



Soundings

Newsletter of the South Port Sailing Club

April 2005

Shark Worlds is now the Steelback Brewery 40th Shark World Cup



Big news on the Shark World Cup front. We have a lead sponsor! Steelback Breweries of Tiverton Ontario (that's up near Kincardine) is sponsoring the regatta to the tune of \$10,000. Jane McArthur and Andrew Barlow can take credit for that one. Jane has been working flat out on sponsorships since she rejoined the committee a few months ago. For more on Steelback products - go to www.steelbackbrewery.com

There you'll find an introduction to the brewery: "Our vision is clear. To proudly brew the highest quality of beer in the land. And under the watchful eye of our skilled brew master, Steelback uses only premium malted barley and the finest hops to produce crisp, clean tasting beer in the true Canadian tradition.

As to why Steelback wanted to support the Worlds, Al Ferguson, the Steelback representative answered: "As for the sponsorship, Frank D'Angelo, is very involved in community events across the province."

In addition to the Steelback support, the local Shark Association is sponsoring an evening of entertainment during the regatta week. Scott Giles and his band will be playing Tuesday July 6. Scott's band appears regularly in the Showtime Lounge at Casino

Windsor. Among other things, they do a terrific Jimmy Buffet tribute show. Great entertainment.

We're already lucky enough to have one of the finest race committees available. And now, with the added resources, we can make the off-the-water events as fine as the on-the-water part of the week.

Commodore Phil Peck and Ian Dawson made a presentation to Tecumseh Town Council in March. Councillors were most enthusiastic and are anxious to help make the event a success. We can count on extra garbage pickups and involvement from the Tecumseh BIA. Mayor Gary McNamara will be bringing greetings from the town, during our opening ceremonies.

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Commodore's Corner, from Phil Peck

The countdown is on to launch day, April 30. The start of the season looks promising with water levels higher than the past few years.

Other great news is the financial support for the **Steelback Brewery 40th Shark World Cup**. This will ensure a wonderful event. You may have noticed some of the work already done to get the club ready to host the world. The retaining walls have been painted, ladders and boards have been installed along the creek. There's more to come.

Ian Dawson and I made a presentation to Tecumseh Town Council about the regatta. Councillors were excited to learn that up to 60 crews would be in town to compete in the races. Council voted to support us in hosting the event and offer some assistance. Thanks to Gillian Linton and Lynn Baker for getting us on the Council agenda.

The OPP Marine Unit has contacted us about hosting a **vessel inspection clinic** for the boating community. They will check vessels in the water and ones brought to the club on trailers. If a boat passes inspection it will be given a sticker to be displayed so you can avoid being stopped on the water. The tentative date is May 28. Details to come.

The **Windsor Power and Sail Squadron** is offering to run courses at the club this spring if there is enough interest. The Pleasure Craft Operator Card and/or the VHF Restricted Operator (Maritime) Certificate courses each take about 6 hours. They could be run on a Saturday or a Sunday, or on two week nights. The courses would cost SPSC members \$50 each or both for \$90. Send me an email soon if you're interested (philpeck@sympatico.ca).

The executive is currently reviewing the **crew member classification**. These members don't get to vote nor can they keep a boat at the club. They pay dues and have access to the club. We haven't had many crew members, even though lots of people crew on boats at the club. People who crew sometimes come to the club when the member they crew with isn't present. The executive has to decide if it's OK for people to have the privileges of the club without contributing financially to the club. The current fees for crew membership may be a deterrent to joining. Perhaps the classification is unnecessary. Tell a member of the executive what you think.

Steelback Brewery 40th Shark World Cup

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We'd like to welcome Cathy Macdonald to the organizing committee. She'll be coordinating billeting of competitors. Call Cathy if you have a spare room...or place to park an RV.

Thanks to everyone for the wine bottles. Have just enough. And don't forget...this regatta is for everyone in the Club!

Lynn Baker & Jane McArthur

**Launch on April 30th.
Be there by 8:00 am.
Remember, yours will be the
first boat launched.**

Mainstays potluck

Our annual Spring Pot Luck Supper will be on Monday, April 4th at 6.30pm. **All** lady members are Mainstays. Please come out and join us. Make some new friends and, also, renew old friendships.

