



Soundings

Newsletter of South Port Sailing Club June 2008

Commodore's Message



It's going to be a busy spring. Dredging of the channel is well underway if not finished by now. Part of the work was to include removal of rocks and debris that have somehow landed in the middle of the channel...as some people have found out the hard way. Unfortunately the work was delayed.. mostly because of weather conditions. That meant cancellation of Wednesday night racing. It also forced cancellation of the Thames River cruise. That turned into a social evening at the Club. Those who attended consoled themselves by agreeing there wasn't enough wind to sail... and it was probably cold out there anyway.

The cost of the work was tendered at \$20,000... considerably less than last year- thanks to higher water levels this spring. It is hoped we can keep it at that... and put money aside for future years. Many thanks to Wesley Arthur - who pulled off a successful Launch Day, and worked on dredging estimates, all while he continued graduate studies at the University of Windsor...

Work is underway on the new Junior Sailing building. There will be a few weeks of disruption in the dry sail area, but the builder promises to work as quickly as possible. The new building has been designed to compliment the Club house, and will be an attractive addition to the property. It will provide a dedicated safe and organized storage space for sails and other Sailing School equipment, as well as a repair and maintenance area.

Currently the Club is in a sound financial position and because of that we have been able to take on at least one project that is long overdue... replacement of the carpet in the club house. The area in front of the kitchen 'serving window' will be tiled...instead of carpeted, because it is a high traffic area where food is more likely to be spilled.

There was a very successful work party a couple of weeks ago which saw the removal of a lot of material that has been piling up around the property. Thanks to Ed Langlois for trucking away much of the wood that was removed from the old docks. Friends of Pike Creek will be seeing to the removal of brush and wood. And with any luck at all, the new mini fence along the creek will keep the geese off the lawn.

There will be more work parties to come. It's a great way to earn work hours and meet/and get to know other members.

And don't forget Sail A Bration coming up June 7. Don't keep Derek guessing ! Order your tickets now. See you there... and please don't swamp the Tanzer !

Cheers, Lynn



Sail A Bration 2008

June 7

Round up at Pike Creek

Sail past, Blessing of the Fleet

Low Lou will be back this year !

Kids Face Painting 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Entertainment 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

BBQ chicken dinner

Door Prizes

June content

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Nautical Quote

"A sailor is an artist whose medium is the wind" - Webb Chiles

Women's Challenge 2008

May 27 thru June 22

South Port sailing club is pleased to announce the continuation of the Women's Challenge in 2008. In 2007 we adopted a new format by giving nearly 30 women the training, skills and opportunity to experience first hand the thrill of racing. Building on what we learned in 2007, we have reduced the amount of class time to one night and changed the date so it takes place over a four, rather than an eight week period. Places will be available in both Jog and Spinnaker class boats. Visiting boats with an all female crew are welcome to participate. The 2008 Itinerary and registration forms are available on our Website

www.southportsailingclub.com

Check the website calendar to confirm upcoming cruises in July & August

July 12	LaSalle Mariners Pelee Cruise/Race
August 2/3	North Star or Great Lakes Cruise
August 16	Belle River Dinner Cruise
August 30	Weekend Cruise to The Thames



Border Crossing Information



The information at the website listed below will tell you everything you need to know about boating and travel between Canada and the U.S. that effects all cruisers and anyone crossing the border with boats.



<http://boating.ncf.ca/usborder.html>

*Thanks to member, Andy Hellenbart for the info
Canada Customs requires all boaters who have entered the U.S.A. and return to port, call in at 1-888-*

South Port Summer Tees Men's and Ladies



S-M-L-XL \$10.00 each

*See Jackie @ Sail A Bration
or email your order to
robtim@cogeco.ca*

Games & Card Night

June 14 & 28th.

7:30 p.m.



Contact Lorne & Rita Mann for further information

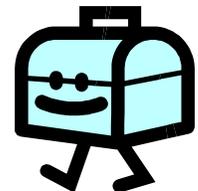
Men's Lunch

2nd Wednesday of every Month

June 11

John Novak for details

519-735-3737



Presentation May 12, 2008, by Lynn Baker

Members will notice a new painting on the east wall of the Club House. It's an original water colour, donated to the Club by the family of our late friend Sandy Szekeley. Sandy..or Alex as some of us knew him, passed away suddenly last year.

His sister, Kathy Sandvliet said South Port was home to Sandy, and she wanted us to have something he had enjoyed.

