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SCOON

The News Letter For The Nova Scotia Schooner Association

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Missing Stevens schooner found!

Hi Schooner Folk. Randy Peffer here, 23 years skipper of 47' Stevens schooner "Sarah Abbot". I noted on your website blurbs about my sisters "Atlantica" & "Avenger" and that your website says there are only three Stevens 47-footers from this half-model. However, on the sail-plan that David gave me years ago, there was a note about a fourth boat ascribed to owner Ron Rensburg. In April, I was visiting my son Noah who lives on his Yamaha 33 in San Pedro (L.A. harbor). He says, "Dad, you better come look at this." We walked out on the big boat dock, and way out near the end, was a freaking clone of "Sarah Abbot"! Her name is "Atlantas" (yep, with three "As" just as David liked). But, get this, her owner is STILL Ron Rensburg! She works as a training-ship for the USC Nautical Science program and is in Bristol condition. You can see her on the USC Nautical Science website.

Atlantas.

LOA: 51' 0"

Beam: 11' 6"

Draft: 6' 6"

Displ: 28,000 lbs.

Sail Area: 1,400 sq. ft.



Tell Gallant. One of these days we're going to sail up to Lunenburg and give him a run for his \$...before we get too old for all this schooner madness. Yar, Randy.

Another Dave Stevens schooner, risen from the ashes.

On March 30th. I received an intriguing e-mail. It was from a lady named Maria Martinez Fernandez Martinez Fernandez. (Yep, that's her name.) Here's the way it went;

"OUR FAMILY HAS BOUGHT THE SCHOONER 'MAID OF UIST', BUILDING BY DAVID STEVENS (1950?). DURING 2007 WE HAVED RESTORATION IT AND WE WOULD LIKE THAT THEY SENT ALL THE INFORMATION TO US WHICH THEY HAVE ON THIS SCHOONER, HIS BUILDER, HIS DESIGNER, HIS PROPRIETORS, IF THEY HAVE SOME PHOTO..."

NOW, THE 'MAID OF UIST' IS IN CARTAGENA, SPAIN.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MARIA"



Maria's English is better than my Spanish. (Fact is I suspect that her Spanish is also better than my English!) In any event, there was a distinct time lag between each phase of the e-communication for translation purposes. But I was able to hook her up with Past Commodore Dave Waterbury, who was the last owner of the "Maid" before she assumed the alias "Black Dog" and sailed across the Atlantic, to her reported demise.

Dave was excited to learn that she has been resurrected. "It's as if someone has arisen from the dead." Said Dave. "We had word some time ago that she was lost. The report that we heard was that she was tied up alongside another vessel, which caught fire. The fire spread to the "Maid" and took her down to. The "Maid" was part of our family for several years and I am very happy she did not die after all!" Dave is currently in contact with Maria and is able to provide much of the information that she is looking for. *N*

2008 Spring Meeting - Saturday, April 26, 2008 – Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

The meeting convened at 1230 hrs. and was called to order at 1300 hrs. it was attended by approximately 50 people. The following is an update to the 2008 event schedule resulting from the meeting.

Season opener, Tune Up race and bar-b-q. (Saturday, June 28th. 2008).

A discussion concerning this event took place at the spring meeting. It was decided that if there were enough interest a race would be held. A number of skippers have already signed up so the executive has declared the race to be official.

Since July 1st is on a Tuesday this year, Rear Commodore, Tye Burt has arranged a tune up race for Saturday June 28th. In an attempt to keep things as simple as possible, the plan is as follows.

Vessels will gather off the red boathouse (Start/Finish Line) on the south/western side of Mahone Harbour, West of Strum Island. Skippers will meet at 1200hrs. Via VHF radio, Channel 68, when the course (Also simple) will be announced. The race will start at 1230hrs.

Following the race, all members, racing or not, are invited to the homestead of Vice Commodore Kelly Wilson at 265 Edgewater Street. At the head of Mahone Bay.

There to participate in the ritual roasting and consuming of some kind o' critter. Perchance a succulent young pig might be willing to sacrifice it's self for the good of the cause. As an added attraction a selection of mature wines of a notable vintage will be available for sampling. Also, feel free to bring beverages of your choice

In order to give him some idea of numbers; please communicate your intention to attend to Kelly. E-mail; kellybwilson@yahoo.com or phone 624-0329

The Great Schooner Race (Saturday, July 19, 2008) – Fisheries Museum, Lunenburg.

This was a new event last year and it will be held on 3rd Saturday in July from now on. This year it will be Saturday, July 19th. Past Commodore Bruce Halliday was scheduled to give an update at the spring meeting but, unfortunately, his work schedule prevented him from attending. However, arrangements are progressing. A Saturday evening NSSA sponsored dance is scheduled featuring the band "A Twist of Fate". This is the same band that we have hired for the last couple of dances. The location is yet to be decided. Further details will be passed along as they become available.

