

## **Winter Newsletter 2013-14**

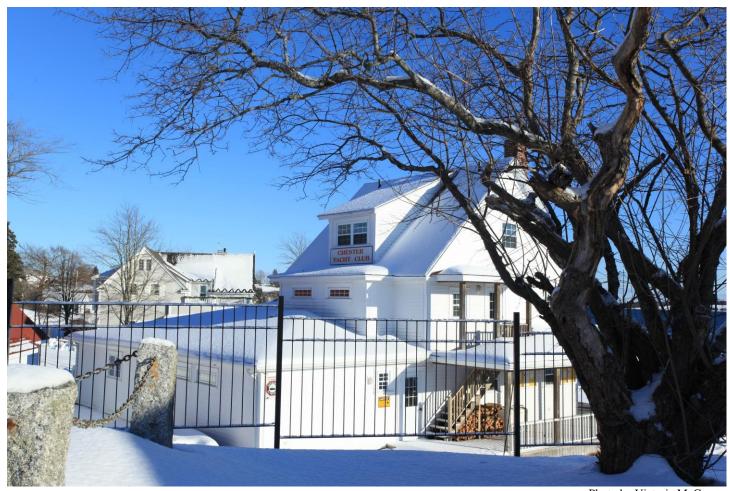


Photo by Victoria McGregor

**Chester Yacht Club** 

Chester Nova Scotia

January 2014

### **Message from The Commodore**

Happy New Year! A week in Chester during this crisp fall weather is invigorating and uplifting. Meetings with the Executive of the CYC are stimulating, productive and informative.

The calendar is developing; it will be a great resource, as we plan our summers, racing times and social gatherings. Chester must have one of the busiest racing schedules of almost any yacht club extant. We race almost every day of the week in season; it is great fun! It would be even more enjoyable, if more of the participants came back to the club after a race to enjoy the camaraderie, have a bite and just hang out.

Did you know that the club has a payroll of 19 people not including race week? This small town club is a big deal and requires many hands, including volunteers! To provide the services, racing and just plain fun, requires commitment, patience, a whole lot of work and cash.

We have 200 hundred paying members which includes another 200 plus as part of a dues paying household. We need more, so talk up the club and try to seduce your friends to join. As you sit by the fire (or a pool in Florida) think about who you know who might be interested in joining. They will like it as much you do. Their names will be posted along with your names on the membership list on the bulletin board.

Please send me an email  $-\frac{fatcityjoe@hotmail.com}{}$  - with questions and concerns. I will get back to you as quickly as I can, addressing your point.

Stay warm!

### Joe Hill, Commodore



Photo provided by Victoria McGregor

### **Vice Commodore's Report**

Happy New Year! Wishing all our members good health, happiness, and success in the coming year and always.

Soon time for CYC's Winter Potlucks again. Please join in the fun and come to the winter potlucks at the Chester Yacht Club. Simply bring some food and yourself and be prepared for an evening of sailing tales & fireside chats. Just remember it's the last Saturday of January, February, March & April. We encourage all members to please feel free to bring your guests to our Winter Potlucks—the more the merrier! Please remember you must sign them in the guest book.

Mark the last Saturday of the upcoming months on your calendar!

Time: 6:00PM

Dates: January 25 – Traditional Potluck

February 22 – Last name Potluck (bring something that starts with the first letter of your last

name)

March 29 – Traditional Potluck

April 26 – Pizza & Salad party Potluck

We have been planning the 2014 calendar. In July: Canada Day BBQ, On the Water Scavenger Hunt, CYC Yard Sale. In August: Commodore Dinner. In September: Chester Garden Club Tea and in October: Turkey Doo. We will of course still be having our very popular Friday evening Hors d'oeuvres. Should you have ideas, or wish to volunteer, please contact me. I welcome your suggestions and look forward to meeting you.

Cheers to a great sailing season at CYC!

### Gillian Reid, Vice-Commodore

### **Rear Commodore's Report**

The boats in Chester have been put away for some time now but the Halifax Boat Show will be coming up soon and the planning for spring and the summer sailing season will begin again.

The Race Committee held their fall meeting to set dates and plan the summer racing schedule. The meeting was very well attended with representatives from all the different classes. Next summer's schedule will be similar to 2013 with some slight changes to the Saturday race format. Watch for your club calendar for all the details.

I would like to welcome Trish Finlay and Aidan Donaldson who will join Ray Cambria as Race Officers this year.

