

Carolina Sailing Club Newsletter

AROUND THE MARKS

June 2003

Officers:

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



John

Joleen

Meg

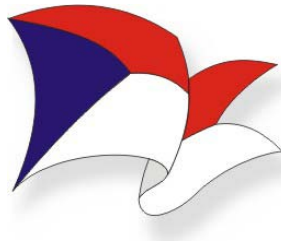
David

Commodore's Comments

At the beginning of the year all I wanted to do was keep things going the way they had been. Well that's been near impossible due to the weather. We finally did get some racing at Kerr and although wet and cold it was a lot of fun. The Friday night before Alan Backus and William Kenner hosted a great social at The Cape Fear Crab House in Raleigh. We'll be having the next social there and hope more can attend. The Junior sailors now have 4 optis. A number of kids squeezed in some sailing time between thunderstorms at an informal christening ceremony at Jordan lake. We had a number of kids try the boats although the wind was light. The youngest was Kirk Peterson, 4. You'll read more about all of this inside the newsletter. CSC will be represented this year at the Mallory Cup. The Mallory cup is the US Sailing Men's Championship regatta. I'll be sailing with Tom Lawton from Lake Norman and Scott Griffin from Lake Lanier. The finals are at Lake Norman in highlanders. I'll keep you posted.

With the Governor's Cup ahead and hopefully better weather let's have fun and enjoy what we have.

John



Governor's Cup Regatta

In the event that you have not been notified by e-mail, please read the following information concerning the change of venue for the Governor's Cup Regatta. This is the main part of the e-mail sent out to all members and last years competitors by the Commodore;

The heavy rain fall this Spring has made a mess of Kerr Lake. Currently the ramps at Henderson Pt. are closed and the lake elevation forecast would have them closed June 20 & 21. Besides the ramps being closed, there is a lot of debris in the lake and more rainfall could mean even more ramps being closed. After talking with many people we have decided to move the location of the 2003 Governor's Cup to Vista Point on Jordan Lake. Jordan Lake is located

on NC Hwy 64 15 miles South of Chapel Hill. It is also close to Raleigh, Durham and Cary. The launch site is at the end of North Pea Ridge Road in Pittsboro, NC 27312 (use this for mapblast).

The club sails 15 events a year at Jordan Lake. The facilities are excellent. Although the campsites at Vista Pt. are closed there are State Park campsites nearby. There are also hotels within 30 minutes and many members have offered backyards to pitch a tent or floor space.

This is the first official announcement of the change. Please continue to check the club website for more information. www.carolinasailingclub.org and forward this email to anyone who might be coming.

We know changing the location may be a problem for some. If I can help you in anyway please call John Norton at 919-968-1223 (h), 919-969-2992 (w), 919-604-0842 (c). We plan on having a great regatta and the membership is prepared to go out of it's way to help.

Website for camping and lake info. Is -
<http://www.ils.unc.edu/parkproject/visit/jord/home.html>

Preparations have been made for the 46th annual North Carolina Governor's Cup Regatta, June 21th-22th., at it's new location - Jordan Lake, Vista Point. The notice of race is posted on the website:

http://www.carolinasailingclub.org/events/regattas/govcup/govcup_2003_nor.pdf

Social Committee Report

Socials

Now that our sailing season is underway, there is plenty of opportunity to have some fun off the water. Here's what's up:

Monthly Social. Our next gathering will be on **THURSDAY, June 19th** before the big Gov. Cup weekend. We'll meet again at the Cape Fear Crab House (520 St. Mary's St., Raleigh, 754-0008). Be there at 6:30pm for the raising of flags and enjoy the nautical atmosphere and great seafood. Directions are on the website.

Breakfasts & Socials at Kerr Lake Series on both days. In addition to Saturdays, the Board has approved the cost for using the Glass House on Sundays so we'll all have a place to gather for breakfast and to dry out, cool off, and socialize before we head home. Next Kerr (at Jordan Lake this time only) socials are at the Governor's Cup weekend **June 21-22**.

Come on out, stick around after racing and join the eats, drinks, and socializing !

Alan Backus - Social Committee

Junior Sailing Program

OPTIs at Jordan

On the way to Raleigh for a Carolina Sailing Club Foundation Board meeting, our esteemed commodore wondered aloud if there were a way to get the kids out on the water in the OPTIs on a nice, warm, windy day. We dropped the trailer, loaded with two boats at IFG and talked about the virtues of Kerr vs. Jordan. Conversation meandered around children's activities and the annoyance of sending kids to school on Memorial Day led to the realization that many parents probably do not have grand plans for the weekend. Our commodore, every ready with the ideas, suggested an OPTI event. He even offered to drive the motorboat! After the time and date were decided upon, it was up to me to gather the boats from their far-flung temporary homes in Durham, Hillsborough and North Raleigh, let parents know the boats would be out and hope that someone showed up. Sunday, like most of the weekend, dawned cold, gray and wet, but by 11am a break in the Doppler radar downpour was suggested for the afternoon. John said go for it and we were off and running to set up boats. By the time we reached Vista Point, nearly an hour after the appointed start time, the weather had cleared a bit, the wind was gentle and lo and behold, there were kids on the shore, looking for a ride in the OPTI. Four OPTIs, 12 kids, a number of parents, a safety boat and an assortment of vessels ranging from kayak to the Sea Otter was a mix for fun. Every child had the opportunity to go out in a sailboat, some more than once. Thanks to Pat and Barbara Crockett for transporting the fourth OPTI from IFG to Jordan. In addition to Grobin and Norton children, the now experienced Peter Oas was out there shepharding the younger ones. Let's extend a big welcome to the Hoffman, Nolan and Peterson families, all with experienced sailors and the desire to become a sailing family. We were even visited by Dan Richards, who ostensibly came to "check out the new investment", but could be secretly trying to start an adult OPTI fleet. Unfortunately, the acute hearing of our commodore's daughter detected thunder all too soon. The savvy 4th grader used technology (via a phone call to her mom) to confirm the situation and dad was able to get everyone off the water safely. As it was, I believe we were able to enjoy the one sunny hour over the whole weekend out on the lake in our new-to-us OPTIs. As our experienced racers get better, these informal events will ease our less experienced sailors into the sport. For me, the event concluded with the ceremonial dropping off of the trailer to be re-constructed and built into a multi-hull hauler by our very own Tom Rummage and Dayna Wittman.

Note from a Parent

Because of the generosity of other sailors and the dedication of Amy Grobin, the CSC is expecting--expecting the development of young sailors, that is, who know the bow from the stern, port from starboard (well, most of the time) and

maybe even tacking and gybing. The recent forays of several pre-teen sailing students into the cove at Vista Point marks another step forward for our next generation of CSC sailors. An ever so slight breeze lured these youngsters away from shore, several for the first time without Mommy or Daddy--rites of passage for both. Excitement at handling the tiller without being told what to do for the youth and trepidation by the watchful parents who turned them loose, hoping that the breeze was enough for a little fun but not enough to head to Ebenezer Church on the other side of Jordan Lake, thereby making the risky Bombastic Bass Boat crossing. Not to worry. The design of the Optimist is pure genius. It has all the right parts combined with a built-in "governor", the legendary pram shape which limits hull speed to a nice, controllable two knots or less. These boats are a real gift, in more ways than one, to our next generation. A hearty thank you to the CSC members who made this possible and an enthusiastic welcome to other young ones with their eager smiles and squeals of delight as they strike out into the magical world of sailing for the first time.

Submitted by Stan Hoffman, father of Sarah, Joey, & Jonny

OPTI Sailing at Kerr Lake

What a wet weekend for sailing! Our OPTI sailors were hard at it for two days of sailing. Tommy Coleman got things off to a terrific start with tactics and dry drills on how to sail an OPTI.

Young sailors, Peter, Julia, Owen, Kaity, Kelsey and Allison traded time at the whiteboard and knot tying exercises. In spite of the problems with a lack of rudders and no working powerboat, an enormous amount of fun was had in the water capsizing and righting the boats. Tommy kept everyone safe and happy, but they were plenty cold and wet. Judy Rysdon and Tom Hudgens



are our grandparents extraordinaire ready with towels and dry clothes to warm up the sopping wet young sailors after a day of dunking. Just as soon as they were warm and dry and happily playing games, our young sailors were given the opportunity to head out to the cove when adult racers started trickling onshore. The room erupted in a chorus of "nos" yet Tommy coaxed them out on the water in two-person teams. While the adult racers were socializing, the kids were out there in teams of two whipping around Henderson Point's small cove. Screams of

joy (we think!) could be heard at the far reaches of the parking lot. Two kids in an OPTI leaves the rudder out of the water in a jibe and some of the jibes out there were pretty quick. Allison had the group following her in short order. She certainly picked up some sailing skills in Bermuda last summer! After breaking down the equipment and drying off once more, our young sailors were ready for a warm ride home. We said good-bye to Tommy and hoped Sunday would bring less rain.

Alas, Sunday was not much drier, but the motorboat was running, we had more rudders and a boat for every kid. John Parnell arrived early to rig the boats and our young sailors had some quality time on the water. They even reached around a few marks! John comes to us as an experienced OPTI racer from Michigan and hopefully will be around for the remainder of our season. John had the kids out racing first thing. They were reluctant at first and wanted to ride two to a boat, but John was patient and persistent. He had them out drilling around the bouys and doing informal capsizing drills. (A favorite from the day before!) Many thanks to parents; Mike Humphreys, Terry and Elizabeth Oas and John Powell, without whom the weekend would have been a bust. A very special thank you to our grandparents! Tom Hudgens



and Judy Rysdon are so committed to building this program that they were willing to endure the wet, cold weather along with their charges. Watch for future sailors, for the grandchildren of Judy and Tom are soon to be on the water.

Junior Sailing Events

Calling all Junior Sailors!

Thanks to all our parents, grandparents and super sailing kids, we have had a wonderful start to the season! More importantly, a generous donation to the Carolina Sailing Club Foundation has facilitated the purchase of 4 OPTIs, now available for charter (see website for details;

<http://www.carolinasailingclub.org/events/junior.htm>).

Our next scheduled junior event is the Lake Norman Yacht Club July 4th Regatta <http://www.lakenormanyachtclub.com/News/events-results.asp?EventID=1>

Provided the multiboat trailer is completed and we have a volunteer to pull the trailer, we will haul charterable boats to Lake Norman for the event. Lake Norman is a wonderful venue and they host a terrific party with excellent green fleet coaching. Lets get a great team together and have a strong showing of CSC OPTIs!

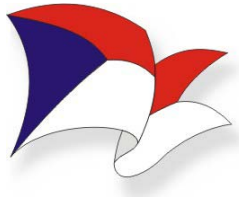
To be considered as a charter for one of the 4 OPTIs, send your \$25 check made out to Carolina Sailing Club Foundation to the Junior Director at the following address BY JUNE 21:

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

Additionally, I hope you are planning to be at the Governor's Cup
<http://www.carolinasailingclub.org/events/regattas.htm#gc>

The Governor's Cup Regatta is featured in the June issue of Southern Living and promises to be a great family event again this year! There should be some fun social time for the juniors to get together, hang out and watch the racing. Junior sailors will be recognized during the competitor's meeting, so please let me know if you will be there.

Sail Onward OPTIs!
Amy



Kerr Lake Series

KERR LAKE SUMMER SERIES 1st Weekend Report by Bob Graves

The Raleigh weather report called for cloudy skies, 5-10 knot winds and NO RAIN. The weatherman was wrong! The 20 skippers that braved the elements saw rain and gusty winds in the 12-15 range. The fleet broke out like this: Thistles (4); Tanzer (6); Isotopes (7); Flying Scott (2); Lightning (1).

Joining the fleet this weekend was a contingency of 6-7 kids who were having their own clinic and racing their newly donated Optimist Prams.

John Norton and his Race Committee did a fine job of setting up a W/L, twice around course for the 3 races on Saturday. This lone Lightning skipper can't tell you too much about the class competition since the Isotopes and Thistles were all way ahead of him and the Tanzer's and Flying Scotts were all behind.

Sunday weather conditions were similar and my crew and I had dry clothes and were pumped up. One small glitch thought – I had put on a trailer lock and, you guess it, forgot the key back in Lake Gaston (1 hour away). Hacksaw and bolt cutters didn't work. One always learns something at every racing event. So my little pearl that I pass on to you is...always have a spare key in your glovebox.

See results of the 1st Kerr series on our website. Hope to see everyone at the Governor's Cup in June.

Bottoms Up Regatta

Thistle Fleet 155 Shows It's Bottom

On June 7th and 8th 3 boats from fleet 155 traveled to Columbia, South Carolina to sail in the "Bottom's Up" Regatta at Lake Murray Sailing Club. Steve Peterson and Craig Ambler, John and Lauren Norton, and Kevin Sheehan, Amy and Charlie Hitlin all participated in this namesake event. Friday's weather forecast for the weekend promised high winds from the SSW. As luck would have it for the 3 person crews, the forecast held and the event saw 17-22 knot winds on Saturday and 8-15 knot winds on Sunday. 22 Thistles were in attendance, many of which were hoping for lighter then forecasted winds since they were sailing with only 2 people. The heavier 3 person crews could not have been happier to get onto the course on Saturday to a building wind.

After a short postponement, the racing began in what was a very steady 17-22 knots from the SSW. All three boats from the Triangle successfully completed the 3 scheduled races for Saturday. However, John and Lauren Norton (sailing about 200lbs too light) had some problems keeping the boat driving and flat in the high winds. They still completed all races and you could see Lauren's smile from across the lake as they surfed downwind. Steve Peterson on his new red boat, 3846, also had screaming downwind legs, but a little more trouble holding the boat upwind with only there 2 person crew. In race 2, after rounding the leeward mark, Steve decided to try a new hiking technique that didn't utilize the hiking straps. As he went back, and over, he managed to hold onto the mainsheet and tiller while the boat happily leaned over on its side to show its "bottom." When the red boat was not upside down, Steve and Craig did very well in the heavy conditions that were experienced. Kevin Sheehan's first Thistle event didn't leave his bottom exposed, but a more conservative crew decided not to fly the spinnaker and avoided joining the other swimmers. This conservative approach left Kevin in 10th place on Saturday, a major cue in this very competitive class.

Sunday came way too early and all 22 boats were back on the line eager to do better since the wind diminished to the 8-15 knot range. I think all boats were able to keep the pointy ends up and the racing was much more competitive. Even with the one mile upwind courses, most boats managed to stay together at mark roundings and everyone was trying to improve there positions from the previous days swimming lessons. After 2 tight, back to back races, everyone was a bit tired and sore (in a good way) and sailed back to the club for the awards ceremony. In addition to the typical 1st through 3rd place winners, this regatta has another tradition. To award a "Bottom's Up" trophy to the boat that, well, was bottom's up the most. This year's winner went to Tom Dressler from Lake Norman Yacht Club sailing with his friend who was never before in a Thistle, and who only sailed a few times on "large" cats in the past. Even after flipping 3 times on Saturday, they both came back for more on Sunday. This courageous act awarded them this "line honor." As far as



our Triangle finisher's are concerned, Kevin came in 13th, Steve in 15th, and the Norton team in 16th place. This is a fantastic regatta and one of our closest at only about 4 hours from the Triangle area. The club house and grounds are wonderful, and air conditioned, and the lake is very large and one of the prettiest we sail on. I would encourage anyone that has not yet been to a Thistle event to choose this one next year. As far as upcoming opportunities outside the club in the next two months:

July 5-6 - SE Interdistricts in Ft. Walton, FL

July 12-13 - Atlantic Coast Championships in Annapolis, MD

Aug 2-8 - Thistle Nationals

Look for more regatta updates and fleet happenings in the next newsletter and in between then, let's go sailing!

Charlie Hitlin

Fleet 155 Fleet Captain

#0000 Boatless

Lake Norman Hospice Regatta

Lake Norman Hospice Regatta 2003

Lake Norman Yacht Club was the host of the third annual Lake Norman Hospice Regatta on May 31st-June 1st. This regatta benefits Hospice at Charlotte and Lincoln County in North Carolina.

The Isotope fleet was in attendance for this regatta with a total of three boats, with all boats sailing 2-up; Robin Sweeney and myself, Eric and Joleen Rasmussen, and Kemp and Jackson Harris.

Saturday, May 31st started out with rain but did clear by 9:00 AM and we were able to get in three races before 3 PM . The wind was good all day (white caps). Sunday, June 1st brought a change in weather; no rain but heavy winds and a rough chop on Lake Norman. Kemp and Jackson had some equipment problems on Saturday and did not sail again on Sunday. Robin and I set out along with the Rasmussens to race around 10 AM. We were all game to give it a try even with the heavy winds and rough water – hey this is what we came here for!

Eric and Joleen took their fourth bullet of the weekend . Robin and I gave it a whirl but after having seen a large boat lose it's sail and the wind picking up even more, we decided to retire to shore before we became a casualty. All races after the first one were cancelled by the race committee due to high winds and rough seas.

I'm looking forward to returning to Lake Norman next year and am hopeful that the weather will be more cooperative.

Walter Brier –
Isotope 427

Lightning Fleet Report

Lightning Fleet Notes

Spring heralds the Southeastern Lightning District Racing Series. Avis Bridgers, with crew Henry Bridgers and Dan Slone, attended the first regatta of the season at Lake Wylie. They were sitting in second place after Saturday's races and would have come in third but for a sea lawyer situation between another boat and the race committee.

The Bridgers Team, together with David Raley's Team, Alan Krauss's Team and John Pelosi's Team journeyed to Lake Norman two weeks later. Winds were about 12 to 15 and the weather was terrible, rainy and cold, perfect for sailing because of no motor boat traffic. Pelosi's Team came in 3rd, with Avis, Alan and Dave not far behind in a field of 15 boats. Having four boats from the Wake Fleet was really nice

Alan's Team and the Pelosi Team went to the Lightning Regatta in Wilmington two weeks after Lake Norman. Wind on Saturday averaged 20 to 30 knots. This may have been the reason the Pelosi Team arrived late to the starting line and started 5 minutes after everyone else. They were only able to catch three of the 15 boats at the finish line. Unbelievably, they were late to the line again for the second race, but this time by only a few seconds. This time they finished third, almost nipping Bob Harkrider at the line. Winds had built by the end of the second race to the point the race committee abandoned further racing and we all had the awesome thrill of planing under jib and main all the way in the Masonboro Inlet. It was white knuckles all the way. The bad news was trying to jibe at the end of the inlet to start the reach to the club. We rounded up, took in a bunch of water, but didn't capsize. Another boat capsized, righted, capsized, righted and did it again, finally making it to the club. Two other boats capsized on the course, resulting in bent spreaders. Both CSC Teams avoided capsizing or other injury. The wind was still blowing on Sunday. We all went out to the course, with winds averaging 23 to 27, but when the race committee started recording gusts to 42 knots, they pulled the plug and sent us in. It always amazes me to learn what kind of wind we were sailing in when we reach shore. If I had known it was blowing 42...

It's been a difficult year, locally, with water levels too high in April to access Kerr Lake. There is still concern about lake levels for the Governor's Cup, but we are optimistic. We haven't been in touch with others in our fleet, but I understand Ed Michels is spending full time getting his house ready to put on the market, Michael Rees is engaged in non-stop medical work and John Chaplinsky spends more time in Puerto Rico than home.

We are hoping for a successful Governor's Cup, which also hosts the South Eastern Lightning District Championship Regatta. We hope that some of our

local fleet will join the out-of-town boats to see what it's like to sail in a fleet larger than the three or four we usually have at Jordan.

Tanzer State Championships

Mayor's Cup Regatta and Tanzer 16 State Championship

On the wettest Saturday in June in recorded history, the Greensboro Mayor's Cup Regatta was held at Lake Townsend along with the Tanzer 16 State Championship. There were only five Tanzers that braved the elements for the competition. Since it took six boats to have a separate start, the Tanzers started with the other boats in the Open Monohull Class. There were 17 boats registered in this class but not all competed in every race; this included the 5 Tanzers along with boats from the following classes: Buccaneer, Capri, Javelin, Laser, Lightning, McScow, Vanguard 15, and San Juan 21. This made for an interesting collection on the course and especially at the starting line. In addition, there were Isotope and Flying Scot classes for a total of 32 boats.

The Tanzer competition consisted of Esther Khoury and John Goodman, Bob Macklen with Michael and Costen Gregory, David and Paul Mobley, Pete Thorn and Isaac Greenslade, and Ken Whitt with Neil McKemman. So, even though the group was relatively small, the competition was expected to be very keen. Esther was the local favorite from Lake Townsend and was also assisting with administering the Regatta. Macklen was the local hero in his neighborhood by taking the two boys sailing for the first time. The Mobleys had just returned from a sailing junket in the British Virgin Islands and were sporting a fresh red paint job on the inside of their boat. However, Thorn and Whitt were expected to be the ones to watch for at the finish.

It was mostly a light mist for the first race on Saturday and the winds were not excessive for small boats. The rain began in earnest by the second race and continued off and on for most of the remainder of the day. Two Isotopes capsized in the second race as the wind intensity increased. The wind decreased some for the third race but the rain continued. However, with the foul weather gear that most were wearing, the conditions were not bad as the temperature was pleasant. The wind was gusty and shifty and rewarded those who found themselves in the right spot on the course. The courses were two-lap Windward-Leeward with a downwind finish.

On Sunday morning, it was foggy and misty but not a breath of air was moving at race time. Most boats were towed to the race course and waited patiently for an hour or so before the predicted breeze arrived. The Race Committee wasted no time in starting a series. The courses were a Triangle/Windward-Leeward with a downwind finish. The winds continued to

build slightly throughout the morning and managed to arrive from different directions and at different places on the lake to keep it interesting.

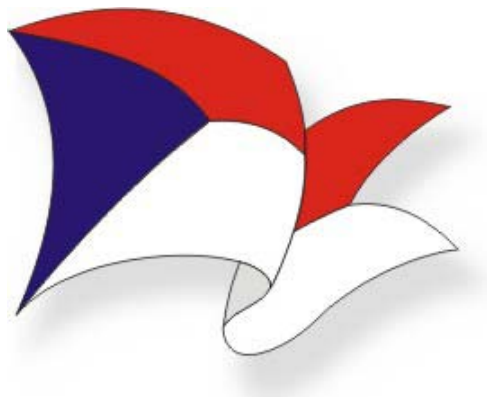
As it turned out, Macklen had a fun time teaching the next generation about sailing but sacrificed racing in the process. On Saturday, the Mobleys ended up claiming the day while Whitt claimed the day on Sunday. However, Thorn was right behind them on each day. The competition was generally very close every race with the three lead boats finishing within 29 seconds in one race. The Mobleys wanted to be nice to Esther since she had worked so hard on the Regatta and spotted her a place in one race. In this case, that meant that nice guys finish third as Thorn and Whitt tied for first with the Mobleys a point behind—they knew how Funny Cide felt at the Belmont Stakes. The tie breaker process awarded the Tanzer 16 State Championship to Whitt while the Mayor's Cup for the Open Monohull Class went to Thorn. Whitt was second in the Open Class and the Mobleys were again third. This indicates how close the competition was and how well the Tanzer sailors did relative to the other boats in the race. Eric Rasmussen, a fellow CSC sailor, won the Isotope Class so CSC was well represented at the winners circle.

The results for the Tanzer State Championship were as follows:

Race:	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Whitt/McKemman	3	3	2	1	1	10*
Thorn/Greenslade	2	1	3	2	2	10
Mobley/Mobley	1	2	1	4	3	11
Khoury/Goodman	4	4	4	3	4	19
Macklen/Gregorys	5	5	5	5	5	25

Wins tie breaker with most first place finishes.

By David Mobley
Skipper # 286
06/10/03



The Edenton Bay Challenge

THE EDENTON BAY CHALLENGE

JULY 26-27, 2003

The Town of Edenton, the Edenton-Chowan Chamber, and the Edenton Yacht Club are pleased to host this One-design sailing event for Tanzer 16s, Windmills, Sunfish, and Optimists. This multi-race regatta will be governed by the current International Yacht Racing Rules, any appropriate class rules, and the sailing instructions that will be made available at the competitors meeting. The Tanzers and Windmills will sail on Course A Saturday and Sunday. The Sunfish and Optimists will sail Saturday only on Course B. All classes will sail windward/leeward, Olympic, or triangles as described in the racing instructions. The low point scoring system will be used.

Schedule of events:

Saturday, July 26	0900	Late registration
	1000	Competitors meeting
	1300	Race 1 followed by 2 and 3 (all Classes)
	1800	Social, Dinner and Awards presentations for Sunfish and Optimists
Sunday, July 27	0900	Race 4 (Tanzer and Windmill only)
	1200	Lunch
	1300	Awards Presentations

Note: Variance from schedule will not be honored as grounds for protest.

Note: Lunch is only provided on Sunday.

Entry Fee:

Make your plans to attend !!

<u>Boat</u>	<u>Registration</u>	<u>Includes</u>
Tanzer 16	\$45	2 dinners, 2 Sunday lunches
Windmill	\$45	2 dinners, 2 Sunday lunches
Sunfish	\$15	1 dinner
Sunfish-Jr	\$10	1 dinner
Optimists	\$10	1 dinner

Please mail advance registration to Nancy Nicholls, P O Box 245, Edenton, NC 27932. Make checks payable to The Edenton Bay Challenge.

For additional information please contact Nancy Nicholls at 800- 775-0111, Jim Elliott at 252-482-2121 or check our web page at www.edenton.com.

The Edenton Bay Challenge

Entry Form

Name _____ Boat class _____
Address _____ Sail number _____
City/State/Zip _____ Club/Fleet _____
Phone # _____

Appropriate Class Fee (Tanzer, Windmill, etc) _____
Additional lunches no. _____ x \$3.00 _____
Additional dinners no. _____ x \$10.00 _____

Total _____

The undersigned hereby assumes for himself and his crew all risk of accident and expressly agrees that The Edenton Bay Challenge and It's Organizers will not be liable, under any circumstances, for loss or injury to participants or others, loss or damage to any yacht. The undersigned further agrees to hold the Organizers free and harmless under, from and against any and all losses, costs, damages, attorney's fees and liabilities of any kind or nature whatsoever, growing out of or resulting from his or his crew's participation in this event.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

CSC Member's Weekend Cruise

Over Memorial Day weekend, Tana and I set out in "Kate", our legacy Starwind 19, for a pleasant 3 day cruise to eastern North Carolina's Pamlico River. We launched at McCotter's Marina in Washington, NC, about 3pm Saturday afternoon. By 7pm, we had arrived in Bath, NC - a journey of 10 miles. We sailed at first, then motored as the wind died.

Bath is the oldest incorporated town in NC. There are many preserved and historically significant homes there, but the population is still only about 300 residents. The streets and homes all retain the original colonial layout and charm. Located on a peninsula about 20-25 feet above the harbor, Bath is surrounded on three sides by water. There are views of Bath harbor, a sheltered and safe anchorage. Earlier, while we quietly, slowly motored through the harbor up to Bath, we watched a wedding service conducted where now we stood. (In fact, we had seen two weddings in progress on shore just a couple of hundred feet from one another.) Except for some flower pedals on the lawn, these nuptial parties left no trace.

Bath predates the oldest state university in the United States, UNC at Chapel Hill, by more than 50 years. It's a very old, very pretty place that doesn't seem to have changed much. Edward Teach, a/k/a Blackbeard the Pirate, is probably Bath's most infamous native son.

<http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs/bath/bath.htm>

The first night, we stayed at the Bath Marina Motel's transient boat slip - so we could explore Bath AND take baths, actually showers, in the marina's facilities. Paul Minor, our friendly and helpful marina owner, offered to drive me to get the truck and trailer at McCotter's and take it to Belhaven, 27 miles further downriver, so we could spend the next 2 days sailing to Belhaven and pull out there. After considering his generous offer, we declined and decided just to explore the river around Bath a little longer. After a good night's sleep and breakfast, we set sail downriver for Indian Island. <http://www.bathharbor.com/index.html>

Indian Island, we learned, got it's name because colonial Indians met there to organize for an attack on colonial Bath. It's a small, uninhabited island off the southern shoreline, about 8-10 miles from Bath. We planned to eat lunch there and sail back.

Everything was going fine until mid-morning, when the wind picked up to about 15 knots out of the SE and the fetch across 50 miles of open Pamlico Sound started producing 3' waves with a short "shallow-bottom" wave period. Tana was below trying to nap. I waited too long before shortening sail and the chop and the going-to-windward pounding through choppy waves rattled Tana. About halfway there, we changed course, turned downwind, and shortened from the 180 to the 110 jib. Then everything settled down a bit.

Lessons learned: 1) shorten sail early; 2) all hands on deck when going to

windward when the wind picks up; 3) Tana doesn't like going to windward when it's windy and choppy;

We sailed back into Bath harbor, set the anchor for lunch, and then settled in for a nice, long afternoon nap. That evening, we relocated our anchorage for the night near a classic Phillip Rhodes designed ketch (circa 1960) in a windward protected cove in Bath harbor. We ate dinner, went to sleep early, and slept well and long . . . until the storm hit.

At about 4:30am on Memorial Day, a big thunderstorm passed over us from the SW. Tana and I could see and hear it coming, so we had plenty of time to prepare. We took down the insect screens, secured the hatches and peered out the windows with wide eyes. The thunder and lightning made a violent symphony on the horizon, and soon, it was over us. The boat swung in a slow circle at anchor as the wind veered around with the storm's passing. Kate's big anchor held securely in the sandy bottom. In an hour it was over. As the storm passed, the night did too. We emerged from Kate's cabin to her cockpit to find everything onboard outside washed very clean by the rain! It was a clean, fresh new morning. We ate breakfast and weighed anchor for the trip back to little Washington.

There was a lot of calm after the storm so we mostly motored back under sail--motor sailing. Tana skippered almost the entire way back. At McCotter's we spent less than an hour getting the boat on the trailer and ready for the road--the best and smoothest de-rigging yet! After using McCotter's showers and freshening up for the trip, we departed little Washington before noon.

This is the second trip for Tana and me in Kate. The first, Kate's shakedown trip, was exactly one year earlier on Memorial Day 2002 at Hampton Rhodes, VA, at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. By comparison to the first trip, we are getting much better at cruising. Everything seemed to happen more smoothly and without as many breakdowns or problems as the first trip. We're just getting better and better, me at slowing down and Tana at enjoying sailing. These are real challenges for us both!

Admittedly, Tana would probably describe this trip somewhat differently. For those of you interested in her point of view, well -- you'll just have to ask her.

Peter Thorn
Tanzer Class

EDITOR'S NOTE

If you have any articles or photos for the newsletter please e-mail them to George McKim at gmckim@bellsouth.net