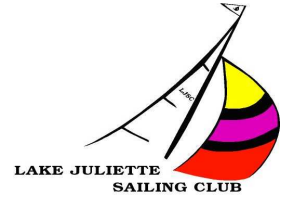


The RUDDER

A Publication of the Lake Juliette Sailing Club



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Next Meeting

February 17, 2004

Ryan's Steak House

3740 Northside Dr. Macon, GA

Room reserved at 6:30 PM

Meeting starts at about 7:00 PM

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

Minutes of Meeting

The January meeting was held at the home of the gracious, hospitable and all around beautiful people, John and Sherrie Davis. In spite of inclement weather, we had a pretty good turnout. Prior to the meeting, the membership was treated to the culinary creations of master chef Marcus Borders and his traveling grill along

with other edibles supplied by the members. The gathering was rampant with the usual 'hail-fellow-well-met' conviviality and semi-ecstatic good humor. OK, maybe it wasn't quite that great, but it was a pretty good shindig all things considered.

The actual meeting was called to order by Stephen Dillard for his final assault as Commodore. The first item of business was the election and installation of new Officers. Warren Abrams was elected Commodore with Warren Hughes drafted for the Vice Commodore position. See what happens when you miss a meeting! Jan Dillard graciously accepted being coerced into another term as treasurer. She's so cute when she's efficient! Ron Katz agreed to endeavor to persevere for another term as Cruise Director, and ya'll will have to put up with me again in the Secretary/Editor position.

At this point, Stephen ceremoniously turned over the helm to Warren Abrams, who promptly expressed our appreciation and presented Stephen with a lovely parting gift, thank you for playing!

Warren's first act as 'Fearless Leader' was to open discussion on the Cherry Blossom Regatta. Several details were bandied about and battened down. Jimmy Harrell was good enough to volunteer to run the race. Thanks Jimmy. We still need more volunteers to help out with the myriad details and logistics. Ron presented a sample of the trophies and in the ensuing discussion it was discovered that Chris Hoskins is a real live Artist. She offered to see what she could do with the t-shirt design, bless her heart! It was determined that the date of the race was inaccurate in last month's newsletter and the actual date would be Saturday, March 20th. (Yes, I know it's hard to believe that your illustrious Secretary actually made a mistake!)

Ron Katz gave us the benefit of his erudite oratory in his capacity as Cruise Director and entertained suggestions for this years activities. Ron threw out the Gasparilla Festival in Tampa Florida on Feb. 20th -22nd. 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. Several other suggestions were made but nothing else was chipped in stone so if you have any suggestions for cruises this year, trot 'em out.

Ron brought up the idea of sponsoring an Explorers Sailing program. The Explorers program is under the auspices of the Boy Scouts. It was decided to look into the details of this and Ron would present the results of his research at the next meeting.

With our attention spans reaching the saturation point, the meeting began its general decline into random conversational chaos. We all played well together and went home.

Gimp

Commodore's Notes

Another year is beginning and what we make of it is up to us, you and me. I will need your ideas, knowledge and support to assure another year of sailing fun for us all. I am encouraged that we have such a wide range of experience within our membership, and that you so willingly share it.

Currently I am getting my cruiser ready to go to Tampa. It will be its first long trip and I must wonder what stories will return. What I will forget to bring? What will break? I will take notes. Please contact Capt. Ron for info on the trip plan.

Our upcoming event, The Cherry Blossom Regatta, will be a major topic of discussion at our next meeting. **WHAT WE NEED, HELP & SPONSORS.** Sponsorships can make or break us as to a "profit" for the event. If you know anyone, or a business that will write us a check for \$100 in return for a name on our T-shirt and mention as a sponsoring party, get the money! (and the name) This needs to be done SAP so it can be planned in the design. The help part is also critical to the success of the event. We need folks to help with parking in the AM, registration, On the Point (scoring, sales, announcing, PR, etc.), race committee, evening supper and clean-up. At first look it seems no one would be left to sail, but no, only the race committee and those on the point will miss racing. If we all pitch in as we have in the past, it will be another fun day at the lake.

See you at the next meeting. Bring a friend.

