

## Winter Newsletter



Photo by Victoria McGregor

**Chester Yacht Club**

**Chester Nova Scotia**

**January 2015**

## **Message from The Commodore**

Happy New Year!!

I hope you are all well and enjoying your responsibilities! 2014 was a great year of racing, a great year of socializing and a great year for simply sitting on the veranda watching the action all around.

2015 brings, of course, more great racing. There will be one more race added to the calendar. This will be a reprise of a race from about 30-35 years ago. All entrants must build a vessel that is not a boat and must be propelled by wind only. I remember one that was built by a family from used ½ gal milk cartons. It was beautiful!! Ray Cambria is developing the rules, which will be available soon. However, each vessel must have at least one driver, preferably over the age of three. Spectators love to see 2 or more drivers debate what should be done to reach the finish line first. Prizes will be awarded, most categories to be disclosed in advance.

2015 will bring the usual collection of parties and fun stuff. Chester Race Week will bring boats from all over the place for some keen head to head competition. The evening entertainment will be as stimulating as ever. We estimate close to 2000 different people pass through the campus over the 4-5 day event. Close to 1000 people buy bracelets to enjoy the nightlife.

The computerized financials will be ready for a preliminary study shortly. The final report should be ready in the early spring, if not sooner. This will give the CYC the ability to plan and execute before the season. We are grateful to Keith Fox for managing the process.

There is a constant need for volunteers. Please consider signing on. The CYC depends on a number of volunteers who make our experience as excellent as possible. During the season there are a myriad of jobs that must be done and you can make a difference. There is no pay or free drinks, but there is the satisfaction in knowing you have contributed to a better CYC. If interested, please contact me, Gillian Reid, Vice Commodore, Keith Johnson, Rear Commodore, Kim or Warren.

As I write this, Chester is covered in a blanket of snow and I have a fire in the fire place (football on TV!!). This time of year is a time of renewal. May you reflect on the coming CYC season and how you will participate. It's a great institution and needs your support and interest.

**Joe Hill, Commodore**



Photo provided by Victoria McGregor

## **Vice Commodore's Message**

As I write this, it is minus 12C by the thermometer, but feels more like minus 25C with the wind chill factor. Looking at the ocean, it is hard to believe we will be on (and in!) it within five months, although walking to the CYC for the Levee last week, Jamie, Felix and I saw a kayaker rounding the peninsula. It was a beautiful sunny day - hats off to that avid boater! And hats off to Kim for setting the chowder bar high for 2015. Over 100 people warmed their hands on bowls of the liquid gold while toasting their backs at the fireplace and raising a glass to welcome the New Year, à la Chester fashion on the Levee circuit. A very civilized tradition with a beaten path from the Legion to the Playhouse to the CYC to the Tavern.....A Happy New Year was had by all!

With the holidays behind us, it is time to look forward to the events calendar, which is shaping up nicely.

Summer Social Events planned:

- Shipwrecked Christmas: Saturday, July 18th
- Commodore Dinner & Dance: Saturday, August 1st
- Junior Sailing Fundraiser: Friday, July 31st
- Build-Your-Own-Boat Race: Saturday, July 25th
- Family Square Dance: Tuesday, August 4th

In an effort to contain costs, we are NOT mailing the hard copy of the CYC calendar this year; it will be online and sent to you via email when final. Your printed copy will be available for pick up at the club, one per membership, with additional copies @ \$5 each.

For those of us lucky enough to enjoy the CYC year round, Kim has a potluck line up to please every palate. Mark these down for the last Saturday of each month, January through April 2015.

### **January Potluck – Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> *Southern BBQ!***

A Good olé Southern BBQ potluck. Bring something to share for some good old-fashioned comfort in January. Think about Corn bread with butter, dunking biscuits in sausage gravy, BBQ pork or chicken or ribs, baked beans, mac & cheese... Yum! CYC will be making the potato salad!

### **February Potluck – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> *Mardi Gras!***

Bring a Cajun inspired dish! Exciting February thoughts of gumbo, jambalaya, creole, Po Boy, Ribs, dirty rice & pasta. CYC will be making the King Cake & there may be beads for all to wear!

