



Mississauga Sailing Club

LIFE IS GOOD BY THE LAKE

2019/20 WINTER UPDATE

Commodore's Thoughts

by Gary McIlroy

It is hard to believe here we are at the end of 2019 and the beginning of another decade. Last year was a very challenging one with the never ending work on the Clubhouse and the many contractor issues we have had. Believe it or not, the project is still not fully completed, however, we have our Clubhouse back and hopefully no more water leaking into the building. Despite the challenges we still had a great year and managed to carry on with almost all of our traditional activities. In fact it was a pretty eventful and fun year with fantastic participation by all the members.

There has been a big move by the Executive to go electronic and we have worked very hard with our Web Master, Karen-Ann Xavier to put together a refreshed MSC website. The site ([link](#)) provides us a single place for our members to access everything they need to know about the club from general news, events, a place to find your own personal membership details, access codes, and your personal volunteer hours etc. The site is also being used for membership renewals which will save our Treasurer a lot of

work, keep things more organized and provide you a easy way to process your dues. There have been a few issues to iron out but big things are happening. Thank you for your patience and keep visiting the website to see the changes. The wealth of expertise we have in our membership is fantastic. There have been a number of projects that have required specific skills and knowledge and we have had members step in to perform the work. I am very grateful for everything you have done. There are too many people to recognize and I would be afraid to miss someone. You know who you are. THANK YOU! This brings to mind the committees. We have had some success getting people involved in our different committees and I encourage you to participate. It is a great way to do the things you enjoy, get to know more people, provide input on what is happening with the Club and accomplish your work hours. Your executive can really use your help on these committees so please reach out to the executive if you are interested in participating.

I will be starting up the Sailors' Gatherings shortly (February 1st) and hope you will be able to make it out on

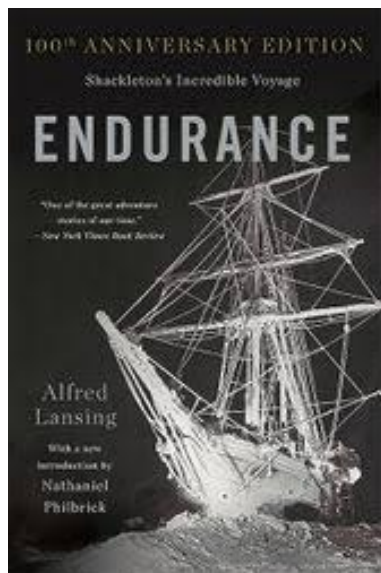
the designated Saturday mornings for an exceptional breakfast followed by some very interesting speakers. Breakfast will be from 9:00am – 9:50am and the talk will be from 10:00am – noon. If you are interested in helping out with the breakfast, or have an idea for one of the presentations let me know. Have a look at the club calendar ([here](#)) for more details on upcoming events. On a final note, I can't say enough about how great the Executive has been. It is a top notch group of people that have been extremely helpful, worked very hard and represented the membership in an outstanding manner. I would also like to thank Dave Tebbit for stepping in as Secretary. It has been an honor working with the Executive and Membership. I plan on stepping down as Commodore at the upcoming AGM on February 8th (check the calendar for details) and we are looking for someone to fill my position. I will still be involved with the Executive as Past Commodore. The other Executive positions that are up for election are Social Officer, Sailing Officer and Secretary (1 Year). It is a great group of people and we would like members to put their name up for election. Try it, you will like it. Best wishes everyone for a happy 2020 and another great sailing year.

Gary McIlroy

Treasurer's Notes

by Neil Trevail

So, with the passing of another great season, what's there to do for the avid sailor during winter months? Personally, I keep in spirits by reading about great adventurers on the seas. I've read many, but one that stands out is Endurance by Alfred Lansing. It's about Earnest Shackleton's expedition to the Antarctic and the crew's determination in the face of adversity. A definite page turner.



