

Yacht leaves Penetang to cross Atlantic

Rudy Wagner has gone sailing. He will be back next year.

The 55-year-old owner-operator of Dutchman's Cove Marina, and three customers crewing for him, left Penetanguishene Bay last week on their way to the Mediterranean by way of the Azores.

After summering in the Mediterranean, the 41-foot ketch Lulu III will take part in the Atlantic Cruise Race, from the Canary Islands to Barbados.

Each of the three crew members is a customer of the eight-year-old marina. Mark Boesner has just graduated from university with a degree in music. Angus Robertson is a

retired engineer. Retired chef Ewald Newjahr is the cook for the voyage.

The voyage is a trip of a lifetime for Wagner, who has turned the derelict foundry on Penetanguishene's Fox Street into a fully-occupied 155 slip sailboat marina.

When Wagner arrives in the Mediterranean, by way of the Azores and Portugal, he will look for the captain who sailed the 1914 Swedish cargo sailer Elda to Dutchman's Cove Marina. Wagner's voyage the other way across the Atlantic is — in a way — acceptance of a challenge.

The Lulu III, built in 1977, has been refurbished. Along with new sails and the latest in electronic gear

are two 38-inch by 17-inch solar panels, designed to power all of the electronic equipment installed on the two-masted yacht.

Wagner expects to be in

the Mediterranean by the end of July. Passage time from Newfoundland to the

Azores is 12 to 14 days, and from the Azores to Portugal, 10 to 12 days. June

and July are the best months during which to cross the Atlantic.



Atlantic crossing

Captain of the Lulu III, Rudy Wagner, right, sorts rope on deck last Wednesday as he and his crew of three readied the yacht for a

trans-Atlantic crossing. The Lulu III will spend the summer in the Mediterranean and the coming winter in the Caribbean. Wagner

is the owner-operator of Dutchman's Cove Marina.

Town says no need for a tie

Men in Midland who need an excuse for not wearing a tie in July or August can say, "the Midland town council said I don't have to wear one."

For the fourth year, Midland council has supported a suggestion of Don McNee. The manager of the local Canada Employment Centre annually writes to Midland council to request that July and August be designated 'tie-less' months in the town.

"During the summer months our area receives

many visitors who dress in all kinds of comfortable attire. I do not feel that they would be offended to be served in a store, an office, a restaurant by a person not wearing a tie," McNee said in his letter.

"For the past three summers this event has been welcomed by the men of the community who usually wear ties as a part of their regular dress. I am sure that they enjoy the relief that comes from going tie-less during the summer months."

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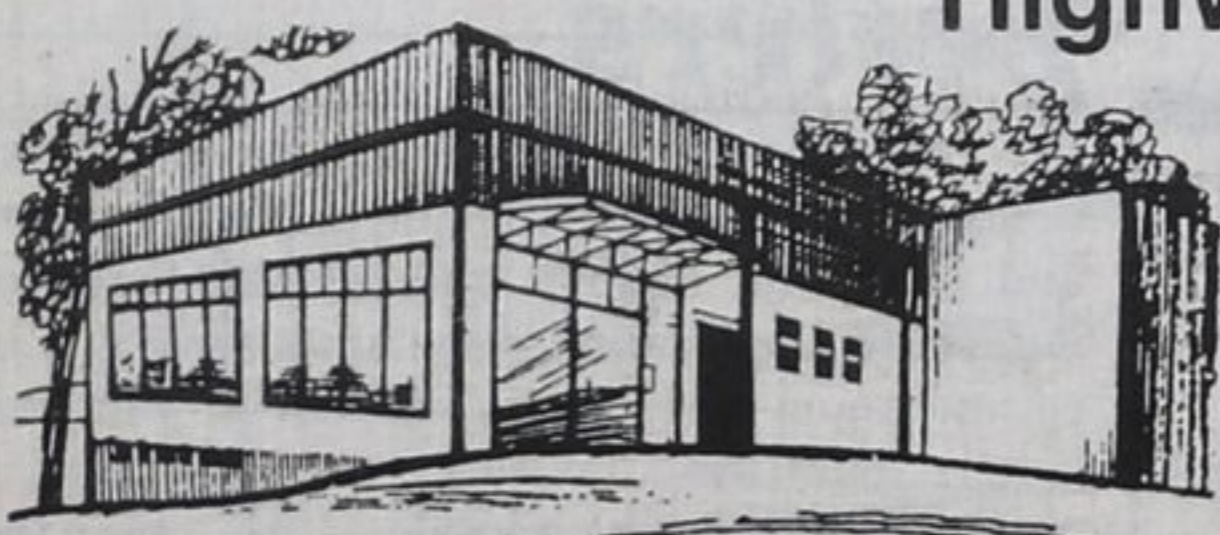
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