



Maritimer

March 2016

MEMBERS' MEETING

THURSDAY APRIL 14

1900 (7 p.m.)

LMS Welcome Centre

Agenda

Festivals

Moorage agreements

LMS statistics

Communications

Purple Martins

Derelict vessels

Q & A

Coffee – Cheese & Fruit trays

- No host bar -

Third-year students from Vancouver Island University were digging in the inter-tidal area one low tide recently. Along with their professor Stephanie Duff, who is the chair of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Program at VIU, marine biologists Rob Waters, and Rick Harbo, they were collecting samples of life in the mud. This was a preliminary exploration to provide a base-line assessment of what critters and plants inhabit the area.

It provided real-life lab experience, rather than an in-the-classroom situation, as part of the habitat restoration program at VIU

Once we have some knowledge of what is presently in the area, and what is possible environmentally, we will set up workshops for members to contribute their ideas of how LMS can contribute to Ladysmith's waterfront plan with this area.

INTERTIDAL ZONE

Ladysmith Maritime Society is in the preliminary stages of considering how to best utilize the area of our water lot between the LMS marina and the Fishermen's wharf.



Cam McIntyre, from In the Beantime, will be operating the Oyster Bay Café Fridays through Mondays this summer. He has installed an espresso machine and plans to open up May 20. Hours will be 0700 – 1400 (that’s 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) – perhaps longer if the trade merits it.

From the buzz around town we can expect a busy summer in the café.

DERELICT VESSELS

LMS has been advised by the Coast Guard that Viki Lynne II has been resurveyed to identify the remaining fluids and to “cement a plan.”

LMS is also working with the Town to dispose of some abandoned vessels which have been beached.

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MOORAGE AGREEMENTS

The *Rainbow’s Skiff* fund is growing. Moorage agreements not completed by the March 15 deadline have been

charged a \$50 fee. An additional \$50 will be charged for agreements still not completed on April 1. These fees will be deposited into the fund.

PROPERTY TAXES

BC Assessment has used a different formula for calculating marina assessments this year. This will result in an increase in property taxes for LMS over and above what is expected on an annual basis. But that is only the beginning of our what we are appealing.

For the first time, boathouses will be taxed – and the assessment has appeared on the LMS assessment notice. What that means is that LMS is put in the position of tax collector. LMS pays the tax and then has to recover the costs from the individual boathouse owners.

We advised our LMS boathouse owners of this development and to expect an invoice for property taxes as soon as we know the amounts.

LMS filed a complaint, the first step in the appeal process. As expected, we lost our case at the hearing. We are gearing up for the second round.



Waterfront Sale & Lunch

Sat. April 30th, 9 am - 3 pm

Watch for signs. From Hwy #1 turn at Roberts St light towards Transfer Beach.
Turn left on Oyster Bay Dr - a gravel road, past blue building.
Salesite - at picnic area in front of Locomotive

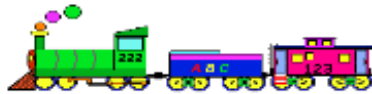
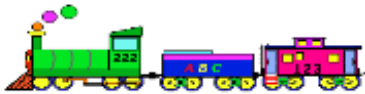
**Discover many useful nautical and marine treasures,
tools and a variety of other items.**

Buy lunch at the Rotary tent.

Vendors: To reserve a 10' x 10' space for your tables, tarp or tent phone John at 250 - 245-3201
or email myfandjohn@hotmail.com Please leave a message. Everyone welcome!
Pay \$10 for your space that morning.

A Fundraiser for LDHS and LMS to refurbish artifacts and improve the heritage park site

Approved by the Town of Ladysmith, Parks, Recreation & Culture



Ladysmith & District Historical Society Industrial Heritage Preservation committee, Ladysmith Maritime Society, and Ladysmith Rotary, invite you to bring your no-longer-of-use-to-you nautical gear (or other “stuff” hiding in a closet) to this sale. Reserve your 10 ft. x 10 ft. space by contacting John at 250-245-3201 or email myfandjohn@hotmail.com.

The Sale will take place at the north end of the blue Expo Legacy building/Machine Shop, in front of the old locomotive. The money collected from the sale of spaces will be shared equally between LDHS (which will use their share to help refurbish the Locomotive) and LMS (which will put their share towards refurbishing the Sidewinder Logging Boat – otherwise known as a dozer boat).

Nothing to sell?

Find a treasure you can buy – and have lunch at the Rotary tent

MUSEUM NEWS

Ladysmith Maritime Society, Ladysmith & District Historical Society, and SFN volunteers jointly hosted 3 classes of Grade 8 students from Ladysmith High School at the LMS Harbour Heritage Centre. The students were treated to an educational program about the history and industries of Ladysmith harbour.

Vancouver Island Model Railway Club members held their spring event at the Harbour Heritage Centre on March 12. The dioramas of the log dump and coal wharf were of particular interest to these modellers.

