

Soundings

NEWSLETTER FOR THE COWICHAN WOODEN BOAT SOCIETY



President's Resolutions for 2016

Ion Barnes

Resolution #1 for 2016 is **develop Renewed Communication.** Communication is an absolute must with an organization that is spread out like ours. We have members who live anywhere from Ladysmith to Victoria (and beyond), and during the last two years, they have not heard much of our progress. To stay involved they have to know what we are doing We are first changing that with a monthly newsletter and regular updates of our WEB site.

Resolution #2 is to survive and provide our expected services to our members and the community. There are many indicators telling us what we need to do. Not necessarily what we would like to do but what is required to continue our services to the community. Foremost, to survive, we need to treat our facility as a business. Even as a non-profit organization, we have to pay our bills. Funding from grants is becoming more difficult to obtain We need to earn our money, whether it is fund raising, offering courses, providing room rental space, boat sales or

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Marcelle II Has a New Owner!

Marine biologist Margot Hessing-Lewis purchased *Marcelle II* (that had been donated to CWBS by Leonard Mayea) to use as her base at the Calvert Island Research Station where she “aims to decipher the multiple agents of change in coastal communities and evaluate their effects on ecological dynamics”. This brings *Marcelle II* full circle as her original owner was also a marine biologist.

Vessel donation is one of CWBS's major sources of funding.

Start your **2016** right by joining us for a

CWBS Meet & Greet

in the

Mezzanine of the Cowichan Maritime Centre

Saturday, January 2nd 2016

Fom 2:00 to 4:00 pm (1400-1600)

President's Report - Resolutions - continued from page 1

boat haul outs. With very little grant money now available, we are all feeling the proverbial financial pinch but with the support of our benefactors and some good head scratching and creative planning we will more effectively raise money.

Resolution #3 is to tap into our volunteer base to increase effectiveness. Our society is at a cross road; If we stay small, we will not produce an effective heritage center or grow, and reap the rewards of diversification. The board and members attending the 2015 AGM have chosen to grow. Growing will demand a lot of sweat-equity to achieve our goals. We will be acting on several fronts, sometimes overlapping and other times separately. We need to renew the legs under our pier, and you will hear more of this from Lew Penney as time goes on. We need to spruce up the building and that is in the planning stages. We will be setting up plans that can be acted upon when we get funding or are asked to provide the details. We also want to entice the public to use our facility for everything that it can provide.

We would like to hear from anyone who can volunteer, especially for the following specific tasks as well as working within committee groups.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| a) An event coordinator for Mezzanine room rentals | d) Public relations |
| b) Special event coordinator for major events | e) Display designer and Curator |
| c) Newsletter reporters | |

Thank you for your support, Ion Barnes, President

2016 Membership Reminder

Membership for the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre runs yearly from January 1st 2016 to December 31, 2016. To receive the best value for your membership join as soon as possible. The fees are \$30 for an individual member-

ship or \$50 for a family membership. Members receive discounts on some courses, reduced fees on haul-outs on our Ways, Use of the shop and tools and 20% off rental of the the mezzanine, summer use of centre rowing boats and more.





2016 Winter/Spring Courses

Victor Lironi

*To register for these courses call 250.746.4955
or visit: cwbs@classicboats.org*

JANUARY

Familiarization with our workshop

Over two Saturday mornings we will introduce you to all the tools and how to use them, and for those interested, we will show you how to build a simple but elegant tongue and groove cedar box suitable for use on a boat, patio, or as an indoor storage box and step-up.

Saturday Jan 23 10am. Tony Owen: introduction to our shop, where things are, how to use the power tools, safety regulations.

11am. Keith Williston: Selecting the lumber, measuring and marking off the pattern, cutting and shaping.

Saturday Jan 30 10am. Keith Williston: fitting the parts together and fastening with marine quality fasteners and glue, then adding the finishing touches.

The fee for the box building portion of the programme is by donation to cover the cost of materials. May we suggest something in the \$20 range for an individual or family. If possible, please let us know if you are planning to attend.



