



# THE CROW'S NEST

LADYSMITH YACHT CLUB

Fall 2021

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- New guidelines announced today suggest that we can gather as fully vaccinated people
- New Members' Event at the Clubhouse – date Nov 18/2021
- Next event will be for the full membership following the above protocols

To state the obvious, Covid 19 has advanced to longer term existence and could be Covid 21. Fortunately, there are now a few changes in the Public Health Orders which are intended to facilitate some openings and resuming of something closer to normal lives. It's still a concern about the case numbers on the Island, but it seems that the infection is being managed differently now. We have been talking and thinking about the impact these changes may have on LYC and resuming our social activities while observing all protocols. The following is from our discussion during our October zoom meeting:

Event start-up in the Clubhouse:

- Any event must be sign up or RSVP only; We can ask for "fully vaccinated" only attend
- With a BC Service Verifier app, we can scan for the above; this may or may not be required.
- If we limit to 40, we can hold events and people can move around, but likely masked
- After seated, mask off.



## Rob's Rant

It's been a while since I had a good rant. I mean, not verbally, those happen daily. Especially with the state of the world today, it's hard not to rant. Actually, for me, it's impossible. But on paper, it's been a while. I can't recall the last time when I actually put a rant on paper. It feels strange to sit here staring at a blank page and a blinking cursor, but as usual, I find it best to just rant in my head and write what pops into my noggin, so bear with me while my thoughts jump around from neuron to neuron in some unorganized, random pattern.

As I write this, it is a Saturday morning. Probably - no, scratch that - definitely my favorite time of the week. I imagine that this is what retirement will be like, but I'm sure there are a million contrary opinions to this from the people that actually are retired. Tomorrow is Sunday, but this weekend the usual Sunday wake up time will arrive an hour later than most Sundays. You see, our clocks go back one hour overnight tonight. I must admit, this is one of my favorite weekends out of the whole year. It is a "long" weekend, and it happens to be during my favorite time of the year. Saturday morning gain one hour, and it is autumn – quite the lovely trifecta.

But to get here we had to "spring ahead" back in March. That's my least favourite weekend of the year. Lose one hour for no good reason at all. Every year at this time, there's a lot of grumbling about going back one hour. The grumbling usually starts and ends with "but it gets dark so early, and I don't like that". Well, yes, it does get dark earlier, but that's what happens this time of the year with or without changing of the clock. Around December 21 (the shortest days of the year), sunset in Ladysmith is at 16:18 (4:18 pm for the landlubbers). If we didn't set the clocks back – meaning we stay on DST all year – the sunset would be at 17:18. Not exactly light until the cows come home. Around June 21 (the longest days of the year) sunset is at 21:24 (9:24 pm for the landlubbers). If we stayed on standard time, it would be at 20:24. Still a good amount of light well into the evening. Remember that actual darkness is about 35 to 40 minutes after sunset. That means it gets dark after 22:00 (10 pm for the landlubbers) in June. Really? Is this really needed? Who needs this? Who exactly is this helping?

The argument of the darkness happening earlier is true, but a mere 7 weeks after we turn the clocks back this weekend, the daylight is starting to get longer. So the argument of having short daylight and longer nights is not valid for very long. By the time you open up your Harbour Chandler gift certificate from under the tree and sit down with the family to gulp down a bit of Christmas turkey, the days are already getting longer.

The case for permanent standard time is echoed by many in the scientific community. During daylight

savings time, there has been notable increases in cardiac events and cancer diagnosis, worker efficiency drops, motor vehicle accidents increase, and our circadian rhythms are out of whack. The human body is biologically programmed to have more light in the morning and less in the evening. Those words are facts, not a rant. In 2011 Russia decided to switch to permanent daylight saving time. By 2014, they reversed the decision and switched to permanent standard time. Score one for the Russians.

