

The Lifted Tack

<http://home.hiwaay.net/~mssc/>

OCTOBER 6, 2003

2003 OFFICERS

Commodore
Bob Stagg
533-9894

1st Vice Commodore
(Clubhouse)
Dave Seborg
882-3902

2nd Vice Commodore
(Land)
Joel VerPlank
757-0708

3rd Vice Commodore
(Docks & Racks)
Tommy Glenn
883-4709

Secretary
(Memberships, etc.)
Brett Wood
767-5316

Treasurer
(\$)
Andy Schorr
464-3364

Sail Master
(Training/Sail Camp/
Slips)
Tom Brown
353-2157

Fleet Captain (Racing)
Don McCullough
766-6493

Recreation Officer
(Socials)
Frank McCollum
232-2566

Web Master
Charlie Anding
S2Serenity@aol.com

Editor
Gar Bouse
461-6943

Message from the Commodore

Now that the heat of summer has passed, the sailing should be much more pleasant. Now it's time to take a break from the routine of kids in school, football games, and the many other activities that distract us from the primary goal of every sailor, which is to be on the water sailing.

I was pleased to see the turnout at the Vice Commodores Regatta in spite of the heat. I am truly impressed with the volunteers in the kitchen who served such wonderful meals, regardless of whether we pre-registered or not. The schedule shows that there are four more club races scheduled this Fall, plus the Little America's Cup regatta. There are plenty of opportunities to get out on the water and have fun competing with your fellow sailors.

For you new members, don't be intimidated by the fact that we are having races; come on out and have fun. It is one of the best ways to master sailing since it forces you to sail on all points of sail in varied conditions. Even if you don't want to sail your own boat, come out and crew. There is always room for one more hand on the cruisers. Frank McCollum is busy trying to get pictures of all of our new members so come on out and "mug it up" for Frank.

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Upcoming Events

October 11 - Fall race #3
October 18-19 - Little America's Cup Regatta
November 1 - Fall race #4
November 15 - Fall race #5 and Annual Meeting
December 6 - Fall race #6

The Vice Commodore's Regatta 2003

Or

Too Few Having a Good Time!

V-C Dave Seborg did an outstanding job in organizing and coordinating this MSSC regatta traditionally held on Labor Day weekend.

Then he had many good things going for him. The Best Brownie Maker this side of the Mississippi, Jane Glenn welcomed and registered the skippers and their boats into three classes. Helen Richards, ably helped by Sonia Wood, Jane Glenn, Kathy Bucher, Sharman Gillingham and Sally Seborg put on a delectable "summer" dinner based on smoked turkey and ham with yummy dessert for 42 hungry and appreciative diners. (Note, we don't "eat" at MSSC events, we "dine").

Under the generous shade of the now huge tulip poplar, Vice Commodore Dave welcomed visitors and members alike while a promising 8-knot breeze out of 180 deg was evident. PRO Nolan Richards warned the skippers that a different type of course would likely be included in the series; a windward -leeward incorporating an offset marker at the windward buoy and a gate at the leeward. As it turned out, we redefined the word "offset"- it was inadvertently about 400 yards away and presented a challenge not unlike a treasure hunt for the frustrated skippers trying to figure out the course!

With clocking, but reasonably sustained winds, two races were completed on Saturday; a modified Olympic and the memorable W-L2X. On Sunday, with wind again in the 4-8 knot range but this time clocking from an initial 100°, the race committee of Bill Campbell, Tony Smith (with his jet-ski), Casey, Kathy and Nolan used a modified Olympic and then a simple W-L for the two starting groups. One visitor, Mitch Delk whose Buccaneer became swamped in a capsize on Saturday and could not continue returned to swell the meager representation of boats representing all the members we have.

While some really good sailing and tacking techniques were seen from the RC boat, it was not until about the fourth race that the quality of starts became anything worth mentioning. On the whole, our local helmsmen or helms ladies should stay much closer to the RC boat and line behaving as if they "own" a chunk of the water approaching or on the line within the last minute of the starting protocol. That is not a mark of aggressiveness but mere good sense because being 30 to 90 seconds late is like having some numbers knocked off one's Portsmouth Number.

