



Soundings

*Monthly newsletter
South Port Sailing Club
November 2023*

www.southportsailingclub.com

Message from Outgoing Commodore Gord Richardson



With this being my last message as Commodore, I would like to thank an incredibly effective board of directors, that with the constant help of the strong network of volunteers, turned what could have been weather related disasters into memorable successes.

Take Sail A Bration 2023 when Louise marshalled her social committee to pivot into the clubhouse on a few hours notice, and the sail past was a promenade past the coat rack to get your fine vintage wine.

Past Commodore Paul B and his volunteers did an amazing job overcoming all sorts of problems and made the Irene East Regatta a resounding success. John M, although having just taken over as Race Chair, did a fantastic job on the water in the crash boat taking photos and letting the racers know that their safety was a SPSC priority. Thank you John and the Race Committee.

Past Commodores Kelly and Andy H along with their volunteers somehow turned a disastrous lack of wind into our most successful dollar amount to date, raised by the racers at the 37th Annual Sail for Hospice. Thank you, thank you to the visitors and the SPSC membership.

Our last race of 2023 The Annual Harvest Moon, was a thrilling strong wind/rough seas long distance race. It was well attended including Past Commodores Kelly, Wayne B, Andy H, Doris H and Paul R. Paul B set out and retrieved the Belle River mark and Wayne H, Frank E & I manned the RC boat with member volunteers. What a welcome finish to the evening was the hot chilli & beer ! Thanks again John and Louise.

Thank you to Past Commodore Ann Ramey for accepting the vacated Cruise chair position mid season. Jackie and her Property Committee have done an amazing amount of work this year ! There does not seem to be a week that goes by without tasks being snapped up within a few minutes by our volunteer army of members.

What about the job Ed Hickey has done with the Sailing School ? Besides a major reorganization of the Board of Directors, he and his team also updated the school By Laws. He modernized the dinghy fleet by adding three new 420's and a new coach boat, and set up a new, more friendly website for the school. Kudos Ed !

Thank you to our club secretary Alexis for keeping the executive on an even keel, and to Past Commodores Doug and Wayne for your service through Covid and with the By Law mandates. The remaining dredging should be completed soon. Our application for 2024's dredging permit is in the works. Several Pike Creek neighbours have our gratitude for their donations toward the dredging. Our fundraising wasn't very successful this year. (If you have some positive feedback that could help us, either through contacts or techniques, please contact one of the executive board members)

The Annual Harvest Moon Regatta didn't have a harvest moon, but I saw the incredible harvest moon the week after at happy hour, reflecting off the still harbour water. You know this private property we own, as members, is something very special. No public park compares. No dress codes, free parking, skating during the winter, you are allowed to have a glass of wine with your picnic if you wish (inside, outside or on your boat) You can have a party at the firepit and even bring your dog to chase the geese. It's all yours !

South Port was established as a sailing club in 1963, using the navy tradition of flag officers. I have mentioned several of the recent past 60 Commodores above. You can find out who the dedicated individuals were that served more than one term by checking the Commodore plaque or photo wall in the foyer.


I respect the Past Commodores for their dedication in maintaining our club's traditions and sharing their advice and wisdom. I'm honoured to have been Commodore of South Port. As part of the strong support team, I wish the incoming Commodore, Vice-Commodore and Rear Commodore success in 2024.

Calendar of Events

Clubhouse duties

November 2023




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Soles, J					FALL FURL
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Daylight Savings 1 hour back 2:00 a.m.	Donga, J	Executive Meeting				Clubhouse Rental 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Obradovic, P	AGM 7:00 pm				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Staley, R					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Marentette, D					
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

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Annual General Meeting

Notice to members

The 2023 AGM will take place
on Tuesday November 14th
7:00 pm - Main room



Fall Race Regattas



Shark Homecomers Regatta
September 31 - October 1
7 races - 22 boat fleet

Darcy Fuller & crew Jeff Kepran & Chris Zuski on *CHEERS* took a 4th place win

Jin Frati & crew on *BLUE MOON* placed 7th



Melges 24 US Nationals (Wisconsin)
October 7th weekend

Mike Gozzard with crew John Marentette, Robin Gozzard & Geoff McMurray on *RUSH* took 17th place in a fleet of 29 overall, in a mixed bag of weather and a very competitive fleet.



