



Maritimer

Ladysmith Maritime Society Newsletter - December, 2017



The 32nd Annual General Meeting

The 32nd AGM of the Ladysmith Maritime Society was held in the Welcome Centre on December 6th, 2017, with 56 members in attendance. The agenda included approval of the 2016 AGM Minutes, approval of the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements, acceptance of Committee Reports, and selection of Directors for 2018.

Highlights of 2017 included refurbishment of docks and light standards, increased visitor numbers and revenue, high attendance at festivals including introduction of the Sea Life Celebration in August, and multiple summer activities for the community at the Harbour Museum and Sea Life Centre, the Oyster Bay Café, Dine-on-the-Docks, the Tuesday and Thursday music nights and the Harbour Tours.

Congratulations to the new Directors appointed:

- Doug Bell,
- Barrie McDonald,
- Peter MacHardy, and
- Janet Skinner.

Three of the Board positions were for 3-year terms and one was for a 1-year term. By a draw of lots at the December 11th Board Meeting, Janet Skinner took the 1-year term, with entitlement to a longer term Director position if one comes available prior to the 2018 AGM.

For the AGM this year, the Board attempted a "green" approach where committee reports were available on the LMS website two weeks prior to the meeting. The intent was to save printing cost and waste, and to streamline the annual meeting. This did not work well for all members, nor for committee leaders who were prepared to provide a short report to members.

At the December 11th Board Meeting, the commitment was made to ensure at the next AGM, Committee Leaders have the opportunity to report to members, and that printed financial reports will be available at the 2018 AGM.

And by the way, all reports, including financials, can still be viewed on-line in the Members Section: <http://www.lmsmarina.ca/members-only/members-content/>

Best Wishes for the Holidays

The Board and Staff at LMS wish you all the very best for the holiday season. 2018 will be an exciting year to repeat and exceed our successes on festivals, dock activities, museums, heritage boats, harbour tours, education, and attracting boating visitors to Ladysmith harbour.

This work cannot be done without the membership and without all the volunteers!

Your LMS Board/Executive for 2018

- Dan Lutz, President
- Peter MacHardy, Vice-President
- Alan Newell, Treasurer,
- Janet Skinner, Secretary
- Doug Bell, Director
- Gerry Beltgens, Director
- Rod MacNeil, Director
- Barrie McDonald, Director
- Art Rendell, Director, and
- Rod Smith, Executive Director

LMS Bylaws Renewal

The new BC Societies' Act requires all BC associations to align bylaws with the new legislation. Working with the Board and Executive Director, Allan Gould has been leading this process following a template provided by the provincial government.

This will require a Special Meeting of Members, likely in late March 2018, to approve LMS bylaws in their new form. There will be at least two weeks notice for this Special Meeting, and we hope you will make a special effort to attend and help move the Society forward.

?Newsletter?

Is the Maritimer Newsletter an effective means to communicate with members? Is the Maritimer too long, too short, too infrequent? Is it effective in today's world of social media?

Your feedback would be welcome by email to president@lmsmarina.ca

Renew your membership!

If you missed renewing your membership at the annual meeting, please drop by the Welcome Centre during operating hours, or complete your membership on-line in the Members Section of the website (lmsmarina.ca).

Harbour Tour Volunteers

This volunteer has been doing Harbour Tours for 4 years. LMS will pay for your training to obtain the Small Vessel Operators Certificate in return for a two year commitment. I am still active as a tour operator because of the opportunity to be on the docks and on the water on beautiful summer days, while showcasing Ladysmith to people from Asia, Australia, Europe, and even Nanaimo, who marvel at our beautiful harbour.

If you would like to undertake the training to become a harbour tour operator, please contact coordinator Rod MacNeil through staff at the Welcome Centre (250-245-1146).

President's Message

I am honoured to have been selected by the Board to serve as your President for 2018.