FEBRUARY

Greenland Paddle Making Workshop

Date: Friday February 26 at 7pm and Saturday February 27 at 9am



Make your own Greenland Paddle, custom fitted to your hand size, shoulder width and arm length.

Instructed by **Mark Reuten** of Nomad Boatbuilding, this course will run in the work-

shop of the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre. Class size is limited to six students.

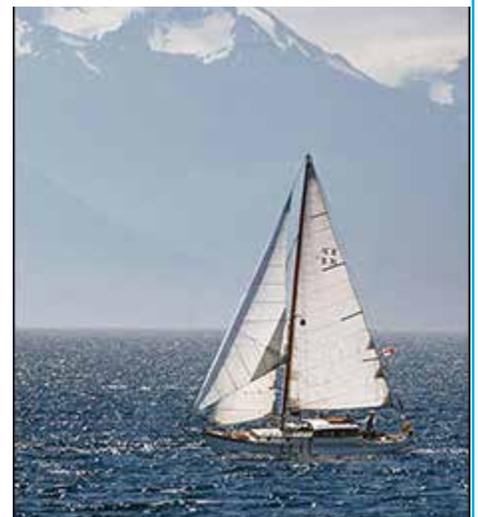
The course fee includes instruction and all materials. Payment in full is required to secure your spot. The course fee is non-refundable.

The course fee of \$155 plus GST is an absolute bargain. A standard off the shelf paddle retails for as much as \$225. Google: Greenland Paddle, and read the article by Chuck Holst to appreciate just what you will be getting. \$55 is needed to book your spot, with the \$100 balance due on Feb 13th, non refundable after that date.

MARCH.

Learn To Sail a Cruising Keelboat

Using our flagship, Halcyon, and the Competent Crew Standard of the International Sail and Power Association, you will complete twenty hours of onshore study and instruction, and twenty hours of hands-on instruction afloat. The manual and logbook, included in the fee, will be in your hands the



first week in March, and the afloat portion of the course will run over the weekend of March 18/19/20, starting late on Friday afternoon, or earlier should participants be available. *Google: International Sail and Power Association (not Academy) for information about the organization.*

Your instructor is **Victor Lironi**, an ISPA advanced instructor and one of your board of directors.

The fee for the course is \$375 plus GST. A non-refundable deposit of \$175 is needed to book your spot, with the balance due by March 1st, after which the fee is non-refundable.

Class size: minimum three, maximum four. Should we have to cancel the course for any reason, all funds will be returned. This course covers a lot of ground, and is recommended even for those who have already attained basic sailing skills.

A copy of the manual and logbook will be available in the office for you to look at. However, it may not be taken off our premises.

Should you wish to ask me any questions, please leave a message at our office. **Victor Lironi**.

APRIL.

Build a 10' Lapstrake Acorn Dinghy

Our Lapstrake Boatbuilding Course runs for 8 days (Sunday to Sunday) and offers a hands-on approach



to traditional wooden boat construction. The course will be instructed by Shipwright **Eric Sandilands** and requires a minimum of four and maximum of six pupils.

Dates April 3 - 10, 2016. (8 days)

Cost: \$1,075 (plus GST)

A \$300 non-refundable deposit is required to secure your spot. The remainder is due one month prior to the course start date.

MAY

Family Boatbuilding Weekend

Bring a family member or friend, learn to build the Phil Bolger Elegant Punt-yes you can find it on Google, and we have one completely finished in our workshop. It is a very versatile dinghy, easy to cartop or tow



behind you boat, AND you get to take it home with you on the Sunday afternoon. You get 18 plus hours of instruction, AND THE BOAT, built out of top quality materials for \$525 plus GST.

Details: dates and times.

May 13 7pm, and May 14/15 9am. Instructor **Mark Reuten** of Nomad Boatbuilding. Non refundable deposit of \$225 required to book your spot, with the balance due on April 29 after which the whole amount is non-refundable. All fees will be returned should we be unable to proceed with the course.

Minimum three couples, maximum five.

