

THE WINDSONG

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WESTERN CAROLINA SAILING CLUB

Hartwell Lake, Anderson, SC

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FROM THE COMMODORE

On March 3rd we held our 55th Annual Commissioning Day. We had 16 Past Commodores present, led by 1971 Commodore Bill Sloger. It was a beautiful day with the colors presented by the Westside High School ROTC. The National Anthem was sung by Jack Ludena, an 8th grade student from McCants Middle School. JoAnn Ashmore read the poem "The Journey2" by Tom Krause and Steward Jim Snowden "Blessed the Fleet". With that, I had the honor and privilege of announcing, "Let the 2018 Sailing Season Begin!" Past Steward Keat Pruszenski fired the final cannon and everyone proceeded to enjoy refreshments and a variety of heavy hors d'oeuvres while taking time to visit with old and new friends.

As you will see elsewhere in this Windsong, we are working to improve the look and functionality of the front end of our website. Mathew Burns and Tyler Mink have volunteered and teamed up to work on this project. Although the backbone of the website will remain the same, over time the appearance and friendliness will be greatly improved. Bear with us as we go through the transition and respond to Matthew and Tyler when they contact you for your input and updating of content. Also there has already been more content and write-ups of events. Take the time to go to the website and read what has been going on.

As I write this article the lake level is at 658.82 up almost 9 feet since January 8th. If you have not checked on your equipment recently, I recommend you do so. At a minimum you may have a cockpit full of water if your scuppers are clogged with leaves or other debris.

As I relayed in the January Windsong, our US Army Corps of Engineers lease is up for renewal in September of this year. On Monday March 5th, I received some really good news as I opened an envelope which contained our proposed lease with the Corps of Engineers for the next 10 years. It is hard to believe our lease was actually reduced by \$10,300 per year effective September 15, 2018. Our new lease for the next 10 years will be \$48,200 per year beginning on September 15, 2018. This is a big sigh of relief and good news for the club as we go forward in our planning for the next 10 years.

During the past few months we have had some very successful events. The **Annual Banquet** on January 20th at Hospice of the Upstate was a very enjoyable evening and Anna Kay did an outstanding job. The food was very good, music was enjoyable, and the awards program went smoothly. Rick Fontenot had another masterful slide show choreographed to music. We had about 75 attendees. Curt Rubinstein received the 2017 Marlinspike. The **Chili Cook-off** on February 3rd was again a great evening with about 65 people attending. Chili #5 was hot, hot, hot, very hot!! The **WCSC Race Management Course** on February 10th, taught by John Kreidler, had over 25 attendees and covered the basics of race management. John did an excellent job. The **Frostbite Racing Series** was the hit of the winter season culminating with the Bud Light Cup on February 24th. Trophies were handed out to the first two places in each fleet. In the Cruising Fleet, Curt Rubinstein was first and Ben Gibson was second. In the Keelboat Fleet, Ronnie Ashmore was first and George Masson was second. Many thanks to Tim Crane for organizing the Bud Light Cup and the entire Frostbite Series where he cooked soup or chili for everyone after each race. Thanks to Jeremy Marsh and his crew for preparing and serving the low country boil. Thanks to Rick Fontenot for preparing the race course charts, the pursuit start tables, and the race day start time for each boat that showed up to race on that day. Also a big thanks to each of the PRO's and their race committee for volunteering to support the Frostbite events; and to all the skippers that braved the weather, many single handed, to come out and play with their fellow frostbiters. Be sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming events shown on the back page of this Windsong. Specifically plan to attend/support the May 5th Diva Regatta for the benefit of Safe Harbor.

The updated Lease Agreement form, Statement of Insurance form, and Boat-Trailer-Equipment Registration List forms continue to slowly trickle in from the membership, but we are still a long way from having this project complete. Thanks to the members that have completed their forms and returned them. For the rest, let's get it done sooner rather than later. It is time to go sailing and not spend time trying to run down the forms we are missing. Thank you in advance for doing your part.

To repeat my closing in the last Windsong, look for your 2018 Officers and Stewards who are listed on the back of this Windsong. Should you have any issues, ideas, concerns, or questions please contact one of us. We all volunteered to serve the club and its membership because we are interested in sustaining and improving WCSC. The way to accomplish that is for the membership to communicate to us its needs and concerns. Please do not hesitate to do so. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the club in the upcoming months!

Ronnie Ashmore, 2018 WCSC Commodore
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From the Vice Commodore

The Vice Commodore, Tim Crane, was very busy with numerous projects and water based activities around the club during the first quarter, especially the organization and coordination of the winter frostbite series and its finale, the Bud Light Cup. Unfortunately, on Saturday February 23rd, the date of the Bud light Cup, Tim tripped over the tongue of the boat trailer while helping me launch *Spirit* to race in the Bud Light Cup. The fall created a call to 911 and resulted in a broken left hip and left hand. Tim had surgery to patch everything back together and after a recovery period, he was moved to a rehab center for very intense physical therapy. On Tuesday March 13th, we held our Board of Stewards meeting at the rehab center and Tim was his usual self, intimately involved in the management and concerns of the club and its members. On Friday March 16th, he was released, and he returned to the club hoping to recuperate there. After a couple of days, much to his disappointment, he discovered that the physical challenges were more difficult than he expected as he is not allowed to put any weight on his leg. He decided it was best to return to his home in Mountain Rest and for the time being, continue his recovery there. I am sure that he will be back at the club soon to be with his friends and his club family. In the meantime, please stay in touch with him by text, phone, or email - (770) 617-0193 or tcrane29664@gmail.com. He would love to hear from you.

From the Rear Commodore

Hello again from the 2018 Rear Commodore! Well here it is March already and I'm still figuring all of this out. That being said, we have been pretty busy so far. The good news is, I've met many of you already and I am very confident we will have a productive year.

We had Work Day #1 on March 3 and with the help of 25 members, we got the clubhouse and surrounding grounds ready for Commissioning Day. We also accomplished several other projects including building 2 benches, cleaning up some debris piles, fixing the ramp to the clubhouse, fixing the ramp to the catamaran beach and several other projects that needed attention. A very large thanks to all that attended! Have no fear, I have a very long list of things that still need attention! I had every intention of taking some pictures of the day for this article, but you can see how that worked out. Hopefully next time.