We have expanded our mooring field again this year to meet the growing demand. Additional island moorings have also been placed on Mason, Gooseberry and Coveys Islands as well as the existing ones on Gifford and Quaker.

At the request of Canadian Coast Guard a meeting was held last November at the Yacht Club with regard to a review of the Aids to Navigation in Mahone Bay. The meeting was well attended by our members. A new chart is in the process of being developed for Mahone Bay and CCG would like to make any changes to the buoys prior to publication. A Buoy of concern to our members was the location of the green can on Mark Island and we were given assurances that an improved location would be considered.

Congratulations to the IOD fleet in getting the 2014 International One Design North American Championships to be held at Chester August 28<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>. This will be a great event for participants as well as spectators.

I would like to thank Paul Avery, the outgoing Rear Commodore, for his hard work over the past several years; not only for his work with race management and water operations but for the many hours spent working with the junior sailing program.

I wish you all the best in the New Year. Keith Johnson, Rear Commodore

### **Learn To Sail**



Heather McGuire Photography

As 2013 winds down, I think back on the wonderful season we had with learn to sail and all of the great people that were involved. With over 200 registrations it was a busy season and without the help of Kim it would not have been possible. Along with regular programming we attended just about every regatta in the province producing great results with two sailors in particular standing out among the rest. Will McInnis and Conner Mraz were the top opti sailors at CYC this year and placed well at regattas as well. Both attended the opti nationals in Montreal with great results, landing Will on the national team heading to Argentina for the worlds in 2014. Well done Will!

Every year our program continues to grow in both quantity and quality, this year we had 9 coaches with volunteer coaches coming and going throughout the season. With more sailors and more coaches it leads to more boats: this year we had 9 coach boats (RIB's), 8 420's, 17 opti's and 5 echo's, add to that the private boats during Session 3 we had over 50 boats involved in the program. Needless to say the coaches had their hands full and I am proud to say that this season went very well with little to no problems. All this culminates to CYC have one of the largest Learn to sail programs in the province.

Coaches are what makes the program and having a great group of coaches working together made everything run smooth, unfortunately not all of the coaches will be returning next year as they cycle through the program and move on to bigger and better things in life. Also after a long tenor as Jr Director Paul Avery has stepped down and both Kim and myself will share the responsibilities of director. We would like to give Paul a huge thank you for all that he has put into the program over the years, he will surely be missed. I will be returning as Learn to sail manager and Kim will return as administrator, along with Heather Martin as parent liaison.

With the program growing with more boats and gear there becomes a responsibility to maintain and at times replace boats and gear; this however takes money and resources. The money generated through registrations covers the operational cost of the program but we rely solely on the Jr fundraiser for capital expenses such as replacing boats and gear. This year the Jr fundraiser was a huge success and was organized by Heather Martin and big thanks to John Carroll for being an outstanding auctioneer. With both of their hard work we raised over \$23000.00 and with the help of Scott Carroll and Carroll Honda we were able to purchase a new 16' RIB coach boat and also cycle out some of the older coach boats. Now, of course this would not have been possible without the help of parents and friends of the program as they are the people donating their time and money to the cause. I thank everyone that made this year's fundraiser a huge success and look forward to next year.

Also we had another large donation to the program, a 30' sail boat named "Legacy IV" belonging to Carlo Testa. Carlo donated the boat to the program with the hopes it would encourage young sailors to get on "big" boats and continue to sail throughout their lives. For a lot of kids they cycle through the program and age out and stop sailing. So with Legacy IV we hope run big boat programming with youth and also an adult learn to sail program if there is interest.

Once again Isabel's Cup was a great success with many junior sailors getting on a bluenose for a Tuesday night race, if I recall we had over 50 kids come out and enjoy sailing and BBQ. As in any race there can only be one

winner and this year that title went to Morgan Chandler sailing with Deborah Presson on her bluenose "Volant"—well done!

As always, Opti Jam was another huge success with over 75 boats attending making it the largest opti regatta in the province. A big thank you to Ray Cambria and Trish Finlay for their race management skills and running two courses and multiple fleets. A special thank you to Paul and Julia Avery for their tireless efforts in organising Opti Jam again as they have done every year for the past decade. Opti Jam was created by the Avery's as a way to encourage young sailors to attend a regatta without the pressures of a regatta thus having fun and learning to sail in large fleets. However like everything in life the torch needs to be passed on and the Avery's have decided it is time for them to step aside, so I am actively looking for someone to chair the 2014 Opti Jam. Again thank you to the Avery's for developing a procedure manual for Opti Jam with everything laid out for the next chair person. If you are interested in this position or know someone who is please contact Kim or myself.

