



# Chester Yacht Club Winter Newsletter Chester, Nova Scotia January 2018



*Photo by Victoria McGregor*



*Photo by Heather McGuire*



## **Message from CYC Commodore**

2018 is upon us and there was a wonderful turnout to the New Year's Day Levee, as we move forward preparing for a second winter storm we hope there will be no damage.

The membership survey has given the executive some great information and we look forward to making improvements to our clubs activities.

Vice Commodore Cynthia O'Connell has been vigorously aligning many events and digging into any methods to optimize the functionalities of Chester Yacht Club .

Rear Commodore Tim Wilde has great jump start on many venues of the sailing season, race week, junior sailing and training sessions.

Our Club Manager has been there every step of the way ensuring we don't miss anything, thanks Kim.

Our yacht club boast some of the greatest assets a club can offer in this part of the world.

Whether it be social activities or watching races off the front deck or to racing a full schedule!

In a natural protected bay, hosting many great sailing events and a high-end junior sailing program.

Chester Yacht Club would like to thank those people the have put so much effort into helping move our club forward.

We are blessed with great staff and look forward to working with them.

For the fleets of Chester Yacht Club we will do everything in our power to assist making your events a success.

Love to hear your ideas, be safe, and remember spring is the next season.

**Thane MacDonald  
Commodore**



*Heather McGuire Photography*

## Rear Commodore Report

Happy New Year!

I hope everybody had a nice holiday.

Looking back on 2017, CYC was kept busy hosting the usual regattas including Opti Jam, Maritime Bluenose Championship, Chester Classic Cup and Chester Race Week; as well as numerous club races.

Be sure to take a look at the "Racing Schedule at a Glance" in the upcoming 2018 CYC Calendar and you will notice very quickly that we have a busy schedule! We are looking into adding Wednesday Beer Can races and would like your input. For 2018 we will be promoting the Adult Learn to Sail Program and encourage new sailors and new members to participate. We also anticipate providing a range of seminars/ courses for skills or general information including courses for the mandatory Restricted Operator Certificate ROC(M) and Pleasure Craft Operator Card PCOC certifications.

We had another successful Chester Race Week with 119 boats registered. If you haven't seen the new & improved CRW website, please check it out. Sail Nova Scotia awarded Pat Nelder, **Volunteer of the Year Award** for 2017 for her dedicated CRW 2017 work. Many thanks to all the volunteers that worked so hard to make it happen and especially Co-Chair volunteers Cynthia Spraggs and Pat Nelder.

Pat has also graciously agreed to stay on for CRW 2018!

The Junior Sailing Program enjoyed a successful summer.

In an effort to improve the Jr Sailing experience we have appointed a new Learn to Sail Director. Please join me in welcoming Christine Santimaw on board.

Christine's newsletter message 'Learn To Sail 2018' provides additional information on the changes and the future direction of our program.

Alumni sailors are grabbing the headlines. Georgia Lewin-LaFrance made the news again in 2017 by being presented with **Female Youth Sailors of the Year** and also competing at the Youth Sailing World Championships in China. Opti sailor, Callie Davis qualified to represent the US at the XXIX International Optimist Trophy Championship in Spain. Max Flinn coached the Gold Medal team at Canada Games and is now part of the RBC Olympian program, in partnership with the Canadian Olympic Team. Will McInnes is coaching at Royal Akarana Yacht Club in New Zealand.

Big thanks to Warren Barkhouse who took care of all things on and around the water and to Will McInnes, Trish Finlay and Ray Cambria for taking on the Race Officer responsibilities in 2017.

Best wishes for a prosperous and Happy New Year. See you at the club.

**Tim Wilde, CYC Rear Commodore**

## Vice Commodore Message

Happy New Year!

As 2017 sails into the sunset, we usher in a new year with new hopes, new ideas and new attitudes. As the new Vice Commodore it is my goal to bring inclusiveness, fun and camaraderie to the club!

For those of you who may not know me I have been an active racer and a member of CYC since 1986. I was regular crew for John Dimick (sr), John McCurdy and now I race on Patience with Bruce Flinn.

Last summer CYC members were invited to participate in a membership survey. I would like to thank Carol Dodds, Christine Santimaw and Rita Johnson for taking on this massive project. I have carefully reviewed the survey statics and individual member comments. The results of this survey guided in the development of a new and improved 2018 social events calendar.

