



Soundings

Newsletter of the South Port Sailing Club

Feb. 2007

Annual Members Meeting

7:00 pm
at SPSC
Tuesday 27 February

Your chance to talk to the executive and committee chairs and discuss our upcoming season

Snacks and socializing to follow
BYOB

Valentine's Potluck Dinner

at SPSC
Cocktails 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:30
Theme: Mexican food

Saturday 10 February



BYOB

2007 Executive and Committee Chairs

Commodore
Vice commodore
Rear commodore/Membership
Race committee chair
Cruise committee chair
Social committee chair
Property committee chair
Harbour master
Sailing school committee chair
Recording secretary
Treasurer
Past commodore

Lyn Domney
Lynn Baker
Rene Brown
Chris Eagen
John Bufton
Derek White
Peter Soles
Jamie Halpin
Bob Fuller
Brenda Petro
Bill Noakes
John Shaw

Soundings editor
Soundings layout
Mainstays chair
DRYA delegate
ILYA delegate
Communications chair
Roster
Archives

Jackie Timothy
Renka Gesing
Sue Bufton
Andy Hellenbart
Jack & Marg Entwistle
Paul Ramey
Lyn Turner
Irene East

From the Commodore, Lyn Domney

Activity of Your 2007 Board of Directors



In the first two months of your 2007 Executive, Committee Chairpersons have been busy developing their to-do lists, costing them, and including

them in the Club's Budget. They are also preparing to report all this to you at the February 27 General Membership Meeting.

Also, because of unusual circumstances, the 2007 Executive have had to review the 2006 Financial Statements and they are being audited as of this writing. They will be available for your review and questioning at the same meeting. I'll take this opportunity to also

comment on the members serving on this year's Board. Most Committee Chairs served in the same position last year. The two newcomers both have another person sitting at the Board table who has had experience in the position. As you might guess, I like this!

Are we all hoping or praying that the lake levels will continue to rise? Come to the February 27 General Membership Meeting to get the latest report.

From the Property Chair, Peter Soles

Major Projects Proposed for 2007

1. Gobi mat repairs (inc F dock break-wall)
2. Concrete sidewalk along E and F docks.
3. Wooden fence on east corner of building.
4. Cover trellis over club entrance.
5. Construction of a moveable bar for use at club functions that could stored against a wall when not in use.

Minor Projects Proposed for 2007

1. Painting
 - a. Front door
 - b. Electrical enclosure
 - c. Other areas to be identified in clubhouse
2. Repair sprinkler system controller (spring of 2007)
3. Stain benches, front porch & picnic tables (spring 2007)
4. Bike racks – Bob Fuller thinks he can get some second-hand ones
5. Dig in and brick around fire pit
6. Install horse shoe pits
7. Geese barriers along shore (silt erosion fence)

Projects for Future Years

1. Replace carpet in the lounge area
2. Install storm water drain in driveway across from the storage shed to drain large pool that collects there. Install catch basin with a 4" line to the existing catch basin further west on the driveway Estimated cost \$4,500
3. Sailing School Building – to be funded by donated money

General Maintenance Jobs

1. Repair hole in gutter above entrance door
2. Clean out gutters/downspouts and test to make sure they are clear of blockages
3. Fill pot holes in car park (redistribution of existing fill material may suffice)
4. Improve recycle bins – reduces garbage and improves looks
5. Replace toilet water tank

From the Harbour Master, Jamie Halpin

It has been a busy winter for the Harbour Committee. Most of the boards have been torn off of A-dock. Thank you to everyone who came out for the work party. The stringers have been very stubborn. A heroic effort by Andy Hellenbart and Rene Brown with a grinder and a sawsall managed to remove about half of them. Hopefully, we'll be able to take advantage of the ice to remove the rest. We have ordered custom milled ash boards for the replacement wood. The dimensions will be the same as the original boards and the quality will be much higher than the more expensive pressure treated wood that we have been using for repairs and dock extensions.

I received my first dredging bid. Plans are in the works to dredge F-dock and the entrance channel from halfway out the walls until just past the first set of marks. We hope to keep everybody floating this year with a lot less dredging so that money can be spent on several projects that you will be hearing about from the Property Committee.

Help Wanted!

Please contact Peter Soles to volunteer (in return for work hours) for any of the jobs listed below:

Paint Captain - The property committee is looking for a volunteer to act as Painting Project Leader. This person will organize painting jobs both inside and outside the clubhouse, help identify and prioritize the jobs, recruit volunteers, schedule the jobs, ensuring there are sufficient people, and materials available (paint, brushes, sand paper, masking tape, etc.) to complete the job. Previously performed by Bruce Reid who wishes to step down, the property committee would like to thank him for past endeavours.

