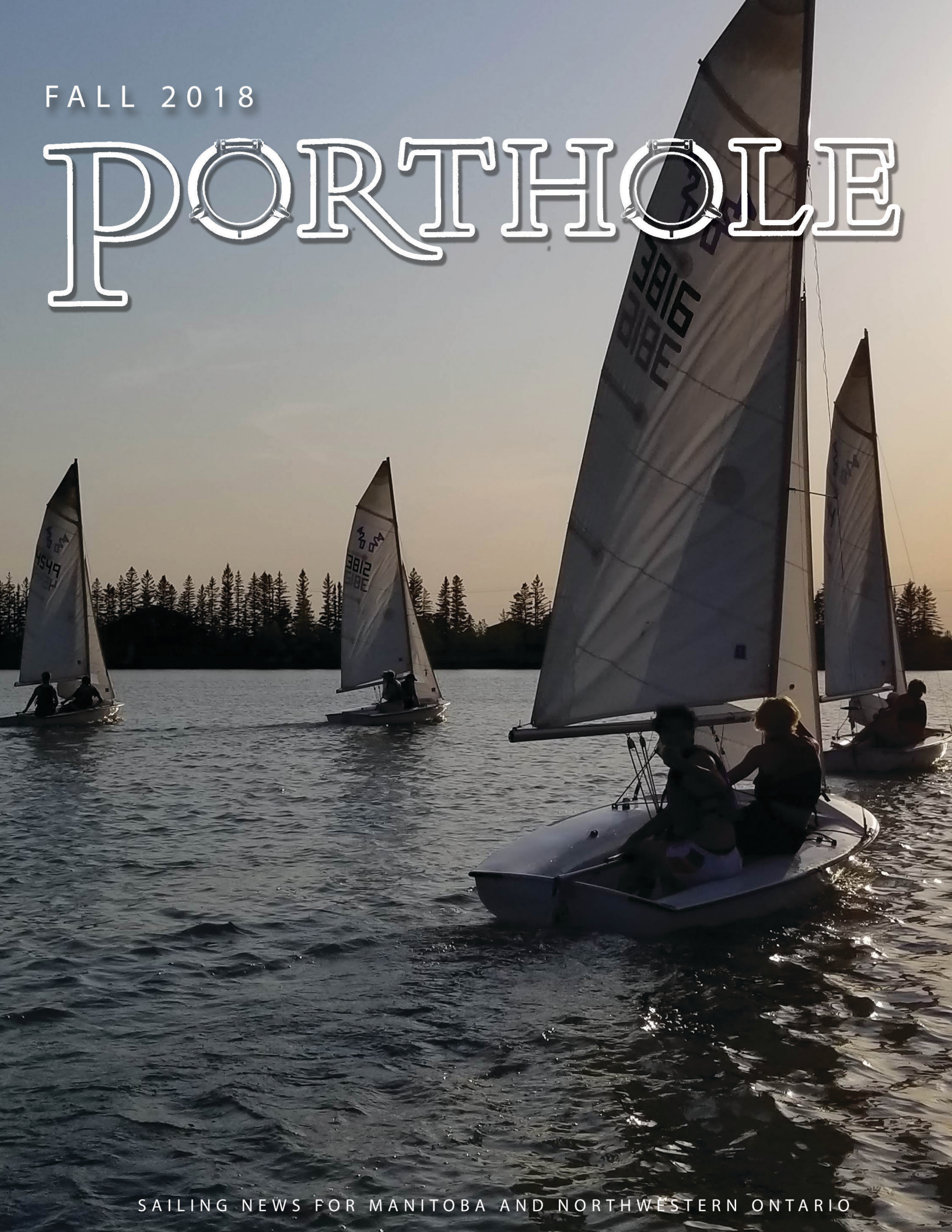


FALL 2018

PORTHOLE



SAILING NEWS FOR MANITOBA AND NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO

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Cover Photo
Winnipeg Sailing Centre Lessons, Fort Whyte Alive

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President's Message

BY LIZ KRISTJANSSON



We sailed through the spring, summer and fall with a lot of energy and enthusiasm for our sport in Manitoba. Our new Executive Director Katja Smutny and Head Coach/Technical Director Shelby Williams did a great job of organizing and keeping up with the busy schedule.

Our prairie season started with High School Sailing at the Winnipeg Sailing Centre at Fort Whyte Alive in June with program numbers remaining the same as in 2017. The weather wasn't always perfect and June is a busy time of year, but tenacious teens persisted from Westwood High School who took the top prize followed by Kelvin High School and Balmoral Hall finishing second and third respectively. The Winnipeg Sailing Center continued to be a hive of activity for the rest of the summer with summer CANSail clinics, marking an increase of over 20% in participation numbers while wait-listing a handful.

Our instructor course was also popular again this year with twelve sailors attaining their CANSail instructor levels with the help of instructor evaluator Kelsey Stoppel from Alberta and our own Shelby Williams. Some of the graduates were still under 16 and not able to teach this season but took the course to develop their skills. In Manitoba, we would like to see more instructors coming up the ranks and hope to train both adults and youths with a different schedule proposed for next year to encourage a wider age group.

An advantage of having adults take the course is it leaves the teens a better opportunity to sail and to race - continuing to enjoy their sport, master their skills and leading to what we hope is a better competitive profile for our Province as well as a lifelong enjoyment of the sport. We are also hoping to have some community instructors graduate from our program and possibly even introduce a windsurfing instructor course in Manitoba. These initiatives are important as we found that our Learn to Sail programs are growing at the clubs in our region and we did not have enough instructors to keep up with the demand in the heat of our short summer.

In July and August, our Mobile Sailing School made the trek out to Falcon Lake Yacht Club, West Hawk Lake Yacht Club, Black Sturgeon Sailing Centre and Manipogo Provincial Park. The instructors and the new Zests we purchased were well received and we already have new interest from three other lakes in Manitoba next summer. We would like to see the Mobile Sailing School continue to grow and we are working on the happy problem of how to best augment the fleet for the 2019 season.

We also cannot forget about our Provincial Team that traveled throughout the Province and beyond Manitoba borders to take part in several regattas. Our Provincial Team trains at the Gimli Yacht Club to whom we are grateful to for their support of our training sessions, the endless volunteering involved in hosting races and the storage they offer us for our boats, trailers, and myriad of accessories.

The team travelled to Lake of the Woods for Opti Provincials that was held at RLWYC at the end of July during the popular Richardson Regatta. Boot Camp was also held the week prior to the regatta that saw record participation numbers, which we managed with the help of a guest coach from Saskatchewan. Only six Optimists competed as we are seeing a surge of kids wanting to race in Open Bics. The LOWISA Regatta also deserves special mention as our premier week long sailing race on Lake of the Woods. Volunteers from Northern Harbour spent a lot of time planning the execution of this large fleet of 76 boats and the inclusion of all sailors with a desire to participate.

Our Provincial Team took home some outstanding results from Sail West in Alberta. Jonah Friesen finished 1st in the Opti; Tomas Green came 2nd, followed by Linus Schweizer in 3rd in the youth category in the Laser Radial. The team continued their travels in August to Kingston for Cork and to Toronto for Youth Nationals. The team was smaller in numbers this year but we expect it to grow as we look ahead to the Manitoba Games in summer of 2020 and farther out, the Canada Summer Games in 2021.

All in all we can report that sailing numbers are strong and growing at our clubs across the Province. There seems to be a keen interest in the sport after Gimli hosted the Canada Summer Games in 2017. We are also fortunate to have new yacht clubs like Black Sturgeon with its keen group of sailing members and the resurgence and building of the new West Hawk Lake Yacht Club, headed up by Paul Krestanowich. WHLYC is almost as good a story as the return of our Jets. Lastly, I have to recognize with enthusiasm, our Sail Manitoba Board. It is energizing to have a committed group of professionals that are truly engaged in growing our sport and making sailing accessible and fun for everyone in our Province.

Note from the Editor

BY KATJA SMUTNY



As it seems to happen every season, the summer just flew by and was over in a flash. Fall turned into winter in no time, and now it's time to put on toques and mitts and cheer on the Jets.

Our sailing season started in mid-May, and unfortunately ended too soon, in early October. The Winnipeg Sailing Centre was buzzing with activity all summer long, and Head Instructor Kayden Polacheck and all other instructors did a great job of keeping up with all the lessons and regattas that were scheduled. The Learn to Sail Lessons were a great success, and we saw many newcomers and a few returning sailors. The High School League ran from mid-May to the end of June, and once again, Westwood Collegiate took the top spot and trophy.

With the addition of two new Zests (which were quite popular I might add), the Mobile Sailing School headed off to three different clubs, and one campground in Manipogo Provincial Park. Instructors Evan and Anthony did an excellent job working with both children and adults, and we are happy to say that the clubs and camps would like to see the program return next year, with a few others joining the schedule as well.

Coach Shelby was busy with the Team all summer long, going from club to club for racing camps and regattas, and traveling all over the country – from Wabumun, AB to Kingston and Toronto, ON. Thank you to all the clubs who supported the team by hosting the camps, running the regattas, and finding billets for the athletes. Although a small team this year, each athlete was committed to training and attending regattas, and the results at Sail West sure showed it! Congratulations to everyone for such great performances this summer, and a big Thank You to Shelby for all her hard work! Now that we have some 'winter down time', we will be working hard to get geared up for the 2020 Manitoba Games in Dauphin – with qualifiers taking place next season. More info will be coming out in the spring. We hope to get as much involvement from our members as we can.

The publishing of the Porthole will continue for our members, and will be posted online on our website as well. Keep your articles and pictures coming! We love seeing and hearing stories of what's going on in the sailing community – whether it be spring, summer, fall, or winter.

Please call or email me with any questions! Enjoy your winter and stay warm!



Winnipeg Sailing Centre

BY KAYDEN POLACHEK

The beginning of the 2018 Winnipeg Sailing Centre season got off to a bit of rocky start solely because of the extremely low water levels on Lake Devonian. The low water levels made it impossible to attach our dock to the ramp; however Coach Shelby and I worked hard to provide a solution and the docks were workable for both the WSC and the Able Sail program! The WSC was also able to make some much needed repairs to the fleet, getting all 6 Club 420's up and running once more. With the new equipment and beautiful weather, WSC had a very successful sailing season. We ran 7 groups of adult sailing lessons throughout the weeknights and weekends, along with two school groups from Acadia Middle School and Westwood Collegiate. We also had the opportunity to help a group of over 25 Beaver Scouts earn their Sailing Badges, the little scouts were already experts at tying knots which made rigging up very easy!

