

# MUSCLE SHOALS SAILING CLUB

## LIFTED TACK



Feb. 2015

<http://msscclub.org>

1350 CR 411 Killen AL 35645

### Feb Schedule Of Events

**Sat. 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Laser  
Rack remodeling  
project starts at 9:00  
AM each day. See  
page 2 for details**

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Telcom  
Board Meeting 6:30  
PM**

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Wine &  
Cheese Party and  
planning meeting  
See notice on page 2**



**Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> CPR/AED &  
First aid Class 10:00  
AM Taught by Steve  
Blaizer See page 2 for  
details**

### Commodore Cromer's Corner

Well the hard-fought election is over and my inauguration ceremony was a great success. It's time (to paraphrase a long-ago New Mexico governor) for this club to hoist the main and sail out (actually the governor said, "it is time for this state to saddle up and ride out," but don't be picky). In spite of my acceptance speech at the annual general meeting, which I won't repeat, it is actually an honor to be chosen by the club.

Being Commodore shouldn't be too hard, given the healthy state of the club that Tommy Glenn's work as Commodore for the last couple of years has left us. That will allow me to focus on a few simple goals, and to enjoy sailing.

My primary wish is to see more members enjoying activities at our club. I think we can do this by engaging in more activities than just racing, and by encouraging more members to participate in the racing.

To achieve these goals I will need everyone's help: with ideas from 70 members we will exceed anything my imagination could produce. To start with the first goal we will have the MSSC Lawn Sports Day on Saturday, May 16. We are going to have a lawn bowling (bocce, boules, or whatever name you call it) tournament and a croquet tournament. If someone has an idea for another sport we can do that as well (use that imagination). Winners will receive a free dinner at the MSSC regatta of their choice. The day will start with a picnic, hamburgers and so on provided by the club, followed by trash talking and then the tournaments. Watch the Lifted Tack for final details.

For the goal of increasing participation in racing, I have a couple of ideas. First, for anyone who is a little shy about racing, an experienced racer will be willing to crew for you at any club race, giving you a little advice to improve your skills and confidence. The other idea I would like to try out is to have a club race designated as "for beginners only." There is nothing like just getting out there and doing it, so here is an opportunity for someone who is race-shy to get out there and try it, without feeling intimidated.

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The theme of my next Lifted Tack Commodore's Corner will be "Why I Race." This from the club member who has seen more transoms over the last 20 years than anyone, but who, nonetheless, enjoys getting out there and mixing it up with lots of other boats.

Please come to the Wine and Cheese Party Saturday, February 21 (a really fun non-sailing activity). This is the place where old timers can welcome the new members, and everyone can start talking about their bright ideas for the club. Plus, this is where you get to sign up to help at club events. I encourage everyone, especially new members and others interested in racing, to volunteer for race committees. No experience required! Serving on a race committee is a great way to learn about racing, and it is fun just to be out there watching the action up close.

## WINE & CHEESE PARTY



WHERE MSSC CLUBHOUSE  
FEBRUARY 21, 2015  
3:00 PM

Please bring WINE of course and a snack to share. Come out and help the Board plan 2015 sailing season.



## Dr. Steve's First Aid Course

Learn the latest in CPR, AED and First Aid from Dr. Steve

Come out Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> and pound on the chest of a CPR mannequin. You don't even have to kiss them these days.

Classes start at 10:00 and will last 5 hours so bring a lunch. Cost is \$20. However, the certificate is good for 2 years

Contact Steve Blaizer at [sb3031@comcast.net](mailto:sb3031@comcast.net) or 256 766 3031 to sign up.

## LASER RACK PROJECT



Bob Kuehlthau will be heading up a project to rebuild the Laser Rack and he needs some help. The plan is to tear off the old roof Feb 7<sup>th</sup> and to replace it with a new one a week later on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>.

Work will begin at 9:00 for both days. Please bring hammers, crowbars, wrenches, chainsaw, ladders and any power tools you think may help. You will probably need to bring a lunch too.

Contact Bob at: [kuehltha@hiwaay.net](mailto:kuehltha@hiwaay.net) if there are questions.

# WELCOME ABOARD



Ashley Potter and fiancé Nick Taylor  
They'll be married May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the club

Ashley Potter was born and raised in Muscle Shoals, AL. Her parents have lived on Wilson Lake for 30+ years which is where she grew up. After graduating from Muscle Shoals High School in 2003, she attended the University of Alabama where she got a Bachelor's Degree in Finance. Ashley has worked for various companies as a financial advisor and is currently employed by United Benefits out of Florence, AL.

Nick Taylor is a sales representative for Humana. He is a Tuscaloosa native, but has lived in Florence since 2013. He is a University of Alabama graduate. He is an avid sports fan and enjoys spending time with friends in his free time.



Mark & Julie Puckett sons  
Conner & Nathan

Julie was born and raised in Gulfport, MS, then attended the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received a B.S. in Business Administration. She met Mark while

at USM, and we have now been married for 32 years. Mark majored in geology and biology. We worked in Jackson, MS for a couple of years, then moved to Starkville, MS, for Mark to attend graduate school at Mississippi State, where he received an M.S. in geology. We later moved to Tuscaloosa, AL, for yet more school for Mark, where he attended University of Alabama and received a Ph.D. in geology. While in Tuscaloosa, Julie also attended UA, where she received an M.B.A. Julie began working at Randall Reilly Publishing Company in Tuscaloosa and continues to work for them as Director of Audience Development in Florence. Mark is a Professor of Geology at UNA. We have two sons, Nathan (23) and Conner (19).

There is always a lot of music played around the Puckett house. Mark plays heavy metal guitar, Nathan plays acoustic guitar, and Conner plays the drums. Mark also played the bagpipes for several years and was in a pipe band in Birmingham.

We are very keen to learn more about sailing and would greatly appreciate the opportunity to sail with members of the club. Mark in particular would like to help as a crew member during races.

## FREE SAILS



Nolan was given two sails off a South Coast 21  
These are the specs:

Main, adequate for cruising, with slides and battens, Luff 22ft 5 in.

Working Jib: ditto or sailing in heavy weather;  
Luff 20 ft. foot 7ft 6in.

Genoa: Luff 20 ft., Foot 11ft. 9in.

These sails would adapt to a small cruiser, 20 -23 feet and are free to whoever wants them. You will find them bagged and labeled by the west side of the bar in the clubhouse.

Please let Nolan Richards know if you take one or all of them at [nolanrich@aol.com](mailto:nolanrich@aol.com) He'd like to let the previous owner know they found a home...

## MSSC BOARD



**Commodore** **Tom Cromer**  
256 527 3952  
[tomcromer@outlook.com](mailto:tomcromer@outlook.com)

**Secretary** **Wes Brown**  
256 881 3676  
[j.wesley.brown@gmail.com](mailto:j.wesley.brown@gmail.com)



**Treasurer** **Paul Jacobs**  
256 534 2822  
[ppjacobs@comcast.net](mailto:ppjacobs@comcast.net)



**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Comm.** **Paul Hill**  
256 479 0124  
[jpaul0113@gmail.com](mailto:jpaul0113@gmail.com)

Contact Paul for Clubhouse rentals



**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Comm.** **John Sworm**  
256 433 4735  
[Johnsworm33@hotmail.com](mailto:Johnsworm33@hotmail.com)

Contact John for a space in the boat yard



**Harbor Master** **Jim Farrell**  
256 394 0200  
[jffarrell@comcast.net](mailto:jffarrell@comcast.net)

Contact Jim for slip availability



**Fleet Captain** **Tommy Glenn**  
256 883 4709  
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**Sail Master** **Steve Blazier**  
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