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Lake Ontario Catalina Association

NEWSLETTER

May 2021

Number 6

To Launch or Not to Launch, That is the Question.

On behalf of the executive of LOCA, I wish you all an enjoyable sailing season. Mind you, everything is relative, so if we keep our expectations low enough, it should be enjoyable!

Membership:

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 all in-person LOCA activities were cancelled. As mentioned in January at the Zoom AGM, we have automatically renewed your membership for another year at no additional cost. If you have any questions, please contact our Membership Chair, Wayne Parker: loca@lakeontariocatalinaassociation.com

2021 Season:

I am sure everyone was disappointed with the 2020 sailing season, from delayed launch (if at all) to social distancing, both on your boat as well as in your clubhouse. We learned to be thankful for whatever we were able to salvage from the season. Unfortunately, 2021 seems to be 'Deja Vue all over again'!

I sincerely hope that neither you nor your families have been seriously affected by the coronavirus. We will need to continue to be diligent in getting vaccinated, washing hands, social distancing and wearing masks for the foreseeable future.

There seems to be confusion and inconsistency among yacht clubs and marinas regarding launch. Some have been launching for the past month, while others are still in lockdown and have not launched any boats. Even if you have been able to launch, in most cases you are not allowed to take your boat off the dock. All dressed up and no place to go!

If you have not launched yet, please remember to use safe practices (eyewear, masks, gloves, etc.) when doing pre-launch activities. When on the water, wear your PFD because the water is still extremely cold. Inspect all your safety equipment, especially your flares to ensure they are less than 4 years old. A new regulation from Transport Canada states that if you have a VHF

radio on board, you can reduce the required number of flares by 50%. I think this is the start of eliminating the need for flares altogether.

Virtual Sail In Drive In

Your Events Committee is currently planning a virtual ‘Sail In Drive In’ event using Zoom on **Thursday May 27** at 7pm. Dahlijah will be sending details of this event within the next few days. We look forward to seeing everyone again and doing a bit of networking over our favourite beverage(s).

In Memoriam:

Catalina owners lost two powerful leaders in 2020. We were all deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Bernie Luttmmer. He will be dearly missed by all boaters, but his contributions to the Catalina community will be everlasting.

In November, the sailing community also lost Frank Butler, founder and CEO of Catalina Yachts, due to unexpected complications from an illness. Frank was 92 years young.

LOCA Executive:

Most of the 2020 executive committee agreed to continue for another year. I am also pleased to welcome Perry Woodman as Treasurer.

Commodore:	Ron Hosking
Membership & Communications:	Wayne Parker
Past Commodore & Events Coordinator:	Dahlijah Rahm
Additional Events Co-Cordinators:	Jean Luttmmer & Karen Ford
Website Manager:	Fred Rahm
Secretary:	Peter Campbell
Treasurer:	Perry Woodman
Director at large	vacant

Their contact information is available on the website, www.lakeontariocatalinaassociation.com

Best wishes for the coming season.



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