

# The RUDDER

A Publication of the Lake Juliette Sailing Club



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### Christmas Party & Dec. Meeting

This year's festivities will be held at the home of Warren and Linda Abrams. Event begins at 5:00 p.m. We are attempting to get a map up on the web site or you can contact Warren or Linda at 770-228-3865. Further details on the web site (see below, it's the next line of type in blue in the disclaimer...see it?...it starts with www and ends in org!...yeah, that's it!)

The RUDDER is the official publication of the Lake Juliette Sailing Club. Statements and opinions appearing herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the group position of the Lake Juliette Sailing Club. The Editor reserves the right to edit all material for publication and to publish only that material which is felt to be in the best interest of the LJSC. So, there!

Other info at [www.lakejuliettesailingclub.org](http://www.lakejuliettesailingclub.org)

## Minutes of Nov. 18, 2003 Meeting

I missed the meeting. I won't go into all the gory details, let's just say it involved lying in bed and a lot of moaning, groaning and writhing around. For once Charlie's constant admonitions of "you're overdoing it again" came true. (Hey, even a blind squirrel finds a nut every now and then!) Due to the efforts of my darling bride, Charlie, who attempted to capture everything on a micro cassette tape, and our beloved and esteemed

Treasurer Jan Dillard who took some legible but cryptic notes, I will attempt a reconstruction.

The best I could tell from listening to the garbled tape, Steve opened the meeting complaining of being cold or frigid or something to that effect. Hmmmm, I think that might fall under the heading 'too much information'. (Sorry Steve, I couldn't resist that one!)

It appears that the first item up for discussion was the Christmas Party. (or for all you politically correct people out there...it's still the Christmas Party, get over it!) It was decided that members whose names begin with A through G will bring a dessert and those whose names begin with H through Z will bring a veggie or side dish. Marcus Borders has graciously conceded to apply his culinary genius to the entrée. The talented Corbins will provide the musical portion for our cultural edification. Request for monetary compensation for the 'band' by Anthony Corbin was promptly ruled 'out of order'. Musicians have such a hard life! There will also be a "Gift Exchange Game" with a \$10 limit on the gift if you wish to participate.

The Cruise Report, delivered by the gregarious Ron Katz, involved an after Christmas trek to Tampa Dec. 26 – Jan 2. All ya'll who are interested can contact Ron Katz for details. Ron's request for alternative places to go was met with many suggestions...most of them unprintable. Ron, you shouldn't give 'em straight lines like that!

From Jan's notes it appears that discussion turned to the January meeting. The meeting will be held on the third Saturday of January. At this point, from the tape, it appears that Ron and Linda Katz had some kind of altercation re: the reservation of a meeting place. It is unclear from the tape whether food was thrown but I did hear an increase in the rattle of cutlery, hopefully no serious injuries ensued. More details will be provided at the Christmas Party.

The Warren Commission Report was up next. This is the committee to nominate next years slate of officers. So far response has been somewhat less than encouraging. On a serious note, I realize that committing yourself to a year's servitude to the Club involves some sacrifice but it isn't as hard as you think. There are plenty of 'old hands' who are more than happy to give you the benefit of their experience and help you out. Everyone in the Club has something to contribute and, who knows, you might just learn something new in the process. Please, volunteer and get involved.

The previous discussion segued into talks of a possible change in the by-laws to facilitate the tedious

nomination process. Jan Dillard will cogitate and research this and submit her findings at the December throwdown. Anyone with any suggestions, please attend and bestow upon us the benefits of your wisdom.

The Cherry Blossom Regatta became the next topic. Here again, this is one of our biggest events and it takes a lot of planning and effort to put this thing together. We need volunteers to pull this off. You don't have to sacrifice a lot to do a little and the more people involved makes everyone's job easier. Anyone who can devote a little time and energy to this endeavor, PLEASE contact Linda Katz either via e-mail at [LING44@aol.com](mailto:LING44@aol.com) or 478-742-3556. We will need people to help with registration, parking, T-shirt and drink sales, setting up the course, logistic support for the meal, keeping the peace, answering stupid questions, etc. There are a lot of little details to deal with and if everyone does a little, no one has to do a lot. Submissions for the T-shirt art need to be presented at the December meeting.

I believe I have covered everything of substance. If not, I'm sure someone will let me know.  
Gimp

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### Commodore's Notes

Well folks, we have weathered an entire year of my being Commodore! The year went by fairly smoothly. The club is still solvent, the membership didn't mutiny, and there were no casualties.

The club did a good job of holding the Cherry Blossom Regatta on Lake Juliette. As with any event, there was plenty of work to be done, but the pleasure of seeing all the boats on Juliette more than made up for it. This coming year's regatta promises to be bigger and better.

We had trips...boy, did we have trips!! The biggest undertaking was the Cruise to Bimini that *some* of us were able to make. The unfortunate ones of us who made the trip to Florida but didn't get to Bimini may never speak to Tom Wellman again!

