



The Lifted Tack

AUGUST 20, 2007

Upcoming Events

*August 25-26
Vice Commodore's
Regatta
Flying Scot
One Design/Dixie
Scot Challenge
Parrot Head
Party*

*September 3
Labor Day
Weekend
Raft Up*

*September 8
Fall Race 1*

*September 22
Fall Race 2*

*September 29
Sunset/Moonlight
Fun Cruise*

*October 6-7
TVCC
(at Wheeler)*

Commodore's Corner

It's certainly hot today (105 degrees) as I am writing this article as it has been the last two weeks. The record heat has been the predominant weather factor for the last 2 weeks in our area of North Alabama, but with the record heat has come good afternoon breezes due to the heating of the land in relation to the temperature of the water. The water temperature in Wilson Lake is now above 90 degrees. At the ocean, this warming of the land in relation to the cooler ocean temperature is known as the "sea breeze" and inland where lakes predominant it is also known as a "lake breeze." So, if you can stand it, get out there just take plenty of fluids with you and drink often. Hopefully we will get a cold front for the upcoming Vice Commodore's Regatta and Dixie Scott Challenge Series this Friday, August 24th through Sunday, August 26th at MSSC. See the notice of race and announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.

VC Regatta and Dixie Scot Challenge Series

So far we have nine (9) Scots participating, five (5) Thistles and four (4) of our club lasers preparing to race. I suspect we will have several more boats enter later this week. Privateer is sending no less than three (3) boats, including skipper's who finished 2nd, 5th and 8th in the Challenger Division of the 2007 Flying Scot North American Championship. What a challenge this will be for Muscle Shoals sailors to race against some of the best sailors in our class. As this is a centerboard only event, Muscle Shoals sailors need to reserve a club boat if they don't own one or volunteer to be someone's crew in a Daysailer. All four (4) of the club lasers are reserved, including three (3) of them from skippers from Wheeler. We still have three (3) more unreserved Club 420's and two (2) Sunfishes. I know several members also have lasers and Gar, who is the Principal Race Officer, has also indicated he will make his laser available should anyone want to use it. This is going to be a great regatta and a substantial number of boats on the starting line.

THE LIFTED TACK

The fun starts Friday night with a free party, Shrimp and Grits at Bonnie & Willson Jenkins' lake home across from the club, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Even though it is free, you need to RSVP so we will have an idea of the number. This event is sponsored by the Flying Scot Fleet 190 and is open to all participants and club members. Saturday, of course, will be racing and Saturday night we will have a Parrot Head party for all our guests and celebrate Flying Scot's 50th anniversary. We plan to have door prizes, party favors and a Jimmy Buffet DVD concert. Refreshments will be provided. Wear your favorite tropical attire. The cost is \$10.00 per person and again, you do need to RSVP. Please e-mail your RSVP to jjattorneys@aol.com. We are going to have lots of out of town guests and this is a good time to show off our club, our sailing venue, our enthusiasm for the sport of sailing and its social events. Please make your plans to attend.

Two other events worth mentioning are the TVCC (Tennessee Valley Challenge Cup) to be held October 6th and 7th at Joe Wheeler. The following week, October 13th and 14th at MSSC, we are hosting the DIYRA Portsmouth Championship in conjunction with the Nolan and Helen Richards Regatta ("aka" Little America's Cup). So there are lots of events planned for the fall and we hope you will find something to participate in.

Membership

We have eight (8) new members that have joined the club as a result of our sailing seminar this summer. They are: Joe & Zelda Hensley from Florence, Alabama; James & Rhonda Allen from Lexington, Alabama; Mike & Donna Simon from Florence, Alabama; Ken and Sheila Renfro from Muscle Shoals, Alabama; John & Desiree Knight from Muscle Shoals, Alabama, and junior members, Carter Moore from Florence, Alabama and Josh Peters from Huntsville, Alabama. Please welcome these new members when you see them ask them to crew for you or ask them to go sailing. Their e-mail and contact information will be added to the club roster. Its still available in the Members Only section by looking at their application.