We have a fairly ambitious list of projects to accomplish this year. The Board approved the 2018 budget at the February meeting giving approval for almost everything we wanted to accomplish. A partial list follows:

- Remove stumps
- Regrade area in front of club
- Construct a holding tank pump out
- Rewire some of the camper village
- Landscape the entrance
- Build a screening fence
- Install water spigots at certain locations in the Camper Village
- Among others...



There is plenty to do to keep us busy. And, as I'm quickly learning, the club is just like my house: just as soon as you finish one project, three others pop up. I'm sure you can all relate! Our next workday is scheduled for April 21 and I look forward to seeing a bunch of you then. In the meantime, I will be reaching out for a couple of special workdays to work on the fence and landscaping. Again, all of these count toward your fairshare hours.

I look forward to meeting more of you, working with you and of course, sailing with you this year. If you need to get in touch with me with questions, comments or anything else, feel free to reach out.

John Barnard
Jdbarnard22@gmail.com

Welcome to New Members

By Spencer Mathews

Sandra and Ed Eudy joined us at an orientation meeting on February 17, 2018 at the clubhouse. Both have sailed before, but they describe themselves as beginner to intermediate. They have a Catalina 25, sail #1874 that they purchased from previous members, the Burgesses. It's a kind of homecoming for Sandra (nee Nicholson) because she grew up in the club. She recalls sailing dinghies which could capsize. Soooo, even though the new boat won't capsize, they're thinking of naming her *Tipsy* because her heeling reminds Sandra of some of her earlier experiences. They'll be on a mooring for awhile, but have chosen to add their name to the slip waiting list. Ed is a professor at Greenville Tech and Sharon teaches in Anderson County School District 5. They have a grown son, Christian, and a grandchild who, I expect, we will get to see in Junior Sail Camp. Their sponsors are Dan Marett and I.

Ain't it great that the lake's coming back up? She's only three feet below full pond as I write this. See you on the water. Make sure that Sandra and Ed know we're happy to have them with us.



Sandra and Ed

Keelboat Fleet

The 2018 Spring season began on March 4 with a distance race. "A" Fleet attempted a race from S20 to 26TS and return. "B" Fleet and the lone Cruiser attempted to race to S6 and return to S20. Shortly after the race started, the initially promising 8-10 mph breeze out of the northwest, began to die. It eventually returned at 4-5 mph out of the west, shifting to the southwest. All the fleets races were shortened at S10 on their return portion.

Congratulations to John Gulyas sailing with Eric Seymour on a Holder 20 for their first place in B Fleet. Winning over Mike Harrison and Paul Harder is not a small matter. Also, congratulations to team *White Rabbit* for a victory in A Fleet. Chuck Ballew was in the hunt until he added S2 to the course, mistaking it for S6. A GPS with an accomplished operator is very helpful in the distance races. We were glad to have Ben Gibson sailing with us as a cruiser on his Cal 9.2.

The Keelboat Fleet races 12 days per year, 6 days in a spring season from March to June and 6 days in a fall season from September to November. The initial spring and final fall race days are scheduled as distance events around government buoys. On the other days, 3 races around inflatable marks are scheduled with an intended duration of 45 minutes each. At 11:30 am, we have the competitors' meeting in the main parking lot and discuss the plans for the day. The warning signal for the first race is planned for 1:00 pm with the other two races following ASAP. No race will be started after 4:30 pm. After the races, we gather at the Tiki Bar at the head of D dock for snacks, refreshments (adult beverages provided and curated by the Fleet Beverage Consultant), scores, and "stories."

Our fleet by-laws and sailing instructions can be found on the club website under "Club Documentation> Keelboat Fleet Documentation." We sail under US Sailing's Performance Handicap Racing Formula (PHRF) where inherently faster boats (based on design, not skill) are handicapped against those that are not so inherently fast. We sail in two classes - "A" and "B" - with the "A Class" being those with a PHRF rating of 189 or lower and the "B Class" boats having a rating of 190 or higher. Rating adjustments are made for sailing without a spinnaker if desired. Boats kept in the water receive a rating adjustment for that disadvantage too.

If you have any interest in racing or just improving your sailing skills by comparing your performance with others, our fleet is a great way to get started. The racing is generally low-key with a minimum of "discussion" on the water. If you own a keelboat, come out on a race day and give it a try. If you like it, you can join later.

Steve Kiemele (rhymes with Emily)
2017 Keelboat Fleet Captain
J70 #345 *White Rabbit*
skiemele@hartcom.net
404 983-6095

The 2018 Around Andersonville Island Race

Join us Saturday, June 9th for the Around Andersonville Island Race. This year's race will follow a similar format to previous year's races, with skippers sailing around Andersonville Island, either single-handed or with crew.

We plan to employ a pursuit start. There will be prizes in three classes: Dinghies, Racing Keelboats and Cruising Keelboats, with a special prize for the first boat to cross the finish line single-handed.

Come for a great day of racing and join us in the clubhouse immediately after the race for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and the presentation of awards.

Contact Steve or Susan Ruark with any questions at choptanksteve@hotmail.com or wscsecretary@gmail.com.



Cruiser's Corner!

by Tim Crane



The Frostbite Regatta averaged 6.25 boats per race, with an average crew participation of over 12. Cyril Guerin dominated the series in *Jus' Chillin*, solo sailing most events. In the Bud Light Cup, Ronnie Ashmore won in the Racing Fleet on *Spirit*, the Etchells owned by Ed Sherman. He was accompanied by Dennis Fisher and Ed Sherman as rail meat. Curt Rubenstein won the Cruising Fleet on *Hang On Sloop*, with crew Marvin Brinn and Bruce Elhert. Upcoming Events:

| | | |
|----------|------|--|
| April 7 | 1100 | Spring Fling Waldrops Lakeside Dinner Cruise |
| April 21 | 1200 | Cruising Fleet Outing with Cookout at the Club |
| April 28 | 1200 | Cruising Fleet Event (details TBA) |
| May 12 | 1100 | Inspiring Sailors Cruise |
| May 26 | 1100 | Pre-Memorial Day Party Cruise |
| June 2 | 1200 | Pirate's Day with Dinner on the Island |
| June 23 | 1200 | Cruising Fleet Event (details TBA) |
| June 30 | 1200 | July 4th Red, White and Blue Cruise |