### **March Potluck – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> *Luck of the Irish!***

Members please bring a dish of March Irish Luck or anything Green to share! Imagine tasty Irish stew or shepard's pie.... CYC will be making a baked potato soup!

### **April Potluck – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> *Pizza Extravaganza!***

Make or buy your favourite pizza to share. Don't forget a dessert pizza! Or a pizza salad! CYC will be making a Greek salad!

We encourage all members to please feel free to bring your guests – the more the merrier! Please remember to sign them in the guest book, as required by our NS Liquor License.

The CYC AGM is again scheduled for maximum member attendance: Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Bring your vote to the conversation!

As the Race Week slogan goes, "*Sponsors make it possible, volunteers make it happen*". The Executive of the CYC is a volunteer board, as are many of the faces behind the social activities that are planned for members' enjoyment.

Join member volunteers Nicki Wray, Sandra Forsythe, Dolly Dimitroff & Jayne Campbell – responsible for bringing you Shipwrecked Christmas – in supporting the efforts to maintain CYC's vitality and relevance to members and families, adding to the unique fabric that is Chester, NS.

I look forward to hearing from you as sailing 2015 rolls out at CYC.

**Gillian Reid, Vice Commodore**

## **Rear Commodore**

By the time you are reading this, Christmas parties and the New Years levee at the Club will be in the past and we will all be settling into the winter months ahead.

The racing schedule for next summer has been developed with minor changes from last year. Race Officers Ray Cambria, Patricia Finlay and Aidan Davidson will be back again this year. In the spring, pick up your CYC 2015 calendar at the bar when you register for racing. Don't forget to drop off a copy of your proof of Insurance which is a requirement for racing.

CYC saw a busy August starting with another successful Opti Jam hosting 84 boats followed by the Chester Classic Cup weekend. Chester Race Week followed hosting the J24 and Farr 30 Nationals, the following weekend was the Maritime Bluenose Championships. The month finished with first time hosting of the International One Design (IOD) North American Championships.

Race Week 2014 was a great success with 140 registered boats. The planning committee is already working on ideas for improving the event both on and off the water for next summer. Planning for more fleets starting and finishing inside the islands will make a welcome sight for the spectators and more convenient for the participants.

We can always use volunteers, both on and off the water, so if you feel that you would like to get involved please let us know.

Happy New Year and looking forward to seeing everyone at the club in 2015.