At the last Executive meeting, Kathy, her husband Mike, and daughter-in-law Joanna presented this painting. Derek White and Ken Tyson, who were special friends of Sandy, accepted on behalf of the Club.

We would like to thank the Szekeley family for their thoughtful gift, that will be enjoyed by our Members.



Recycling Alert

The club is keen to maintain a GREEN ethos

Please make sure all recyclable materials such as pop and beer cans, bottles and cardboard are placed in the recycle bins. Retired members also use the proceeds of beer cans and wine bottle returns to fund their mid week lunches. Help them and help the recycle effort. Please use the blue bins, not the dumpster. With regard to garbage, anything you can take home that will decrease the dumpster pick ups during the season is appreciated.

Thank you

Thank you, from property Chair, Peter Soles

The post launch work party was a great success. We had 21 participants, and completed 95% of our jobs list. It is not possible to mention all the jobs done, but the major highlights were- the grounds were tidied up, leaves raked, hedges cut, wood cleared, windows and woodwork cleaned and the fire pit was dug in. A goose barrier was erected around E & F dock to prevent the goslings from getting on to the premises (it is thought the adult geese won't be able to lead them out of the water) plus some gardening was done. We had a warm sunny day, and the work party was followed by a hot dog lunch. Many thanks to all who came out. Please remember to book your work hours. Also, thanks to the call committee and Paul Ramey for getting the word out to everyone !

Welcome our two new Junior Members by Bill Frank, Membership Chair

Andy Bas is a graduate of our sailing school in 2005 with a Bronze. He is currently a student in grade 12 at St. Anne's and works as a cook at Rack & Roll. He previously worked as supervisor setting up the new Boston Pizza in Tecumseh. Andy enjoys playing bass guitar in his spare time. He as a Laser 11 that he plans to dry sail at the club this summer.



Andy

Kyle Klay is in grade 12 at St. Anne's and works at Boston Pizza part time. He will be sailing with his friend Andy on the Laser. Kyle is also a graduate of our sailing school in Bronze in 2005. He enjoys video editing, broadcasting and electronics in his spare time.



Kyle

What's in a (boat) name ?

"Wight Spirit" got her name from an area in England where Sue and I grew up sailing. The Isle of Wight is a small island three miles from the English south coast. The Solent Channel separates it from the mainland. Cowes is a world-famous centre for sailing and there are numerous other small and large ports in the area, all of which have several sailing clubs and lots of good pubs! The whole region is very crowded with power and sail boats, and whenever we take visitors from our home out on Lake St. Clair their inevitable question is "Where is everyone?"



The Solent is a great sailing area, with strong tides making local knowledge imperative to win races or cruise successfully. Going aground and being stranded until the tide returns is very common for visitors. The tides flow around the island, so that at times the same flood tide is coming in both from the east and west. The wind is also affected by the peculiar geography and it is not unusual to boats running under spinnaker toward each other, only to have both winds die when the yachts are about a quarter mile apart, and then they are becalmed until a new breeze fills in.

Winds can sometimes be very strong, and I have been on the top of the headland overlooking the Needles Channel when it was blowing so hard that when you jumped in the air, you landed about 10 feet away from where you jumped: so understandably, our racing had been cancelled that day. I have also kedged (anchored) in 200 feet of water when racing a 37' sailboat when the wind was so light, the tide was taking us backwards. We reckoned we paid out about 700 feet of line. Getting the anchor in when we found the breeze took the full crew and a lot of effort! A challenging place in which to sail, but it was our home territory with memories for us of some great sailing, so "Wight Spirit" was a natural choice when we bought our boat.

By John Buffon



"Caesars at Five" where it began..Lauren and Cap'n D were looking for names. Whof-Arted ..Blown Away.. Just-4-Lorn.. Just Winded.. Money Pit and Bonus Time were some of the names on our list. While we were checkin' our pool of names one day, Lauren was introduced to some good ole music by Jimmy B and his friends. 5'Oclock Somewhere was

playing and Lauren looked at me and 'We had nailed it!' I just happened to have a Caesar going at the time! I had just finished telling her how her parents were once into sailing prior to her existence. Well, it took 13 long years to get back on board with her first trip to Mexico and her first experience sailing catamarans. I knew she was hooked! The smile on her face and the fire in her eyes were clues that the passion for sail was in her heart. Not long after we were back to reality, and boat shopping ! When we finally made the decision..how were we going to break the news to Mom? It was tense..she loved the sail but was having a difficult time with the delivery. Mom was a labour and delivery nurse at that time and you would have thought she was immune to this sort of stuff. We sailed her from the grip of Lake Erie all the way to South Port where we were made to feel at home by Cap'n Bob Young, Cap'n Derek White and Cap'n Dave and Jackie, Jamie Halpin and Wayne Hind, and all of the members of South Port Sailing Club. I really cannot thank the members enough for allowing me to bring my young daughter into the world of sailing. So many people that deserve recognition for helping me to introduce a lifestyle where people can live their dreams.