MSSC finally has a gate installed. I want to thank John for getting this done. The Board has voted to close the gate as soon as possible after the Vice Commodore's Regatta and lock it sometime in September. Prior to locking it, John Glasscock will be sending out an e-mail with the combination. We also hope to have a lock that has a key on it and will put a key in the clubhouse as well should you forget the combination. We'll try to get a custom combination so it will be something easy to remember. We'll leave the gate open during club events, but if you are out during the week for non-club functions, then it will be your responsibility to open and close/lock the gate accordingly.

Grass Invasion

Recently, and for what reason we do not know, a floating grass plant invaded our harbor. It had completely choked off the docks closest to the mouth of the harbor (D dock). The grass had also started to invade other areas of the harbor. We believed, at first glance, the grass was Asian milfoil, *myriophyllum heterophyllum*, but after the Board got out there and looked at it, we think that it is more likely to be either southern widgeon grass, *ruppia maritima* or southern naiad, *najas guadalupen-*

sis (a/k/a bushy pond weed). Regardless of whether it is widgeon grass, bushy pondweed or milfoil, it was still very invasive and had completely clogged and choked off some of the slips. Some of it is still present, but the Board spent two (2) hours raking it up and getting it “out to sea” per our conversation with the state biologist. Our week of infestation began the first part of August 2007. The weeds were substantially present in eastern portion of the lake.

Where did the weeds come from? I don’t think it is naturally growing from our inlet or from the back of the slew, although it is now present and may take root from there. I think its probably coming from the Town Creek area and broke off *najas guadalupensis* (a/k/a bushy pond weed). Regardless of whether it is widgeon grass, bushy pondweed or milfoil, it was still very invasive and had completely clogged and choked off some of the slips. Some of it is still present, but the Board spent two (2) hours raking it up and getting it “out to sea” per our conversation with the state biologist. Our week of infestation began the first part of August 2007. The weeds were substantially present in eastern portion of the lake.

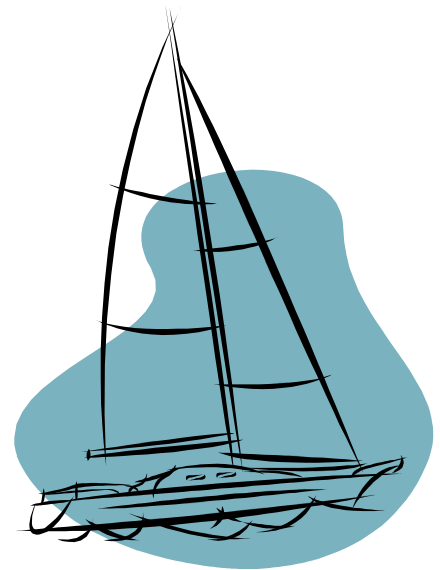
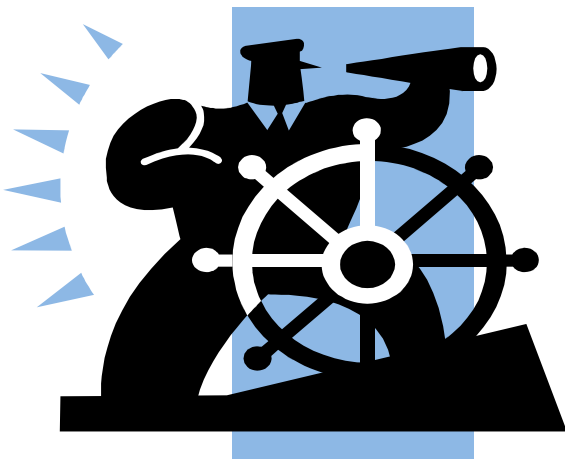
I think its probably coming from the Town Creek area and broke off and was pushed in by the southerly and westerly winds that we have been having. Once in the harbor it became trapped behind the docks. There was a lot of this weed over at my dock on the Colbert shore, but it has now been flushed out. I am hoping that the current will take it on down stream, as expected. This weed did appear last year, but not in the quantity that it has appeared this year. We will continue to monitor the situation

Finally, the Board approved putting the Minutes of the Board meeting in the Member’s Only section. After minutes have been approved, they will be posted so it may lag a few months.

If any of you have any questions in the interim, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me.