There's also a surprising number of movies featuring lone adventurers facing havoc on our great oceans. Just recently I watched a movie called The Mercy. It portrays the real-life story of Donald Crowhurst, a day-sailor, who attempted to be the first person ever to single-handedly circumvent the world in 1968. While I'll not spoil the ending, I will say it's a fascinating true story that, to this day, draws me to anyone crazy enough to sail solo around the world, particularly the passage around Cape Horn.

Which leads me to the last event that will occupy my time until the ice melts –



The Vendee Globe. Every four years sailors from all countries are invited to test their strength and stamina on a race around the world. It's not for the faint of heart. Typically, less than half ever finish and three have been lost at sea, including Canadian Gerry Roufs in 1997. So between now and when the next race begins this upcoming November, I'll be following these sailors as they prepare themselves and their boats for what's frequently referred to as the "Everest of the Sea". My early favorite to win is Alex Thomson and his new Hugo Boss boat pictured within. Do you think Simi, our Membership Officer, would overlook the size restrictions and allow Alex to become an MSC Member and store his boat in our yard? We might need to get a wider gate, but you'd have my vote.

As for our finances the club remains healthy - a tribute to all our members that contribute valuable time and effort to keep our not-for-profit organization alive and well. Without your commitment, we would not survive. Thank you.

Hope to see everyone at our AGM on February 8th as well as all the Sailor's Gatherings throughout the winter.

Yours truly....Neil

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP & STORAGE FEE

How to Pay Membership & Storage Fees:

- Visit our [MCS Website](#)
- Click [Login] and enter your Username and Password. If this is your first time, click [Create an account] and follow the instructions
- Once logged in, go the [Membership](#) section
- Click the [MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL] button and complete all sections of the form
- Once complete you'll be re-directed for payment using either Paypal, Visa or Mastercard

Notes:

- A full schedule of membership fees can be found on MSC's website under [Membership](#)
- Payments made after December 31, 2019 will be subject to a \$100 late payment fee

EACH BOAT OWNER MUST HAVE THIRD PARTY LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE OF NOT LESS THAN \$1,000,000 (MSC RECOMMENDS \$2,000,000)

QUESTIONS CONTACT

[Neil Trevail, MSC Treasurer](#)

Racing Officer Report

by Anne Pugh

2019 was another successful year of sailing and although we tried something different this year with two of the regattas it didn't really work as planned so look out for the plans for 2020 - it's all about getting boats on the water.

For the club racing series we returned to separate Thursday and Sunday series which seems to be the preferred format. Both of the Sunday series had good participation but Thursday's suffered from a combination of poor weather or occasionally a lack of sailors! PCYC continued to participate in the Thursday racing, we also saw a big increase in the number of catamarans - we may have to consider separate starts!

- Sunday series 1 - 18 boats over 8 races
- Sunday series 2 - 24 boats over 12 races
- Thursday series 1 - 21 boats over 6 races (we needed a make-up day to get the series in)
- Thursday series 2 - 21 boats over 6 races

Regattas

The GOCATS Regatta in July was a great success with the fleets split between High and Low Fleets

We tried something different for the CL16/Wayfarer regatta this year - we made it a one day event to try and encourage more club sailors to participate disappointingly we had no CL16 sailors and only three visitors so 2020 will return to a two

day event. The winners of the 8 boat fleet were Rob Wierdsma and Paul Taylor (???).

The Moe Fraser Regatta was planned for the traditional last day of the sailing and unfortunately despite the race duty teams best efforts setting a course

proved impossible and the decision was made to abandon. This is not the first time we have been

unable to complete the Moe Fraser due to unfavorable wind conditions so 2020 we will plan for more flexibility in the scheduled date.

Despite no racing for the Moe Fraser we held a hugely successful end of season with prize giving - with the lucky prize winners receiving MSC logo'd goodies - you know what to do if you want one - get out there and sail.

Plans for 2020 - the sailing committee will be meeting shortly. to plan the season - in addition to the "normal" stuff we will have "Pro-Am" races for less experienced sailors to get out there and help them gain more confidence and training sessions - including race officer training. A personal handicap system has been worked out and the details of how it works will be explained before the start of the season.