**Keith Johnson, Rear Commodore**

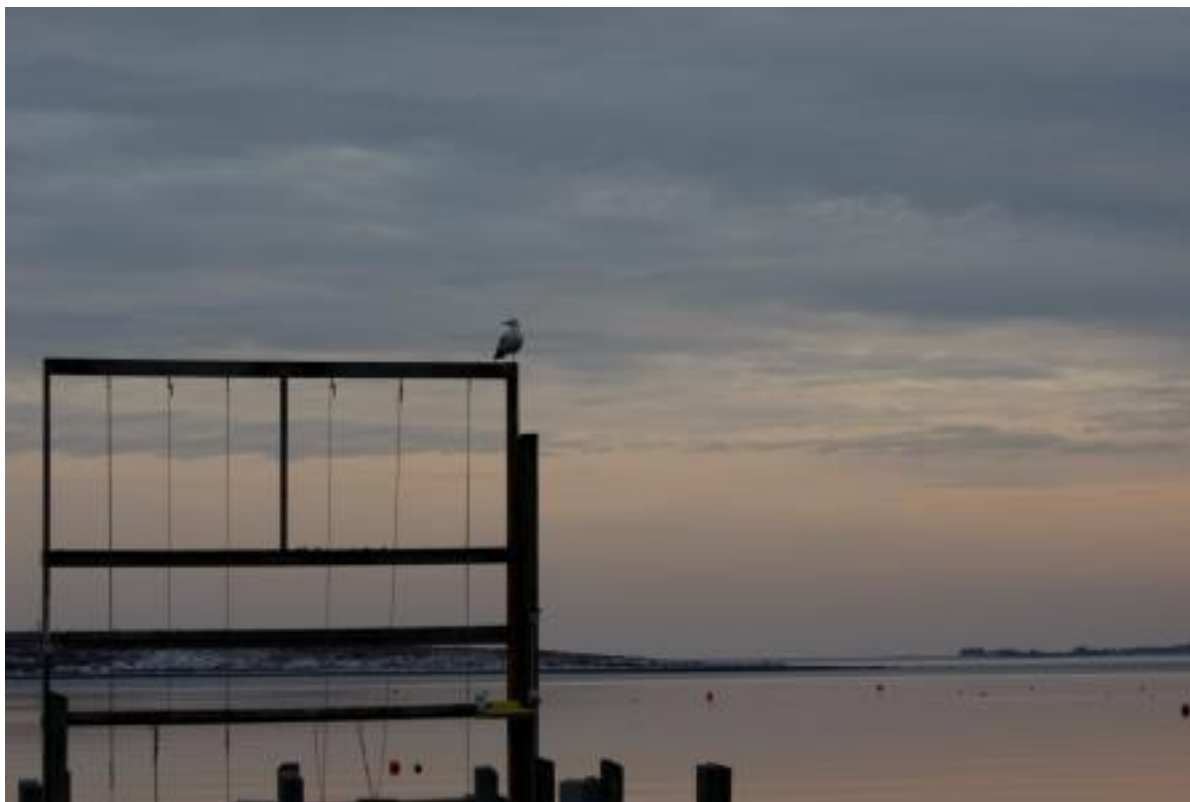


Photo by Victoria McGregor



## **Learn To Sail Message**



Heather McGuire Photography

As 2014 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 and in particular Will McInnis attending Opti Worlds in Argentina placing respectively.

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, 20 opti's and 5 echo's . Our Opti program was expanded thanks to boat donations from the Mosher and the Cangiano families. All this culminates to CYC have one of the largest Learn To Sail programs in the province.

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 Junior Fundraiser for capital expenses such as replacing boats and gear. This year the Jr Fundraiser was a success and was organized by Heather Martin. 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.

As always Opti Jam was another huge success with 84 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 and the countless volunteers both on land and water. Once again I will ask if anyone is interested in chairing this event to please come forward and contact Kim or myself.

Well, as I said before the 2014 season for CYC's 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. I look forward to the 2015 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 [www.chesteryachtclub.ca](http://www.chesteryachtclub.ca) for all information regarding the program.

**Warren Barkhouse    Learn To Sail Manager**

[barkhouse.finlay@eastlink.ca](mailto:barkhouse.finlay@eastlink.ca)

**Kim Johnson            Administrator**

[juniorsailing@chesteryachtclub.ca](mailto:juniorsailing@chesteryachtclub.ca)

**Sue Anne Graham    Parent Liaison Officer**

[sueannegraham@gmail.com](mailto:sueannegraham@gmail.com)



Photo by Victoria McGregor

### **Long Range Planning Committee**

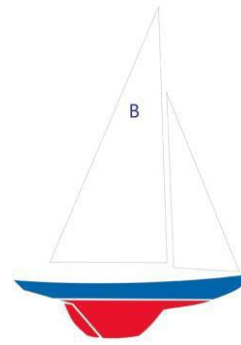
Best wishes for a happy new year from all us on the CYC Long Range Planning Committee! Your committee this year consists of John Carroll, George Sapp, Sandy Swenson, Susan Crocker, Wayne Grigsby and Victoria McGregor.

The CYC Long Range Planning Committee is currently working on an internal audit of all club assets, fees and services. The intention is to establish what we actually have versus what the perception of what we have is. We will use this “big picture” view of the club to aid us in making recommendations for a stable and sustainable financial base for operations as well as how to establish a means to feed a much needed capital reserve fund.

Respectfully submitted,

**Victoria McGregor & John Carroll    LRPC Co-Chairs**

## **Bluenose Class Association News** **for the Chester Fleet**



I cannot believe it is January already! I am sure that Santa was good to everyone, and now that the holidays are over, we can start looking forward to the sailing and another great summer of Bluenose racing in Chester!