Thank you Evan Owen, Shelby Williams, Quinn Anderson and Molly Ingenmey for being great instructors and helping out so much at WSC!



NORTH SAILS

I am happy to have been offered the position of North Sails representative for the Central Canadian area. Other areas of Canada are also organized this way, coordinating with the North Sails Toronto Loft.



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Buffalo Cup

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS



The 15th annual Buffalo Cup was held at the Fort Whyte Sailing Centre as part of the High School Sailing League series. We had 4 teams competing in perfect conditions over 7 races! The conditions started off very windy and died throughout the night in true Fort Whyte fashion. This year we had a brand new sailor in the group. Our new 420 crew, Riley Stoetzel, even went through his first capsized which was the most epic capsized Fort Whyte has ever seen, in the middle of his first race and still managed to help bring home 3rd overall.

The winners of the Buffalo Cup, Kayden Polachek and Randi Roy, also went on to win the High School Sailing League title. 2nd place went to Gabe Odowichuk and Quinn Anderson, 3rd to Evan Owen and Riley Stoetzel.



Annual Instructor Clinic

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS

The 2018 Sail Manitoba Instructor Clinic held at the Winnipeg Sailing Centre at Fort Whyte Alive was one of the best we have had in recent memory. Our annual instructor clinic is one of my favourite parts of the season. The candidates that come through the program are so passionate about sailing and there is always something new to learn from them. This year's clinic was run by myself, and Kelsey Stroppel of Alberta Sailing. Kelsey was a huge hit with the coaches as they learned the important skills of providing tape hugs, high fives and great opti sailor impressions. Ask any of our 2018 coaching candidates and I'm sure they can provide you with great examples!

The clinic saw 14 of Manitoba's talented young sailors challenge themselves to develop their sailing and coaching skills through some tough weather conditions. The coaching candidates experienced the ups and downs of a true Manitoba summer with everything from scorching heat and not a whisper of wind, to cold, rainy, and very high winds. Through it all they persevered and pushed themselves to learn and grow everyday.

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Mobile Sailing School

BY ANTHONY CLARK

The Mobile Sailing School offers a unique experience for both the participants of the program and the coaches running it. This summer myself and Evan Owen ran the Sail Manitoba Mobile Sailing School. We ran camps in four locations all over Manitoba. We returned to three locations: Black Sturgeon Lake, West Hawk Lake, and Falcon Lake, and for the first time, in Manipogo Provincial Park.

In Manipogo, there was no club house, we didn't know the lake, and we were working on a very tight schedule. This reinforced an important idea for myself as a coach: focusing on the basic. Creating a solid program is highly dependent on safety and covering the material in an interesting way. If these basics are covered, everything else will fall into place significantly more easily.

The unique structure of this program created some interesting situations. After picking up Evan for our camp in Manipogo, I realized that I forgot everything required for a person to go camping, including our food and a sleeping bag. Upon reaching the closest store selling a sleeping bag, we noticed that there wasn't a pillow either. I decided the best (cheapest) solution was to buy a decorative throw pillow for the week. At the end of the day, we were met by the welcoming staff at Manipogo and set up for the week.

This program offers a fantastic opportunity to areas curious about sailing. It also offers a chance for coaches to step outside of their comfort zone. Developing, not only sailors, but positive relationships within the community. I am excited at the prospect of the program expanding and working with it in the future.



High School Sailing League

BY KAYDEN POLACHEK

The 3rd Annual High School Sailing League wrapped up on Wednesday June 27th after five weeks of racing against other teams from different High Schools at the Winnipeg Sailing Centre. The final day was a very hot and light wind day, but we did manage to get off 6 races. Thanks to my partner Randi for sailing with me again and picking up the top spot for a second year in a row.

The final results are as follows:

1. Westwood Collegiate – Kayden Polachek and Randi Roy
2. Kelvin High School – Quinn Anderson and Gabe Odowichuk
2. Balmoral Hall – Lauren Burns and Sophie Delaquis

Congratulations to all participants!



29er North Americans

BY KATIE SAUER

This summer I got to experience sailing in Kingston, Ontario for the first time. I am the 29er crew for Team Manitoba and my skipper Sara and I were competing in the 29er North American Championships. I was a little bit nervous to be competing at a high level and sailing in a fleet with twenty-nine other boats, but the promised consistently strong winds were enough to get me excited. Being from Manitoba, we had only sailed in a fleet this big on a few occasions, such as Waves in Vancouver, BC. Because of this we had a slight disadvantage but, were met with friendliness and helpful tips from the other more experienced competitors.

While the weather did not necessarily live up to its reputation, we still managed to finish enough races to hold the regatta. For the first few days, the wind was shifty, inconsistent and light which is totally abnormal for Kingston. This made racing a bit more frustrating but I believe it gave us a better chance at doing well compared to those who excel in big breeze. On the last day of competition, we finally got the typical thermal that brought 20 knots of wind to the race course. This change of weather made racing much more intense and exciting and, was exactly what we were hoping for. Towards the end of the day, we found ourselves a little overwhelmed but overall, we had a good time. While we did not place very high on the leaderboards, I believe this was an amazing learning experience for us. We improved significantly in these conditions and I would definitely recommend this regatta to anyone who could attend. I can't wait to sail Kingston again next summer!



BOOT Camp

BY MEGAN BURNS AND OLIVIA MAZUR

This year we had the opportunity to go to Boot Camp at the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht club. This is a good opportunity to learn about sailing, racing and strategies of sailing. When coming to this event we felt very welcome, thanks to Team Manitoba and everyone involved in this event. The Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club was very organized.

We had a lot of fun sailing in the days of preparation, but only got to race two times due to lack of wind, which disappointed us greatly. Even with the lack of wind, this gave us a good environment to develop our knowledge and skills.

So, even though there was no wind, we still learned a lot, and had fun. With no racing going on, eating lunch on the lake was a very good bonding experience with Team Manitoba and each other.

We would like to personally thank, our billets, the Wilsons, for taking care of us and making breakfast every day. Thanks again to The Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club for giving us an amazing place to learn so much. As for the coaches, you helped us improve greatly and we are very thankful.





Pelican Camp

BY JON MELSTED AND SHELBY WILLIAMS

In the first week of July we had our first 4 day training camp and our team took a trip to Pelican Lake to Pelican Yacht Club. We spent a few days training on the water with really great sailing conditions. We had warm sunny windy days for 3 days while we trained leading up to the Big Bird Dinghy Regatta. We also made sure to have some fun off the water! We got to swim off the dock at Anthony's cottage every night, had an ice cream trip to the Hot'n'Frosty for Lauren's birthday, a round of King of the Dock at Y-Point beach, and a slushy and Star Wars movie night on the big screen at the cottage! A big thanks to Wendy and Anthony Clark for opening their cottage to the team for another season. It has become a team favourite over the years for sure!

Unfortunately the wind did not cooperate on the last day of the training camp for the racing. We waited around for 3 hours for the wind to fill in but it never did! The Race Team would like to extend a huge thank-you to Trevor Maguire, Lawrence Kozak, and Robyn Forsman for volunteering their Sunday to help run races despite the conditions never filling in for us. It's great to have such amazing support when we are on the road!

Falcon Camp

BY JONAH FRIESEN

The Falcon Lake training camp took place July 12th - 15th at Falcon Lake. The team had a great time sailing for all 4 days. The wind was very typical for Falcon Lake with conditions changing everyday and throughout the day which made for some excellent training experiences. Anthony Clark and Evan Owen helped coach with Shelby which was great as each dinghy class had their own coach. Anthony coached the girls in the 29er, Evan coached the Lasers and Shelby coached the optis. We also had a new sailor, Will, from Falcon join the optis for the training camp.

At times the wind was quite high and the 29er girls and Lasers came in, giving me some time to work on my high wind sailing for Opti Nationals. In the evenings, the team had a few team bonding experiences: supper at the Penguin, playing Apples to Apples in the club house, swimming at the Sauer's cabin at Star Lake, and West Hawk for swimming and ice cream.

Sunday, July 15th was race day and wow was it a crazy windy day! The race committee struggled to anchor the boat the waves were so big! When we finally got started most sailors didn't last long as exhaustion set in quickly. Thankfully, we were able to get 2 races in. It was great to have a former team member, Ellen Waschuk, and her dad Dean out in the Lasers again. Congratulations to Sharlene Telles-Langdon who came in first in the Masters.

Overall Results

1st - Sharlene Telles-Langdon
2nd - Ellen Waschuk
3rd - Linus Schweizer

Masters Results

1st - Sharlene Telles-Langdon
2nd - Dean Waschuk
3rd - Dave Telles-Langdon



West Hawk Lake Yacht Club Training Camp & Rising Star Regatta

BY TOMAS GREEN

This year I had jaw surgery on June 22nd, so I had been unable to sail up until then. Before we even arrived at the boat launch, my Mom and I happened to get lost, but thankfully when we arrived at the launch, no one was there yet. After unpacking the team trailer, Paul gave us a boat ride back to their cottage to drop off our luggage; we then went to West Hawk's partially built yacht club to organize our equipment. That night after a hard day's work, dinner was delicious. The next morning we had a choice of oatmeal, eggs or bagels for breakfast. Once breakfast was done we headed on down to the yacht club where we rigged and went sailing.

Overall it was a good first day back in the laser as the winds were just right for a beginner. After supper, we joined the Krestanowich's around the camp fire and later on discussed favorite flavors of mac and cheese while Linus and Matthew were having a very competitive card game of President. The next day we went sailing on the main basin of the lake and had some good fun. If you're used to Lake Winnipeg like I am, you'd agree that the biggest challenge was getting back to the docks because of the narrow channel, high rock banks and swirling winds!

That night was quite funny to witness. We all sat by the TV and aggressively discussed which movie we would be watching. The conclusion was a bunch of teens watching Space Jam. The final day was regatta day. All in all I was having a good day until my mainsheet came undone in the middle of the race during big winds! I turtled my boat and was sidetracked by the fact that I could see the end of my mast deep into West Hawk Lake! So clear!!! The results for the Rising Star Regatta ended with first place- Linus, second place - Mathew, third place myself (Tomas) and fourth place was Lauren. In the 29er series, first place went to Katie and Kendra.

I would like to say a big thanks to the Krestanowich family for accommodating us throughout the weekend, and the Coaches, Shelby, Anthony, and Kayden for the wonderful experience for my first time racing my new Laser.



