



Winter Newsletter
Chester, Nova Scotia
January 2020



Commodore Message

Very best wishes to you all for an exciting new year and hearty thanks for entrusting me with the position of Commodore for the next two years. Our club has been a formative part of my life from the very early days on Airlie at -3 months (!) to Seneca over the last 10 years. In the interim, I've had the chance to cruise and race around the world and have constantly been reminded of how exceptional and lucky we are with the waters around Chester. Mahone Bay really is a jewel; enjoy it and protect it.

Hats-off to the nomination committee for pulling together a great executive for the coming years. Sean Pearce and Jennifer Chandler have taken the reins with the professionalism and enthusiasm that I've rarely seen in my corporate life. Kim Johnson, the Club's "Storm Anchor", along with Thane MacDonald and Lara Parsons, have been vital in the transition, while Bruce Flinn and Cynthia O'Connell made our lives a little easier after all their hard work over the past few years.

Looking forward, in addition to our full racing calendar, Chester Race Week and our expanding social schedule, we'll be hosting the Canadian Optimist Nationals in late August. Guided by our Learn to Sail Director Christine Santimaw and Stacy Blain, we'll have 120 young sailors from around the world, along with their support teams, making full use of our facilities and our bay.

I've engaged with the Long Range Planning Committee, who have diligently been looking over the horizon for our club's issues and opportunities. They have been working with a number of members of the yacht club, who

are subject matter experts, on the creation of a new club foundation, or what is presently known as the Benefactor's Wheel (Trust). In addition to the hard work going into setting up a governance structure that will meet the needs of both the donors and the club, I've asked to adjust the wording to include a provision for legacy donations. A draft of the amendment to our By Laws will be circulated early in the new year, with the aim to have it approved at our AGM in August.

In closing, let's reflect on the deep history of our club: the magnificent trophies, world class racers and cruisers, spectacular waters and a demographic which most clubs (sporting and social) would covet.

All the best wishes and I looking forward to seeing you all over the coming year.

David Creighton, CYC Commodore



CYC Rear Commodore

Cheers to 2020! Many thanks to the nominating committee and all those responsible for providing me the opportunity to serve the CYC as Rear Commodore. We are off to a busy start with lots of exciting things happening both on and off the water.

After assuming the role, we were first challenged with hurricane Dorian, and numerous other weather events. Despite the relentless weather, we suffered minimal damage to our infrastructure including moorings, floats and tender boats. This is largely in part to those who volunteered their time to assist in the storm preparations, spearheaded by past Rear Commodore Bruce Flinn. Many thanks to those individuals. CYC will see some renewed infrastructure in the way of floats and gang ways in the spring. This will be a new effort to systematically replace the network of floats which are long overdue for replacement. We are also discussing options to add infrastructure to increase the accessibility and capacity to launch dinghy's for the junior sailors and events alike.

I would like to thank all the fleet representatives and captains for their continued effort as part of the sailing committee, as well as Flag Officer Trophies Sue McAlpine and CYC's manager Kim Johnson. We intend to continue this initiative so we can provide the sailors with the best sailing possible. I encourage the membership to bring forward any and all suggestions to one of the respective fleet captains, or myself directly, so they may be discussed in our monthly meetings. All fleet captains can be found listed on CYC's executive page on CYC website.

As well as the Optimist Nationals, Chester will see the International One Design North Americans sailed off our shores. The planning of Chester Race Week 2020 is off to a strong start having Daniel Conrod joining the team again this year as our PRO along with the help of Daniel MacMillan and Pat Nelder as the on-water coordinators. We have a continued effort to develop a CRW steering committee chaired by Michael Dunn. The goal being to create a concrete management structure to ensure the continued success and sustainability of the treasured event for years to come.

There are lots of exciting things in store for CYC in the coming months. As an avid sailor, who has competed in international events and across multiple fleets here at CYC I hope to bring new ideas and insight to this community keystone we all know as the Chester Yacht Club. I look forward to the opportunity to work with David as our commodore, Jennifer as our vice commodore and Lara as our treasurer. Thank you to the staff, race officials, volunteers and patrons of the CYC.

Wishing everyone a safe, happy and successful new year!

Sincerely,

Sean Pearce, CYC Rear Commodore



Vice Commodore Message

Where to start reflecting on our 2019 season. My deepest thanks go out to Cynthia O'Connell for her leadership and dedication over the past 2 years as Vice Commodore; Job well done!!!