The Greenland F1 Kayak Build a Skin-on-Frame GREENLAND KAYAK

Instructor: **Gerhardt Raven**

Over a weekend you will:

- Help build a Greenland Kayak frame
- Learn about various types of Greenland Kayaks
- Learn about skinning and finishing a skin-on-frame kayak



- Find out where to learn more
- Discuss the considerations in building your own kayak

Dates are May 21/22 starting at 9am each day
Fee is \$150 plus GST. A non refundable deposit of \$50 is required to book your spot with the balance due by May 6, when the whole fee becomes non refundable. Should the course be cancelled, all fees will be returned.

Marine photography course DateTBA

Instructor **Cim MacDonald**

For those of you who have already taken courses from Cim, as well as any other keen photographers, we are offering this new course.

Digital Post Processing-how to improve the pictures you have already taken.

Cost \$48 plus GST

Dates TBA (probably late March or early April)

Donating Made Easy

For some time Sharon McLeod (Office Manager) and Sharon Goatley (WEB site developer) have been working together to develop a way people could make donations to the Cowichan Wooden Boat Society and the Cowichan Maritime Centre through our WEB site. It is now a reality!

It's easy to use and anyone can use it by first accessing our WEB site. You can do it in your PJ's or waiting for your dentist or doctor or... anywhere you can access the Internet.

- 1) first access: <http://www.classicboats.org> on your computer, tablet or phone
- 2) Select the "Support" button at the top of the page
- 3) Select "Donate now through CanadaHelps.org"
- 4) Type in "Cowichan Wooden Boat Society"
- 5) Designate a generous amount - and you will be directed through the process.

6) Note that your donation will automatically be sent to our general funds account that will allow us to continue to provide our services unless you enter a message that states how you would like your funds to be used (examples would be "the Pier Fund" or "Education" or "Events").

A Tax Donation receipt will be e-mailed to you immediately from Canada Helps.org.



SAVE OUR PIER



Pier Restoration Report

Lew Penney

The Pier was built by Standard Oil in 1925 and has gone through many rebuilds during the years but the most pronounced was in 1988 when the Cowichan Wooden Boat Society acquired the lease, to what you see today. Like all aging wooden structures, weather and time has taken its toll so in July, 2014, Herold Engineering, was commissioned to conduct a survey. It was concluded that repairs are considered significant and necessary in the short term. Estimated costs over \$200,000.00.

Meetings were then held with the BC Ministry of Forests Lands & Natural Resources, Cowichan Estuary Restoration and Conservation Association, and the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee to establish environmental protocols for piling replacement and support for the project. Support was overwhelming but understandably that creosote pilings was not acceptable in the Cowichan Estuary but steel or concrete materials would meet environmental standards. Herold Engineering was again consulted to provide a report to establish how steel or concrete pilings can be adopted to the structure. A draft report has now been received which will be developed into working drawings and a construction time line.

To make this work possible, fund raising will be the responsibility of all members. The constant search for grants, sponsors and partners belongs to all and I welcome your financial support and volunteer time. Fund raising has commenced with a very successful Crab Fest in October. A public awareness handout "Save Our Pier" is available and a large information board is also being drafted for display in front of the main building.

Work on the pier will be done in phases and, with funds permitting, work should commence early 2016. Please keep in touch and spread the word throughout the community of the need to restore a registered heritage site.

COMMUNITY PLEDGE

To:

- Restore to the highest environment standards
- Maintain its appeal and charm
- Retain a major community landmark and registered community heritage site

Pier Committee:

Dale Gagne, Sharon McLeod,
Tony Owen, Lew Penney

..... And a huge Thank You !

