



## The Mainsheet February 24, 2015

Greetings from the Kanata Sailing Club! We are now well into one of the coldest Februarys in a long time, so its very likely that sailing is not top of mind right now. Of course, the warmer weather *will* come (anytime now would be nice), so the KSC Board is working to get ready for the 2015 sailing season. Part of that is a renewed membership communications strategy. As part of that, we will be publishing short newsletters, called **The Mainsheet**, on a regular basis.

### Pub Night!

Join your KSC mates on March 5 at the [Big Rig on Iris](#), starting at 6:30 P.M. Come early and join the crew for dinner, or come later for a pint and good conversation.

### Introducing the 2015 Board

This year's Board is a good mix of old salts and new hands:

Position	Held By	KSC Email Address
Commodore	Mike Thompson	<a href="mailto:ksc.commodore@gmail.com">ksc.commodore@gmail.com</a>
Vice-Commodore	Giulio Vampa	<a href="mailto:ksc.vicecommodore@gmail.com">ksc.vicecommodore@gmail.com</a>
Training	Tom Saunders	<a href="mailto:ksc.training@gmail.com">ksc.training@gmail.com</a>
Site	John Buiel	<a href="mailto:ksc.site@gmail.com">ksc.site@gmail.com</a>
Harbourmaster		<a href="mailto:ksc.harbourmaster@gmail.com">ksc.harbourmaster@gmail.com</a>
Purser	Colette Thompson	<a href="mailto:ksc.purser@gmail.com">ksc.purser@gmail.com</a>
Communications	James Banks	<a href="mailto:ksc.web@gmail.com">ksc.web@gmail.com</a>
Social	Ken Skublics	<a href="mailto:ksc.social@gmail.com">ksc.social@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Elizabeth Inrig	<a href="mailto:ksc.membership@gmail.com">ksc.membership@gmail.com</a>
Sailing	Jake Burkholder	<a href="mailto:ksc.sailing@gmail.com">ksc.sailing@gmail.com</a>
Corporate Secretary	Will Shine	<a href="mailto:ksc.corporate@gmail.com">ksc.corporate@gmail.com</a>

At the time of this writing, the Harbourmaster position is vacant. This is obviously a huge hole and one that the Board is working to fill. One way or another, the work traditionally done by the Harbourmaster must be done, or we do not have a sailing season. If you can help in any way, please reach out to any member of the Board.



## What's Going On?

Up to this point, much of the work of the Board is “behind the scenes” stuff. To date we’ve gotten a lot done:

- As in the previous two seasons, the Head Instructor position will again be a full-time employee.
- The Head Instructor and Assistant Instructor have signed on.
- Completion of the preliminary budget.
- The 2015 Calendar is set and posted to the KSC’s homepage. [Check it out!](#)
- We have agreements in place with both the YMCA/YWCA and Girl Guides to provide one-week “sailing camps”. There are four camps planned for the Y and one for the GGs.
- As per tradition, all KSC Learn-to-Sail training courses will follow the SailCanada “CanSail” program. Along with the usual adult program, this year we will offer training courses for Kids to develop the “yellow tag” program.

The next step is to get the marketing, communications and membership-drive plan in place. We will have more to say about that in the next edition of the Mainsheet.

## New Things for 2015

At last year’s Annual General Meeting, the membership approved the creation of a “yellow-tag” class of sailor. A yellow-tagger is a KSC family member between the ages of 12 and 18 with a CanSail2 certification and whose parent(s) are themselves blue-tag or red-tag member(s) of the KSC. It is expected that this sailor class will encourage more young families to join the KSC. As part of the development of the yellow-tag class, our Learn-to-Sail program will be opened up to minor aged children of family members with two Kids Learn-to-Sail sessions in addition to the three regular Learn-to-Sail sessions.

Thanks to the efforts of our Vice-Commodore Extraordinaire (Giulio), the KSC has entered into collaborations with “Sails & Shells”, a joint-venture of ROWONTARIO and Ontario Sailing, and the Ottawa River Canoe Club, which operates next door to us.

## Challenges for 2015

As has been discussed in previous years’ AGMs, declining membership is an on-going challenge for our Club. The yellow-tag sailor class, Kids-Learn-to-Sail sessions and collaboration with “Sails & Shells” are all intended to help reverse this trend. More information regarding these initiatives will be published in coming newsletters.

Did we mention that we need a Harbourmaster? 😊



## Keeping up with Goings-On at the KSC

One of the comments heard at last year's Annual General Meeting is that the Board did not communicate with the Membership as well as it could. So in addition to this regular Mainsheet newsletter, and bulk emails to all members, there are four on-line ways to keep up to date on KSC activities and programs. They are as follows:

1. KSC Web Site (club activities) - <http://kanatasailingclub.com/>
2. KSC Facebook Group (member activities) - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kanatasailing/>
3. KSC Facebook Business Page (club activities) - <https://www.facebook.com/kanatasailingclub>
4. KSC Twitter (club activities) - <https://twitter.com/KanataSailing> Twitter Handle - [@KanataSailing](https://twitter.com/KanataSailing)

## Some Sad News...

Long-time members of the Club will remember Jim and Dorothy Thompson, and their now adult children, Heather and Graham. The Thompson's (no relation to our current Commodore) were long time members of the KSC and Jim was the defacto leader of the Catamaran sailors at our Club for many years. Jim passed away two years ago and his family returned to the KSC to remember him in a place that he loved. Sadly, his daughter Heather passed away last Friday. Heather was a constant presence at the KSC with her family for many years, and she often organized and ran a "Kids Social Party" at the KSC each summer. Those who wish to can find more information [here](#).

## Pub Night!

Don't forget: March 5 at the [Big Rig on Iris](#), starting at 6:30 P.M.