VINDWORD

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February 2018

2/24	Awards Banquet
3/5	Board Meeting
3/10	PRO Training
3/17	St Patrick's Day Regatta
3/25	Spring Keelboat 1 & 2

## **Commodore Report**

### **Greetings Cresters**

Hoping everyone has enjoyed the extremely dry winter so far, only a few more weeks until we get into the racing season with our inaugural St. Paddy's day regatta. For those of you who don't know when that is, it's Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Everything else is starting to fall in line for the calendar this year, the Awards Banquet 2/24 at Lafortune. We are not at the golf center this year, but at the library by the tennis courts. We will have Hideaway Pizza, please RSVP to <u>awards@paramount-law.net</u> by 2/23.

After the Fleet Captains meeting this month, I had a few thoughts about our program. Is our racing program programmed for failure? The main shortfall of our racing program is bringing in new racers. The barrier of entry to our sport is perceived publicly as very expensive and only for society's elites. Windycrest is the most value for your dollar sailing club in the world. Access to our quality of sailing venue is our greatest asset. We must realize that the wealthy sailors are not going to commit long term to our boutique sailing club, as they can afford to sail at any venue in the world. We need to keep our club as inexpensive as possible, while providing core services for the future growth of our club.

How do we appeal to the millennial generation? The main goal should be "out there to have fun", which is often frowned upon by the local fun police. As much of the sport concentrates on race management, race rules, class rules, etc., it is very overwhelming for the novice. Most newbies in sailing are unaware of regulations of racing until they are dedicated to running their own racing campaign. As the sport turns to super skiff, foiler, catamaran and kites, the traditional sailing club is being replaced by more of a DIY-renegade-vagabond sailing groups, where to be a world class sailor you don't need a home club, just a container, or a van to keep on the road. We do not currently have the facilities to accommodate these modes of sailing, but, it is not out of reach.

I know we are not alone with our issues. I am sure 90% of sailing clubs have the same problems with participation as we do. We are stuck in a status quo rut when it comes to our racing program, doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. For most of my sailing career I had always been critical of those only wishing to cruise. I now see why a majority choose cruising- fun and less expense. We need more variety to our racing to keep it fresh and challenging, different teams, boats, courses, series, regattas. Committing every other Sunday or every Sunday is difficult to rally a consistent crew. Our top sailors are not traveling like they used to, they are complacent with being the top of the Windycrest, but unwilling to challenge themselves on the regional or national level. There is a diminishing margin of return when putting in the effort, time and money for these ventures and it is a widespread epidemic not just Windycrest.

Taking a person out on a race day who has never been sailing and blasting around the course in a planing sport boat will have them hooked on sailing for life. My suggestion to fix Windycrest is everyone needs a faster sport boat that they can sail every weekend with minimal crew and maximum fun, probably in form of a C-Scow. Until then we will just keep arguing about PHRF or Portsmouth while the participation dwindles. I'm sure there are many rebuttals to my thoughts; these are just a few of my observations over my past two decades of sailing at Windycrest. I'd love to see some more boats and new skippers.

Regards, Drew Ziegler

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# **AWARDS PARTY 2018**

- WHEN: Saturday February 24th at 6:00 PM
- WHERE: Buddy LaFortune Community Center,5202 South Hudson Ave. (on the east side of Lafortune Park.)
- COST: \$5.00 for Adults Free for kids 12 and under Pay at the Door
- FOOD: Pizza Beer & Wine.
- RSVP: Reserve your spot by Friday, Feb 23rd Email to - awards@paramount-law.net And let us know how many will be in your party.



# Fleet Captain's Meeting

WSC members met at the Schusterman Benson Library Meeting Room on February 1st to discuss the upcoming racing season, possible changes to the organization and the conduct of the racing program. We kicked off on time at 1800 (that's 6:00 pm, you cruisers). Naturally, three racers hit the starting line for the meeting ten minutes late. No introductions were made since we all knew each other. Attendees were allowed to claim PRO dates as they arrived. The meeting was chaired by Past Commodore Steve Elliott because Fleet Captain David Hyman was unexpectedly called out of town. Materials handed out included a copy of the latest working copy of the 2018 club calendar, the latest revisions to the club Sailing Instructions, and an agenda for the meeting. Here is what happened:

*The racing schedule and combining the fall and winter series* — A consensus was reached that the winter series should be integrated with the fall series in order to have a longer competitive season (winter series races have been relatively poorly attended). Beginning in October, the Centerboard (CB) races will continue racing weekly until the weather gets too cold, with keelboats (KB) racing later when the climate becomes colder. During this period the keelboats and centerboards would not alternate weekends. September 30<sup>th</sup> is the weekend of the MCScow Southwest Regional Championship, so the MCers want to trade CB/KB on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If there will be 12 races in the new fall/winter series, it was proposed that there be another throw-out. Sailing Instructions should be changed to denote start times based on calendar date and not by series. Another discussion ensued favoring more, and shorter races on CB days. Summer CB 1 & 2 is mislabeled as spring. Some expressed desire to be allowed to race CB's such as C and E Scows, and possibly catamarans on KB days alongside KBs. Some said, "why not?" others said, "no way". We would have to assign a PHRF number to such boats in order for them to compete with keelboats. We also considered starting an hour earlier on Sundays than we do now.

The WindyCup scheduled at end of the new fall/winter series, i.e., Thanksgiving weekend — Everyone thought that Thanksgiving is Too Darn Late for the WindyCup, and all preferred the final to be the same day as the Annual Meeting, October 13th. No one really seemed to care about how the qualifying was accomplished.

Racing fleet composition (e.g., Gold/Silver, A/B, spinnaker/non-spinnaker, clean bottom/dirty bottom) — Lots of confusion and disagreement about this; but the way it looks is that the best compromise is the split into Spinnaker/Non-Spinnaker for Classes. Fleets may be broken out in each Class. The problem of the wide disparity of KB performance is central to the difficulty, a problem which also compounds the ineffectiveness of PHRF. No one had any objection to, or much interest in a Party Fleet that might do point to point races instead of round the buoys.



*PRO recruiting and race management* — There was little interest in modifying how we recruit and staff the Race Committees. It was suggested that our reliance on the inestimable contribution of several non-racers may show a way to recruit others that have little interest in actually competing.

*Needed revisions to the club's Sailing Instructions (S.I.)* — Several current ongoing edits to the S.I. have corrected wording, references, and other formatting so that our S.I. will be consistent with latest Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). Some discussion was also had about having separate start and finish lines in the interest of having more races in a single day. It was also agreed that in any series there should be only one day's instance either of any regatta or RC credit given, but not both. The new S.I. will eliminate the restatements of the RRS. Everyone was encouraged to read the newly revised S.I. upon publication next month.

*PHRF, handicapping and scoring* — It seems that very few understand how our current handicap system is implemented. Further discussion of this issue will continue this year with an eye toward implementing possible changes to our handicap system.

*Increasing participation* — This topic is constantly with us. It was brought up that there may be other motivation to race than winning the competition. This is also an issue that many are interested in and want to pursue further this year.

*New regattas* — The St Patrick's Day Regatta. Be There.

The meeting dissolved around 1930 hrs, i.e., 7:30 pm.



# From the Treasurer



Membership renewal season is upon us, thanks to the 152 members who have completed their renewal as of February 9<sup>th</sup>. Only 72 to go. **Remember that if your renewal is postmarked after February 15<sup>th</sup>, you must include the late fee for it to be processed. See your renewal form for details.** If applicable fees are not included, processing will be suspended until full payment is received. Payment in full of all current year dues and fees is required.

If you use a payment service such as "Bill Pay" please note it on your renewal form and remember that the controlling date for renewals is the date that the signed renewal form, complete payment and signed lease (if applicable) are received by us. Legible postmark dates are controlling, if you are mailing close to a deadline, you may want to have your envelope manually cancelled. Bill payment services may take up to 10 days for payment to reach us after you request it.

Please mail your renewal as soon as possible to help the Board of Governors plan for the upcoming sailing season. It would be great if we didn't collect any late fees this year.



## Inaugural All Catalina Fleet Meeting Report

WSC's New Catalina Fleet (formed by the merging of the C-22 Fleet and the C-25/27 Fleet) held its first combined fleet meeting/social Friday evening February 1st, at Barend and Claudia Meiling's home. We all brought soup and beverage for the evening.

After a little socializing and supper, the meeting was called to order. The first topic on hand was the combining of the fleets and our new combined responsibilities: Memorial Day Brunch, Labor Day Brunch and helping the Keelboat Fleet with the Turkey Fry. It was agreed that we could handle the three "cooks" and would have an organizational meeting 4 to 6 weeks prior to each event.

The second topic discussed was club racing. A suggestion was made at the WSC PRO race committee meeting the previous evening on February 1, to consider having two fleets named the "Spinaker Fleet" and the "non-Spinaker Fleet" as opposed to "Gold" and "Silver". This change will be discussed and decided upon at the next PRO meeting. Otherwise, we discussed how to get three C-22s and three C-25s on the water on race days so that we could have our own fleets.

