

Rear Commodore: Dave Hudson

The 2006 boating season got off to a wet start bringing high water and flooding to the boat park. This flooding was to plague us all year.

Two new 16' dock sections were constructed according to our long-range waterfront plan. This plan calls for continuous renewing of dock based on a fifteen year life-span for dock components. With the retirement of another old ten foot section, we had a net gain of 22' of dock. Spring of 2007 will most likely see the retirement of at least one old 16 foot dock and perhaps another ten footer.

Deployment of the docks went smoothly with the rental of a Caterpillar skid-steer loader, equipped with both a bucket and forks. A lifting beam was employed to lift and carry dock sections from the boat park to the water. The use of this machine greatly decreases the time and effort required to install and remove our docks.

As a result of the high water early in the year, the shore end of the R/C dock floated off its footing and drifted out towards the lake, pivoting on its anchors. This only happens after a long day of racing, after everyone has left for the day; and although was not difficult to restore, it was bothersome to those who were still on-site and had to fix it.

About late July, a extremely intense thunderstorm passed over the club and blew all three docks out of place. This was a major problem which required a work party and most of a Saturday to put everything back where it belonged. My thanks to all who came out to help on short notice.

Late in the season, falling lake levels resulted in the anchor chains going slack allowing movement of the R/C dock South, closing the channel between the docks. Since more races were scheduled, the dock and anchors were reset into their proper position again, hopefully for the last time.

Weeds continue to be problematic this season.

Prior to the docks out work party six loads of crushed stone were delivered and spread out along the boat park roadway and in the lower-most area of the boat park. While this amount of stone is not sufficient to cure flooding problems, it will help. Additional stone is planned as the budget allows. Stone is laid down in the Fall so that some amount of settling and compaction will occur over the winter months, yielding a firmer surface in the spring.

The docks out work party went quickly with the rental of the skid-steer loader. Sections were carefully stacked in the boat park for the winter. All the motor boats were stored and the chain hoist removed for the season.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Hudson