Centerboard Fleet

By Eric Seymour

At the time of this writing the Centerboard Fleet had its annual meeting and the first races of the season. As seen in John's report on the races we actually had breeze and got off some good racing. I have been sailing since I was eight but I didn't start racing until about a year and a half ago. Last year I started traveling with a loaner boat and found out how much fun it is to race when you have a lot of other boats to compete against. When I started to skipper my own boat I was afraid to get into the mix of the start; all I wanted to do was stay out of the way and just finish. Now with many races and several regattas under my keel my crew and I are up there in the mix and are really enjoying the challenge. We had nine boats on the water for the first day of racing. That was great! As I walk around the yard at the club I see a lot more boats that have the potential to join us. I saw Thistles, Y-Flyers, MCs, Lasers, Force Fives, Precisions, Highlanders, and at least five catamarans that could join us and make it an awesome party on the water. By the way, we have two multi-hulls that join us every race day. I guess my call is to parents and grandparents to get your kids off the computers, video games and phones and out in the fresh air on the lake and make some memories that will last for the rest of your lives. I think if the kids of today could see how much fun that could be had by racing and traveling, meeting new and interesting people in the sailing world, they would be sold for life.

The sailing today is better than it ever has been with all the new technology that has been brought to sailing. We sail faster, farther and safer than we have ever before. Now is a fantastic time to be a sailor and I am looking forward to what will unfold this year. We have a lot of cool things planned for the Centerboard Fleet; all we need is you on the water with us to make it more fun. If you don't know how to race, that's ok, we have a lot of people willing and able to help you get involved. Sailing is my passion and I want to share it with as many people as I can. See you on the water and in the wind.

Eric Seymour
Centerboard Fleet Captain
eseymour@lockworkslc.net



2018 Blessing of the Fleet

By Steward Jim Snowden on Commissioning Day

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe.
You created all that is.

We stand in awe at the complexity and beauty of your creation.

We ask for your guidance in being better stewards of your creation.

We offer thanks to you for the earth, our island in the vastness of space; our country, still that beacon of light in a troubled world; and especially this beautiful place on the shore of Lake Hartwell.

We thank you for the opportunity to gather with friends, family, and others who share a love of sailing.

We ask your blessing on this place.

We ask your blessing upon all of the boats and those who sail in them.

We ask your blessing on our club leadership; Ronnie, Tim and John.

We ask your blessing on all of those gathered here to inaugurate a new sailing season.

In the coming year, grant us incredible sunrises and sunsets, mysterious cloud formations, enough wind to propel those who depend upon sails to gracefully navigate, and when we are on the waters at night, more stars than we can count.

We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

2018 STEM Program with Pickens County 2nd Graders

by Ronnie Ashmore

As you may or may not know, the STEM Program with Pickens County 2nd Graders will not be able to visit WCSC this year due to lack of funding for transportation for the school buses. We have been working with their leadership and at this time they have had a positive response from a couple of schools interested in WCSC bringing boats out and/or running stations at the school. McKissick Elementary in Easley and Ambler Elementary in Pickens are both interested. Forest Acres is interested in possibly having us come to a STEM Night. We are currently working directly with each of those schools to develop a program that we can take on the road to support their STEM program for the 2nd graders. We should know something shortly as to what they are specifically looking for and as to what we feel like we can support. Stay tuned, as soon as we know dates and scope, we will be seeking volunteers to help make this happen.

2018 Diva Regatta to Benefit Safe Harbor - Empowering Women both On and Off the Water

Registration is open!!

On May 5, WCSC will be hosting our annual Diva Regatta to benefit Safe Harbor. Over the last 5 years, this event has raised more than \$16,000 for Safe Harbor, which provides a continuum of services for victims of domestic violence and their children. They also strive to eliminate cultural acceptance of domestic violence through a coordinated community response, prevention and education. The aim is to influence a culture where all people are safe and valued in their relationships.



Along with having the distance course, requiring a female at the helm, we will be adding a separate fleet where there must simply be a female participating on the boat. This will be a distance course also and these fleets will likely have the same start, but will be scored separately. On Saturday, after the sailing, we will have raffles, appetizers, dinner (please rsvp for the dinner), and awards. Sunday we will have brunch, and for those who can stay and play, we will have some more sailing opportunities.

You and/or your company are invited to participate in this year's event through sponsorship contributions. We have designed several sponsorship levels to allow you to participate in the regatta activities while supporting a great cause. Participating as a sponsor is a great way to provide exposure for your company. We would be honored to count you as a supporter of Safe Harbor!

If you have any donation items/sponsorships and/or questions, please contact Dacia Schrecengost, 2018 Regatta Chairman at [864-365-6087](tel:864-365-6087) or dacia.schrecengost@gmail.com or visit our Diva Regatta page on the club website.

PAINTING THOSE CHAIRS - AGAIN?

By Tom Hill

Last year I took on the job of refurbishing the Adirondack chairs from the WCSC deck. Over the summer I took home two chairs at a time and, when the weather and my inclination allowed, I worked on them in front of my detached garage/shop. It was a slow process, as I removed the screws, replaced some bad wood and fasteners, and added glue to all the joined surfaces. Then I sanded, primed, and painted each chair, turning them over and over to finish the process. So the chairs came and went for several months.

While working on the last set (for 2017) I commented to my neighbor, a contractor, about the project. Looking relieved, he told me that he had wondered if he should offer some help because he had seen me painting those same two chairs - repeatedly - all summer! It turns out the entire neighborhood thought the same thing! At least this year, as I finish the project, they will know better.

WEBSITE REFRESH

By Tyler Mink and Matthew Burns

Like all aspects of our club that need periodic maintenance and renewal, our online presence requires upkeep to ensure that it continues to present WCSC in the best possible manner. Throughout the next several months, the club website will be refreshed to update content, images, and the overall look and feel. This will include transitioning to a simpler menu format and moving items to streamline the site.