Sincerely,

Willson Jenkins, Commodore



MUSCLE SHOALS SAILING CLUB

invites all Dinghy sailors to
participate in the

2007 Vice-Commodores Regatta and Dixie-Scot Challenge Series (Flying Scot One design)

Schedule Of Events:

Friday, August 24: 6:30 p.m. "Shrimp-n-Grits" (free) party for
skippers and crew at the lake
home of Willson and Bonnie
Jenkins, 1260 Wheeler View
Drive, Muscle Shoals, AL

Saturday, August 25: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Registration
1:00 p.m. First Race



6:30 p.m. Parrothead Party Dinner, Door Prizes, Jimmy Buffet DVD
Concert
Wear your favorite island attire.

Sunday, August 26: 9:30 a.m. Races begin.

Costs:
\$25 to enter
Friday dinner is free.
Saturday dinner: \$10 per person

R.S.V.P.

JJAttorneys.com or 256-766-4634

Confederate Admiral's Regatta.

On Saturday, May 26, 2007 we hosted the 45th annual Confederate Admiral's Regatta. Historically, the first one was in 1962 at the original location on the south side of the river. This year, the weather was beautiful with light wind that shifted from south-east to east as the day went on. We had a magnificent 8 boats that sailed into history, as the least number that I can remember to sail in a regatta, anywhere. I persuaded a ninth skipper to at least register, so we could award all nine trophies at the end of the regatta. Technically speaking, we should have had 5 boats per class, but as the coordinator of the event, I make the rules. Anyway, the idea is to reward the skippers and crews that were brave enough to just show up. After 3 grueling races in light air, we left the lake to enjoy the best part of the regatta – the party!

With food and beverage consumption in large quantities, music by legendary artists Scott Boyer and friend Kelvin Holly. Club member Don VonTress sat in for “the “ one song , with Scott and Kelvin for back up and the crowd went wild. Not everybody has heard the original version, which I like better anyway. The music continued for almost twice as long as we thought, so we decided to skip the planned movie and enjoy the rest of the evening under the stars.

Sunday, Sunday, Sunday! We had little or no wind, so after drifting around the Race Committee boat for awhile and trying their best impersonations of “dog show” , the RC decided to call off the event and send everybody home. We cleaned up all the leftovers and Willson “green egg” Jenkins treated everyone to burgers and hot dogs, beverages consumed and then trophies and door prizes. This year, the trophies were silver serving pieces from the U.S.S. Saratoga (CV-60) that I had polished and lacquered, so they will never need polishing again. Every skipper in the room won a trophy and between myself and our event corporate sponsor, everybody in the room (skippers and crews) won a door prize. The only losers were the people that didn't show up.

Here are the stats: 9 boats registered, 9 trophies; 78 dinners sold, approx. 100 at the party.

RC: Floyd Hauff, Bob Bucher, Andrew Putnam, Steve Blazier

Food Service: Jane Glenn and all the wonderful volunteers, especially Tony Smith and crew for the pigs that they cooked, which was some of the best BarBQ we've ever had.

Music: Scott Boyer, Kelvin Holly, Don VonTress

Sponsor: Cecil Denton and Nick Shelton representing Kairos financial management

Event coordinator: Steve Blazier

The Cecil Denton team functions as an independent advisor to create unbiased, customized investment solutions too help build, protect and transfer client's wealth. We are committed and not just involved in the process to meet and exceed client goals. We believe in simple virtues like integrity and honesty but understand that to succeed in today's competitive market we also must drive home other core business values like our ability to consolidate client financial information, communicate proactively and deliver cost effective service. Through our relationship we can incorporate your life changing events into your financial plan. cecil.denton@lpl.com or 256.436.1078.



