

Nose for a new one

Sarnia man helps bring replica ship to life

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PORT LAMBTON — The ship that's as Canadian as maple syrup is being brought to life in Port Lambton, albeit on a smaller scale.

The Blue Nose Jr., a schooner one-tenth the size of the world-famous Blue Nose, is going to spend the next year at Done-Rite Restorations in an effort to make it look as ship-shape as the image that adorns the Canadian dime.

Owner Alann Aylard of Sarnia said restoring the mini-Blue Nose is a lifelong dream.

Boat with pedigree

"I was looking for a boat that has a pedigree ... and that boat has pedigree," Aylard said.

The boat has spent the last year and a half at the Sarnia Yacht Club undergoing small repairs.

It was designed by William J. Roue, the same man who designed the Blue Nose and the Blue Nose II.

He only designed three of the smaller replicas, including Aylard's, with all three still existing today.

Showing it off

When Aylard's boat is finished he hopes to show it off locally.

"It will be going to shows. Different events in the area," he said.

While it will be smaller, Aylard said when his boat is finished it will look like the Blue Nose.

"It will look very close to it," he said.

Aylard bought the boat from someone in Maryland who was living on it at the time two years ago. He said the owner was vaguely aware of the ship's Canadian roots.

"He figured only a Canadian would buy it," Aylard said.

Getting the boat back to looking like the Blue Nose will take time.

"It will be a life project," Aylard said.



Allan Aylard of Sarnia stands beside the hull of his boat which is a replica of the world-famous Blue Nose.

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