



THE MAINSHEET

Mississauga Sailing Club Newsletter - March 2012

Commodore's Comments by Norm Rippon

At the AGM, I reported that 2012 would bring exciting challenges for the Club and its Executive. We need to continue to create policies that foster growth by attracting families, youth, a cross section of the sailing community and by accommodating a wide variety of interests. We want to invigorate our racing programme, regarded by many as the heartbeat of the Club. And finally we need to nurture the spirit of volunteerism- ensuring full committees, spreading the workload, and making sure that we have volunteers when we need them.

We discussed this coming summer's very busy schedule: The Lake Skiff Sailing Association Regatta, the 40th Anniversary, BOOM!, and the North American Wayfarer Championships.

Dave Daniel reported on the work of the Long Range Planning Committee and discussed the additional safety boat we are hoping to obtain via a Trillium Grant. The Executive learned at its last meeting that the grant is now essentially written and ready for submission. Thank you, Dave!



Gary McLroy discussed plans for our 40th anniversary celebration.

Funds were allocated by the Assembly to pay for the event. By now, you may have already been contacted by his hard working committee as it lays out plans for a memorable June nine.

One of the themes resonating at the AGM was the Executive's concern that racing, cruising, and regatta events were understaffed by work-hour volunteers due to our increasingly demanding work lives. A suggestion from the floor was that, as the crewing category represents nearly a third of a membership, perhaps the Executive needs to consider work-hours for Crew Members. This was done at the February 21 Executive meeting. The Executive moved that for beginning in the next billing cycle (November 2012), crew members would be required to provide five work-hours to the club, one of which must be a racing or cruising based activity.

This does not preclude crew members from volunteering some hours this year! We would really appreciate it as we have several labour intensive activities taking place this year. (By the way- for you parents who have high school age children- they can earn some or all of their 40 hour volunteering requirement by working at Club functions. This is "win-win.")

At the suggestion of yet another club member, the Executive decided to allow the awarding of up to four work-hours to senior members who take crew members out on the water in their boats. Talk to an Executive member for details!

Our Junior BOOM programme may already be full, as at the time of writing, 14 of the 16 spots are taken.

Just a reminder that there are now only seven vacancies in the adult programme, running August 20-23, inclusive. Please act quickly, as sadly, we usually have to turn people away due to the small number of spaces.

Spirited and good natured debate arose when Membership Officer Franz Bauer pitched the idea of installing our own site specific weather station and linking it to the website. The Assembly approved his request and Franz has already begun the process.

In a tangentially related vein, Sergei Strakhov, Franz Bauer and Anthony Faga are working to update our calendar and are examining ways to make our website more functional, interactive, and easier to update. Like all of the people who quietly work behind the scenes at the Club, I thank them and realize that without their efforts, the Mississauga Sailing Club would be greatly diminished.

Stay warm- only 30 days 'til Docks In!



2012 MSC Executive Board

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Please let me know if you have any content or pictures that you would like us to consider for future publication in our newsletter. You can contact me at newsltr@mississaugasailingclub.com



Join the MSC Facebook Group Page today!



Treasurer's Report by Ron Williams

Everyone should have received their 2012 membership season invoice by e-mail. If you have not seen it, please let me know and I will forward you a copy. The payment for the entire invoice should be paid by December 29th. You can deduct \$15 per work hour that you performed (no HST is charged) when you make your payment. You must send me your signed work hour card to prove that you did perform the hours you have deducted. You can send the card by e-mail (scan a copy), by Canada Post or drop it off at the club to my attention.

Many members are paying by the credit card payment system on the MSC web page (Payment tab). A few have asked if this is a secure payment

system and is the data they enter safe. The answer is "yes your data is encrypted and safe ". On the first page where you enter your name, type of payment and amount to be paid, this is not a secure web page as it is part of the MSC web site. However, what you enter on this page does not need to be encrypted.

Once you click "continue" you are moved to the Internet Secure web page. Internet Secure or Elavon is the company that manages the credit card payment transition on behalf of MSC. Their web site is complete secure as evidenced by the "https" at the beginning of the address: <https://secure.internetsecure.com/process.cgi> . The "s" means this page

is "secure" and your web browser may warn you that you are moving to a "secure web page" and ask for your approval, click OK. Everything that you enter on these web pages is encrypted.

Let me assure you that we have taken the time to investigate a reputable transaction company before setting up this payment system on the MSC web site. Your payment data is secure. I receive an e-mail notice of your approved payment immediately after you complete the payment and I process your membership fee payment within 24 hours so your account reflect your payment. If you have any questions regarding your invoice or your payment please call me or send me an e-mail.

Cruising For a Bruising in 2012 by Anthony Faga

The 2012 sailing season is quickly approaching and MSC is planning on hosting another successful season of summer cruising events as done in the past.



If you haven't already noticed, the MSC calendar is up to date with all events occurring in 2012. The months of June, July and August will be our cruising months with Monday evenings being the standard evening cruise and then two full day picnic events will be hosted in July/August.

As in the past, both the LSYC

and Jack Darling Park will be our day cruises. I am also looking to have themed cruised nights that include 1) Catamaran Cruise night for all the cats at the clubs 2) A Crew Night Cruise where we would like skippers to take one crew from our crewing membership and lastly 3) A kids cruise where we encourage you to take kids along for a leisurely sail even if its up and down the channel before the lake.

We are currently looking for volunteers to help execute the events, bbq and operate the committee boat for both Monday and week-end cruises. The nice thing about the cruise is you can actual participate in the cruise and log some volunteer hours. Please let Anthony Faga know if you would like to volunteer.

Cruising Shot March 2012-this is a sand dune that I beached my rental boat on to explore the island in Sebastian, FL. Both power boat and sailboats are available for rent from local marinas.



