

Telltale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: sailsaratoga.org



August 2020

Commodore's Corner

By John Smith

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Wine Festival

Based on the success of our Winter Wine Tasting, a Wine Festival is being planned for **late summer or early fall.**

Anyone interested in joining the planning committee,
please contact:

Jerry Danielski, jerdanie@hotmail.com
or
Mary Kate McCarty, marykate448@nycap.rr.com

SLSC Covid Guidelines

- Maintain 6' from other non-household members
- Wear masks if you are closer than 6'. The docks are only 6' wide.
- No group gathering other than household members
- Stay away from other member's boats. Do not help other members launching or retrieving boats unless it is an emergency, this includes helping on the dock with lines.
- Use sanitizer or wash your hands after contact with high touch areas such as:
 - Trailer dollies
 - Crane controller
 - Boat hooks
 - Ramp hand rails
 - Hoses
 - Port-a-potty door handle
 - Tractor

Labor Day Lobster Boil

This event has been
abandoned
for 2020.

Saratoga Multi-hull Open Regatta

Scheduled for August 29th
Cancelled
for this year.

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Commodore's Corner

By John Smith

I have spent several hours this past week going down memory lane by reading old Telltales. I want to say how great the July 4th bar-b-que was, but I cannot. Worst of all I want to encourage members to register for the Labor Day Lobster Boil, but I cannot. I want to say how fun the racing has been this season. I can say that the two races that we got in were great.

Now that the pole barn has been completed a work party of 15 fantastic volunteers spent a very HOT Saturday moving 18 of 20 boats and 51 empty trailers. At the end of the day the meadow was organized and still had 5 empty spaces. In case you are interested, the reason we did not move those two boats, one needs a large boat mover and the other one is to near the hornet's nest that we found.



East



South



North



West

I have been a member for 8 years, and I am sure that at the annual meadow mowing parties I have moved some of the same unused boats and trailers for all 8 of those years. This year we had to move 6 SIX boats with flat tires and drain 6 boats that were full of water. I know sometimes we put things aside and then forget about them. One of the Telltale articles that I came across was written by Mark Welcome in 2016 referring to the same issue. The other issue is the number of trailers that have no identification on them. I know that James Symon send multiple emails to the membership nearly a month before the work party asking members to identify their trailer.

We are a volunteer operated club and I feel that asking 15 of 185 members to do work that is extremely hard and risk injury to move ill maintained trailers and boats is unacceptable and disrespectful of these people.

I want to thank all of the members that marked their empty trailers. However, as of August 15th, we will again check the meadow and all trailers that are not marked will be declared abandoned and will be disposed of to make room in the meadow. If there is a reason that you cannot get to the club in the next three weeks and can describe your trailer contact James Symon and we will attempt to get it marked.

On a more positive note, I want to commend all of the members that have come to the club so far and are complying with (ugly word) COVID protocols.

The Sailing school is up and running in a modified format that Mark Welcome and John Power have made sure of NYS compliancy. One of the school's many challenges this year has been to obtain single person boats to comply with social distancing - Opti's on the lawn again.

We finally have our permit to race and I want to thank Terry and Joanne Fraser for all of their work in planning the season only to have to abandon them and start over again and then again. Now they need support by members volunteering to run a day of racing from the flattop. Even if you are unsure if you can handle the task, Terry & Joanne have a to-do list available to help. Most importantly, remember if you are running the race(s) that day, you are in charge. Come and race while we can.

We will keep monitoring this year's situation and hopefully sometime this fall we can all get together at the club or at some other location to for a social event.