Bar Construction Captain – The executive has approved the construction a moveable bar for use at club functions. The design will capable of being stowed out of the way when not in use. The property committee is looking for a volunteer to act as Project Leader, helping with the design, construction and selection of materials for the bar. It will involve recruiting volunteers for the construction, ordering the materials and scheduling the work.

To contact Peter, call 519.739.0263 or
email petersoles@gmail.com

Work Party Volunteers –

Volunteers are needed for work parties in the coming year, the projects include:

1. E & F Dock concrete sidewalk project (similar to last years path project).
2. The creation of a fenced area on the south east corner of the building, and construction of a trellis cover over the front door porch area.
3. Staining of benches, front porch, & picnic tables. Digging in of the fire pit and bricking around it, and digging horse-shoe pits. The creation of geese barriers along shore.

To volunteer please contact Peter Soles with an approximation of your weekend availability. Work parties will be scheduled to match volunteer availability as far as possible.

General Jobs – Volunteers are needed for the following jobs:

1. Repair hole in eaves trough / gutter above entrance door.
2. Clean out eaves troughs / downspouts and test to make sure they are clear of blockages.
3. Fill potholes in car park, using hardcore and redistribution of existing fill material.
4. Installation of bike racks.

Notice re: Clubhouse cleaning

New sheets have been inserted in the binder for completion during your week. The back of the binder now has sheets available to notify the Property Chair of any damage or repairs you see that require attention. These are for use by all members. The binder is on the kitchen counter.

Check the schedule on the calendar page, and be sure to find a replacement if you can't make your week.

Thanks!



We welcome
Tim & Denise Aseltine
and
their Mirage 24
Otta the Blew
as new members

Soundings

is the newsletter of the
South Port Sailing Club
210 Brighton Rd.
Tecumseh, ON N8N 2L3
519.979.7772

www.southportsailingclub.com

Editor: Jackie Timothy
Layout: Renka Gesing

Please get your contributions for
the March issue by
16 February to Jackie:
519.971.9699
robtim@cogeco.ca

Remember to record those hours

Remember to record any work hours on the slips of paper to be deposited in the special box located by the display case. Otherwise, you will be charged. Call Wayne Hind for any questions.

Racing 2007, from Race chair Chris Eagen

Happy New Year everyone. I hope everyone had happy holidays and that you're all looking forward to this year's racing season. I've been lucky enough to meet and discuss the racing program with some of my fellow racers.

They were all in agreement that the course should be moved back to its 2005 location. So based on that and some other suggestions the course will be moved back!

There are a few other changes to the program. The course has been lengthened from 6.2 to 7 nautical miles. Another change is that the Race Committee will

no longer shorten courses at the start of any race, excluding the Harvest Moon Regatta and Invitational Long Course, and a minimum of three legs must be completed to constitute a race. When the course needs to be shortened, for instance in the spring when there isn't enough light, the Race Committee will move to one of the marks in the course and finish the race there. The only other change is that the last two series races will be held on a Sunday. There is some question about the lack of participation in the PHRF A fleet. Where did all you guys go? Come back, please... Anyway if participation is the same this year as it was last, it's likely that we'll start the PHRF A boats with the B fleet. Racing Instructions for the Wednesday Night Series, Invitational and Harvest Moon Regatta are available on the Web site at www.southportsailingclub.com.

Need Crew: If you haven't had a chance to visit the new SPSC Web site and you need crew, now is the time to check it out. There is a section on the forum dedicated to skippers seeking crew and crew seeking skippers. If you need crew, register for the forum and post a message there. I'll be advertising at the

HMCS Hunter as well as the U of W and St. Clair College some time in late February, so expect some activity on the Web site around then.



The racing program is always in need of volunteers to help out with food preparation, kitchen duties or race committee. All hours count toward your work hours for the year and meals are always provided for volunteers. If you would like to help out with any of the sailing programs, please contact the event organizer.

Event:

505 Regatta
C Course
Women's Challenge
Shark Invitational
Invitational Regatta
Harvest Moon Regatta

Organizer:

Renka and Adam Gesing
Rene Brown
Jean Marchand
Mo Regnier
Derek White/Chris Eagen
Chris Eagen

I'd like to thank all those that have helped out in the past and look forward to your help in the upcoming year.