Finally I am regularly asked what inspired me to race - one of the big influences on me was a boat named Maiden which competed in 1989/1990 Whitbread Race. At the time the race was covered on regular TV updates and the story of the all-female boat successfully sailing around the world despite the traditional male domination of the sport saying it couldn't be done was compulsive viewing for me. The outcome was I persuaded a reluctant husband to start sailing lessons and the rest is history - it's a fabulous sport whether it's dinghy racing, cruising or racing yachts across the oceans.

For those interested in the story of Maiden and her skipper Tracy Edwards check out the film "Maiden" that was released last year.

We have a great club with wonderful facilities let's make sure we make the most of being on the water in 2020 - see you out there.

ANNUAL REGATTAS

CL16 / Wayfarer



Wayfarer Winner – David Hansman & David Richardson, North Bay

CL16 Winner – Gary McLroy, MSC

GOCATS



High Fleet Winners – Mauro Spagnolo & Marty Vandenburg, Burlington Beach Catamaran Club

Low Fleet Winners – Jason Lewis and Giizhik Lewis, Champlain Sailing Club

Moe Fraser Memorial Race



Cancelled due to weather conditions

Social Officer's Report

by Angelo Petrolito

Although the 2019 sailing season might not have been the best, as far as the weather was concerned and the ongoing renovations to the clubhouse, it was still a lot fun meeting new members and old ones at the social events and races at MSC. Thanks to the many volunteers' great enthusiasm and wonderful participation, we definitely had a good time, some fantastic sailing and enjoyed the social events at our club.

Besides our Thursday and Sunday races, The social highlights were the annual Celtic Dinner, Italian Dinner, Moe Fraser Regatta and Dinner, and the festivities surrounding the CL/Wayfarer Regatta. All these events were organized and put in place by our members and words cannot express my most heartfelt thanks and gratitude to them all for doing such a magnificent job.

For 2020 we are looking forward to putting together the 6 Sailors' Gatherings, at least 3 of our annual Club Dinners (one of them being "The Great Canadian Barbecue this year), the Thursday after-race barbecues, and what we all now expect to be the annual Moe Fraser Dinner. Check the club calendar ([here](#)) for more details and dates.

With the AGM approaching on February 8th this will be my last year as Social Officer. It has been a real pleasure to have met and worked with so many new and old members of our club. The position is open and if you are interested in joining the Club Executive I would highly encourage you to put your hand up for this role. Its been a wonder experience and I'm confident you will enjoy it.

All the best for 2020 and I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the many future functions of our club.

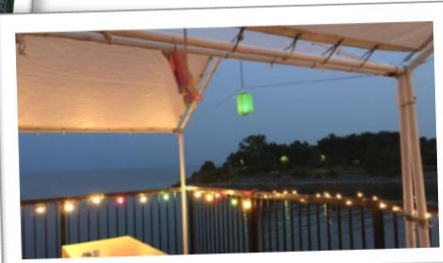
Angelo



Italian Night



Celtic Night



Facilities Officer's Report

by Dave Haight

Despite the setbacks and still on-going issues with the clubhouse, I think all would agree it has been another banner year to be a member of the MSC community!

I would really like to thank our Grand Poobah for his help with extra-curricular-facility-duties this year. Gary's efforts concerning the reno-demo were bordering on heroic when it came to his role as liaison to the city (along with Anne Pugh!). This was a massive investment in time (and patience), Gary seemed to be managing it all in stride - although I did offer to share my blood pressure meds with him a couple of times! Kudos Gary - it's almost over!

One of the big advantages of being on the executive team is the opportunity it affords to meet many members on a more personal level. It has been a distinct pleasure to be involved with so many of you this year! I would like to especially thank the 'facilities team' who stepped-up to make my job easier - thank You all very much for your efforts and advice! There was some heavy reliance on a number of key individuals....I would be remiss if I didn't mention the extraordinary overtime-efforts of members like Ross Thompson, Sergey Duko, Mauro Spagnolo, Ben Durrer, Len Rowe, and of course our award winning 'Dolly-lama', John Elsebroek.

