



Tell tale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: sailsaratoga.org



November, 2009

From the Commodore

As Fall has very definitely arrived, so too has the end of another sailing season. I hope it was a pleasurable one for you and your family, whether that means edging out your nemesis in tight competition around the buoys twice a week, or just pottering about the club catching up with friends. It was a good season, with all the rain of early summer a distant memory and our racing and social events well attended.

We have just a few but very important events left this year.

- No doubt there will be a call going out for one or two small work parties as the club is buttoned up for the winter, so particularly if you missed the recent Fall work party, plan to participate. These remaining efforts are essential to properly maintain the club before winter sets in.
- Awards Dinner November 7th. Always a festive and spirited event
- Annual Meeting December 6th. Please come and hear about progress this year, and elect next year's officers

We're also on the verge of switching to our new website. The Board is excited about the capabilities the new site will offer, and we think you'll be pleased with what you see. Devon Howe has been working hard to get us up and running. So be on the look-out for some communication shortly.

Fortunately, I get to continue my sailing enjoyment through my son and father all winter. Many of you know David who's a sophomore and on his sailing team. He sails every day and reports on his progress. And my 80 year old father, who races every Sunday in Rhodes 19 in Savannah, will call each week and describe each leg of his races with the same enthusiasm of a college sophomore!

Thank you to all those that contributed to a successful season, and I'll look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events. -- James

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SLSC

Annual Awards Dinner

Saturday, Nov. 7

at Wheatfields, 440 Broadway, Saratoga Springs

6:00PM Cash Bar

7:00PM Dinner

Choice of

8oz NY Strip Steak with Ziti & Pink Sauce

Holland Sole over Risotto

Grilled Chicken Marsala over Angel Hair Pasta

Dessert: Chocolate Mousse or Tiramisu

Price is \$35.00 per person

Reservations and Menu Choice by Nov 2nd to
The Bensons at cbensonfly@aol.com or 518-822-6267

SLSC

Notice of Annual Meeting

Sunday, Dec 6th, 7:00pm

at

Our Clubhouse

Election of the 2010 Executive Board

The Nominating Committee recommends
the following candidates:

Commodore

Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore

Treasurer

Secretary

Flag Lt. Boats

Flag Lt. Grounds

Flag Lt. House

Flag Lt. Race

Tony Bianchini

Gene Auciello

David Hudson

Bruce Blackie

John Kimball

J.T. Fahy

Jerry Zell

Samantha Butler

Jim Benson

Please Attend! Refreshments will be served.

ALL THIS AND SAILING, TOO *

By Mary Kate McCarty

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Massapoag Yacht Club 60th Annual Regatta, Sept. 12-13

In late August, Ann and Peter Seidman propositioned me:

"Let's take your boat to Massapoag, and we'll crew for you. If it's okay with you, we'll register KatieBird for the Challenger Division. We'll tow it. If you can get the mast down, we'll put our travel cover on and get it ready. Then, on Friday, we'll pick up the boat and pick you up at your house." An offer I couldn't refuse.

The next day, Glenn and Mr. Flanigan unstep my mast. That evening after work, Rob Hayes makes sure my license plate is secure, and on Friday morning, Ann and Peter pull into my driveway with my boat in tow. They promise my husband to return me in one piece, and away we went.

Within minutes after arriving at Massapoag, Mr. Jim Cavanaugh is standing in my boat and steps the mast in a record six minutes. His wife Nora tells us she's delighted we're staying with them and would we like Chinese for dinner?

The freezing rain and strong winds didn't deter fourteen die-hard skippers, and at day's end, we were rewarded with a reception and a dinner fit for a king. But that was only the beginning. The Cavanaugh's' legendary hospitality lived up to its reputation, and morning came a little too soon...

But the light winds were kind, and with the guidance of the king and queen of light-air sailing, our first race was a victory by a mile, and that was rewarded with two standing ovations, one, of course, by Mr. Cavanaugh. The joke of it all was that the first might have to be the throw-out in order to place in the Challenger, since it was a combined race.

Didn't matter, we had fun and were happy to watch as the best of the best collected their trophies, so it was a shock to hear: First Place, Challenger, Mary Kate McCarty and Ann and Peter Seidman in KatieBird. Diane Kampf presented our trophies and made us promise to come back next year.

Time to go, and there's my boat, out of the water with Mr. Cavanaugh bringing the mast down. Ann and Peter secure the boat and trailer and we're on our way home, but not before I'm propositioned again: John Day wants to know if I would I please stay in touch, Hein Smit Sibinga, who place second overall, would be happy to crew for me in our Indian Summer Regatta (after he's back from competing for the Mallory Cup), and Jim Cavanaugh, winner overall, offers one of their own Scots so I won't have to trail my boat next time.

World-class racing, world-class people. All this and sailing, too.

*All This And Sailing, Too, An Autobiography, Olin Stevens II, Mystic Seaport Museum, 1999

Docks Out and Work Parties of One

By Gene Auciello

Thanks to the 95 members who took time from their busy schedules to fulfill their membership obligation by attending the fall work party (docks out) on October 17. A significant amount of work was accomplished on the grounds and in the clubhouse, followed by a superb lunch prepared and served by Shirley Waterfield and her volunteer kitchen staff including Janet Hamilton, Barbara Prince Miller, Margaret Shirk, Patty Waterfield, and others.

Have you ever wondered how special projects are accomplished throughout the sailing season between the fall and spring work parties? The club often relies on the expertise of those members with special talents and interests.

The next time you enter the lower barn storage area to the right of the sail shed, you can thank Bob Williams for installing the lighting. Bob spent one of his October weekends installing the wiring, switches, and fixtures. On Columbus Day, Chuck Batzinger spent his morning relocating sailboats from the boat park to the lower lawn. His past farming experience was invaluable in backing trailers into tight spaces. John Holmes spends many hours expanding the meadow, and Joan Link can often be found planting and weeding flower beds around the clubhouse. In fact, there are many others who contribute time and effort to accomplish various tasks throughout the year for SLSC and the fleets.

Thanks to one and all.



I've been a member of SLSC for more years than I want to count. For all those years, I had never been an active racer, but that started to change this past season.

When I first joined SLSC, I owned an O'Day Javelin, and even though we had formed a small Javelin fleet at the club shortly after I joined, I was not an active racer. In August of 2007 I purchased an Ensign, a current SLSC fleet boat, but that did not immediately convert me into a racer. This past summer, however, I started participating in the Wednesday night, Manning series with Carmelo Kona and through this process, learned that some of my preconceived ideas about racing at the club were incorrect.

Regular racers often wonder why other members do not participate in racing. The reason I have heard given most often is that non-racers are put off by the complex rules, or they are "intimidated" by the starting line. However, I had a different reason. I felt that participation in the racing season at the club required a commitment to race almost every Sunday, sometimes in conditions that I thought were just not too much fun. This summer I learned that my assumptions were wrong.

Sunday racing is broken up into three different series: an early season series, Zephyr; a mid-season series, Robinson; and a late season series, Kaydeross. The Wednesday night series is separate from the three Sunday series. So, anyone can qualify and even win any one series without even participating in the other three series. I also learned that there are only two races scheduled for each Sunday, instead of the three I had assumed. The Wednesday night series has only one race per night. In addition, each person needs to sail in and finish only 50% (rounded up) of the races of a particular series to qualify for that series. Racers, however, gain an advantage by sailing more than the minimum number of races, since the "extra" finishes allow the worst results to be thrown out, thus potentially improving your score.

While not necessary, there is a good reason to participate in the full racing season. The SLSC Championship is based on finishes from races in the three Sunday series and the Wednesday night series, requiring finishes in a minimum of 40% (rounded up) of these races to qualify, with any "extra" finishes being used to throw out your worst scores.

All this information is, of course, in the SLSC Notice of Race on our web site; but as a non-racer, I had never bothered to read it.

Racing is a great way to improve your overall sailing skill, especially if you decide to race on one of those "not fun" days that you might otherwise decide not to sail if you were only cruising. So, if any of you were avoiding participation in the racing season because of fear of commitment, perhaps you will consider joining me on the water next summer.

From the Membership Chairs

The club welcomed 13 new families this year and 2 families who joined at the very end of last season for a total of 15 families for the 2009 season.

The new **Flying Scot** owners are:

Anthony & Sherry Benson and their children, **Abby, Emma, & Bailey**
Erik & Margie Eddy and their child, **Jackson**
Nathan & Dominique Morgan and their children, **Ciele & Sage**
Jerry & Kathleen Clark

The new **Laser** owners are:

Maggie Lock
Jim Dwyer & Marian Kenter-Dwyer
Barbara Brown & Victor Asal and their children, **Nadav & Gilad**
Charles Batzinger & Deb Oriola and their children, **Pete & Kate**. They also own a **JY 15**.

The new **Ensign** owners are:

Trevor & Kim Powers
Carmelo & Diane Kona. They also own a **Capri 14** and a **Kayak**.

Our non-fleet members are:

Raub & Beth Smith and their children, **Isaac, Schuyler, & Wyatt-420**
Jeff & Margo Olson and their children, **Izak, Jaffa, & Sarice-Holder 14**
Bill & Trisha Regan-O'Day Daysailor
Margaret Shirk & Dan Mehlman-Sea Pearl
Mark Welcome & Rose Place and their children, **Drew & Jake-Hobie 16 & a Beetle Swan Catboat**

Please welcome our new members when you meet them. We wish them all a rewarding and friendly relationship with everyone at S.L.S.C. for years to come!

2009 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

Commodore.....	James Nicol
slsc_commodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	449-3537
Vice Commodore.....	Tony Bianchini
slsc_vicemodcommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-4514
Rear Commodore.....	Dave Hudson
slsc_rearcommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	370-4894
Secretary.....	John Kimball
slsc_secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....	439-1174
Treasurer.....	Bruce Blackie
slsc_treasurer@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-0759
Flag Lt. Boats.....	Peter Renders
slsc_boats@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-7855
Flag Lt. Grounds.....	Gene & Jeanne Auciello
slsc_grounds@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-9558
Flag Lt. House.....	Vic Roberts
slsc_house@sailsaratoga.org.....	399-4410
Flag Lt. Race.....	Jim Benson
slsc_race@sailsaratoga.org.....	882-6267
Membership.....	Allan Miller & Barbara Prince-Miller
slsc_membership@sailsaratoga.org.....	885-5510
Newsletter/Publicity.....	Fred Barker
slsc_publicity@sailsaratoga.org.....	355-7581
Sailing Program.....	Tony Bianchini
slsc_sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org.....	583-4514
Social.....	Shirley Waterfield
slsc_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.....	Rob Hayes
	429-5002
Kestrel.....	Tony Bianchini
	583-4514
Laser.....	Barbara Brown
	446-0426
Sailboards.....	Dick Blackmer
	399-0541
Thistle.....	John Hudson
	374-0228