

LMS 2016 HERITAGE BOATS FESTIVAL
May 27 – 29, 2016

Report to the Annual General Meeting of Ladysmith Maritime Society
December 7, 2016

The 2016 Heritage Boat Festival was held from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, May 28.

Twenty-five skippers accepted our invitation to participate in the festival. The visiting heritage boats were moored alongside “B” dock, displays were set up around the Welcome Centre and nautical-type musical entertainment was provided on the dock. “Maritimer”, the LMS harbour tour boat, and a small hovercraft were on site for tours; however, adverse weather kept them dockside for the day. The displays included:

- John Marston with one of his canoes
- Michael Dean with nautical pictures
- Don Hurd with LED lights for boats
- Dreamspeaker cruising guides authors
- Purple martin information

Even with inclement weather, a steady stream of visitors continued throughout the day. All the participants were pleased with the event.

The skippers and crews of the visiting vessels had arrived on Friday in time to participate in a pot luck. On Saturday evening there was a steak BBQ dinner for the visitors and weekend volunteers. And on Sunday morning a pancake breakfast was enjoyed before most of the vessels departed.

All expressed an interest in returning next year.

At a wrap-up meeting the organizing committee made some suggestions which will be incorporated into next year’s festival.

The 2016 committee of Bob Cross, Heather & Art Rendell, Ann & Jack Thomson and Betty Pearson is being expanded and is already planning the 2017 festival.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Pearson