

The Shipyard School has been in the process of appealing the suspension and loss of its Registration since August 2011. Since that time, we have been unable to offer any courses, attempt to communicate with potential students and, most importantly, raise any revenue from our primary source of income, student fees.

Attempts to re-instate our Registration (which is a statutory requirement to operate) are still not resolved in spite of our formal appeal of December 23, 2011 against this action by Private Career Training Institutions Agency (PCTIA).

The Silva Bay Shipyard School Society is a registered charity which has been in existence since 1998 and has graduated some one hundred and fifty students from the six month Wooden Boat Building and three month Ships Cabinetry and Joinery programs. The majority of student fee revenue goes to cover material costs and instructor salaries. Course fees have not increased since 2000 and are no longer sufficient to support a paid management structure. Since the beginning of 2010, the Shipyard School has been administered by volunteer effort on the part of active Board Members to meet this shortfall.



Silva Bay Shipyard School Society Status as of May 2012



The Board wish to assure the community that we are looking at a number of options to keep the facility in Silva Bay open. Looking to the future, we may well be better served by changing the focus from "school" to some form of "community facility", where like-minded people who are interested in wooden boats are able to develop their skills and effectively use the resources in a community environment.



One of the projects that we wish to pursue is the development of a Restoration Program. This had its origins in the acquisition of the U&L, a thirty two foot Troller, which was incorporated into the Ships Cabinetry and Joinery program for the last two years. Students were able to take skills developed in the workshop to a real vessel and apply them in the form of hatches, doors, etc. Rather than repeat these projects, the original student work forms a permanent part of the restoration of the U&L. The vessel has been sold on to a caring owner in an effort to raise money for a replacement project vessel.

The Stella Maris V was donated to the Shipyard School in 2011 as a follow-on restoration project. This vessel has significant pedigree in the local racing community and offers a broader range of projects to be accomplished with one of the end goals being to provide adventure sailing opportunities for community groups.

Support for the Stella Maris project might include a small group of like-minded individuals who would be prepared to provide the required financial support for the restoration in return for the opportunity of on-going personal use of the restored vessel.

A second, less desirable option, would be an outright sale of the Stella Maris V to an individual committed to a proper restoration of the vessel.

We are open to suggestions and wish to identify individuals from the community who believe in the society and would be willing to donate their time and effort to help keep the facility running. Volunteering your time to work on the Stella Maris project will provide an opportunity to learn and practice restoration techniques.

If you are interested in providing support please let us know using the contact information on the back of this brochure.