Sailing School Update -July 2020

It has been nice to see so many members out enjoying the Club this year albeit under different circumstances. All of us involved with the school appreciate the support and kind words from many of you. I thought I'd take the opportunity to answer the most common questions we get about how we have adapted the sailing school to the Covid era. As you can imagine, we needed to change almost all of our procedures and policies to adapt and here is a broad overview

The schedule/registrations

- All classes were switched from full days to half days. This allows us to
 - Avoid lunch times where kids want to congregate and necessarily lower their masks to eat
 - Minimize the amount of time any group might need to be indoors in the event of bad weather
 - Eliminate "shore game" time where kids would be congregating and play on the lawn
- In some cases (i.e. members kids or grandkids) we would allow kids to register for both morning and afternoon sessions but those parents/grandparents need to come and take the kids during the break to allow us adequate time to sanitize everything and get ready for the afternoon session.
- To make scheduling easier on the volunteers, we went to a model where there were not specific skills each week (i.e. no more Learn to Sail week or Intermediate week). We simply divided the kids into groups based on skill where possible.
- I can't thank Margaret Shirk enough for the many hours she spent sorting out all of the issues that occur when you cancel 200+ registrations and move everyone into a completely new schedule.

Check-in

- We no longer meet at the Clubhouse as it is still closed. We meet at the new barn which has been an absolute god send to us this year.
- We have an instructor (wearing PPE) meet all parents and give them a clipboard with a daily health check form and pen (some parents already bring the forms as we distribute them ahead of time)
- They take a left into meadow and park and proceed to the barn where the instructors will
 - Take the child's temperature
 - Show the parents the temp reading to write it on the form
 - Witness the parents' signature on all the health questions
- We have a hands free wash basin at the door to the barn, so everyone needs to wash /sanitize hands on arrival
- Kids drop their things on their own table (every child/cohort gets their own)
- Everyone is wearing masks/face coverings at all times

The class itself

- Kids are divided into cohorts based sometimes on skills, but also on their existing cohorts outside the club. Family members sail together as do kids who have already been spending time together outside the club.
- Kids sail alone in their own boats or with their cohorts only
- In order to keep the kids outside and socially distanced as much as possible we only give a quick "chalk talk" and then get to the boats and on the water as soon as possible.
- We are extremely heavy with staff so that we have more than enough on water support as well as instructors who are overseeing all the Covid adherence such as sanitization, distancing, masks, etc.
- For adult classes, we have greatly reduced the number of spots available for instruction as we only teach with one instructors/boat for every student or family.
- Many people have noted the pile of Stand-Up Paddleboards on the racks. These were an addition to the program this year as they give us a safe and effective way of getting kids on the water when there is no wind at all in a socially distanced manner. Many thanks to the Ferrillo family for making the connections for us to get these.

Sanitization

- It's not often that the school has a separate line item for bleach in the budget! In all seriousness, we sanitize a lot. We use a mild bleach solution that was published by US Sailing and ZIM Sailing on almost everything multiple times a day:
 - The sanitization station
 - The chairs/tables in the barn
 - The clipboards/pens/supplies used every day
 - The boats/sails after every use
- We have several wash basins on the grounds as well as hand sanitizer located everywhere. We tell everyone that if you pass a wash station or a bottle of sanitizer, use it.

I hope that gives you a better understanding of just some of the steps we have taken to ensure everyone is safe while still enjoying the sailing. Parents and adult students have been very appreciative of our efforts to continue to give everyone the opportunity to get out on the water and sail.

John, myself and the entire staff appreciate the support of the Board and the Club membership through this whole process. This summer has been a great learning experience for all of us and has afforded us the opportunity to continue developing our young instructors who are the future of our program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me or John. Thanks

Sitting on the Front Porch and Wondering Why

By Captain Terryble

I'm sitting on the porch just wondering about stuff. It's a pleasant way to spend a piece of time.

I've pretty well come to the conclusion that a sailboat race is not a life-and-death event. It's just a small example of life.

There are some quotations about life that prove my point. Maybe I can show you what I mean.

"If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain," Dolly Parton.

There are trials and tribulations that are incurred during a race. If it turns out you do well in a race it's satisfying to know you've survived those rainy problems. And of course if you do badly you can blame the rain.

"Today you have one hundred percent of your life left," Tom Landry

I've rounded that last mark in a race and planned my route to the finish line. I've started to celebrate my good fortune. But then three or four boats pass me. You know, Tom Landry was right. There's 100% of the race left. Stop being down in the dumps, Terry, and put the boat back in gear!

"The person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the person who is doing it." – Chinese Proverb

I can't even come close to estimating how many times a voice from a nearby boat has shouted something like: "Tack, Terry, tack....where are you going" (of course he wants to pass me). OR: "Come on, get tighter to the mark, Terry" (of course he wants to pass me, too).

I always yell back my favorite response. **"You drive your boat and I'll drive mine!"** (and you can quote me on that!)

"It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop." – Confucius

In a race a racer is supposed to go fast. It's much easier to sail slow though. Sometimes I feel like my boat is going very slow. That's not good. And in all honesty I can get a little anxious and make big changes on the boat settings that make the boat go even slower. Then I can get a little down in the mouth. Confucius is right. Do not stop. In other words don't give up.

"A child of five could understand this. Someone go fetch a child of five!" Groucho Marx

During a race a sailor can suddenly be presented with a situation that he didn't foresee or expect. In those fast developing events the Racing Rules of Sailing can seem so confusing. Someone go fetch a child of five!

"If you're going through hell, keep going." (Winston Churchill)

Oh my goodness! Bad start and you find yourself deep inside the forest of other masts and sails. I try not to cry like a baby. I try not to get upset. Churchill was right....keep going!

Over the years I've got a few quotes that I've made up. As I'm still sitting on the porch wondering why.....here are a few of my quotes that I use in life:

"The secret to success in sailboat racing is 'risk management'."

For example, consider the consequences before taking a chance on a close port cross in shifty conditions. Most of the time it's better not to make that risky cross. Turn down and take the extra speed then bring the tiller back up and continue. One should always manage risky temptations.

"If a Fraser don't earn it, he don't want it."

Well, my kids always laughed at this one. Dad, you'd keep the money if you won the lottery. No, I don't play the lottery.

One time at the Y-Internationals in Ohio in heavy wind on the final leg of a race the boat in the lead in front of us caught it's boom on a wave and slowly tipped over. As we passed by I had trouble containing my emotions and may have even patted my crew's knee as my brain rejoiced.

Well, I knew I didn't "earn" that position. And here's what transpired next.

After about one more minute passed by we arrived at the point where we had one more tack only about 25 yards from the finish line. As I faced forward and passed the tiller extension from one hand to the other I lost my grip and dropped the tiller as the boat tipped onto the other rail. I sat briefly on the new high side of the boat with nothing in my hand. My brain suddenly told me to "go down there and get that tiller." Predictably when I did that the wind got under the hull and over we went. Floating in the water and away from the boat among the big waves, I watched all the other boats go by. I told my loudmouthed brain that I didn't deserve for that to happen to me.

Fate was just reminding me that if a Fraser don't earn it.....he don't want it. I was a little on the sad side though.

"Luck is nice when it comes your way, but you have to know what to do with it when you get it."

I've gotten off the pace in a race. Maybe I decide to sail way away from the fleet to the opposite side of the racecourse.....and, oh my gosh! Unbelievable! A lucky shift with more wind! I look and I'm ahead of the whole fleet. However, I'm not quite to the layline of the mark and I decide to keep going a little further. Both the lucky shift and the extra wind disappear. My point here is don't just accept the good fortune. I obviously should have tacked back to consolidate my lucky position. I didn't know what to do with my good luck. Very unfortunate.

Well, thanks for spending some time listening to my thoughts about sailing and life. Now you're probably wondering "why."

House Report

By Barbara & Allen Miller, Flag Lts. House

With the house closed, we have not had much to do. However, we were able to figure out, thanks to Allan's engineering mind, how to hang our club burgees on the porch. And, thanks to Ann Seidman, we have printed out a list of where the burgees come from. The list is on the radio box on the porch and reads from left to right.

The one burgee we can't figure out is the red and white OGYC 13 in the middle, top left below. If anyone knows what club that came from, please let us know.



On the Block

Please visit our website to view more details and/or pictures of the following boats for sale.

'86 Catalina 22..... \$5000

6 hp Yamaha OB
Main, 110 Jib, 150 Genoa,
Trailer

Howard Ghee
518-283-3203 (Leave a message)
Or email gheehe1@twc.com

Beach wheels.....\$200

Will fit a Hobie 16.

Contact Scott at ScottMeyerone@gmail.com

Water Tender 9.4 Rowing Dinghy.....\$250

Original price at West Marine \$599. Now asking \$250.
Location: Saratoga Lake Sailing Club.

Call 518-409-4245

1987 Laser.....\$1500

Updated racing rigging
Complete Full and Radial rigging and sails
\$1500 - or trade for a Sunfish

Contact Susan Kohler
518-727-9648
skohler00@gmail.com

Standard Horizon Eclipse + VHF Marine Radio

Price: \$45

This is a fully functional dash mounted, high output (25W)
marine VHF radio that was in an
Ensign I purchased last year.

The package contains:

- 1) The radio + handheld microphone.
- 2) A whip antenna.
- 3) Coax cable + VHF connectors.

Contact: Jeff Robinson 518-310-9606.

Kestrel.....\$450

Great boat! Comes with a great fleet of other boats and
friendly, competitive sailors. This is a great opportunity for
someone to get started in racing at
Saratoga Lake Sailing Club or to join the "Frost Biters"
Boat is priced to sell \$450. Many accessories are also
available and are priced to sell as well.

This good old boat has a story.

See online listing at SLSC web page for more details

Contact gmcnallyd68@gmail.com

Outboard motor.....\$400

2.5 hp/ 4 stroke Yamaha long shaft. Excellent condition.

Contact: Charlie 518-858-3337

4 Kestrels for sale

#1635, Black.....\$9975

Winner of 2017, 2018, 2019
Kestrel North American Championships.
Who will sail her and win it in 2020?
This is the boat featured on the builder
website, hartleyboats.com

#1559, Red\$7000

Owned by sailing school.

#1550, White.....\$7000

Owned by sailing school.

#823.....\$2500

Winner of 2016
Kestrel North American Championships.

Contact Larry King 518-421-7597
or Mark Welcome 518-928-6187

Meadow Work Party



Meadow Work Party



SARATOGA LAKE SAILING CLUB

The Saratoga Lake Sailing club promotes and develops interest in sailing and sailboat racing.

The Club cooperates with and aids individuals and groups interested in sailing and requires in return, observance of such rules and regulations as are set forth by this organization.

SANCTIONED FLEETS

Ensign.....	Tony Cannone
	271-0246
Flying Scot.....	Shirley & Paul Waterfield
	584-5552
Kestrel.....	Tony Bianchini
	877-5062
Laser.....	Leslie Rafaniello
	301-4109
MC Scow.....	Andrew Murnan
	420-5368
Thistle.....	Jerry Zell
	767-9216
Y-Flyer.....	Terence Fraser
	495-4037

2020 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

Commodore.....	John Smith
slsc_commodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	786-1340
Vice Commodore.....	Scott Meyer
slsc_vicecommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	248-1229
Rear Commodore.....	Dave Hudson
slsc_rearcommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	370-4894
Secretary.....	Anthony & Laura Massa
slsc_secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....	526-9121
Treasurer.....	Jeff Robinson
slsc_treasurer@sailsaratoga.org.....	310-9606
Flag Lt. Boats.....	Jake Greiner
slsc_boats@sailsaratoga.org.....	203-767-8783
Flag Lt. Grounds.....	James Symon
slsc_grounds@sailsaratoga.org.....	316-1190

Flag Lt. House.....	Barbara & Allan Miller
slsc_house@sailsaratoga.org.....	885-5510
Flag Lt. Race.....	Terry Fraser
slsc_race@sailsaratoga.org.....	495-4037
Membership.....	Ann Seidman
slsc_membership@sailsaratoga.org.....	877-8731
Newsletter/Publicity.....	Charlotte Osborne
slsc_publicity@sailsaratoga.org.....	669-7646
Sailing Program.....	Mark Welcome
slsc_sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org.....	587-9041
Social.....	Open
slsc_social@sailsaratoga.org.....	
House Phone.....	584-9659