Fish Fly Cup

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS



This year's fish Fly Cup was a smaller event held on Canada Day at the Gimli Yacht Club. With Sail Manitoba athletes travelling for skiing, recovering from injuries and finishing up school at the end of June our training squad was small but mighty. We had a 29er and 2 optis participating in 6 races throughout the day. Kayden Polachek and I ran the races while Anthony Clark provided mark set and safety for the racers. This regatta was also a great training opportunity for the team athletes that would go on to sail at Wabamun Lake for SailWest. We had great racing conditions with 10 knts throughout the day. The wind was great but the waves were choppy and came from all different directions much like the 2 days of wind we had at Alberta. That's the great part about training on Lake Winnipeg, you never know what you're going to get! When you arrive in Gimli in the morning for training the conditions are rarely what the forecast predicted but they are always challenging.

Congratulations to all the participants of this little regatta and thank you to the athletes and families who never fail to show up and make my work day awesome!

Overall

1st - Jonah Friesen (Optimist)

2nd - Jon Melsted (Optimist)

3rd - Kendra Penner and Katie Sauer (29er)

Viking Cup

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS

The Gimli Yacht Club hosted the 2018 Viking Cup on Sunday June 17, 2018. The wind forecasted for the day was perfect with a steady 10-14 knts from the Northeast all day so of course what we really got was a shifty 5 knts from, well, everywhere!

We must have moved and reset the marks 100 times that day as the wind clocked around. Races would turn from windward/leeward to reaching courses on a dime. The sailors were patient and worked hard throughout the changing conditions.

Dave and Sharlene Telles-Langdon came out to race for a little more Laser competition and still showed the kids who's boss when it comes to dinghy sailing!

Laser Results

1st - Dave Telles-Langdon; Laser

2nd - Sharlene Telles-Langdon; Laser Radial

3rd - Matthew Sauer; Laser Radial

Optimist Results

1st - Jonah Friesen

2nd - Kendra Penner

3rd - Jon Melsted

Big Thank You to Mike Guezen and Kevin Stewart from the GYC for pulling the Race Committee together. It's volunteers like these that keep youth sailing going in Manitoba!



Sail West

BY KENDRA PENNER



This year, Sail West has held in Wabamun, Alberta. We drove to Wabamun as one big happy Sail Manitoba convoy. It was a two day road trip. We stayed the night in Saskatoon and we hit the road the following morning. When we arrived at Wabamun, we unpacked the trailer and we were greeted by Kelsey Stroppel, one of the 29er coaches for the event. Since I'm still new to the 29er, the training days were filled with many learning experiences for me. My 29er crew for the event, Anthony, was super helpful to me throughout the event. He taught me a lot about the boat and how to sail it fast and properly. Before Sail West, Anthony and I only trained a couple times together, but after two hard days of training, we were both very excited to start racing!

There were three 29er's racing. We started with the 420, 4.7's, and the 2.4's. The first day of racing was pretty gusty and wavy, which made it tricky to sail but still manageable. The second day of racing was a light wind day. Anthony and I had a really fast downwind and we ended up getting second in that race. While the Lasers were starting, the wind died, so we waited first on the water and then on shore until it was eventually postponed until the next day. The last day of racing was very successful for us. During one of the races we had a fast upwind and a fast downwind. All three 29ers approached the leeward mark and we rounded it first. It was a very close race and we ended up winning that race! When racing was over we got third overall. Sara and Katie, the other Manitoba team, got second overall.

After the final races, we packed up the trailer and attended the awards ceremony. We had to say farewell to Kelsey and we hit the road shortly after. We drove to Lloydminster where we had some pizza and stayed the night. We left in the morning and arrived in Winnipeg that night.

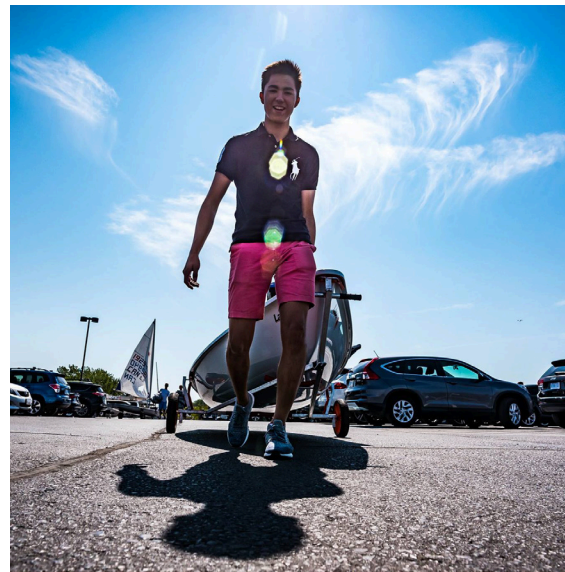
Youth Olympic Training Seminar

BY MATT SAUER



The Youth Olympic Training Seminar was a great experience and a highlight of my summer. Throughout the two and a half-day I had phenomenal coaching and great opportunities to make new friends at a great venue. The YOTS event was hosted by Royal Canadian Yacht Club which is on Center Island on Lake Ontario. The venue was very busy when we arrived and there was lots of room and lots of volunteers to help run the camp.

Day one was a half day and it was for unloading trailers, bringing our boats and gear to the island. After arriving, we had a rigging seminar from the team Canada laser athletes, Brenda Bowskill and Robert Davis. Day two was the first day of training and we started it off with a workout which was pretty intense. We had to run around the island as a warm-up and then it was 15 minutes of circuit exercise. After the coaches meetings we were divided into groups and paired with high performance coaches and athletes from other provinces. Our on water sessions were shorter than I was used to and we only spent about 1h45 on the water. Later that day we had a keynote presentation from Richard Clark. He talked about his Olympic journey, winning the Volvo Ocean Race, and becoming the driver of Comanche, the fastest monohull in the world today! Day 2 was very similar to day 1 but we got to be out on the water a little longer. Over all it was a very good, high performance camp. All photos taken by TSGphoto.com



CORK International - From a Radial's Perspective

BY LAUREN BURNS

Soon after our return from Sail West in Alberta, Sara Telles-Langdon and Katie Sauer with their 29er and Matthew Sauer and I, in Radials, travelled to Kingston, Ontario for CORK International. The first day of racing was filled with excitement as there were 125 radials making up three fleets. There was much less wind than expected and most of our day was spent waiting for the wind to come; however, there are few things better to do on a sunny Saturday than sitting on Lake Ontario. Later in the day, sailors also received a seminar about the importance of mental health. We stayed in the new dorms at Queen's University, situated near downtown, and were able to walk around, checking out a few stores and a coffee shop to end our day after the long wait on the water.

On day two, the wind was steady and moderate and built towards the end of the day. With the good breeze, my fleet was ready to make up for the lost race of the previous day [due to the lack of wind]; however, it only lasted for so long before thunder was heard, so they shortened our race and we all sailed straight back into the harbor on a reach, surfing the waves all the way back in. The fun was quickly replaced by a slight bit of fear when the thunder grew louder and lightning was visible as the 420s lined the docks as the radials tried to squeeze their way out of the water up the ramp. We then wrapped up the day with an informative seminar on general sailing tips and things to remember from Ken Doole.

On the third day, we were greeted once again with no wind, but the tables turned dramatically on the last day when it started out around 25 knots and built to almost 40 with lots of choppy waves. Because of safety concerns, Matthew and I made the decision not to sail, along with the 50 other boats that stayed on shore. Instead, we joined Shelby in the coach boat, supporting Sara and Katie as they took on the crazy day.

Overall, although the conditions were not ideal, this was an amazing opportunity, we learned so much that we were able to apply to regattas that came later and future ones to come.



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Optimist Canadians

BY JONAH FRIESEN



Opti Canadians was hosted at the Squamish Yacht Club and went from August 17th till August 24th. The first two days were for training, the middle four were dedicated to racing, and the last was for team racing. The start line was a whopping 900 meters long, just under 10 meters per boat. The sound blasts came about two seconds after the flags went up at the pin.

On the first day, we only did one race because the wind died and we sailed around trying to find more. On the second day, we didn't do any races because the smoke was so bad. Multiple people with Asthma/breathing problems were confined to their vehicle. On the third day, there was a change for the better, with 10+ knots of wind. We sailed four races in total, spending around five hours on the water. We sailed at the Wall, where the breeze is bigger and the Squamish River empties into Howe Sound. Lots of people, including myself, got stuck in irons. On the fourth day, there were 15 knots of wind. The races were delayed due to wildlife - an orca was on the race course. The race committee ran five races, spending about 6 hours on the water. Again we sailed at the Wall.

On team racing day, the smoke was worse than on day two of racing, so they did not do team racing this year.



Youth Championships

BY LINUS SCHWEIZER

The 2018 Sail Canada Youth Championships was hosted by RCYC in Toronto. This regatta ended up as an irregular Youth Championship. We were fortunate to be the first group of sailors involved in the modernized Youth Olympic Training Seminar (YOTS). This program was reinstated after decades, offering young athletes the opportunity to be coached by Canada's best. Competitors were taught how to fine-tune their rigging by Brenda Bowskill on shore, maneuver their boats on the start line by Robert Davis, and build a competitive mindset by Richard Clarke in the lecture room. The two and a half days of YOTS were intensive and packed with information. Notebooks were open and pens were constantly scribbling. This program was huge success, making every participant a better sailor. I hope to see this program in Youth Championships in the future.

The championship itself was a four-day regatta. Days one, two, and three consisted of 64 cranky Laser Radials bobbing on Lake Ontario. Every morning looked promising, but right before the start it would die to no avail. Ironically, the athletes also contributed to limited races. Once in a while, there would be a small puff of wind and the Race Committee would start a sequence.

With one minute remaining, nearly the entire fleet was over the line. This would repeat itself seven times. The Race Committee did everything in their power to hinder this issue using both the black and U flags (if a boat is over the line early with those flags up, they are directly disqualified). You would think that those flags would scare sailors, making sure that they did not cross the line early, but it seemed to do the exact opposite.

Luckily on the last day, the wind did not die before the start. It was less than ten knots, but with the 4ft waves it felt like it was approaching 15 knots. The wind, Race Committee, and athletes all collaborated to get in 4 races without huge delays. The wind would slowly lighten up, but by that time, we were already packing the trailer. The last day would nearly make up for the previous three days. Personally, this was my first and hopefully not last Youth Nationals and regatta in a big fleet. I was able to see Canada's top youth sailors in action who illuminated weaknesses in my own sailing. I hope to be at the 2019 Youth Championships wherever that may take me.



