

SOUNDINGS

Newsletter for the
Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre
March 2014



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President's Message

I'll be brief. We had an informative General Meeting on 3rd March. The snow forced us to postpone the meeting initially scheduled for 24th February. Tim Doyle, our treasurer, updated us on the current financial state of the Society. It appears healthy. Sharon McLeod, our newly hired general manager, introduced herself to the members and collected overdue memberships as she registered members.

She will be in the office on Tuesdays, Thursday and Friday from 9am until 2pm.

The Society has made excellent progress with its projects. Thanks to volunteers Lew Penney, Jorg Lange-witz, Ken Olive and Ian Murray, taking direction from Tony Owen, our facilities manager, the pod re-finishing and the cupola for the end pavilion are on schedule to be completed for the Pier and Pod dedication party on April 5th.

Another date to mark: We will hold a Small Boat Festival on July 5th and 6th.

The General Meeting minutes will be posted on the web site in the near future and have the minutiae of the General Meeting, but some areas are highlighted below.

COURSES: A schedule prepared by Victor Lironi.

Tuesday March 25th 7pm-9pm

Navigation and basic chart work. Charts and navigation instruments will be provided. The course will use chart 3441 which includes Cowichan Bay and local waters.

Instructor Victor Lironi. International Sail and Power Association.

Cost: members \$25, non-members \$30. Space is limited to 12 participants so please book ahead.

Tuesday April 22nd 7pm-9pm.

KNOTS, BENDS and SPLICES — Back by popular demand an evening of knots, and fancy rope work.

Instructor - Ted Gaiger. Canadian Yachting Association.
Cost: members \$20, non-members \$25

Tuesday May 20th 7pm-9pm.

Cruising without tears. A retrospective based on 50 years cruising the BC coast with tips on what to do, and what to avoid.

Topics to include cruising with infants, teenagers, cats, elderly dogs, mutinous crew and other family members.

Instructor: Victor Lironi

Cost: members \$20, non-members \$25

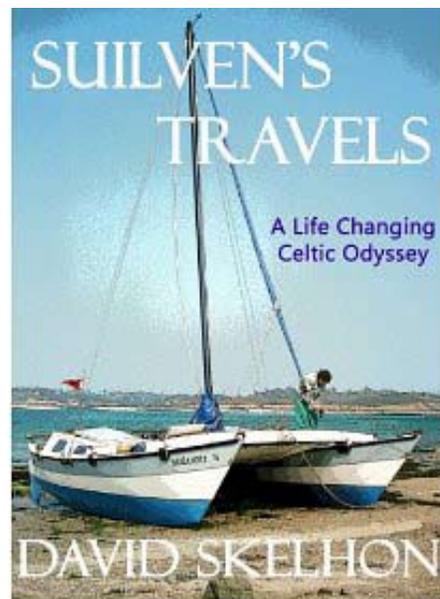
Payment for evening courses by cash or cheque please. Contact cwbs@classicboats.org with Courses in Subject line or phone 250-746-4955.



Monday June 9th to Friday June 13th

Building the Skerry, a stitch and glue 15ft double ender. She is a fast rowing and sailing dinghy.

Google Chesapeake Light Craft for additional details. Instructor David Skelhon – former shop manager at the Centre. He has built an Oughtred designed Blackfish Sailing Dory and a Wharram Tiki. He cruised extensively in both. Skelhon's E-book on these voyages, *Suilven's Travels*, is available as Kindle from Amazon and as an Epub from Smashwords.com.



Further details about the course fee, and sign-up procedures, will be published by the end of March.

LIBRARY

Bob Weinberg, Director, spoke fervently about the under-utilized Library. The Society has over 1500 hardback titles on all kinds of marine subjects, plus thousands of original magazines, including Wooden Boat and Classic Boat. We hope to include a searchable database of book titles on the website. The staircase leading to the library is in the process of being replaced. The Society will also need some volunteer help to re-do the drywall in the museum pavilion— it was removed when the roof leaked.

NEW SHOP RATES

It is expensive to run our woodworking shop. So rates have to rise. However, we don't want our members to feel that the Society has its hand out for money whenever the shop is used.

Therefore new rates will be based upon a project's space and time. For boats it is easy to calculate at \$15.00 per foot per month. Projects – like building new cabinets for a boat – will be based on the facility manager's decision as to square footage and estimated time for the project.

However, minor usage of the shop, e.g. 15 minutes on the drill press, or 30 minutes on the planer will not be charged. It is too expensive for the Society to bill in half hour increments on numerous shop-use worksheets. (That's if members remember to sign in and out.) Work in the shop over 4 hours will be deemed a project. Incidental use of the shop will be subject to availability. Use of the tools will still remain free. The members present agreed to this rate structure.

MEZZANINE RENTAL

The Society needs to encourage use of the Mezzanine in the new building as a meeting and social space.

The Board therefore simplified the rate structure with rates for non-profit societies set considerably lower than private functions.

	Non Profit	Private
Hourly Rates:	\$7.50	\$35.00
Daily Rates:	\$75.00	\$200.00
<i>Daily rate from 10am to 10pm</i>		
SET UP	\$40.00 hr	\$60.00 hr
Clean up	\$40.00 hr	\$60.00 hr

We charge hefty fees for cleanup and setup but want to encourage renters to arrange chairs and tables themselves. The same applies to cleanup – we want the users to do it!

Members get the private rate less 20%.

GENERAL MANAGER

The Society recently hired Sharon McLeod as our General Manager. She was raised in Cowichan Bay and, after working in Vancouver for a number of years in the non-profit sector, has returned to Cowichan Bay to raise her family. She is married with three children. In view of her family commitments she only works part time at this time of year but will work more hours

Executive and Directors 2013/14

President - Chris Banner

Treasurer - Tim Doyle

Secretary - Len Mayea

Directors:

Victor Lironi

Jorg Langewitz

Bob Down

Bob Weinberg

Past President - Gloria Craig - Facility Manager: Tony Owen

General Manager: Sharon McLeod

For information call: **250-746-4955**

or cwbs@classicboats.org

Newsletter: Dave Knott

during the summer.

She will be in the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am until 2pm.



WEBSITE

The website redesign is underway. The Board decided to use a local company, Teky.ca from Cobble Hill and their designer, Sharon Dean. She has some great ideas for our site. The focus will be on the website which will confirm and focus what the Society is, and what it can do. Newsletters, blogs and forums will state what we are doing in terms of projects and activities. It is a slow process so do not expect any miracles on this front until May.

WAYS FEES

The ways fees have been increased by 10% to \$220 per haul out and \$72.00 for each additional day. This rate is still far below those of local commercial operators but in view of the extensive modifications completed last year and a few minor jobs which still need to be done, we feel it is more than justified.

IN THE SHOP

Ted Gaiger – he will be teaching us about knots, bends and splices (refer courses) – and his son Fred, are refurbishing a boat for Ted's grandson. The boat will be used on Lake Cowichan.

Ted said, "This is turning out so well I am tempted to keep it myself."

Since the photo, Ted has installed wooden gunwales and a small foredeck. It is turning out well and we can see why he is tempted!



NEW DINGHY DOCK

If the Society is to expand its small boat program, we need better facilities for small boats. The area to the right of the pier and on the foreshore appears ripe for development. The Board has put together a proposal that we hope to build this summer.

The area from the foreshore to the first set of pilings will be decked and from this deck a ramp will lead to a shallow water dock. It will be expensive and it will require a lot of work by our volunteers but we need to transform our foreshore. It is presently an eyesore.