In early September I established a social committee which meets monthly. We have approximately 12 members who cover a broad mix of both racers and non racers. Our committee has worked hard to develop events that will appeal to all members of CYC. I would like to thank everyone who has graciously offered to assist and invite anyone who is interested in joining the committee to contact me ....many hands make light work!

In September a follow-up social survey was developed to further clarify the members wishes for specific social events. The results from both surveys indicated



*Photo supplied by Victoria McGregor*

members wanted more social events including less expensive, family orientated activities.

We kicked off the new season in late October with a Back in Black, Halloween Themed Potluck; followed in November by an Ugly Sweater & Trivia Pursuit Night. Both events had a good turnout providing members with an opportunity to enjoy good food and fun.

CYC's Annual New Year's Day Levee had a large turnout with Kim's fabulous seafood chowder and Heather's dark rum eggnog was enjoyed by all!

Our winter line up includes: monthly themed potlucks held on the last Saturday of each month. First up January 27th, 5:30pm- Chinese New Year's Celebrations. CYC members will be provided with the opportunity to learn about China's most important festival. We are honored to host representatives of the Confucius Institute of Saint Mary's University who will provide special Chinese cultural presentations and surprises!



## Vice Commodore Message *continued*

Other potlucks include:

Mardi Gras Night (February 24) , Caribbean Vacation (March 31th) and wrapping up the winter lineup will be Mexican Cingo de Maya celebrations (April 28th).

Many members indicated on their member survey a desire for boating related courses and various options are currently being investigated by our Rear Commodore. Boating courses will form the bases of this year's speakers series.

We are bringing back our very popular Friday night cocktail parties with some new and interesting hosts. We still have a few openings if you, your business or fleet would like to host a cocktail party please contact me or Kim.

Summer officially kicks off on Canada Day with CYC annual celebrations: executive served breakfast, CYC's version of Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt (bigger and better than last year!), Steak BBQ, followed by the Parade of lights; David Archibald, John Carroll and Randy Stevens have agreed to return as our parade organizers.

Lots of surprises are in store for the year's Mystic Mavens Ladies Night; more details will be released prior to the event.

The Annual Commodore Dinner/Dance will be held on Saturday, August 11 with Chef Tom Connors returning as our caterer.

Our committee is also investigating a few options for a summer fundraiser.

Much discussion was held on ways to reach our younger members, families and racers. It was decided by the group to hold two family Sunday night pot luck dinners in July and August. For the racers we are looking at a few Thursday evening race après ideas. More details to follow later this spring.

Lastly I would like to announce in late November CYC received a \$2,000 Sport Nova Scotia Grant. This money will be used next spring to buy needed sailing equipment.

Along with all the new hopes and promises a New Year brings, it gives us new courage and belief for a fresh start. I hope it also brings us a lot more opportunities to work together!

Wishing you a very Happy and Successful New Year!

**Cynthia O'Connell**

**CYC Vice Commodore**

## Club Manager Message

Membership Dues: You will receive your Annual Membership dues notice in the mail this month. Annual dues are payable on, or before March 1, 2018. A late payment charge of \$100.00 will be added to the fee if membership is not paid by July 1, 2018. The name of any member whose dues are not paid by June 1st will be posted at the club and the member will be suspended from the club.

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: Preference will be given to returning renters, 2017 holders of seasonal moorings will be invoiced with the 2018 membership dues. Seasonal mooring fee is \$425.00 plus HST of \$63.75. Signed agreement & payment must be completed & received by CYC no later than April 1, 2018 or the mooring will be rented to others and the renter will be placed on the bottom of the waiting list. Seasonal Moorings are ONLY available to Senior members in good-standing.

CYC Crane: Crane is for the use of CYC Senior members in good-standing (with the exception of Race Week participants). Fee for usage & signed waiver is to be provided BEFORE access is granted. Members that used the crane in 2017 will be sent the waiver & invoice with their membership dues.

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.

Best Wishes for a Happy & Healthy 2018! Hope to see you at CYC's monthly Winter Potlucks!

Kim Johnson

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

# Learn To Sail 2017



We had a wonderful 2017 season with Learn to Sail and Thank all of the great people that were involved. With over 224 registrations it was a busy season and without the help of Kim it would not have been possible. Along with regular programming we attended regattas in the province producing great results.

