



From the Helm

~ Bill Fletcher, Commodore

Greetings from the Saginaw. The slips are finally empty and your Club has been beautifully decorated for Christmas. Let the Holidays begin. Please make reservations if you are going to attend the Christmas Party this Saturday the 5th.



Last month the membership approved \$15,000 to replace the Bar's old A/C only unit with a new Heat and A/C unit, heat is good. The balance of the roof and HVAC project will need to be funded by a capital campaign, details to follow. The new Make-Up Air unit for the Kitchen should be installed the week of December 7th.

We have 3 New Social Members that were voted in last month: Lisa Kusey-Rechsteiner & Gary Rechsteiner from Kawkawlin, Fred & Joyce

Cook of Bay City and Ward & Jeanne Vanderwill also from Bay City. Please make them feel at home.

I want to wish my father, Past Commodore Fred Fletcher a Happy Birthday. He will be turning 90 on December 24th. The family will be celebrating at his home on Christmas Eve.

Wow, where did the year go? It seems like I just took over the helm of this Historic Club and now it's about over. Pam Murchison will be the new caretaker at months end. It's been an honor serving as your Commodore. I look at all the pictures of our Past Commodores and wonder what it might have been like during their tenures. What did they do to make the Club better? That was my goal, a lot of little things and few big ones go a long way in making us better. We must remember and honor our past and traditions, but look to the future and make the necessary changes to grow and produce a great product that is SBYC while remaining fiscally responsible.

The New Year will bring in the new group of Flag Officers and Directors. I have all the confidence in them along with our Great Staff that 2016 will be a great year. One of the things I'll miss the most of being your Commodore, the parking spot....

See you at the Club.

DECEMBER 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**SBYC Christmas Party
Saturday, December 5**

**SBYC Children's
Christmas Party
Sunday, December 13**

**SBYC is booked with
private parties for the
month of December.
The club will not be
open for general
membership use.**

**January & February
Hours of
Operation:**

Fridays:

**Bar: 1700 - 2200
Dinner: 1800 - 2100**

The Mission of the Saginaw Bay Yacht Club:

We are a unique community of individuals with shared values and common interests in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual respect. A family of great people serving great people in a safe, nautical atmosphere. As we have for generations - we stand tall and proud along the water and welcome all who would join us in the pursuit of enjoyment and fun.

From the Vice Commodore

~ Pam Murchison, Vice Commodore

Guess what I saw out at the club last Saturday! Several rooms with busy elves scurrying about while enjoying the Christmas music. They came in all shapes and sizes and worked for four hours creating a Christmas wonderland for all to enjoy. The groups who rent our club for their holiday parties count on a sparkling atmosphere so a special thanks goes out to all the elves for helping to fulfill their expectations.



The SBYC Christmas Party on December 5, with Chef Harry's Italian Christmas theme, and the Children's Party on December 13 mean that our members should have time to appreciate the efforts as well. Make your reservations today for the seating you want. Remember that after Thanksgiving weekend the club is open only for private parties until Friday January 8. (Winter opening will be Fridays this year.)

On a more serious note. It is time to express our heartfelt thanks to Commodore Bill Fletcher for leading SBYC through 2015. Hopefully after a few months, Bill will be able to look back on his year with pride in all that was accomplished and the stress of trials and challenges will fade. Congratulations on a job well done, Bill.

As 2015 draws to a close, PC Murchison and I wish each of you a happy and joy filled Christmas with family and friends and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

**Try
SBYC**

Now is the time to encourage your friends, family and colleagues to join Saginaw Bay Yacht Club!

For the 2015 season, new member incentives include:

NO Initiation Fee for new members.

For new Dockholders:

50% off dockage for first year

25% off dockage for second year

From the Rear Commodore

~ Steve Goodnow, Rear Commodore

Happy Holidays to all SBYC members. A special warm Holiday greeting to those members who are new to us this year. Welcome! On behalf of the Flag and Board, please join us at the upcoming Club Holiday events.

The Club Christmas Party is December 5. This is always special. The Children's Christmas Party follows on December 13th.



I would like to sound a warning regarding dangerous ice conditions that will soon exist in our basins and between the Power Plant and Channel Island. Here at SBYC, our basins are dangerous in winter because we circulate water to minimize the damage lifting ice does to our

dock pilings. The circulation of this water causes dangerously thin ice or even open water in our basins, depending on outside temperature. Despite how it may appear, it is NEVER safe to walk on the ice in our basins. We are working to put up warning signs to make sure everybody is aware.

