

Telltale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: sailsaratoga.org



January 2021

Commodore's Corner

By John Smith

Goodbye, So Long, Farewell and GOOD Riddance 2020,

we will not forget it, but we will not miss it. Hello to 2021, hopefully we will be able to get back to a more normal year. The season will most likely resemble last spring with small work parties and the house still closed. I know that the board will be able to count on the usual support from the membership to operate the club this coming year.

The annual meeting was well attended on Zoom last month and the new slate of officers were voted in after the annual reports were presented. I'm happy to report the 2021 slate of officers voted in as follows:

- John Smith - Commodore
- Scott Meyer - Vice Commodore
- Dave Hudson - Rear Commodore
- Jeff Robinson - Treasurer
- Susan Kohler - Secretary
- Allan & Barbara Miller - Flag Lt. House
- Flag Lt. Race - Terry & Joanne Fraser
- James Symon - Flag Lt. Grounds
- Jake Greiner - Flag Lt. Boats Committee

Chairs are:

- Ann Seidman - Membership Chair
- Charlotte Osborne - Publicity Chair
- Mark Welcome - Sailing Program Chair
- Lauren Meyer - Social Chair

I would like to thank the outgoing Board Members, Anthony & Laura Massa as Secretary.

The Annual Budget meeting will be at 3:00 pm on February 14th. It will again be a Zoom meeting, and an invitation will be sent to members as we get closer to the meeting date.

Annual Budget Meeting

Sunday, February 14th, 3:00 pm

Virtual via Zoom

What's Inside?

Winter Boat Prep.....	Page 2
Boat Storage Policy.....	Page 2
Power Boat Training.....	Page 3
Project Boats.....	Page 4

Is your boat ready for the season?

Taking a walk around the club, looking at the boats was an education and a reminder about the coming winter. Many of the boats are well prepared for the winter but there are still some that need attention. The damage that water left in a boat when it freezes and thaws can be substantial. Areas like the mast hole on a Laser or Sunfish can fill with water that expands with the temperature changes and can cause significant damage. Some boats have roller jibs. These need to come down in the winter. High winds can unravel the sail and then beat it until it is totally destroyed. The winds can loosen the covers you have put on your boats, too, so picking a nice day and checking the covers periodically is a small investment in protecting your boat.

If you have not secured your covers yet, doing it sooner than later...well, you know what the next words will say.

It helps, also, to protect your boat from the critters, aka wildlife. If your boat has inspection ports that, when open won't collect water, get some non-metallic screen fabric and tape it over the openings. It is a great way to dry the interior of the boat over the winter.

Consider, also, what you leave in the boat. Even synthetic fabric sails can get moldy if they stay wet for an entire winter. It is interesting how mice like chewing on some ropes or shredding them and using it for nesting. Storing the vulnerable material where it is well protected will be worth it.

Hopefully, this brief disjointed bunch of information will be useful to you. Consider, also, that as we continue for what is hopefully a short while isolating, learning the racing rules can be really worthwhile. If you are interested, log into Sail Zing and hear what the changes are for 2021: <https://sailzing.com/racing-rules-of-sailing-2021-2024-changes-impacting-sailors/>

As always, your thoughts and ideas are appreciated.

Allan

SLSC Boat Storage Policy - Introduction for Telltale

The Board has prepared a document that sets forth the policy that applies to all members who keep boats at the Club. This policy document incorporates and supplements the existing Boat Park Policy and Mooring Policy. SLSC Policies can be found in the Member Manual, which will be updated to include this new document.

Boats stored at the Club, whether in the boat park, on a mooring, on a water rack, on the lawn, in the Car Park area, in the meadow, on a rack, or on the dinghy dock, are subject to this policy.

Changes and additions to the number of boats left at the Club require Board approval. All boats and trailers left at the Club must be prominently identified with the owner's name.

These boat storage policies are not new policies, but rather are a codification of existing policies. The current situation at the Club, with membership near maximum limits and a list of applicants waiting to be accepted into the Club, while the envy of other sailing clubs, does put pressure on our facilities. In particular, we have very limited space to store members' boats on site in both summer and winter.

We want to remind members that the storage and location of boats and trailers on land are at the discretion of the Flag Lieutenant Grounds, and the storage and location of boats on moorings and water racks are at the discretion of the Rear Commodore. Assigned locations may change from year to year; no one "owns" a parking or mooring spot no matter how long they may have squatted on it.

This is not to say that there will be massive or random changes to boat locations, but to remind members that boat locations may be changed due to the needs of the Club.

Members should have no expectation that boats or trailers will not be moved during the course of Club operation. Boats or trailers may be moved by officers and work parties. The Club will attempt to notify owners of boats, especially those on jack-stands, before moving them.

SLSC Power Boat Training for 2021

Our goal at SLSC for 2021 is to have, at least one individual from each member family, trained to safely handle our powerboats. The primary reason for this, is to assure we can safely rescue people in a boat on the water if the need arises. Our approach is to provide a combination of on-the-water operation training in our boats, combined with additional training via articles and classroom, in techniques to rescue people and boats.

The winter break from sailing provides us time to get started working toward this goal. Additionally, New York State is phasing in the requirement, that by the end of 2025 every operator of a powerboat, regardless of age or year of birth, will need to have a Boater Safety Certificate issued by an approved training program.

Later in the season, when the ability to hold classroom training is safe, the club will conduct several free NYS Boater Safety Classes to allow those members who want the Certificate to obtain it. Those who want an on-line course, have some choices which are listed on the NYS Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation website.

<https://parks.ny.gov/recreation/boating/education.aspx> The Boat US course is free to take the course. I think though that a fee is charged to receive a Certificate.

We will also be providing periodic articles on Powerboat operation. This will supplement the Boater Safety Course information for all members, including those not taking the Certificate course.

Accomplishing this goal will take some help. If you are interested in becoming a NY State Boater Safety Instructor or a US Powerboating Safe Powerboat Handling Instructor, please contact me.

May 2021 be a year of good health and happiness for all of you and your families,

Allan

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For information

If you were born on or after: You will need a boating safety certificate by:

January 1, 1993	The end of 2020
January 1, 1988	The end of 2022
January 1, 1983	The end of 2023
January 1, 1978	The end of 2024

All operators of motorized vessels, regardless of age, will need a boating safety certificate by the end of 2025.

Project Boats

Project boats are those requiring work to be made sailable.

In an effort to maintain our limited space, the Board is initiating a Project Boat Policy. The purpose of the policy is to work with the membership to maintain their boats and to eliminate boats that are just abandoned. The form below will need to be submitted to the Board for approval and will be enforced by the Fl. Lt. Grounds. With the completion of the barn and the organization of the meadow we are confident that there will be room in the meadow for projects.

Project Boat

Date of Notice to the Board _____

Owner(s) Name _____

Boat Type _____

Boat's Location on the Property _____

Description of Proposed Work _____

Estimated Completion Date _____

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

2021 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..... Susan Kohler
slsc_secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....727-9648
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
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Membership.....Ann Seidman
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