Every year our program continues to grow in both quantity and quality, this year we had 9 coaches with 2 volunteer coaches throughout the season. With more sailors and more coaches it leads to more boats, this year we had 9 coach boats (RIB's), 13 420's, 22 opti's and 5 echo's . Our 420 program was expanded from 12 hulls to 13 with the purchase of a boat from one of our club 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 huge success thanks to the organization of Michael and Holly Dunn and all of their helpers. The goal was to raise enough money to purchase a 16' center console RIB and we are now in the process of exploring hulls. 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 over 80 boats attending, making it the largest opti regatta in the province and some say the best! A big thank you to Ray Cambria & 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 we are looking for anyone interested in chairing this event to please come forward & contact Kim or Christine.

As I said before the 2017 season for CYC Learn to Sail Program was a huge success and I thank everyone who was a part of it from the sailors to coaches and especially parents who volunteer their time and resources to the program.

**Warren Barkhouse, Water Operations**  
[barkhouse.finlay@eastlink.ca](mailto:barkhouse.finlay@eastlink.ca)

# Learn To Sail 2018

## **Happy holidays, fellow members!**

Our new Executive has listened intently to the feedback from the Club's recent Membership Feedback survey and, in response, has reviewed the Learn to Sail Director position. I am pleased to introduce myself as the new Learn to Sail Director at CYC.

As a quick background, I am a lifelong member of the Club, my parents have sailed out of CYC for over 50 years (my Dad owned B1, B67, B279, Agincourt, True North and Eclipse) and I grew up junior sailing at CYC (and escaping to Rosie O'Grady's for fries and gravy at lunch). My husband and I own a cottage in the Village and our daughters, 9 and 10 years old, sail out of CYC. I am a certified Sail Canada sailing instructor and hold all requisite and current safety and coaching credentials.

We at CYC are extremely lucky to have – *without exception* – the best fleet of club boats (and coach boats) at least in Atlantic Canada and, likely, anywhere. In my new role, I have been reviewing our current program and will be making some significant improvements to the Junior Sailing program for 2018. We have consulted with other programs in the province, and across the country, and will be implementing a number of positive changes in 2018 including, as examples:

- Providing a newly created, well-thought out Program and Welcome Guide so parents' (and sailors') expectations are met and planning is easier (check it out [here](#));
- Moving registration online (watch for an email with the new registration link included) and completing an overall upgrade the Junior Sailing section of the website (take a [peek](#));

Aligning our program with Sail Canada's CANSail program levels so registration is easy and sailors are placed properly in classes (by levels, ability and according to size);

Investing in the instructor-related education and certification of our coaches;

Focusing more on water- and sailing-based lessons;

Encouraging competitive racing and attendance at regattas for interested sailors;

Enforcing safety rules and guidelines and implementing a formal Emergency Action Plan that is well understood at all levels;

Optimizing our space for sailing-related lessons on days when the weather disagrees; and

Welcoming some exceptional guest instructors over the course of the summer, including a few local favorites.

All this said, this is Chester. All of us – kids and parents/grandparents/guardians alike – love the good times in the Village, on and off the water. So, at the end of the day, while some things will change, one thing that will stay the same is that we are here for a good time, not a long one, so let's make 2018 the best Junior Sailing season yet.

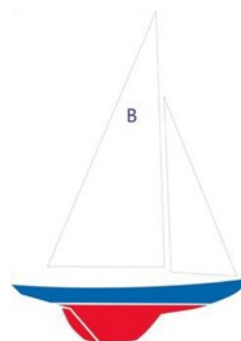
Thanks to Tim Wilde, and the CYC executive, for helping clear the road to an enhanced Junior program. Mostly, thanks to the membership for providing us with great, actionable feedback. Watch out for CYC in 2018!