The ice between the Power Plant and Channel Island is dangerously thin or open because the Power Plant discharges warm water into the Bay at this spot. The water has been drawn from the Bay cold, used to cool Power Plant equipment, and then returned warm to the Bay. This continuous influx of warm water at this spot keeps the ice dangerously thin or the water open. Sadly it is good fishing there since the fish are apparently drawn to the warm water. Ice fisherman and snowmobilers don't seem to realize how dangerous this area is. It seems somebody drowns at this spot every year.

Please join me in getting those last minute dock applications submitted. The Dock Committee meeting when the slips are assigned is coming up soon.

Please remember our Staff when you fill out and submit your 2015 SBYC Staff Christmas Bonus card. The money we all give is a major part of our staff members' Christmas. Their hours have been reduced, of course, as our season winds down.

Your Flag and Board join in wishing you all a belated Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

2015 Giving Tree

~ Cheryl Becker

Don't forget about the SBYC Giving Tree located in the Commodore's Lounge. Along with the jackets and gloves so generously donated in the past, we are asking our membership to consider donations of non-perishable food items and personal care items like soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, and any other toiletry that children and adults may require. All donations benefit the needy in Bay, Saginaw, and Midland counties. The tree will be in place until the Club Christmas Party to allow time for distribution to all three county agencies. Thanks in advance!



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

SBYC

Story Ideas, Suggestions and Submissions Welcome!

If you are interested in sharing your boating or other travel adventures, please consider submitting an article and/or photos to THE MASTHEAD. Story ideas are welcome too!

Send your stories and/or photos to THE MASTHEAD Editor Lynn Weaver at Lynn9117@gmail.com. If you have questions, call Lynn at 989-737-9117.



Saginaw Bay Community Sailing Association Job Posting 2016 Sailing Instructor and Sailing Assistants Needed

If you love sailing and will be at least age 16 (for assistants) or age 18 (for instructors), and have some free time next summer, you might be interested in applying for an instructor or assistant position! Know someone who would be an excellent candidate? Please share this info with them!

Instructor Requirements (by June 1):

- Be at least 18 years old;
- Be certified as a US Sailing Small Boat 1 instructor (reimbursement available);
- Have up-to-date First Aid and CPR certifications (reimbursement available);
- Have taken a safe boating course (reimbursement available);
- Be an experienced sailor, preferably with small boat sailing experience; and

- Be experienced with starting, operating, and maintaining a small outboard powered boat.

Assistant Requirements (by June 1):

- Be at least 16 years old;
- Have up-to-date First Aid and CPR certifications (reimbursement available);
- Have taken a safe boating course (reimbursement available);
- Be an experienced sailor, preferably with small boat sailing experience; and
- Be experienced with starting, operating, and maintaining a small outboard powered boat.

For more information or a copy of the complete job description, please contact us at info@sbcса.org or 989-922-7245. More info can also be found at: <http://www.sbcса.org/employment.shtml>



Saginaw Bay Community Sailing Association's 2016 Boat Building Class

Learn How to Build Wood/Epoxy Boats

If you ever dreamed about building your own boat or simply wanted to learn how boats are made, then this is the class for you. During this hands-on class, you will learn many of the techniques you'll need to put a kit boat together or to start with just a set of plans. You will also learn how to mix epoxy resins for different applications, how to laminate, how to wet-out fiberglass, and much, much more. And the best part? No experience necessary.

2016 Projects:

- Finish the construction of the two Wood Duck Kayaks including painting, varnishing, and installing the seats and foot rests. The two kayaks will be raffled as a pair in 2016.
- Continue work on the Jericho Bay Lobster Skiff, a 16' runabout/fishing boat. After finishing fairing and priming the hull exterior, then it will be pulled from the molds and the class will start working on the hull interior. Fairing, glassing, and fabricating seats, the breasthook, and a center console are just part of the list of things to be done.
- A new project, still to be chosen as this newsletter goes to press, will be started when the kayaks have been completed. No doubt it will be another interesting and challenging project.

Schedule:

Monday & Wednesday evenings, 6 PM to 9 PM.
The class begins on Monday, January 4, 2016 and ends Wednesday, April 13, 2016.

Location:

Gougeon Boat Shop, 100 Martin St., Bay City, MI (behind Gougeon main office)

Cost:

SBCSA Membership (Adult \$130/Family \$220) and Boat Building Materials Fee (\$70)

Enrollment:

Contact Roxanne Gleason, (989) 922-7245 or executive.director@sbcса.org, for more information and to reserve a place in the class. The class is limited to 20 students. For more information about these and prior projects, visit: www.sbcса.org/boatbuilding.shtml

