



Soundings

Newsletter of the South Port Sailing Club

March 2007

Bill Noakes Retires as Treasurer

In the 26 years I've known Bill Noakes, he has always served on the SPSC executive. He has spent countless hours month after month, year after year doing the treasurer's job and years as a flag officer before that. Most of this service has been during his retirement years, and it is understandable he has resigned from the treasurer's duties to devote more time to other personal activities.

As Commodore, and on behalf of the flag officers, remainder of the executive, and the entire club membership, we thank him for his time, and wish him good sailing and pleasure in the future.

Lyn Domney



SPSC Regalia

Sweatshirts	35.00
Windshirts	45.00
Golf Shirts	25.00
Baseball Caps	10.00
Visors	7.00
Insulated Mugs	5.00
Burgees	25.00
Crests	5.00

Specific sizes/colours by special order only. All items are on display in the foyer showcase. For further information or to order contact:

Lyn or Scott Turner at 254-9510



See page 4 for details on these enticing photos.

From the Harbour Master, Jamie Halpin

Thanks to everybody who came out to help rebuild A/B-dock. Andy Hellenbart braved the ice to remove the last of the stringers. Doug Watson and his "More Power" welding machine repaired all of the broken welds in the steel work. Rene Brown was good enough to lend us his saws-all to remove the stringers and his truck to move Doug's 600-lb welding machine. Ann Marie Ofner headed the effort to paint the posts. Not only did she complete the posts on A and B docks, she also painted many of the posts in the remainder of the harbour. All old carpets were removed for the painting. Those looking to replace their carpets will find plenty of carpet in the shed.

Thank you to 15 or so people came out to do the carpentry on A/B dock. If you haven't seen the new dock yet, stop by the club. It is

beautiful! Special thanks to Paul Ramey for sending out emails to everyone and lending us his cutoff saw, and to Bob Fuller who arranged for the milling and purchase of the wood.

We still need someone to cut up the old stringers for disposal. If you have a saws-all and are able to do the job please contact Harbourmaster Jamie Halpin.

We are also looking to use the left-over wood and the scraps from the old dock to make a board walk along the bank in the dingy area behind Firewater and Ruffian. The board walk is to be joined to the dock with stairs to cover the growing gap between the dock and the goby mats. If you are into carpentry and would like to help with this job please contact the Harbourmaster.

Dredging is still in the works. Plans are to dredge F-dock and the entrance channel from halfway out the walls until just past the first set of marks. We hope to have the work done before launch.

Launch is scheduled for May 5. The Summer Dockage and Release form are enclosed as pages 9 & 10 of this Soundings.

We will be using the new billing system that was introduced at haul out. The release form includes the information required to calculate your launch and dockage fees. A cheque is to be included when submitting this release form. The cheque may be postdated to 30 days after launch (June 5).

If I do not receive a cheque, I will not launch your boat.

Who are the Mainstays?

All lady members of the Club are Mainstays, a group formed about 25 years ago so that members could get to know each other better. The first official meeting with minutes was held on February 19th 1979 at the home of Anna Mae Parent. Six of the ladies at the original meeting are still members.

Over the years they have been very active in fundraising to purchase items for the club. The Mainstays are responsible for the flowers that brighten up the Club in summer, and ensure that the kitchen is clean and well stocked. Although fundraising is no longer our prime objective, we still want to continue with the social aspect of our group.

When the present clubhouse was built, the Mainstays paid for the

trophy case in the hallway. Other items have been the microwave, numerous coffeemakers, upholstery of the three Vilas chairs, benches for the front porch, garden swing, benches for the showers, barbecues and many kitchen utensils. The first official sweat-shirts and golf shirts were purchased by the ladies. Monetary gifts have also been given to help some of our junior sailors attend regattas out of town.

Meetings are held on several first Mondays of the month. Popular events are potluck dinners in April and September, a cheese and wine cruise in May and the Christmas dinner in December. The next meeting is the annual spring potluck dinner on Monday, April 2, 6:30 at the club. All ladies are welcome!

Some ladies are more active than others. New and long time members, watch for announcements in Soundings and come and join us one evening. You will surely make some new friends and we always want new ideas for activities.



Only two months to launch, scheduled for 5 May!

2nd Request for Volunteers

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. New Member Tim Asetline has volunteered to assist with this project.

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 eves trough / gutter above entrance door.
2. Clean out eves 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.

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

Correction "Current Member Intro" February

Our archives chair, Irene East has confirmed Jane and Ken Pye joined South Port in 1962 (not 1965) Ken was a founding Member of the Club.

Soundings

is the newsletter of the
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Please get your contributions for the April issue by 23 March to Jackie:
519.971.9699
robtim@cogeco.ca



Some socializing following the General Members Meeting. See page 6 for details.

