.

Cradles to be designed for vertical stacking.

Cradles to be stackable.

Tidy up cradle storage area.

Incentive

Members that convert to collapsible stackable cradles will be allowed one free year cradle storage. (Cradle must be folded).

Possible group cradle purchase will save expense to individual members.

Review

If you have presently have a wooden cradle, or a non – collapsible metal cradle, please take a moment to read the binder in the clubhouse and complete the questionnaire."

Cruising Notes

Cruising Chair Bob Layfield writes:

"We have a full program of cruising ahead and we invite new members to join us:

May 25/26 Visit to Thames River Yacht Club Organizers Ora /Bruce Reid

June 8/9 Visit to North Star Sail Club, Organizers Stella/Bob Oldridge

June 22/23 Visit to Crescent Sail Yacht Club Organizers Nancy/Wayne Hind

July 8 Long Cruise to either Lake Erie or Lake Huron

Sign up sheets will be posted on the club bulletin board before each event.

If you're new to cruising and would like a "companion boat" to sail with you, let us know.

And if you've never cruised before, try it, you'll like it!"

The Retro look is in for yachts!

At the London International Boat Show, Hunter Boats of the UK (unrelated to the US concern) introduced the Mystery 34. The look of the vessel had been suggested by a potential buyer who wanted a boat "that was a joy to sail and behold". Hunter claim that the new boat will be a comfortable cruiser, but also suitable for one design racing.

With a low sheer, counter stern, low coachroof and seven-eighths rig, the Mystery 34 definitely has that classic look. Hunter Boats were overwhelmed with the public response, and commented that "there were more people out there interested than we had imagined." The prototype will be sailing this July., and Hunter are anticipating a full order book.

Mainstays

There was a good turn out at the April 8th pot luck supper with 24 ladies present. As always the food was excellent and it was nice to see every one ready for another summer.

Dates to remember

Saturday May 11th

Come and help at family spring clean up day, we plan to prepare the flower beds for planting and trim the shrubs. Also help to clean the trophy cupboard and its contents.

Wednesday May 15th

Flower planting at 10.00am.

Thursday May 23rd

Wine and Cheese Cruise: We will leave the dock at 6.30pm sharp. If it rains we will meet in the clubhouse.

**Ladies
Annual
Wine &
Cheese
Afloat!**

Inter Lake Yachting Association representative Margaret Entwistle reports that the ILYA has a Canadian Commodore for the first time; he is Commodore Doug Hogan, of Newport, MI.

Also the ILYA has a new website , this will be useful for ascertaining Bayweek details etc.

Fecal Daze

Back in 1996, "Soundings" ran an article by our then "Head Correspondent" Al Henderson on using the honey wagon. With so many new members since then we thought it worth reprinting a summary:

"It's clear that some club members and their crew aren't flush with knowledge on using SPSC's portable pump-out machine, affectionately known as the honey wagon. Your holding tank contains corrosive chemicals which will destroy valve surfaces. **Accordingly it is essential that after users have pumped out their tanks, sufficient water from the harbour is drawn through the pump to flush the valves.**

- It's simple; after each use, submerge the hose fitting in the harbour and pump a few strokes to flush fresh water through the pump.
- The tank and pump were designed for use with water only, so don't try pumping crankcase oil.
- The pumpout hose fitting is a standard 1.5 inches in diameter; if your fitting is different, you'll need to make your own adapter.
- The drain in the parking lot is connected to the local sanitary system, so please ensure gravel and other foreign matter is kept out of the sewer."

May 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 <i>Cards Evening</i> 7.30pm
5 <i>Clubhouse Duties</i> <i>J & K Murphy</i>	6	7	8 <i>Mens Lunch</i>	9	10	11 <i>Spring Clean Up Day</i>
12 <i>Clubhouse Duties</i> <i>F & L McLean</i>	13	14 <i>Executive meeting</i>	15	16	17	18
19 <i>Clubhouse Duties</i> <i>R & S Oldridge</i>	20	21	22	23 <i>Mainstays Wine &</i> <i>Cheese Cruise</i> 6.30pm	24	25 <i>S.P.S.C. cruise to</i> <i>Thames River Y.C.</i>
26 <i>Clubhouse Duties</i> <i>P & R Peck</i>	27	28	29	30	31	