

STARBOARD TACK Abbreviated (a.k.a Abridged; a.k.a. Lite)

Good Evening WSSC,

I hope your Christmas was wonderful and you are looking forward to a very Happy New Year. I am sending the SBT abbreviated, as our wonderful Editor, Publisher, and everything STB has tripped her way into a Hospital stay! I spoke with Frank this evening and Colleen's knee will be on the mend soon! I know our thoughts are with her and a speedy recovery!

I am secretly and selfishly wishing that Colleen is on the mend long before February's STB; as this meager attempt at a newsletter/email is all I can hope to muster and truly allows me a moment to appreciate all she does and all that those before her did!

**So... from Russell:** "Happy New Year! We can't wait to have new adventures with you!" Also there is a Cruising Meeting this Sunday, January 5, 2020 at 1:00 at Kathy & Doug's house. This is a potluck, with Kathy's World Famous Lasagna. I look forward to seeing everyone.

**From Tim:** "There's no I in CREW"

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I have been reading a book of short stories that my son bought me for Christmas- A Sailor's Tale, by Bill Robinson. Bill was an editor of Yachting magazine and a former Navy captain as well as an avid racing sailor. So, although the season is not very conducive to sailing, my thoughts are at least nautical. As I prepare to embark on my third and final year on the bridge the book gave me inspiration for the final Vice Commodore article. (or is it my first Commodore column)

I have been told that the actual "Commodore" year is the easiest of the three. I am hopeful that there is some truth to this but somehow think that this may not be the case. It is starting to dawn on me that the first two years were "training" and that now I am at the helm so to speak. From my racing and sailing experiences, I know that it is much less stressful and more enjoyable being on the rail verses behind the wheel. For instance, when during a heavy wind race and many boats are approaching the same leeward marks and on different tacks, its more exciting and interesting to see which choice the skipper is going to make than to actually be the one at the helm. And the responsibilities and costs are also much lower.

I am comforted by knowing that I will be joined on this adventure by the fabulous and well talented crew of the West Shore Sail Club. I recall Kathy Howe reminding us that other more seasoned members, who have worn many different hats at the club, are always just a phone call away. I have relied on their deep knowledge of the club's workings in the past and will surely count on their sage advice in 2020. I trust that with the assistance and hard work of others on the "USS WSSC" that we will make the upcoming year's voyage as successful and fun as always. I know that if I start to get off course, call for the wrong sail combination, or get too near a sandbar, that someone from our CREW will be there to correct the matter and keep us in deep water.

I look forward to working with the whole team including those who have volunteered to help steer the boat this year including the Vice Commodore Russel Sims, and the newly positioned Rear Commodore John Kukla.

Best Wishes to All for a prosperous and safe New Year!

Tim Lozon

PS- Thank you Commodore Lance Yee and Lady Christy for doing a fine job at the helm in 2019! Please don't think that you are off the hook just yet as I plan on calling you from the bridge throughout the season for advice as situations appear on the horizon!

**Reminders-** WSSC 2019 Racing Boat of the Year- Applications for both the Spinnaker and Jam BOTY are due in by January 21, 2020. The forms can be found online at- [westshoresailclub.org](http://westshoresailclub.org).

Email to [tlozon@ameritech.net](mailto:tlozon@ameritech.net) or snail mail to Tim Lozon, 3388 Norwood Dr. Trenton, MI 48183"

**From Me: "Happy New Year !!!**

These last three years have been an awesome experience for Christy and I; being a flag officer has had its privileges as we have been welcomed into so many clubs. We have had a lot of fun meeting so many people from clubs and forming some new friendships.

I would like to say thank you to Tim and Russell for doing such a great job this year. I'm sure you will do great in the years to come. Thank you, PC Doug, Rick, and Angela for your support this year. I would also like to thank Colleen for editing the Starboard Tack and Karen and Ball Committee for their hard work. Thank You Matt for jumping into Activities Chair, Christy and I loved the Orchestra the best! I know my list of thank you's is much longer; please know that I appreciate every volunteer, every member who offered their support and am humbled to say that over the last three years, no call for assistance was ever ignored.

Lady Christy, thank you for your support during these crazy three years.

Keep a look out for information on our winter "cruises;" Renee has many exciting outings planned.

Smooth Sailing,

Lance"

**And Last, but certainly not Least, as he will be in Command in 2 years and a few days... From John:** "From the Rear Commodore Elect.

Happy New Year and best wishes to all!

2020 promises to be an exciting year for Ana and I, and I hope the entire club. I am grateful the membership has the confidence in me to elect me as the new Rear Commodore.

As many of you know, Ana and I are quite new to sailing (or really anything related to the lakes). When we joined WSSC I had no idea I would be sitting on the bridge in a year. I have to confess I'm still

discovering all that comes with the position, but I trust the club will not let me fail. I could use some help with suggestions for monthly speakers or presenters. I don't have a lot of history of who presented in the past, or what topics would be of interest to the group.

I am excited about being the Cruising Chairman; we had a lot of fun participating in last season's cruises and I want to make this year's season even better. In the End of Year Cruising meeting/party there was some talk about cruises up the Detroit River and beyond. That works well for Ana and I as it is one of the things on our personal checklist (right below "get another sailboat").

It seems every time Ana and I get out on the lake we experience a "first" on some kind, and it is nice to have this club and group of experienced sailors to give us the confidence to keep going and learn more.

If you are interested in the cruising destinations for this season, the cruising committee will be firming those up at our next meeting, scheduled for January 5, 2020. It will be at Doug and Kathy Howe's house. Time and directions can be found elsewhere in the SBT.

After that, it's off to the Chicago boat show, "just window shopping", but I will confess, even in the wintertime, I miss not owning a boat and having something to be studying and planning and preparing for the sailing season."

John Kukla