Facilities Update by Glen Storey

Last year was a relatively un-eventful year as far as major construction projects are concerned. We did make some major purchases to make "MSC Club Life" a little more enjoyable.

Food Preparation has always been a challenge at the club for larger events along with eating on the roof top patio. Earlier last spring we purchased a professional gas BBQ for the roof deck and later in the year three Roof Shelters that can be completely closed in. We now have nine folding tables for those shelters and will be looking for appropriate chairs to go with them. Chafing Dishes purchased before Christmas will finally get a workout at the Sailors Gatherings and will help to keep the food nice and hot!! We have a few large Regattas planned for next year and these items will get a lot of use.

The grass cutting crew have some new equipment to make their jobs eas-

ier: a cordless trimmer and a mulching mower.

If you haven't noticed there are a couple of new pieces of equipment in the internal garage.

- A drill press on a rolling cart
- A compressor with complete tire repair tools in a plastic toolbox on the work bench
- Rolling stairs for doing higher elevation work around your boat safely
- A propane burner to help manage the weeds better

This year we will also be looking at a line painter to make the job of maintaining lines easier. We will be looking at repairing or replacing the high pressure washer as well or determine whether it's even needed.

We continue to have a problem filling some facilities positions

that have been open for some time such as the Clubhouse Monitor and window washers; so if your interested in any of those roles please send me an e-mail.

Just a caution for those people using equipment that is stored in the internal garage; please don't put anything within the yellow lines under the HYDRO panels.

"DOCKS IN" is just around the corner !!



Photos by Anthony Faga



Our Canadian winter in the 2011/2012 season was extremely soft when it came to snow and below zero temperatures in the local GTA. Europe on the other hand experienced a cold snap. The bitterly cold weather brought much of Europe to a standstill including these sailboats and claimed numerous victims as the blanket of snow reached as far south as North Africa.



Racing Update by Bruce Buckingham

As a member of MSC for over 30 years, I have served as race officer several times and have raced at other clubs here and in the US. I must say that we aren't the only club that has problems getting members out to race. Our facilities and location on Lake Ontario give MSC members the advantage of experience in handling any type of weather condition thrown at us.

Last year's Moe Fraser long distance race, which had a half race course, showed that the cruising members want to get involved with racing. Every person who gets into sailing has the idea that you need to be a good sailor to race... WRONG! I myself have learned so much from racing either on my boat or racing on other large boats. That knowledge can build your confidence a million-fold. All sailors are willing to help other sailors improve their sailing skills. At MSC, we are fortunate to have a wealth of sailing knowledge amongst our members – any one of whom would be pleased to share that knowledge with you.

The 2012 season will be filled with more regattas than in past seasons. In June, we are hosting the LSSA (Lake Skiff Sailing Association) regatta, in August, we host the Wayfarer Nationals and in September, we are holding our annual CL 16-Wayfarer regatta and the Moe Fraser Long Distance race. To make these regattas a success, we need participants and volunteers. Participating in club events is a good way to meet other members and to hone your sailing skills.

At this year's AGM, I handed out the race schedule for 2012 season. Members who were there were able to sign up early, so they could plan out their summer holidays. The race duty schedule and the lists of regattas are posted on the club's website. Please drop me an email with dates that work for you to volunteer and I will update the schedule. Names will be assigned to dates that aren't filled in as we near the start of this year's sailing season, so let me know your preferred dates now.

Let's work together and start the sailing

season off on the right foot! Make the most of your sailing experience at MSC – volunteer and come out to race!!!

Congratulations to the 2011 winners:
Spring Series: 1st Mark & Paul Taylor, 2nd Ed Dragostis & George Scerri, 3rd Martin Sibileau.
Summer Series: 1st Gary Mcllroy & John Butt, 2nd Ed Dragostis & George Scerri 3rd Martin Sibileau. The overall club champion was Ed Dragostis & George Scerri. The winning skipper and crews received gift cards for Fogh Marine this year.

A good racing program is built on the enthusiasm of club members and cooperation from Mother Nature. Remember to come out to the Saturday Sailors Gatherings and get some great sailing knowledge from the experts.

Good winds and fair sailing!



Membership Update by Franz Bauer

Last year went by in a blink of an eye and here we are already 2 months into 2012. If the weather keeps up we may end up with some terrific Spring sailing.

For those members that missed the AGM meeting, we elected 2 new members to the Club's Executive. Bruce Buckingham has taken on the daunting task of Sailing Officer and Chris Draper that of Social Officer. Please extend a welcoming hand to both members and offer them your assistance whenever possible, they will definitely need it to make 2012 a resounding success.

At the AGM we restored an old tradition of bestowing upon deserving members that have shown exemplary service to the Club the title of Honorary Member. This year the Executive selected 3 mem-

bers to obtain the award. They were Bruce Buckingham, Rod Mclvor and William Taylor. Congratulations fellas!

In regard to the Club's membership as of the AGM, we have a total of 73 Senior members and 22 Crew members for a total of 95 members. Last year we welcomed 9 new members to the Club. At the end of the year, we had 11 members resign and 5 members switch to crew membership.

During the AGM we obtained approval from the membership to purchase a new weather station for the Club. Therefore, in addition to being able to see the activities on the bay at the Club from the webcams on our website, we will be adding the ability to check the local weather this coming sailing season. In regard to the webcams, Sergey will be

tinkering with the software to improve the frame rate. We were hoping to upgrade our Internet connection so that we could upload the webcam videos in HD quality at 30fps. Unfortunately, Bell Canada hasn't upgraded the connection to the Club to support the upload speed required.

Gary Mcllroy has come up with an impressive list of speakers for the upcoming Sailors Gathering. So, make sure you check the Club's calendar and make a point of attending.