World Masters Laser Championships

BY MIKE COUTURE

Hello fellow sailors. For the second year in a row, I ventured off to compete in the Laser Masters World Championships, in the Radial Grand Master Radial division (ages 55-64). This year, the venue was held in Dun Laoghaire (Leery) Ireland, a suburb of Dublin. I still have to look up Dun Laoghaire to get the spelling correct.

What can I say, other than WOW! What an event. My journey to Dun Laoghaire began in January in the beautiful Cabarete, Dominican Republic, where I spent 20 glorious days training at the Laser Cabarete sailing centre in glorious wind, warmth, and waves. I trained with coach extraordinaire, Rulo, followed by the Caribbean Laser Midwinters. This year I finally managed to crack the top three, finishing second overall, a mere one point out of first. After three years back into the Laser, I could finally see some progress. Who says you can't get better at a sport at age 59?

My journey to Dun Laoghaire continued with ten days in Barcelona for additional training and to compete in a Laser Masters European regatta. I spent four days in advance of the competition training with Coach Angelo Cortes Tabernero. The regatta itself was a tad disappointing, as we only sailed two out of the scheduled six races due to lack of wind. I ended up 5th overall out of 57 boats and second in the Grand Master category. Nevertheless, the experience was well worth the trip, I made some new friends and added a few more Angelo inspired sailing improvements.

My training for the following few months took place mostly in the gym at Pro Fitness. The trainers there are outstanding. They designed a program for me specifically for Laser sailing.

In late June, I competed in the very competitive open Radial division at the Waves Regatta in Vancouver. I managed a 7th overall finish. This was a challenging event with outstanding competition.

In late July, I travelled to San Francisco to compete in the North American Laser Radial Championships. This event did wonders for my Worlds preparation, as the conditions were quite similar. Solid competition, 20-35 knot winds, along with significant tides and wind oscillations, mirrored what I was about to experience in Dun Laoghaire. I ended up 9th overall, despite death rolling three times; twice while in the lead. I firmly believe that this event prepared me for the forthcoming conditions I was about to experience in Ireland.

Fast forward to the Worlds. After another week training and preparation with Angelo in Barcelona in late August, I made my way to Dun Laoghaire. I was greeted by much cooler temperatures, colder water, however, countered by the amazing warmth and friendliness of the Irish.

After a couple of days of boat preparation and practice days, the official event began on Sept 9th. There were twelve races scheduled, including two races per day over a seven day period. We were given a rest day at the half way point. Masters sailors can use rest days by the way. And boy did we need it. The first three days hit us hard with 20-35 knot winds. Each of the 11 races completed, I was able to get off the start line reasonably well. I was somewhat cautious due to the tides and several black flags. I managed to keep the boat upright for the entire regatta, a task that wasn't easy to achieve. I dodged several capsized boats throughout the event.

I managed two top 10 finishes, a 12th, 14th, and several races in the 20th range, finishing up 18th overall out of the 58 competitors in my division. An improvement over last year's 31st position.

I found myself in the top 5 on a couple occasions, unable to maintain that position. I feel I can now compete near the top, however, need to work on my consistency and my downwind techniques. Downwind are where most of the gains and losses occur. What an amazing sport! Always something to learn and strive for. It's never a never ending challenge.

What's next? Cabarete in January to be coached by two time world champion Nick Thompson.

Next June my plan is to compete in the European Masters Championships in Rosas, Spain in June. Then we have the Canadian Masters Laser Championships at Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club in August. I'm really hoping this event will be a catalyst to entice some locals to get back into Laser sailing. There's nothing like it. It's the "no excuses" class. Just you and the boat. That's all for now. Cheers everyone and we'll see you on the water next summer.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2019 Canadian Laser Masters Championships are set to take place on August 16-18, 2019 at the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club!

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Order a new Laser for yourself. The discount applied will be related to the number of boats orders and shipping arrangements (both still to be determined). The more we order, the greater the discount!

Order a new Laser for yourself, however, make the boat available for charter at the Canadian Laser Masters Championships. Approximate \$500 additional discount.

Order new Laser(s) for your club. Discount will be reflected relative to if the boat is available for Masters charter in August as detailed above.

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Pricing will be going up in January (estimate 5%). In order to secure above pricing, Fogh Marine would need a deposit (25%) by December 1, 2018 at the absolute latest.

For any questions or to place your order, please contact Mike Couture at mike@couturecg.com



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Prairies to Pacific

BY JOCELYN MCLAREN

My name is Jocelyn McLaren, and teamed up with two friends, we are going to sail around the world... or at least we're going to try.

It was a book. For me, it was a book that started this whole dream. Growing up, I spent my summers sailing with my family crammed on a tiny sailboat; I was 12 weeks old when I first sailed across Lake Winnipeg. My mom bungeed my bassinet into the pilot birth and said; "Sorry kid, it's windy". When I was 4, our family went on a weeklong sailing race from Gimli to Princess Harbor. We were the only children on the race. When I was older all my summers were spent crisscrossing Canada with the Manitoba Sailing Team travelling from event to event. I learned how to sail several different boats, and I met people from all over Canada that are still friends to this day. Sailing is in my blood, but it was a book I read when I was 15 that gave me the idea to sail around the world. It was called the 'Adventures of the Northern Magic', and is about a family who left everything behind to circumnavigate the world on a small sailboat. It captured the sense of freedom that we can sit so close to, and without realizing, never reach for. This family reached for it though, they left their life and went into the unknown. I didn't even know sailing around the world was a thing until reading about it. I was totally hooked. Ever since then, I've told everyone I know: "I am going to sail around the world".

But life has a way of catching up to you. It's very easy to lose sight of your dreams, especially when you're trying to satisfy everyone around you. I always had one more thing I had to accomplish first – finishing high school, getting a degree, having work experience on my resume, paying off student debt... before I knew it, ten years had passed and I wasn't any closer to my dream.



But for the first time in a long time, I had nothing tying me to anything anymore. That was scary. I was so used to having obligations that held me to something or somewhere, and now I didn't. My friends started asking me what I was doing, and why I wasn't chasing after my dreams. After talking about it for so long, people expected it of me. My mom told me 'now was the time' and to 'go for it', and, to stop being so miserable. It's funny how sometimes you just need someone or something to push you a little bit.

Once I made this decision, everything seemed to fall into place. I began getting encouragement and advice from people all around me. It was as if they were adding a missing piece to the puzzle. The main piece that had always been on my mind was 'who is going to come with me?' It wasn't my dream to sail around the world alone. But let me tell you, it's hard to find some who is willing to leave everything behind and hop on a boat. I always thought everyone would want to ditch his or her life and do this, but evidently, not so. Society implies that you need a 'soul mate', and I guess I was always looking for a guy with the same dream, but once I stopped and decided I was going one way or the other, the perfect team fell into place. Now, we are three girls with the same dream: Michelle Bolen, Jenelle Higham, and myself. With an all female crew, we want to prove what women are capable of. This quickly became a journey dedicated to inspiring others, not just women, but everybody, to chase their dreams and see what they are really capable of. Don't wait for the perfect moment, take the moment, and make it perfect.

In less than six weeks, we have managed to form this team, create a website, blog, film a promo video, and have flown across the country to meet and hash out our goals, expectations, and what everyone can bring to the table. If you want to learn more about who we are and our progress, check us out on social media (it is loaded with pictures, stories, and updates!):

website/blog: www.seasondering.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/seasondering
Instagram: @Seasondering

We would love to hear from anyone and everyone who has advice, or simply encouragement. We hope you join us on this journey!



Manitoba Keelboat Championships

BY PAUL GOMORI

The Manitoba Keelboat Championships took place on September 15 & 16, 2018 and was hosted by the Northern Yacht Club at Northern Harbour. Four boats registered for the race on what was forecasted to be a weekend of wind and rain. Following a short skippers meeting with coffee and donuts, the boats made their way out to the race course which was positioned in the bay between Sultana Island and Hay Island, just south of Pine Portage Bay.

The wind that morning was filling in from the North and forecasted to shift to the Northeast. However the sun was shining and the temperature was rising. It was shaping up to be a beautiful day! A standard windward/leeward course was set with the start/finish line positioned in the middle of the bay. The first race started at 11:15 and took about 45 minutes to an hour to complete. Perfect. Marks were adjusted to account of the changing wind and another race was started. The wind continued to build and settle on its predicted Northeast direction. Marks were adjusted again, and another race was held.

At this point the forecast for the following day was consulted and the prediction was cold and rainy weather. The races were going off smoothly and the RC made the decision to push to have all races for the regatta completed on the one day. The fifth race of the day was started at 3:30 pm with plenty of time to complete and get boats back to harbour.

A pizza party concluded the event with awards held on the deck. Thanks to all the boats that participated and to Chris Boucher for being the Race Committee for the event.

Final results are as follows – congratulations to Jim Fogg and his crew on Rhumb Line!

1. Rhumb Line
2. Daddy's Girl
3. Surf
4. Rocket



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Victoria Beach Waterman Challenge

BY DANNY GIBSON

The inaugural Victoria Beach Waterman Challenge is behind us now. The event took place at the Victoria Beach Yacht Club and consisted of four different races; stand up paddle board (SUP), windsurfing, kiteboarding, and the Waterman race combining SUP and either windsurfing or kiteboarding depending on the riders preference. The races were fun and competitive. We had athletes of all ages and abilities. The competitors lined up on the beautiful sand beaches and raced around a mark offshore and back to the beach. Like all dedicated Watermen, we adapt to guarantee a fun day on the water regardless of weather conditions. This year, we started with favorable conditions for all the races but throughout the day, the wind decreased so the decision was made to complete the Waterman race on a SUP only on an extended course.

We would like to thank all the athletes for an incredible turnout despite the short notice and a conflicting event in Saskatchewan. We would also like to thank our generous sponsors Gibson Construction, Boost Kiteboarding, & Windsurf Manitoba. Finally, we would like thank all our volunteers. Without your help this event would have never taken place.

We learned a lot from this year and plans for next year's Waterman Challenge are already under way! Stay tuned for details...