Optimist for sale

Designed for sailors weighing 50-120 lbs., the Optimist Dinghy has become the world standard for introductory junior trainers. It is, quite simply, the dinghy in which the young people of the world learn to sail.

Andrew is going to be sailing a Laser II this summer. Selling price: \$750. Call Renka Gesing (254.5015; renka@gesingconsultants.com)



Life Jackets Wanted

The Sailing School is teaming up this year with the Optimist Club of Tecumseh to offer sailing lessons children who might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn sail.

The Optimist Club of St. Clair Beach will be sending 10 children to take part in the morning session of the Kidsail program, taking place this year between August 1-5, 2005.

In order to help facilitate this program, the Sailing School is looking for lifejackets donations from SPSC members to be used by these kids. Please contact Renée Dawson at 979-9652 if you have lifejackets you would be willing to offer.

Thames River Y.C. Cruise

A cruise is being planned to the Thames River Yacht Club on the July 1st holiday weekend. In order to vacate wells for the Shark Worlds, it has been suggested that we leave our boats there for a week and return to the Club on July 10. Thames River Yacht Club is happy to cooperate, but will need to know well in advance, how many boats to expect.

Transportation by car back and forth between the club will have to be arranged.

Contact Lorne & Rita Mann

Spring Clean up Day - 1 May

Come out and earn some work hours. This year we plan to clean up the club following launch day. Here are some of the tasks:

- Clean up parking area
- Install rest of curbs
- Check the lights
- Clean building
- Tidy and clean grounds

We plan to start the clean up at 9:00 am and work until noon. Bring any tools you think will be useful.

Soundings

is the newsletter of the
South Port Sailing Club
210 Brighton Rd.
Tecumseh, ON N8N 2L3
979.7772 (unattended)
www.southportsailingclub.on.ca

We attempt to go to press by the 20th of each month. Please get your contributions to:

Renka Gesing
254.5015
renka@gesingconsultants.com

from the Harbourmaster, Jamie Halpin

It has been a busy month in our frozen harbour. First Glen Bennett organized a work party to paint the walls. It was a resounding success. Eighteen members came out and the whole job was done in three hours. Thanks to everyone who came out, especially Glen for all of his work organizing things and purchasing all of the paint and supplies. Special thanks must also go out to Harry De Vries for assisting Glen, and to Ian Dawson, John Novak, and Bruce Reid for making the phone calls that got everyone to come out.

The following weekend we braved the cold and the ice once again to extend the boards along the walls to make it easier to tie boats alongside. This should make for some much more user friendly docking space for all of our guests during the Shark Worlds. Once again, thanks to everyone who came out, especially Andrew Barlow who made the hangers

for the new and improved boards and purchased the lumber and fasteners. I also must congratulate Peter Soles on becoming this year's sole member (pun intended) of the SPSC polar bear club.

Water level projections are still getting better but we haven't forgotten about dredging. A survey of the harbour and the channel will be made as soon as the ice is out.

Thanks to everyone for the prompt submission of the Summer Dockage and Release forms. Please be sure to get the front of those cradles marked with your name, the type of boat, and the word "bow."

Hope to see everyone at Launch on April 30th. Be there by 8:00 am. Remember, yours will be the first boat launched.



INTER-LAKE YACHTING ASSOCIATION

Events for 2005 West Marine I-LYA Regatta at Put-In-Bay

Junior Sail Race Week, July 17-21, 2005

Contact: Dan and Doris vanHeeckeren
440.423.3244; dww@po.cwru.edu

Powerboat Regatta, July 27-31, 2005

Contact: Rob Wolas
734.676.3827;
sbc2000rw@netscape.net

Senior Sail Regatta,

July 29-31 Deepwater Races
August 1-3, 2005 Sail Regatta
Contact: Don Bartels
330.562.8902; legendsail@aol.com

For further information, registration fees and forms, go to: www.I-LYA.com

Inter-Lake list

A list of all the member clubs of the Inter-Lake Yachting Association is pinned on the notice board at the hallway entrance of the clubhouse. We have reciprocal agreements with these clubs, enabling us to use their facilities. If you wish your own copy, it is available on their Web site: www.I.lya.com

Margaret Entwistle
I-LYA rep

Cradle charge policy, from Bob Linton

For 2005 the cradle storage charge is \$100.00 per non-folded cradle. No charge for folding cradles. This is to provide for more dry sail storage area and car parking and to start encouraging members to convert to collapsible cradles completely by winter 2006/7. For winter 2006, any non-collapsible cradles will have to be taken off the club property.