2014 was another fantastic year of top notch racing and fun socializing in the Bluenose fleet. I think one of the most exciting things about this year was the new faces to the fleet (of all ages) and a growing excitement around what is still some of the best one design racing available in the Atlantic provinces, dare I say, Canada.

We had great turnout to both Chester Race Week (22 boats) and the Tradewinds Bluenose Championships (19 boats). The top winners in each event were as follows:

### **Chester Race Week**

- 1) Wahoo – Henry Demone
- 2) Mahaska – Karl Mitchell
- 3) Barbarian – Keith Fox

### **Tradewinds Bluenose Championships**

- 1) Wahoo – Henry Demone
- 2) Rebel – Andrew Murphy
- 3) Privateer – Conner Mraz

We had very good participation at our annual coaching session with Andreas of North Sails this past year. Managing more than a dozen bluenose sailors is a challenge for anyone, and we continue to get a lot out of this valuable instructional opportunity.

A key change to remember for this coming season is the requirement that all new sails must have a window in the Jib. I know a few of us are getting ours retrofitted, and we think this is a wise change to make to increase on the water safety for all.

Thanks to CYC, Ray and Trish for all their support of our fleet, and a ‘big hats off’ to Sandy Morash for keeping us all in line. Also, please remember to thank all of the sponsors that support our program. In particular, Tradewinds Realty and Tim and Barbie, who hosted a great get-together the Saturday of our Championships, a superb addition to our social calendar, indeed.

We cannot wait to see you all out on the water this summer! Our schedule will remain very much the same, with everything starting in June with our spring racing.

Have a great winter and may your breeze always be warm.

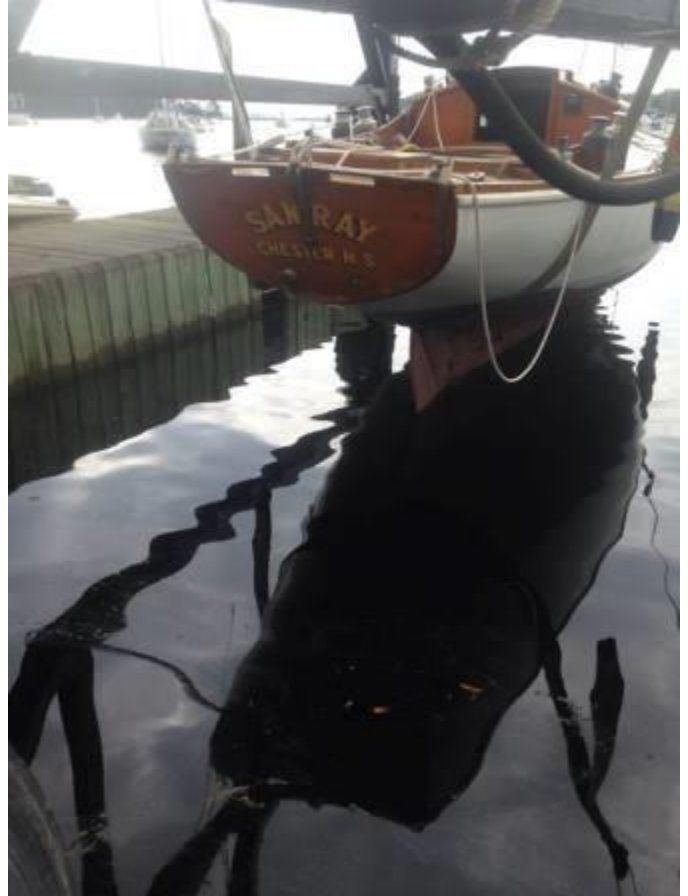
**Steve Stairs, President**

**Malcolm Fraser, Secretary Treasurer**



## **Chester Classics Fleet News**

For the Chester Classics fleet, 2014 was another fun year and one with a big announcement! Long time CYC member and active Universal participant Ray Schnare's boat SanRay found a home and was re-floated this past fall at South Shore Marine. SanRay had been stored inside when Ray fell ill and remained in moth balls after his death. Ray's son Terry, active CYC member and keen racer, waited patiently and worked tirelessly to find SanRay at new home in Mahone Bay instead of having her leave town. Work is now ongoing and we look forward to SanRay re-joining old Universal rivals and new Chester Classics in this coming season!



