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The Commodore's Log

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Will this snow ever go?

As I write this (April 9th) several feet of snow still buries boats, fountains and picnic tables, and the river is still frozen over at Limi. Last year she was open in mid March, and we had our first boat in the water on April 17th!



The ramp, April 7 2001

This bodes for a late start fellow sailors, please be patient ... or sink in the mud!

Lots of wonderful things have developed at Limi this winter: here's a 'heads up' on all that's happening and new for 2001!



We're now officially a CLEAN MARINA!

We've been interviewed, examined, poked and prodded, environmentally audited and declared CLEAN!

A volunteer programme and partnership between the Provincial Government and our own Ontario Marine Operators Association encourages every marina to ensure that we're not in any way polluting the environment, and especially our waters.

Limi, ... in our typical 'stick your neck out' style was among the 35 (out of a possible 500) members of our association who voluntarily applied for the Clean Marine designation.

Our re-cycling of oils, oil filters, antifreeze, shrinkwrap and blue/black box contents, our clean and tidy grounds and workshop, tree planting and natural vegetation all contributed to our success.

We're not yet perfect however, though, (as Gillian keeps reminding you) somewhere between 'good' and 'perfect'! We'll stop short of asking you to wipe your feet and wash your hands, but there will be some additional policies in place from now on ... to get closer to perfect!

More details later, but of immediate importance are:

If you're sanding your boat you MUST either use a dustless sander or place tarps on the ground to catch the paint or varnish particles.

All antifreeze, oils, used oil filters etc coming out of your boat must be properly disposed of, or recycled. We'll do it for you at no charge regardless of whether we supplied them. Just bring it all to the workshop. Same goes for empty paint cans, rollers and brushes etc.

We now have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy regarding discharging pollutants onto the ground and into the river. If

your bilge pump is discharging oily residue into the water we'll haul your boat immediately & take action to contain and neutralize the spill ... to the point of calling the Spills Action Response Centre if it's severe enough! You'll be charged for all the work and the problem must be corrected before your craft hits the water again.

Sounds draconian? Not at all, and as most of you are already very conscientious about pollution we're not expecting to have to take any action at

Limi. If you're concerned about the condition of your bilge, we have environmentally safe bilge cleaners in stock, and 'bilge rats', absorbant socks that you can keep in your bilge to absorb all that 'orrible stuff before it hits the water! Both products sell for well under \$20.00 each, so protecting our environment isn't expensive!

Of course as usual we'll be encouraging the use of environmentally safe products for all your boating needs, most of which have been available in our chandlery for several years.

Please feel free to discuss this programme with us, More information will be made available to you as the season progresses, and you can read more about it on our website:

www.longislandmarineinc.com

Let's together help get this Rideau River water drinkable again!

NEW FACES

We're delighted to introduce you to **David Sutherland**.



David, with more than twenty years experience in the marine mechanic business, will be heading up the workshop from now on.

Dawn is thrilled (good thing they're both happily married!) to be relieved of some of her duties, and we know our workshop will be positively humming in a short time. Dave is a fully qualified marine technician, family man & fisherman whom you'll probably see catching the big ones on his days off! Did I say 'days off'? No such promises made!

And talking of 'workshop' and 'Dawn' ... you should see her expanded office!

Steve Beverley, whom you met last season, is now a full-time employee at Limi. In addition to helping Real in the yard, Steve will be doing all our contracted boat 'detailing' (cleaning, polishing, painting, antifouling, waxing, fixing etc) at prices so reasonable you won't want to do it yourself!

We're calling this new department the **'SHIP SHAPE SHOP'**

We encourage you to discuss your detailing needs with Steve, and book his services through Dawn in what we now call the 'front office'.

For 'do-it-yourselfers, check out our Chandlery stock before you buy elsewhere. Our prices are usually the lowest, and items not in stock can be obtained in twenty four hours.



YUMMY YUMMY ... !

With our usual diligent, prompt & dedicated response to our boater's requests

(!), this time from Dave & Bev of 'Sea Ya', we'll be firing up the barbeque between noon & two on spring weekends. We'll offer you hamburgers, hot dogs, sausage or chicken (thanks to Andreas of 'Le Bateau') on a bun to warm & fill your tummies as you're sanding and scraping (with tarps to catch the contaminants of course!).

Prices will be very reasonable considering the top quality of the products we'll serve.

If there is a good response to 'Gills Fills' (!) we'll continue through the summer. Follow your nose to the snack bar area beginning about the third week of April, snow permitting!

Our usual homemade Chili, Baked Beans, as well as the pizzas and pies will also be available from the freezer.

Another new programme at Limi: **LAUNCH ON DEMAND**

Outlined in our attached price list, this programme is designed for those of you who wince at the very thought of all those slimies and suckers attaching themselves to your bottoms, who don't want to take the time to tie the boat to the dock securely, or who perhaps anticipate limited use of your boat this summer.

Launch on Demand is the normal modus operandi in the US, and popular at many marinas we've visited.

CHANGES CHANGES!

Please familiarize yourself with the February 2001 Price list enclosed. As well as some minor price changes, there are some policy & price changes regarding summer trailer storage, canvas handling, pressure washing and winter haul-out to name but a few.

URBAN WANDERERS ON THE RIDEAU



On Wednesday May 23rd a group of Lakehead University students will be overnighing at Limi as part of their hiking trip from Ottawa to Kingston and their canoe trip from Kingston to

Ottawa. They are researching land & water trails in the region for an upcoming publication & website. That evening they will be making a presentation at Limi on their experiences & findings. The general public will be invited to this event, as of course are all of Limi's boaters. More details later.

BOATER'S HANDBOOK

This is the working title ('working' because that's far too serious!) for a permanent publication Gillian is putting together to explain all of Limi's amenities, events and 'rules' that keep our marina the popular place it has become. It'll be ready by launch time, and will include a reminder and instructions about our fledgling

OUTPORT

introduced only late last summer. We hope to see all of you enjoying this facility in 2001 as you stretch your navigational wings to explore all this wonderful 'Long Reach' has to offer!



Here's hoping for a wonderful, hot and sunny summer, with no rain on the weekends and all of our customers whiling away the hours simply 'messaging about in boats'!