Well as I said before the 2013 season for CYC Learn to sail program was a huge success and I thank everyone who was a part of it from sailors to coaches and especially parents who volunteer their time and resources to the program. Again I would like to thank Paul and Julia Avery for the all they have put into the program over the past decade and for making my job a lot easier. I look forward to the 2014 season and if you have any questions regarding the Learn to sail program please feel free to contact Kim or myself and also check out the learn to sail website which can be found at Chester Yacht Club.ca for all information regarding the program.

Warren Barkhouse Learn To Sail Manager
Kim Johnson Learn To Sail Manager
Administrator barkhouse.finlay@eastlink.ca
juniorsailing@chesteryachtclub.ca

### **Long Range Planning Committee**

Best wishes in the New Year to everyone. The LRPC members for this year are Gerry Giffin, John Tatlow, John Carroll, George Sapp, Sandy Swenson and Ray Cambria.

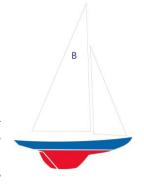
The LRPC wishes to commend the executive on successful completion of the member survey undertaken this past summer. The questions and responses have clarified a number of issues and provided direction from the membership to the LRPC.

Some of the more important issues were:

- Improved growth of the CYC capital fund. The survey indicated the members wished to fund this growth through fundraising, rather than a dues increase or some other direct means. Following this clear directive, the LRPC will no longer pursue this issue for the near future.
- Future direction of the club. Members were asked if the current level of services provided by the club met their needs, or if new services would be a benefit. Again, the survey clarified the question, with most members satisfied with the current level of services offered.
- Demographics. The survey responses confirmed the "graying" of clubs and organizations includes CYC. Of the nearly 100 responses to the survey, only one self-identified as being less than 29 years of age. The LRPC feels this is the most important issue facing the club in the future. The LPRC is currently examining our membership and dues structure, with recommendations forthcoming to the executive on how we can retain our existing membership, as well as make CYC attractive for new members, including those that might not be sailors, or just want to see what CYC is all about. The racing program at CYC makes a significant contribution to one of the main objectives of the Constitution, but we believe that survival of CYC for another century requires a broader approach to encourage people to join our club, participate, and stay for the long term.
- To assist us in this endeavour, we are currently reviewing the membership strategy for other similar clubs.

# Bluenose Class Association News for the Chester Fleet

With the 2013 holiday season quickly coming to a close and it's wont' be long before our 2014 racing season will be upon us Chester will welcome us all back for another eventful summer. will join us for our highly anticipated spring racing (Thursday's set to start on June 5<sup>th</sup>, so mark that one on your calendars!



winter all around us, and the waters of I hope many of you & Saturday's),

However before getting to our upcoming 2014 season, let's reflect on 2013 which certainly was a busy Bluenose season with our camaraderie, keen racing and great turnouts at an all-time high.

Key events and the winners included –

Chester Race Week (23 boats):

Christian Luti in Chase (#77)

John Grantmyre in Dart (#279)

Karl Mitchell in Mahaska (#116)

Keith Fox in Barbarian (#227)

Henry Demone in Wahoo (#257)

Tradewinds Realty Maritime Championships (19 boats):

Hans Himmelman in Troubadour (#124)

Henry Demone in Wahoo (#257)

Andrew Murphy in Esprit (#45)

Steve Stairs in All that JAS (#154)

Keith Fox in Barbarian (#227)

Wick McNeely Trophy (for overall 2013 Summer participation)

Dennis Dyer in Wanderer (#69)

A special 'hats off' to Keith Fox who had the most wins this year in all of our 2013 Bluenose racing which comprised of over 60 races – an incredible accomplishment, indeed!

But overall, congratulations to all our winners and to all those who competed in what I believe we all know is the best racing in Atlantic Canada, if not further afield.

As for our schedule for 2014, it should be essentially unchanged with Tuesday evening and Sunday afternoon racing. The optional Thursday racing will also be there for those really keen to race 3 times a week but gone is the spinnaker option that evening. We will also be blessed again with Ray Cambria and Trish Finlay as our expert Race Officers for our regular club racing, while Trish will be at the helm once again for Race Week and our Championships. Thanks, Ray & Trish! You are the 'backbone' of our class.