**2015 FOCUS!** The Chester Classics Fleet has been approached by five owners of small classics who'd like us to form a "B" fleet with shorter, possibly inside, racing in 2015. We are actively seeking other interested small classic boat sailors who'd like to participate in a "small boat" Chester Classics fleet. Drop us a line!

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 2014 were Mighty Mo for Chester Classics Cup, and Ripple for CRW and Chester Classics "Gold Cup".

John Wurts has been keeping the Chester Classics web site ([www.chesterclassics.com](http://www.chesterclassics.com)) 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. He's also keeping up a mailing list for those interested in Chester Classics, drop him an email to get on at [info@chesterclassics.com](mailto:info@chesterclassics.com).

If you or with some friends have the interest to help us build the fleet by owning a classic alone or in a syndicate, consider that you're actually getting into a multi-generational sailing time machine. Classics are favorites of spectators and sailors alike and they connect the sailing community on and off the water. These boats create lifelong sailors and yacht club members!

For 2015, 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. If you have suggestions, votes, or thoughts, please send them!

Looking forward to another great season in 2015.

**Topher Wurts**



## **Chester IOD Fleet Annual Report 2014**



“Wow! That’s all I could say when I got home!” This was the comment I received from one of our participants in our inaugural IOD North American regatta and it kind of summarized the banner year we had in Chester for both the fleet and our members. The year started with Peter Wickwire representing our fleet in the annual Bermuda International Invitational Race Week Regatta held in the first week in May. This was a first for Peter representing our fleet in the week-long event. 14 races were sailed in the regatta over 2 series. Peter got off to a good start the first day with one first to his credit. He then turned the magic on for the remainder of the week collecting nothing but firsts and seconds, to run away with the Vrengen Cup by a margin of 39 points ahead of his next competitor. This

was a great result for him and our fleet representation at an international event. Well done Peter!

Fleet racing progressed slowly during June and July as sailors drifted in from away to take up residence for the summer fun. Our next regatta was the Mahone Bay Regatta hosted by the Indian Point Yacht Club. They did a great job as usual in Mahone Bay. Five IODs participated: *Mighty Mo*, *La Diva*, *Bella*, *Ghost* and *Aileen*, which constituted having our own start. Day One was frustrating as a lack of wind prevented us from getting a race off. The only thing left to do was to enjoy the food and drink in Mahone Bay late in the day and get ready for the racing on the Sunday.

The first race had us go out of the bay and beat to the first windward mark. Shawn Mulrooney in *Bella* showed us the way. He rounded the channel buoy in front, followed by Steve Bond in *La Diva* and then *Mighty Mo*, *Aileen* and *Ghost*. Unfortunately Shawn was short-handed and the long run back to the finish proved difficult for him to hold the lead without using a spinnaker. The final result had *La Diva* winning followed by *Mighty Mo*, *Bella*, *Aileen* and *Ghost*. The second short race was hotly contested and again the lead boats were *Bella*, *La Diva* and *Mighty Mo*. Again the downwind leg proved *Bella*’s undoing with *Mighty Mo* finishing first followed by *Bella*, *La Diva*, *Aileen* and *Ghost*. The first and second for *Mighty Mo* was enough for her to be a narrow overall winner.

Next up was the annual Chester Classics Cup, which takes place on the weekend prior to Chester Race Week. This is a handicap regatta put on by the Chester Classics Fleet and consists of three races on three separate days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We get to race against the larger Classic yachts of Chester and Mahone Bay such as *Hayseed*, *Virginia*, *Seneca*, the *Chester C’s Ripple* and *Eclipse* plus a number of smaller classics. It is a fun weekend and instead of racing windward-leeward courses we get to race around the buoys and islands in Mahone Bay. It turned out to be a great weekend for *Mighty Mo* as she won the Classics Cup with two firsts and a second place finish.