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions whatsoever. Cheers, best regards and warmest wishes for 2018,

**Christine (Cragg) Santimaw**



# Chester Bluenose Fleet Report



The CYC Bluenose fleet had a great season. A total of 32 different Bluenoses appeared on a start line at one time or another – a recent record - and counting one boat in one race as an "outing", we had 810 such outings - i.e. 32 boats were in 810 races! Seventeen boats competed in 20 or more races, including Chester Race Week and the Bluenose Maritimes, and while Rebel was a regular race winner no fewer than 13 of these 17 boats won one or more races. The regular Tuesday/Thursday/Sunday races were well attended with up to 18 on the starting line (and sometimes fewer at the finish, some of those drifters were truly dispiriting), especially on Tuesday when Kim's burgers provide an extra incentive. Sixteen made it with junior sailors onboard for Isabel's Cup, the distance ("Extreme") race had ten participants, a significant increase over prior years, and Race Week and the Maritime Championships had twenty two and twenty boats respectively.

Thanks to all who participated (if nobody shows up, nothing happens) and helped out in any number of ways, especially to Kim and others at CYC, both on and off the water. Also to those who lent time and boats to help our weighings and regattas (including Shawn Mulrooney at South Shore Marine, Brad Armstrong and Tradewinds as well as AJ and Sandy at North Sails for providing another great tuning clinic) and many others. We could not do it without you.

No time like the present to start planning for the upcoming season, bottom paint, new or repaired sails, a mooring line that is not chafed to the point of risk, a safety whistle, an extending brush so you can scrub the hull maybe?

And if you have not seen it, check out our pretty new website (thanks Lisa LaFrance): <http://www.chesterbluenosefleet.com/>

**Keith Fox**  
**President NS Bluenose Fleet Association**

# Chester Classic Fleet News

Happy New Year from the Chester Classics Fleet!

See below how we are expanding Chester Classics Weekend and welcoming new participants in 2018!

First for a bit of classics context... The Chester Classic Fleet started as a home for and to encourage the preservation of local and Universal Rule and other Classic yachts in Chester. While we continue that part of our mission, we have tested a concept to expand Chester Classics Weekend (set for the weekend before CRW on August 10-12, 2018) in 2017 and look forward to continuing to expand this welcoming, family friendly, and fun format in 2018 - read on below to see what's planned!

Chester Classics Weekend is now open to a broader group of boats with easy, Corinthian, family friendly, fun racing!

Our definition of classic for Chester Classics Weekend is now expanded (similar to that commonly used for classic cars) to include any boat designed over 25 years ago (pre: 1992). We will welcome handicap groups, smaller classics, and 25 years and older one design groups. The event is meant to be low key, fun, friendly, and inclusive especially to young and multi-generational crews.

Starting lines are inside the harbor for spectators, long, and with a land based fixed end RC. For this year we hope to use Debbie Winsor's flag pole as one end and a large inflatable mid harbor and re-introduce guns for a "classic" feel. Small boats, like small classic day sailors, will sail "inside" courses



and larger boats a combination of inside and outside legs from a modified CYC course card list. All boats will finish inside for a view for the spectators.

We are working on a charitable approach for this regatta as we think that this low key format to encourage a broader participation would make a wonderful basis for a Chester based charitable regatta similar to Leukemia Cups and other "cause oriented" events.

The entire goal of the event is to promote fun and easy racing and sailing and to celebrate the beauty of sail on a Classic Chester Weekend event! If you'd like more info on sailing or volunteering, please don't hesitate to email.

All of the results from 2017 are posted on the Chester Classics website: [www.chesterclassics.com](http://www.chesterclassics.com). However, we'd like to call out a few things here:

We'd like to thank Jay Hooper for years of support as PRO for Classics Weekend. Jay retired as PRO for Classics Weekend last year and we were also delighted that he was able to re-patriate his family heirloom miniature Gold Cup to Bermuda.

## Chester Classic Fleet News *continued*

The fleet will replace this overall series cup and transfer past winners to the new cup this year. Our 2017 overall high point winner for our Classics fleet was John Wurts and the crew on Virginia!

We've introduced a new overall cup for the IOD with the best combined score among IODs sailing in Classics Weekend and CRW. We're calling this the R<sup>3</sup> Cup in honor of Rick Thompson's support of IODs in Chester Classics. In 2017, we were excited to have the support of two IODs sailing in the new test format for Classics Weekend: Squall, sailed by the Wickwire team, and Ted Murphy's Restless fresh out of the shed. Squall and the Wickwire team are the IOD high point winners for Classics Weekend and CRW and will be engraved as the first winner of the R<sup>3</sup> Cup!