A new exhibit in the LMS floating museum is “in the works.” Watch for it.

CLEAN UP

The Expo Legacy Building (also known as the Machine Shop) is in need of smartening up. This is not high on the Town’s budget or priority list. So, Ladysmith Waterfront Gallery and LMS have partnered to buy some paint and wield some brushes. Calls will be going out for volunteers to help with this project

VISITING BOATERS

We expect many visiting boats this summer. LMS has already welcomed two cruising groups and has received reservations for sixteen more. Please welcome them and all the others who spend a night or two or three at the marina.

SHOP TALK

The shop guys have done a major clean up in the Car Shop. (That is the old name of the shop where all the work is done on the LMS fleet)

C.A. Kirkegaard is now in the shop for an extensive work-over. As well as a number of necessary repairs, the plan is to return the cabin to a configuration suitable for passengers. The Kirk will be a great tour boat, suitable for trips to Thetis Island Pub, for instance, once she meets Transport Canada’s regulations.

Drop by one Monday, Wednesday, or Friday morning to see the latest project, have a cup of coffee – and maybe get your hands dirty?

DINE ON THE DOCK

These popular dinners will again be held every second Friday beginning

May 20

Reservations highly recommended

The following dates are June 3 and 17, July 1, 15 and 29, August 12 and 26.

Cost is \$20 for dinner + cash bar if you would like a beer, cider or glass of wine.

Tickets can be purchased at the LMS Welcome Centre or by reserving at (250) 245-1146.

Ticket deadline is the Wednesday prior to dinner date.

A new 20 ft x 40 ft. tent will soon be installed on the social dock. The very occasional raindrop will no longer find its way onto a dinner plate.

CRIB TOURNEY

On February 21 sixteen keen card players gathered in the LMS Welcome Centre for the 2016 Crib Tournament. Thanks to Barrie McDonald and Dan Lutz for organizing this 2nd Annual Tournament.

FESTIVALS

MAY 28

HERITAGE VESSELS DAY

JUNE 4

KIDS' PIRATES DAY

Watch for ads in Take 5 and The Chronicle

or

Look for details on these two great festivals on the LMS website at

lmsmarina.ca

FACEBOOK

Assistance in maintaining a current facebook page would be most welcome. If you have an interest and a bit of time, please

call Rod at 250-245-0109



Purple Martins @ LMS marina

PURPLE MARTINS UPDATE

Purple Martins arriving in BC soon!

The spring migration of Western Purple Martins has started! The first one was seen in Sacramento, California on March 17. Purple Martins can start arriving in BC any time from early to mid April, depending on the weather. You can follow the Purple Martin migration for both Eastern and Western Purple Martins at the Purple Martin Conservation Association website at www.purplemartin.org

2015 was a very good year for Purple Martins in BC. A total of 1150 pairs nested throughout the Strait of Georgia and as far north as Port MacNeill on Vancouver Island, at Bamfield on the west coast of Vancouver Island, on the Lower Mainland, and at Sechelt and Powell River on the Sunshine Coast.

The hot dry weather and lots of large flying insects allowed the adult birds to successfully raise about 4400 young. A total of 85 pairs raised 310 nestlings at the Ladysmith Maritime Society community marina. With this high number of young produced in 2015 we are expecting a significant increase in the number of returning Purple Martins this spring.

The best time to see martins at the Community Marina is in early morning (7-9 am) until nesting begins, since they will likely be away foraging for most of the day and the colony will appear unoccupied. They often (but not always!) return briefly in early evening (~6-7:30 pm) as well if they're finding enough food locally. They may sit around the colony for a while before flying away to tree-roost for the night.

They will begin night roosting in the nest boxes and staying around the colony later in the morning towards the end of April. Once the spring weather improves and more Purple Martins arrive, they will be claiming, defending and squabbling over nest boxes and may begin nest building in early-mid May. They won't begin laying eggs until at least late May or as late as mid-June, depending on the weather and abundance of large flying insects for food.

We look forward to seeing you around the Community Marina this summer and at the Ladysmith Maritime Festival events.

Bruce Cousens and Charlene Lee

Western Purple Martin Foundation,
Nanaimo, BC
wpmf@georgiabasin.ca

YOUR LMS TEAM

Managing Director: Rod Smith
Marina Lead: Debbie Loewen
Marina Staff: Marc Pettigrew
Marina Back-up: Brian Tilley
Bookkeeper: Gail Schuler
Directors: Gerry Beltgens
Shirley Blackstaff
Bob Cross
Cliff Fisher
Allan Gould
David Grimstead
Rod MacNeil
Paul Nowlan
Betty Pearson

Spring is in the air

Boating season is upon us

**Enjoy your floating park at our
LMS Community Marina**

If you haven't yet renewed your membership for 2016

Send us a cheque or drop by the LMS Welcome Centre

\$20 – single

\$35 – couple

\$50 - family

LADYSMITH MARITIME SOCIETY

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