



Smugglers Cove Boat Club

September 2023 Newsletter



Happy Labour Day!

August has flown by, and September is already here. The weather outlook for September looks promising, so get out and enjoy as much as you can. It's been a busy year with social events, member parties and visiting boats so far with a few more events to go. With my current work schedule, I have not been able to enjoy the club as planned but am getting out when I can. On the other hand, it is great to hear how busy our little club has been this past summer!

Every year we give out awards at the ***Commodore's Ball*** to deserving members. We currently give out ***Member of the Year, The Spirit of Adventure, and the coveted Big Toe Award***. If you feel a member deserves one of these awards, please send in your nominations so the bridge can sort through and choose each winner.

Due to personal commitments Kim Woods has unfortunately stepped down from her role as ***Chair for the Digital/Website Committee***. I would like to thank her for helping set up and running the committee until now. Dennis Angle will be stepping in as Chair and will be working with his team moving forward. A big thanks to Dennis for stepping in. Kim will still be auditing our monthly finances along with Khalil catching us up for the year.

Another thankyou to Keith Walsh for stepping in for Jon Lelie organizing visiting boats. Bill Salton along with Ceri and Laurie Hugill have been working on our ***reciprocal list***. Bill will update at September's meeting.

Greg Wardle will be chairing our September meeting in my absence. My plan is to have a zoom meeting for October since I will be away, and I will rent the hall in St. David's for our ***Annual General Meeting (AGM) and elections***.

Have a great day!

James Warankie
Commodore
SCBC

commodore@smugglerscoveboatclub.com

Message from Vice Commodore Operations – Greg Wardle

The summer is wrapping up and its now time to focus on ***fall projects***. We have a few projects to consider and at the top of the list is the *Gatehouse*.

Our first look at repairing the rot at the base of the ***Gatehouse*** walls went well. We are very optimistic that we can complete this work from the exterior of the building, saving us time, labour and money. I will be looking for help in the next couple of weeks. Let me know if you have skills, interest and want to be involved.

The bigger problem is fixing the ***floatation***. Likely most of you have noticed, the *Gatehouse* has a pretty good lean to it. The best way to do this is to pull the *Gatehouse* out of the water.

Our only option for this is to pull it out at the Jet-boat docks in *Queenston*. Timing would depend on their schedule for haul out and launch. We use their cranes to lift our building. If we have a nice fall, they will leave the Jet-boats as late as possible. So, our good working weather window might be small. We will be doing an assessment of the underneath of the *Gatehouse* in the next couple of weeks.

Another project we have been working on is improving the ***Anchoring of our Complex***. We have added new cables and made some adjustments to the upriver docks. It is aligned better than it was but still needs some improvements. We are waiting for our new stainless-steel cables to come in. Once we receive those, we will be adding some extra anchor points and replacing a few aging cables.

We had a ***mooring failure*** a couple of weeks ago. The Lelie's boat ended up the river with its keel and rudder stuck in the bottom of the river. It is amazing that it travelled upriver past quite a few boats without making contact. The mooring was visually inspected last year by divers and found to be in satisfactory condition. Jon had had his boat inspected in the water by divers and will have it pulled out in the next couple of weeks for a better look. Fingers crossed that there is not too much damage.

We have started a ***pilot project with HMPE rope for moorings*** instead of chain. The advantage of HMPE is that it is light weight but still has the strength of high carbon steel. It also floats so it will not sit at the bottom of the river and rot like chain does. The disadvantage is that it can lose up to 80% of its strength if it's knotted or has a sharp bend in it.

We have a few boats that have been moored on the ropes for a couple of months now. We will dive on them at the end of the season to see if there is any ware on the ropes. We have a total of 8 moorings with ropes on them now. Keith Walsh has been working hard on this project and hopefully has solved the problem of the moorings breaking free.

The ***New Cleaning Program*** is having mixed reviews with the majority of members doing their cleaning. We will be looking for feedback on how it can be improved and possibly streamlining the system.

As a ***reminder***, everyone is obligated to do their cleaning and to know when you are scheduled. If you can't fulfill your obligation during the week assigned, it's up to you to trade with another member.

Punchbowl is our system to register members and guests for an event. Lori is not able to change the number of people allowed at an event. The number was chosen by the organizers.

If you have ***concerns or feedback*** about an event, you should direct your questions to the Vice Commodore House. As Frank is busy with personal matters, please direct your concerns or feedback to me.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting on Wednesday!

Regards,

Greg Wardle

Vice Commodore

greg.wardle@icloud.com

Do you wish to add another e-mail address to receive our club newsletter?

If you or your spouse wish to add their e-mail addresses to the distribution list to receive this *Newsletter* and *other club related announcements*, please send your request to the attention of the Secretary - secretary@smugglerscoveboatclub.com

Do you have an interesting article, announcement, or other information to share with the membership in the monthly newsletter?

If so, please send your requests to the attention of the Secretary - secretary@smugglerscoveboatclub.com

2023 Ports Guide - Lake Ontario & the Thousand Islands - Club Purchase Priced!

The Club has a limited number of the 2023 Ports Guide (Lake Ontario & the Thousand Islands) available at cost to the membership.

\$48 cash.

Contact Bill Salton at billsalton@icloud.com

First come, first serve!

