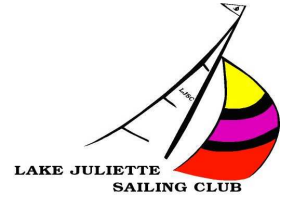


The RUDDER

A Publication of the Lake Juliette Sailing Club



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Next Meeting

Our Annual New Years meeting will be held at the home of John and Sherrie Davis, on Saturday, January 17th. Festivities to kick off around 5:00 ish! Directions are: (From Macon area) NORTH on I-75 to exit 198, High Falls Rd., Turn LEFT (West), follow High Falls Rd. about 4.6 miles to end at HWY 36, Turn LEFT, follow Hwy 36 about a mile to MORGAN DAIRY RD., Turn RIGHT, follow Morgan Dairy Rd. about 4.6 miles, you will come to a railroad and road, go STRAIGHT across, the road name becomes PHILLIP WELDON RD., we are about 1.4 miles on right. Look for brick house with yellow gables. If you get lost, call 770-229-1908 and someone will probably laugh and make fun of you!

Marcus will be doing the cooking and he needs to know how much to cook so please RSVP to the 'Gimp' at Toezup@aol.com or call 478-742-1656. Any other forms of communication will probably just confuse me...more.

2004 Cherry Blossom Regatta Sunday, March 21

This year it will be a 'fee for' event as follows.
 Pre-registration-\$35; Weekend of event-\$40
 Juniors (18 & under)-\$25
 Fee includes 1 T-shirt per entry, a meal, parking and tickets for door prizes

Minutes of Christmas Party & Meeting

I did not take any minutes of the meeting due to my inability to discern where the party left off and the meeting started. I swear it had nothing to do with the contents of those little brown bottles, it's just that it was a fairly informal affair. However, I did manage to take a few notes regarding important info to disseminate to the membership via the newsletter after being cornered and threatened by some of the more responsible members.

First up, the January Meeting and New Years Celebratory Throw-down and Feast. Please see the box in the left column of this page and read it. It is located in the left column of this page underneath the listing of officers and over the disclaimer, in an oxford ruled box with the heading of 'Next Meeting'. Did I mention that it is in the left column of this page? See it? Good, now read it. Rumor has it that Marcus will be cooking steaks, so for those of you afraid of 'Mad Cow Disease'...bring a chicken, ya wimp. Maybe Marcus will throw it on the grill for you.

The January Meeting will also entail the official nomination, voting and swearing at, I mean in, of the new suckers, I mean Officers for 2004. You might want to make this shindig as there is a possibility of you being drafted if you're not there to defend yourself.

Next, We still need volunteers for the Cherry Blossom Regatta. For those of you who haven't volunteered, I hope you feel embarrassed and ashamed. (Sorry folks, I just don't do 'guilt' like my mom does, but I'm working on it.) Don't forget, T-shirt art submissions must be presented at the January meeting and will be voted upon at this time.

The party was a real hoot with fun and games, great food, good fellowship and music to sooth the savage beasts. On behalf of the club, I would like to thank Marcus Borders for his masterful display of culinary talents and the Abrams family for putting up with the

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Other info at www.lakejuliettesailingclub.org

abuse of their lovely domicile. Special thanks to Anthony and Garland Corbin and Joe Richardson for the hot licks on cool tunes. A very special 'Atta-boy' (for those of you who are politically correct, insert your own damn commendation!) to all of you who jumped in and made this thing the rousing success that it was. If you don't know who that was, then you ain't involved enough! (I'm getting' pretty good at this 'guilt' thing. Mom would be so proud) - Gimp

In Search of Homo Sapiens Moronicus
Don't You Just Love the Internet?

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?:

This week, our phones went dead and I had to contact the telephone repair people. They promised to be out between 8:00a.m. and 7:00 p.m. When I asked if they could give me a smaller time window, the pleasant gentleman asked, "Would you like us to call you before we come?"

IDIOTS AT WORK:

I was signing the receipt for my credit card purchase when the clerk noticed I had never signed my name on the back of the credit card. She informed me that she could not complete the transaction unless the card was signed. When I asked why, she explained that it was necessary to compare the signature I had just signed on the receipt. So I signed the credit card in front of her. She carefully compared the signature to the one I had just signed on the receipt. As luck would have it, they matched.

IDIOTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

I live in a semi-rural area. We recently had a new neighbor call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the Deer Crossing sign on our road. The reason: too many deer were being hit by cars and she didn't want them to cross there anymore. I could swear I've recently been with some of these people...

IDIOTS IN FOOD SERVICE:

My daughter went to a local Taco Bell and ordered a taco. She asked the person behind the counter for "minimal lettuce." He said he was sorry, but they only had iceberg.

IDIOT SIGHTING #1:

I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, "Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?" To which I replied, "If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?" She smiled knowingly and nodded, "That's why we ask."

IDIOT SIGHTING #2:

The spotlight on the corner buzzes when it's safe to cross the street. I was crossing with a coworker of mine when she asked if I knew what the buzzer was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red. Appalled, she responded, "What on earth are blind people doing driving?"

IDIOT SIGHTING #3:

At a good-bye luncheon for an old and dear coworker who is leaving the company due to "downsizing," our manager commented cheerfully, "This is fun. We should do this more often." Not a word was spoken. We all just looked at each other with that deer-in-the-headlights stare.

IDIOT SIGHTING #4:

I work with an individual who plugged her power strip back into itself and for the life of her couldn't understand why her system would not turn on.

IDIOT SIGHTING #5:

When my husband and I arrived at an automobile dealership to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked. "Hey," I announced to the technician, "it's open!" To which he replied, "I know - I already got that side."

Gasparilla Pirate Fest

The Annual Gasparilla Pirate Fest in Tampa, FL will be held on Jan. 31-Feb. 7 this year. More info can be found at <http://gasparillapiratefest.com>. If anyone is interested in making a trip to this event, please contact Ron Katz at Autowizard@aol.com, or you can call him at 478-742-3556. There is a chance that this will be kicked around at the next meeting, so show up and put in yer 2 cents worth.

Editor's note; The following items were provided by Bob Horan, Thanks, Bob!

Sailing Symposium

US SAILING will be sponsoring the **National Sailing Program Symposium** Jan. 28 – Feb. 1, in Oakland, California. A detailed agenda and registration information can be found on the US SAILING website at www.ussailing.org/training/nsps. This symposium deals with setting up and running sailing programs and will cover a wide range of topics and ideas. Some of the topics include 'Promoting Sailing at the Grass Roots Level', 'Conduct a Successful, Long Term Youth Program', 'Creating a Positive Environment Within a Politically Charged Yacht Club Structure', 'The Nuts and

Bolts of a Community Sailing Program', Sailing Program Insurance', 'Marketing/Public Relations' and a whole lot more.

HMS Surprise

The Sailing ship "HMS Surprise" is a 180-foot ship formerly the "HMS Rose" out of Connecticut. It was bought by Twentieth Century Fox and was transformed into the HMS Surprise for the Movie " Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World". It is presently at Driscoll's Boat Works in San Diego and is used for special events up and down the California coast. If you would like to learn more check out www.tallshiprose.org. If you have not seen the Movie yet, you may want to put it on your schedule since it has or will be leaving the theater soon.

Quote

"No amount of skill, no equipment and no boat will keep you from disaster if you don't develop the most important sea-going skill of all, a complete fear of falling overboard."

-Lin and Lary Pardey

Quiz

What is the shortest distance between two points called? Hint: Lines of longitude are, but only one latitude is.

Answer: The Great Circle Route

Boat Shows

Atlantic Sail Expo; Jan. 15-18, 2004

Atlantic City Convention Center, NJ

Strictly Sail Chicago; Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 2004

Navy Pier, Chicago, IL

Strictly Sail Miami; Feb. 12-17, 2004

Miamarina at Bayside, Miami, FL

All it Takes is Money!

For those of you who got loads of cash for Christmas, you need to check out www.pictureperfectsailing.com. It seems they have a process to put pictures on sails. I tried to download some pics from the website but I couldn't quite pull it off with this equipment. (No, not the computer...the hardware behind the keyboard!) Just think, guys..you could have a picture of your mother-in-law on your Jib! OK, maybe not.

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.

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

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

Wanted: Dinghy

Contact Jorge Picabea 478-471-6255

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@sailorspecialties.com

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

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

Autowizard; Auto, Truck and Trailer accessories.

Contact Ron Katz; 478-742-7426

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 \$9000

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