Nolan Richards
14 September 2003

2003 Vice Commodore's Regatta Results August 30-31, 2003

Class	Skipper	Boat Type	I	II	III	IV	V	Place
Cruis. Spinnaker	P.Wunsch	Cap30	1	1	2	1	1	1
	Bob Stagg	Er25	3	3	1	2	3	2
	J.Bijvoet	X99	2	2	4	4	2	3
	J.Verplank	Ensign	4	4	3	3	4	4
Cruis. Non-S	T. Brown	Mo22	2	1	1	1		1
	Y.Morrisette	J80	1	2	2	2		2
	T.Cromer	Cat22	3	4	3	3		3
Dinghy	W.Jenkins	Fsct	1	1	1	1		1
	D.Seborg	DS	2	2	2	2		2
	R.Bucher	DS	5	3	3	3		3
	M.Delk	Buc	5	5	4	4		4

Nolan Richards
14th Sep 2003

Tennessee Valley Challenge Cup Regatta at Privateer Yacht Club

Another Tennessee Valley Challenge Cup has come and gone. Privateer Yacht Club put on an excellent regatta, including one of the finest Italian dinners ever. MSSC was well represented with five boats making the pilgrimage to defend the "CUP".

In the Cruiser Spinnaker class: Gar Bouse sailing "Achill" (Olson 25) with a full crew including MSSC member Jeff Compton. In the Cruiser Non-Spinnaker class: Joel and Betsy Verplank with John Glasscock sailing "Emerald Isle" (Ensign); and Tom & Missy Brown with Tommy Glenn sailing "Bullfeathers" (Morgan 22). In the Dingy Class: Willson and Bonnie Jenkins (Flying Scott), and Paul Jacobs (Thistle).

Saturday brought some fairly steady winds and at the end of the day things looked pretty good for the MSSC Defense, with Achill standing in second place (Spinnaker Class,) Bullfeathers, and Emerald Isle in First and Second (Non-Spinnaker Class,) and Paul Jacobs Tied for Second Place (Dingy Class.) However, the shifty breezes on Sunday were not as kind to the MSSC team.

Sunday brought a stronger and shiftier North breeze. The shorter windward-leeward legs made it important to look out for traffic. *Gar*, despite a foul in the first race and having to turn around to finish the second race, managed to secure second over-all in the Spinnaker Class.

"Bullfeathers" and "Emerald Isle" let two PYC boats (Frogzilla - Catalina 22, and Bruiser - J24) sneak ahead in the standings and finished tied for third in the non-spinnaker class, with Bullfeathers winning the tiebreaker (lucky for yours truly, because Missy really liked the artsy blown-glass trophies supplied by a local glass shop, and would have made us stop at the showroom if we weren't able to take one home).

Paul Jacobs and the Jenkins finished fourth and fifth in the dingy class.

After all the points were totaled, Privateer Yacht Club had wrestled the "CUP" away, with MSSC coming in a respectable Second over-all. However, holding up a long MSSC tradition, our sailors certainly won "The Party" despite losing a partier to a Protest Jury for the second year in a row.

Please look for more detailed results coming soon on the Privateer Yacht Club web page.

We'll get 'em next year! See you on the Water,

Tom Brown

Some Solemnity

Our club, MSSC, presently experiences the dichotomy of "maturity" and "youth". Maturity, because the club is in its 42nd year. Youth, because there has been a significant and welcome influx of new members over the past two years. Along with maturity, comes the unfortunate loss of members when they, like all of us sailors, "come home from the seas."

We have cemented the memories and inestimable contributions of Alan Sellers and Horace Bramm by staging specific events annually. Besides these valued past members, others deserving to be revered and honored include the following.

I believe the annual overall award for the winner of the Cruising Class donated by Dr. Bruce Richards (after the first trophy became interred in the wreckage of a flaming 30-footer off the club) is named in honor of George Wilkinson whose talent led to the creation of many artistic flyers to our regattas. He also initiated "The Lifted Tack" and was commodore in 1973.

There are other past members who contributed mightily to the establishment and nurturing of MSSC that we should remember. On July 26, Robert (Bob) Kibby died. He was the second commodore of the club (1963) and besides being a founding member of Day Sailer Fleet 13, he de-

signed and supervised the construction of our first clubhouse on Graveyard Hollow. This was an A-frame pole construction with an open area leading out to a generous deck with storage on the port side and restrooms to starboard.

Recently, our first junior sailor succumbed to a long illness. Captain Bruce Bullough, son of Dr. Vaughn Bullough who was treasurer of MSSC for at least 6 years and commodore in 1966, sailed Windmill 299 until he went off to the Naval Academy. From there he advanced to become the captain of one of our nuclear submarines.

Both L.T. and Marie Hackworth were loyal and energetic servers in MSSC. L.T., through his association with a major meat packer in Florence, somehow found lots of miscellaneous hardware that was useful to the first site off Donegan Slough. He was commodore in 1965 and crewed for MSSC in several area competitions for the Mallory and Prince of Wales Cups. He enjoyed his Sunfish, "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," with which he won the Little America's Cup in 1968. Marie was a highly organized secretary from about 1962 to 1967.