It has been a fun year. Thank you for letting me serve as your Commodore.

(☺ I almost said that with a straight face☺)

Stephen

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### "Lettitor" from the Editor

#### Captain Bligh Meets Ebenezer Scrooge

I was talking to a friend of mine (who shall remain nameless due to acute embarrassment) and the subject of 'Christmas on Boats' came up. What ensued was a rather amusing account of the trials and tribulations of decorating a sailboat for the season. Now I am sure that most of you have seen sailboats or at least pictures of

boats all beautifully bedecked with the trappings, accouterments, and paraphernalia associated with this wonderful holiday. What these visions don't portray is the effort, ingenuity, persistence, imagination and downright dogged determination involved in such a festive endeavor. After talking with my friend, (we'll call him 'Fred') and after several adult beverages consumed in sympathetic commiseration, we arrived at a few common sense (O.K., the 'common sense' thing could be a stretch) guidelines for the seasonal decoration of things nautical. There are many ingenious baubles and bangles you can use to decorate for the season but the most dramatic, especially at night, are of course LIGHTS! Everyone loves those multicolored, twinkling Holiday lights so I will restrict this missive to that aspect of decoration. What follows is Fred's procedure for 'lighting the scow'. Those of you who have done this before may have better alternatives but what follows is the consummation of all of my research in the matter.

Step 1; Take your tape measure on the boat and crawl out on the pulpit.

Step 2; Climb out of the water back on to the dock, dry off, change clothes and snug the dock lines so that those passing power boats skippered by drunks don't rock the boat so much. Go out to the truck, look in the toolbox for spare tape measure due to original residing in 8 ½ feet of water between boat and dock.

Step 3; Consume approximately 2 ounces of rum or other appropriate adult beverage to warm up

Step 4; repeat step 1.

Step 5; After dropping spare tape measure over the side, go below for pencil and paper. Stand on the dock and attempt to remember Pythagorean formula while scribbling meaningless figures and doing mindless computations. Consumption of additional adult beverages recommended here.

Step 6; After picking up all those crumpled pieces of paper off the dock, write down '200 feet'. If later you find this isn't enough, get a smaller boat.

Step 7; Find designated driver. Depending on tolerance, audacity or a lack of fear of your own common sense, this step may be omitted.

Step 8; Proceed to Wal-Mart to procure 200 feet of 12 volt Christmas lights.

Step 9; Apologize to manager of Wal-Mart for verbally abusing moronic salesperson that insisted all they have is 2 sets of red and amber trailer lights but with extra wire it would stretch 200 feet.

Step 10; Drive across town through excessive and irate holiday traffic to Home Depot. (A slight detour to a pub of your choice for further consumption of adult beverages is highly recommended here.)

Step 11; Explain to manager and security guard at Home Depot that you didn't mean to punch out the obnoxious sales clerk but that you tripped and fell on a can of fake snow that fell off the strategically placed display in the middle of the seasonal decorations aisle and you are

sure they will be O.K. as soon as they regain consciousness.

Step 12; Repeat step 10 but insert 'Radio Shack' for 'Home Depot'

Step 13; After convincing SWAT Team that altercation in Radio Shack is due to low blood sugar from a medical condition, resign yourself to the fact that, although several third world countries manufacture 12 volt Christmas lights, they are all sitting on a boat in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

This next step is required only if Marina or facility where boat resides provides electrical outlet.

Step 14; Return to Wal-Mart for string of 110-volt lights and 100 foot extension cord. (Disguise is optional but recommended)

Step 15; after locating electric outlet, testing lights, returning lights to Wal-Mart for a set that actually works, a detour by the liquor store for a bottle of Bacardi 151 or suitably potent equivalent, carefully coil the string of lights and place them on the foredeck close to the forestay.

Step 16; Release the jib halyard and bring it forward.

Step 17; Go back and get the jib halyard, bring it forward and tie it to the pulpit or cleat it off at the bow leaving enough to fasten the string of lights to.

Step 18; Return to Wal-Mart to replace the string of lights that you kicked over the side as you were bringing the jib halyard forward.

Step 19; After revisiting steps 15-17 and the consumption of another adult beverage, fasten the end of the string of lights to the jib halyard and hoist to the top of the mast while making 2 or three turns around the forestay to keep the lights from sagging.

Step 20; Lower the jib halyard, remove the lights and refasten the end WITHOUT the plug and hoist to top of mast.

Step 21; Go below for boat hook to snag mass of tangled lights that have just been hoisted halfway up the mast, stopping off in the galley for refill of adult beverage.

Step 22; Rig block and tackle and bosun's chair to main halyard to hoist self up mast to retrieve jib halyard which remains stuck at top of mast after mass of tangled lights is jerked free of jib halyard with boathook.

Step 23; Revisit pertinent portions of steps 19 and 20.

Step 24; Take excess lights and loop loosely around safety lines on port side, running fore to aft to the backstay.