Committee Chairs, Fleet Captains, and other page owners: We will be sending you the text, photographs, and other information that is currently listed for your area. Please review these items and return them to us as soon as possible.

Historical Images: We would like to include some photographs from the club's early days. If you have images that you would be interested in sharing, please let us know. A high quality digital scan would be best, or we can make other arrangements.

Current Images: One of the best ways to market the club is to ensure that visitors see a vibrant, engaged organization. If you have photographs from recent events that would help tell our story, please share these as well.

Above all, our goal is to help our website work for the club, attracting new prospects and serving current members. If you have any questions or concerns, or images to share, please contact us at wscwebsite@gmail.com.

2018 Annual Corps of Engineers Lease Compliance Inspection

By Ronnie Ashmore

Notice! On Thursday April 26th at 0830, we have our annual Corps of Engineers inspection of our club grounds and facilities. Please help us get/keep the club in shape for this inspection. Specifically:

- Pick up any trash or other debris around your boat, camper, or around the club in general.
- Any member with gas cans outside of their camper, boat, or just sitting on the ground, please remove the gas cans from the club or put them inside a properly ventilated containment box/shed.
- General housekeeping and cleaning of any vessels or other equipment you have at the club.

1969 Financial Challenges

The 50% increase in dues that was overwhelmingly approved in August seemed to be the best way to fund expanded club needs, but as Commodore Art Menke and his board began to forecast and construct a 1969 budget they realized that an unexpected problem was underway, one that would require board attention all year long.

The dues increase began on January 1, and so did resignations. By February there were 15 resignations which decreased membership from 94 to 79. The result was enormous, because not only was dues revenue severely decreased, but with these resignations came the club's responsibility to refund 75% of the initiation fees, based on the initiation fee in effect at the time of resignation. Members were assured of this when a Financing and Operating Plan was adopted on December 28, 1965. At the time, initiation fees were considered to represent a member's stake in "owners' equity" and the refund provision was used to encourage the recruitment of members. The fee was roughly determined by annually dividing the number of members into the net worth of the club.

At a time when Corps rent was increased because of leases of the peninsula and the on-going debt to Anderson Savings and Loan, Peoples National Bank and notes to members, there were also ambitious plans to hire and house a caretaker and to fund an expansion and enclosure of the clubhouse. All together, these elements would cause an unexpected revenue shortfall.

The Board had to develop a plan to stop the bleeding. There was a clear understanding of the problem and optimism about its solution, but the problem would linger on into 1970.

The Regatta Committee was very busy in 1969. Bill Sloger was chair of this committee which included club races, special races and the Open Regatta. There were 37 events, including club races, fleet regattas, the Club Championship, and the fourth WCSC Open Regatta. With Cal Reed acting as subcommittee chair, the Open Regatta was held on August 23 and 24 with 109 boats participating. Skippers from both DIYRA and SAYRA clubs again showed their support. Club racing was active that year and there were many novices; rules infractions were common and racers were encouraged to become familiar with the NAYRU Racing Rules. The Lightning Fleet was the largest and most active with 15 boats participating. During the year, with 25 club races on the schedule, Lightnings averaged 6.9 boats on the line. In October, the Thistles had their first "Bloody Mary" regatta. Thirty-four boats were registered from as far away as Raleigh, NC and Miami, FL. Club Championship races were sailed in Lightnings that year and Bill Sloger became the new Club Champion.

1969 was a disappointment for Junior Sailing. Activity in the Junior Sailing Club was decreasing and due to a lack of interest, Junior Racing and the Junior Sailing Class were cancelled. Consequently, most of the Junior Activities budget and energy were used for constructing a play area that included a play-pen, a swing and a slide.

Concern persisted about the Club's financial position, although recruitment of new members was fairly successful with 12 new members joining through July. This was great but it would not offset the responsibility to refund initiation fees for resignations, which by mid-July there were over 20 who were owed about \$2500 in refunds. Throughout the year there were debates, recommendations and conversations about how to solve the problem and whether initiation fee refunds should be discontinued. There was an abundance of input but opinions varied. The Finance Committee even made three recommendations, all of which were rejected by the Board. There were also suggestions to request that resignees make a gift of their refund to the club. Proposals were made but there was no consensus, yet the Board had to prioritize. So on June 30 the Board approved a refund of initiation fees to the ten oldest resignations and to authorize refunds to each remaining resigned member as a new member was admitted. Also, it was unanimously approved to no longer refund initiation fees to new members accepted after July 1, 1969, affirming that initiation fees would have no implied relationship to club ownership. Two months later the board decided to set aside an escrow of \$2000 to be increased periodically for club debts.

Meanwhile, plans continued underway to hire a fulltime caretaker. The Corps had even approved the placement of a mobile home on the island for a caretaker and his family. But due to budget uncertainty, the Board agreed to delay this project until the budget was balanced.

The Membership Committee and new member recruitment became more important. In a report to the Commodore, Tom Bates revealed that during the past three years 70 members had resigned and only 55 had joined for net loss of 15. The booth at the Sportsman Show at Textile Hall and an Open House for those who expressed an interest took on a critical importance. This first Open House was for invited prospects only, with the list including other names submitted by club members. A cocktail party for new members was held in May.

The Annual Meeting was held on November 3 at the Charcoal Steak House in Greenville. At this meeting the by-laws were again revised, this time to provide, with other "cleanup" items, that the elected flag officers take office at the beginning of the calendar year rather than immediately after the annual meeting, and the number of Stewards was reduced from eight to six with two elected each year for a term of three years. Officers elected were: Commodore, Art Menke; Vice Commodore, Morris Clayton; Rear Commodore, Bill Sloger; Secretary, Al Wilson; Treasurer, Devar Burbage. As the meeting concluded, a question arose about plans to install a flag pole. Previously there had been an investigation into acquiring and placing a flag pole and it was decided the project was too costly. At this annual meeting a motion was made to initiate a "Flag Pole Fund" to be funded by member donations (The 1968 report in the Q1-2018 Windsong about buying and installing a flag pole was premature). The motion was approved and at least \$100 was raised as the meeting adjourned.