A three-day Summer Series / Racing Clinic is in the works for the three weekends before the Invitational Regatta. The idea is to get new people out and get them familiar with things like starting sequences, rules, points of sail and tactics. Each day will consist of onshore instruction followed by a race on the Olympic Course. This is a great opportunity for skipper and crew to dust off the cobwebs and get ready for the Invitational. Awards will depend on participation.

Have a good spring -- looking forward to seeing all of you.

Web update, from Chris Eagen & Ryan Masse

As many of you may have noticed, the Web site has taken on a new look and a new address at **www.southportsailingclub.com**. Check it out. You'll find features things like current weather on every page, and a forum for our members and executive to use to keep in touch or post announcements about upcoming events, whether it is a work party or just a get together for cards. Still to come is a calendar that will give up-to-date information on important dates, like launch, haul out, Sailabration, and clubhouse duties.

To use the forum, go to **www.southportsailingclub.com** and click on one of the forum links located in the left side and top menus. This will open a new page, the forum index. From here you are able to access and read any of the messages already posted in the forum, but to post your own message you have to become a registered user. To become a registered user click on the register link located at the top centre of the page. Click on *I accept the terms and agreement*. You will be asked to provide a username, an email

address, and a password. Please try to pick a username that lets us know who you are; people with usernames unfamiliar to the forum administrators may be contacted via email. You must provide a valid email address as it is needed to activate your account in one of the next steps. If you leave all the other fields the way they are and just click submit at the bottom, no personal information about you will be shown on the forum. The only one having access to your email is the forum administrators. Now that you've submitted your registration, one of the forum administrators must activate your account before you are able to post new messages. You will receive two emails: the first one contains your username and password, so save this one; the other will be a message from the administrator informing you of your account activation. Account activation may take up to a couple days, depending on how often the administrators check their email address, so please be patient and we will do our best to make sure all accounts are activated in a timely matter. If you need to post an important message right away, you may contact either Chris Eagen or Ryan Masse.



Only 3 months to launch!

Speaking of memories . . . , by Jackie Timothy

At a visit to Sea and Ski December 27, 2006 while exchanging a Christmas gift, I noticed the display at the front window of old boating memorabilia. Sitting there was a copy of the Windsor Star dated February 13, 1987. I started to read the Boating and Leisure section. The first sub headline read "Boating not just for the rich any more" The article written by Murray Nosanchuk, suggested that in 1987, sailing was not as popular as power boating, as there appeared to be a bit of mystery to sailing. Credit was given to St. Clair College and South Port Sailing Club



Alan Henderson

for helping spark added interest with their sailing instruction programs. Another article by our own Alan Henderson (Member of South Port, retired from the Star) had a headline "Hail, grandpa PHRF" with regard to a dinner being held at McKenzie Hall to honour Juergen Hendel, one of the founders of LaSalle Mariners. In the article Hendel remembers sitting in front of South Port member Ray East's home on Lake St. Clair, on a moonlit fall night 20 years earlier (1967) enjoying a scotch. They agreed the night was better suited for racing than sitting on a beach, and the two began

planning a Harvest Moon Regatta. To those who race in the September Regatta at the club, this is how it came to be.

Alan wrote numerous articles on boating, but this particular section included another one that rang true:

"Pssst! Over here! Pardon the hushed tones, but I don't want the rest of the Province to hear. . . In a nutshell, we have – without a doubt – the best in recreational boating of any area in the Province. We have about 240 km (approx 150 miles) of shoreline and nearly 40 public and private Marinas. We'd be the first to admit it's not perfect here. Can't see bottom much anymore...it may be hard to beat the Thousand Islands in Eastern Ontario, Georgian Bay or the north Channel, but none of them can boast the length of season we have, or the variety. There is lots to see and do in our backyard. But keep it quiet, please."

As I continued to read I thought about the ease of exiting the channel from the club to enjoy a short Sunday afternoon cruise, how quickly we arrived at the Sandbar one evening for dinner with the cruising group, and the fact we can drive to the club in 30 minutes to check the tarp in the winter months, and carry out maintenance prior to launch. There is nothing more enjoyable than an afternoon on our Lake St. Clair. Alan is right.... we are very fortunate to be located at the most southern area of the Province.