RESULTS:

SUP Men:

1. Alex Martin
2. Ted Geddert
3. Jeff Hughes
4. Jamie Hilland
5. Gavin Broadbent

Windsurf Men:

1. Derek Boyda
2. Brian Boyd
3. Lawrence Stewart
4. Jeremy Ritsema
5. Alex Martin
6. Mike Suderman

SUP Women:

1. Jordan Suderman
2. Jamie Flewelling
3. Aly Suderman + Rita Kupiak
4. Haley Kupiak

Windsurf Women:

1. Margaret Meulendyk
2. Ella Russell

SUP Junior:

1. Leven Broadbent
2. Corran Broadbent

Waterman Men:

1. Jeff Hughes
2. Ted Geddert
3. Alex Martin
4. Danny Gibson
5. Derek Boyda
6. Bob Suderman
7. Gavin Broadbent
8. Lawrence Stewart
9. Mike Suderman

Kite Men:

1. Gavin Broadbent (door)
2. Danny Gibson (foil)
3. Bob Suderman +
4. Jeff Hughes + Ted Geddert

Waterman Women:

1. Jamie Flewelling
2. Margaret Meulendyk



Like us on Facebook: Victoria Beach Waterman Challenge
Follow us on Instagram: victoriabeachwatermanchallenge



LOWISA 48 – What Happens When You Lose a Prop

BY ERIC VOGAN, SKIPPER, KITCHEN PARTY

9 am Monday, August 5, 2013, in the western reaches of Tranquil Channel.... We slowly motored from the night's anchorage to the starting line in our Beneteau 36.7, "Kitchen Party". At 10 a.m., the Race Committee flag was raised, three blasts on the horn - the start was postponed; no wind. The placid water on this serenely desolate area of Lake of the Woods that day gave most people the feeling that they'd arrive early in that night's anchorage sipping Caesars and Coronas, rather than racing the day's course. Our family of four had come from as far as Whistler and Toronto to be on the 48th LOWISA Regatta on beautiful Lake of the Woods in Northwest Ontario, on what has been billed as "the greatest freshwater sailing race on Earth". We'd been on the regatta many times before, for something like twenty years among the people in our family. Each year there was a new route for the seven day race. This year for the first time the LOWISA fleet was going into a remote area called Sabaskong - an area with no cell reception or services nearby.

We milled around the abandoned start line for a while, contemplating going for a swim. Once we saw other boats in the fleet motor past us following the Race Committee boat in hope of a new start further up the course, we figured we should as well. Our skipper put the boat in gear and upped the throttle only to find us moving nowhere. Dumbfounded, he quickly jumped into the engine room in the cabin to examine what the problem could be. Our newest crew member, Steve, decided he should jump in the water and see if our prop was still attached. We somewhat scoffed at the idea and just figured he wanted to go swimming. But when he returned from below the boat, he claimed to have found no propeller. Our Skipper, not eager to act on the quick conclusions of someone as wet behind the ears as Steve, decided to go down and take a look for himself. To his own dismay he found Steve to be correct; we'd lost our folding propeller.

We really had no idea what to do. Should we wait for wind and try to make the long sail back to Kenora harbour through the tight confines of Tranquil Channel? Would the harbour even have a propeller that would fit our boat? How many days would it take to get the right prop shipped out to Kenora? How do you even install a new propeller? We were completely dumbfounded until we got on the VHF radio. It started with a brainstorming chat with our friend Bob from Blondie who had a few initial ideas. Conveniently and not surprisingly, a large number of boats on the fleet were listening in on our VHF transmissions (for safety reasons, as Rod from Aries puts it). Before we knew it, we had numerous boats from the fleet chiming in with suggestions on how they could help.

Within about an hour, we had a plan. It started with Aries offering the use of their boosted cell phone and then towing Kitchen Party to that night's anchorage. During the tow, our Skipper hopped aboard Aries and used their cell phone to call American dealers (Monday was a Canadian holiday), eventually connecting with Ward at Beneteau Parts in South Carolina to see whether he had a prop. Nervous moments passed with a tenuous cell connection while Ward put the Kitchen Party's skipper on hold and searched the continent for a prop.

Meanwhile, Marty, the skipper of the American boat Dress Rehearsal, offered his office in Roseau, Minnesota as a delivery destination for a prop, should we find one. This was a key step, as any shipment through Canada would inevitably result in customs delays and much longer delivery route. Buena Vista Resort, near Morson, Ontario, where the regatta would lay over for a day provisioning and relaxation, was not far from the Minnesota border., Marty would have one of his co-workers deliver the propeller from his Roseau office to Warroad, Minnesota, a small town on Lake of the Woods and even closer to the Buena Vista Resort.

Ward came back on the line to say that he couldn't find a folding prop (like the one at the bottom of Tranquil Channel), but he had found a fixed prop. We weren't about to be picky. It would be in Roseau by noon the next day, which meant it could be in Warroad by the end of the work day Tuesday. Two hurdles remained. First, getting the propeller from Warroad to the Buena Vista resort and second, figuring out how to actually install the new propeller with the boat still in the water. These obstacles were overcome easily because the Commodores of LOWISA 48, Matt and Chris Debicki on Misty, were well prepared for such contingencies. The first hurdle - getting the prop to Buena Vista - At the Tuesday night anchorage at McPherson Island, just northeast of the US border, Kitchen Party's skipper called Buena Vista Resort via satellite phone in the REPAX boat. After describing our predicament to Rick Gate, the owner of Buena Vista Resort, he said his son Ryan would be happy to make the 200 mile round trip to pick up our new propeller in Warroad and clear Canadian Customs at Rainy River, Ontario.

The second hurdle - installing the prop while Kitchen Party was still in the water - The Commodores had the foresight to bring along a scuba tank and regulator. On Wednesday afternoon Dale from Good Spirit (a power boater accompanying the fleet) lashed his 40hp dinghy to the starboard quarter of Kitchen Party to provide power for the propless boat. We then steered for the shallow water (7') at the Buena Vista dock. Commodore Matt, a licensed captain with a decade of ocean sailing under his belt, asked for a 10 foot line and a pail with some weight in it. He then used the 10' line to hang his scuba tank and regulator over the lifelines and put the necessary tools and parts in the weighted pail. Donning a mask and the mouthpiece, he dry fitted the parts of the prop to the shaft. He then surfaced and asked for a dab of 5200 adhesive to be applied to the prop nut and set screw. Five minutes later, Kitchen Party had useful diesel power.

So sure enough, after losing our propeller Monday morning in one of the most remote areas of Lake of the Woods, we left the dock at Buena Vista resort under our own power Wednesday afternoon. The people on the LOWISA race and the folks at Buena Vista resort came together in an absolutely selfless manner and turned our bizarre misfortune into a quick recovery and reason to celebrate with new friends. So the next time you hear someone with problems on the VHF, chime in with some help. They won't be mad you're listening in.

Viper 640 Canadians/Nepean One Design

BY ANDREW MURTOMAKI



This year's Viper 640 Canadians were held at the Nepean Yacht Club in Ottawa, Ontario. The championships were held in conjunction with the Nepean One Design Regatta which included the 2.4m, 505, J24, J80 and Viper 640 classes. Audrey, Elise and I packed up the boat and prepared to make our 2,200 km road trip across the country. For those of you who have nightmares of towing a sailboat that kind of distance, let me tell you: towing a Viper is a dream - light weight, low to the ground, pedal to the metal and 2 and half days later we made it there.

Friday morning we showed up and started rigging the boat, sneaking peaks at the local Vipers to see how the newer boats are now rigged. We were soon not only greeted, but being helped by our first out of town friend Brian, who, seconds after introducing himself, was helping us untangle our halyards in our mast. Soon other out of town boats, including three brand new vipers, rolled into the boat yard.

Saturday the wind was light, swimming and rafting were top picks to pass the time hoping that the wind would pick up. Unfortunately, that wind never came and there was no racing Saturday. The day was not a complete loss, as it allowed us to talk through some of the boat's finer nuances with our fellow competitors. In the evening, the Viper class headed downtown, our friend Brian provided us with what was dubbed the "Viper 640 Canadian Amazing Race". He asked us to use an Uber, find the Parliament Building, take a picture in front of the flame, then walk and find the fleet at the Heart and Crown pub. I am glad to say we completed all of our tasks, we found our fleet gathered around the table. What we discovered was that our fleet was made up of young, enthusiastic and positive sailors. And what does a group of young enthusiastic sailors do after a day on the water? We talk more about sailing!

Sunday started out slow, the motorized sailboats towed us non-engine boats out to the race course. The Vipers rafted up together, well most of us except for Van on 211, who insisted there was wind, and sailed circles around us. Slowly the wind filled in and the race was on. The race committee got off two quick races before the time limit ran out. The regatta was over. Van, who found the wind as we rafted, was crowned the Canadian Champion for 2018. We packed up the boat, and travelled to the airport to fly back to Winnipeg. The boat was going to stay in Ottawa for a few weeks, but that's another story...



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Viper 640 North American Championships

BY AUDREY DALLAIRE-GAGNON



The 2018 Viper 640 North American championships were held in Kingston Ontario. 36 Vipers from Canada, Bermuda and the United States battled to win the title of North American champions. Our Viper "Surf" (#74), arrived with hopes of high speed, fast, fun racing action and we were not disappointed. This event would mark our second ever Viper class regatta.

Anybody who goes to a large class event like the North Americans will tell you that there is a steep learning curve and the first time you show up, you will learn a lot very quickly. Sometimes a big event like this can be intimidating to a new boat owner but I highly recommend trying it, we learned more in 4 days of racing than we ever could have learned in 10 years by ourselves. The competition was intense and every team was very good, even at the back of the fleet. I can't thank enough the wonderful people who helped us on our journey and spent countless hours off the water helping us with boat set up and manoeuvres practiced on land. We learned so many things we didn't know, how to perform various kite take downs, how to gybe properly, and where everyone needs to be in the boat.

I didn't just see our boat receiving assistance at the regatta, I recall an incident where a boat suffered damage to the keel during a hoist. The skipper and crew of another boat, MEOW, spent their evening assisting in the repair to get them up and running for the next day of racing. What I saw at this regatta wasn't just good racing, it was comradeship, fun, and a lot of young sailors keen to push the class forward.

If you are interested in "Vipering", please visit www.viper640.org to learn more, next year the World Championships will be held in Long Beach, California. Can you think of a better road trip?

Happy sailing!



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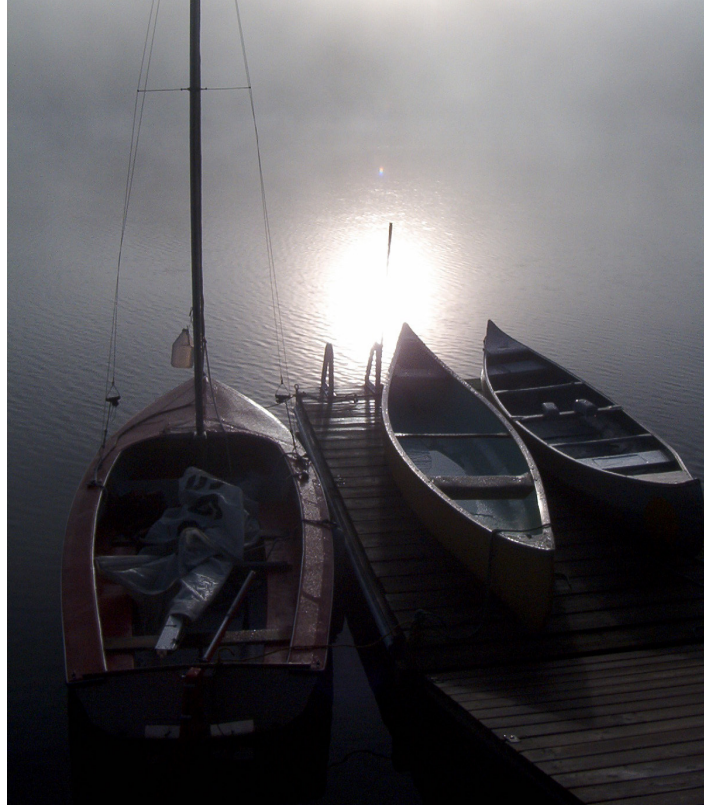
Black Sturgeon Sailing Club

BY PHIL BURNS

The Black Sturgeon Sailing Club had a busy season this year and wrapped up on the September long weekend with 3 races in moderate to high, gusty winds. 2018 saw a total of 12 races which makes up a great series throughout the summer.

We also had our annual weekend of lessons in July which was well attended. Thirty kids and adults came out on a perfect sailing weekend. The weather being sunny, 25 degrees, with nice moderate winds which gave perfect conditions to learn the basics. This year we switched things up a bit by devoting one instructor to training the more experienced sailors. The instructor put these folks through their paces by working on tacking, starting and stopping and reaching. Basically, he helped them sail faster and with more confidence. Results of this training were seen in the following races.

Next season we are considering doing a week of lessons – Monday thru Friday, with one session in the morning and another in the afternoon. BSSC also saw some activity outside the confines of Black Sturgeon. Three members went off campus to Kenora and competed in the Richardson Regatta at Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club.



We also saw a member head to Kingston, Ontario for CORK, Toronto for Youth Nationals, and Wabamun, Alberta for Sail West. Later in September, four members competed in the Manitoba Keel Boat Championships at Northern Harbour. So, all in all, our club had fun at home and abroad culminating in a great 2018 season.

Falcon Yacht Club

BY PENNY KELLY

Members of the Falcon Yacht Club put the boats away, raised the docks and tidied the grounds at the end of September putting an end to very active summer of fantastic sailing. The weather was beautiful and the winds were generally favorable for excellent sailing.

Weekend racing saw anywhere from five to a dozen or more Lasers, Tasars, Scows and Laser II's on the start line every Saturday and Sunday throughout the summer. In addition to lots of activity on the water, sailors took to the classroom to attend several 'Sail Fast' clinics conducted by past National Sailing Team coaches, Sharlene and David and former national Argentinian national team member, Gonzalo. FYC is fortunate to have many highly skilled members.



For the first time ever, FYC ran two keel boat and catamaran races during the summer. Sailors who normally race Lasers and Tasers piled onto the keel boats and catamarans to crew. These spirited races were well attended and lots of fun.

In collaboration with Sail Manitoba's Mobile Sailing School, the Club hosted several Learn to Sail Programs for both children and adults. In addition, a brand new program was launched for women. The Club plans to build on this new Program next season to encourage more women sailors. The Club's fleet of active women sailors has been steadily increasing.

The season will officially come to a close with the Club's Annual Meeting and presentation of Award in November. Falcon members are already looking forward to next season.



Gimli Yacht Club

BY CARI REBIZANT

Save the Lake Fundraiser - This first ever GYC and Kiwanis co-partnered event was held at the club site on June 30th. Over \$4,500 was raised for the Lake Winnipeg Foundation! Kudos to all the volunteers that made this a huge success! The GYC site hosted over 200 people which included an information session about the threat of phosphate loading in Lake Winnipeg and the resultant eutrophication that can occur as explained by the Lake Winnipeg Foundation and the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium. Our Kiwanis partner ran a delicious fish fry.

Leukemia Cup - This year was the most successful Leukemia Cup in recent years with \$11,774 being raised. Over 90 people attended the evening BBQ where we heard the amazing story of Val Verity, a Leukemia survivor, who thanked everyone for their support for this worthy cause. Key contributors: Eric Turner, Wolfe and Luann Smythe -Spaghetti and Summer Solstice Sail event, Fred Finlayson and his crew.

Cruiser trip - July 21 - Aug 5 - Our first ever cruiser trip included five GYC keelboats. The most northerly anchorage reached was Berens Island (Swampy). Other stops included Hecla, Biscuit Bay and new explorations took to the cruisers to Collins Harbour and into the all-weather protected bay of Black 8. Sailing on Lake Winnipeg is always an adventure and this year's low water levels kept that theme going strong. Some of the harbours you had no trouble getting into, other required you to follow charted paths precisely or you practiced your hand at dragging your boat off the bottom.

In addition, many rocks that were well below the surface other years, were now only feet or even inches away from the makings of a very bad day. Needless to say, this year's trip kept everyone on their toes! Starship, was the lead keelboat helmed by Jason Ward our cruise director along with his wife Amanda. Well done!

Sailing School and Introduction to Sailing - Our fantastic instructors Kayden Polachek and Luke Boguski ran 10 sessions delivering sailing lessons to over 60 students! The majority of lessons were in the Optimist fleet (exclusively young and pre-teens) with some Laser sessions held for youth and a few adults. Key successes for running the sailing program are the great sponsors (individual and Interlake businesses) that fund Interlake children to enroll in sailing school and GYC volunteers who overhauled and maintained the fleet and who served as shore side club ambassadors and safety folks during the school. GYC offered a new sailing experience to the wind and water curious by offering private and introductory sailing lessons in our Albacore sailboat. GYC is proud to deliver quality on-the-water educational sailing experiences and training.

Wednesday Night Racing - Eleven boats competed in 12 races with 7 boats in Division 1 and 4 boats in Division 2. The winds of Lake Winnipeg mostly cooperated (only 1 race was canceled due to very high winds). Competition was very close with top 3 finishers for each series decided on last race day. Check out GYC Facebook page for race photos by amateur photographer, Carol Guezen. Many thanks to Mike Guezen and everyone that assisted with running the 2018 WNR series.



Gull Lake Yacht Club

BY JAY ZAMMIT

Hot and dry weather provided a fantastic back drop to the summer weekend race series. Our Club once again enjoyed a diverse range of boats as well as ages of members. In his 70's, George Townley continues to impress and inspire with his agility and energy on his Laser, particularly in high wind. New this year at age 14 was Chloe Card. Chloe is known to the writer for her quick wit and athletic abilities in water sports. She is a quick learner and unafraid of competing with our Club's seasoned veterans. One such crew veteran - Catherine Card, (who is currently on sabbatical from racing on account of infant children) was quick to point out Chloe's braveness in competing with some of the "competitive dudes who know what they're doing out there". One of those "competitive Dudes" - Dave Reinisch, happens to be Chloe's sailing coach.

Also in training with Dave Reinisch is Chloe's younger sister, Ann, who we might expect will also make an entry into Club racing soon. We had 14 summer series races. Braden Pierce et al came in first for the season in his J18. Commodore Kevin and Kris Turner were second in their MC Scow. Dan Reinisch et al was third for the season series in his J18.

The season culminated in our annual regatta, where members compete in several races over a weekend for the much coveted custom made Dan Reinisch trophies. Dan won one of his own hand crafted trophies for the first time this year, taking 3rd place overall. In second place was Dan's brother - Dave Reinisch, who added to his collection of trophies from past regattas. Dave may soon have to build an addition to his cottage for a trophy room. First place finishers were the Brothers Pierce - Braden and Cam, who, over the years, have skillfully figured out how to sail their J18, fast (it of course helps to have wash board abs). There are now three J18s in the Club, making the competition in that class great fun before, during and after the races. The Regatta Pirate Trophy went to the writer and crew this year for secretly orchestrating a change in sail boats only days before the Regatta. With this I confess, but alas, only to finish outside of the podium again this year.

A big shout out to Ken Vanstraellen of Freedom Concepts who created and sponsored our Club sweat shirts. Thanks Ken!



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LOWISA 53

BY JOHN VOGAN, COMMODORE, LOWISA 53

Everybody knew we'd have a good time on LOWISA 53, but the question on everyone's mind was, were we going to have any wind? The previous year's LOWISA saw the cancellation of half of the races throughout the week. It was relaxing, but some racing would've been nice. So we went into L53 like we would any other year, ready for anything. Because that's all you can really do on LOWISA, just roll with what Mother Nature throws at you. With 42 boats and about 120 people registered for the week-long regatta, we started things off on the Saturday night with LOWISA congregating on the MS Kenora - a wonderful vintage cruise ship that tours Lake of the Woods on a nightly basis. Old friends rejoiced, newbies mingled and we prepared for our favorite week of the year. We awoke the next morning to a chilly but decent breeze! Race day one began in the vicinity of Downtown Kenora, with the classic car show happening on the shores and curious land people watching the start take place. Jim Richardson and the crew of JAROCASE became the inaugural winners of the Discover Kenora Cup - the one-day race that occurs within the first day of LOWISA. With the first race complete, the fleet sailed to Strawberry Island for the first anchorage. The Martha Stewart Cooking Competition offered up a feisty variety of dishes as judges Linnea Thomsen, Chris Debicki and Steve Dreger evaluated the entries based on the merits of originality, flavor and the use of LOWISA merchandise. Rae Bath and the crew of Birdbath were the winners that night with a succulent homemade burger served with memorable sides. :]

Race day 2 brought another steady breeze that carried the fleet further down the lake to a beautiful unnamed bay just North of Tranquil Channel. It was here that the annual Mount Gay Rum Party took place and people really started to howl at the moon. The next morning, a terrific 15 knot breeze brought the fleet into the USA. The enormously hospitable folks at Sunset Lodge on Oak Island welcomed our sunburned faces with dollar drinks happy hour and an amazing buffet of fresh pickerel. We can't say enough good things about Sunset Lodge: the friendly staff, the excellent band they brought in, the delish food, and absolutely beautiful lodge - they nailed it at every opportunity. They even went and bought us a football for the Canada vs USA football game! (Canada won in overtime FYI).

