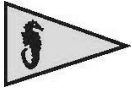


Telltale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: sailsaratoga.org



March, 2017

Commodore's Corner

By Mark Welcome

It's only February, but we're very close to "Ice Out" on the lake. This could make it the earliest ice out since records started being kept (1964). The earliest recorded date for the Ice Out is March 10th, 2002. I'm looking out my windows and the north end of the Lake is almost completely open and the south end is almost there, so I think the record will be broken this year. I'm pulling out my new drysuit and getting ready!

On Sunday February 12th, 15 people braved the weather and enjoyed a very pleasant evening taking care of Club business and eating the delicious chili provided by Margaret. Thanks to the 40 members who provided proxies so that we could reach the quorum. We also discussed the 2017 Sailing Program as well as the proposed bylaws changes. Additionally we had a meeting on March 5th to discuss these items again so that more members had the opportunity to join the discussion. Treasurer Andrew Murnan did a wonderful job with the report and the presentations and the 2017 budget was passed unanimously and we are in good shape to start the 2017 season.

At this point, you should have already received your 2017 renewal notifications. Please note that all renewals are due prior to April 1st to avoid a late fee. It really is very important that we hear from all members as soon as possible as it affects our planning for the season. We make a number of assumptions when preparing the budgets and we'd like to adjust if necessary before the sailing season actually begins. We also would like to begin accepting new members as soon as possible and we need to know how many memberships we have available. We certainly hope to see everyone return.

Also, please RSVP for the 2017 Commodore's Party which will be on the evening of Saturday March 25th. This year's event will be held at the Saratoga Golf and Polo Club. Please plan to join us in kicking off a great 2017 season.

Commodore's Party

March 25th at 5:30pm – 10:30pm

The Saratoga Golf and Polo Club

Come and join your fellow club members to celebrate the beginning of the 2016 sailing season. I promise good food, good drink and (hopefully) dancing!

Invitations have been sent – Please RSVP

Upcoming Events

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Mar 18-19..... | Adirondack Expo |
| Mar 25..... | Commodore's Party |

What's Inside?

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Sailing School Update..... | Page 2 |
| US Sailing Certification..... | Page 2 |
| Budget Mtg Program..... | Page 3 |
| Sea Stories..... | Page 4 |

Sailing School Update

By Mark Welcome

The Sailing School has been hard at work over the winter getting ready for a new season.

Highlights include:

Instructors

We are very happy to announce that most of our instructors will be returning to teach again this year. John Powers has gone against his better judgment and agreed to return as our head instructor for another year. He apparently doesn't get enough of dealing with children at his day job as a music teacher. The majority of our other full time instructors will also be returning including Piotr Czajkowski, Brett Howe, Drew Welcome, Corbett Churan, Eli Fisher, Jacoba Taylor and Luka Newton. We look forward to a great season.

Racing Classes

We are happy to announce that we will once again be offering two of our racing classes to members for only \$50 for a week's worth of instruction. You simply can't beat that price as non-members pay the usual rate of \$245 for a week's class. The school offers this discount as a service to members and to help promote more involvement in the racing programs at the Club. "Introduction to Racing" is designed for those people who are interested in getting involved with racing. The class will teach students the basic concepts of racing, what is expected of race crew, and will give students the opportunity to try some races with experienced skippers at the helm. "Strategic and Tactical Racing" is designed for those people who are already racing and are interested in improving their skills in a small coached environment. Where possible, we hope that racing teams will take the course together in their own boats so that the skills are directly applied to their own racing. The class will cover topics such as starts, beats, reaching and running, finishes, tactics and strategy. For more information and to sign up for any classes, please go to <http://saratogasailingschool.org/>

Free Sailing Lessons

Many thanks to the Global Foundries Town of Malta Foundation for once again providing a grant to support a series of free "Invitation to Sail" classes for all residents of the town of Malta. We would appreciate our members helping us to fill these classes by promoting this program to friends, family and acquaintances who live in Malta. Over 150 Malta residents took advantage last year and we had a great time introducing everyone to sailing. A number of people who took the class opted to continue sailing with us in other lessons and a few families even joined the Club so we KNOW they enjoyed themselves. The class is very relaxed and we try to spend most of the evening out on the water enjoying a sail.

Registrations

It's time to sign up your friends, family, kids and grandkids. Traditionally members are always the last people to sign up for all of our classes, whether it is the adult or junior programs we offer all summer long. Every year (and this year too) we beg you to please sign up sooner rather than later. We always try to accommodate members requests to get into classes that are full, but it take a lot of time and effort to juggle schedules and instructors to accommodate these requests.

We would appreciate everyone going to <http://saratogasailingschool.org/> now and signing you and your family up for all of their classes for the season.

US Sailing Certification

By Mark Welcome

As has become our tradition, SLSC is talking with US Sailing about holding Small Boat Instructor certification classes at the club again this spring. For those members who are already certified, we know that we will be running a **Level 2 class** on May 24th and 25th (subject to change, but probable). Any person who currently holds a US Sailing Level 1 is eligible to take the course.

We also have some interest in running another Level 1 class, but not enough to fill the class yet. If you have ever thought about teaching sailing, or would just like to get a new perspective on sailing, this class is well worth the time. The Sailing School has been very fortunate over the years to have so many members become certified and help teach in the school. There is no obligation whatsoever to teach if you become certified, but we do have a great time. Please consider taking the course and giving it a try.

Please contact me at slsc_sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org if you have any questions or interest in taking these classes.

Great Ideas Abound!!!

By Allan Miller

Here are the ideas we generated at the Budget/By-law Change/Sailing Programs Meeting on Sunday, March 5. We hope that these are things that will pique your interest to, not only participate, but also volunteer to help them happen!

Please volunteer for a program you are interested in.

- Put up a list of people who want to crew and a list of skippers who need crew on the website and the RC bulletin board: Barbara and Allan
- Include a list of skippers who need help on cruising boats (to sail, launch, etc.): Needs a coordinator
- 4th Of July Parade: Melissa Hatch (She would like help with this.)
- Saturday Afternoon Poker Run: Emmett McCarthy will also need some help making this happen.
- Monthly Paddling Trips: Dan Mehlman
- Dan has also volunteered to conduct informal paddling instruction. Make sure you give Dan your email if you want to take part.
- Sailing to the Lake Local for lunch/picnic: Will need a coordinator who also will need to check to see about docking.
- Laser Tuesdays-Include other fleets? May need some additional support.
- Long-distance Sails: Needs a few volunteers to coordinate.
- Raft-up Picnic: Find a safe spot around the lake. Needs a few volunteers to coordinate.
- Y Flyer Kentucky Derby Day Party-Bring an appetizer to share and a wallet full of \$1's: John Smith
- Do the same thing for the Preakness, Belmont, and Travers. Perhaps other fleets might volunteer to organize one of these.
- Sail on the full moon: Needs a few volunteers to coordinate.
- A Long-distance Swim across the lake: Margaret Shirk
- Mini-Clinics: New Racing Rules, etc. : Allan
- Power-boat training: Allan
- Running Races Training: Barbara & Allan
- Sign up for sailingscuttlebutt.com: a good sailing information source.

If you want to volunteer, you can send a note to the coordinator if one is designated, or to Barbara amille2@nycap.rr.com .

Feel free to send additional ideas to us.
Barbara and Allan



Sea Stories

Scott Meyer, 2016 Club Champion
Flag Lt. Boats

1. How did you become a sailor?

While in college I spent 2 summers as a camp counselor. The first camp had a sailing program that was fairly small. I was hired to be a Rock Climbing Instructor/Counselor, but somehow pulled double duty as they needed considerable help with their sailing program. (Growing up I had done some sailing/boating through vacations in Cape Cod, Narraganset Bay, and Lake Ontario.) After enjoying my summer on the water, I left wanting to continue sailing in a larger capacity. By the next summer I had found a camp that had a much larger sailing program. I worked as a Sailing Instructor/Counselor and gained a love of sailing by the end of the summer. When the summer wrapped, I met Abe Porter (former member) who introduced me to SLSC and the Thistle Class. I started to crew with Jerry Zell and found the Thistle to be a very fun, fast, and competitive class. I went to a few away regattas with Zell and began meeting the regional Thistle sailors. I crewed for everyone I could and at about year four I was crewing for past national champions. Wanting to sail more, I bought a Laser in 2008 and started racing at SLSC. That year Dave Hudson approached me and said "You know, you should sail the yellow boat." (Peter Hudson's Thistle) Somehow I got my friend Justin and Steve Olsen to sail with me regularly. We had some learning moments but managed to come out 2nd in the Manning that year. In 2009 I bought Thistle 3422 (Ron Burgundy) and spent some time getting her up to speed. Skippering has proven to be a whole new set of challenges yet it's Oh-so-much-fun! I guess that makes me a sailor now.

2. What is your favorite boat?

I think many people already know, but in case you don't, the Thistle is the winner in my book. They are esthetic boats with nice clean lines and beautiful wood throughout. They have a tone of power, making them plane in about 10mph of wind. They are a wonderfully balanced boat to sail and extremely exciting in heavy air. They are a team oriented boat where the whole team has to work together to succeed. The class is regularly one of the largest multi-person one-design classes in the US. Thistle #1, built in 1945, is as competitive as the newest Thistle and won the nationals in 1990. It's a very competitive, yet somehow family oriented, class with multiple generations sailing the boat. I refer to the Thistle Class as the family reunion you WANT to go to!

3. Do you have a favorite sailing memory?

This is a hard one because there have been so many good memories over the past 10 years. Sailing the Tupper Lake Regatta may be my favorite event.

4. What is your sailing fantasy? (I'm going to substitute Fantasy with Goal)

To win Thistle Nationals one year. I would also like to do some recreational long distance sailing (sail around the world).

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.

SANCTIONED FLEETS

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ensign..... | Tony Cannone 271-0246 |
| Flying Scot..... | Shirley & Paul Waterfield 584-5552 |
| Kestrel..... | Tony Bianchini 583-4514 |
| Laser..... | Leslie Rafaniello 301-4109 |
| MC Scow..... | Devon Howe 867-7770 |
| Thistle..... | Jerry Zell 767-9216 |
| Y-Flyer..... | John Smith 786-1340 |

2017 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Commodore..... | Mark Welcome slsc_commodore@sailsaratoga.org.....587-9041 |
| Vice Commodore..... | Tony Cannone slsc_vicecommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....271-0246 |
| Rear Commodore..... | Dave Hudson slsc_rearcommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....370-4894 |
| Secretary..... | Mike Kitner slsc_secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....505-8790 |
| Treasurer..... | Andrew Murnan slsc_treasurer@sailsaratoga.org.....420-5368 |
| Flag Lt. Boats..... | Scott Meyer slsc_boats@sailsaratoga.org.....248-1229 |
| Flag Lt. Grounds..... | George McNally slsc_grounds@sailsaratoga.org.....439-5186 |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Flag Lt. House..... | Susan Kohler slsc_house@sailsaratoga.org.....727-9648 |
| Flag Lt. Race..... | Allan Miller slsc_race@sailsaratoga.org.....885-5510 |
| Membership..... | Ann Seidman slsc_membership@sailsaratoga.org.....877-8731 |
| Newsletter/Publicity..... | Samantha Butler slsc_publicity@sailsaratoga.org.....587-0659 |
| Sailing Program..... | Mark Welcome slsc_sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org.....587-9041 |
| Social..... | Margaret Shirk slsc_social@sailsaratoga.org.....475-0412 |
| House Attendant..... | Kathy Johnston kmorrisjohnston@gmail.com.....583-9646 |
| House Phone..... | 584-9659 |