Maybe to some, the whole idea of daylight savings time might have had merit at some point, but I still like the old adage of taking a blanket, cutting a strip off the bottom and sewing it to the top to have a longer blanket. It certainly doesn't make much sense to me. Standard time has worked for hundreds of years, if not thousands, and now, all of a sudden, our incapable politicians are qualified to improve the old ways. I don't buy it. And why just an hour? Why not two hours, so we can have daylight until almost midnight? Why not 12 hours so that we can all be on night shift? Perhaps every employer can have their own time - let's call it "worker annoyance time". It's not just one hour ahead or behind, it's whatever they want. Let's make it permanently Thursday afternoon! Why? Maybe Thursday afternoon is the most productive time of the week, so we'll just call the entire 24-hour clock "Thursday afternoon". Productivity will go through the roof!!

As you settle into the "new" (i.e., normal) time system and the changing light outside, think about it from the perspective that this is what was intended in the first place. Generations before us had the same clock cycle as standard time and it served them quite nicely. During standard time, the world progressed, children were raised, cities grew, inventions were invented, buildings were constructed, fields were ploughed, ships were built, new lands were discovered, countries were governed, and lives were lived - all without even one thought of moving the clock ahead to "make a longer blanket".

*Special thanks to Rob Smolka for contributing to the Crow's Nest! His rants were missed!*

## Upcoming Events:



## November 18, 2021 New Members' Event at the LYC Clubhouse!

***We are opening the doors and want to meet and greet our new members!***

During our October LYC Executive meeting, we learned that Dr. Bonnie Henry is allowing indoor activities to resume for those who are fully vaccinated. This led to the discussion surrounding what this means for our Club and who, what, where, and when we should start our first social event!

We thought of our new members who joined our club but never had an opportunity to meet the club's executive, committee leads, and each other since joining. Therefore, you are invited to our first social event at the LYC Clubhouse! **Drinks and Appies will be provided.**

Here are the details:

**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2021

**Location:** LYC Clubhouse, (on A dock at Ladysmith Marina)

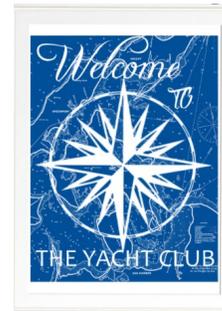
**Time:** 4 pm to 7 pm

**Other Information:** You are required to be double vaccinated and have proof of vaccination with you. When moving about the Clubhouse, please wear your mask, however, when seated, it is not required.

Since we are limited to approximately 40 people, it is necessary to have you **RSVP by Friday Nov. 12** if you will attend.

Please come and meet your Executive and share stories of the Summer. It is totally fine if you can come for some of this event, i.e., you finish work at 4:30 and can make it to the clubhouse by 5:00.

If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Tripp, Vice Commodore, at [sj\\_trippp@hotmail.com](mailto:sj_trippp@hotmail.com)



### ***Speaking of new members!***

Welcome to the following new members since June of 2021

- Mark and Shelley Evans
- Deborah Simmonds and Nolan Davis
- Gordon Williams-Freeman
- Russell and Marcy Horswill
- Les Brown
- Daniel and Susan Godin

### **Membership Update:**

As of October 17, current LYC membership records indicate the following:

- *215 club members: 212 are voting members.*
- *YTD, we have welcomed 30 new members (3 Individual memberships, 13 Family memberships) including our "first in a long time" Junior member, Beckett Evans. New member packages distributed to all.*
- *2 Honorary memberships, 8 Ambassador discounted memberships (14 members).*
- *Of those with boats, there is a fairly even split between sail and power; majority are moored in Ladysmith (roughly 2:1 at Ladysmith Marina vs LMS Community Marina); the balance moor/store at various other locations.*

- Membership is focussed on the island and surrounding areas though we also have members residing on the coastal mainland, in the Interior of BC, a contingent in Alberta & Saskatchewan, and one in Oregon.

**2022 Membership.**

- ✚ For 2022 Renewal, notices will begin mid to late November. Current year membership expires December 31.
  - Annual fee amounts remain at current rates: \$225 family, \$175 individual (as per Sept meeting).
  - The Ambassador discount remains in place; rate is \$100/qualified membership. Renewal notices will provide direction and information of qualifying criteria (unchanged).

Follow us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/LadysmithYachtClub>



*The Commodores Ball has been tentatively scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Eagles Hall. More information to come!*



**Hey LYC Boaters.**

**We're starting to plan some Rendezvous for the "2022" boating season so be sure to save the dates.**

**April 22-24- (Friday to Sunday) Maple Bay Marina.**

**May 7th (Saturday) SAILPAST**

**We've decided to switch the Sailpast to Saturday next year in order to facilitate a "weekend of boating".**

**May 20-23 - (Friday to Monday) Montague Harbour Marina....reserve your slip in advance**

**Amber the Montague Harbour Marina Manager said:**

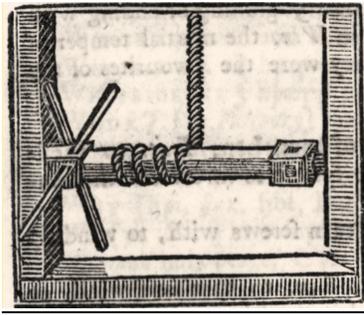
*We are now closed for the season, with odd office hours.*

*Club members may call us anytime at 250-539-5733, leave a message with their booking details (just need name, phone number, length of vessel and mention the club), and we will return their call and finish up a reservation with them when we are in office next.*

**June 16-19- (Thursday to Sunday) We are waiting to hear back from Otter Bay Marina.**

**August 30- September 2 (Tuesday to Friday) - Telegraph Harbour Marina.**

**Cheers Susan Erickson**



## **DON'T LET YOUR WINDLASS BECOME A "WIND-LESS!"**

Most boat anchoring systems will give reliable service for many years but there may come a time when you REALLY need it to work and here are some tips to help ensure it will be there when you need it.

There are 3 main factors that can cause your windlass to fail or perform badly: (1) method of use, (2) lack of maintenance, and (3) electrical system issues.

### **Method of Use**

Don't pull the boat with the windlass. It is primarily there to lift the weight of the cable and you should always drive the boat towards the anchor while recovering the rode. To aid in this, I recommend using an anchor buoy tied to the recovery point on the back of the anchor with a weighted line running through a block under it, so the buoy always stays above the anchor and you can see exactly where it is from the boat. This precaution can also enable you to pull the anchor out "backwards" if it becomes fouled.

I also recommend usually, (or at least occasionally) using a gravity drop by easing the windlass clutch while moving the boat slowly backwards rather than powering the anchor down. There may come a time when you have lost electrical power but need to get the hook down STAT and if the clutch is seized or if you have lost the operating handle or have never used it and don't know what to do, this could turn into an emergency. It also tests your clutch to ensure it releases and does not slip, so practise and train the crew on this procedure. With familiarity you may find that this method is better than powering it down in many cases.

Once you are anchored, rig a bridle back to strong cleats – don't just take anchoring load on windlass unless just stopping for lunch on a calm day.

As a quick aside, I recommend a multi-turn lashing, for example using Spectra, at the bitter end of the rode so you can release it in a hurry if needed to save the boat. That way, the many turns will spread the load but you only need to cut one turn to let it go. By the way, it IS tied on at the end, isn't it? 😞

### **Maintenance**

Unnecessary friction in the windlass system itself can dramatically slow down the mechanism and significantly increase the base current draw thus decreasing the power available to actually retrieve the



anchor. Make sure you clean off corrosion and lube or grease bearings. If you have the type of windlass that has an oil filled gearbox, when was the last time you changed the oil? Cover to protect from salt spray or this can happen.

### **Electrical**

Due to the way many windlass motors are designed, especially older ones which were basically a modified car starter motor, voltage drop will cause increased current to flow and can kill your motor. Some older motors do not even have a thermal trip and the first sign of trouble can be when it lets the smoke out ...

Voltage drop can be due to undersized or poor condition cables, cable run too far from battery, undercharged battery, or poor connections and/or corrosion at the terminals.