After two great days at Sunset Lodge, the fleet headed back into Canadian waters with yet another strong breeze in its sails. Redwater Bay was the anchorage that night as our Cocktail Competition judges Trevor Gill, Arnatsiaq Qvist and Ryan Clark did their best to hold a steady evaluation on the impressive array of cocktails served to them. Jeremy Brown and crew aboard Iceberg won the competition with an over-the-top Caesar that was practically a meal in itself. Race day 5 brought the fleet to the famous 22 ft bay, near Crow Rock Island. Here Ryan Rogers from the Lake of the Woods Brewing Company was waiting for us with cold kegs of fresh Lakeside Kolsch and Paper Maker beer for our thirsty sailors to enjoy. It should be noted that the crew aboard Hurricane Bar & Grill arrived at the party in full Pilgrim outfits. Why? Why not?

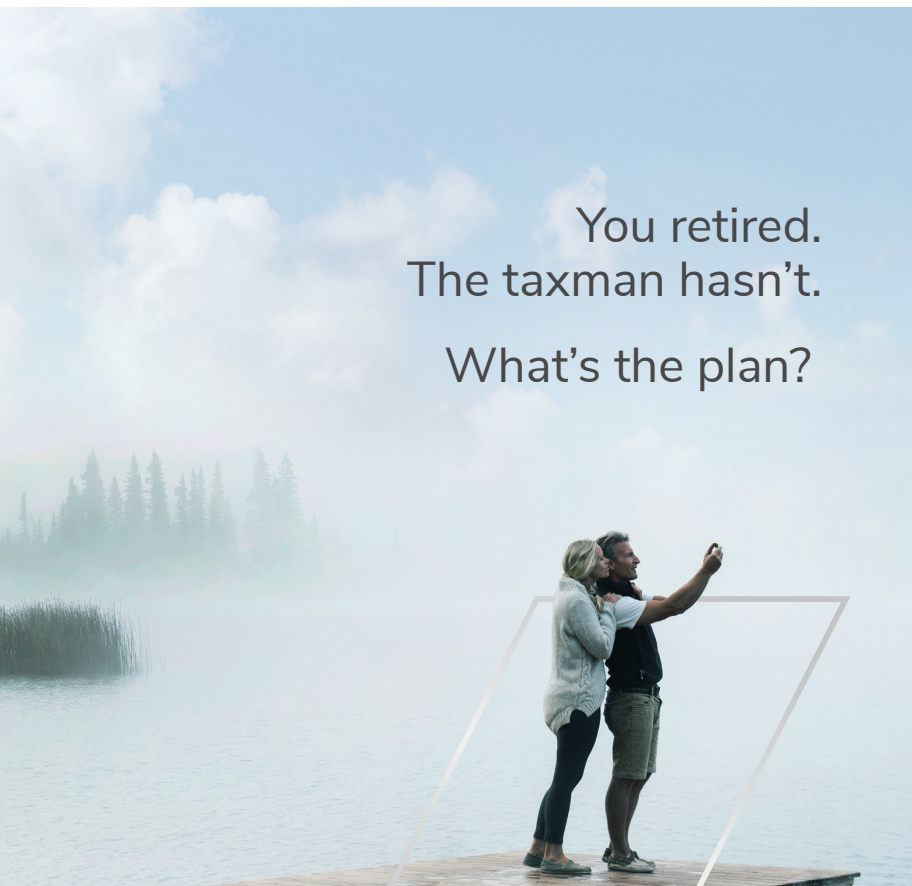
With five solid days of sailing under our belts, we were due for a day with no wind. With a cancellation of races on day 6, the fleet motored through stifling heat to Northern Harbor for the awards ceremony. Trevor Holm and the crew aboard Lodestar took home the prize for lowest overall corrected time in LOWISA 53. Ryan Clark aboard Hurricane Bar & Grill was handed the helm to be Commodore for LOWISA 54 in 2019. So yes, LOWISA 53 was a great one, with plenty of wind and plenty of adventure to the wild reaches of the Lake of the Woods. We look forward to LOWISA 54, hope to see you there!



Pelican Yacht Club

BY LYNN CHIPLEY

Pelican Yacht Club started the year with little to no dock damage. Unfortunately, a hailstorm hit in early spring. As a result, and thanks to insurance, the club will be replacing broken windows and putting on a new roof this fall. Several boats required extensive repair or were damaged beyond repair. We had a great season for racing until mid- August, when water levels dropped below minimum levels, forcing approximately half of our deeper keel boats had to pull out of the water. We ran several LTS classes through July and August and thank Gillian Wright for her dedication to our program. She is very well liked and respected by parents and students alike.



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Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club

BY NICOLA TORY

2018 marked another successful season of sailing at the RLWYC. Generally strong winds helped to produce high attendance rates for both lessons and weekend racing.

The Club's sailing program was once again headed by veteran instructor James Tory. A full complement of 11 instructors led a wide array of classes for both junior and adult sailors. The lesson program was enhanced by the addition of two Argos to the Club's fleet, allowing for improved instruction for double-handed sailing with spinnaker and trapeze options.

The ever-expanding fleet of E scows led to a highly successful season of racing. The Weekend Series of eight races was dominated by local sailor Rob Aitken, who once again won the Coyne Riley Cup.

The highlight of the Club's racing calendar was the annual Richardson Regatta. A total of 43 boats, with over 80 sailors, competed over two days on two separate race courses. Despite the light winds, the heated contest was won by Raif Richardson in a scow. The Opti Provincial title was won by Jonah Friesen, while Peter Magnus dominated the O'Pen Bic fleet. The event was preceded by a race clinic for junior sailors, coached by Sail Manitoba.

Looking forward to next summer, the RLWYC will be hosting the 2019 Laser Master Canadians, August 16-18.

SEASON CLOSING AWARDS

Top Male Sailor - Peter Magnus

Top Instructor - Leila Murray

Top Female Sailor - Kate Sigurdson

Wednesday Series - Peter Magnus

Most Improved Sailor - Kingsley Parkhill

Weekend Series - Rob Aitken

Most improved Opti - Kate Sigurdson

Top under 12 - Kingsley Parkhill

Silver Harbour Sailing Club

BY SUE MACKENZIE

As boaters on Lake Winnipeg we can attest to the low water and high south-east winds and record long high temperature and high humidity. These conditions contributed to record highs and lows at our club. Although our membership numbers remain very healthy the number of boats on the hard due to low water this summer was probably a record.

We did have a number of sailing events with good turnout and participation. Our sailing committee of David Strong, Bruce Bolster and Lindsay Ward organized a series of Sunday morning cruising forums. Topics covered were: Preparation for cruising and Lake Winnipeg destinations, Radio etiquette, and Boat provisioning. These were well attended and a great opportunity to share experiences and useful tips. The sailing committee also developed a "cruising rally". Of interest to some of you cruisers from other clubs might be the format. The rally requires a team of at least three on the boat. The team demonstrates skills necessary for safe and enjoyable sailing. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate - but it is ready for next year. We can share the format on request.

A number of members did go "north" although some were holed up in Wells Harbour for a little longer than desirable—A high or a low? A club sail was held on Canada Day. Mitch VanCrasbeek won high recognition for best decorated boat in the spirit of Canada. See the picture! We also had a club sail to Hnasau. In early September Aegir (Craig and I) and others also experienced one of those great sails with winds 10 – 15 knots from the West and flat water! It was a High for me.

As with most events "Feed them and they will come!" Our social pot lucks continue to be a big hit with high attendance and great spirit. At the beginning of the year we have our opening barbeque which provides an opportunity for tales to be told and expectations to be high for a great sailing year. Once again Geoff and Kathy Penner held an appreciation pig roast and entertainment from "Our Greasy Little Cover Band" "We do have some members who demonstrated high kicking on the dance floor. Our closing pot luck is also a Thanksgiving Dinner. Given the weather issues around the world and fires in the Canadian west and tornadoes in the east, our Highs and Lows are minor and we can be thankful for our friendships and sailing community. This year some of us were extra thankful to have pulled and put away our boats before the snow flew!

Clubhouse improvements include a storage shed—Thanks John, Lars and Don for putting the shed together. New chairs and tables for the increasing number of members were also purchased. Active use of the clubhouse also requires a good stores person - Thank you Mike for a job well done.

Our wishes to all for a healthy and active winter, warm memories and thoughts of another summer to come.



Temple Reef Sailing Club

BY ROSS BAILEY

Temple Reef has probably the best dinghy racing in Canada right now, with 10 or more Lightnings on the line every Thursday evening for multiple races. Each mark has several boats overlapped and finishes are always a beep, beep affair. Great fun. Sail Thunder Bay, run by Temple Reef Sailing Club had a ton of hard work put into it this summer, but enrollment went up 25% to make it all worthwhile. We are working on ways to turn students into permanent sailors. Instead of a day by day account of the summer, I thought a report of the Temple Reef Amethyst Weekend would be nice to share. Andrew Murtomaki came all the way from Gimli and it was delightful to have him, Audrey and Peter Hansen sail with us. We would love to have more Manitoba sailors join us next year for this or any of our events.



Amethyst Harbour, Thunder Bay, Lake Superior:

We stretched Amethyst Weekend this year to include Friday, with an optional 20 mile sail from Thunder Bay city to Amethyst Harbour. We would race out of Amethyst on Saturday and Sunday. Three boats plus a keelboat "chaperone" started at noon in quite light easterly breezes. With organizing still to do, Bailey and crew pulled the plug about a mile outside the breakwall and paddled back. Six hours later, Brian Cox and Richard Walsh with their crews had almost made it. Then the wind really did quit completely. Two kind hearted motor boats towed them the last mile or so after a very relaxing sail.

Saturday dawned quite still but a beautiful southeast breeze filled in just before the first start. The course is out of Amethyst Harbour, around three islands, around Temple Reef, and back into Amethyst, about 6 miles. Alex Cox started in a blaze but was slowly caught by Richard Walsh who finished first, then Cox and Ross Bailey. Chris Wells looked to finish third but the run to the finish through the little islands let Bailey sneak past.