We are fortunate to have such a vibrant and dynamic club; a fantastic location to learn and hone your sailing skills as Junior sailor(s), the opportunity to transition those skills into one of the many weekly active and flourishing racing fleets that Chester Race Week then builds from. Finally, our social calendar that plays an important role bringing the entire membership together in a venue where sailors and sailors at heart can mix and mingle in a relaxing and friendly environment.

I'm happy to say we had a very successful summer social schedule. I'd like to extend a special thanks to all those who participated, contributed, and worked very hard behind the scenes in making our summer season such a success.

Our calendar going into the new year will continue to reflect our established format of off-season potlucks and summer sponsored Friday evening cocktail parties. If you are interested in sponsoring a Friday Cocktail or have suggestions as to who might be interested, please contact Kim or myself as we're always able to make slots available.

Our winter potlucks have been scheduled once each month through May once again taking place on a designated Saturday evening with an associated menu theme. I was delighted at the attendance to our Dec 6th "The Holiday's are Coming" event. Great to see so many smiling faces happy to return to the club after a few months downtime. Please consult the

CYC Calendar or watch for our regular e-mail newsletter for updates.

Highlights from 2019 included our ever-popular Canada Day events of morning coffee and muffins, the Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt, Steak BBQ followed by the Parade of Sail. You all continue to challenge us with respect to local trivia to support the Scavenger Hunt. My thanks to all who organized and delivered on these events, the effort does not go unnoticed.

Changes to Diva Night this year saw Suttles & Seawinds put on a fabulous Fashion Show featuring several of our own CYC members; our thanks to all those who participated. This continues to be a cornerstone event for the summer schedule. During this event we raised; through a silent auction driven by Carol Dodds, enough funds to support one free slot to a female junior sailor with PRO Kids.. Way to go Ladies!!!



Vice Commodore Message, continued

The annual Commodore's Dinner/Dance held just prior to Chester Race Week was well attended and music provided by DJ Sunny saw many dancing well into the evening. We hope to highlight the various Racing Fleets in this year's event in addition to our social members. This should be the premier club event for the summer; after all it is the Commodore's Dinner.

Finally; after a minor weather setback due to Storm Dorian, our first club "back to a simpler time" club Corn Boil was held and very well received with more than 30 members dropping by to enjoy the fresh corn. We look forward to doing several more of these "back to a simpler time" type events over the coming summer.



As I gaze out of my office window at the falling snow what lies in my memories are the evenings spent looking out across Chester Harbour from the deck of Chester Yacht Club as the sun sets. My mind goes to all that the New Year brings. My heart goes to the coming warmer sunny days of summer. We have a strong, inclusive, active, and

vibrant club which I'm very proud to be a member. I look forward to the developing 2020 Season. My "door" is always open for suggestions and comments.

I look forward to seeing you all at Chester Yacht Club throughout the year.

Wishing all of you a very Happy, Healthy, and Successful New Year!

Jennifer Chandler Vice Commodore

Our C4C Off-Season Social Schedule

Friday December 6th  *The Holidays Are Coming*

Celebrate the Holiday Season's most favorite flavors

Wednesday January 1st  *New Years Levee*

Ring in the New Year at the Club

Saturday January 18th  *Chinese New Year*

Let's Try our hand at an Asian Based Dish

Saturday February 15th  *Valentines Celebration*

Treat Your Significant Other Right - We'll Have Chocolate

Saturday March 28th  *Beer Night*

The Beverage For Tonight is Beer - What Goes with Beer?

Saturday April 18th  *Easter & Passover*

Let's Celebrate Our Club's Diversity

Saturday May 2nd  *Bring on the Summer*

What's Your Favorite Summer Plate?

Chester Bluenose Fleet Report



Bluenose Fleet 2019, young blood and steady winds.

The bluenose fleet loses sailors and gains sailors, but somehow the fleet is stronger than ever. In one race, 19 boats crossed the finish line within 45 seconds of each other.

So great seeing younger sailors and new boats coming on line, hilariously stalking the start lines with tribal howls echoing across the fleet at the sound of the horn, striking fear into the hearts of the old farts!

What a great season, with steadiest winds ever for championships and race week, says Logan Mraz, preeminent junior skipper.

From Logan...

“Both race week and champs we had good wind, so a good season. The class is elevated to a new level... you want to be in this fleet (said with his devilish smile)”

The bluenose fleet is the least one design one design fleet, perhaps reflecting the strong and disparate personalities in Chester! Never agree! We’ve had sail design-gate, mast boom height-gate, keel-gate, this year weigh-gate, next year perhaps waterline-gate.