Sailing lessons for 2007

KIDSAIL: (children 7 & 8 years old) - 23-28 July

YOUTH SAILING: (9-16 years old: White Sail I, II, III; Bronze IV, V)
2-20 July; 30 July - 17 August

ADULT SAILING (16 and over) Mon. & Thurs. evenings
2-23 July, 26 July - 16 August

For more details, see Web site at www.southportsailingclub.com/sailingschool.php.
Contact: Lynn Baker 519-945-7834 or email schoolinfo@southportsailingclub.com
Program chair : Bob Fuller 519-979-7772

Introducing current members, by Jackie Timothy

Fran and Stewart O'Dell joined South Port in 1964. Stewart was a Shark Sailor, was our first Race Chair, sailed in the first LaSalle Mariners race to Put n Bay, and the first Harvest Moon. Fran continues as a Member of the club, and was enjoying the Mainstays Christmas Party this year, where the photo below was taken.

Jane and Ken Pye joined South Port in 1965. Ken was Commodore in 1970 and enjoyed many hours of cruising with his family. Jane attended Final Furl and accepted a token of appreciation honouring Ken, as one of our Past Commodores. Jane continues as a member of the Club, and enjoyed the Mainstays Christmas Party this year as well.



Fran O'Dell (left) and Jane Pye

Loretta & Doug Buckner joined South Port in 1967. Doug was Commodore in 1973, an avid Shark Sailor and contributed many hours in the decorating of the clubhouse. Loretta attended Final Furl and accepted a token of appreciation honouring Doug as one of our Past Commodores. She continues as an active Member of the club and the Mainstays.



Rene & Lisa Brown joined South Port in 2003. They are the owners of a Mirage 33 Mai-Toi that participates in the Wednesday night Keelboat Races. Rene took on the Position of Property Chair in 2006 and moved up to Rear Commodore/Membership Chair in 2007. All the best in your new executive position!

Tribute to Sandy Szekely

Dear Soundings Editors &
Duncan Hind,

Thank you for the tribute to our brother Sandy (Dec. 2006/Jan. 2007 issue). That was a stroy we didn't know - and Duncan, you wrote so well. Sandy's four sisters never got to sail on his pride and joy, but we saw some pictures. As the saying goes, "You don't know what you've got 'till it's gone!" Thank you for sharing, and the extra copies.


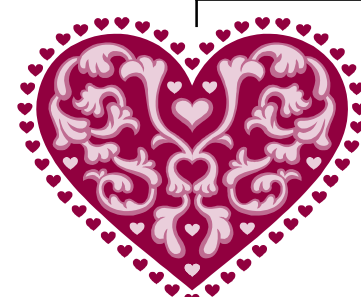








Sincerely,
Sandy Szekely's Sisters,
Maria, Carol, Eileen & Kathy

Glamorize your Gobie

Contest is still on!!
For further
information, see page 4
of the
August/September
Soundings
(available on the website)



February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
(Jan 28-Feb 3) Stephenson,D&G 			7:30 pm Off-Season Wednesday Nights 	1	2	3 7:30 pm Games night at the club 	
(Feb 4-10) Tousignant,W Edward,M 	4	5		Valentine's Potluck Dinner 6:30 pm Cocktails 7:30 pm Dinner Sat. 10 Feb 			
(Feb 11-17) Watson,D&M 	11	12 7:15 pm Executive Meeting	13 Men's Lunch	Members and crew are invited to come out on Wednesday nights for socializing, darts a/o cards, presentations, and anything else we decide to do! BYOB For information contact Derek White	Mainstays' next meeting 7.30 pm Monday, March 5 Ladies, come and join us. We can share news of our winter activities and look forward to the summer.		17 7:30 pm Games night at the club 
(Feb 18-24) Weber,S&P 	18						24
(Feb 25-Mar 3) Zatyko,R 	25		27 7:00 pm Annual Members Meeting BYOB				March 3 7:30 pm Games night at the club 

March 2007 Clubhouse cleaning

(Mar 4-10)
Zsargo,S&K

(Mar 11-17)
Allum,P

(Mar 18-24)
Andrews,G&P

(Mar 25-31)
Arthur,W

DRYA 2007 Winter Wednesday Sailing Seminars

The Detroit Regional Yachting-racing Association was established in 1912 and is always encouraging and improving the quality of racing. The 2007 seminars have been developed with the novice and recreational sailor in mind, and are designed to introduce the sport of sailing to non-sailors and broaden the knowledge of even advanced sailors. They are free and open to the public. One need not belong to a club or the DRYA to attend. Seminars run every Wednesday from January 10th to March 21st. Topics and info are available on their site <http://drya.org/>