

Carolina Sailing Club Newsletter

AROUND THE MARKS

April 2003

Officers:

Commodore: John Norton
Vice Commodore: Joleen Rasmussen
Rear Commodore: Meg Wittman
Secretary / Treasurer: David Brown



John

Joleen

Meg

David

Commodore's Comments

From the Commodore

Thanks to all those who made the recent seminars a success including Eric and Joleen Rasmussen (Isotope), Amy Hitlin (Thistle), Alan Backus (Thistle), Burt and Judy Howell (SAYRA), and all those who attended.

I have a passion for sailing. That includes a passion for cruising, racing, sailboats, sailors, water, wind, and everything else connected with the sport. If I had my way I'd quit working and be a full time sailing evangelist, heck I've got the name for it. Maybe your passion isn't as strong as mine but it's important if the club is going to grow we need to share our enjoyment of sailing. That means taking new people sailing, showing up for RC with a good attitude and taking a neighbor sailing. We have many people who are looking to sail, they have put their name on the crew list, they show up at the lake, they're willing and able. I'm sure if we get everyone that shows up at Jordan a crew position some of them will return, some will go on to be regular crew, some will join the club and some will buy boats. If we don't give them a ride they'll never buy a boat. Please take new people sailing, I've done it often and it's a great way to grow the sport and meet new people.

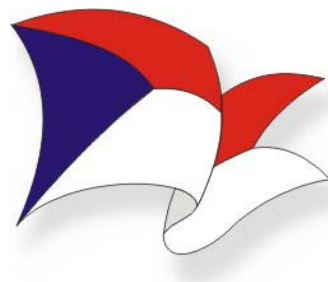
John Norton
Thistle 3725

FREE MAGAZINE, FREE RULE BOOK

Someone recently asked me how he could get a rule book. I told him it's free when they join US Sailing, such a deal! Someone else told me they wanted a book that explains the rules, I told them one of the best is Dave Perry's Understanding the Racing Rules available through US Sailing and many nautical bookshops. If you're not a member of US Sailing you can join at a discounted rate through the club's Golden Anchor Program, contact David Brown. You can learn more about membership and the Golden Anchor Program at:

<http://www.ussailing.org/Membership>

**CSC WILL BE FEATURED IN THE
JUNE EDITION OF SOUTHERN
LIVING**



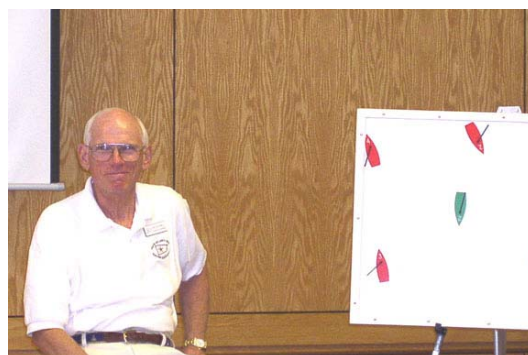
RECENT SEMINARS

Race Management/Rules Seminar

CSC hosted its second annual Race Management Seminar on March 29th, 2003. New this time was a rules portion. The seminar was organized by Eric Rasmussen and John Pelosi and led by Burton & Judy Howell, co-chairs of SAYRA Race Management. Joleen Rasmussen acted as event spokesperson throughout the day. 37 sailors spent the time together, learning more about Race Management, and about each of the rules in Part 2 (When Boats Meet) of the Racing Rules. As an added bonus, each participant received a copy of US Sailing Signal Sticker and Rules in Brief Card. Nine sailors stayed for the Barstool Regatta, and split up into three teams. Questions were presented and each team had either 20 seconds (T/F question) or one minute to check their rulebook and decide on the answer. If correct, their boat moved one leg up the course. The first game was taken by Team Norton, Backus, Cardoze. The second game ended in a three way tie Team Hitlin, Hitlin, and Ambler, and Team Rysdon, Fragakis, McKim got into sync with each other. After the games, everyone agreed on a change of venue across the street for a little less mental barstool type activity.



The seminar was an overwhelming success. Below are just a few of the comments made about the seminar:



"I enjoyed the rules seminar because it explained the rules in a simple and concise way with a good moderator who did not let the discussion degenerate into people arguing with each other based on their own misconceptions about the rules. It focused on the basic rules that deal with situations we all encounter on the race course, rather than talking about esoteric rules and appeals that might be academically interesting but don't help your average weekend warrior improve his or her tactics and strategies. If

you don't know the rules, you have to play it safe and avoid situations because you are afraid you will commit a foul." – George McKim, Fireball



"Several questions from the participants (mine included) suggested some real misunderstanding of some of the rules of racing. If we are going to race well and have fun, we all need to know the rules; they keep us safe and present some great tactical challenges. We all enjoy a well run race and a committee that knows what it is doing is required for this to happen." -John McLaughlin-Crew

There was a lot of good information and I learned a lot about some of the rules that don't come into play often.-John Norton, Thistle

-Joleen Rasmussen

Isotope 1027

Judges in Training

Our interest in the Rules stem in part from our participation in Judges in Training, a US Sailing Certification program. As part of that program,

we are required to chair four protest hearings. Four may not seem like a very high number, but so far, it has taken others around four years to completed the requirements. We hope to shorten that time.

On March 7, we took off for the Deep South Regatta, Savannah, GA, part of the Lightning Southern Circuit. Even with 28 boats on the line, and an extremely competitive group of skippers, there still were no protests hailed on the water, and the only penalty turn taken was for a mark contact. We did get to hear much sound of fiberglass contacting fiberglass at the pin end of the second star, but t no hail of protest, alas. The weekend still had benefit to us in many different ways; as sailors, Club Race Officers, and Judges in Training, and tourists in Savannah. Every race is an opportunity to learn more about the sport. This even was our first exposure to current, and boy, were we thankful we were not out there on the Isotope.



Two-three times a month, we will be participating in club racing. End of April, we are heading up to Black Water Yacht Racing Association, BYRA, Smith Mountain, to work RC for their Spring Invitational. One weekend, most months, we will be at an invitational. You would think that

with sailing practically every weekend, we'd could hope to come up with four protests in a short amount of time. Well, we shall keep hoping, and in the meantime, we will have a lovely time on the water, and enjoy the hospitality of various clubs in the southeast. Perhaps four years won't be so long after all.

-Eric & Joleen

Equipment Spring Fling-a new twist to the sailing art of knots

Seven industrious sailors met at the Meldau's, Sunday, March 16th, to spend a couple of hours organizing and cleaning up the equipment in preparation for the upcoming equipment class and start of the Kerr Lake/Jordan Summer series. Amazing how tangled up anchor lines can get over the winter when they are not in use.



Thanks to Amy & Charlie Hitlin, Eric & Joleen Rasmussen, Walter Brier, John and Kaitlyn Norton, and John McLaughlin.

-Joleen Rasmussen

If we can't be on the water one way, how about another?

This winter has been a rough one in terms of getting out on the water to sail. We had two events rescheduled, cancelled even, due to ice storms, and then just as we are sure the winter weather is gone, as we are in North Carolina, and winter storms do not occur in March, we get so much rain, the ramps are all closed at Lake Jordan. For those of you who really yearned to have been out on the water that weekend, perhaps you shouldn't be too envious of Eric & Joleen, who did manage to have their Isotopes in the water that week!



JORDAN WINTER SERIES

The Final race of the Winter Series

Ahh, another chance to go sailing. Also, I got to learn a little info at the equipment seminar. Cool stuff. We had a good turnout, which included at least one boat from every fleet, and totalling 17 boats. Even better was the fact that the club decided not to score Lake Jordan events at all, which gave us, at least, a little less to worry about. We got in 4 good races, me and my father trading places after two on the Fireball... needless to say performance dropped a good bit with me at the helm. (Hey, it was a long winter...) Nevertheless, we had fun and got to compete against one other Fireball, David Brown. Wind was good most of the day, with the guy on the trapeze getting some time on the wire (and getting tea bagged in the puffs and lulls, definitely not swimming weather yet!). It was a good day for racing, forgetting the water was a little chilly (Isn't that what wetsuits are for??), and the Fireball isn't known for keeping sailors dry... Following the racing was, of course, the Commodore's Bash, where there was good food and great people.

-Devin McKim, Fireball



COMMODORE'S BASH



The Commodore's Bash was held after the races on Sunday after the last Jordan Winter Series Race. Everyone enjoyed some burgers, hotdogs, marshmallows and socializing.

KERR LAKE SERIES

The Kerr Lake Series begins this week-end, April 12th and 13th. The series consists of six two-day weekends of racing, with 3 races each Saturday and two races each Sunday. While more formally run than the other two CSC racing series, it is more casual than the racing on the various fleets' district circuits.

Note: "SATURDAY ONLY" SERIES will be added to the KERR SERIES.

The Races are held at Henderson Point on Kerr Lake; occasional lake-level problems force us to shift to Vista Point on Lake Jordan. **THIS WEEKEND, HENDERSON POINT WILL BE CLOSED. PLEASE WATCH FOR ALTERNATE VENUE UNDER "HOT NEWS" ON THE HOME PAGE.**

CSC FOUNDATION

CAROLINA SAILING CLUB FOUNDATION AND THE JUNIOR PROGRAM

The Carolina Sailing Club Foundation was founded by CSC members for the purpose of promoting sailboat racing and quality sailing instruction in the Triangle metropolitan area. The late George Smart provided the impetus and a good portion of the initial funding to get the Carolina Sailing Club Foundation started. As a result, on March 13, 2003, the Foundation Board received notice from the IRS that the Foundation had achieved 501c3 status with the IRS and is a recognized non-profit entity.

This is a huge step forward for us and means that funding efforts for Foundation programs will need to accelerate and will likely become somewhat easier. However, the work has just begun. Foundation funding depends on many things, including publicity and visibility, the quality of the programs run by the Foundation, the level of contributions donors are willing to give and able to afford, the success we have with soliciting grants, etc. We will be

vigorously seeking grant money, but at this point (until we become more

visible and our programs established and running), we are heavily dependent on contributions from within our own club (in the form of cash and donations of sailboats that can be turned around for the purchase of Opti's). With regard to donations of sailboats, we are very grateful to both George Smart and Herb Bodman for their generous donations of a Lightning and a Laser to the Foundation.

Our Junior Program this year will begin with the 4 privately owned Optimist Prams and will expand as parents buy boats and funds accumulate to purchase Foundation boats. The youth are there and ready to go. Last year we had an amazing group of young sailors. They learned how to sail Sunfish on Lake Crabtree. They developed a sense of camaraderie during camping weekends and during the seminar in September with Spencer.

We hope to build on the success of last year. The goals for this year's

program will be to promote youth sailing, provide an outlet for children of CSC sailors during regular CSC races, and provide quality sailing instruction. As availability of additional boats allows, we will extend the programs to include non-CSC youth.

As noted above, Optimist Prams have been chosen as the boat for our program. These boats are the backbone of almost all youth sailing programs world-wide. By joining the Opti Association, the CSC Foundation will be tapping into years of experience in teaching and promoting youth sailing. The Opti is small enough and light enough to be competitively raced by even the youngest sailors. The Foundation hopes to purchase four Optis to augment the four currently owned by CSC members, thus comprising a potential fleet of eight. The goals are to have some boats available for youth who do not own boats of their own and to grow the number of boats owned by fleet members.

Completed and proposed activities for 2003 include:

Feb 20-23: we had a presence at the Boat Show.

April 6: open house run at Lake Jordan prior to racing as a "ride on a boat."

Late April, early May: 3 day on-the-water afternoon training session at Lake Crabtree. Bring your own Opti or rent a Sunfish at Lake Crabtree.

May, July, August, September and October CSC Series at Kerr: hold formal Opti Green Fleet racing simultaneously with CSC racing.

These clinics will be self-supporting (i. e. pay for the cost of coaches and lunch). Proposed cost is \$50 per weekend if you bring your own boat and \$100 per weekend if you charter one of the (hopefully soon to be acquired) Foundation boats. One of these weekends will be a Green Fleet swap, whereby the Green Fleet Optis from Lake Norman will join us.

Travel dates:

July 4th weekend-Lake Norman
Labor Day weekend-Lake Norman
Additional date in Sept- Lake Norman Green Fleet swap

To some extent, our ability to accomplish the Foundation goals in the short run is limited by the availability of funds. We have the people recruited and the interested junior sailors. We are also somewhat limited by the lack of a permanent site. However, this very impermanence may provide temporary flexibility as we widen our program to the public. Yet we are excited that we have come this far in this short a period of time. We are grateful to all of you who have helped get the Foundation and the Junior Program to the point where they are now. Please contact any CSC Foundation Board member if you are interested in volunteering time or funds to this significant endeavor.

Michael Rees
John Norton
Jim Howard
Chistina Grobin,
David Batchelor
Carolina Sailing Club Foundation Board

JUNIOR PROGRAM



Junior Sailing Beginner Instruction

Lake Crabtree

May 12-14

5-7 pm

- On the water instruction
- Bring your OPTI or rent a sunfish
- Bring your own life-jacket
- \$30 fee if you bring your own OPTI (boats may be kept overnight)
- add \$20 for Sunfish rental (call me for OPTI charter)

SPACE IS LIMITED. SEND REGISTRATION TODAY

Name: _____ Age (must be 9 as of May 14 to participate)

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Address: _____ +

Phone numbers: _____

Are you a member of US Sailing? _____

Fees: \$30 plus CSC membership (\$40 for student, \$120 for whole family) plus \$20 for sunfish rental (if needed) Send registration information and check (made out to Carolina Sailing Club) to me:

Amy C. Grobin, 109 Cardiff Place, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Please give me a call or email (Youth Director: Amy Grobin, 968-4618, chistina.grobin@alumni.duke.edu) if you have any questions.

TANZER FLEET

Tanzer Fleet Activities

When it came time to report on Tanzer activities for this Newsletter, my initial thoughts were on the grief that we are still sharing over the death of the Commodore of the Tanzer Fleet, George M. Smart. He has left a huge void in our personal lives, in the life of the Tanzer 16 Class Association, and in the life of the Carolina Sailing Club (CSC). George fought a courageous fight against pancreatic cancer as we would expect from his tenacity in a sailing regatta. Unfortunately, we will not have his presence with us in the future, but his spirit will live on with us. He will continue to serve as an inspiration to us on and off the water in the way he approached life and sailing with his charming, competitive, and gentlemanly mannerisms. I do not know all that George contributed to the CSC over the years and few probably recognize the total impact he has had. For example, I understand that George donated the new Committee Boat to CSC--The Lady Ann. At the CSC Banquet in December, George was awarded the Robinson Cup in recognition of his service and sailing contributions to the CSC. And, I know the many T-shirts that he designed will be even more cherished at this time. I also know that recently he was instrumental in establishing the CSC Foundation to support sailing for young people. He even requested that memorials be sent in lieu of flowers to the CSC Foundation, 2439 West Lake Drive, Raleigh, NC 27609. Please consider making a contribution to bring George's vision to reality. In addition, we have established a memorial account in the Tanzer 16 Class Association to fund the perpetual presentation of the Smart Spirit Award on an annual basis. If you would like to support this memorial, please make checks payable to the Tanzer 16 Class Association and mail them to David Lenat at 3607 Corbin Street, Raleigh, NC 27612. We hope these memorials will be a way to honor and remember the many contributions George made to us individually, to the Tanzer 16 Class Association, and to the Carolina Sailing Club.

In keeping with the George's traditions and spirit, the about 15 Tanzer sailors held a seminar on 03/06 to shake the winter doldrums and turn thoughts to the coming sailing season. While enjoying pizza and drinks, Dave Batchelor lead the seminar and reviewed the often confusing Rule 18 about room during mark roundings. In addition, the Tanzers held their Spring Fling Social at The Mobley's on 03/22 which was attended by about 25 people and a good time was had by all. Good food, good drink, and good fellowship stimulated many conversations about the excitement over the upcoming sailing season and laments about needed boat maintenance. Hope that those repairs can be completed and that everyone will be ready for the first events of the season.

Finally, the often rescheduled CSC Team Racing trial run is scheduled for May 10 at Jordan Lake. The Tanzers will be the host boat in which we will plan to pair a Tanzer skipper with a CSC skipper from another fleet to serve as crew. Please mark your calendars and let David Mobley (mobley909@aol.com or 876-4873)

know if you can participate as either skipper or crew in event. Team racing has been very successful at other clubs so let's get in on the fun.

David Mobley
Tanzer Skipper #286

SOCIAL EVENTS

Third Friday Socials:

(Third Thursday Socials have been changed to Third Friday Socials)

April 11th: Our Monthly Social will be at
DUFFYS RESTAURANT
In North Raleigh @ 6:30

Race Day Socials:

April 12th: Good food, good people, and weak explanations for why you didn't win the days races.

NEW MEMBERS

Barry Saunders

I grew up in Annapolis, knew a few sailors, but wasn't one myself. Bought an old Jet 14 a few of years ago and started sailing recreationally. Last spring I bought a somewhat younger, race-ready Jet, and began to learn to sail around the marks, and with spinnaker. I plead for indulgence from experienced CSC racers as I try to learn rules. Any and all instruction welcomed gratefully. I'll probably make it more often out to Jordan than to Kerr.

Patrick and Barbara Crockett

Patrick and Barbara Crockett were members of CSC in the late 70's, sailing Tanzer 656 and getting many memorable views of the transoms of Dave Gilbert, Jim Lamb, George Smart and others of their ilk. After living in Seattle, Ann Arbor, Louisiana, and Oregon, the Crocketts are back in the triangle with daughter Brynna and a home-built Bolger Windsprint. Barbara is head of the Montessori

Community School in Chapel Hill, Patrick is a research statistician with Analytical Sciences in RTP, and Brynna is in the fourth grade at MCS.

Don Turner

The sailing bug bit me in the 80's and I learned to sail Hobie's & Flying Scots on Jordan Lake back before insurance considerations forced local operators to stop renting sailboats. I owned a 19' sloop for 6 years on Jordan which I sailed religiously until the kids came along. The bug bit again recently as I looked for ways to get my wife and 3 kids (10, 8, 5) onto the water, preferably not in a power boat, and having recognized & worked with (he would probably say harassed) Ed Michels from his former days at IBM, decided to join CSC and cast my lot with the Lightning group. Until I can locate a suitable & cheap Lightning, I'll plan to bum crew rides. I've done some racing and sailing on larger boats but I don't remember much about sheet bends and such.



**Buy a Signal Sticker for
\$5.00**
(US Sailing Discounted Price)

**and get a
Rules in Brief Card**

Free
(a \$5.00 value)

See Joleen Rasmussen

EDITOR'S NOTE

If you have any questions, or suggestions about the newsletter please contact George McKim at gmckim@bellsouth.net or call me at 782-3029.