The next topic discussed was cruising, and two ideas were floated. One was to organize a group sail with raft-up and overnight stay. The second was to gauge interest in chartering a couple of catamarans for a group vacation in some exotic destination such as the BVI's. If I remember right, sometime toward the end of the year or the first of next year was the time frame suggested. There will be more emails with more information as we move along.

The fourth topic discussed was ROAD TRIP! For those with a trailer who might be interested in trailering to some far off destination such as a lake or bay in Texas, we discussed an excursion in the Fall 2018 or Spring 2019. It was determined that most sailboats/trailers were not yet ready for a trip this Spring; and, besides, Texas is not really were you want to be on a sailboat in the Summer with no air-conditioning.

Next we discussed a new fleet captain for the new All Catalina Fleet. Mike Jones had been the previous C-22 Fleet Captain and I have served as the C-25/27 Fleet Captain, so it was time to choose someone new to lead the new All Catalina Fleet forward. Tom Ostrye volunteered to be just that person, and without objection our actions will be submitted to the club fleet captain, David Hyman, for the board's approval.

And finally our members were encouraged to attend the Awards Banquet later this month. With that the meeting was adjourned.

Thanks to Barend and Claudia for hosting the All Catalina Fleet Meeting and Soup Social.

Doug Lewis





## **MC Scow winter Report**

Hey all. We had a nice fleet meeting on January 27th. It was well attended with 18 MC people. Everyone enjoyed the potluck and libations everyone brought. Before we all imbibed to much we managed to conduct a little business. Danny Ziegler was elected fleet captain for 2018. This year our fleet will host a Crawfish Boil on Saturday, May 19. This will be the weekend of the Windycrest Invitational Regatta. We expect a nice turnout, weather permitting. Remember the WIR is an open regatta for any boat, including guests from the outside Windycrest, and there is no entry fee to sail. We'll have more details on the Crawfish Boil later, but in the meantime put it on your calendar, you won't want to miss this one.

As far as our racing goes, this year the MC's will have a silver fleet in an effort to make our MC racing a little more interesting. The fleet won't be split into two groups. Gold fleet sailors get an asterisk by their name. This makes it easy for the scorer plus all sailors get max points for great finishes. If you win the silver fleet for a series, you move up to gold by getting an asterisk by your name. If you don't want to be in silver fleet, just tell the scorer and they'll put an asterisk by your name. For the 2018 Spring Series gold fleet will be Harvey, Drew, Stephen, Ian, and Danny.

We recently had a Club Fleet Captains Meeting. Dave Hymen couldn't attend, but Steve Elliott did a great job moderating the meeting. While we didn't solve all of Windycrest's racing problems, we were able to get together and discuss them. We passed around the sign-up for PRO duty. There are still spaces to fill, so contact Dave to get the one you want instead by being assigned one you don't.

We talked about scoring, handicapping, lack of boats, too many fleets, lack of fleets, how to divide them, the huge disparity in handicap numbers of the boats in our fleet, and other issues that affect our racing. I believe it will take some more input address our problems, so be open to changes this year by Dave and other fleet leaders.

In the past, WSC has always tweaked, experimented, and tried new ideas with our racing to make it simpler and more inviting for all. Some ideas work, some don't, and it is an ever changing target. The next couple of years we'll be trying Dave's ideas. Please be open minded and supportive. Even if you don't race, consider getting out on a nice day and sailing in a race to support the program. Racing is part of the heritage of our Club, please come out and help build it.

DZ





### WSC Board Minutes February 5, 2018

**The Windword** The official publication of Windycrest Sailing Club

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Skeeter Chilton 918-346-9518

Call Meeting to order: Drew Ziegler (Commodore), Bryan Wutzke (Vice Commodore), Jason Williams (Rear Comodore), David Hyman-Absent (Fleet Captain), Cathy Casad (Secretary), Tom Proctor (Treasurer), Victor Wandres-Absent (Activities Chairman) and IV McNamara (Past Commodore)

Guests present: Kevin Calman (Facilities Manager) Julie Stilwell (Windword Editor) Jessica Brent – New Associate Member

Jessica Brent requested to join as Associate Member and the board approved.

Jessica runs a camping business called Homma Camp Company which offers camping catering including tents, camp amenities and campfire-ready meals. She is also looking forward to learning how to sail.

Secretary comments:

The previous month's minutes were approved.

Windword editor comments: Windword deadline is Sunday, February 11.