Bareboat Charter: Fantastic Voyage, by John Bufton



The 45' catamaran *Fantastic Lady* became briefly a SPSC vessel at the end of January, as Margaret & Jack Entwistle, Ora & Bruce Reid, and Sue & John Bufton hoisted the South Port burgee and cruised the British Virgin isles in search of warm weather, blue seas, sunny skies and fair winds. We found all the required elements, and enjoyed a great week of convivial sailing in ideal conditions. With a separate cabin and head for each couple (plus a spare!), we had lots of room as we explored the BVIs.

The large catamaran proved ideal for us as under sail she was as steady as a rock, enabling the foredeck to work on their collective tans while aft three skippers honed their line-of-sight navigation as *Fantastic Lady* island hopped. Each location we visited provided mooring buoys (all had a size limit of 65' length!), so no anchor work was needed.

Initially we sailed from Road Town, Tortola to Norman's Island (reputedly the inspiration for R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island*, and today the site of Billy Bones' Bar). The next day we sailed to Jost Van Dyke, an island North of Tortola, and home of the famous Foxy's

Beachfront Bar. We then progressed to Marina Cay, site of a large Pusser's Rum Bar (you may detect a pattern in our destinations). Day 4 saw us arriving at the Bitter End Yacht Club on Virgin Gorda Island, where villas rent for US\$11,000 a week, but fortunately mooring buoys are

only \$30.00 a night. We admired a large yacht (about 130' length) and watched in fascination as the crew washed the large links of an all-stainless anchor chain, which appeared to be at least 500' long. We were clearly in the world of some very affluent sailors, and our 45' cat seemed small among the larger yachts. We had arranged provisioning on our charter so that we ate breakfast and lunch aboard, and barbecued on the yacht's rail for four dinners, with three dinners ashore. Island cuisine varies in quality, and we had a couple of excellent meals ashore, but nowhere is cheap. One bargain is local rum, which facilitated our daily happy hour (some South Port traditions cannot be foregone!). Ashore we also enjoyed some excellent local musicians.

We visited Spanish Town on Virgin Gorda Island, and toured the famous Baths area. This is a small picturesque beach, surrounded by large rocks. On the day of our visit a fair swell was running, causing a vicious undertow as waves crashed on the beach and receded. Most jurisdictions would not allow swimmers in such conditions, but the BVI merely posts warning notices. The Baths are

mentioned in the book, "1,000 Places to See Before You Die", so we were able to tick them off the list. Progressing down the Sir Francis Drake Channel we next visited Cooper's Island, and were intrigued to see a large yacht tender bearing the initials "CIBC". However this had nothing to do with a bank, it stood for Cooper's Island Beach Club!

In addition to sailing, we also found time to snorkel on the coral reefs, and once followed a large basking turtle (with about a 3-ft long shell) in our dinghy. The pelicans and frigate birds were fascinating to watch as they dived for fish, and there seemed to be shoals of fish everywhere. The large cockpit of our yacht enabled us all to sit in comfort and watch the birds and the fish and the beautiful sunsets. Almost as fascinating was watching the efforts of other sailors as they came into the anchorages, some were very capable, others were more challenged.

We of course had no such difficulties! We became expert at picking up moorings. However a 24' beam with 45' length does make docking interesting. Returning to Road Town, we looked for the diesel pumps. The facility was located at the end of a crowded marina canyon about 500 ft long and seemingly about 50 ft wide. We needed to turn 90 degrees at the end of the "canyon" to align ourselves with the fuel pump. Even with twin engines and onshore assistance it was a challenge!

Our week afloat ended all too quickly, just as we had begun to adjust ourselves to the cruising life, but summer does not seem quite so far away now after a great winter break.

Stay & Sail, In Friendly Antigua, where the Trade Winds Blow

by Jackie Timothy



beach opens at 9:00 a.m. and you can sail all day, every day. There is a choice of boats ranging from Lasers to Sport 16s to Hobie Cats. They offer races throughout the week and the most professional dinghy sailors are out, along



historical sights and duty-free stores, if you would like to take a break from the resort. For information check their Web site at www.sunsail.com

Another way to get in some winter sailing is at the Colonna Beach SunSail Resort. Located at the northern tip of Antigua in Hodges Bay, the winds are almost constant at 20-30 knots. This was our third trip to this location, where the sailing



with guests who just love to sail. SunSail Sailing Resorts are located in Turkey, Greece and Antigua with their home base in the U.K. We had beautiful weather with the odd tropical rain burst lasting only a few minutes before the sun returned. It was a wonderful eight days. The island has many gourmet restaurants,



Boats for sail: Laser and Hobie Cat (left photos) and an RS600 and Sport 16.



**A winter's day at SPSC:
On the ice, a fish in the ice, and ice fishing!**

General Members Meeting, 27 February



Thirty one members were in attendance as well as the executive to answer questions and discuss the upcoming season of events, and enjoy the snacks and socializing that followed.