LMYC 2023 4th Annual
Detroit River Dinghy Regatta
October 7th

Junior Member Ben Margerison took 1st place in the Open Class. Ben has represented SPSC in 15 out of town & 3 local regattas this season !



LMYC Annual River Rat Race
October 15th

John Marentette and crew Jeff Kepran, Mike, Ben & Tim crewed on *SPITFIRE* in a windy, rainy & chilly race. # 99 managed to win the chance to 'kiss the rat' this year in PHRF.



Sarnia Yacht Club
 2023 Hal Ebert / Southwest Championship
 October 14 - 15, 2023



During this Regatta the 17 boat fleet got to experience 2 full days of NE winds coming straight down Lake Huron at 20 + knots. Darcy Fuller & crew, Mo Regnier & Chris Zuski on *CHEERS* tied for first place The tie was broken by *Ginja Ninja* who placed first in the last race.



Let us never forget our past Veterans who gave us our freedom, and current Military on peace keeping missions abroad.

Remembrance Day
November 11th
 Wear a poppy in their honour

Donate Old Sails

If anyone is disposing of old sails, please don't throw them out. Leave them in the foyer with a note 'Doris Hellenbart' and they will be picked up and delivered to great cause.

A Foster parent with The Childrens Aid Society makes up duffle bags for the kids, most who arrive with their belongings in a garbage bag. Sails of any type, unusable, or torn of any size are accepted.

Thank you

Property Jackie Timothy

With the season at an end, the grounds will be shut down this month, including the outside washrooms, entry to the sunporch and the ground water.

Weekly clubhouse duties will be limited to the main building only until spring.

There are still a couple property tasks open if you need club hours. Please check your email to volunteer.

Last month a new floodlight was installed on the school building and 2 on the tower providing more lighting in the lot. The harbour standards were lowered, bulbs replaced and the fixtures cleaned. Thank you to Dave Robichaud and the volunteers who assisted.

Sailing School Ed Hickey

This season we taught 135 Can Sail & Kid Sail students from July 1st to the end of August, and had 2 weekends of Adult classes in June. A big thank you to Program Manager, Liam Hickey for overseeing the daily activities and keeping the parents informed.

We could not do it without our capable instructors

Thomas Paine - Head instructor
Taylor Eagen
Madison Beltran
Andrej Obradovic
Alysha King
Charlie Lilly
Kyle Luck

Our Instructor in training (IIT's) included
Charlie Winnie
Liam Mullins
Blake Glazer
Cody Smith
Adam Penner
Ryan Jackson



Pre season work on the dinghies and coach boats resulted in a well maintained fleet with no issues. The boats have all been stored for the winter and the doors to the school will reopen in the spring.

Thank you to our Instructors, IIT's, Mike Weber (mentor & instructor development) and all members who volunteered at the school resulting in a very successful season.

Harbourmaster Andy Hellenbart

Haul out went well, the weather man held back the rain even though it got cold after record breaking heat on Friday. We had a slow start but finished about the same time as last year. Our success should go out to our designated haul out crew who stayed on until the job was done. We had a number of new members on the crew that had to learn very quickly how the system works. Special thanks go to Wayne Ormshaw a new had signal person. Nick Takacs chasing the slings and a new member Andrew Gaasenbeek who wanted to learn the process before keeping his boat at the club (he is convinced next season his boat will be at the club) along with many others members too many to mention.

General observation, we had problems with the slings interfering with the pads on the cradles, no names and no indication where the bow was to be set. For next year please place a mark by way of painters tape, a sticker or paint on the top rail of your boat identifying where the cradle pads are, so the sling can be placed to not interfere with the pads at haul out. Can you also put your name on the cradle and trailer and indicate where the bow goes.

As a reminder under dock rule #8, boats should not be left connected to shore power if you are not on site.

In 6 months we will reverse the order and put the boats back in the water. In the meantime plan for next year.



SOUTH PORT SAILING CLUB

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Notice of Motion Request for AGM of November 14th, 2023

Notice of Motion submission due by November 04th, 2023

I, _____ hereby provide Notice of Motion
(name) (title) to SPSC Executive Secretary

By email : secretary@southportsailingclub.com
Or drop in office mail slot : Att:[Alexis Everitt-Wells](#)

Motion Re:

Date:
