

SPRING/SUMMER 2020

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COME TO PLAY

Dauphin, MB | July 11 – 17, 2021



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President's Message

BY PHIL BURNS



I certainly didn't expect to be writing my first message while working from home and practicing social distancing because of some Virus, which has shut down sailing, of all things.

Sail Manitoba has canceled its programming through to the end of June. Most of the Clubs have been locked tight, but are beginning to open up as the new Provincial protocols come out.

These restrictions are unfortunate, because 2020 was to be a busy year for sailing in the province. Gimli Yacht Club was hosting Sail West and the No Coast Laser Masters Championships, over the August long weekend. They were expecting over 100 competitors at those events.

There were also several International Laser coaches set to come and coach the young and wise (old folks) just before the Laser Masters, which would have been a rare opportunity.

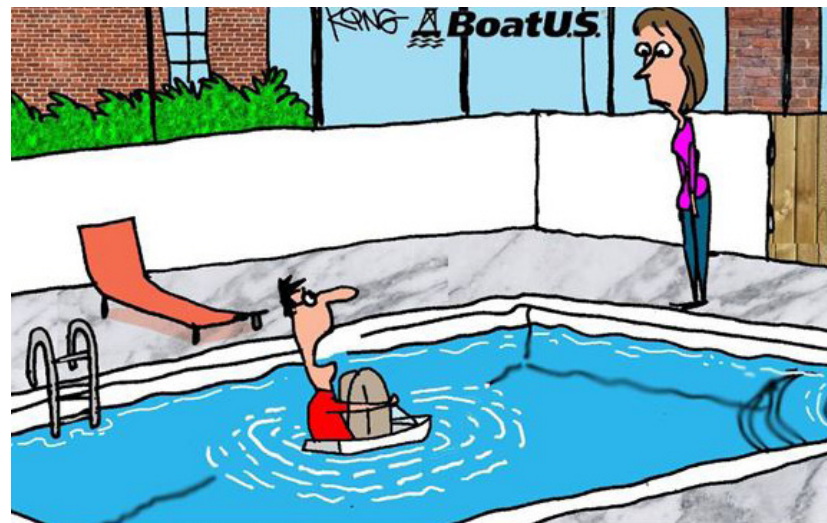
The Manitoba Games were scheduled to be held August 9 -12th and the qualifiers set for June had to be canceled. New qualifier dates will need to be set, hopefully for later this summer, so we can fill out the Team for 2021.

Back in October, Sail Manitoba welcomed its new Executive Director, Sheila Bellido. Sheila has been hard at work over the past 6 months getting to know the operations of the office and Sport Manitoba, which is not an easy task especially beginning at that time of year. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Sheila and welcome her to the family. Sheila can be reached at the office and will be happy to answer any questions you may have. As information becomes available and decisions are made regarding the season, Sheila will be the one getting the message out.

On behalf of our board and members alike I would like to thank all the front-line medical workers and first responders for working through this pandemic. Also, thank you to all the essential workers throughout the Province who have been working under great stress and risk to themselves.

With the new Provincial guidelines being released, I am optimistic we will be on the water for the summer.

Sincerely,
Phil Burns



It's better than no boating at all."

Note from the Editor

BY SHEILA BELLIDO



I recently learned of this new game called 'Call of the Sea' by Xbox. Apparently, this game is full of adventure and self-discovery. It is a puzzler that takes you to a place of 'the very island of your dreams'. Sounds great! Doesn't it? Well, I am not sure about you, but these past few months have felt that we have been walking through somewhat of an element of a movie or a 'new game'. Life as we once knew it, life as we once thought to be 'normal' shifted us into a world that was unknown. Businesses, schools, churches, sports arenas all closed because of a virus.

This virus created so much uncertainty that fluctuated the rhythm of life to almost a complete stop. Sending this world into a whirlwind that moved you either to a place of peace or a place of war.

The pandemic of the Coronavirus has taken a devastating toll on the globe. Every day the death toll rises, the financial economy collapses, health and medical caregivers are exhausted, citizens in all walks of life are struggling to conform to this new life through isolation and adaptation.

Due to the challenges of COVID19, Sail Manitoba was mandated to implement a 'new norm' for sailing. Best Practices were put into place that were approved by the Province of Manitoba in order for us to Return to Sail. We applaud all of you for working together and making this happen. But the real heroes in all of this, is our health care and medical providers, the truck drivers, people that have kept us alive. We SALUTE you. Every day, day in and day out, you continue to fight at the frontlines of this war. The words, THANK YOU, are so minute in comparison to the magnitude of care that you have provided and continue to provide.

In addition to this virus, the world was moved to acknowledge, yet again, the racial injustices. Putting to the forefront of every human, every newspaper, broadcast, social media feeds the cruelty of prejudice and racism that still exists today. We, Sail Manitoba, support inclusiveness and we embrace diversity. Our hearts go out to the lives that have been impacted by injustice, prejudice, and racism. Together, let us encourage everyone to continue to reflect upon racial injustices and have conversations that move us to be part of a resolution and reconciliation.

Today, as we move forward into a slow start of sailing, Sail Manitoba adapted programs, team training, courses/clinics etc., to reflect the COVID pandemic, and it is important that we continue to uphold our provincial legislations. Let us continue to be safe and practice social distancing. Let us continue to follow the guidelines in place that are set to protect you, your neighbors, and our community. Knowing that this too shall pass, and 2020 will still be a great year!

Sail strong, sail safe, and cheers to greater days ahead,

Sheila Bellido
Executive Director

Head Coach Update

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS

With the season fast approaching and sailing making a return to sport I am grateful for many things in 2020. There is not doubt that this year has started off with trial after trial in all aspects of life, but if there is one thing I know about sailors, it's that they are masters at adaptation. Through all conditions and tribulations sailors strive to be triumphant on the water regardless of what is thrown at us from mother nature, our competitors, our own performance and everything else under the sun. This summer and this year will be no different.

The 2020 season will also see some upgrades for our team as we bring in new training equipment, implement video review, and speed technology for our high-performance team members. This summer will also see the introduction of a partnership between our Sail Manitoba Race Team, the Sail Canada High Performance department (AKA Mike Milner), and Njord Analytics as we introduce some very high-tech training technology to help our athletes achieve their goals and aim for Canada Summer Games 2021.

In addition, our team has grown since last year and we will be welcoming 2 new optimist sailors for the 2020 season! The coaches would like you to join us in wishing a warm welcome to:

Charli McKenzie of Gimli Yacht Club
Oakley Prusak of Victoria Beach Yacht Club

As we return to the water with excitement and what can only be described for me as cautious optimism to do what we love, always remember "With great opportunity comes great responsibility".

I look forward to seeing the great examples that our members and sailors will set for everyone throughout the summer ahead.

*The pessimist complains about the winds
The optimist expects them to change
The realist adjusts the sails*

Fair weather and happy trails on the water folks!



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SEA HISTORY for Kids

DID YOU KNOW?

Albert Einstein loved to sail and he sailed his whole entire life.



Albert Einstein was a terrible sailor! His friends said that when he got into a sailboat, Einstein would get dreamy and forgetful. Einstein didn't know how to swim, and his family was convinced that if he didn't drown, he would get his head smashed by the masts and spars.

Einstein was a terrible sailor but that never stopped him. Einstein loved to sail and he sailed his whole life. The little that he knew he learned in a borrowed boat as a teenager.

As we know, Einstein was the greatest mathematician and physicist this world has ever known. However, Einstein loved to sail because it gave him a chance to relax after all of his hard work that lead him to discovering theories that won him the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1921.

So this summer, when you are out sailing, know that you are another Albert Einstein!

Just don't hit your head!

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Hello from Summertime!

BY BRIGITTE SMUTNY



Bill and I are in our second year of cruising on our boat Summertime and we are loving every minute of it. Well, almost every minute! Admittedly it's not all about sailing in sunshine and happy hours at sun sets. There are many things that can go wrong or don't go as planned, and there is certainly something called 'the labour of love' on a boat.

To be honest, there is no captain on the boat. It turns out, that the weather is the captain and makes the rules. Regardless of what the weather forecast suggests, the wind often seems to be on the nose or from astern. The swell beats the crap out of you when there is no wind or 40 knots of wind. But then there are these perfect sailing days when everything fits together - sunshine, light to no waves and a nice wind on the beam.

We learned, that there are too many uncertainties to stick to a schedule. We now tell our friends where we will meet them OR when, but never both. The plan is that there is no plan. That's our new mantra on and off the boat. Another rule we live by is to "say yes". We never miss an opportunity. When someone asks us to come for sundowners or to go snorkelling or on a tour, we say Yes! We always end up meeting new people, learning something new, and having a great time.

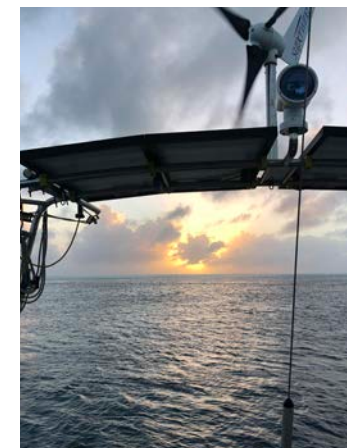


Of course our non-cruising friends always think we are permanently on a holiday. Which is mostly true, and of course there is no sympathy when we spend days with our heads in the bilge or in the head (toilet for non-sailors). Five projects will be needed after you start the first one. If you think the project will take two hours, it will take four. Whatever you think it will cost to fix it - double it. Unless you are cruising with Bill - the master of fixing anything. Lucky me!

Whenever you take the Bimini down the wind dies and when you put it up the wind picks up. If you don't close the hatches it will rain for sure. Whenever you sit down in the cockpit to enjoy your coffee at sunrise or your wine at sunset the bugs will find you.

So why bother cruising? Well, because cruising is fantastic! We love the adventures and sailing in some of the finest waters. We visit the most incredible places, and we see things we normally just read about. It's wonderful to explore the islands and find the most breath-taking spots. Swimming and snorkelling are outstanding and meeting other cruisers and locals makes for great times and the most interesting conversations. We travel from island to island in our tiny little house with all our things and are completely self-sufficient when it comes to electricity and fresh water. We still have to work on our fishing skills though to get independent in the food department

Cruising can be tough and it can be amazing. And in between the tough and the amazing is the routine. So we enjoy the amazing, hold on through the tough, and relax during the routine. But that's just living life. And life doesn't have to be perfect to be beautiful, it's as beautiful as you make it.



Forces of Nature

One Hell of a Ride

BY BETH LEBOWITZ

56 knots of wind, mainsail parallel to the water and mayday radio dialogue.

And so it began...

Gary and I were invited to sail in a local regatta by Captain Tim and crew members of 44' yacht, Anger Management. Many are also team members of the maxi yacht Wild Oats XI, most famous for being the former race record holder and a nine-times line honours winner of the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. We were in very good hands indeed.

Sunny blue bird skies and not a whitecap in sight. Quickly side bar comments surfaced re “all the extra strategy banter”. While the Anger Management team was exceptionally well versed for high wind racing, this getting down to less than 2 knot stuff was somewhat of a novelty. Apologies expressed all around for such a calm uneventful sail, feeling they were somewhat letting us down.

Halfway through the course the race was abandoned, there just wasn't enough wind to continue. While sailing home, someone pointed to a huge dust storm swirling on the main land and quietly said, “somethings not right”.

Then the drama played out before us: **process, team work, aftermath.**

I was stunned to see the over-exposed hull of a nearby yacht, then looked towards our bow being pummeled by waves from all directions. Rain and fog moved in, visibility decreased. Neighboring yachts disappeared and a sense of isolation permeated.

Ignorance being bliss, allowed me the thrill of a lifetime. Adrenaline pumping, senses heightened, I watched with amazement this high caliber team function under pressure, taking charge while nature's forces slammed into us.



Gary and I were hauled into the cabin while the crew tethered in. Inside, as we were thrown from side to side and waves crashed overhead, I felt trapped. For a brief moment, my mind went to a dark space, calmly thinking “this could be it”...

And then just as quickly, my mind toggled back towards the excitement of the adrenaline driven adventure we were on.

Standing on the stairs with my head in the fresh air, the storm began to wind down. Concern for the other racers' safety replaced survival mode. Rescue efforts were soon followed by radio confirmation: all safe, no injuries. I hadn't fully understood the severity of our situation until afterwards when the crew's comments became vocal.

“I have never experienced anything like this”,

“usually you don't have both factors, it's either wind or _____, but never both”. Then came the sobering “the mainsail is damaged, the good hearted “well, we now have a table cloth for those large dinners” and the somber reality “the sail is only covered by insurance during a race”...

While this experience slightly tempered my lifelong fantasy about learning to sail, (you know, the thrill of legs purposefully dangling over the edge on the high side, the sound of sails snapping into place during the jibe, the sensation of a graceful glide through the water) reality acquired a new found respect for the complexity and prodigious skill the art of sailing requires, along with admiration and a heartfelt appreciation of the Captain and crew, who have done the work many years past, which kept us from becoming the Wreck of the Hesperus.

Able Sail Manitoba

BY DOUG LOCKHART

Hello Sailors! We are very excited to announce that this year's Able Sail Manitoba will be kicking off the season starting July 14, 2020 and will be operating until August 19, 2020 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Able Sail Manitoba is a fully accessible summer sailing program that operates out of the Winnipeg Sailing Centre, located at Fort Whyte Alive - 1961 McCreary Rd. We look forward to seeing all of the friendly faces from past summers, and eagerly welcome all of the new sailors as well!

In light of developments regarding COVID-19, ILRC Able Sail Manitoba would like to proactively provide details on how we will best serve our participants while keeping everybody safe. Rest assured that all of our staff have been following the COVID-19 protocols and procedures such as disinfecting and sanitizing all common areas and equipment including our boats, lifejackets, lifting device, sling, first aid kits and workspace. We also have appropriate signages put in place to emphasize the importance of physical distancing and proper hand-washing. Personal protective equipment such as face masks and hand sanitizers are also available to ensure the safety of all staff members and participants.



We're all hoping for good wind and weather forecasts throughout the summer. We encourage any group or individual sailors to register as soon as possible. Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns you may have, we'll be happy to assist you. For bookings, please contact Camille at 204-947-0194 or e-mail at ablesail@ilrc.mb.ca. For more information about our program and pricing fees, visit us at www.ilrc.mb.ca and follow the link to ILRC Able Sail. You can also check out our Instagram and Facebook page for the latest updates!

Wishing everyone a happy sailing this summer!

Black Sturgeon Sailing Club

BY MIKE LA SPINA



Let me begin with a short intro as the new Commodore for the Black Sturgeon Sailing Club, my name is Mike La Spina and it is a privilege to represent my sailing club. Our club is a lot of fun and is enjoying excellent participation to which I credit to Phil Burns. I am sure that this will continue. We also have expectations to bring in more members this coming year with potentials who voiced their interest last fall.

My sailing skills are limited as I go into year 5 with a Laser Full rig and I must say I have learned a lot and experienced a lot of sore muscles not mention the odd head bashing reminding me to keep alert. This just demonstrates it's never too late in life to take up sailing as a sport.

Our planning this year is limited, we will still be holding races but activities such as summer sailing classes are cancelled. We may be able to hold smaller classes that are limited in numbers subject to provincial guidelines and we will advise our members as these activities change.

Our younger member skills are progressing quickly thus creating a demand for higher performance boat availability which we plan to address by providing an additional club Laser I for all members but more specifically for our developing youth.

Even though the summer games are postponed we will still encourage Julianne Parent and Teun Keijzer to prepare on the 420's gaining more skills either way.