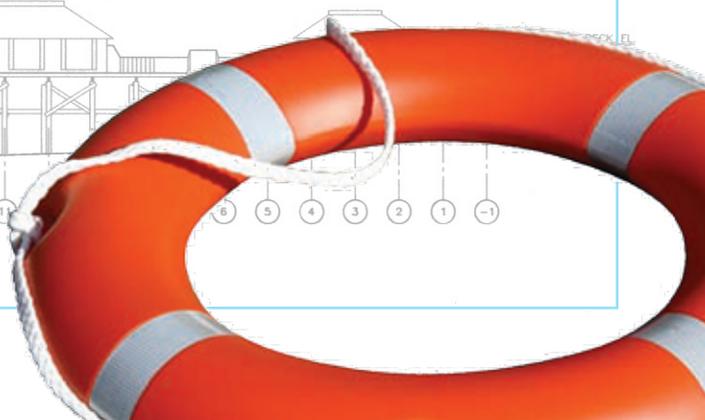
To Corporate Sponsors **British Columbia SuperCargoes' Association** and **Telus** for your recent generous donations.

British Columbia SuperCargoes' Association has donated \$3000 for pier restorations or for general operating funds (as needed by the society).

Telus has donated \$5,000.00 funding for the pier and will add the society to a list of charitable organizations that customers who sign up for **Telus Fibre Optic** can make a donation to. There

will be a cheque presentation with media present. **Telus** will do the press release with our input and our CVRD Area Director for this Centre will be invited to participate in this exciting event Jan 18, 2:00 PM. All are invited.

ELEVATION
11360





The Joy of Volunteering

Leonard Mayea

The Cowichan Wooden Boat Society could not function without its Volunteers. There is always maintenance to be done and materials to prepare for the various classes and projects that we regularly provide for our members and visitors.

Recently the call went out to find help to move one of our Acorn Lapstrake Dinghys up to the pub for a "Stuff the Dinghy" event to help stock the local food bank and then another for a group to roll a local Dragon Boat over so it could be painted as a fund raising project for the centre. A truck load of off-cuts donated from the local Western Forest Products Cowichan Division or Victoria Truss saw mills had to be unloaded so volunteer Len Mayea could cut 2500 little boats that will be finished and taken home by visiting children.

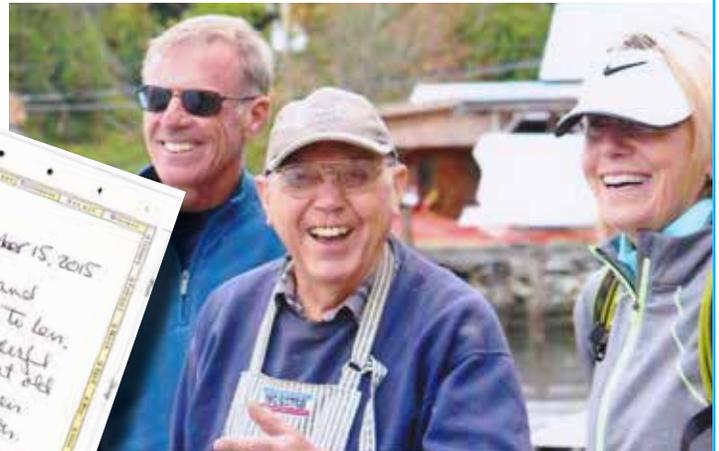
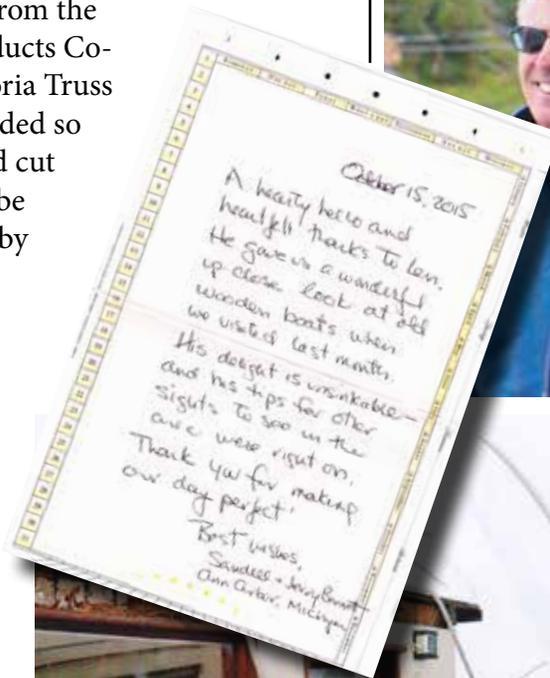
Then there is the small army of volunteers needed to staff community events like our 'Crabfest' and 'Small Boat Festival' as well as the generous community businesses that donate (or give discounts) on products and services that we can pass on to our visitors.

