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Lake Ontario Catalina Association

NEWSLETTER

April 2019

Number 4

Hello to all LOCA members!

AGM

It was great to see many of you at our Annual General Meeting at the Toronto Boat Show in January, sponsored by Swans Yacht Sales. Thank you for your continued membership in LOCA and, to the new members, a hearty welcome. Thanks also to Debby Wilson and Kathy Roe for their contributions for the past several years on the executive and who were stepping down.

Warming Up to the Task

I am assured that warm weather is on the horizon. I am just not sure which horizon they are referring to! It is time to take the wraps off our boats and start the painstaking task of preparing for launch. Let's be optimistic and look forward to the sunny skies with the wind at our backs as we contemplate the best boating season in years. Hopefully, we can avoid high water levels that swamp our docks or unusual low water levels that leave us land-locked. According to the US Army Corps of Engineers, as at the end of March, Lake Ontario was 3 inches higher than March 2018 (32 inches above chart datum) and is expected to rise 7 inches in the next month.

Safety

Stock up now on appropriate safety gear for your boat preparation, including latex gloves, safety goggles and masks. We are all at risk of being too casual about safety at the start of every season. As I tell my sailing school students, if you adhere to safe practices, you can have a lot of fun, but if your focus is just on having fun without regard to safety, you may not achieve your goal. For instance, remind yourself when you do launch to wear your PFD. It is easy to trip or fall into the water, and the temperature is just a few degrees above freezing. It is interesting that, by law, everyone on a school boat must wear their PFD at all times when on deck, but as soon as the students complete the course and venture out on the lake on their own or as a

guest, there is no legal requirement to wear one! To me, it is as automatic as wearing a seat belt in my car.

LOCA Sail In / Drive In, May 25-26

Save The Date of May 25-26 for the LOCA Sail In / Drive In at Cathedral Bluffs Yacht Club. The notice will be soon posted on the website, as soon as we finalize the dinner arrangements. Apparently, CBYC is transitioning to a new caterer and we are waiting to finalize the menu. For those of you sailing in for the weekend, dockage is free, courtesy of CBYC.

Looking Forward to Rendezvous

Also, make a note in your calendar for our annual Rendezvous, scheduled for August 16-18 at Mimico Cruising Club. Further details to follow....

We Still Need Your Help

How many Catalina sailboat owners are at your club? Help us recruit them as members of LOCA. What better time than now so that they can participate and network at the **LOCA Sail-In / Drive-In** event at CBYC. We will all benefit from having more Catalina owners as members of LOCA to provide a wider network of contacts for sailing partners and camaraderie throughout Lake Ontario. Give them a copy of the flyer and direct them to our website. Wayne Parker (Membership Services) can use your help in welcoming these prospects into the LOCA family.

Happy Sailing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Hosking', written in a cursive style.

Ron Hosking
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