

*Editor: Nev. Layton.
88 Hollow Rd. Branch,
RR # 1 Thorburn,
NS B0K-1W0
Tel:902-922-3775*

e-mail: nev_389@hotmail.com

NSSA Website : www.nsschooner.ca

SCOON

The News Letter For The Nova Scotia Schooner Association

Volume 2. Edition 3. February 2007.



Spring Meeting, Saturday April 14th.
Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.
Assemble at 1230h. Call to order 1300h.

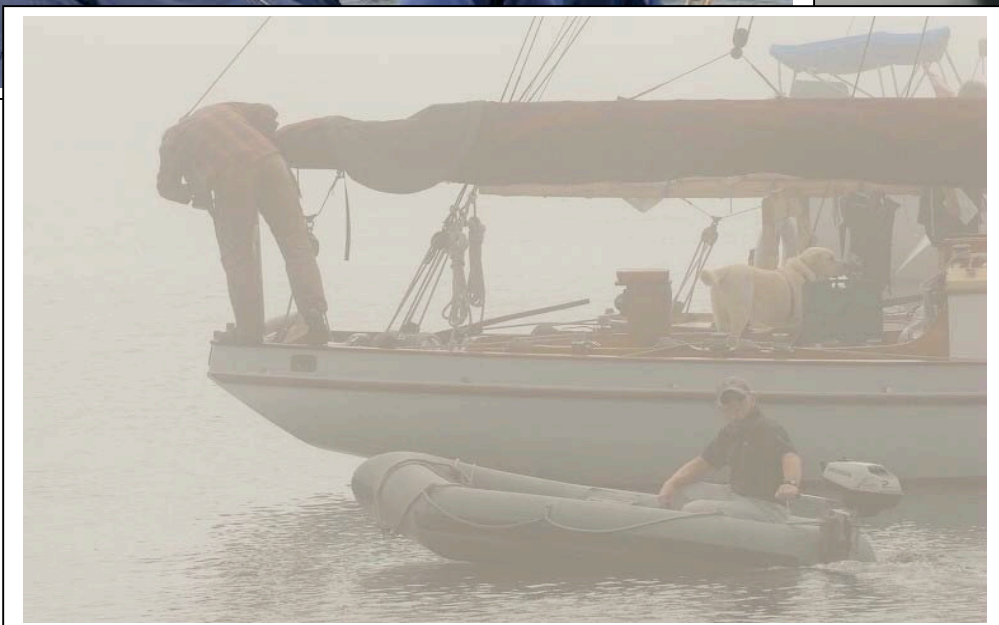


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e-mail: mqrineland@yahoo.com

Website: www.mqrphoto.com

NSSA SPRING MEETING.

2007 NSSA Spring Meeting is scheduled for Saturday April 14th. The meeting will convene at 1200h with a call to order at 1300h. The location will be the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1675 Lower Water Street, Halifax.

2007 SAILING EVENTS SCHEDULE

July 1st. Race. (Tentative) - July 1st, 2007 (Saturday, June 30 - Monday, July 2, 2007)

July 1st is on a Sunday this year so that makes it a holiday weekend. In the past, the NSSA Rear Commodore has arranged a race. With Tall Ships and Race Week in July this year skippers might like to have a tune up race. If skippers are interested a discussion concerning this possible event will take place at the Spring meeting.

Tall Ships 2007 (Thursday, July 12 - Monday, July 16, 2007) - Bishop's Landing - Halifax Waterfront. Schooners will be arriving on both Wednesday, July 11th and Thursday, July 12, 2007. The NSSA has agreed to hold a race sometime during the festival. The date for the race is Saturday, July 14th with a fallback date of Sunday, July 15th. (This race will count towards race week championship).

Parade of Sail Monday, July 16, 2007 - A list of activities for both skippers and crew should be available at the Spring Meeting

Current Tall Ships Web site: <http://www.wdcl.ca/pages/tallships.aspx>

Race Week - Monday, July 16 - Saturday, July 21, 2007 - Bishop's Landing - Halifax Waterfront. Please note that there will be a race held during the Tall Ships Festival to make up for the Monday's scheduled Parade of Sail.

Layday. In order to maximise our flexibility, this year Layday will be decided upon depending upon current circumstances. Please note that the race held during the Tall Ships Festival to make up for the Monday's scheduled Parade of Sail.

The Great Lunenburg Schooner Race (Tentative date for 2007 - Saturday, August 25.)

From 2008 forward this new event will be held on the 3rd Saturday in July.

The Commodore is working on a weekend race event in conjunction with the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic for August 25, 2007. The NSSA will be updated concerning this event at the Spring meeting.

Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic: <http://museum.gov.ns.ca/fma/new-frames-master.html>

2007 Annual General Meeting - Saturday, November 17, 2007 – Location to be determined
Time: 1230 hrs. for 1300 hrs.

Non-NSSA Events.

Mahone Bay Classic Boat Festival - Thursday, August 2 - Sunday, August 5, 2007.

Classic Boat Race - on Saturday, August 4, 2007

The skippers meeting is at 1100 hrs. on the government wharf. The start is at 1300 hrs.

MBWBF race course: <http://www.woodenboatfestival.org/boats/classic.shtml>

Chester Race Week - Wednesday, August 15th - Saturday, August 18th, 2007

If 5 schooners can get together there will be a schooner class. This is something that the Chester boats are usually up for but it is getting the five together that is a challenge.

With race week in July this year this might be an August event that skippers might want to participate in.
Chester Yacht Club: <http://www.cyc.ns.ca/>

Martin's River Regatta - Saturday, September 1, 2007 - Martin's River

Labour Day weekend is from Saturday, September 1 - Monday, September 3, 2007.