It's no doubt that we are all concerned how this season will play out, and I think we just need to focus on moving forward with our goals and adjust to change.

Falcon Yacht Club

BY CYNTHIA GRANT



Falcon Yacht Club had a major “Community Out Reach” goal for this 2020 year.

Cottagers usually see a variety of sailboats circling about the middle of Falcon Lake every Saturday & Sunday. It’s “Pretty”. The entire South Whiteshell residents and visitors frequently drive by on the 301 road and see the Falcon Yacht Club sign next to the Faloma Marina yet have no idea what FYC offers. The image may well be that sailing is a difficult sport to learn, maybe dangerous, likely costly and perhaps only for the elite. We are a “private” club, but we welcome anyone interested in learning to sail or join up to race weekly on our 1 by 7-mile lake.

Many assume that if you don’t learn to sail as a youth, you never can. Untrue!

The name “Yacht Club” does create an impression of big sail or motorboats. When in fact sail clubs in our province are similar to FYC and sail mostly to race small dinghies. We do have a few dingy racers who also helm small cruiser keel boats. They help round out the early spring & fall seasons by taking on crew when it’s too chilly to dinghy race.

There are many “Old Salts” out in our wilderness who used to sail or perhaps crew for other sailors. Now, nearing retirement, we can teach men and women how to helm a dinghy by themselves. How to race for the pure joy of it! We encourage lakers of all ages to not only learn to sail but to participate in our fun weekend sail races.

This season we had planned to debunk old myths and reach out to our community. Unfortunately, COVID19 has restricted our club plans. Hopefully next year we can hold an open house for interested visitors to learn more about FYC programs.

Our July “Learn to Sail” programs for youth and adults in conjunction with Sail Manitoba Mobile School is still pending awaiting direction from Sail MB.

Our local recruitment plan to facilitate interested youth from our Falcon School has also been cancelled. The school had warmly welcomed this idea to promote outdoor water sports.

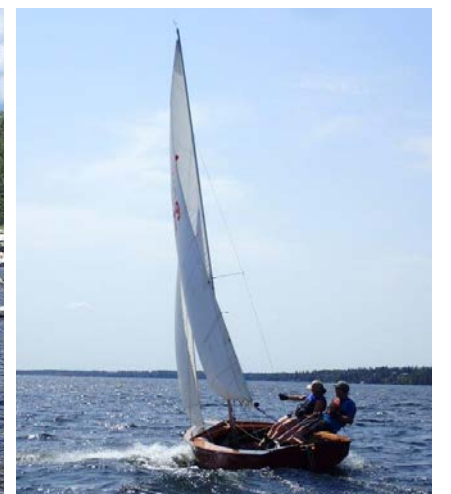
The sailing program is currently adapting to all COVID19 regulations to keep all members and guests safe. Our members have sanitized the clubhouse and posted official directives so we can still gather and access our sail boats within the Best Practice Guidelines. Sail races are currently suspended, awaiting early June decisions. Our sport is an outdoor sport which allows us the privilege to still play on our beautiful lake waters, even in these “unprecedented “ times.

The FYC social program includes club BBQs and corn roasts at our clubhouse overlooking pristine Falcon Lake or casual sailing to the beautiful eastern crown islands. We can easily practice physical distancing since we are at one with our wind powered dingy in the vast outdoors. Yet another reason to learn to sail.

We welcome other club sailors from Manitoba to check out our website, pay us a physical distance visit and hopefully race with us in the future.

As the winds of uncertainty blows us all around, we will get through this together.

Check out our website for updated club activities: **falconyachtclub.ca**





Gull Lake Yacht Club

BY BRADEN PIERCE



Unusual times, and the broken routines that have been brought to us by the COVID pandemic have apparently not tempered the winds nor sailing spirit this spring. Some sailors are beginning to gear up for yet another race season and enjoying the gusty spring winds to kick off the winter rust. One member, Kenny V, was spotted racing his laser in the GLYC Ice Breaker Classic this year. Unfortunately, there were no other boats out on the lake for him to challenge due to the pandemic racing sanctions, (looking good Kenny).

The club is looking forward to yet another exciting season for all, from new members to old salty dogs, we never pass up the chance to get out there. We continue investing in new ways to encourage sailors to join the fray for the sake of fun, comradery, growth, and a passion for wind sport. A training camp is tentatively scheduled for Aug 8-9, and the 2020 GLYC Regatta is scheduled for Aug 22-23.

Contact bradenpierce@gmail.com for more information regarding club activities and more!



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COME TO PLAY

Dauphin, MB

July 11 - 17, 2021



Gimli Yacht Club

BY ANDREW MEYER

This article was originally written with confidence the summer would be back to normal and it would be business as usual. I decided to leave the article in tact as it demonstrates what a beautiful place Gimli can be for families and individuals. Now with Covid-19 in our midst and we are all doing our best to deal with this situation, we find ourselves thinking about the Club and its activities. As it stands right now launches are postponed and the club is conforming to the Public Health Act for the Province of Manitoba. We regularly communicate updates to our membership and activities will be updated through the Gimli Yacht Club website.

“There are good ships and wood ships, ships that sail the sea, but the best ships are friendships, may they always be!”
- Irish Proverb

In many ways, this is why Gimli is the best place to be. You may have a house in the City and want a close place to get away from it all. You have a family and want to share in a family activity the kids will remember for the rest of their lives. You may have a cottage or live close by and want to join a Wednesday Night Race team. You may want to indulge your adventurous side by sailing Lake Winnipeg and for that moment know what it is like on the high seas and experience some of the best natural anchorages anywhere.

The Gimli Yacht Club is this to many people and as you enjoy the simplistic lifestyle of living on a sailboat, you will also appreciate the modern conveniences available just steps away from the Club. For example, are you wanting to cruise for the weekend, buy local with fresh produce available in town. You will also appreciate local marine shops and other services available while planning your next adventure.

We can thank people like Edward Pearson that brought the notion of plastic and fiberglass to the sailing industry in the 1950's. Men like this targeted the masses as boats now went into production. No one then knew how long fiberglass was going to last and today we benefit with a flood of boats on the market making it an affordable pastime.

If you are in the local area, you may want to consider a social membership as families and individuals can enjoy the paddleboards, kayaks, Albacores, Lazars and Opti's. This is an affordable way to take advantage of our services and activities. Throughout the Sailing Season, Gimli Yacht Club hosts many events for all its members, many of which have a charitable component for causes such as Evergreen Basic Needs, Leukemia and Save the Lake.

Speaking of Save the Lake, please put June 28th on your calendar. GYC is hosting its annual open house for anyone and everyone. This is a very special day as it's a great opportunity to learn updates on the health of the lake and gain insights into the sailing community. Save the Lake fund raiser includes special seminars, Gimli Kiwanis Club cooking a Pickerel Lunch plus other activities. The Save the Lake Fundraiser has raised over \$12,000 to date to promote the health of Lake Winnipeg and it is committed to supporting The Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium and The Lake Winnipeg Foundation. Another notable event hosted by the Gimli Yacht club this year will be SailWest over the August Long weekend. Come see the finest racers from Western Canada compete off the shores of Gimli.



Other events to look forward to include:

- Wine and Cheese Night – Early season Meet and Greet hosted by the Board.
- Summer Solstice Sunset Sail and Spaghetti Night – Enjoy and wonderful spaghetti Supper and later sailing by the Solstice Moon.
- Hec N' Back – sail to Hecla Island (Gull Harbour) and back the next day.
- Scallywag Pursuit Race and Down East Kitchen Party – Dawn your favourite Pirates outfit and sail the high seas for fun finished with a Lobster Sandwich supper.
- Victoria Beach Ice Cream Run – race to Victoria beach and back (some stay for ice cream)
- Inaugural Hnasau Dark and Stormy Pursuit – break out the rum for this promises to be a stormy night!
- Lake Winnipeg 40 Keelboat Race – Introduced last season, keelboats race from Gimli to Victoria Beach, up to the south buoy and back for a total of 40 miles.
- Leukemia Cup – An annual fundraiser and pursuit race.
- Commodore's Cup – a weekend of racing around the cans
- And more...

They say it takes a community to raise a child and there is no better community than the Gimli Yacht Club. Many of our sailors grew up sailing with their parents taking them on adventures and they are now taking their kids on the same adventures. Sailing is a great sport for teaching teamwork discipline and how to react in difficult situations.

Along the way you form the best friends you will ever know as stories are shared and tales are told.

There are two great ways to be introduced into sailing before even buying a boat. You may want to enquire about joining a Wednesday Night Sailing team and earn some keelboat experience or enroll in a learn to sail class run through the year. Information on this and other programs can be found at our site <https://www.gimliyachtclub.com/> and stay tuned as we launch the new site this spring.

Happy Sailing in 2020 and may your adventure be in the journey and not the destination!

**** Note:** Events may need to be rescheduled to 2021 if social distancing measures persist, please check our website **www.gimliyachtclub.com**



LOWISA

BY JAMES WELBY



As you may have heard, we've decided to postpone this year's LOWISA Regatta due to the complications and challenges posed by Covid-19. It was a sad day for Northern Yacht Club (NYC) Sailors and for those who religiously attend our event from all points abroad year after year. The board's decision was to move LOWISA 55 to July 31 - August 7, 2021. We plan to return bigger and better than ever next year and have already contacted Sunset Lodge on Oak Island to notify them of our desire to hold our mid-week Layover there.

For those of you who have yet to experience LOWISA, it's a six-race series with a midweek rest day- all of which takes place on picturesque Lake of the Woods. Each boat is designated to a specific division by our top-notch Race Committee using PHRF handicap ratings. Each division's winners and their crews are required to earn their hardware with strategy and consistency. Last year's overall winner was a classic C&C 30 named Borderline sailed by accomplished dinghy sailor Paul Gomori and crew. Do you think you can give them a run for their \$\$\$? There's only one way to find out! For the non-racers out there, LOWISA also offers a cruising registration, meaning that you can sign up to cruise leisurely along our course and partake in the social activities without the racing.

In addition to the fantastic sailing, LOWISA hosts several amazing dinners and parties throughout the week, ranging from our classic Wednesday night fish fry to our various wilderness theme parties. From cooking contests to talents shows, crib tournaments to costume parties, you will always get your share of cheer over the duration of the Regatta. We even offer kids activity programing for our young LOWISA sailors out there.



If anything above appeals to you, I urge you to give LOWISA a shot. It's a fantastic week that will generate many memories that will last a lifetime. Not only do we think it's the greatest freshwater race on earth, it could be the best way to spend your first week of August next summer. Consider this a personal invite from the Commodore himself. With your participation, we can make LOWISA 55 the best one yet. Please email all inquiries to sailowisa@gmail.com or consult our website Lowisa.org. Additionally, please stay tuned for some incredible merchandise that will soon be for sale in our online store.

In the meantime, have a great summer and see you at the NYC docks July 31, 2021.



Northern Yacht Club

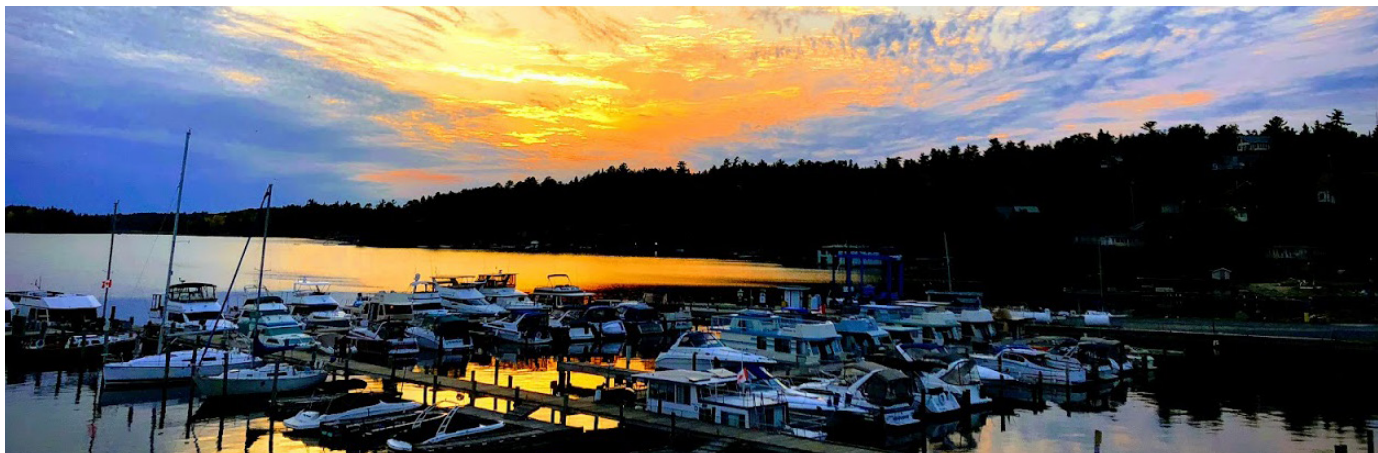
BY CORY IRVING

Good day fellow sailors. I am sitting at my desk at what can only be said to be an unprecedented time! We have had to cancel the 2020 season due to Covid 19. I received notice back in March our marina was to be closed just as the snow was really starting to melt and all my future spring boat projects were going to start. The marina was closed right up until May long weekend making for a truly short project list and a quick waxing, so we could get out on the lake. I have two close family members in the healthcare field, my daughter and my wife. They are dealing directly with this pandemic as front-line workers. I just have to say thank God for our front-line workers and all that they do.

Here's a little about me. I was asked this year and for the next two years to be the Commodore of our yacht club. The club is located on Lake of the Woods at Northern Harbour Marina, a facility that has been run by the same owners, Gary and Barbara Hall, for 44 years along with a lot of help from their great family. The Halls have been married for 46 years. What a great accomplishment! Gary is a great guy and along with his staff, he keeps our keelboats running along with a fleet of powerboats and house boats and pretty much any other boat on Lake of the Woods. The community of boaters we have there are incredible.

When my wife and I got back into sailing, I could not believe the willingness of other seasoned sailors to lend a hand, give information or to just welcome us into the community. I found it quite overwhelming in my first season but could not have continued without their help. I spent my summers sailing around Lake Winnipeg with my family. My father bought a new 1979 Mirage 27.5 that is still moored at Gimli Harbour today. He was a teacher so he had summers off. As soon as school was out we would load up the car with everything we needed and head to the lake. By the time we were finished provisioning the boat for the summer you could not see the blue water line. It was great point of pride for our family. I still love canned meat to this day. My Mom could make magic with canned meats before boats had refrigeration.

We would start our summers by heading out across to Victoria Beach, stay a few days and then make the big sail to Gull Harbour. We would spend the entire summer exploring all the coves of the narrows and parts of the north basin. My favorite place always was Princess Harbour where we would have fish fry's and I could get off the boat and go exploring. This time is where I developed my love of sailing. I was never able to share that with my own kids. We were a cottage family but sailing never left my mind. My wife always said I would bring it up at least once a year if not more. So once the kids grew up and moved out we decided to jump back in with both feet and have not looked back. What a community we have joined!



In the 2021 season we have many great events planed at our club. We have Cruise Week which is an incredible week where we go out as a group and visit pretty much a different location each day. We usually have an event planned pretty much every Friday at the boat club, followed the next day by a race or cruise somewhere. Lowisa 55 is an incredible sailing race that I recommend. The race has incredible history on the lake and many people have great memories tied to that event. We are planning short races where you put together a team race Saturday and come back to the club with time enough to still head out and enjoy the lake with friends.

We have a new website. I would suggest you take a look at it. It lists all club events and any changes we plan. The site is www.northernyachtclub.org It has my Commodore e-mail there. If anyone is interested in coming out for a Saturday race just contact me and I would be happy to have you join the club and come out and race. Our Friday events are open to any sailor. There is a 20 dollar fee if you want to come to an individual event or why not just join the club and attend every event for \$110 per season. Just contact me I would be more than willing to help you look around and introduce you to the harbour owner Gary. If you have any questions about the marina or boat fees, contact Northern Harbour Marina (1-807-548-5719). I am certain they would help you out. I am wishing everyone a happy safe 2020 boating season and I hope to hear from you.

Silver Harbour Sailing Club

BY JOHN STRUTHERS

Silver Harbour Sailing Club house is closed for the season. The owner of the resort is going to take advantage of this closure to proceed on some new development and construction of a new larger club house. This will result in higher Club fees next year. This summer had a slow start with many members on the fence as whether to launch or not but as of last weekend the marina is pretty full. The marina has supplied party tent for shade and shelter which club members have been able to take advantage of for outdoor distant socializing. We expect a few boats to cruise up the lake this summer with a couple off already. Looking forward to some more outdoor activities!

www.silverharboursailingclub.com

Right of Way Between Different Types of Vessels

As you accrue experience in boating, you'll encounter special situations which demand a certain approach.

These situations include:

- 1 A vessel that's restricted in its ability to maneuver. It will always have the right of way.
- 2 Any boat approaching a vessel from astern must give that vessel the right of way.
- 3 A boat engaged in fishing will be restricted in its movements, giving it the right of way.
- 4 A vessel under sail or not under power has the right of way over powered-vessels.
- 5 Power-driven vessels must give way to all categories mentioned above.

Pelican Yacht Club

BY SUSAN BAIRD

PYC is located in the small community of Ninette in southwestern Manitoba. We can boast of some great winds that can be swirling and strong. It's a great lake to learn on since it can take some extra skill. Watching the skies are important since a quick wind can come through and wreak havoc on your sails! We have the pleasure of hosting some of the town residences at the club for a day here and there and are certainly grateful to have their support from their businesses and their participation in some of our fund-raising efforts.



As our sailing season approaches, we are actively planning our Learn to Sail program and Racing schedule. This year's dates for LTS are:

July 6-10; July 13-17; July 20-24; July 27-31; August 3-7; August 17-21

Our club race events that welcome all that wish to participate, and attend are:

**Big Bird Regatta July 25/26
Little Bird Regatta August 22
Commodores Cup August 29**

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Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club

BY JEFF AND CAROL ANNE PARKHILL

As we find ourselves nearing summer with a world that has changed, a lot still remains to be seen what is in store for the summer.

Though Sail Manitoba has provided great guidance on Best Practices for Covid, and have been given the go ahead to open up programs and racing, RLWYC still remains in some limbo due to Ontario guidelines.

Ontario has been much slower to open up, but we have a glimmer of hope with the announcement that they may open up on a regional basis. Having said that RLWYC is very cognizant of the positive situation in Kenora and have to be respectful to the residents.

The club has cancelled or postponed all social events and fundraisers as well as scaling back all staffing.

A comprehensive Covid 19 plan is in a place for the clubhouse regardless.

The sailing programs and races are in a holding pattern as we wait to see what transpires with government regulations. A multi tiered plan is in place that we can act on with the hope that in a best case scenario we can run a morning and afternoon, largely scaled back learn to sail program consisting of 4 to 6 students and 2 coaches. The intention is to be running club races, starting with single handed events but again this will be dependant on government guidelines. For now, the Richardson Regatta is also on hold and we do not have a clear picture of how it will unfold. Announcements on all programs and racing will be made as we gather more information.

With a membership that comes from far and wide, we are in keeping in mind the seriousness of the situation and are asking members from outside the immediate region who descend upon Lake of the Woods to isolate for 14 days.

We wish the entire membership and partner clubs with Sail Manitoba this summer all the best in this strange new world and hope to see you on the water.



Temple Reef Sailing Club

BY ROSS BAILEY

If a person's lucky, they get to visit nice sailing clubs all over the world, drink in the atmosphere, and maybe get invited sailing. This year's a little different. We're all house bound, the clubs are all closed and we can't go sailing. Is there a bright side? Yes, there is, especially at Temple Reef Sailing Club. And that is the people who make up Temple Reef. Our club is quite modest yet we are blessed with a group who transcend the present difficulties. So I thought I'd run through a few members, no names, youngest to oldest and share why it's great to be a Temple Reefer and a sailor. As I say, no names, but I think each will recognize themselves.

Our instructors are wonderful. They really enjoy sailing and racing and it shows. Some crew and some already own boats. And they're getting good. Not sure if we're being pushed now or dragged. They all certainly seem to smile as they cross. And we're lucky to do neat things in winter too, like golfing, curling, botchy ball, even bowling. Organized so that the rest of us get to show up and just have fun. Not to mention paint night. Sort of an off the water activity but we were told to put a sailboat in the picture. The joy of sailing was peaking from a few of them and we did raise money for the sailing school.



Both Lightning boat grant recipients now own their own Lightnings! Pretty nice for them and pretty nice for us as the fleet grows. Nice too if they'd just slow down. Maybe he was voted best keelboat crew, but we all know he's a dinghy sailor at heart. Get him in your boat and sure as guns you'll win the race. Get her done. The same with the many, many jobs that always need doing in a sailing club. And a pleasure helping. What a lucky brother to have your sister drag you to sailing regattas all over the country and make sure you've learned everything. Including how to tune. Fast, even with many very young kids crawling all over the boat. But we know it's the better half that keeps him on shortest route to the finish and all the marbles.