The Directors of the society cannot benefit from any of the work they provide yet each take on specific duties

and spend hours on tasks necessary to keep the centre and society functioning.

There are benefits to volunteering. For young people, it can be a chance to gain work experience (a couple have found employment as a result of volunteering with us). Most of us also enjoy the social aspect of meeting and working with like minded people. Passing on local and technical knowledge to our visitors and enhancing their travel experiences. Shop manager Tony Owen recently took the time to talk to a visitor from Germany and the discourse resulted in selling 2 Acorn Dinghies now being packaged for shipment.

Our centre and community are unique. By joining us and sharing your skills and abilities with us, we can continue to provide this valuable experience.



New Directors

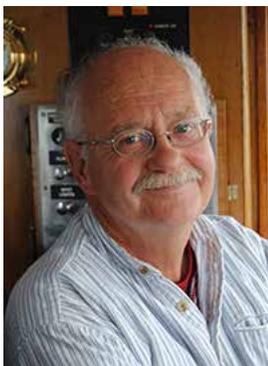
During the November 28th Annual General Meeting an election of officers was held. Three Directors have one more year of service in their terms and agreed to stay on for the 2016 year. They are **George Karras, Ion Barnes** and **Dave Sharrock**.

Tim Doyle has taken a job, which requires him to relocate to Vancouver, therefore opening up the position of President. Both **Mike Schaefer** and **Jorg Langewitz** stepped down from their positions as directors because of lack of time to serve and other conflicting commitments.

Dale Gagné, Len Mayea and **Victor Lironi** had been serving terms that ended in 2015 but were voted in to serve new 2-year terms.



Two new Directors were added during the AGM. **Lew Penney** is actually an old/new Director that in retirement in 1999, after moving to Cowichan Bay had the opportunity to join the Cowichan Wooden Boat Society and has been an active member ever since. During those years he had held many positions on the Board of Directors and most recently has been very active as a member initiating and heading the Pier Restoration committee. The second newly elected director is **Keith Williston**, who always enjoyed woodworking and since



retiring in the Cowichan Valley in 2005, converted a wooden troller to a cruiser for his own use. He has worked on various wood boats for others and loves the rich history & heritage of the west coast.

We still have a vacancy for a one Director to fill a one-year term. Any interested candidates should contact **Ion Barnes**. Be warned that as a director you will be in a working position and as a director you can not personally receive benefits from the organization (lots of work - no pay) but you will be helping to manage a very important community service.

Each Director takes on responsibility for specific tasks to keep the Cowichan Wooden Boat Society and the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre functioning properly. They also often sit on a number of the other necessary committees.

Ion Barnes acts as President. He presides over meetings and acts as the societies "Boss". He has no voting privilege so he can initiate ideas but can't approve them. One of Ion's responsibilities is the maintenance of the buildings and pier.

Dave Sharrock is the Vice President. He is responsible for developing and maintaining membership and helps with advertising and graphics.

Dale Gagné is Treasurer and oversees the cash flow of the organization. She is on the Pier Committee and Boat Acquisition Committees.

George Karras is the head of the Boat Acquisition committee and is also responsible for Insurance for the centre and it's programs.

Len Mayea is the Secretary responsible for managing, recording and maintaining the minutes.

Lew Penney oversees the Pier Reconstruction project. This includes fundraising and meeting with construction experts developing plans

Keith Williston will be working to develop policy and procedures.

On January 2nd the Directors will meet to ensure all necessary aspects of running the society involve a Director as a contact person.

Members are welcome to apply to become Directors. Some interesting developments are being discussed and you can be a part of them.