By the end of the year, club debt was: Peoples National Bank, \$13,508; Anderson Savings and Loan, \$3,000; Notes Payable to Members, \$11,645. There was \$2600 in the escrow account, \$500 was paid to Anderson Savings and Loan while \$15 per note was paid to member note holders. Regular payments of \$800 quarterly were paid on the Peoples loan. Refunds due to resigned members was \$2,527.50.

Incidental note: While researching and writing for these articles, I've found that issues that appeared insignificant at one time might become very important later. Such was the effect of the initiation fee refunds and the report of the first flagpole reported in 1968 that was assumed to have been installed that year. After three more reports, the story of our formative years will be complete. All of these quarterly Windsong articles will be combined into a WCSC Chronicle, and the complete history will be available to anyone who wants a copy. The Chronicle will flow better, any errors will be corrected, and sleeping issues that later became important will be better connected. — Jim

2018 CENTERBOARD SEASON KICKS OFF

by John Kreidler

Here we go! The 2018 season is underway. Wooooo!! Congratulations to Chris Kafsky and John Kreidler (2) for their bullets on March 10.

The CB fleet kicked off the season with the annual fleet meeting to discuss finances, growing the fleet and generally trying to get more members involved. We came away with some great ideas, so look forward to a lot more marketing of the fleet and some cool events. For instance, we plan a couple of steak cookouts (to heck with hamburgers) this year along with a planned Dinghy fun day preceded with a Racing 101 class that hopefully will attract some new sailors interested in this racing thing. We also elected Eric Seymour as our 2018 Fleet Captain and John Kreidler as scorer and scribe. Congratulations to Eric and we look forward to his leadership this year.

With all the fleet stuff completed, we had a great turnout with nine boats showing up at the start line. Headed by our PRO, Chuck (i-flag) Ballew, we actually has some breeze and he set a pretty good course for the first race of the season. First race had a 4-6 out of the south, with some puffs coming from the southwest. Chris Kafsky with Nathan Schultz crewing had his Highlander rolling early and built a big lead. He missed a shift on the second beat and John Kreidler with Gabe Herman crewing on *Comfortably Numb* took advantage and got the corrected bullet. The Bakers on *Yea Baby!* were second and Ronnie Ashmore with Terhune Sudderth crewing was third.

Second race had the skies darkening and the breeze building. With 8-12 rolling in, it was perfect racing conditions. The righties were getting stronger and apparently Chris was pissed off about race 1 and did a wire-to-wire job on the fleet with the closest boat a full 2:30+ behind the big guy. John and Gabe captured second and the Bakers claimed third.

Third race had a nice (yeah, right) cold rain and a dying breeze as Chuck made the course a little shorter. During the first leg we had a big righty come in and turned the race into pretty much a reach around with John and Gabe getting the bullet, Chris Kafsky getting second and Rick Fontenot grabbing the bronze.



It was very competitive racing as multiple times in every race 3-6 boats would be at a mark at the same time with lots of crossings, ducking of starboard boats, and generally very fun racing stuff. Glad to see the Bakers, Chris Kafsky and Chris Miros back on the course after a year's absence. Chris Miros was very fast (with lovely wife Karen and National Champion Debbie Busbey on board) and showing great promise for the future. Eric Seymour, with Danielle Bruce as crew, is coming along nicely and becoming competitive. New fleet members Curt Rubinstein and Marvin Brinn are on a Flying Scot and getting the hang of this racing thing. Of course our Commodore Ronnie Ashmore is always a threat and Rick and Allison Fontenot on their Weta's Trimarans continue to go very fast.

If you are reading this and want to get involved as either a skipper (we have boats available for you to try) or as crew, contact Fleet Captain Eric Seymour (eseymour@lockworksllc.net) who will get you introduced and setup with a competent skipper. See you on the water.

Welcome to the Dam Distance Race

Welcome to the fifth edition of the 'new and improved' Dam Distance Race on April 14. Traditionally, this race has brought the very casual racers and the non racers together for a semi-structured sailing experience: not so loose as individual day sailing, but not so formal as Keelboat Fleet racing. The 2018 edition is an attempt to tweak the 'old' distance race concept by leaning a little more towards the 'race' aspect (on the water), and including the all-important post-race party (on shore). We want to provide the fun of friendly competition without the anxieties of the cut-throat sailing often associated with formal racing. And we are going to provide a written guide "The Beginner's Guide" that will explain to you how to understand, participate in, and hopefully enjoy, this low key race, The Dam Distance Race.

You should notice two distinctions in the event title. First: This is a "distance" event. We plan to have boats out on the lake most of the day. The event starts earlier than most and may continue as late as 1700 on the water. Second: This is a "race". The boats will have to correctly start, pass certain government buoys on a specified side of the boat, pass those buoys in a particular order, and finish correctly. Boats will be ranked 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and so on. There will be winners and, well...not winners.

Notwithstanding the previous statement, this race is somewhat different than what the WCSC Keelboat Fleet does. The race organizers (Allison and Rick) are attempting to 'soften' traditional sailboat racing so that novice and non racers can enjoy competition without the more rigorous aspects of traditional windward/leeward buoy racing. The major difference is the start. It is our belief that the start of a sailboat race is the cause of greatest anxiety for the novice/non racer. We certainly felt that way when we began racing years ago. I mean, come on, all the boats want to be in the same place at the same time! That can't be what Chapman's calls "seaman-like". Racers can mostly manage this (starting) because they understand (mostly) the somewhat intricate rules. Cruisers and day sailors are wise to be apprehensive! However, the Dam Distance Race is going to use what is called a pursuit start. Slower boats will start sooner than faster boats. How much sooner is determined by the boat's rating. The organizers will distribute a table that tells each boat at what time they can start. In this manner, the starting line shouldn't be crowded with the entire fleet at the start, as there actually are many starts. In fact, other than two boats having the same rating, each boat will have her own starting time.

There are two additional perks with a pursuit start race. At the end of their race, boats are scored in the order of their finish. If you cross the finish line ahead of another boat, you beat her! You don't have to wait till after the race is over for RC (the Race Committee) to calculate the corrected times. Some may call this instant gratification. Some may call this "I kicked your..." As I was saying, the other perk of the pursuit start race is that the fleet will likely finish the race at near the same time. This allows everyone to get back to the club for the most important aspect of sailboat racing: the post-race party. A beverage (or two) enhances the re-telling of antics witnessed on the race course.