Also, yet again, a huge round of applause goes out to Sandy Morash, our fleet coordinator, for all of her endless, hard work and to the sponsorship of our championships by Tim Harris and Tradewinds Realty. Much appreciated!

Agenda items to discuss in the near future –

The weighing of boats (How? Who? Where? When?)

Sail make conformity

Rule enforcement

Future sponsorship

Race schedule (spring, summer, fall)

Events to look forward to -

Spring Racing
Rules Seminar
Coaching day(s)
'Summer racing
Race Week
Our Championships
September Series

If you enjoy our Bluenose racing, spread the word, as I believe there are at least 5 boats for sale that I know of, including 1-2 'new' ones out of our local shops!

And look to the 2014 CYC Racing Calendar for details on all of our events.

Well that's it for now, 'long may your jib draw' and here's to a 'Great New Year',

Steve Stairs, Bluenose Class Association President and Malcolm Fraser, BN Class Secretary/Treasurer & Chester Bluenose Fleet Rep

### **Chester Classics Fleet News**



For the Chester Classics fleet, 2013 was a year of lows and highs. We lost two very good friends to the fleet: Curtin Winsor III and Lee Sweet. We still miss them dearly and they leave a large hole in our hearts. On the other side, the Wm Gardner Q, Virginia, turned 100, and sails on Ripple (Sir Christopher Ondaatje) and Virginia (John Wurts) were auctioned to raise funds for the Theatre and Art Center.

The fleet races for bragging rights in three events/cups: The Chester Classics Cup (donated by Sir Christopher Ondaatje) for the best of three races during Chester Classics Weekend (weekend before CRW), The Chester Classics "Gold Cup" (donated by Jay Hooper) for best overall results in Chester Classics Weekend and Chester Race Week combined, and the Chester Classics division in Chester Race Week. The winners for 2013 were Mighty Mo for Chester Classics Cup, and Ripple for CRW and Chester Classics "Gold Cup".

Members of the fleet also participated in other events including: The Mahone Bay Regatta on Natal Day weekend and the IOD event in September both run but Indian Point YC (<a href="http://indianpointyachtclub.wordpress.com/">http://indianpointyachtclub.wordpress.com/</a>) as well as Chip Dixon's fall classic race.

John Wurts has been keeping the Chester Classics web site (<a href="www.chesterclassics.com">www.chesterclassics.com</a>) up to date with news, race results, photos, deeds, notices, etc. If you have any history or folklore in words or photos of Chester classic yachts that should be archived, consider digging them out and sending them to John and he'll put them on the site for posterity. Some nostalgia already posted here, check it out:

http://chesterclassics.com/CCF%20Nostalgia/Nostalgia.html. He's also keeping up a mailing list for those interested in Chester Classics, drop him an email to get on at <a href="mailto:info@chesterclassics.com">info@chesterclassics.com</a>.

One noteworthy observation on the boats and crews in the Chester Classics fleet: many are multigenerational and deliver sailing fun and skills across as many as five generations of families and friends. Kids who sail on these boats learn important seamanship, racing, and boat engineering skills. These kids become lifelong sailors (and CYC members) under the apprenticeship of fathers, uncles, aunts, and others in a way that kids who only participate in Junior Sailing don't often realize. If you have kids sailing in Chester, reach out to the fleet and get them a crew spot on one of these boats - you'll be amazed at how it compliments their Junior and/or Bluenose

experience. If you or with some friends have the wherewithal to own a classic alone or in a syndicate, consider that you'll be providing a platform which will create life-long sailors, yacht club members, and the experience of working and competing on a multigenerational team. And with facilities like South Shore Marine, Heisler Boat Building, and Gold River Marina there is extensive support available all around the bay!

For 2014, the fleet plans on continuing the open invitation to all classic yachts to sail in Chester Classics Weekend and the Classics Division in Chester Race Week. There will be the annual fleet social during Chester Race Week and we are also looking at other ideas which the fleet could sponsor that would involve others around the enjoyment and history of classic yachts in Chester. Ideas on the table are a fun "poker run" style event and noteworthy speaker or film oriented events at CYC. If you have suggestions, votes, or thoughts, please send them!

Looking forward to another great season in 2014.