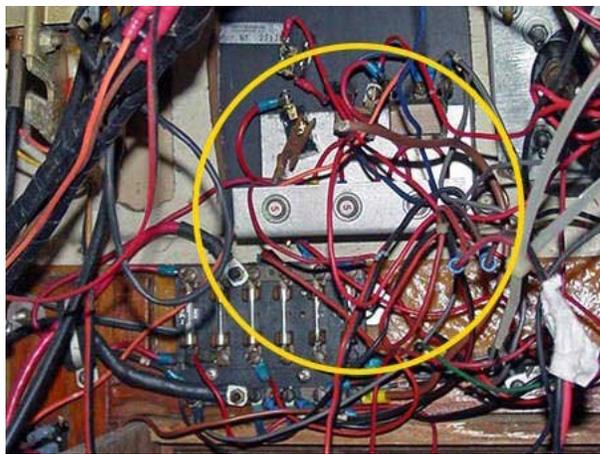
Keep all terminals clean and corrosion free and wiring neat and labelled – don't let your wiring get like this!



**GARAGE SALE**



Get 'em while you can! Hot deals from LYC members!



The windlass breaker *might* be somewhere in there?

It is important to know where the windlass breaker is and exercise it. Some are in obscure locations and you may need to find it in a hurry. It is a good idea to turn off the windlass breaker every voyage until you are ready to use it. Not only does this make you familiar with its location, but it prevents any accidents on deck if someone (especially kids) treads on the switches. It also 'wipes' the breaker contacts to keep them free and clean.

If you look after your ground tackle and windlass system, it will look after you – but neglect it at your peril!

Safe Boating!

Tim Hornett,  
White Light Marine, Oct 2021



A 12.2 lb Danforth Anchor with 34' of 5/16" chain and 224' of double braid 1/2" line for sale for \$200 for the total package. [sj\\_tripp@hotmail.com](mailto:sj_tripp@hotmail.com)

### *Summer Adventures*



I would like to tell you about the Toba Wilderness Resort, at the entry to Toba Inlet. The resort offers some spectacular views and is ideally located to enable day trips up Toba Inlet, which has few places to anchor. The resort itself has wide and stable concrete docks and the staff were waiting to take our lines and guide us to our berth, which had power and water. Ashore, we

enjoyed a visit with other boaters in the comfortable covered lounge area. Showers are included in the basic fee, along with garbage disposal and ice. There is a nice garden area to walk as well as some trails and viewpoints. A fish cleaning station is provided as well. The resort takes reservations, which is reassuring, given its remote location. Overall, we had a great visit and look forward to future trips to Toba Inlet.

Gordon Coulman, Northern Comfort



Since joining the boating community about four summers ago we had heard countless stories of the amazing scenery and adventure to be had when visiting Desolation Sound. This year, thanks in large part to persistent boating friends who took us under their wing, we were able to spend about 5 weeks enjoying a small part of this hidden gem! Biggest take-aways for our first long adventure:

- take way more dog food than you think you may need
- rafting is an excellent way to work on overall boat-walking dexterity
- even the most experienced boaters can have issues when stern tying
- enjoying fresh veggies is a luxury
- take full advantage of the bounty of the area – clams in Pendrell Sound, fresh figs from Squirrel Cove on Cortes, and oysters and spot prawns in various locations
- “Happy Hour” is a thing – embrace it!

Richard Kinar and Diane Charles, Margoletta



Prideaux Haven



Roscoe Bay



Doggies  
got to



The calm after the storm –  
Squirrel Cove Cortes Island

### *And a few more for good measure ...*

- ✚ How was the boat turned into a party boat? Through pier pressure.
- ✚ How did the wedding on the boat go? They had a ferry-tale ending!
- ✚ Why did the dolphin chase the boat? To find its porpoise!
- ✚ How do you get a good deal on the boat? When there is a sail on it.
- ✚ How to make a boat feel healthy? Just give it some vitamin sea.
- ✚ What was the name of the optometrist who came on the boat? A see captain.
- ✚ What happened when the boat carrying red paint crashed against the boat carrying blue paint? The crew got marooned.
- ✚ What kind of music do fishermen love to listen to on their boat? Pond-tunes.

Do you have a boating adventure to share with the club? Please send your contributions to Diane Charles, editor of the Crow's Nest at [dianegoodman701@gmail.com](mailto:dianegoodman701@gmail.com).

Next edition will be late December!