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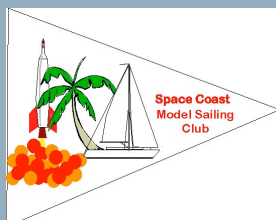
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2006 Closeout

From The Commodore

The end of another sailing year is just around the corner. Our membership is finishing out at about 53 with about half that many active including four snow birds. Your Board held a major meeting on September 25th to address issues necessary to close out this year and set the stage for 2007 activities. I invite your review of the minutes posted here on the web site. As this year concludes I plan to pass the Commodore baton to a current member of the Board barring any last minute changes that might occur at our annual awards-banquet meeting on November 18th at Jack Baker's Lobster Shanty. On that note I wish to highlight a few thoughts while I still have the bully pulpit.

First, the banquet itself. We need to get attendance commitments NLT 4 November with check payment made out to SCMSC. You will have a choice of a fish, chicken or beef dinner. This will avoid the last minute confusion we had last year trying to pay the bill. Please note, alcoholic drinks will be pay as you go in cash, again, to ease the flow of activity.

During my two years as your Commodore I pushed to clean-up/update our documentation, particularly for the benefit of newcomers to ease their entry and enthusiasm for the sport and our club specifically. You newcomers can judge how well this objective was met. There are two issues within this objective worthy of comment: 1) rules knowledge and enforcement, and 2) sportsmanship during races. These two issues are interrelated.

Concerning rules, AMYA's The Racing Rules of Sailing, 2005-2008 is the foundation document for us. However, we all agree there is a lot of stuff in there that is extremely difficult to remember. Some members remember the rules better than others and thus, violations will occur

From The Commodore (Cont.)

either through ignorance or happen-stance. All need to learn from each situation and get on with the race in a professional manner. That brings me to the second issue.

I just used the word professional above to suggest the spirit of discipline in SCMSC racing. However, there is no money involved – this is after-all, a game. Webster defines an organizational club as “a group of people associated for a common purpose or mutual advantage, usually in an organization that meets regularly.” In this context, sportsman like behavior is defined in the eyes of the beholder. For me, this means the members present, witnessing behavior that either supports mutual advantage or it does not.

So I conclude my tenure as Commodore with the following recommendations:

- As a club member, new or old, speak out when things don't seem right (documentation, rules, behavior), and get the attention of a Board member.
- Good intentions unexecuted, pave the road to protests. Press to have rules discussed each week we sail.
- Jovial interaction with other skippers does not constitute unsportsmanlike behavior ... but be sensitive to the difference and deal with it on the spot.

My wife and I are into serious grand parenting which means travel, and as some of you know, I've have phase 2 of my book project going. I intend to participate in the club's

series as much as possible so I continue to look forward to seeing you at the pond.

Steve

SPACE COAST MODEL SAILING CLUB

ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS BANQUET

NOVEMBER 18, 2006

AGENDA

1. **Dinner**
2. **Desert – Formal Meeting – Commodore (Steve Rutz)**
 - **Introduction of guests.**
 - **Reading of last Board meeting minutes.**
 - **Old Business – Manual for Race Directors; Status of Crusey-Wickham Park project.**
 - **New Business – Addition of US 12 fleet; Election of 2007 Board.**
 - **Membership issues for 2007 Board consideration.**
3. **AMYA Region III Activities - Director Observations (Chuck Buzek)**
4. **SCMSC 2006 Awards – Vice Commodore (Ernie Peterson)**
 - **Series winners.**
 - **Martha Crusey Skipper of the Year.**
 - **Memorial Regatta Perpetual Award – past winners, 2006 winner.**



VICE COMMODORE'S NEWS

ERNIE PETERSON

Several items have been resolved over the last year that are explained in this article.

- A & B Fleet Selection and Present Rankings.
- Soling IM Florida Cup Qualification Criteria.
- US12 Fleet Integration

"A" FLEET AND "B" FLEET (Reference SCMSC Bylaws change 8.4)

1.0 DEFINITIONS

1.1 "A" and "B" Fleet designations are by class (i.e. Soling and US One Meter).

2.0 CLASSIFICATIONS

2.1 All skippers are classified in either "A" or "B" fleet with the class of boat they are sailing.

2.2 All skippers are positioned in the "B" Fleet until having qualified for "A" Fleet.

3.0 QUALIFYING

3.1 "B" Fleet participants qualify for movement to "A" Fleet after finishing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd amongst the "B" Fleet skippers in a series.

3.1.1 First place finishers in the "B" Fleet move to the "A" Fleet for the next series.

3.1.2 "B" Fleet skippers finishing 2nd or 3rd in a series move to the "A" Fleet the following year.

3.1.3 "B" Fleet skippers who finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd overall in a series are elevated to "A" Fleet for that and subsequent series scoring.

4.0 MAINTAINING "A" FLEET QUALIFICATION

4.1 "A" Fleet assignments are in effect for two (2) years after qualifying, (i.e. qualify in 2003; re-qualify by 2005 to stay in "A" Fleet in 2006.)

4.2 Re-qualification is by finishing a series 1st, 2nd or 3rd in "A" Fleet.

Note:

A tabular listing of "A" Fleet skippers is shown on page 5.

ELP/Aug. 28, 06

SOLING 1M FLORIDA CUP NEWS FOR SCMSC.

The Space Coast Model Sailing Club will be hosting the Soling Florida Cup Regatta at Wickham Park in the spring of 2007. The date will most likely be Saturday, March 17, 2007.

SCMSC will have two entrants with one alternate.

At a board meeting held 9/25/06 it was decided that:

Representatives from the SCMSC must have sailed and qualified (6 races minimum including rd's) in the 2007 winter series within the Soling fleet. Races sailed (4) during the month of January will determine who will represent SCMSC with one (1) race used as a "throw-out."

US 12 AT SCMSC

- The EC 12 Fleet has been inactive for several years. Inasmuch as there are now five US 12's in the club it is proposed that the US 12 displace the EC 12 as the club's 3rd fleet.
- The US 12 fleet at SCMSC has been sailing on a Thursday, once a month, in part due to the distance at least one of the members must travel to reach the Wickham Pond.
- Discussion with one of the US 12 skippers revealed the desire to continue the Thursday, once a month, approach for the foreseeable future.
- An "official" racing program is planned to begin following the approval by the club members of the US 12 being our 3rd fleet.

US 12 RACING

- The US 12 fleet will race on Thursday, once a month, time to be established by the skippers. Each day's racing will comprise 10 races with one throw-out. The RD will come out of the US 12 fleet unless a volunteer RD can be scheduled.
- Scoring sheets will be forwarded to the club vice-commodore for official review and record keeping. The club website will be updated monthly with the US 12 scores and standings.
- A series will consist of three (3) days of sailing: (30) races and will generally coincide with the Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall sailing series of the other two fleets.
- "A" and "B" fleet designations for the skippers will be suspended until the fleet attains the total of (10) boats. At that time

all those skippers will be considered "A" fleet while new skippers added to the fleet will be "B" until qualifying for "A" under the existing guidelines which also include the requirements for remaining in the "A" fleet.

- Records will be kept and awards for the top three finishers in each series will be presented at the annual meeting as with the other fleets.
- Club regattas will include the US 12 fleet in their format.

(Revised November 2, 2006)



What IS IT?

The Mystery Regatta

- **RD: John Bluhm**
- **No pre. sign up**
- **No food**
- **No soda**
- **No coffee**
- **No donuts**
- **No money**
- **No Trophies**
- **No idea what the format will be.**
- **Finally no complaints or you RD it next year.**

Skippers meeting 9:45 Games start
10:00.

This thing will end at 1:00 sharp.

