



Tell tale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

web page: www.sailsaratoga.org



November, 2006

SLSC Society Turns Out

By Paul Waterfield

57 sailors and friends attended a fabulous Season Ending Awards party at Wheatfield's Restaurant in downtown Saratoga Springs on Saturday, November 4th. Organized by Shirley, the evening kicked off with a flawless registration procedure managed by Barbara Miller, resplendent as usual in an outfit. Supportive husband Allan (he's with GE Power Systems) postponed a trip to Asia in order to attend. Not only did Barbara collect the right amount of money, she put almost everyone's name in the newly refurbished Club Championship Trophy for a prize drawing. Barbara, a former elementary level educator, printed every name legibly.

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Fall Work Party

By Tony Cannone

I would like to thank all those who came out to the fall work party to help clean up and organize the meadow and other boat storage areas. The completed work, and the investigations into the "last known owners" of various items, are just the beginning of an effort to clean up this area. We attempted to categorize boats and trailers into three areas; 1) obvious junk, 2) items of questionable value and/or unknown owner, and 3) valuable property/known owner. Generally the north - west corner of the meadow now falls into categories 1 & 2. In the near future, I will be identifying this property with yellow construction tape.

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Grounds and Waterfront Recommendations

By Allan Miller

The long range planning committee made a number of excellent recommendations for the future of our club facilities. We have formed a Grounds & Waterfront Committee to establish specific actions for the 2007 season. The members on the committee are Tony Cannone, David Hudson, James Nichol, Joan Link, Bill Hamilton, Don Railton, Gene Auciello, and me. Our scope will be to recommend actions to the grounds and waterfront areas used for boat

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Annual Meeting

Sunday, December 3rd, 7:00pm

at

Our Clubhouse

Election of the 2007 Executive Board

The Nominating Committee recommends
the following candidates:

Commodore	Clark Cooper
Vice Commodore	James Nicol
Rear Commodore	David Hudson
Treasurer	Bruce Blackie
Secretary	Joan Link
Flag Lt. Grounds	Tony Cannone
Flag Lt. House	Carol&Rick Fish
Flag Lt. Race	Paul Waterfield

SLSC Merchandise for Sale at Meeting:

Sweatshirts, shirts, "whisky" glasses and hats,
just in time for the holidays!

Other Upcoming Events

Dec 14..... Board Meeting

Feb 2007..... Annual Budget Meeting

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Work Party (Continued from Page 1)

In the spring I will contact a refuse company to take the junk trailers away and a large roll-off dumpster will be brought in to dispose of the junk. Members will be given the opportunity to scavenge or adopt the questionable boats (category 2) that have been identified with yellow construction tape. However, we will not allow "project boats" to remain in the renovation stage indefinitely, so if you are inclined to take on a fixer-upper, be forewarned that we'll be keeping an eye on progress.

There is still property that appears to be valuable that is not marked with the owner's contact information. Most of this property is trailers. There is a constant demand for trailers so if you have a good trailer you no longer need, please let me know and I will find a new owner or the club may adopt it for moving club boats around.

Thanks again for those who have made the effort to identify property or have helped out with muscle to clean up and organize the meadow. To be continued....



Storage & Facility Use

By Allan Miller

We need your help to prepare for our 50th anniversary.

Preparations for the next sailing season have already begun. Your fellow members are working hard to recommend actions that will make sailing more fun at SLSC. We want to improve lake access, fill low spots, and make our facility use easier and more efficient. The goal is to improve storage of sails, masts, boards, rudders, and other sailing equipment you would like to keep at the club. The goal also is to remove and dispose of abandoned equipment to allow more efficient and easier use of the space we have. Important to successfully achieving these improvements is getting control of equipment stored at the club and moving it to areas that best suit our use.

To accomplish this we are asking each member who has any personal equipment stored in the sailing shed, either barn, or in the house (ie, anything you have at the club that is not club property) to please clearly mark this equipment or remove it from the club grounds. We would like to implement the improvements early in the spring so please have your equipment marked or removed by the beginning of March.

Thank you.

THE RULES CLINIC PROPER COURSE

By John Hudson

There is probably no phrase in the rulebook that provokes more misunderstanding than “proper course”. Proper course is defined in the rulebook as “A course a boat would sail to finish as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term.” Note that the definition is stated in terms of the time required to sail the course, not the distance traveled in the process.

A recent posting on the Thistle Class listserve illustrates the point. The situation posed was as follows:

Two boats, A and B, are sailing downwind on starboard tack. Boat A and B are overlapped, and boat A is to leeward sailing 20 degrees above a shifty dead downwind, with boat B about 4 to 5 boat lengths to windward. The leeward mark is still about .5 mile away and to port. There are no obstructions nearby. The windward boat B gybes to port and, as the boats close, calls “proper course”, wanting the starboard tack boat A to alter course to keep clear. The starboard boat A keeps sailing its course. Port tack boat B slows down and sails clear astern of starboard boat A.

This raises a number of questions. First, has A infringed a rule in the situation as presented? The answer is clearly no – the only rule that applies here is rule 10 (port-starboard).

Alternatively, suppose that B had stayed on starboard and altered course to head directly to the mark. In this case, the applicable rule is Rule 11 (windward – leeward). A is still the right of way boat. Whether or not the concept of proper course enters in depends on how the overlap was established. Unless the overlap came about by A overtaking B from clear astern, A has luffing rights, and can sail as high as she pleases, up to head to wind.

Finally, consider the case where A did establish the overlap from clear astern. In this case, Rule 17.1 applies and A is not permitted to sail above her proper course. This raises the question of what is A’s proper course. In the situation posited, the wind was characterized as “shifty”. (That’s “shifty” with an “f”.) In this case, A could make a plausible argument that her boat speed was enough greater at the higher sailing angle than sailing 20 degrees above the direct course to the mark would get her there faster than a dead downwind course. Alternatively, A could claim that the wind was significantly stronger farther to the right side of the course. The bottom line here is that it will be very difficult to win a protest based on proper course in any situation similar to the one posed above.

The other situation in which proper course is commonly involved is a gybe mark rounding in which an inside boat will have to gybe in order to reach the next mark. This situation is governed by Rule 18.4, which says effectively that an inside overlapped boat that must gybe in order to sail her proper course to the next mark must do so before she sails below her proper course to the next mark. Here again we see that there may be ambiguity about the definition of proper course. Suppose that this was a crowded mark rounding, and that there is a large group of slow moving boats at the mark. In this case, it may be faster for the inside overlapped boat to sail beyond this group, even well beyond this group, into clear air before gybing. The definition of proper course would seem to allow this, as the boats in the slow-moving group are not the “boats referred to in the rule,” and consequently maneuvering to avoid them may be the fastest way to sail the course.

Thus we can see that the question of proper course can be very subjective. On the one hand, in a situation in which two boats were sailing, overlapped, on a reach in a steady breeze with no other boats around and no current, the proper course of the leeward boat would clearly be to sail directly to the mark. As soon as considerations such as shifty or fluky winds, or of boat speed versus sailing angle, or of the presence of other boats or obstructions become involved, the question of a boat’s proper course can become very complicated.

Grounds & Waterfront (Continued from Page 1)

storage and launching. We are trying to consider the entire range of waterfront use, including the boat park, moorings, water racks and how we get boats into and out of the water most conveniently. So far, our priorities are to improve the launching ramp, eliminating areas around the boat park that are always wet, taking action to resolve the deteriorating condition of the boat house, and adjusting the dock configuration to make the use of all three docks easier for everyone. We need your thoughts, comments, suggestions and even complaints about these areas so we are thorough in our evaluation and conclusions.

Make your inputs known to anyone on the committee, or send an email to amiller2@nycap.rr.com or membership@sailsaratoga.org or give me a call at 885-5510.

Please comment ASAP because if we don't know what you want, we can't act on it. We will be discussing the recommendations at the Annual Meeting so it's very important that you attend.

The cocktail hour featured an SLSC slide show by Hunter Currin (he works for somebody, too) who bravely exposed his state of the art laptop computer to the hazards of a crowded or *derv* table. Four of Hunter's favorite photographs of the Club were the featured and much coveted door prizes. Lucky winners (three of them anyway) were Ellen Cooper, Molly Nicol and Nicole Smith. Although Ellen and Molly are married to our most Senior Flag Officers, rank had nothing to do with this as far as I have been able to determine. For instance Nicole is a relatively new member and isn't married to a club officer (at this time). She sails with her husband Walter in their Kestrel and is a school psychologist. Any of you who don't already have children might want to talk to Nicole first.

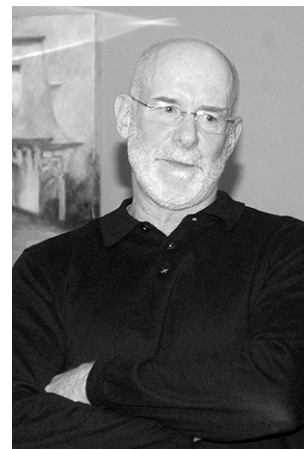
Following the Cocktail hour we had dinner. Dinner was followed by dessert and coffee. Some people had decaf and some had regular.

Most of the 29 Season Award Winners were present, including our 2006 Season Champion, John Kimball, accompanied by his lovely wife Marlene who also was wearing an outfit. John is a talented and modest sailor whose day job is in the Physics Department at SUNY Albany. Asked to account for his success on the race course, John sketched out his secret on a cocktail napkin and carelessly left it behind!

This is where John's sketch would have appeared if he hadn't embedded code in it that thwarted our mailing company's computer....Editor

Congratulations, John... interesting stuff!

Now that his secret is out, John's days alone at the head of the fleet are almost certainly numbered. Anxious to dethrone him are the other award winners Bruce, Glenn, Allan, Paul, Jerry, Rob, Ann, Peter, Clark, Jim, Chas, Peter, John, Fred, Emmett, Joe, Walter, Bob, Tony, Lois, James, Bill, Dave, JT, John, David and Max. Most of these people were wearing outfits too. For complete results please look someplace else. (See our web site - Editor.)



Indian Summer Regatta

Brisk winds greeted the participants in this year's regatta on October 14th & 15th, and resulted in a few capsizes. However the fun quotient was high!



On the Block

Ensign Sailboat:

23 ft. full keel daysailer. Hull number 174. Very good condition. Cabin top refinished by Deluke Marine, rudder repaired using marine ply and WEST system, cockpit seats and bright work varnished and well maintained. Mainsail (with reefing gear), no. 1 genoa, no. 2 genoa, working jib, spinnaker. Nissan 3.5 long shaft outboard. Canvas mooring cover that totally encloses cockpit and cabin top currently undergoing restoration at canvas shop. Steel cradle and 150lb. mushroom anchor and mooring chain included. \$5500.00

Call Larry Smith @ 482-3307 or send email to larsman76@hotmail.com

Various Items - Ray Biedron:

Vanguard 470, 14' racing sailboat with main, jib, trapeze, and trailer. Fair condition. Asking \$800.

20' high aluminum mast with 9' boom and fittings available in Boston. Have digital pics of all. Came from a 17' sailboat that that was put out to pasture.

Mooring buoy with ample chain and anchor. \$40

Roof top canoe carrier blocks with cinch straps. \$10

Canoe paddles (3) @ \$15 ea

Call Ray Biedron @ 371-6243

Wanted to Buy:

Laser in good racing condition.

Call David Burtis @ 518-439-8293
or email @ david_burtis@yahoo.com

Ice Boats:

Free: Two ice boats. Need a little maintenance.
Call Allan @ 885-5510

Hobie 17:

Good condition, newer mainsail with low usage, aluminum trailer, stored indoors winters except last winter, water rack included. \$2200

Call Fred Barker @ 518-355-7581
or email @ fbarker@nycap.rr.com

2006 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

Commodore.....	Clark Cooper
commodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	372-9607
Vice Commodore.....	James Nicol
vicecommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	449-3537
Rear Commodore.....	Dave Hudson
rearcommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	370-4894
Secretary.....	Joan Link
secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....	439-2471
Treasurer.....	Bruce Blackie
treasurer@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-0759
Flag Lt. Boats.....	Tony Bianchini
boats@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-4514
Flag Lt. Grounds.....	Tony Cannone
grounds@sailsaratoga.org.....	271-0246
Flag Lt. House.....	Glenn Miner
house@sailsaratoga.org.....	899-6717
Flag Lt. Race.....	Paul Waterfield
race@sailsaratoga.org.....	584-5552
Membership.....	Allan Miller & Barbara Prince-Miller
membership@sailsaratoga.org.....	885-5510
Newsletter/Publicity.....	Fred Barker
publicity@sailsaratoga.org.....	355-7581
Sailing Program.....	John Gallagher
sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org.....	793-5859
Social.....	Shirley Waterfield
social@sailsaratoga.org.....	584-5552
Historian.....	Randall Rice
.....	785-7965
House Attendant.....	Kathy Johnston
kmorrisjohnston@aol.com.....	583-9646
House Phone.....	584-9659

SARATOGA LAKE SAILING CLUB

The Saratoga Lake Sailing club promotes and develops interest in sailing and sailboat racing.

The Club cooperates with and aids individuals and groups interested in sailing and requires in return, observance of such rules and regulations as are set forth by this organization.

ACTIVE FLEETS

Ensign.....	Bruce Blackie
	583-0759
Flying Dutchman.....	Bill Hamilton
	877-5203
Flying Scot.....	Peter Seidman
	877-8731
Hobie 17.....	Don Railton
	584-4866
Jet 14.....	Al Tedrow
	371-8765
Kestrel.....	Tony Bianchini
	583-4514
Laser.....	Alan Miller
	855-5510
Sailboards.....	Dick Blackmer
	399-0541
Thistle.....	John Hudson
	374-0228