Reports

Social:

Derek White discussed Sail-a-Bratton to be held June 9, 2007 with a Marti-Gras theme. Kids under 12 eat free, adults 15.00 per ticket. There was discussion whether the children-eat-free age, should be lowered to 8 and a reduced rate be considered for the other children. Expenses at each event should be covered by the guests, and the suggestion the club should cover the additional costs was felt was unreasonable.

Treasurer:

Lyn Domney announced Bill Frank will be taking over the position of Treasurer. The Club finances are healthy. There will be no increase in fees for 2007. The long-term debt mortgage will be paid in full in 2011.

The financial statement was at the printers and will be sent with March Soundings.

Harbour:

Jamie Halpin confirmed A & B docks repairs had been completed with great results. Next winter C & D docks will be renovated. Quotes

have been received for dredging F dock and the channel and ongoing maintenance will continue as far as dredging. Launch date has been scheduled for May 5th.

Property:

Peter Soles noted the major Projects for this season. The Gobie Mats on Fdock and Edock were discussed. A wooden fence is to be erected for the corner building. The porch roof is to be covered and a portable bar constructed. Volunteers are needed and there will be a posting in Soundings.

Junior Sailing:

Bob Fuller advised an application to the Trillium Foundation has been made for 36,000.00 toward the purchase of new boats. There will be instructor-in-training courses, a new crash boat and a permanent shed constructed to house equipment. The building permit was approved through ERCA for a basic 10 x 30 foot building. The kid's sail has been very successful, and there will be more focus this year to find Adult Instructors. It has been approved to allow adult students a summer pass to use the club facilities. Tuesday-night dingy racing will begin late June to late August. The sailing school will oversee this weekly event. There will be a member's user fee to use the sailing school boats on Tuesday night only. Apparently Mr. Asselstine willed money to the club, but they do not want to use it toward the building since it will not be used for classrooms. A gazebo maybe considered for classes, but nothing definite at this time.

Racing:

Chris Eagen confirmed they are focusing on the Women's Challenge at the moment. Help is needed August 11 and 12th with the Invitational. The course is being returned to the 2005 location. Chris asked everyone to check out the new Web site. There will be a cruising class for the Regattas.

Cruising:

John Bufton announced the potluck dinner 16 March. The LaSalle Mariners cruise/race to Pelee Island will be July 14th and immediately following this cruise they will be continuing onto Ohio Islands (i.e. Put n Bay, Kelly's Island). The Windsor Yacht Club has given SPSC the use of their facilities for dining as well as the lounge and all members are welcome.

Vice Commodore

Lynn Baker is heading up the long-term planning committee. Projects are in the works to make the club more attractive. If you have any ideas, call Lynn.









Miscellaneous:

A form will be sent out by the end of March. Please return as soon as possible if there are any changes to your address, email, telephone number or boat to update the new Roster for 2007. The telephone committee is working well, and the Clubs clothing items available will be posted in Soundings with associated costs.

Final Comments:

Commodore Domney reminded everyone that the executive give of their personal time to serve the club and thanked everyone.

March 2007

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			7:30 pm Off-Season Wednesday Nights	1	2	3 7:30 pm Games night at the club 
(Mar 4-10) Zsargo,S&K  4	5 Mainstays' 7.30 pm	6	7 Race Meeting/ Rap session 7.00 pm	Tell us where you are Please let us know if you have any change of address change. Contact Jackie Timothy: 519.971.9699 <i>robtim@cogeco.ca</i>		
(Mar 11-17) Allum,P  11	12 7:15 pm Executive Meeting	13	14 Men's Lunch	16 St. Patrick's Eve Potluck Cruising Supper Friday, March 16 7.00 pm	17 7:30 pm Games night at the club 	
(Mar 18-24) Andrews,G&P  18	 <p style="text-align: center;">Come out & help to plan the new season's activities. Everyone is wel- come for this social evening. We want to get new people into cruising in 2007! Bring a dish with an Irish theme (entrée, salad, or dessert) and your ideas. Where would you like to cruise?</p>			24		
(Mar 25-31) Arthur,W  25				31 7:30 pm Games night at the club 		

April 2007 Clubhouse cleaning

(Apr 1-7)
Baker,M

(Apr 8-14)
Barlow,A

(Apr 15-21)
**Blyth,K &
Marchand,J
Brixa,K**

(Apr 22-28)
**Boivin,G&V
Brockman,L**

(Apr 29-May 5)
**Colborne,D&C
Buckner,L**



Zawisza Cup

South Port received a notice regarding Polish-Canadian Yacht Club, Hamilton, International Match Racing Champs., the Zawisza Cup, to be held in J-24s, 11-13 May 2007. Email zawisza@yczc.org for more info.

Mainstays' next meeting
Monday, April 2
6.30 pm
at the club

Annual spring potluck dinner.
All ladies welcome