Warren

Schedule of Events for 2004 are as follows:

Feb. 20-22 Gasparilla Fest. Tampa, FL
 March 20 Cherry Blossom Regatta

"Lettitor" from the Editor

All That Jazz

It had been one of those weeks. You know the kind, we all have 'em sooner or later. Everything I touched malfunctioned or misfired and turned to the proverbial excretory substance. The whole week had been one catastrophe after another. The weekend seemed to approach with the relative speed of the inverse proportion to my rising frustration level. By Friday I had convinced myself that if a trip to the boat wasn't forthcoming, the results would probably involve a rifle and a water tower...film at eleven. (Just kidding, Mr. Ashcroft!) After informing my darling bride that if this

intrinsic need was not met, the ensuing results would be ugly, she agreed to humor the madman residing behind the façade of her spouse. Plans were made.

Saturday morning crawled above the trees wrapped in an uninspiring soggy blanket of fog with malicious intermittent drizzle thrown in for effect. My despondent offspring wailed her indignance at the ruination of her weekend plans for fraternization with peers.

"Da-ad, we planned this for weeks!"

After being informed of how 'bogus' it was of me to completely ruin her whole life, arrangements were made for her to spend the weekend with her friends. As this crises was being resolved I began to hear muttering from the spousal region.

"Is this your idea of loading the cooler? If you think I'm going to spend a weekend on the boat with nothing but beer and garlic sausage...!#*&!+@#!...mmph!grrmph! Go check the oil in the truck or something, I'll pack the cooler!"

Despite my 'interference', we finally got the kid packed off and ourselves packed up and headed for the boat. As we arrived at the dock, the drizzle was replaced by a light wind...good enough. We got the provisions stowed, the boat rigged and motored out of the marina to a freshening breeze. I headed up as Charlie worked the foredeck. I killed and raised the motor as the sails began to fill. The boat began to heel. I listened to the musical whispering of the water as it caressed the hull. Charlie detoured to the galley on her way to the cockpit and handed me an ice cold beer before snuggling up under my free arm. The breeze began to build.

We trimmed up and ran close-hauled and moving out smartly into an easterly wind. We tacked to get a good angle for a long run up the lake and turned the old girl loose. Charlie went below and returned with a fresh beer and resumed her position tucked up nice and tight under my right arm.

There we were, locked in 'the moment'. Every good sail has at least one 'moment'. This one was the first of several we had that weekend. With the rail in the water, we listened to the musical interplay of wind in the rigging and the rush of water locked in the syncopated beat provided by the intermittent drizzle drumming on the deck. The whole experience was like listening to a really tight jazz band playing the last set of the night and they catch that groove that becomes an improvisational juggernaut that transcends music and becomes art. If that didn't make sense to you, let me put it this way. I had one hand on the tiller of my favorite boat, my arm around the love of my life and the rail in the water. God is in his heaven and all is right with the world.

Gimp

Nautical Quiz

By Bob Horan

A. Leaks at through-hull fittings are attributed to **6%, 12%, or 18%** of all the boats that sink while

- underway.
- B. Waves over the gunwales/transom contribute to **10%, 20%, or 30%**, of all the boats that sink while underway.
- C. What one thing do most nautical knots (99%) have in common?
- D. On a river, the **up-** or **down-bound** vessel has the right-of-way? (assuming all other factors equal)
- E. Boats that pass the US Coast Guard Auxiliary's Marine Examination are typically eligible for boat insurance discounts of up to **5%, 10%, or 15%**.
- F. The distance to a thunderstorm can be determined by counting the seconds (1001, 1002, etc.) between the lightning flash and the thunderclap. Each second equals approximately _____ Feet.
- G. The first rule of boating, "One hand for _____ and one for _____"
- H. A sailboat carrying sails with a high "aspect ratio" will perform better **close-hauled, broad-reaching, or running?**

Answers below

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

Answers to Nautical Quiz:

- A. 18%
- B. 30%
- C. Easy to untie
- D. Down-Bound
- E. 10%
- F. 1000 Feet
- G. Yourself, the Boat
- H. Close Hauled

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

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**

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

Wanted: Dinghy

Contact Jorge Picabea 478-471-6255