Energy and organization. Every club needs it and aren't we blessed. Running the sailing school or running the books. A ton of work that no one hears about yet magically gets done. And with a smile! Speaking of organization, we simply would not exist without all the efforts of a guy who sails because it's fun and is having fun getting very fast. A few years back we needed a gentle but firm hand on the tiller. We reap the rewards every time we head out. I could go on. Everyone in the club helps and enjoys being a member. We all think it's worth it because then we get to go sailing. Dinghy sailing that is.

And one last note. We are hosting the Canadian Open Lightning Championships this year, on the Labour Day Weekend. Surely we'll be able to race by then. Come join us. We'd love to look after you as well as we have been looked after when we visit you.

Victoria Beach Yacht Club

BY BRAD SCOTT

We were hard at work in the fall clearing brush in order for our new septic tank to be installed. In the coming months, VBYC will have its very first full functional washroom!

VBYC once again has a full slate of activities planned this summer. CanSail will once again take place for 5-6 weeks (depending on interest) starting in early July. Kayaking evenings will take place on Thursday's from 6:30pm-8:00pm.

Club racing happens every weekend from the last weekend in June through the Labour Day long weekend. We are always looking for crew and new participants. Come down to the club at 10am and we will get you set up, no experience necessary.

We are also looking forward to once again hosting The Waterman Challenge.

Considering joining the club? The club has the facilities that you need including boat storage, dinghy / catamaran / kayak / windsurfer / SUP board storage. Inside, the club offers a sailing school classroom, kitchen facilities, and storage lockers. The deck might be the best part about the club as this sunny spot overlooks the bay and is ideal for a BBQ lunch and a cold drink after or between sails.



West Hawk Lake Yacht Club

BY PAUL KRESTANOWICH

With the ice off the water and warmer temperatures finally arriving this is usually the time of the year where we get our club safety and sail boats out, cleaned up and ready for the summer classes. Currently the club is closed until we get further direction from the Province of Manitoba.

Sail Canada has reported to us that they have formed a COVID-19 Health and Return to Sailing Task Force. This expert group is providing advice and recommendations to Sail Canada so that Provincial Sailing Associations, Member Clubs, Schools, Camps and Outdoor Centers can make informed decisions on how and when to allow members to return to sailing related activities in a safe and prudent manner. Don Adams, CEO of Sail Canada stated: "Sail Canada is extremely fortunate to have this expert task force to help our member clubs to return to sailing activities when provincial and local authorities give clubs the green light to start resuming sailing activities". The Committee is composed of Scientific and Medical Experts who understand the sport of Sailing and have expertise in the prevention of COVID 19 spread. It also includes Manitoban and Falcon Yacht Club's own David Telles-Langdon – PhD. Thanks Dave!

With the Province of Manitoba's direction individual sailing should be approved for the next phase of openings with other non-contact sports. Tennis and golf have already begun! Our club made the fortuitous decision last fall to extend our lessons over 3-4 weeks in the summer of 2020 while significantly reducing the class sizes down to a maximum of 6 with two instructors. Each student will have their own boat and with our new large dock and stairway we have lots of space for the kids to social distance while still learning the ins and outs of the sport in their own sailboat. In the past we have had anywhere from 30-50 kids/adults in one week on the water during lessons. While it is impressive to see all those sailors this year it's not possible and potentially not safe.

The WHLYC will have rigorous social distancing, safety protocols and cleaning in place following the advice of Health Manitoba and Sail Canada. We appreciate your patience during this time while we organize these new protocols and regulations. Our online registration for sailing lessons is open and available; approximately half the sessions are filled as of May 14. If demand increases as we end up being one of the few sports open this summer we will endeavor to create a couple more weeks of lessons.

The website is updated with all of last summer's pictures of sailing, races, lessons and activities please check them out. If you have any questions about our programs and club please call or email us at info@whlyc.ca or 204-479-7100.

Stay healthy and safe and see you on the water!





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The WHLYC CANSail Program uses the Optimist Sailboat (shown above) for kids and the Laser & Code 40 (2 person boat) for Youth and Adults. Let this be the summer you get on the lake and learn to sail!

To register online or more information, please visit us at:
www.whlyc.ca



July 20 - 24/20
July 27 - 31/20
August 3 - 7/20

WEEK 2

Adult & Youth
(Ages 13 +)

9:00 AM – Noon
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

WEEKS 1&3

Kids
(Ages 7 – 13)

9:00 AM – Noon
1:00PM – 4:00PM

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WEST HAWK LAKE YACHT CLUB

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204-349-2072 lake
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Online Registration:
www.whlyc.ca

Zig Zag Yacht Club

BY STU STARKEY



Zig Zag is especially excited this summer to be preparing for another season. We saw growing number of young sailors in 2019 and we are looking forward to building these young lake goers into lifelong sailors this summer.

With limited sailing spots available we encourage anyone interested in sailing programming down in Clear Water Bay to sign up online as soon as you can.

We will be practicing all COVID related protocols to keep the kids, staff, and parents safe. So, look for our rules and guidelines on our website.



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