Step 25; Take boathook and retrieve block and tackle that was left lying on the foredeck and subsequently knocked over the port side due to stumbling over loose boathook on foredeck.

Step 26; Release main halyard and bring it aft remembering to secure it at the backstay with enough left to fasten lights to.

Step 27; Estimate length of light string needed to reach top of mast with extra to loop around backstay and fasten this point of light string to main halyard and hoist

to top of mast.

Step 28; Lower main halyard, go below for electrical repair toolbox, repair broken light string that snapped due to underestimating length of backstay. Go below for first aid kit to bandage cuts on fingers resulting from repairs on broken light string. Mix and consume another adult beverage.

Step 29; Make a more generous estimation for length of light string and fasten this point to main halyard and hoist to top of mast.

Step 30; Loop the remaining light string loosely around mast and plug into extension cord. Carefully run extension cord down dock to electric outlet and plug in.

Step 31; Find breaker box and reset breaker that tripped when shorted out extension cord was plugged into outlet.

Step 32; Unplug extension cord and go back to breaker box and reset breaker that tripped because you forgot to unplug the extension cord the first time, pausing to consume another adult beverage.

Step 33; Find short in extension cord. Go back to boat and gather up all loose articles in cockpit from overturned electrical repair toolbox. Return to dock and remove shorted out area of extension cord and repair. Run repaired extension cord back to outlet.

Step 34; Return to boat to get old standby extension cord from bottom of lazette under 20 lb. danforth anchor to enable the now 'too-short' repaired extension cord to reach outlet.

Step 35; Go to ice chest for ice to put on foot to reduce swelling from dropping 20 lb. Danforth anchor on foot. This is a good time to pause for another adult beverage.

Step 36; Plug old 'standby' extension cord into outlet and repaired extension cord.

Step 37; Unplug cords from outlet and go back to breaker box and reset breaker that tripped due to defective old 'standby' extension cord. Return to boat for electrical repair kit.

Step 38; Mix and consume another adult beverage while watching electrical repair toolbox sink into 8 ½ feet of water between boat and dock after tripping over 20 lb. Danforth anchor left in cockpit and dropping electrical repair toolbox over the side.

Step 39; Calmly rip 200 feet of Christmas lights from boat and coil tightly. (The more experienced might want to try tying a 'monkey's fist') Using your best 'Life Ring Toss' technique, cast for distance toward open water.

Step 40; Return to Wal-Mart and purchase plastic, battery operated, internally lit 24 inch Santa that dances and sings 'Jingle Bells' and a roll of duct tape. Return to boat and mount 'Santa' to pulpit with duct tape. Mix a very strong adult beverage, sit back and immerse yourself in this unique holiday experience! Merry Christmas, ya'll!

Gimp

## Classified Ads

American Daysailer: 14.5 ft with 3.5hp Sears motor, - 1995. Galvanized trailer, roller-furling jib, single reef main, UK flyer. \$3500.

**Contact Al Pfeifer; 478-474-0911.**

Hobie Holder 17: Trailer, 4hp Johnson, \$2400

**Contact Carl Saylor; 478-320-7130**

Starwind 19: Harding trailer, Nissan 9hp (I think) motor. Attractive price.

**Contact David Block; 478-454-1071**

Sailboats Wanted: Donate your Hobie 16's for the Special Olympics Program at Lake Tobosofkee and get a tax write-off. Will also accept other boats, which will be sold, and the proceeds used to support the program.

**Contact Phil Martin; 478-751-7363**

Spring is Coming...Time to get that boat in shape! For all types of boat repair contact **Saylor Specialties; 478-320-7130** or e-mail to [carl@saylorsspecialties.com](mailto:carl@saylorsspecialties.com)

Albacore; 15 ft. open sloop, bow compartment, Harken 6-1 vang, 4-1 mainsheet, swing keel, 3 good sails, good tires on trailer, will plane, easy to set up, \$1000.

**Contact Jorge Picabea 478-471-6255**

The Wrench Ranch: A lifetime of mechanical experience. European cars a specialty. Trailer repairs, odd projects most welcome. **Contact D. Wilson; 770-358-4684**

Autowizard; Auto, Truck and Trailer accessories.

**Contact Ron Katz; 478-742-7426**

Round Oak Recording, inc.; State of the art digital multi-track recording studio. In-house production and publishing capabilities from advertising jingles to mass marketable CD's.

**Contact Tim Brooks or Michael Dortch; 478-986-1215**

MacGregor 26; 1990 waterballast centerboard w. 8 hp Nissan, 2 jibs, VHF, depth, knot meter, prop. Stove, porta potty, cushions, dodger. Exc. Shape. Kept in enclosed shed

**Jim Hines; 770-853-7941 or [jhinesite@aol.com](mailto:jhinesite@aol.com) \$9000**

Wanted: Dinghy

**Contact Jorge Picabea 478-471-6255**