### **Topher Wurts**



### **Chester IOD Fleet Annual Report 2013**

Another year has passed and it is time to reflect on what has happened during that time to the fleet and what we are looking forward to for the future. Our fleet numbers remain at 11 boats. However, Zephyr and Enigma did not race this year as the former was on the hard waiting for a major refit this summer. Steve Bush however has not been able to spend much time in Chester this year because of other commitments and Enigma did not get into the water. The others however have been having a great time sailing and racing in Mahone Bay. The season started with 4 boats competing and during the past few weeks this has grown to 7 boats on the line for our Wednesday fleet races in Chester. The early winners were Shawn Mulrooney sailing La Diva followed by Terry Schnare sailing Squall. As the summer progressed the fleet numbers increased as Mike Kelly brought his boat Aileen to Chester from Indian Point, Rick Thompson arrived from Bermuda to helm Mighty Mo and the other participants consisting of Tony Merck in Ibis, Jay Nadelson in Elida and Steve Bond sailing the new fibre glass boat rounding out the fleet. The boats have created quite a sight as they start in front of the Chester Yacht Club each Wednesday and return later under spinnaker.

Aside from our Wednesday fleet racing the IOD's have been competing in a number of regatta's and CYC PHRF events. Steve Moody in O 2 has been winning races in the Thursday evening series and the other IOD's participating Mighty Mo, La Diva and Elida have placed consistently among the top finishers. There were 3 major regattas this summer that we have participated in: The Chester Classic Cup, the Mahone Bay regatta and Chester Race Week. In the Chester Classic Cup we race against all the Classic boats in Chester on PHRF handicap. This year Mighty Mo came out on top and won it. In Mahone Bay we had 5 IOD's competing over their weekend regatta: Mighty Mo, La Diva, the new Fibre Glass boat (no name as yet), Aileen and Ghost. The later 2 boats coming from Indian Point. Great weather and great racing in another part of Mahone Bay. In the end there was a tie for first place but Mighty Mo was declared the winner on retrogression.

Chester Race Week saw 5 IOD's again racing with the Classic Fleet. However, they also raced as a separate class within the fleet for their own prizes. The first day was a nonevent as lack of wind finally cancelled the race. A navigational error dashed the hope of Mighty Mo wining the week and the IOD class. Mike Kelly in Aileen was top IOD for the week. Next year we expect at least 7 boats competing in Chester Race Week and we will get a separate start on the racecourse. The IOD's continued racing until the end of September when the new Indian Point Yacht Club hosted the inaugural IOD end of season regatta. 4 boats participated: La Diva, Aileen, Ghost and Squall. On a blustery September 22<sup>nd</sup> 4 races where held at Indian Point and the eventual winner was Terry Schnare in Squall.

Social events are a part of the fun of sailing and this year we have sponsored the Classics Race Week party held at Rick Thompson's house and co-sponsored a hors d'oeuvres night at the Chester Yacht Club as well as participated in the Mahone Bay Regatta evening. On and off the water it has been a full year for us.

The Chester Fleet is looking forward to next year. We expect the addition of Zephyr and Enigma to add to the strength of our sailing events. Our request from the IOD World Association to host the IOD North American Regatta has been accepted and we are eagerly looking forward to hosting the event over the Labour Day weekend. Our boats will be weighted this winter when they are hauled out and standardization of rigging and sails will be done before the regatta. This year we purchased new red & white spinnakers which look fantastic. I believe the fleet is moving forward and has been widely accepted in Chester and Mahone Bay. I expect our growth to continue slowly over the next couple of years and hopefully we will be hosting the world in the not too distant future. For more information on the Chester fleet go to our website: chesteriodfleet.ca

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Thompson, Fleet Captain

### **Club Manager's Report**

Membership Fees: Membership dues included with this newsletter are due upon receipt of this invoice. A late payment charge of \$50.00 will be added to the fee if membership is not paid by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Your membership fees may be paid by cheque or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). A cheque or details of credit card, including expiry date, should be mailed to CYC, P.O. Box 290, Chester, N.S. B0J 1J0 (or you can call CYC 902 275 3747 and leave message). A current monthly CYC Member List will be printed & available with the guest sign-in book at the bar.

<u>Membership Card</u>: Remember to <u>KEEP</u> your plastic Membership card as they are not renewed each year. Get your new 2014 sticker at the bar when you are at the club this summer.

<u>Bar Accounts</u>: CYC Bar Accounts are available to Senior members in good-standing. A Visa or MasterCard MUST be provided at the beginning of the season to activate your bar account. If there is an outstanding balance at the end of each month, it will be charged to your credit card on file. If children are allowed to charge to your account please leave a permission note with the bar staff naming your children or grandchildren.