Verbatim Comments from Ross Romney, demonstrating continuing confusion over rules and disparities in the boats of the fleet, in spite of a certain amount of evidence that great skippers prevail in spite of equipment.

....(Plus ca change...)

“- Sails: at seasons end we compared my new North’s to a set of new Mack’s. The Mack’s are measurably bigger and have many different design details, contrary to class rules. Just look at any pictures of boats with the different plans and you can see the difference in leech shapes and top batten design. I suggest enforcing these rules and making sure all sails are truly the same, or opening up the class to all sail makers and enforcing strict measurement on new sets.

- Sail royalties: the class rules state sail makers pay the class association a fee for every set built, I did not see this income in the class finances. Has it been? If not the class should collect and continue to in the future

Chester Bluenose Fleet Report, *continued*

-Weight: I suggest that all boats should be weighed prior to next championships sailed, by a third party with certified scale. Class rules should be modified, currently states correctors should be in sump and around rudder post (No one puts them around the post). Also, the void in the sump is supposed to be empty and I know at least some of the Swinimer built boats have weight in there, or do not have the void glassed in at all. Once weight is added, it should be fibreglassed and photographed, and checked annually before championships to ensure nothing had been modified.

I know there have been many issues regarding measurements in the past. I think there are way to many variables to properly measure all the boats, however sail design and weight are two areas that can be easily controlled “

However, celebrating the differences: Stewart Creasers gorgeous wooden boat varnish job, Casey's glassed in money stern (Casey! You bought an IOD!), Don's bronze wool buffed undercoat gliding him to victory in the long-distance, Bowen's monochrome white boat with simple chrome yellow accent lines, and crew shirts to look sharp: and Wahoo the inimitable violet-blue beauty and epitome of the Austin-Healy of the seas look! Ah, those bunch ups at the windward mark, spitting out an exasperated Shaken-not-stirred at the rear end of the pinwheel..

“Time for bed, until next season” (Michael Bowen)

**Nicholas Lewin,
President**

**Mike Bowen,
Secretary**



Chester IOD Fleet Annual Report

Once again the sailing season has ended in Chester, Nova Scotia and most of us were able to de-rig our boats before the first snow fall. The Chester IOD Fleet has lots to look forward to this winter, with the new IOD being built at South Shore Marine by Shawn Mulrooney and team and also preparing for the 2020 IOD Worlds that we will be hosting in September.

The Chester IOD fleet has been performing well on the international scene. This year beginning in May Peter Wickwire and crew once again won the Bermuda International Invitational. The Chester representative for the 2019 IOD Worlds in Marblehead was Evan Petley-Jones, who after 3 seasons as part of the IOD fleet finished in an impressive second place. North Americans was hosted by Nantucket and was won by a Chester fleet representative, Ted Murphy.

Locally, we were only able to run three qualifying regattas. Hurricane Dorian ended our IOD racing season in early September, with most skippers deciding to haul their boats early to avoid the carnage. Still, the regattas we had were well attended and rife with competition. The July Series hosted by Chester Yacht Club was a two day event won by Evan Petley-Jones. Indian Point Yacht Club hosted the next regatta in early August with Peter Wickwire building a picket fence, finishing with seven points in eight races. The next regatta, Chester Race Week, was hard fought by all who participated seeing many lead changes and great sailing. As always, Chester does not disappoint with

varying conditions but a steady breeze. It came down to boats working out drops and positions to see who would win.

At last the races ended and Evan Petley-Jones had won and is the 2020 IOD Worlds qualifying representative.

We are looking forward to hosting the 2020 IOD Worlds in early September and showing the all teams the great hospitality that we have received in return. Preparations are in full swing and we look forward to welcoming all participants to Chester, Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,

Dayna Nelder



Club Manager Message

Membership Dues: You will receive your Annual Membership dues notice in the mail later this month. Annual dues are payable on, or before March 1, 2020. A late payment charge of \$100.00 will be added to the fee if membership is not paid by July 1, 2020. 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.

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.)

Seasonal Moorings: Preference will be given to returning renters, 2019 holders of seasonal moorings will be invoiced with the 2020 membership dues. Seasonal mooring fee is \$425.00 plus HST of \$63.75. Signed mooring agreement & payment must be completed & received by CYC no later than April 1, 2020 or the mooring will be rented to the next member on the wait list 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. Crane is available by appointment only. Crane fee is \$150 (+HST) per season per boat.

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.

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

Best Wishes for a Happy & Healthy 2020.

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

Kim Johnson , CYC Club Manager
cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca