

CCIA Annual Meeting – 2020

Nautical Affairs VP Report

Matt Lorentzen

As with other aspects of the CCIA, the fleet activity this year has been guided by the state social distancing guidelines and the closure of the CCIA facilities.

I'm pleased to say that our weekend fleet racing series has been operating largely as usual thanks to the experienced volunteerism of our fleet membership. We had four July race days and will be starting our August series races this afternoon. We have had good showings with six to nine boats starting on each race day, despite some of our regular racing boats 'sitting out' this year on land. Small boat racing is a good social distancing sport and this year has created an added incentive for family members to race together – which I think is nice (although my children may not entirely agree).

Unfortunately, the very popular two-day annual regatta and pig-roast scheduled for mid-July was an early casualty of the decision to close the Club facilities. However, I am pleased to say that by popular demand we will be hosting a regatta next weekend (August 8th/9th) with a BYO picnic dinner for race participants only, hosted by Neal Prescott on their lawn. Many thanks to Neal and to Ted Dey, who has been organizing these most successful regattas for many years now. I want to remind members that the regatta is open to all sailboat types and the Regatta entry information is available on the CCIA website – we hope you will join the regatta - it will be a fun time.

We are so lucky to have such a committed and generous community of volunteers supporting the racing activities at the CCIA. I'd particularly like to thank Jill and Jim Morgan and Linda and Bruce MacNeil who offered to be our Race Committee all season. I'd also like to thank my fellow racers who each take turns during the season with the crash boats and supplying the beverages and snacks at our post-race debriefs on the CCIA parking lot. Finally, I'd like to thank Margy Moremen and Jill MacKay for helping to expand our fleet communications on the website and assisting through the office.

On the cruising side the social distancing constraints have taken a toll on Tom Grose's usual schedule of weekly rendezvous and raft-ups. An overnight rendezvous at Harbor Island last weekend was less well attended than previous years despite the glorious weather. Nevertheless, Tom is working on some August events that will not require participants to scramble across each other's boats and will probably involve some type of shore-based activities where participants can more easily spread out. My thanks to Tom for coming up with creative ways to broaden our enjoyment of the water during these limiting times.

The primary goal of the Nautical Affairs VP is to support and expand CCIA families' enjoyment of our beautiful waters here in Christmas Cove. This summer has presented a unique challenge but I want to thank Erica, the Board, and fleet members Jim Morgan and Bruce MacNeil again, for making the club-owned optimist fleet available to members' children this summer. I've heard from several members who would like to see this program expanded next year to include the weekend access to the adult-friendly 420s and, hopefully, the new additional Lasers that Erica has proposed. We believe that this would offer an additional way to get more members out on the water, for pleasure and friendly competition.

In closing, I want to thank the forty-plus CCIA families who have paid fleet dues to support our fleet activities and I welcome all suggestions for ways to expand our fleet activities and access to our beautiful waters here in Christmas Cove.

Thank you.