<u>Emails</u>: We are trying to obtain ALL members email addresses so that you will receive updates on racing, activities and important club messages. If you do not already have an email on file with CYC, please email <u>cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca</u> to provide your current email address. (**If you have not received an email from CYC in the past month, your email is NOT up to date.**)

<u>Guest Reminder for Members:</u> Your guests are very welcome to come with you to CYC & we encourage you to invite your guests to join you for sailing & to socialize at the club. If your guest enjoys the club, please urge them to become a member of CYC. Remember that they must be signed into the CYC Guest Book at the Bar. In order for the club to comply with NS Liquor Laws please ensure that your guests are only signed in a maximum of 3 times per year.

<u>Seasonal Moorings</u>: 2013 holders of seasonal moorings will be invoiced with this newsletter & due upon receipt of invoice. The fee is \$350 plus HST of \$52.50. Signed agreement must be received by Cyc no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>, or the mooring will be assigned to the next on the waiting list. Seasonal Moorings are ONLY available to Senior members in good-standing.

<u>CYC Crane</u>: Crane is for the use of CYC Senior members in good-standing (with the exception of Race Week participants). Fee for usage to be paid before access is granted & signed waiver provided. Crane is available by appointment only through Water Operations Supervisor. Crane fee is \$110 (+HST) per season per boat.

<u>Club Rentals</u>: If you are interested in renting the club for a function; meeting, wedding, birthday party etc. please contact Kim at email below. July and August are pretty full with club activities although there may be an open date, but May, June, September and October are usually less busy and the Executive will always consider rentals for the off season for suitable events.

<u>Facebook</u>: If you are a Facebook user, look for Chester Race Week page for CRW updates. Also like Chester Yacht Club page for recent posts. All members are welcome & encouraged to share your pictures or videos of your sailing adventures on our Facebook pages.

Hope to see you at CYC's monthly Winter Potlucks.

Happy New Year All!

Kim Johnson cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca cell 902-275-7824



### August 13th to 16th, 2014

Race Week 2014 will take place from Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### Race Week Report:

There have been several administrative changes for Race Week this year. The co-chairs for the event will be our Rear Commodore, Keith Johnson and our former Registrar, Janice Anderson.

Gillian Reid has moved from Sponsor Chair on the Race Week Committee to Vice Commodore. She and Club Manager Kim Johnson will look after the Land Side.

Liz Shaw will be returning this year as Principal Race Officer. Liz continues to be full of ideas to improve the event. She will be assisted once again by Brian Todd and Trish Finlay.

Julie Reed will continue in 2014 as Registrar. On-line registration worked very well last year. We encourage all competitors to register on-line if at all possible.

Sponsorship matters will be attended to by Mary McInnis. Mary has had a lot of experience with Race Week in the past, and it is good to have her and her talents back.

Mary Jane Saffrey will once again be Volunteer Coordinator for 2014. This is a huge job, and the event would not happen without the assistance of our volunteers. Thank you MJ!

"Sponsors make it possible, volunteers make it happen!"

Andreas Josenhans will continue on in an advisory capacity. He will be on the scene in one of his EdgeWaters taking videos of the various fleets. He will continue to run his after-race sessions and 9:30 seminars on the Yacht Club verandah before each day of racing.

As in the past, we try to tailor Race Week to respond to the wishes of our competitors. In 2013 we introduced a fifth fleet of one-designs under the able direction of Brian Todd. This was an extremely popular fleet and, with the addition of a few more classes, will probably be repeated.

The Committee did feel, however, that with 130 boats, five fleets and fifteen classes were too many. We can probably provide better competition with fewer, larger classes and fleets. This should also help to keep costs down.

The details of the structure of the regatta will be clarified through the winter and spring.

We will continue to cater to the shore-side spectators and do as much as we can to position starts and finishes where they can be seen from shore.

As in the past, food will be available from on-site vendors, and we will have bands for all four nights of the event.

Kathy Dyer and her judging team will return once again to deal with protests and rules matters. Kathy continues to be a big help to the committee throughout the year as we formulate documents and deal with rules issues related to the Regatta.

Ben Wiper is working to streamline the web-site and make it less clumsy to navigate.

We anticipate that Chester Race Week -2014 will have something for everyone, so if you have not raced in the past number of years there should be something for you this year.

See you on Mahone Bay in August!

JP Curry, Past Chairman

jpcurry@ns.sympatico.ca