The IODs sailed as a one design fleet for the first time in Chester Race Week. This is a departure from all the prior years when the IODs sailed the Classics PHRF fleet. Racing took place on the One Design course over four days with windward-leeward courses. Eight races were sailed for the five IODs that participated. The skippers and boats were Rick Thompson in *Mighty Mo*, Peter Wickwire in *Squall*, Jay Nadelson in *Elida*, Mike Kelly in *Aileen* and Ken Florence in *Ghost*. Day One set the pattern for the regatta as *Mighty Mo* and *Squall* fought it out for the lead. At the end of the third day *Mighty Mo* was ahead of *Squall* by 2 points but was unable to hold on to this lead as Peter Wickwire won the Regatta by a single point. Great racing and great fun in all kinds of conditions! We will be looking forward to more of the same next year with more boats on the line.

The highlight of our season was the hosting of the IOD North Americans. IOD representatives from all the fleets across the United States and Bermuda came to Chester for the Regatta. It was the first time we have put on such an event as 8 boats participated. Day One brought strong winds and the PRO Jay Hooper decided wisely to have the racing in the Chester Harbour where the water was smoother and there was greater protection

from the windy conditions. At the end of the day Peter Rugg and John Burnham from Fishers Island held a 3 point lead over Bobby Constable from Nantucket. The next day's sailing was held in the waters of Mahone Bay proper and it was here that Bobby Constable turned the tables on the Nantucket crew and won all three races to take a 2 point lead going into the final day of racing which was also held in Chester Harbour. What a treat for the spectators as they watched the IODs' bright red and white spinnakers billowing on the down wind legs. The final result was Bobby Constable winning the regatta by a single point after the 8 race series. There was nothing but positive comments about the racing, the location and the hospitality of the Chester residents and fleet by all our fellow IOD sailors. As punishment we have decided to request from the IOD World Association that we do it again in 2017!

The year closed out with the Indian Point Yacht Club Fall Regatta at Indian Point. Once again five boats participated with the usual suspects helming the boats: Peter Wickwire in *Mighty Mo*, Shawn Mulrooney in *Bella*, Terry Schnare in *Squall*, Mike Kelly in *Aileen* and Ken Florence in *Ghost*. The racing was keen all day in the chilly fall weather but in the end Peter Wickwire prevailed in *Mighty Mo*. That evening a pot luck supper was held at the Indian Point fire hall. It was indeed a fitting way to end the season.

As we look forward to 2015 we reflect on yet another successful season for us in Chester. Please visit our website [Chesteriodfleet.ca](http://Chesteriodfleet.ca) to see pictures and articles on the above mentioned regattas. It would be remiss of me if I did not mention that we lost one of our best, dearest and well respected loyal friends of the fleet this fall. Ash Collins a long time crewmember of Jay Nadelson passed away after a short illness. Our sincere condolences to Sue his wife. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Richard Thompson Fleet Captain**





## **Club Manager's Message**

**Membership Dues:** You will receive your Annual Membership dues notice in the mail this month and are due upon receipt of invoice. Remember that 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.

**Membership Card:** Remember to keep your plastic Membership card as they are not renewed each year. Your new 2015 sticker will be available at the bar when you are at the club this summer. 2014 new members will receive their plastic membership card with dues notice.

**Guest Reminder for Members:** 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.

**Seasonal Moorings:** 2014 holders of seasonal moorings will be invoiced with membership dues. The fee is \$400.00 plus HST of \$60.00. Signed agreement and payment 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.

**Crane Fee:** Crane is for the use of CYC Senior members in good-standing (with the exception of Race Week participants). Signed Waiver & Fee for usage must be provided BEFORE access is granted. Crane is available by appointment only through Water Operations Supervisor. Crane fee is \$125 (+HST) per season **per boat**.

**Bar Accounts:** 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.

**Club Rentals:** If you are interested in renting the club for a function; a meeting, wedding, birthday party, etc. please contact Kim at email below.

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

Happy 2015 All!

**Kim Johnson** [cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca](mailto:cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca)