



Tell tale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: sailsaratoga.org



March, 2012

Commodore's Corner

The Commodore's social event is the first club function of the year, and serves as a great way to renew the camaraderie among members—many of whom have not seen each other since the Labor Day Lobster Boil, the Indian Summer Regatta, or the fall work party.

There are a nine weeks left before docks in, but why wait that long to see friends and fellow sailors when you can enjoy an afternoon with them at the Commodore's Gala on Sunday, March 25?

This year, the Commodore's Gala will be held in the Grand Ballroom at the Saratoga National Golf Club. The buffet lunch will be prepared by Prime at Saratoga National, and music will be provided by the Joe Sorrentino Trio.

The highlight of the afternoon will be the presentation of the Mary Elizabeth Hull Award, also known as the Commodore's Award. I am pleased to announce that Cissy Hull Allen, daughter of Mary Elizabeth and John Hull, will be on hand to present the award named in honor of her mother. Her children, Stev and Margot, are also invited guests.

Save the date—Sunday, March 25, 12 Noon to 4 p.m. You should have already received your invitation in the mail.

Commodore Gene
and Jeanne Auciello
Cordially invite you to attend the
2012 COMMODORE'S GALA

Sunday, March 25, 2012
12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Prime at Saratoga National Golf Club
458 Union Avenue, Saratoga Springs

Cash Bar and Buffet Luncheon
Music by the Joe Sorrentino Trio
\$35 per person

RSVP by March 20
GJAuciello@nycap.rr.com or (518) 583-9558

Honorary Memberships

It is my pleasure to inform the membership that the Executive Committee of the Saratoga Lake Sailing Club has unanimously selected Hunter Currin for Honorary Membership in 2011, and Howard and Emily Hart for Honorary Membership in 2012.

An Honorary Member is a person whom the club wishes to honor for their contributions to the club over the years. Honorary Members are entitled to all the privileges of membership.

Congratulations! They join a distinguished group of Honorary Members including Joan Goldstein, Gwynfor and Joyce Gummer, and Randall and Eleanor Rice.

Gene Auciello
Commodore

Upcoming Events

Mar 25.....Commodore's Ball

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Annual Budget Meeting

By John Kimball, Secretary

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The Annual Budget Meeting was held on Sunday, February 12, 2012. Treasurer Bruce Blackie indicated the budget was in good shape, and no change in dues was planned for 2012. Special points that Bruce brought up are summarized below.

The total cash flow through the club is roughly \$150,000 per year. Offset accounts (social events and sailing school) are considered separate from operating expenses.

The club has a credit line of \$75,000 from the Adirondack Trust Company in case of an emergency. The miscellaneous income of \$4,300 for 2011 was an anomaly, as it included several unusual items such as Allan Miller's success in selling the old aluminum boat lift. It is a goal to have the offset accounts come close to breaking even.

The sailing school has its own detailed budget, and 2011 was a good year for the sailing school. Emmett McCarthy noted that the sailing school has effectively attracted new and younger members to the club. Bruce agreed, and added that there is some concern that the sailing school could become too large and difficult to manage as the school's success requires considerable member involvement and dedicated effort.

Bruce resumed his summary, and next noted that roads did not do well last year. He said the large expense of \$15,700 in the 2012 budget for road repair and maintenance should last for four or five years. Jerry Danielski asked if a four-year lifetime was typical. Bruce said it was reasonable because we have improved the drainage with the new culverts installed in the fall.

Bruce and J.T. Fahy agreed that \$8,000 was probably more than sufficient for a new four-stroke engine for the 13-foot Whaler, but unforeseen problems can be lurking. The chain hoist also needs to be replaced for \$2,500 since our present units are less than ideal.

We are awaiting an estimate for tree removal for several trees leaning across the entrance road. The budgeted \$4,000 is an estimate until a more accurate figure is developed. We will continue our dock replacement program with the construction of two new sections for \$5,000.

A \$4,000 carry-over from 2011 was allocated for cement work for the clubhouse foundation. The scope of this work is still to be defined. Also, \$1,000 was allocated for required maintenance and/or improvements to the caretaker's apartment.

James Nicol asked about club membership. Bruce said we are full (essentially at the allowed maximum). The sailing school and our reasonable dues make club membership desirable, even for people who use the club only occasionally.

Everyone thanked Bruce for the excellent job he is doing.

The proposed budget for 2012 passed unanimously.



SARATOGA LAKE SAILING CLUB HISTORY PART 2 – 1960's to 1974

A FEW HIGHLIGHTS

In 1963 on June 29-30, the Saratoga Lake Sailing Club was host to the Saratoga Racing Centennial Regatta. The Saratoga Racing Association was celebrating 100 years of thorough-bred horse racing in Saratoga Springs with a summer long celebration. Seven classes of boats participated with fifty-seven boats winning twenty trophies. Seventy-five people attended the buffet dinner and dance at Newman's Lake House on Saturday evening.

The North American Firefly Sailing Regatta was held at the club site on August 24, 1963. This was the first time this event was held in this area. A dinner and dance was well attended on Saturday night at the Casino, Congress Park in Saratoga Springs.

In 1965 on August 21-22 the club sponsored the Windmill Class Association, International Championship but the wind conditions were very poor and the event was rescheduled to be run off on September 18 and 19. The wind was not too favorable at this time either, but the event was finished within just seconds of the time limit.

On October 9 and 10, 1965, the Kestrel North American Championships were held at Saratoga Lake. Other Kestrel Regattas have followed. Many International 14 Championship Regattas have been held at Saratoga Lake Sailing Club. Canadian participation is generally heavy.

Jet 14's have remained one of our largest fleets and most active racing classes. Bob McLoughlin takes much credit.

Past Commodore, Marcel Zucchini is holder of the club record for the most consecutive number of membership years.

Two members of the present Saratoga Lake Sailing Club were members of the boat club of the middle nineteen-thirties. They are Past Commodore James A. Ketchum and Past Vice Commodore Cyril H. Chapman.

Over the past thirty odd years it has been my observation that the trend in sail boat design has been toward much lighter, much faster and smaller crafts.

Thirty years ago capsizing was something you just did not do: it was held as a sign of a wrong tactic or maneuver and the badge of a poor sailor. Today it is an accepted thing and most boats are now so designed, with self rescue features built in.

Cyril H. Chapman, Historian
31 January 1966

Post Scripts:

In 1970, membership reached 150 families. Initiation fee was \$20.00, dues \$45.00.

Two committees, first appointed by Commodore Rice in 1966 have been hard working but have no tangible results to show:

- A. Clean-Waters Committee - Sometime, someday, Saratoga Lake will get cleaned up. We are ready to help when it becomes possible.
- B. Properties Committee - Our number One concern is to obtain a place where we can live without fear of losing our lease. Unfortunately, in 1970 lake property suitable for our use is considered more than we can afford.
- C. The Club has had an interesting policy of naming our rescue boats after marine disasters. The most famous was "Thresher" which was with us about ten years. Next was "D'Andrea Dory" (from our landlord).

Currently we have three Boston Whalers; their names have been suggested to be: "Titanic", "Lusitania", and "Morro Castle."

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The red rowboat with the crane is named the "Mary Ann" in keeping with Navy tradition of a common name for Salvage Vessels at each station.

D. Since 1967, Saratoga Lake Sailing Club has been registered and is listed in "Lloyds Register."

May 28, 1973: AT LAST, OUR VERY OWN!

In 1972, Commodore David Duston obtained information that Melander's, the choicest of all property on the lake, might become available. He appointed Randy Rice as Properties Committee Chairman and serious work was started.

One of the Club's greatest assets came into play when needed talent was requested to make up this committee. An expert was available in every field! Cyril Chapman's History of 1966 tells the story.

Financially, the original offer was for 300 acres, 3,000 feet of frontage, at \$155,000. Try as we would, the membership could not handle this figure. Many emotional meetings with impassioned pleas were heard. The break came when, at a desperation meeting, we received a counter-offer from the Melanders of 12 acres and 600 feet of frontage for \$110,000! The Melanders had decided that we would be good neighbors. We obtained a 7 1/2 percent bank mortgage for \$70,000 and raised \$42,000 by selling 12 percent interest bearing notes to patriot members. We raised dues to \$150 per year and initiation to \$50.

Such an undertaking was bound to produce some different viewpoints and we lost about 20 members who stayed at our old location, forming a new group, Kaydeross Sailing Club. However, in 1974, we had attracted 50 new members. A limit of 200 members was set for SLSC.

Randall Rice, Historian

SLSC Iceboating



2012 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

Commodore.....	Gene Auciello
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Flag Lt. Race.....	Allan Miller
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Historian.....	Randall Rice
.....	785-7965
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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.....	Tony Cannone
	271-0246
Flying Dutchman.....	Bill Hamilton
	877-5203
Flying Scot.....	Samantha Butler
	587-0659
	Mary Kate McCarty
	279-4205
Kestrel.....	Bob Barringer
	882-6087
Laser.....	Barbara Brown
	446-0426
MC Scow.....	Devon Howe
	423-0230
Sailboards.....	Gene Altman
	393-6713
Thistle.....	John Hudson
	374-0228