I want to recognize Rod MacNeil, your President in the challenging year of 2017. Rod Mac, thank you for the many hours through LMS crises, for keeping our organization focussed, for your ambassador efforts, for your continued work on the Car Shop restorations and the Harbour Tour program .

Similarly, we have an excellent Executive Director, Rod Smith, who provides leadership for LMS. Our "marina brand" is among the very best on the west coast, and our staff are outstanding, including Marc, Deb, and Debbie. These folk will make my job easy.

I made three pledges to the Board:

- to continue transitions started in 2017 to update policies on HR, finance, planning, and relations.
- to implement the priorities identified in 2017 on our vision, mission and values, providing support for the Waterfront Plan, engagement of all stakeholders, and finally,
- to foster a culture of appreciation and inclusiveness at LMS.

Maritime Museum, Sea Life Centre & Harbour Heritage Centre

One of the reports provided to the AGM came from Shirley Blackstaff, our well known, tireless, heritage and education volunteer.

While the Harbour Heritage Centre was closed due to Expo Centre structural repairs, there was considerable work improving the exhibits. The Centre will be ready for its 5th year of operation.

At the Maritime Museum, the “Captain’s Cabin” was a popular exhibit, open 10-4pm throughout the summer due to efforts of Emery Urquhart, along with 9 LMS volunteers. The builder, Jean Guy Bergeron, also opened a vegetable stand of farmed produce with proceeds to LMS education programs.

The Sea Life Centre in its 2nd year, was supported by Amy Sennett, a Ladysmith High School student, who volunteered on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

And then there was the remarkable Sea Life Celebration Festival on August 13th including: hands-on experiences with diver, Bob Cross, students, teachers and marine biologists; a Stz’ uminus First Nation language game by Pearl Harris; a John Marston dug-out canoe; ancient sea life fossils; block print art for kids from Ladysmith artist, Daphne Marion of *Maritime Blues – Hand Printed Fabric Designs*; sea life art projects were created under the guidance of LMS and community volunteers; art and science activities of the NS3 team; drama and music activities; and, the Maritime Museum was packed with kids participating in the Sea Life Treasure Hunt, the Captain’s Cabin game and Sea Life Jewelry Station and outside the Museum, the creative play in the ‘Create your own Beach’ sand box.

Congratulations, Shirley, on another successful year with maritime heritage and education.

Docks and Heritage Boats



It may be a little quieter on the docks compared to summer, but not for the volunteer crews busy building new fingers and heat tracing the sewer lines. Thanks to Marc, Jim, Tom, Keith, Willard and Gerald for making this happen and to Martin for feeding our guys.

And up in the Car Shop the work goes on for the C. A. Kirkegaard. It’s a big job and sometimes a guy just deserves a break.



Donations to LMS



The Ladysmith Maritime Society has been the fortunate recipient of two generous donations:

Responder, a 25' Zodiac 733 RHI Center Console with twin 150hp Yamaha outboard motors, was retired as the primary rescue vessel for the Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue Station 29 Ladysmith and replaced by *Community Spirit*. *Responder* served her crews well throughout the years of marine rescues; often in weather most mariners avoid and is fondly remembered by those who crewed on her. At LMS she will be used in repair and maintenance, for towing and as a safety vessel during festivals and paddling centre activities. We offer a big thank you to the folks of RCMSRS 29.

The second vessel is a fourteen foot rigid bottom Avon inflatable with a 30hp Evinrude along with a high definition depth sounder and EZ Loader boat trailer – all in good condition. Our thanks to Mr. Harold Saunders, of Nanaimo, for this generous donation.



The Paddling Centre is Open



Just call the Welcome Centre to enquire about winter storage options (250-245-1126), and watch this space in spring, 2018.

LMS Float was a WINNER!!

In case you had not heard, the LMS float took two prizes in the Ladysmith Days Parade last August... 1st for best comedy float, and a 2nd prize for best adult costumes. I think the guys were responsible for the comedy..