Skipper	Soling IM A Fleet	USIM A Fleet
Bluhm, John	2006	2006
Brown, Ernie	2006	2006
Bryant, Don	2005	
Comstock, Bob	2006	
Crusey, Howard		2006
Dwyer, Dennis		2006
Fletcher, Brian	2006	
Jones, Dana	2006	
Jones, Peggy	2005	
Kantor, Bernie		2006
Lent, Art		2006
Maurer, Bill	2005	
Montanari	2006	2006
Peterson, Ernie	2005	2006
Rios, Ron	2006	
Rottman, Adam		2006
Rutz, Steve	2006	
Spatenga, Steve	2006	2006
Tuley, Jesse	2006	

The above table lists all “A” Fleet skippers as of the start of the Winter 2007 Race Series. The year shown in the class columns designates when last qualifying as “A”. If no date appears in a column, that skipper is not presently qualified for that class “A” Fleet.



Space Coast Model Sailing Club
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, September 25, 2006
Joneses 855 Ridge Lake Drive

Present: ***S. Rutz, Comm; E. Peterson, V.C.;***
D. Jones, Treas.; P. Jones, Sec.

Directors: John Bluhm, Dennis

Dwyer, Brian Fletcher

Absent: Steve Spatenga, Director; Bob Comstock
invited guest.

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

Directors Minutes (Cont.)

Treasurer report: Balance \$470

Dana said end of the year expenses will be trophies, usually about \$300.

Minutes of last Board meeting June 24, 2006 read and approved.

Steve Rutz's agenda:

1. Documents Booklet. Board agreed that copies of our documents are on our website so not necessary to print additional copies. Each Board member should have a hard copy plus a copy in the briefcase. Also discussed was putting out a newsletter – Dock Line, with Commodore letter. The Board felt skippers that are interested can read it on the website.
2. US 12 (new soling model) Regional 3 regatta is scheduled for Oct 21 at our pond. Bob Comstock, Chairman. Cut off date is Oct 7. After that date, hats will be ordered with US 12 logo; P. Jones will make name tags for skippers, Dana will order and pick up sandwiches. (Also Dana will do registration and Peggy will order chevrons). Awards will be given to 5 places. Bob Comstock to provide Dana with the number of club members participating on his committee for additional hats and lunches.

Ernie said there are 5 US 12 skippers in our club who are racing one Thursday a month. He/they would like to become a regular boat class accepted by SCMSC. It was agreed that

the US12's continue racing as currently, and their situation will be discussed at our Annual Mtg. Nov 18. Ernie P. to make presentation at that time.

3. We will host the All Florida Cup regatta sometime in March. The Board agreed on a qualifying process for the 2 or 3 slots to represent our club. Skippers must qualify for the Winter Series and must also use the results of Jan 6, 13, 20, 27 to qualify for the All Florida. If there is a tie, the last race will be the tie breaker.
4. 2007 Regattas proposed: Local: Memorial (5/19/07), Labor Day instead of Independence Day, and Mystery. Non AYMA Soling FL Cup 3/24/07 and AMYA Soling in early December – Nationals or Regional.

SCMSC FL Cup Qualification Process: Two boats and one alternate to be selected. Soling Skippers participating in the Winter series are eligible to compete. The four racing weeks in January 2007 will be used to select from those wanting one of the three slots. The scores for this process will come from the series standings for that month, no separate races to be held.

5. Annual meeting will be at the Lobster Shanty on Nov 18. To avoid the confusion of last year, members will prepay for their dinner NLT a date to be determined shortly. Dana will get a copy of the menu and talk with Steve Spatenga. The price will include dinner choice, beverage and tip. There will be 3 choices. Alcoholic beverages will be available via cash bar only.

Ernie to provide the awards data for Winter, Spring and Summer series for early trophy preparation leaving the Fall series awards for last minute preparation.

