

Carolina Sailing Club Newsletter

AROUND THE MARKS

August 2003

Officers:

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



John Joleen Meg David

Commodore's Comments

I don't know how long this newsletter will be but I can tell you I could fill it up just telling you about all the great sailing and activities there have been this year and what's ahead. I'd also like to tell you about what's going on at the Board Meetings and what's happening behind the scenes. Since I am a big believer in keeping the newsletter short I'll just highlight some of the above and if you'd like more information on anything just let me know.

- The club's in great shape financially. The Governors Cup was a huge success but not the large moneymaker it's been in the past, due to the change in venue.
- The website is being moved to a more user friendly site that will greatly benefit the membership.
- Junior Sailing has taken off and is doing well in its infancy. It has already added new members and interest to the club.
- The Lady Ann and all equipment is in good order.
- Races are going off without much trouble and being manned by trained RC.
- The newsletter is beautiful and going out on schedule.
- Oriental was as much fun as ever and continues to be a special event for the club.
- CSC members are competing all over the Southeast as competitors, RC and crew.
- The socials have been well attended and members look forward to each event.
- Potential members are showing up at Jordan Lake and getting rides with members.
- The foundation has purchased 4 optimist dinghies and built a 6-boat trailer for them.

All this and we're only half way through the year. None of this would have been possible without the hard work of the Board and the membership. Many have seen something they thought needed to be done and they just did it. Like another Irishman once said, "Ask not what your club can do for you, ask what you can do for your club".

John (the other Irishman)



Oriental Sailing Social

This year's Oriental Sailing Social featured storms, high winds, and rain. The sailing started off on Saturday morning, with good wind and the threat of impending thunderstorms.

Almost all the boats made it out to the race course with little or no problem and the races were started soon thereafter. The wind was blowing nicely at this point and all the classes sailed an Olympic course, which, obviously, is a reaching course. Ideal for Fireballs.

The Open Monohull Class started last. By the time we got to the windward mark, the wind was really going and it was time for a blast reach, which was fast, wild, and really splashy.

Lightning was striking near the leeward mark and by this time, most of the Isotopes were heading for shore. The fast reaches aided us, and we ended up winning the race by 4 seconds over John O'Conner. Racing was abandoned after the first race, and everyone went in. The ride in seemed to be the best wind of the day with winds up to about 20 and



gusting higher than that, and was strong enough that it reminded me of the Fireball Midwinters in Tampa. By the time we got in, it seemed like the storm was starting to pass over, but no one really seemed to want to go back out anyways. In light of that, people prepared their boats to leave them overnight and socialized until the big raffle. Yours truly got a hat, and just

about everyone in the race got a door prize. Sunday the weather was a little more tolerable and we got two races in, after a long postponement waiting for the wind to fill in. After the races, the awards were handed out. The awards this year were really cool. The skippers in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th got bookends and the crews got picture frames with little knots tied and labeled inside. The winning skipper got a

clock, and each class got 4 trophies, regardless of how many boats were in it. John

Pelosi won the Lightning class, Dick Schultz won the Flying Scot class, Pete Thorn won the Tanzer class, James Howard won the Isotope class, and John O'Connor won the Open Monohull class



Kerr Series – July 19th & 20th

The weatherman (weatherperson?) -- or at least one of them -- said the weekend would be in the upper 80's with possible thunderstorms at some time somewhere. It was perversely reassuring to see a normal July-in-the-piedmont forecast. Word came over e-mail and the website that July's Kerr Lake regatta would be at Jordan Lake – high water at Kerr again. On Saturday morning the wind forecast claimed there would be some wind, though light.

And so it was. PRO Dan Russell and his Race Committee set up a Modified Olympic course for the fleet of twenty-something boats. They ran three starts: Isotopes, a combined start for Thistles, Lightning and Open, and a third start for the Tanzers. All the fleets got away in good shape.

The wind was probably around 5ish, and oscillating. There was lots of cloud cover, and even some random sprinkles here & there. For a while the right side of the course near the (east) shore would look good, and then it would look better on the left side, out in the lake. It was that kind of day.

As the race wore on and the clouds cleared and the sun heated up, the holes got bigger. The name of the game became “I don't care what direction it's blowing, just find me some wind.” If you could get to get to where it was blowing, you could move along pretty reasonably. If you found yourself in a hole, eventually some wind would march down the lake to you, but it could take some time to get there.

Then things got *really* slow. The wind just dropped. The course was shortened for the Tanzers, whose class had started last, but even with the shortened course they struggled to finish.

We waited gamely for a while to see if the wind would pick up. Some of the sailors followed the wise example of RC helpers Anna and Meg Russell, who were having a wonderful time just swimming and floating around the Committee boat. Eventually, though, it became clear that nothing would happen for a while, wind-wise, so we packed it up and headed in.

In the meantime, the Juniors had been giving it a good run off Ebenezer Church in the Optimists. You see, the Grobins and the other Junior supporters had arranged for John Parnell to make a return trip as coach for the Juniors. The event was planned to run concurrently with this month's Kerr regatta, and when it moved the Juniors moved too. Club members can now charter Optimist dinghies from the Club for their Junior sailors to use. The Opti fleet was transported to the beach at Ebenezer on the newly modified trailer built by Tom Rummage (thanks Tom!). In the early part of the day there was wind off the beach on that side of the lake, and the kids were zipping around their own course like anybody's business and having a good time.

It was a well-supplied and well-attended social later that afternoon, as people wound down and tried retroactively to dissect the race and the wind patterns.

Sunday dawned without any hints that things might improve. But we went out anyway, because... well, because sometimes it's a good thing for hope to triumph over experience. The committee boats and most of the sailors launched, just in the off chance that some wind might show up. We also hung around close to the docks, just in case it didn't. There wasn't even enough wind to set a course by. Everybody floated around amiably for a while – not too long – and then we all came in. This gave us enough time for another social on land under the trees -- an opportunity we weren't about to miss.

So that was it for the July edition of the Kerr Lake Series– a one-race regatta. But it was a good race, not to mention a good excuse for extra socializing. That's just the way the weather cards are dealt sometimes. And hey, as one sailor there noted, any day at the lake beats the heck out of mowing the lawn!

Junior Sailing Program

Dear Junior Sailors and parents:

There are 6 OPTIs (4 foundation, 2 private) available for charter for the August Kerr Lake series (August 16 and 17). If you are interested in one of these charters, please send me a check made out to the Carolina Sailing Club Foundation for \$25. If there are more than 6 kids interested by August 4, there will be a lottery.

Also, volunteers are need to help out that weekend. Please let me know if you can be of assistance.

The OPTI trailer is just about finished and I'd like to take 6 CSC OPTIs to Lake Norman's Labor Day regatta -

<http://www.lakenormanyachtclub.com/News/events-results.asp?EventID=21>

The camping is easy, the sailing fun and the kids will have a blast together. If you are interested, please let me know.

Finally, the course of CSC junior sailing needs to be chartered for the future and planning for next year begun. Please reserve the evening of Tuesday, September 30 for a general meeting. Time and place to be announced.

Sail on!

Amy C. Grobin
109 Cardiff Place
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
(919)968-4618

Meet the Junior Sailing Coach

The July Kerr series at Jordan Lake did not see much wind. However, the kids had a blast, splashing and playing in the water between boats (mom and dad's and their own!) We also had the pleasure of a return engagement of our OPTI coach, John Parnell.

For those of you who had not had the opportunity to introduce yourself to John, here is a bit of background.

John Parnell grew up sailing on Lake Michigan with the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. He has raced FJs and 420s extensively, placing first and second in many club divisions over the years as well as 25th in the 1998 Orange Bowl and 16th in the 2001 420 Nationals. He is an experienced FJ Racing Instructor. Importantly, for us, he has been an OPTI sailing instructor since 2000.

John moved from Michigan to NC to pursue studies at UNC-Charlotte. He sorely missed competitive sailing, and sought out our club as a potential way to re-join the world of youth sailing. John describes himself as having a "a strong passion for the water" and "thoroughly enjoy[s] sailing and would like to spread my love for the sport to other eager learners."

Here is how other sailors describe John:

"As an older member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club Sailing Team he was a leader and role model for other sailors. His focused, upbeat attitude was contagious at practice. He also was known ... as someone who always kept extra special care of his equipment and boat. Personally, I liked John for his down-to-earth and mature attitude and enjoyed his company."-- Eric Nix, Grosse Point, MI

"I believe John has a solid base of theoretical knowledge and practical sailing experience that would serve him very well as a sailing instructor."--- Patrick J. Barry, Jr., Sailing Master

Please introduce yourself to John at the next Kerr series. He would like to know about our club and each of you. You will find his infectious smile with the kids, doing tricks in the OPTIs.

Reflections on Organizing The 2003 Governor's Cup Regatta

Although the end results of this year's Governor's cup were excellent, I can tell you that the process of getting there was definitely contentious. Despite the fact that Kerr Lake had been unusable all year, few of us actually thought that it would still be at flood level all the way into late June, We kept waiting for the rains to cease but it seemed as though Ms. Mother Nature had gone berserko

and she was just unable to stop her weeping. As the regatta drew near the Governor's Cup staff repeatedly mused over the lake level projections and discussed the situation ad nauseum unwilling to accept the fact that Henderson Point was fading as a viable option. John Pelosi and Joleen Rasmussen explored several other launch sites on Kerr Lake. But as the water continued to rise these other options also slowly disappeared below the murky water. We investigated Lake Townsend, Lake Gaston, Lake Waccamaw and Lake Jordon. The more we researched the clearer it became that Vista Point was our best option. David Brown was our point man with the staff at Lake Jordon and did a fantastic job of negotiating special exceptions needed in order to use the site. Finally, the deal was sealed.

Now that a new site was secured all we had to do was find a new caterer, secure a big tent for a shelter, rent tables and chairs for 200 people, revise the trophy engraving order, revise the shirt order, redo the publicity, Etc., Etc.. Could we do it? Joleen and Alan Backus, with some help from the rest of us, did an awesome job of plowing through the list of to-do's knocking off one task after another. As the weekend of racing approached all the pieces began to fall into place. The shirts came in just in time as did the trophies. The Friday night set up and pre-registration went smoothly and we were on a roll. The tent was delivered and put up and the tables and chairs were set up by the CSC land crew. The place began to look like a sure-enough Regatta.

Saturday morning Alan and Pat Backus, together with other volunteers laid out a nice Continental breakfast for the fleet. Registration, supervised by Dee Prather went smoothly, which was no small task considering we had boat registration, meal tickets, waivers, plus personalized polo shirts to distribute.

Later, out on the water, the wind was extremely cooperative and PRO Joleen ran one great race after another. It was just beautiful to see over 90 sailboats winding their way around the courses. The competition was excellent and the Coast Guard Auxiliary did a wonderful job keeping the motorboats from disturbing the racing area..

That afternoon and evening, to the tune of a Bluegrass band, we served up a great social followed by a steak and chicken dinner for over 200 sailors and guests. This was complete with drinks and homemade brownies for desert.

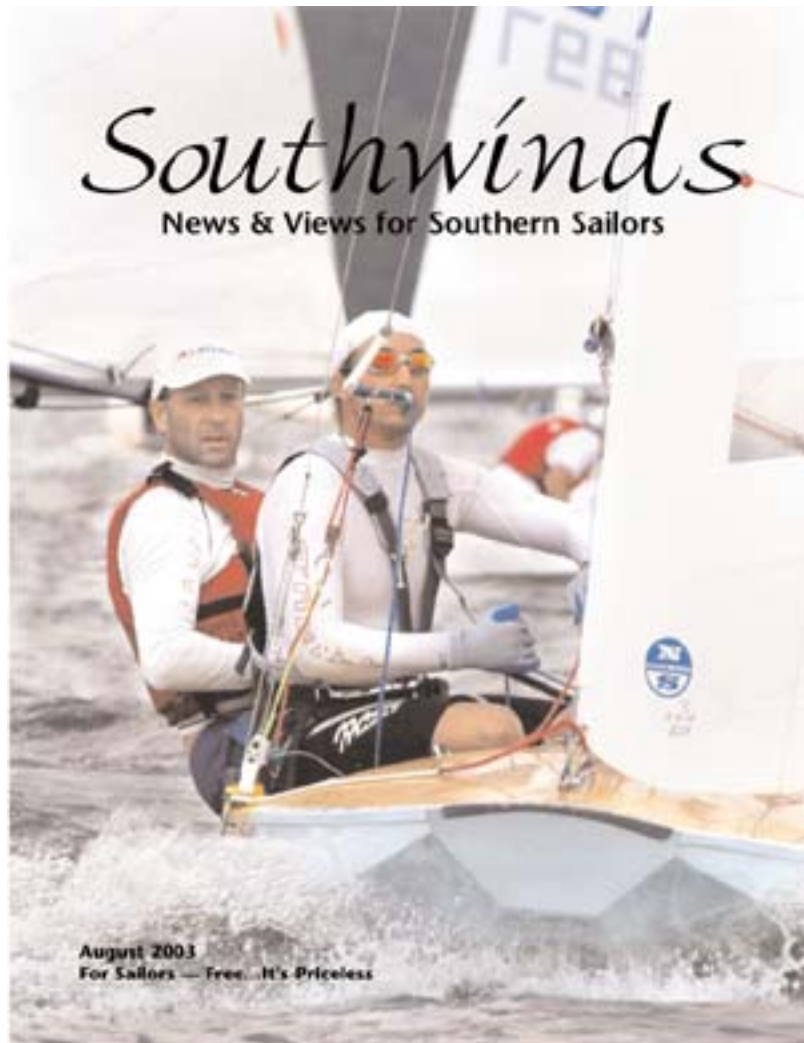
The next morning, the wind kicked up even a little bit more and provided us with yet another day of great sailboat racing.

The award ceremony was filled with suspense due to the closeness in numbers of the fleets and the degree of close racing. But the Lightnings gained the prestigious honor of walking away with The Cup. This was the just the second time this fleet has taken the honors in The Governor's Cup 26 year history.

This years Governor's Cup was a great regatta and certainly well worth the effort put forth, both because of the excellent sailboat racing and also because it was such a pleasure to work with such a great bunch of folks. Finally, a great big thanks to all the sailors who came near and far to sail in this years Governor's Cup and we hope to see you all again next year.

Alan Wolf - Isotope 007 - Special Regattas Coordinator

Southwinds Sailing Magazine – Governor's Cup Regatta Article and Cover Photo



GOVERNOR'S CUP

By Jim Kransberger

See cover photo (above) by Jim Kransberger: Patrick Crump, of Tampa, FL, shakes the mainsheet out, rounding the windward mark as Ned Gross gets ready for the set. The Crump/Goss effort won the Fireball class of NC Governor's Cup and the Fireball Districts.

It may be improbable (and a cause of angst to the brick and mortar, larger and somewhat historic yacht and sailing clubs) but the nearly homeless, somewhat gypsy Carolina Sailing Club of North Carolina throws a very substantial Governor's Cup Regatta. So successful is the event, it garners magazine coverage in *Southern Living's* June 2003 issue; the CSC event took the cover and lead story in a special section entitled "Carolina Living." This year's regatta only confirms that the well executed 46th Annual Governor's Cup Regatta was not a fluke. Normally, CSC holds the event in their home waters (without fixed quarters) in a state park at Kerr Lake, north of Durham and Raleigh, at the Virginia border. The long-absent rain gods have revisited the Southeast, and last year's drought is gone. Docks and launch ramps are now inundated, and access is not possible at many lakes, including Kerr.

The CSC Race Committee merely portaged to another lake and undaunted, moved on with the regatta. They worked with the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and moved the event something on the order of 50 miles (lock, stock and boat) to Point Vista State Park at Jordan Lake, just southwest of Raleigh. While sailors might be accustomed to moving to different sites, seldom does a race committee move its service fleet from pond to pond, a feat accomplished with the grace and perfection of a traveling Ringling Brothers circus.

With all the effort, the first gun was merely five minutes late. Winds were calm to brisk; the line was as square as square can be in oscillating air, and 90 plus boats participated in eight divisions. Those divisions were: Fireball (seven boats), Flying Scot (13), Isotope (17), Lightning (17), Open Monohull (six), Open Multihull (one), Tanzer 16 (15), Thistle (10), and Vanguard 15 (six). The Lightning and Fireball boats added a race and scored their competition as district events.

Joleen Rasmussen, PRO of the Governor's Cup, looks forward to next year and a fleet of well over 100 boats. That would not come as a surprise to those who participated this year.

Governor's Cup Divisional Winners:

Governor's Cup: Pierce Bardon (By finishing ahead of the most boats in fleet),
Lightning: Pierce Bardon; **Isotope:** Alan Wolf; **Flying Scots:** Larry Lewis;
Tanzer 16: Herb Bodman; **Thistle:** John Norton; **Fireball:** Pat Crump (and district winner); **Vanguard 15:** Michael LanMania; **Open Monohull:** Robert Bouknight; **Open Multihull:** Paul Sadowski; **SELD** (Lightning District) Winner: Lenny Krawcheck



TANZER FLEET REPORT

Tanzer Report - August 2003

Congratulations to Bob Macklen and Joleen Rasmussen on winning first place in the Tanzer Fleet at the Edenton Bay Challenge on July 26-27.

The Tanzer Fleet is getting ready for their National Championship Regatta which will be held at the Waccamaw Sailing Club on August 23-24. A strong turnout is expected with excellent sailing conditions, good food and drink, and fun companionship being arranged along with the annual meeting of the Tanzer 16 Class Association.

With 60% of the season completed, Pete Thorn has a commanding lead in the SAYRA Tanzer Season Competition.

Respectfully submitted,
David Mobley
Skipper #286

“CURRENTS” NEWSLETTER ABOUT SOUTHERN DINGHY RACING

Gulfstream Currents' Inaugural Issue is fresh off the printer and ready to hit the post office.

"Currents" is a new newsletter specifically focused on the Southern Dinghy and Racing Sailor. It has many great articles about local and regional events, How to projects, Racing Rules, Fleet development, Schedules, etc.

If you are interested in receiving this newsletter via E-Mail or Snail mail, Please drop Bill Wiggins an E-mail with your address.

Bill Wiggins
Gulfstream Marine
v15850@aol.com

St. Petersburg Trophy

I have received a lot of very positive feedback on the Governor's Cup. I think it would be terrific to submit the Carolina Sailing Club as a candidate for the St Petersburg Trophy. It never crossed my mind prior to the event that I should include this ballot in your registration packet and it wasn't until a skipper suggested it to me a week after the event that I even gave it any thought, whatsoever. I checked with a few mentoring sources, and they agreed, we should go for it. By submitting, we will continue to recognize the effort that CSC, SAYRA, and US Sailing is putting into improving race management and regatta organization in the southeast.

We need 40 completed ballots by end of August. Please take a few moments this week to print out the ballot, and mail to me at:

Joleen Rasmussen
5712 Island Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Personally, the event is quite a blur in my memory, but I suspect you all have some very vivid details. The NOR & SIs are posted on the website should you wish to review.

<http://www.carolinasailingclub.org/events/regattas.htm#gc>

Skipper's Ballot -

http://www.ussailing.org/racemgt/St_Pete_Trophy/Docs/St_Pete_Skipper_Ballot.pdf

More information about the trophy -

http://www.ussailing.org/racemgt/St_Pete_Trophy/index.htm

Polo Shirts for Sale – 2003 Governor's Cup Regatta

Polo Shirts are still available, \$15. (nearly our cost)

Lightning L & XL, Tanzer L & XL, Thistle XL, Flying Scot L & XL

No fleet name X & XL

CSC EVENTS August 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Board of Directors Meeting at 7:15	6	7	8	9 Jordan Lake Series – Vista Point
10	11	12	13	14	15 Social - Cape Fear Crab House at 6:30	16 Kerr Lake Series – Henderson Point
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Note: Race locations are subject to change due to excessive rainfall, stayed tuned to CSC website and e-mail for changes.

CSC EVENTS

September 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Board of Directors Meeting at 7:15	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Jordan Lake Series – Vista Point
14	15	16	17	18	19 Social - Cape Fear Crab House at 6:30	20 Kerr Lake Series – Henderson Point
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks to everyone who submitted material to this issue of the Newsletter.
If you have any articles or photos for the newsletter please e-mail them to George McKim at gmckim@bellsouth