Cost ; Share the Sail ..Live that Dream

By Dennis Rivet



June 14, 2008 Dinner Cruise to The Sandbar

Leaving SPSC approximately 3:30 p.m.
Dinner 5:00 p.m. returning that evening. To
reserve please contact Tim & Denise Asetline
519-252-2526 or email zap@cogeco.ca

36 Turtles counted by Rene Brown sunning in
what appears to be 'a healthy' Pike Creek the
long weekend in May..



June 28, 2008 Dinner Cruise to Windsor Yacht Club



Leaving SPSC approximately 4:00 p.m. to arrive around 5:30 p.m. Dinner at WYC 6:00 p.m. and return to the club that evening. Land cruisers as always are welcome. Whether you plan to arrive by land or lake, please contact Jim or Sue Balfe to reserve

at 519-979-8731 or e mail sbalfe@cogeco.ca

If leaving a phone message, please provide boat name, LOA, beam, draft and number in party. WYC has very few guest wells - this is not a problem but they do need to be able to plan ahead.

Photos by Rene Brown

LaSalle Mariners Shakedown Regatta to Put N Bay Ohio May 17, 2008

21 entries competed in the LaSalle Mariners Shakedown Regatta May 17th weekend. 6 of these boats, were South Port skippers and crew. It was blowing again on Lake Erie, but the rain never materialized except for an overnight downpour Saturday, that cleared up by morning. One of the weather buoys in Lake Erie recorded roughly 25 knot winds Saturday. Apparently it did get up to 30 knots on Sunday.

The LaSalle club members were great hosts as usual, hosting a BBQ and bon fire on the Friday night.

Results and Congratulations to our six entries:

JOG class

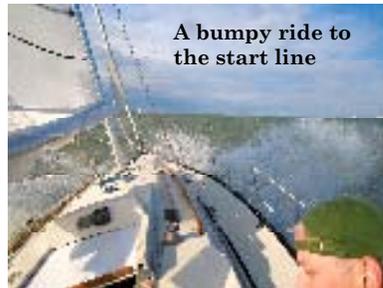
Rene Brown	Mai Toi	1st. place
Ken Blythe	Sail Away	4th. Place

B FLEET

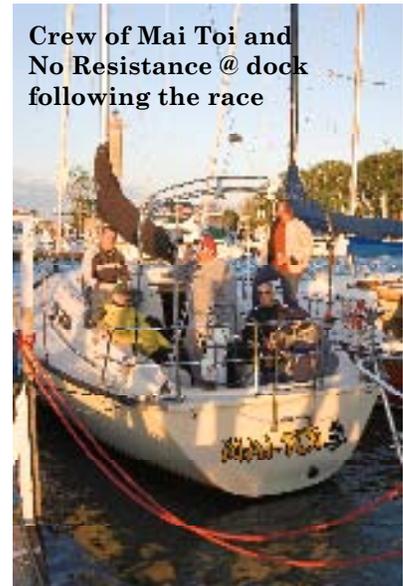
Joe Davidson	Dynamo Humm	4th. place
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C FLEET

Andrew Barlow	Marmoset	1st. place
Chris Eagen		2nd. place
Dave Robichaud	No Resistance 2	4th. place



A bumpy ride to the start line



Crew of Mai Toi and No Resistance @ dock following the race



2008 Shark Provincial Championships
July 5th & 6th



Notice of Race

You are hereby cordially invited to attend the Shark Provincial Championships, being held at South Port Sailing Club, July 5th and 6th, 2008. This is a counter regatta for the Canadian Shark Class Association (CSCA) Shark of the Year.

This Counter Regatta is sanctioned by the Canadian Shark Class Association.



Notice

If your Mast is still on the picnic tables, please move as soon as possible. As you are aware the grounds will be used for Sail A Bration on June 7. Clean up and grass cutting is not possible if your mast or saw horses are in the area.