John R. (Jack) and Betty Martin worked for the club selflessly for at least five of our formative years. Jack used his aluminum launch, "Lucretia" as Race Committee boat and served as race committeeman for years until we got the "African Queen." He was also the first treasurer. His daughter, Jeannie Rogers, still recalls the Sunday when, as a result of a line squall coming over Wilson Dam, she cried, "Daddy they are all falling over!" Well over half the fleet, and in those days we were starting 15-20 boats each club race day, capsized and there were anxious moments as we tried to account for all heads. Betty, a WACS pilot, took to sailing like duck to water and campaigned a Windmill for several years. The Martins put on an "end-of-season party" for all of the members of MSSC at their lakeside home each November for several years until they moved across the lake.

Don Freeman and Wally Elliot both served as commodores and their children became avid sailors.

Robert Mullen, commodore in 1967, just before we made the transition from Donegan Slough to Old Lock Four, was, along with Bill Nestor (first secretary) and Bob Kibby, charter members of DS Fleet 13.

We have enough current members who will recall what a Corinthian sailor Jack Carter was. And who could forget the smell of his pipe or cigar as he was ahead of us, using the smoke trail to track the wind as he "smoked" us in the Laser fleet? Latterly, he grew into his San Juan 24, which he sailed just as effectively.

So the history of MSSC embraces the intellectual, financial and energetic contributions of many such devoted people whom we should not forget. Their spirits and memories might not be eternalized in the names of trophies or races, but the fact that MSSC "is" and "is likely to be" is a consequence of their cumulative and synergistic involvement.

N.E.Richards, 28th July 2003.

NOTICE OF RACE

The Little America's Cup Regatta

October 18-19
Muscle Shoals Sailing Club
Lake Wilson
Mile 271.5 on the Tennessee River

<http://home.hiwaay.net/~mssc/>

CONDITIONS

1. RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2001-2004 (RRS), the prescriptions of US SAILING, the appropriate class rules (except as they are modified by this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, and any amendments thereto), this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

1.2 The regatta is classified as a Category "A" event in accordance with RRS Appendix 1 - ISAF Advertising Code.

1.3 Yachts must have sail numbers or identification on their mainsails.

2. ELIGIBILITY - The regatta is open to all sailboats for which the Race Committee can determine a handicap.

3. FLEETS AND HANDICAP SYSTEM

3.1 Fleets: Cruiser Spinnaker, Cruiser Non-Spinnaker, Dinghy, and One Design fleets will be accommodated if there are four or more boats (Buccaneer 18s are anticipated.)

3.2 All fleets except any One Design fleets will be handicapped by the USSA Portsmouth Yardstick method.

4. ENTRIES AND FEES - Entries shall be submitted on the official Registration Form. Registration fee \$15. Make checks payable to: *Muscle Shoals Sailing Club*

5. REGISTRATION - Each skipper or his representative must report to Muscle Shoals Sailing Club between 0930 and 1030 Saturday, October 18, to register.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS will be available during Registration on October 18. Amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be

posted at Muscle Shoals Sailing Club, by 0830 daily, and it is the responsibility of each competitor to check the Official Notice Board for any amendments or other notices.

7. RACING - The regatta will consist of as many as five races.

8. COURSES - Courses will be sailed on Wilson Lake in the vicinity of Muscle Shoals Sailing Club. Courses will be Olympic or windward-leeward or variations thereof and will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

9. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, October 18

0930-1030	Registration
1100	Skipper's Meeting
1300	Warning Signal for first race; subsequent race(s) to follow
1700	Social followed by dinner

Sunday, October 19

0800	Complimentary continental breakfast
0930	Warning Signal for next race; subsequent race(s) to follow if necessary. No race will be started after 1230 on Sunday. Awards presentation as soon as possible after last race.

10. SCORING - The series will be scored as provided for in Appendix A of the racing rules using the Low Point System.

11. PRIZES - Trophies to be determined considering the number of registrants.

12. MEALS AND PROVISIONS - MSSC will host a dinner Saturday evening. The price is expected to be \$10 or less. A complimentary continental breakfast will be served on Sunday morning. Killen (~7 miles west) has a grocery store.

13. CONTACT AND INFORMATION

Brett Wood, 256-767-5316
Gar Bouse, 256-461-6943

MSSC web page: <http://home.hiwaay.net/~mssc/>

The Lifted Tack

*MUSCLE SHOALS SAILING CLUB
C/O
490 Sussex Drive
Huntsville, AL 35824*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



THE LIFTED TACK



Bullfeathers sailed by Tom Brown