Picture
By

Andy
Keenum

Results

The Confederate Admiral's Regatta was sailed in warm (OK, sometimes hot) May Memorial Day weekend weather. After a short delay on Saturday, the first two races were sailed in 7 to 9 knot wind. Before the third the wind dropped to 3 to 5. On Sunday everyone appeared eager but the wind. After waiting a little more than an hour for some sign of wind Races four and five were cancelled. The results of the series were as follows:

	First	Second	Third
Dinghies	Tommy Glenn Thistle	Willson Jenkins Flying Scott	Dave Seborg Day Sailor
Cruiser Spinnaker	Joel Verplank Ensign	Gar Bouse Olson 25	Jan Bijvoet X-99
Cruiser Non-Spinnaker	Kevin Baker Catalina	Hayden Glenn San Juan 24	Don Vontress McGregor 25

I think all who sailed had a lot of fun. Thanks to Steve Blasier, Bob Bucher, and Andrew Putnam who helped this neophyte PRO get through his duties. Race committee is fun!

Special thanks to Hayden Glenn for encouraging us to get a new pin by running over the old one in the second race. Hayden, I hope you got that leak fixed!

Floyd Hauffe PRO



MSSC

2007 Sailing Seminar

Report

The first 2 weekends of June were spent at the club with this year's annual sailing seminar. We had a mix of a few club members, a lot of interested adults and three families that took the seminar. Our seminars are based on the U.S.Sailing Association/American Red Cross format that includes about 30+ hours of instruction and testing. We use classroom and on the water instructors and expose the students to as many different types of boats as possible. This is only a basic sailing course, but, you gotta start somewhere!

Willson Jenkins and myself performed all of the classroom instruction using all the tools we had, including the projector to give visualization to what we were talking about. We had a number of club members that provided boats and on the water training, they included: Bob Bucher, Randy Stout, Rick McAdams, Byron Jamerson, Brett Wood, Joel Verplank, Steve Blazier, Glenn Miller, John Glasscock, Andrew Putnam, Richard and Sharmen Gillingham and Willson Jenkins.

The students were the best class I've ever taught at the sailing club, their enthusiasm made the effort to teach worthwhile. Of course, we baited them with grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for lunch (once!) and doughnuts on Saturdays, coffee in the mornings and water everyday! As a matter of fact, we went through 10 cases of water, 16 bags of ice, 6 dozen doughnuts, 2 dozen burgers & hot dogs with the trimmings and enough sea stories to keep 'em laughing.

The students were: Donna and Beth Hickman; Tom, Sean and Thomas Minetree; Pam and Andy Jackson; Susan Warren; Mike, Donna, Syrah and Katie Simon; Shelia and Kenneth Renfro; Mark Puckett; Steven Peeples; Carter Moore; Bill Matthews; Joe Hensley; James Allen; John, Breanna and Alexa Knight; Terry and Casie Yost; Peter Herring; Jim Sexton.

Out of the 27 students, 12 passed the Red Cross exam, 2 junior members took the exam and passed (total 14). In addition, we had 7 membership applications from the group, all of whom we have accepted since the class. Most of the new members do not have boats (yet) so please extend an invitation to them and take them sailing on your boat.

I have to thank Willson Jenkins for his tireless efforts in the classroom and the most innovative teaching method, he blindfolded a student and then she was able to sail in a straight line! You'll have to ask him the details. Any club member needing remedial sailing instruction or needing review material, please contact me (sb3031@comcast.net)

Steve Blazier
MSSC Sailmaster



THE LIFTED TACK

Notes and Asides from the Editor/Publisher:

Receive *The Lifted Tack* electronically thus saving trees, storage space, copying charges, and postage cost. We now have twenty seven members and two non-members on electronic delivery.

Gar Bouse	Charlie Anding	Horace Holland	Tom Brown	Tom Cromer	Bill Campbell
Bob Parrish	Jeff Compton	John Glasscock	Tommy Glenn	Bob Stagg	Joel VerPlank
Glenn Miller	Joyce Sellers	The Milbergers	Ernie Fite	Larry Gautney	Paul Jacobs
Andy Keenum	Bill Parkhurst	The Gillinghams	Bob Kuehlthau	Chris McGraw	Bob Bucher
Jerry Ferry	Brett Wood	Floyd Hauffe	Scott Hickman	Matthew Massey	

See All The Pictures in COLOR at www.sailmssc.com . Sign up for this group by email: joglass@comcast.net

Please submit pictures and article for future editions. Article subjects can include travel stories, racing stories, technical sailing info or more, be creative. This is your newsletter and can only be produced with your help. Thank you to all who have submitted articles and pictures for this publication.

John