We are making a point of having a post-race gathering for this event. A day of racing is fun, but even more fun is a day of racing followed by the camaraderie of the racers having drinks and dinner. To that end, the club is providing a grilled chicken dinner and you are providing your own beverages (cocktails). Cool prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers in both the racer division and the non-racer division.

Registration opens on (or before) March 15 and will close on April 11. Go to the club web site calendar and click on "The Dam Distance Race 2018 (and After-Race Party)" to find the link to the Dam Distance Race Information Page where you can find all the documents that further describe the event. We hope to see you there. We welcome questions, comments, or conversation.

Allison and Rick Fontenot

Email cowardlylion@charter.net

cell 334-332-2025



May 26, 2018 - Memorial Day Party

June 30, 2018 - July 4th Party

More details to come for both of these events. If you are willing to help with either of these events, or any entertainment function, please let me know. I am always looking for more help!

Anna Kay Lord

aklord19@gmail.com

864-380-9518



E Mare Libertas

By Ed Sherman

Vice Commodore Tim Crane has revived participation in group sailing at WCSC. As a result of Tim's enthusiasm and dedication (and supreme cooking skills), we members have taken a new interest in feeling the liberation of out-on-the-water. Cruising sailors, families and friends are the main brace of WCSC.

OK, so as I've grown older, my energy has channeled into selling train engines, reading, and cooking healthy food. So was I inclined, until Commodore Ronnie Ashmore's text suggesting he, Past Commodore Dennis Fisher and I, sail my *Spirit* in the February 24 Bud Lite Frostbite Cup. How could anyone resist an offer to sail in the same boat as our Commodore and reigning WCSC Club Champion, Ronnie Ashmore, and Dennis Fisher, one of the best one-design racing sailors in the Southeast?

What a savory experience. After half a lifetime racing on Hartwell, Ronnie drove all afternoon in total control. Dennis, having cut his crew-teeth years ago on foredecks with the likes of Past Commodores John Butler and his J boat and Pete Kremlich's *Tinker's Toy*, is always fit for wind. Dennis was leaving Monday for Eustis, Florida and MC Scow Nationals on Lake Eustis.

I had recently put *Spirit* on the block after riding her hard and putting her up wet for eighteen years. She looked sad on her trailer in the main lot. However, once launched that Saturday, she became her old self -- raring to go. I was dumbfounded at the cohesion of my crew mates. Both knew exactly what to do and precisely when to do it. There was none of this "trim-this", "slack-that", "move-over-there", "sit here", "NO!-the other-line dummy." There were only happy, brown faces, smiles and laughter while *Spirit* sang like never before in 15-21 knot winds.

If ever you are fortunate to have Dennis and/or Ronnie aboard, you'll discover what years of dedicated sailing can do for one's skills. Ronnie has a rare calmness, focus and tactical ability. One quarter mile from the Bud Lite finish, George Masson and crew in his totally lit Ultimate 20 came boiling under full chute and gaining like gangbusters. I made the mistake of mumbling, "We better start thinking about beating that fast-gaining boat." ...but before my sentence ended, Dennis shot back, "We're thinking about nothing but that...every second, Ed."

Spirit's Bud Lite win is attributed solely to our Commodore Ronnie Ashmore and Past Commodore Dennis Fisher, both of whom can sail the daylights out of anything!

SAILING SAFETY

by David Lambert, Westside High School

"We travel not to escape life, but for life not to escape us." I saw this quote on Instagram and it inspired me to choose sailing as an elective for gym class. Another reason is that it will teach me how to sail without actually owning and maintaining a boat which is really expensive.

I have very little knowledge about sailing but I really love the sea, I love the adventure of traveling on water. Many articles that I've read so far say sailing is not that difficult to learn, however I think it's intimidating. They speak a different lingo that is foreign to me like jibing or tacking. I'm pretty sure after completing this subject I'll be familiar with them.

I chose sailing because I also want to develop my self confidence and enjoy the camaraderie of my mates at the same time. Once I have expanded my sailing skills, I want to sail the Caribbean. I believe it will be an experience like no other. But before I can accomplish my dream, I need to complete my project which is to raise awareness about sailboat safety.

I want to share this recently published article on sailboat safety that offers a thorough guide for beginners that I think could be very useful. This article seems relevant about the topic and is very easy to understand.

<https://www.dietspotlight.com/sailboating-safety-guide-beginning-boaters/>

FRIDAY NIGHT SAILING IS BACK!!

Remember all those fun Friday nights sailing after work on Lasers, Sunfish and all kinds of other cool boats? Well, they're back due to popular demand. Now, all we need is you! We will start on Friday night, May 25th at 1800. Knock off the cob webs, dirt dauber nests and other 'stuff' and join us for some fun sailing. This is low key sailing at its best. Short, fun races that will keep everyone excited and ready to show your stuff and sail with your friends at WCSC. The dates are:

May 25th
June 8th
June 22nd
July 6th
July 20th
August 3rd
August 17th



See you May 25th at 1800 and then alternate Friday's the rest of the summer. What a great way to kick off the weekend! Questions? Contact Eric Seymour at eseymour@lockworksllc.net.

Google Groups

Have you ever wondered how to contact other WCSC members as a group because you need to:

- Need crew?
- Want to crew?
- Want to swap your race committee day?
- Buying or selling your boat?
- Have extra parts or accessories you no longer need?
- Buying parts or accessories for your boat?

You can join the WCSC Google Group and communicate with the club. All you need to do is send an email to Lee Moses (blmoses@bellsouth.net). In your subject line please put "WCSC Google Group Request." Include your name, email address and the option on how to receive emails. The options are:

- No email - Web-only participation
- Abridged email - One summary email of new activity per day
- Digest email - Up to 25 full new messages in a single email
- All emails - Send each message as it arrives

I will add you to the group and send an email confirming your addition to the group. **Note: Please be aware that when you press reply, the email will go to the whole group not just the person that sent the email.**

Visit this group at <https://groups.google.com/group/western-carolina-sailing-club>.

To post to this group, send an email to western-carolina-sailing-club@googlegroups.com.

Each email will have the following at the bottom:

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Western Carolina Sailing Club" group. To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to western-carolina-sailing-club+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>.

Follow the links to unsubscribe from the group or post to the group.

If you have problems or question please send Lee Moses a private email at blmoses@bellsouth.net.

How do you like your steak?

Medium rare? Medium? Well done? Well, here is your chance to enjoy a free steak dinner at the expense of the Centerboard Fleet. What's the catch? How much is it? Why would the Centerboard Fleet want to buy me a steak?

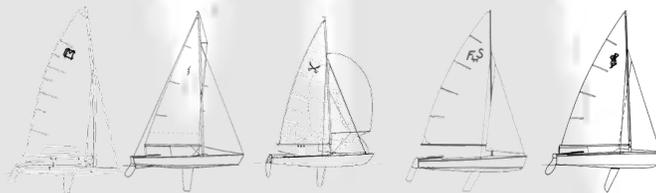
I can answer that. First, the best fleet at WCSC, the Centerboard Fleet, wants you to come out and race with us on May 12. That's all you have to do, come out and race with us in any centerboard boat. If you don't have one, let us know and we will try and find one for you. If you don't want to drive a boat we will try and find someone who needs crew. Or, if you need crew, let us know.



That's it. Just come out and race that day with us. Afterwards, meet our fleet members over a drink - we will have that on ice for you as well. We will ask you to bring a side dish to pass around...but that's it. Serious? How cool is that?

We do need you to register for the event on the club website so we know how many steaks to buy and how many drinks and beer to have on ice for you. Can you "Woooooo?" Register at wcsc-sailing.org on the Centerboard Fleet page.

Have questions? Contact fleet Captain Eric Seymour at eseymour@lockworkslc.net.



WCSC Website Membership Directory

By Ronnie Ashmore

I hope that everyone knows about and uses the membership directory on the website. However the information that appears there has not changed since you joined unless you have gone in yourself and updated your profile. Besides the normal name, address, email and other contact information, you can also add a picture and/or a biography about yourself. Please take the time to review your profile, make sure everything is current, and make any necessary corrections. We know at the very least there are some invalid phone numbers and email addresses. We need your help to keep this resource current.

Okay, you may ask, how do I update my profile? Here you go:

Go to the WCSC website and log in. Oops! Forgot your password? Ask for a reset and check your email. Also, check your spam folder or junk folder as sometimes the reset email may end up there. If you are still have trouble logging in, contact the club Secretary, Susan Ruark, or myself for help.

Click on the membership directory in the left hand menu column. Search your name, and in the lower part of that page you will find your profile thumbnail. Click on your name or picture or something in that area and open up your details. Once there you will see two pencil symbols  on the right hand side.

Click on the upper pencil and it will open up your profile so that you can edit it. When you are done, click save at the bottom. Click on the lower pencil and it will open up your biography and picture section so that you can edit those. When you are done, click save at the bottom. Now you are done! Thank you for taking the time to do it.

Lastly, and this is very important, the website membership directory does not link to the membership database that MaryAnn Caldwell maintains for billing and other club business. If you need to update your contact or other information, you need to contact her with that information.

The Juniors Corner

by Joe Martin

Springtime!

So...last article where did I leave off? Oh yeah, we were over on the championship side of the bracket. Recall that the drama had ensued. Big breeze, should a Laser competitor sail with a full rig or opt for a radial? And remember that Overall Junior Champ is settled on Portsmouth Handicap allowing Lasers (full rig and radial), Sunfish and 420s to all participate. What to do? Three competitors opted to go radial and being in the 100 pound range that seemed like an excellent call. So, five full rig Lasers, three radials and a 420 (combined crew weight of I am guessing 110) rigged up.

Breeze was in the 10-12 range. Ross Martin (full) wins with Erin Schultz (radial) second. Race two, Ross M (full) pulls off another first to finish but the pencil-whipping begins. Erin S (radial) wins and almost wins boat for boat. Race three we had some flipping going with the wind increasing. Ben Killinger (full) gets the horn but Sam Taylor (radial) gets the win. Race four, Ben K (full) wins with Ross M (full) second. Final race is a W2, breeze has some gusts now near eighteen or nineteen. Ben K (full) gets the horn but Erin S (radial) gets the win.

So the Overall Junior Championship resultsthird, Erin Schultz (radial) won the tie breaker in the Radial Fleet but had a couple of big numbers in the Overall. Ben Killinger (full) finishes second...And Mr. Consistency Sam Taylor (radial) with nothing worse than a third in the Overall Fleet is the 2017 Junior Champion. Woot Woot.

Also we would like to recognize Julia Jacobsen as the 2017 Junior Sportsmanship Award recipient. Julia is a pleasure to have in class, exhibits leadership and is a true competitor on the water. She is fairly new to Lasers and has exhibited a great attitude as her skills increase in the boat. Doesn't even seem to mind the unscheduled swims.

Finally, plans are under way for Sail Camp 2018. Be watching the club website and wcscsailcamp.com for much more information to follow. This year will closely resemble last year as we have no major changes planned to the overall schedule.

Centerboard FUN Day

We will be holding a Centerboard FUN Day on June 23. This will be an opportunity for potential fleet members and existing fleet members to come out and learn a little about racing in a no-stress, fun environment. It will go something like this...

0900 to 1030

We will start with a Racing 101 course. This will be a high level course to give you the basics about racing, how to start, some sail trim information and general seamanship. This should help you get started on the right tack.

1030

Launch your boat.

1130

Drills and practice races. Here is an opportunity to get on the water and try out what we just covered in the Racing 101 course. We will do some boat handling drills, practice starts and then run short practice races. We will be off the water about 1500.

1630

Happy hour at the Tiki Hut.

1730

Brats and Dogs on the grill.

Everyone is welcome to attend. This will be a fun, low pressure introduction to racing and the Centerboard Fleet. Any centerboard boat is welcome including Sunfish, Laser, Flying Scots, Highlanders, Lightnings, Buccaneer, Weta Trimarans, MC Scow, Force Fives...any centerboard boat is welcome.

You will need to register to help us plan on the correct amount of food and drink. Go to the WCSC website and go to the Centerboard Fleet page. Click on the Centerboard FUN Day and register or email the Centerboard Fleet captain Eric Seymour at eseymour@lockworksllc.net. There is no cost or charge, but you do need to register.

Centerboard fun. We got it, you want it, come out and get it.



THE JOURNEY 2

This poem, by Tom Krause, was read by JoAnn Ashmore, the Commodore's daughter-in-law, on Commissioning Day.

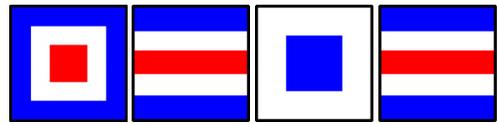
Ships are not built for the harbor,
surely in life there is more.
The journey is what brings fulfillment
to a life that is worth living for.

From the heart comes the hope of the present,
from memories dreams from the past.
From the soul comes the spirit of living,
from experience lessons that last.

Look ahead to see where you are going,
look behind to see where you have been.
Look inside to discover your purpose,
then let your life's voyage begin.

Take care as you sail to your future.
Share kindness with people you meet.
Take heart in the oceans you conquer,
till your journey through life is complete.

And when your life's voyage is over,
when your sun starts to set in the sea,
pass on to the next generation
the joy that the journey can be.



WCSC 2017 BOARD OF STEWARDS

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|----------------|--|
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| VICE COMMODORE | TIM CRANE tcrane29664@gmail.com |
| REAR COMMODORE | JOHN BARNARD jdbarnard22@gmail.com |
| TREASURER | TED SAUVAIN tedsauvain@att.net |
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| 2020 | CURT RUBINSTEIN sloopy5336@gmail.com ERIC SEYMOUR eseymour@lockworkslc.net |

| | | | |
|------------|-------|------|--|
| Apr | 03 | 1900 | Board Meeting |
| | 07-08 | | Springboard Regatta/Highlander Midwinters |
| | 07 | 1100 | Spring Fling Waldrops Lakeside Dinner Cruise |
| | 12-15 | | Charleston Race Week |
| | 14 | 1000 | Dam Distance Race |
| | 21 | 0800 | Work Day #2 |
| | | 1200 | Cruising Fleet Outing w/ Cookout |
| | | 1300 | Centerboard Fleet Race #3 |
| | 28 | 1300 | Keelboat Fleet Springs Race #3 |
| May | 01 | 1900 | Board Meeting |
| | 05 | | DIVA Regatta |
| | 06 | 1300 | Keelboat Fleet Spring Race #4 |
| | 10 | 1900 | Learn to Sail Class |
| | 12 | 0800 | Work Day #3 |
| | | 0830 | Learn to Sail Class |
| | | 1100 | Inspiring Sailors Cruise |
| | | 1300 | Centerboard Fleet Race #4 |
| | 17 | 1900 | Learn to Sail Class |
| | 19 | 0830 | Learn to Sail Class |
| | | 1100 | Preakness Party Cruise |
| | | 1300 | Keelboat Fleet Spring Race #5 |
| | | 1800 | B Dock Preakness Party |
| | 20 | 0830 | Learn to Sail Class |
| | | 1300 | Centerboard Fleet Race #5 |
| | 26 | 1100 | Pre-Memorial Day Party Cruise |
| | | 1800 | Memorial Day Party |
| Jun | 02 | 1200 | Pirate's Day w/ Dinner on the Island |
| | | 1300 | Centerboard Fleet Race #6 |
| | 03 | 1300 | Keelboat Fleet Spring Race #6 |
| | 05 | 1900 | Board Meeting |
| | 09 | | Around Andersonville Island |
| | 15 | | Windsong Deadline |
| | 16 | 0800 | Work Day #4 |
| | | 1300 | Centerboard Fleet Race #7 |
| | | 1800 | D Dock Party |
| | 23 | 1200 | Cruising Fleet |
| | 30 | 1200 | July 4th Red, White and Blue Cruise |
| | | 1800 | July 4th Party |

BOS monthly meeting held at clubhouse
W.Dehart, E.Mitchell, D.Kosa, L.Moses, T.Blaskovic, D.Tegel,
J. Stumpff, P.Rock, S. Smith, J.Kicklighter, R. Freeman
Vice Commodore Tim Crane

Allison & Rick Fontenot, PRO T.Sauvain, S.Whitehead
Rear Commodore John Barnard
Vice Commodore Tim Crane

S.Kiemele, M.Hellstrom, R.Bannister, M.McDonald, C.Rubenstein, H.Vantleven
B.Busbey, F.Mendenhall, D.Boyer, B.Gibson, W.Bowler, M.Malone
BOS monthly meeting held at clubhouse

Dacia Schrecengost, PRO B.Hampton
S.Mathews, F.Acevedo, M.Brinn, J.Snowden, E.Dewitt, A.Gates
Ron Moede, Class Room Anderson University

Rear Commodore John Barnard
Ron Moede, On the Water
Vice Commodore Tim Crane
W.Cheser, G.Lyons, S.Smith, B.Christoffersen, C.Beckham, G.Higgins

Ron Moede, Class Room Anderson University
Ron Moede, On the Water
Vice Commodore Tim Crane/Ron Sanga
R.Ashmore, Y.Ivanov, B.Chasteen, S.Alley, J.Sivori, J.Cridland-Hughes
B Dock

Ron Moede, On the Water
M.Harrison, C.Hunter, J.Culwell, A.Hippensteal, J.Greene, M.Nichols
Vice Commodore Tim Crane

Anna Kay Lord
Vice Commodore Tim Crane/Ron Sanga
E.Jacobsen, R.Linville, H.Roemer, H.Hamilton, J.Gwardiak, D.Lee, B.Hicks
D.Marett, T.Bowman, L.Williams, B.Bolt, M.Chewning, R.Moede

BOS monthly meeting held at clubhouse
Steve & Susan Ruark, PRO B.Freese, R.Wiker
Lisa Baker

Rear Commodore John Barnard
G.Snook, J.Jordan, L.Nagimova, B.Holcombe,
C.Stokes, S.Wells, T.Moore

Keat Pruzenski
Vice Commodore Tim Crane
Vice Commodore Tim Crane
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