The second race Saturday, on the same course saw Bailey lead until Buck Island where Walsh had the courage to cut the reefs more closely and took the lead. Richard is hard to catch once ahead and finished first, followed by Bailey and Alex Cox. Saturday evening we bar-b-que'd and campfired at the Nancy and Ross Bailey's until well into the night. Corn cooked over the fire was a nice addition and marsh mellows later kept us all happy.

Sunday was the same start, with a beautiful southwest wind, but this time around Caribou Island, about 10 miles. The north cliffs of Caribou send puffs down, tempting you closer, then to leave you becalmed and struggling back to wind. Alex Cox in third gave it a try and looked great for a long while, but the wind caprices did indeed abandon him, hauling him back. Alex was able to hang onto third. Bailey with good speed downwind on the backside and upwind through the tricky winds on the near side of Caribou led all the way until the home stretch into Amethyst Harbour. Walsh caught a couple of nice slants to edge up to and then pass Bailey to win. Congratulations Richard, Terry Cano and Will Evans for sailing very well indeed all weekend, a much deserved first place, the Temple Reef Trophy, the Crystal Trophy and the Van Bailey Memorial Trophy.

These rather unique races are really the birth of sailing in the Thunder Bay area, with the Crystal Trophy sailed each year since 1938 and Temple Reef Trophy since 1974. Great fun with exceptionally picturesque sailing. They are scored with Portsmouth Handicap, but most often the Lightnings dominate. We're already looking forward to next year's Amethyst Weekend. Give us a shout if you'd like to join in.

ROSS BAILEY

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email: ross.v.bailey@gmail.com

Victoria Beach Yacht Club

BY BRAD SCOTT

As the sun begins to set and the waters go calm... so does the Victoria Beach Yacht Club.

We had an absolutely amazing, jammed packed year at the Yacht Club. We would not have had the success we did without the help of a number of key people. Ryan Van Berkel (Past Commodore), was instrumental in helping me transition into my first year as Commodore. Ryan also ran our Sailing School flawlessly. Thank you for everything Ryan!!! As Treasurer, AJ Tooley ran the books for us again and he was also the backbone of our executive committee. AJ always had an ear for me to bounce ideas off of and provided me with his ongoing insight and humour. A special thanks to Dan Schott, Jeremy Ritsema and Rick Demetriooff for their ongoing contributions.

Team MB Success - Congratulations to club member and Team Manitoba Athlete, Tomas Green who placed 4th out of 24 in the Laser Radial Fleet at the Sail Canada - 2018 Sail West Regatta at Wabamun Sailing Club, near Edmonton, AB. In addition to 4th overall, Tomas claimed a silver medal in the 16 & under age category within the fleet. This is Tomas's first year in the Laser Radial Fleet and an impressive first major event performance after sitting out the earlier part of the season due to an injury.

Sailing School - Our VBYC Sailing School had another great year, during the 3 of 4 weeks lessons were offered, the club taught over 30 kids, youths and adults the basics of sailing. Our fantastic coaches, Tallon Sparks, Olivia Thompson and Andrew Thompson did an incredible job ensuring everyone had a fun and safe experience.

Racing - Shout out to Colin DeGagne & Daniel Derksen for Race Committee. Well done boys! We had a great summer of sizable fleets for Hobie Cat racing, the second annual Rum Cup multi-class regatta, and a fine showing at the Goldeye Open – our annual keelboat race.

Paddle Meet Up - Thanks to Greg Thomas, Sheila Grover & Susan Hall for organizing and for your enthusiasm – it's great to see the group growing. The paddle group enjoyed a guest appearance from Alexander Martin, a VBYC member fresh off his solo paddle all the way around Lake Winnipeg. Awesome accomplishment Alex.

The Club also enjoyed the Annual Yacht Club Dance fundraiser featuring The Pink Socks and Sunset Soundsystem DJ's Fraser Auld and Jason Quinton. This was a fantastic party as usual and raised key funds for our programming.

All in all, it was another wonderful summer at VBYC – we invite anyone who hasn't visited to let us host you for sailing, windsurfing, kiting, paddling, or just a cold one on the sunniest deck at VB!!



West Hawk Lake Yacht Club

BY PAUL KRESTANOWICH

Our new storage facility and docks are finally complete at Big Island Landing! Thank you to the dozens of volunteers who put in hundreds of hours of work over the summer to complete our facility. Mike Trottman, Janet & Kevin Harbottle, Cory & Paul Krestanowich, Kevin & Sarah Anseeuw, John Weatherill, Jim Adams, Ralph Penner, Evan Fox-Decent, Derek & Donna Hayden, Brad Hayden, Kyle Cuthbert, Jeff McBride, Bruce Samson & Tom Saunders did some serious building. Sorry if I missed anyone's name. A special thank you to our building foreman Kevin Anseeuw and Kevin Harbottle who sacrificed a significant amount of their summer holidays to make our dream come true. Look for the Open House announcement in 2019 when we should hopefully have our new deck and stairs complete to connect to the new floating dock. Please come check out the new facility, it will benefit the local recreation and sailing scene for many years!

What a beautiful, bug free hot summer with tons of wind for sailing, hard to believe that we've put away the boats for the winter already in our new facility. For the thirteenth summer the club ran one of the largest Learn-to-Sail programs in the province. We used our club boats along with the Sail Manitoba mobile program so we could accommodate all the sailors. We had excellent certified instructors teaching this year, Anthony Clark with local sailor Evan Owen and Adam Krestanowich assisting them.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YOUTH RACERS!

WHYLC Opti Championships AM

- 1st – Reuben Gross
- 2nd – Willem Cuthbert
- 3rd – Lucas Hendrikson

WHYLC Opti Championships PM

- 1st – Colin Krestanowich
- 2nd – Oliver Forsythe
- 3rd – Maya Fox-Decent & Eden Goreta

WHYLC Youth Open Races

- 1st – Madeline Krestanowich (Laser Radial)
- 2nd – Sydney Odowichuk (Laser Radial)
- 3rd – Cole Anseeuw & Aaron Krestanowich (RS Zest)
- 4th – Noah Hayden & Owen Ryan (Invitation)
- 5th – Sam Dow & Nathan Bosshart (RS Zest)



We had the pleasure of the provincial sailing team train with us the second weekend of July, thank you to the Krestanowich & Hayden families for hosting them. Sunday we ran the Rising Star Regatta for them, unfortunately all our local racers were busy building our new storage facility that weekend so couldn't join them, next summer! Thank you to Tom Saunders, Paul Krestanowich & Ralph Penner for setting up the course and running the races. Below are the results:

Open Fleet

- 1st – Linus Schweizer (Winnipeg Sailing Centre)
- 2nd – Matthew Sauer (Falcon YC)
- 3rd – Tomas Green (Victoria Beach YC)

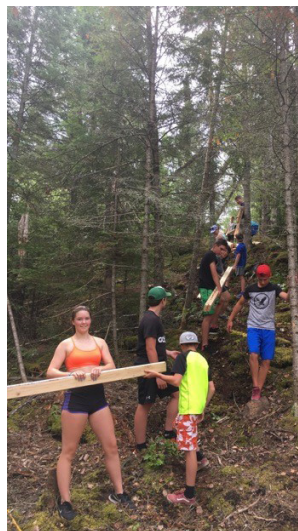
Opti Fleet

- 1st – Jonah Friesen (Pelican YC)
- 2nd – Jon Melsted (Gimli YC)

Congratulations to our WHYLC liquor raffle ticket winners. Kurt Hildebrand \$500 and Belinda Loschiavo \$250 gift certificates to the MLCC. A huge thank you to all the buyers and sellers along with our raffle coordinators Emma Harbottle, Janet Harbottle and Cory Krestanowich. This helped us pay for our new (used) Lund Learn to Sail safety boat we purchased from Cassie & Kevin Henwood at West Hawk Marine.

Also a big thank you to all the local businesses that helped us sell the tickets. Mason's Plumbing, The Mason Jar, West Hawk Marine, Nite Hawk Cafe, Keystone Resort, West Hawk Lake Resort & Crescent Beach Cottages. Thank you again for those that have donated generously towards our capital campaign, we could not complete this legacy without your help. We are still a few thousand dollars away from the goal of completing our deck and stairs. For those that would still like to donate please contact Paul Krestanowich at info@whylc.ca or 204-479-7100. Check our website for regular updates & pictures. www.whylc.ca

Have a great winter and we'll see you on the water soon!



Zig Zag Yacht Club

BY TATUM ALKIER



Thank you to everyone who attended events and participated in programming at ZZYC this summer! It was a great summer and we are already counting down the days until Summer 2019.

This year ZZYC tried some new initiatives to get more interest in the club and the sailing program. We launched the Summer Fun Advanced program and had an ice cream boat. Summer fun advanced targets children aged 8-14 that want to participate at the club but are not solely interested in doing sailing. Children in this program did many different sports, crafts, and games. The ice cream boats made their way around Clearwater Bay and the surrounding area at the beginning of the summer giving out free ice cream and a postcard with ZZYC activities and events on it. This was a great way for us to promote the club and we plan on bringing back both initiatives next summer!

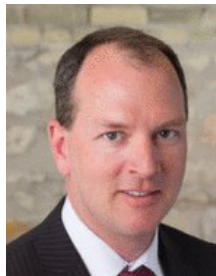
The sailing program had increased participation this year and we hosted the ZZYC open regatta and a closed regatta. As for tennis, George and Kevin were back as our instructors this summer and put together two weekend tournaments. Adult Fitness and Youth Conditioning rounded out our menu of active programs available at the Club.

Our regular programs for tennis, sailing, and summer fun will be scheduled in our calendar as usual for 2019. The calendar will be updated and posted on www.zigzagyachtclub.com

Summer 2019 is ZZYC's 65th anniversary of operation – we look forward to celebrating this milestone with our community! Stay tuned for more updates on what Summer 2019 at ZZYC has to offer!



2018 Award Winners



Honorary Member Award
Paul Krestanowich

President's Award
Phil Burns

Sailor of the Year
Mike Couture



Don Freudenberg Memorial Trophy
Anthony Clark

Susan Mezaros Trophy
Lauren Burns

Charles Fleming Memorial Trophy
Matthew Sauer



Youth Elite Award
Jonah Friesen

Most Improved Sailor
Tomas Green

Rising Star
Elly Heimbecker



PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONS

Manitoba High School Champions
Kayden Polachek & Randi Roy

Opti 13& under
Jonah Friesen - male
Elly Heimbecker - female

Opti 15& under
Kendra Penner - female

Prairie Opti Grand Prix
Jonah Friesen

29er
Kendra Penner & Katie Sauer





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