

DOCKLINES

An electronic newsletter brought to you by Sail Georgina Association Inc

ISSUE DATE: May/June | 2020

Spring Welcome

The 2020 sailing season is starting off in the most peculiar way. After nine weeks of social isolation due to COVID-19 we're seeing glimmers of hope that the sailing season will occur although later than expected and with limited events.

I'm writing this on the long weekend in May, which should have been the opening day for the Harbour and launch day for many members. Alas, the Harbour parking is still barricaded, the dock gate chained and Malone Road pier closed. This past week commercial marinas began to prepare for the season and most will open to the public on Tuesday, May 19. The traditional past month of preparation has not been able to take place. Our boat, *Tabasco* is still under her winter cover and far from ready for launch as we have not been able to enter the storage facilities. I'm sure we're not alone.

The Victoria Day weekend is early this year and the weather has been cold with snow on the ground just last weekend. Sailing would have been limited in May with or without COVID-19. I expect we will have our boats in the Harbour in time for the warm weather.

Your hard working Executive has been in continual communication with the Town of Georgina. We keep asking the difficult questions but, in this ever changing situation, answers are understandably limited. As it should be, the Town prioritizes health over recreation.

Every year I look forward to the sailing season. This year's isolation has made that desire stronger than ever. While we need to go forward cautiously, we will go forward and we will once again be enjoying our beautiful Lake Simcoe.

~ Fair winds,
Commodore Nancy



Don't forget to check SGA's Facebook page for the latest news.
Follow our Twitter channel too!

What's New for 2020



During the off season, the club Executive works hard to plan for the upcoming season and this year was no different. We planned an exciting and busy event schedule which your Executive members were looking forward to presenting at the spring AGM. Unfortunately, COVID-19 made it impossible to hold the AGM safely. Karolyn Francis, our amazing treasurer, ensures us that our financial picture has not changed significantly since our fall meeting so the club will continue to operate based on those reports.

Now on to our events. In recognition of the late start to the season, the club's Executive has decided to postpone the May 31 Sailpast and to cancel the June 6 Let's Talk Sailing event.

We are pleased to announce the return of the Club Championship Trophy Racing Series. Over the years the number of races had increased drastically making it a huge commitment to participate. We've decided to return to a schedule to a spring and fall race series.. Each series consists of one long-distance race and two short-course races. The schedule currently has a skipper's meeting prior to each race but this may need to happen via email and the club bulletin board due to physical distancing restrictions. The spring series is set to begin June 13, with a Fox Island race. The following week there are two short courses scheduled. I hope to see many club members on the start line.

Even though our Let's Talk Sailing series held last year for the first time was a success, it looks like this won't be possible in 2020. If that is the case, we will offer the same topics for discussion in 2021. Our always popular potluck barbeques will also most likely be cancelled. Our scheduled club cruises will continue with a modified format.

Other events may need to be modified or cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. These decisions will be made at our monthly Executive meeting currently being held via Zoom on the first Wednesday of the month. Email correspondence keep the Executive in touch and emergency meetings are held as needed.

Watch the club's website, social media accounts and your email for updates. Once the Harbour reopens, the bulletin board will also be utilized for communications.

Sailing & Physical Distancing

Once the Harbour is open again we will need to follow the guidelines for physical distancing laid out by the provincial government and the Town of Georgina. Remember, the Town is our landlord and they are responsible for the harbour and surrounding grounds. As a club, we need to respect everyone's space. If you see someone violating physical distancing rules, please gently remind them that they are in place for everyone's health and safety.

Helpful resources for boaters:

[Sail Canada: COVID-19 Updates](#)

[Ontario Boating Social Distancing Guide](#)

[Discover Boating: Boating During COVID-19](#)

Harbour Update

The Province of Ontario recently announced easing of some COVID-19 restrictions to permit the opening of boat ramps and marina operations. The Town of Georgina is pleased to advise that Jackson's Point Harbour will open to seasonal slip holders only on Saturday, May 30.

Please ensure that you've:

- A. Submitted your signed slip permit to the Town;
- B. Submitted a valid insurance certificate; and
- C. Paid your slip fee in full.



New lighthouse at the mouth of Jackson's Point Harbour.

A Fresh & Sassy SGA Website!

Thanks to our club webmaster, Tim Francis, a new, modern website will launch soon. Along with a streamlined home page, there's also a new Weather page, a Photo collection, a simplified Docklines page and more! Check sailgeorgina.ca/ regularly for updates.