Although there were many things under the Facilities-banner that we could not get accomplished, we did get most of the clubhouse back to a semi-functional level by mid-season. Some other long standing jobs also

got some attention; most of the bay lines got refreshed (Mauro & Co.), the deck got repainted and repaired (way to go teams!), painter eyelet-plates got fabricated (nice job Alan!), bumpers got reinstalled (courtesy of Pieter-the-great), the compound got Super-Simi-ed trees got trimmed, toilets got shimmed, weeds got wacked, , and best of all, the dock-job got semi-automated (once again, Huzzah to the John/Ross duo!).

In the coming year, we have some more repair/refresh work to be completed on the rooftop, and I am very confident that we are finally going to beat the Raccoons in 2020! (not literally - Ross is working on a gate). We will also be building a ground-level deck complete with another BBQ, hopefully a dock-flipping-gizmo, and I am also eyeing the kitchen for more storage/cupboard space.

So, there should be ample opportunity for any and all volunteers to get involved in 2020 facility projects! Don't be shy...we even offer on-the-job training!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Facilities Officer. Looking forward to getting things back into ship shape in 2020.

Fair Winds, Dave



Innovation!



Inspiration?

Secretary's Report

by Dave Tebbit

Every year the sailing season goes by far too quickly. Looking back, weather conditions cost us a number of races. On the plus side, we saw a lot of new participants.

My crew Tom had an injury early on that sidelined him for the season. It was tough for Tom, as he enjoys sailing so much. For me, sailing without Tom was a totally different experience as we have sailed together since 1978. Luckily I discovered a neighbor that was curious to try sailing in spite of the fact he gets seasick. Turns out he loves it and is keen to get out as much as he can. Sailing always puts a smile on my face, but introducing it to a newcomer is something special. Especially when you see their excitement.

I stepped into the role of secretary in the latter half of the season. One thing I have come to appreciate from writing up the minutes of the executive meetings is how much the executive members contribute to the future and well-being of the club. It also opened my eyes to the amount of work hours our members volunteer for.

It was nice to finally have our club house back! Thanks to everyone involved in making it happen.

And what a great end of year get together at the



Brogue! It was a wonderful way to end the season!

Looking forward to catching up next season.

Dave



Communication Officer's Report

by Dave Black

With the final word of this newsletter I would like acknowledge the amazing efforts of so many of the members of this club. Our Treasurer, Neil, did some work to estimate the total number of volunteer hours it takes to smoothly run our club and the final number was mind blowing. So many of our members contribute hours and hours to this club, well beyond the minimum amount required.

Our volunteers are the life blood of this club, bringing a variety of skills, talents to the effort but all working towards improving the club, what we offer our members, and to the public. It takes many hands and we all can contribute in some way but it starts with letting someone know how you want to help.

Over the past year or so we have focused our efforts on using the club website and leveraging a couple of social media platforms to more effectively:

- communicate with our members
- offer a place for members to communicate with each other
- and to advertise our club to prospective members

I've realized just how difficult and time consuming this can be, so I'm hoping that in 2020 we can find some members who are interested in helping with this effort. If you are interested website design, use or simply can assist with the social media channels please let me or one of the executive know.

MSC is a little gem, nestled on a picturesque point, with a sheltered bay (for those of us still learning about sailing), with its amazing community of members, and I can't express enough my appreciation for being part of this wonderful organization.

Stay warm, and keep the memory of that perfect day you had out on the lake this year, it will be back in no time. Look forward to seeing everyone at the club soon.

Dave



Mississauga Sailing Club

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Board Position

Commodore	Gary McIlroy
Treasurer	Neil Trevail
Sailing Officer	Anne Pugh
Social Officer	Angelo Petrolito
Membership Officer	Simi Ahluwalia
Facilities Officer	David Haight
Secretary	Dave Tebbit
Communications Officer	David Black