### Treasurer report:

Tom Proctor reviewed the monthly finance statement.

- January expenses included cost of supplies for the four new deck chairs built by Terry Rainey. They are completed and now on the pavilion.
  - Renewal membership forms have been coming in.
- <u>Reminder</u>: Renewal membership form and fees must be postmarked by Feb 15, 2018 or late fees will be charged to member.

### Vice Commodore report:

Bryan Wutzke:

- New race boat is now in the water and it is in use.
- Continue plans for Work Party scheduled for May 5.

### Facility Manager report:

Kevin report:

• Working on the committee race boat floor decking will have to be on hold till weather warms up

• Water leak on property – City Civil Engineer made us aware a city water main has a leak across our property and they are responsible to repair.

• Old water tower (not in use), Empty Trailer lot and place where we dump wood is on next property owner's land. He has met with Kevin and we can continue to store trailers in the lot but he asked members to stop dumping off wood in this area.

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### Activities Captain report:

Victor Wandres provided the upcoming events:

- Awards Ceremony is Feb 24
- Chili Cook Off will be April 7
- Spring Open is May 19, MC Fleet will sponsor a Crawfish Boil party during this event

#### Fleet Captain report:

David Hyman (Drew Ziegler gave David's report)

- Collecting award trophies for the Awards Party
- Race Calendar is available on our website
- Spring Seminars will be offered
- St. Patrick's Day Thaw Out Regatta will be March 17
- Spring Keelboat Racing begins March 25

#### Rear Commodore report:

Jason Williams report:

- Junior Program and Adult Sailing Training dates are listed on our website. Eric Burkhardt will be the training director. We are looking for helpers to offer their boats and time for sailing with the new adult sailors. Mix program may include 420s club boats, lasers or keel boats.
- Training dates, enrollment forms and fee schedule will be available on our website.
- Looking at ways to advertise sailing such as emails to our members, Tulsa World, websites, Facebook, etc.
- Request to add ladder to tie-up dock. This will be included in the new dock being built.

#### Past Commodore report:

#### IV McNamara reported:

January Steering Committee Meeting overview:

- Reported membership has dropped over recent years
- Some Windycrest issues include dock repairs and maintenance in bathrooms and grounds
- Assets include- club is close to Tulsa with good water access and water supply
- Discussed Long Term planning

Dock Committee met:

• Proposal was made to build new dock (galvanized steel, with wood surrounds, and concrete top) to replace the old tie-up dock. It was damaged during past flooding and insurance has been collected. The board approved hiring a company to build the new dock.

Proposed using concrete tiles

• Discussed converting to a new computer system available to manage WSC information including membership database, invoicing, new membership application, management of boat storage, party RSVP tracking, etc. We will need to follow up with security of data, privacy of data, backups and restores.

#### Commodore report:

Drew Ziegler report:

• Asphalt work has been completed on the club grounds.

Meeting was adjourned 8:10 p.m. The next meeting will be on **March 5, 2018**, at the Case Community Center at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully yours, Cathy Casad Windycrest Secretary



Notice of Series

Carol WIlliams Pond

1. Event: The Greater Tulsa Model Yacht Club will conduct the Winter Series beginning Sunday November 19th at Carol Williams Pond in Tulsa Oklahoma. The Series Ends March 18th

Rules: The series will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), except as any of these are changed by the sailing instructions, and by rules of the authority governing the waters on which the event is sailed. Sailing instructions will be available online at http://www.gtmyc.org

3. Eligibility & Entries: Eligible boats are remote control wind powered CR914 Class sailing boats.

4. Schedule:

1:15 Race course set up

2:00 Start of Race 1 Races 2+ to follow

\*\*\*No Racing December 24th\*\*\*

5. Weather: If at Noon of the race day the temperature is colder than 40F or wind gusts are greater than 20 mph, racing for that day will be cancelled. If the pond surface is frozen, racing that day is cancelled. The Fleet Captain will notify of cancellations via text message.

6. Notices to Competitors: Notices to competitors will be made orally prior to racing that day. Notices may also be emailed to participants or sent via text message using info supplied by the participant during registration.

7. Changes to the Rules: The sailing instructions may modify the rules.

8. Prizes: Bragging rights are available.

Scoring: The regatta will be scored using the Low Point system of Appendix A, except as modified by the sailing instructions.

Questions: Contact IV McNamara s20sailor@gmail.com 918.978.4232

#### Spectators are welcome!

If you are interested in RC sailing and want to give it a try, please contact IV McNamara to use our loaner boat.