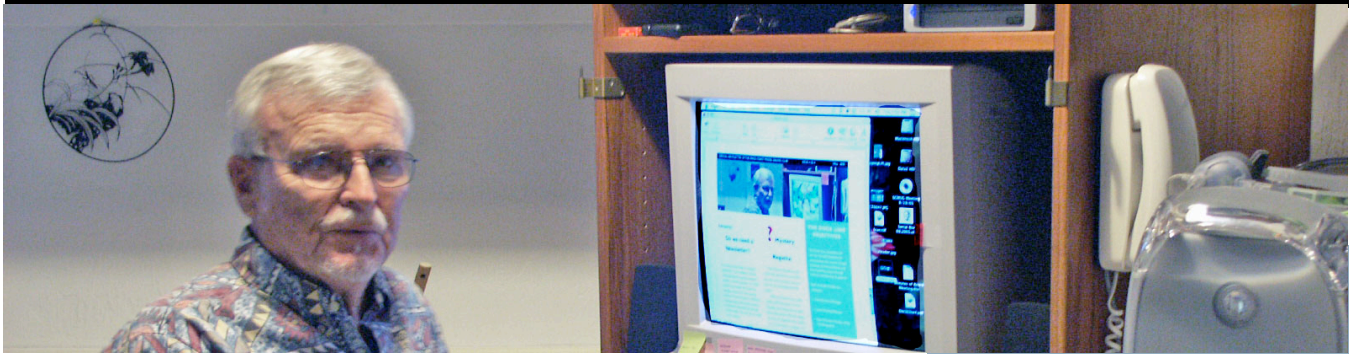
Directors Minutes (Cont.)

6. Review of sailing rules. In view of the fact that some new members, and some old, are not familiar with racing rules, Ernie suggested perhaps a small test of about 5-10 rules would help reveal the need for review. Last year S. Rutz asked the RD or someone knowledgeable to review one rule a week. The board agreed it is/was a good idea that should be continued.
7. Board Nominations; S. Rutz does not chose to serve again. He poled the existing Board to discover all would serve again if needed. The final nominations will be proposed by the Board members at the Annual Meeting at which time nominations from the floor will be considered as required.
8. Howard Crusey Project: Howard has been pushing the Wickham Park staff for over a year to construct a pavilion at our sailing site. Latest word is the budget has finally caught up with the requirement and work should start soon. Having heard this before we will believe it when we see it.
9. Kudos to Steve for being our Commodore for 2 years. He was a fairly new member and jumped right into the job. He updated and published a "Manual for Race Directors" and became familiar with our by-laws. He felt having Board meetings at the pond after racing provided opportunity for member input. (AND some Board members would not have to drive a considerable distance to attend meetings in private homes.) We thanked him for his leadership and organization skills.
10. A small group (4 or 5) of Soling skippers, from Ft. Lauderdale will visit SCMSC on Saturday October 7 to observe our series competition. We will invite them to have lunch with us (\$5.00 a head) and some of our skippers will sail with them after lunch.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Jones, Secretary





Editorial

Yes, we do need a Newsletter!

As stated in my last article, *The Dock Line* (in addition to being required by the club Bylaws) provides a forum for the club directors to communicate current problems, future planning issues and meeting minutes directly with the members. These functions were not previously provided by the club web site.

In order to accommodate all of the above, the web site is in the process of being modified to incorporate the missing forum and thus become in fact an electronic (and only) version of *The Dock Line*.

This will be accomplished by adding a new “*The Dock Line Bulletin Board*,” where PDF versions of all member articles of general interest will be posted within 48 hours of receipt whenever possible. While the primary purpose will be to accommodate the directors, articles from other members will not be excluded. All articles will be edited prior to posting.

Due to this revised format, there will no longer be dated newsletter issues. Each article will stand on its’ own. Each years articles will be compiled and archived at years end.

The new bulletin board is still a work in process but will be incorporated prior to 01 January 2007.

Don

THE DOCK LINE BULLETIN BOARD OBJECTIVES

The Dock Line Bulletin Board will provide a forum for the club directors to communicate the record of their meetings, current problems and future planning issues directly with the general membership. The board will also provide an opportunity for the members to respond and/or to voice alternate viewpoints.

Newsletter Staff

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Don Bryant

Technical Editor

Art Lent

Contributors

SCMSC Directors and Members