Thank you from the Property and Social Chairs

Windsong to Sea

Part 4

The final leg of Jamie's journey to follow in a future issue



Highlights of Safe Boating Awareness Week

Always Wear a life jacket or Personal Flotation Device. Have enough on board for yourself and your passengers.
Get your Pleasure Craft Operators License. By September 15, 2009 all motorized pleasure craft operators in Canada will be required to have proof of competency.
Be a Green Boater and protect the marine environment. Help ensure our lakes, rivers and coastal waters remain in good health.



Have a safe Summer !

Mainstays, by Sue Bufton

Once again the Mainstays have planted flowers in the beds and barrels around the clubhouse, please enjoy. If they look thirsty, give them a drink of water so that they will remain in full bloom all summer. Thank you ladies, for a job well done. Also thanks to Manjit Shaw and Jackie Timothy for helping prepare the beds and pruning on Clean up day. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, June 26. Join us for a BBQ. Bring your own meat, a small dessert to share and one item for the Friendship Salad (lettuce and dressing supplied) We will light the BBQ's at 6:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!



From the Harbour Master , Wesley Arthur

[Thanks to reasonably cooperative water levels, we had another successful launch day. Even in spite of the rain, all of the boats were in the water by the early afternoon. Naturally, the efficiency of this process is inherently dependent on the collective membership. As usual, several members once again put the objectives of the club ahead of their own, and spent the majority of the day ensuring that things went smoothly. I would like to personally thank Wayne Hind for his dedicated operation of the forklift, as well as Andy Hellenbart and Doug Watson for guiding and directing the cranes. Also of great help on this day were Andrew Barlow, Chris Eagen, Peter Soles, Jamie Halpin, and Rene Brown. Thanks again to Bill and Lynn Baker for organizing the food.

Regarding the entrance channel, as many of you have surely noted, it seems to have 'shifted' significantly over the winter. As such, we have recently started to dredge. Unfortunately, due to the high winds and uncooperative weather, progress has been slow at best. Despite our intentions to begin this operation on May 12th, it did not begin until the 23rd. Please be assured, however, that the harbour committee continues to push this process forward as quickly as possible. Hopefully by the time you are reading this issue of Soundings the dredging will be complete and things will be back to 'smooth sailing'. Thanks here go to Jim Halpin, Andy Hellenbart, Jamie Halpin, Chris Eagen and Darcy Fuller for helping me with sounding the channel. Also, a great deal of help was provided by Bob Fuller in guiding me through this process. His knowledge and experience was invaluable in helping us to secure both quotes and permits.

Bill out for a sail



A halo over
Mai Toi



Returning
home from
Shakedown



Request for Assistance

Looking for volunteers to assist the Race Chair with the Shark Regatta on July 5-6 and The SPSC Invitational on August 2-3. Please contact Chris Eagen if you are available at 519-251-8067 or email ckeagen@tanzer75.net

Thank you

June 2008 Calendar

This is the calendar displayed on the Web site. For details on each entry, please click on *calendar* on the Web site at www.southportsailingclub.com (the links are not active in *Soundings* but details are included in the newsletter)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1 Young B/Draisey M
2	3 1st day sailing Womens Challenge	4 Keelboat Racing	5	6	7 SAIL-A-BRATION	8 Edgley F & C
9	10 2nd day sailing Womens Challenge	11 Keelboat Racing/Men's Lunch	12	13	14 Sandbar Evening Cruise	15 Finch A & J
16	17 3rd day sailing Womens Challenge	18 Keelboat Racing	19	20	21 Last practice Womens Challenge/Card nite	22 Race Day- Womens Challenge- Shaw J & M
23	24	25 No Race - Fireworks nite	26 Mainstays BBQ	27	28 WYC Dinner Cruise	29 Ginham J & M
30						

July Clubhouse Duties



June 29-July 5
Ginham J & M

July 6-July 12
Grayson B & M

July 13-19
Grosshans, P & D

July 20-26
Halpin J & L

July 27-Aug. 2
Helm J & Gallie K

Announcement from proud Great Grandma

Helen Mogyorody is pleased to announce the arrival on May 13th. of her second great grandchild Avery Grace, weighing in at 7 lbs. 12 oz. Sister to Kayden, Daughter of Michael and Stacey and grandparents of Kevin and Christine !



South Port April 2008



Soundings

is the newsletter of the South Port Sailing Club

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June 23rd to Jackie:

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robtim@cogeco.ca