Pre- Race Week Cruise (Dates - Friday, August 1st – Sunday, August 3, 2008)

In the hope that it might enable more NSSA vessels to participate in Race Week at Shelburne. Plans are in progress for a three-day cruise to Shelburne Harbour Yacht Club. Participating vessels will congregate in the shelter of Mosher's Head at the entrance to Dublin Bay on the evening of Friday, August 1st. Starting early on Saturday morning the fleet will cruise to Port Mouton where we will anchor for the night off Carter's Beach. On Sunday morning we will continue on, arriving at SHYC on Sunday afternoon. More details of this event will be passed along as they become

available. To date we have about ten skippers interested in participating. Any other vessels that may be interested in participating, please contact Vice Commodore Kelly Wilson.
E-mail; kellybwilson@yahoo.com or phone 624-0329

Race Week - Monday, August 4 - Saturday, August 9, 2008 – Shelburne Harbour Yacht Club

Plans are well in hand for the up-coming Schooner Race Week at Shelburne Harbour Yacht Club. Commodore Lorne Leahey, Secretary, Wendy Levo and Treasurer Nev. Layton visited SHYC on Sunday April 13th and met with SHYC manager, Sue Renaud and club representatives. We were very well received. Discussions were most productive and subsequent communications with Commodore Ken Taylor have been very positive. Further information on this matter will be posted as it becomes available. SHYC: - <http://www.shelburneharbouryachtclub.com/index.htm>
In addition to the racing schedule the following social events have been tentatively planned for Race Week:

Sunday – Keg Party, aboard Christina Lynn

Monday – Wine and Cheese at the SHYC

Tuesday – Toonie Tuesday at the SHYC (\$2 per draft beer)

Wednesday – NSSA musical entertainment at the SHYC

Thursday – Sail out to escort the Freedom Schooner “Amistad” into port.

Friday - Meet and Greet with Schooner Amistad and Yacht Club Dance with the band “Heavy Water”

Saturday – Trophy Presentation and potluck with the SHYC members

Please note that all NSSA vessels are asked to donate a dish or two for the potluck, there is a large Sobey’s in town.

Sunday – Fleet departs.

Non-NSSA Events

Mahone Bay Classic Boat Festival - Thursday, July 31 - Sunday, August 2, 2008 Classic Boat Race - on Saturday, August 2, 2008 The skippers meeting is at 1100 hrs. on the government wharf. The start is at 1300 hrs.

MBCBF racecourse: <http://www.mahonebayclassicboatfestival.org/boats/classic.shtml>

Chester Race Week - Wednesday, August 13 - Saturday, August 16, 2008

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.

Chester Yacht Club: <http://www.cyc.ns.ca/>

Lunenburg Waterfront Seafood Festival.

The NSSA has been asked to stage a race on the weekend of Sept. 12-13.

Skippers have been polled to determine the level of interest. Further information on this matter will be posted as it becomes available. The LWSF contact person is Colin O’Toole;

colin@coveyisland.com

The “Brotherhood o’ the Coast” It is rumoured that at some late date in September, that loose affiliation of ruffians, ne’r-do-wells and rag-o’-muffins, referred to in whispers, in the dingiest of waterfront retreats as the Brotherhood o’ the coast, is hoping to welcome a flotilla of classic vessels to Lunenburg for another celebration of classic vesselness.

Keep a weather eye out for signals.

Clean Nova Scotia's "Ship to Shore" program.

CNS is a not-for-profit organization, which aims to educate business, government and residents on the environment to encourage change and greener habits in our province. The Ship to Shore program's main goal within the CNS is to reduce recreational boating waste by showing boaters what they can do to reduce their waste and how to properly dispose of it.

Ship to Shore on Plastic Marine Debris: Easy Ways to protect our Ocean Of all the forms of marine pollution, the presence of plastic debris is the most obvious kind to any boater.

Approximately 3 million tons of marine debris is trapped within the North Pacific gyre, and the United Nations estimates that for every square mile of ocean, there are 46,000 pieces of plastic floating within it. Debris travels globally, caught in wind and water currents, and sinks to every level of the water column.

What makes plastic debris particularly deadly is its long life span. It can take a plastic bag 10 to 20 years to biodegrade, a water bottle needs 450 years to break down, and microfilament fishing line can remain intact for a staggering 600 years. Even after these products have broken down, the small pieces and chemical remnants can have equally severe effects on wild life and human health. All of this floating garbage devastates the marine environment in a variety of ways.

Plastic degrades beaches, wetlands, and other near shore habitats. Plastic bags and small plastic pellets resemble a tasty meal for many marine animals, and when this debris is ingested, the result is malnutrition, disability, or death. It is not uncommon to find toothbrushes, bottle caps and cigarette lighters in the stomach of many sea birds. Entanglement in the debris is another serious problem. Once trapped in plastic, the animal can become immobilized, lose limbs, or drown. Plastic even damages boating equipment by becoming caught in propellers and cooling water intake valves. All of this plastic poses a serious threat to human health. Toxins released by the plastic are found in many of the fish we eat. Despite the scale of this problem, there are many simple things boaters can do that will have a large impact on this issue.

Ship to Shore, a program coordinated by Clean Nova Scotia with funding from the Halifax Port Authority, is designed to help boaters reduce and manage their marine waste. Ship to Shore works to facilitate change through education on this important issue. Here are some easy ways you can make your passion for boating a little greener:

Try using reusable items onboard, rather than disposable ones.

Sort & store your waste properly onboard, this will prevent trash from blowing off the boat, and make it easier to recycle correctly onshore.

Recycle your plastics, glass, paper and metal containers.

Tell your guests where and how to dispose of waste onboard.

Retrieve floating waste and bring it back to the marina, along with all your other waste to be properly sorted.

By making these small changes, we can ensure that Canada's coasts remain healthy and beautiful for the next generation of boaters to enjoy.

For information on managing other kinds of boating waste or on the effects of plastic in ocean, contact Clean Nova Scotia at (902) 420-3474 or visit our website at **clean.ns.ca**

I can be reached by e-mail; sammunroe@gmail.com at anytime, or through the CNS office at; 1-902-420-3474 from 8:30-4:30, Monday to Friday.

Respectfully submitted by; ***Samantha Munroe. Clean Nova Scotia.***