



# "Soundings"

The newsletter  
of South Port  
Sailing Club

March 2002

## I 68's & Security Zones

As most members will know, your editor's other job is at the Canadian Consulate General in Detroit. In that capacity I have been trying to get authoritative word as to the situation for Canadian recreational boaters in U.S. waters this summer.

Easier said than done! Here's what I have gleaned from the US Coast Guard. There are likely to be security (Do Not Enter!) water zones around the Fermi and Davis-Besse (Lake Erie) nuclear plants. There is already a new security zone around the Selfridge Air Base which extends from Hall Rd. to Mac and Ray's marina, approximately one half mile out into Lake St. Clair.

Boaters need to monitor their co-ordinates to ensure they don't enter these zones. It is hoped that there will be some physical markers out in the early part of the season, but sailors should not rely upon seeing marks and while in the area of security zones are expected to be monitoring Channel 16 in case the Coast Guard wishes to contact them.

Potential penalties for disregarding the U.S. Coast Guard are severe (up to 10 years imprisonment and /or a US\$10,000 fine!) U.S. Coast Guard vessels have always had armed crew and this will continue.

Commercial ships will not have a "halo" around them, but it was very clearly indicated that boaters (jet ski-iers, primarily) who go up close to a commercial vessel are being reckless. This practice has always annoyed large vessels. So while, there will not be a halo, Coast Guard will be encouraging commercial vessels to report any boaters or jet ski-iers who are approaching them too closely or zig-zagging around them. Reading between the lines, it seems likely that the U.S. Coast Guard intends to make some examples of irresponsible boaters. As sailors, whether cruising or racing, it is important for everyone to realize that trying to get those last few yards on a tack might cause us to be negatively categorized. Keeping well clear of shipping will keep the authorities, your fellow members and your insurance company happy!

The U.S. Coast Guard is going to be much more vigilant this year about behaviour that they may have ignored in the past. The example of someone taking photos from the water of the Ambassador Bridge or ( continued on page 2)

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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](mailto: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

### **I 68's and Security Zones (continued)**

the Renaissance Center was quoted. U.S. Coast Guard may question them this year, whereas last year they probably would have been ignored.

Seaway navigational markers and buoys will continue to be available for use by recreational boaters for racing.

We have also spoken with the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service regarding I-68s. Supplies of new forms have been sent out, but have not yet been received in Detroit. Locally they have not seen the new directives to explain the new forms. They understand that there will be new questions on the forms this year requiring additional information. They believe the applications will still be processed on the spot, so whatever additional information is required will not create a significant delay. The new forms will also be on INS' website soon, but are not there yet.

(Information current as of March 28th.)

**I 68's  
 available  
 soon;  
 lookout for  
 No Go  
 zones;  
 monitor  
 C16**

#### **Commodore's Corner**

Good news in that predictions for Lake St. Clair are for slightly higher water levels this season. As soon as the weather will allow, we will sound the Harbour and channel to the Lake, and we will know whether dredging is needed.

Launch is as scheduled for the weekend of April 27<sup>th</sup>. Please be ready to launch and to help when asked by the Harbour Committee.

For those who have been asking, the dinghy area will remain where it is, at present. Shifting boats/docks from the Creek to the North Wall area in exchange for the dinghy sailing area will become part of the general reconfiguration plan. This is still under discussion, with hopefully a detailed plan for the Members consideration by summer.

We have been approached by local charities for support in either publicity, or in having events or regattas in their name. This is an excellent way to spread information about SPSC and to help in fund raising for good causes.



## Forthcoming Events

### Launch Dates

April 27th/28th

Skippers, mark this weekend.

Your attendance is required!

### Cards Evenings

Upcoming dates :- April 6th & 20th.

### Mainstays

April 8th

6.30 Potluck Supper

## No Soundings by Email this month

As we're mailing the annual calendar of events with this issue, everyone will receive a physical copy of "Soundings". Email will resume next month to all Email addressees!

### Property Notes

Thanks to great teamwork the annual tree trimming along the driveway was carried out on Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The brush was cut down by Glenn Bennett on the Thursday evening and with the help of Ray East, Rocky Ieruci, and Bill Noakes and as a result of an ingenious idea, it was collected and moved along the street to be chipped by the city as they cleaned up the trees in the area. Thanks for the idea Ray. This saved the club money in bringing in the special chipper.

### Early reminder

### Spring Clean up

### May 11th

This year it is a team effort: Property, Mainstays and the now famous Social group are planning to do the Spring clean up as a family event.

Mark your calendar Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> starting in the morning; finishing after lunch by 2.0pm

## Mainstays

Sue Balfe gave us an interesting talk and display of quilting at our last meeting, it is a fascinating pastime, with much more to it than meets the eye.

Our next meeting is a Pot Luck Supper on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6.30pm. We look forward to seeing a good crowd there and hearing all about those winter vacations.

A reminder to Junior Sailors of South Port; if you'd like some help in covering your racing expenses next season, the Mainstays may help. Send your written requests to Mainstays, c/o SPSC by June 1st, outlining your plans.

**SPSC Juniors!**

**Help may be available for your sailing expenses!**

# April 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 <i>Cards Evening</i> 7.30pm
7 <i>Clubhouse duties</i> <i>D &amp; E MacFarlane</i>	8 <i>Mainstays</i> <i>Pot Luck Dinner</i> 6.30pm	9 <i>Executive meeting</i>	10 <i>Mens lunch</i>	11	12	13
14 <i>Clubhouse duties</i> <i>P &amp; M Major</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20 <i>Cards Evening</i> 7.30pm
21 <i>Clubhouse duties</i> <i>L &amp; M Miernicke</i> <i>R Malone</i>	22	23	24	25	26	27 <i>LAUNCH DAY</i>
28 <i>Clubhouse duties</i> <i>J &amp; S Martin</i>	29	30				