September Classic – Date yet to be decided. Possibly on Saturday, September 22, 2007 (the day prior to equinox). Location - Lunenburg Harbour.

Tall Ships Update. From Mora Stevens.

NSSA Liaison Tall Ships 2007

e-mail; stevenmg@gov.ns.ca (902) 424-4494 - Phone – Work (902) 425-3890 - Phone - Home

At the NSSA Fall meeting, I volunteered to be the NSSA Liaison for Tall Ships 2007. Since then I have been appointed to the Tall Ships Marine Operations and Security Committee, which will be meeting on a regular basis. As your representative, I will be able to voice any concerns that the NSSA membership has concerning the event. During the fall meeting a proposal was put to the membership to hold NSSA race week directly following the Tall Ships event. A vote was held and the motion was carried.

The NSSA schooners will be docking once again at Bishop's Landing on the Halifax Waterfront for both events.

The official event dates are as follows:

Tall Ships 2007 - Friday, July 13 - Monday, July 16, 2007

Race Week - Monday, July 16 - Saturday, July 21, 2007

There will be events on Thursday, July 12, 2007 so skippers may wish to arrive on either Wednesday, July 11 or Thursday, July 12, 2007. If there is anyone that would like to have a berth arranged for an earlier time please let me know so this can be done in advance.

Berthing space.

I will be in touch with each schooner skipper to see if you are planning to attend one or both the events. I will be looking for this information by no later than February 28, 2007, in order for the Tallships Committee to be able to draft a docking grid. I also want to ensure that each individual schooner has up to date tombstone data for the Tall Ships 2007 program. Even if you are not certain if your schooner will be in attendance, **I would rather have you listed as a maybe**, in order to ensure that enough docking space is assigned to the Association.

I have also just been informed that the North American Cruising Fleet as well as the boats participating in the Marblehead to Halifax Race will be in the harbour at this time as well. So you can understand just how important it is for us to know if you are planning to attend the event. At this time I would advise captains that their boats should be fully fueled and topped up with water prior to arriving in Halifax due to the amount of traffic that is going to be experienced during the Tall Ships event.

Security.

As in 2004, there must be at least one person staying on each vessel at night that is capable of moving the schooner, in case of an emergency. No schooner is to be left unattended. In the case of events or other circumstances I would ask that contact numbers be left so that in case of emergency someone will be able to reach the skippers at any/all times. This is a dictate from the emergency services division.

Also please note that **only NSSA Schooners or previously cleared NSSA auxiliary vessels** will be allowed to berth at Bishop's landing. This is a security protocol from the Tall Ships committee.

During the 2004 event unauthorized vessels were trying to dock along side the fleet and they had to be removed. From what I understand this policy is going to be strictly enforced by the police.

Questions and concerns.

In 2004, the NSSA held a post event debriefing and a number of matters were discussed. I did take note of those items and I will try my best to iron out any problems that were experienced at past events. I would like to ask now that if anyone has any suggestions or items that they would like to have addressed, please let me know as soon as possible. On my list at present for the fleet are parking, showers, access to services such as garbage pick-up, shuttle services etc. and access to events.

I will be in touch with details of events, parties, docking arrangements etc, as the Tall Ships gets closer. Thank you in advance for your assistance in making this an event to remember. *Mora*

Chilly or What?

You're surely aware that many of the expressions which we commonly use in our daily lives have their origins in mists of ancient history. This being said, it is also true that over time these expressions often become distorted such that the original meaning becomes blurred. The following e-conversation is an illustration of this.

“Hi Nev,
Thx, for the quick response - and the information.
It is brass-monkey weather here - expect you have it too.
See you in April - hopefully before.
Fondly, S”

“Hi, S, Brass monkey?
Je n'comprend pas. Cheers, N”

“Nev, What? Do you mean to say that you don't know what "brass monkey" means?!!!
It means the weather is so cold it's a "nut numb-er". Get it?
A very Canadian expression – Must be a "guy" thing. S”.

“Hi S, Just kidding. Do I detect a modicum of female to male antagonism? Surely not!
Do you know what the origin of the expression is?
The original expression is "Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey."

A “monkey” was the 17th century military expression for a recessed base used to support a pyramidal stack of cannon balls, beside the cannon. These were referred to as the “ready rounds”. The monkey was commonly made of cast iron but in order to conserve iron for ships fittings and for shot, the Royal Navy frequently fitted out ships of the line with monkeys cast from brass. However, a problem became evident when these ships sailed into colder latitudes.

The coefficient of expansion and contraction for brass is much greater than that for iron. Consequently, when there was a drastic drop in temperature, the brass monkey would contract much more than the cast iron cannon balls stored on it. The result being a drastic reduction in the stability of the stack of cannon balls. In a seaway these twenty or perhaps thirty pound cannon balls tended to become dislodged from the brass monkey, causing havoc as they rolled around the heaving deck. Hence the expression: "Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey."

The expression really has nothing to do with the thermal emasculation of brazen primates. N”

Invitation to a mid- winter soiree.

Richard Rhodenizer has offered the use of his boat shop for a mid-winter gathering of the Schooner Association for an afternoon of tall tales and good company (and perhaps a drink or two).

When? Saturday, 24 February 2007 - 1:30pm

Where? Richard's Boat Shop - Riverport

Why? Why Not?

The snow date will be the following Saturday, March 3rd.

If anybody needs directions to Richard's, please contact Wendy. E-mail;-levow@hotmail.com