We had three small boats sail in the test of the new all inside small boat course format for Classic's Weekend. We hope to generate more interest from small day sailors for this year's Classics Weekend! We'd like to specially recognize and thank the three boats that got it started in 2017 as we worked through teething troubles (for this year we're working on how to properly rate these smaller boats).



So a special shout out and thank you to:

Bonnie Lassie, William Pool's Pisces (CW

Bonnie Lassie, William Pool's Pisces (CW  
Paine adaptation of Herreshoff Fish)

Lookout, Mary and Todd Granzo's Herreshoff 12 1/2 #436

Frolic, Ann and Tony Merk's Herreshoff 12 1/2 #62:

We hope that folks will find our new more inclusive format for Chester Classics Weekend fun, accessible, and exciting and that you'll help us to build this event into a family and youth friendly and Corinthian celebration of sail!

**John and Topher Wurts**

[john.wurts@gmail.com](mailto:john.wurts@gmail.com)

[twurts@me.com](mailto:twurts@me.com)



## Chester IOD Fleet Annual Report 2017

This has been another growth year for the Chester IOD fleet. Lots of good things have happened over the past 12 months. Over the Winter, Shawn Mulrooney and South Shore Marine boat works completed a new fiberglass IOD using the class moulds. She has been called “Zephyr II” in recognition of its lead keel and many other parts from the original “Zephyr” used in the building process. This will give us 12 boats and will form the basis for Chester hosting the IOD Championship in 2020. In addition to producing the first fiberglass IOD to be built in North America for over 10 years, Shawn has also contracted with an aluminum spar manufacturer to produce spars and booms at a reasonable cost which will ensure stability for spar and boom replacement for our IOD fleets.



*Zephyr II being launched*

The man who builds IODs also enjoys racing in them. Shawn represented the Chester fleet in the Bacardi Keelboat

Regatta in Bermuda held over 4 days in the Great Sound, in November. 12 boats participated with 6 locals and 6 overseas competitors. However, the weather gods did not cooperate and 2 of the 3 days were blown out. Shawn finished a creditable 5<sup>th</sup> with only the local Bermudians ahead of him.

In early March 2017, Luigi Galbiati, John LaGrass, Gerry Dolezar and Dough Witter from the fledging Manhattan Yacht Club IOD fleet visited us in Chester. They came to see “Zephyr II” and to meet members of our fleet who showed our MYC visitors what Nova Scotia had to offer. Our visitors saw a number of our wooden and fiberglass IODs, visited Lunenburg and the Nova Scotia Maritime Museum in Halifax, enjoyed a get-together with our fleet members one evening and had a lobster feast dinner on their last night in Chester. As this article goes to press, the MYC have already acquired 3 IODs for their fleet.



*Welcome to the family! L-R: L Galbiati, R Thompson, M Fortenbaugh.*

## Chester IOD Fleet Report *continued*



*Ted Murphy and crew in Restless*

Although our current racing season has barely gotten underway in Chester, our sailors have been very active representing our fleet in overseas regattas. Ted Murphy also represented Chester in Bermuda this Spring. It was a great week of racing with moderate winds and good competition. In the end, Ted won the overall trophy for the week, the “Vrengen Gold Cup”. Next up on the IOD regattas calendar was the Nantucket Invitational in late June. Ted once again represented Chester and enjoyed a successful weekend on Nantucket; he won the event!

This August, Peter Wickwire represented our Chester Fleet at the World IOD championships in North East Harbour. Peter finished a creditable 6th in a fleet of 20 boats under some challenging conditions and courses. . Shawn Mulrooney went to the IOD North Americas in Fisher’s Island in September. He lost out by 1 point for first place. Unfortunately there was no racing on the last day due to lack of wind which sabotaged Shawn’s chances of

winning the regatta.

A final note is that Hull No. 2 has been completed from the IOD moulds at South Shore Marine. It will be completed over the winter and will remain in the Chester IOD Fleet. Hull No. 3 has already been started for a Spring delivery to an owner in the Manhattan Yacht Club fleet. The building program in Chester is well underway with talented Nova Scotia craftsmen building these beautiful boats.

Please visit ChesterIODFleet on Facebook for pictures and articles on the regattas mentioned above. Our thanks to all our members and supporters in Chester and Indian Point.

Respectfully submitted,

**Richard Thompson**

**Fleet Captain**