NA Laser Mid Winters, by Ian Dawson

Clearwater Yacht Club hosted the NA Laser Class Mid Winter East regatta for Masters in February. It was a two-day event attended by 65 sailors between the ages of 35 (apprentice master) to 75+ (great grand master).

An RCYC contingent of Rod Wilmer and Steve Ellwood was joined by Ian Dawson from Southport Sailing Club, all in the apprentice master group and all honouring the term apprentice with our steep cliff-like learning curve.

Fortunately Tommy Wharton, our illustrious high performance team head coach, organized and executed a two-day training camp prior to the event for us. Those days on the water with Tom saw improvements akin to the transition from crawling to walking (with occasional seconds of running ... and falling, well swimming actually). We were guided through the boat handling basics and not so basics, all the way to starting drills, mark rounding and racing. With this type of preparation we all felt confident on race day 1.

Before each race Tom listened to each of our game plans and helped direct and tune them. After every race he was immediately at hand with water and a debrief helping us to correct mistakes and make improvements.

And improve we did, well except for my starts, but never mind that. Every race felt more comfortable. It wasn't long before sailing the boat came naturally and attention could shift to strategy, tactics and head-out-of-the boat sailing.

The event was a great time, but afterwards was I ever beaten up. Torn up fingers, utterly exhausted hip flexors, mentally fatigued from information overload. Without question, I'd go do this sort of event again and would recommend any of us who grew up in Lasers to give the Master's circuit a try. The restructuring of the Laser specifications (new Harken sail adjustment rigging, total weight +/-1.5kg), the Laser is now more than it even was before, truly a one design boat leaving nothing but yourself as an excuse for poor performance. Plus reaching along at over 15 knots ain't half bad either..."

What a delight these boats are to sail and race. Everything good about sailing is right there in a 14-foot package. When things don't go your way it's obvious who screwed up. As for competition at the top of the fleet, heck, the middle of the fleet, there are Olympic medallists, around-the-world racers and legends of our sport. Imagine finding yourself playing golf with Tiger Woods. You'll lose but you will certainly learn from the experience. Laser sailing offers that depth of talent. It's a thrill to be on the same course.

This is the second coached event for the RCYC Laser Masters group and more will follow. If you are interested in participating or just want to know what we are up to, please email steve@ellwood.com and we'll add you to the email list.

Look for us training and freezing to death in early May. See you on the water.



April 2005 SPSC Calendar

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun				
<p>7:30 pm Mainstays Pot luck dinner</p> <p>7:00 pm Shark Worlds Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p style="font-size: small;">At SPSC</p>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">At Great Adventure Tours</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Club House Duties (Mar 27 - Apr 2) Stephenson, D&G</p> <p>(Apr 3 - 9) Stratton, S&W</p>		<p>9</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>1:00 pm Essex County PHRF annual meeting. All are welcome.</p> <p style="font-size: small;">At SPSC</p>				
<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>(Apr 10-16) Stridiron, B&S</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>7:15 pm Executive Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <p>Men's Lunch</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>Games Night 7:30 pm</p> <p>Info: Lorne & Rita Mann</p>	<p>17</p> <p style="font-size: small;">AND APRIL 2nd</p>				
<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p>(Apr 17-23) Watson, J Knight, K</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>				
<p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p>(Apr 24-30) Webber, S Whiston, D</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p style="font-size: large; font-weight: bold;">Launch Day</p>					
<p>May 2005 Club House Duties</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">May 1-7 Andrews, G Allum, P & Arthur, W</td> <td style="width: 25%;">May 8-14 Bennett, G Beaudoin, N & Baker, M</td> <td style="width: 25%;">May 15-21 Blyth, K Boivin, G</td> <td style="width: 25%;">May 22-28 Bowsher, P Blencoe, A</td> </tr> </table>							May 1-7 Andrews, G Allum, P & Arthur, W	May 8-14 Bennett, G Beaudoin, N & Baker, M	May 15-21 Blyth, K Boivin, G	May 22-28 Bowsher, P Blencoe, A
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