

THE channel

COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB

serving the community since 1945

January 2005

Our Five Year Plan

Your input is needed... The Board of Directors has committed to develop a five year plan for the club based on input from the membership, community and the City of Miami. Consistent with our charter and purpose, the plan will have the following three focus areas: (1) Promoting the Sport of Sailing, (2) Community Service, and (3) Environmental Awareness.

COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB
5 YEAR PLAN CYCLE
FOCUS AREAS

COMMUNITY SERVICE	PROMOTING THE SPORT OF SAILING	ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS
<p>PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE BAY Open Gate Policy Social Membership Affordable Boat Storage</p>	<p>SAILING PROGRAMS Free Sailing Lessons Team Development Support City Programs</p>	<p>CLEAN MARINA PROGRAM</p>
<p>PROVIDING A VENUE FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS (Town-hall Meeting Room)</p>	<p>SUPPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS Marine Science Academy High School Sailing Teams</p>	<p>SPONSOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS SUCH AS BISCAYNE BAY LECTURE SERIES</p>
<p>SAFE BOATING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS</p>	<p>ATTRACT INTERNATIONAL REGATTAS</p>	<p>MOORING UPGRADES / REPLACEMENT</p>
<p>MAINTAIN A STRONG VOLUNTEER NETWORK WORKING FOR THE BETTERMENT OF MIAMI</p>	<p>SUPPORT BBYRA WITH STRONG RACE COMMITTEE</p>	<p>PROVIDE FREE PUMP-OUT STATION FOR MEMBERS AND DINNER KEY</p>





2004-2005 Officers and Committee Chairmen

Flag Officers

Commodore Jack Hamm
 Commodore@cgsc.org
 Vice Commodore Vladimir Stroleny
 ViceCommodore@cgsc.org
 Rear Commodore Jim Clark
 RearCommodore@cgsc.org
 Secretary Marc Buller
 Secretary@cgsc.org
 Treasurer Jeff Zirulnick
 Treasurer@cgsc.org

Fleet Officers

Fleet Captain Wil Bourne
 Fleet Chaplain Calvin Schofield
 Fleet Surgeon .. Dr. Nicolaus Martens

Board Members

Gonzalo Bellini	Jonathan Milley
Steve Hatch	Ann Platt
Steve Hawkins	Bud Price, PC
Mike Lovelady	Charles Rahn
Nick Martens	Steve Yavner

Club Manager - Scott Salzberg

Committee Chairmen

Adult Sailing Richard Crisler
 BBYRA Rep David Kurtz
 By-Laws Mike Weber/Andrea Stringos
 C-Gulls Krisan Lamberti
 Chamber of Commerce.. Ann Platt
 Channel Editor Cherie Branning
 Community Outreach Cathy Buller
 Cruising&Rendezvous Janice Pruett
 Entertainment Dominic Lamberti/
 Tom Malone
 Executive Jack Hamm
 Finance Jaime Ramon
 Future Development Bud Price
 House Patrick McCann
 Jr. Prams Chiquita Ramon
 Jr. Racing Development Joe Logan
 Marine Council Rick Rahn
 Membership Richard Crisler
 Moorings Bill Beavers
 Orange Bowl Regatta Art Auwaerter
 Property Vladimir Stroleny
 Protocol Larry Whipple
 Public Relations Mike Lovelady &
 Steve Yavner
 Race Wil Bourne & Ron Rostorfer
 Rack Paul Lombard
 Strip Steve Hawkins
 Web Master Beth Hernandez

Volume 60 Issue 5

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Happy New Year to our membership! This will be a very exciting year for our sailing club as we will be celebrating our 60-year anniversary at the same time the Master Planning process is expected to commence. Over the past year, we have made numerous improvements that will help secure our future in providing sailing programs and affordable access to the Bay.



One of our more dramatic changes this year was opening the doors to our neighbours with the introduction of the Social Membership. This membership provides the opportunity for City of Miami residents to enjoy the club at a lower cost with limited entitlements. During the Special Meeting held in November, the General Membership approved this measure under an unanimous vote. In addition, we have grown our outreach programs to include a partnership with the Miami Dade School System. These changes have sent a strong message to our friends at City Hall that Coconut Grove Sailing Club is committed to making a positive difference in the community. And it is great to see the positive press.

In regard to the Lease Update, there has been no change in status since last month's report. However, we do expect SASAKI to be awarded the Master Plan contract. After the contract is awarded, the plan will develop in a rapid fashion so it is very important our membership to stay engaged in the process. The General Meetings serve well for this purpose – please make plans to regularly attend the meetings in the future.

The overall financial performance of the club continues to be strong as we are ahead of budget. However, we received an unexpected high property tax bill. A similar situation occurred several years ago where the club sought the assistance tax law experts of Greenburg and Traurig in defending our case. We will follow the same course of action with the help of former Commodore/Lawyer, Mike Weber, who will coordinate this effort. His help is truly appreciated.

In regard to the Treasurer position, once again Jeff Zirulnick has answered the call to duty. Jeff served the club well during the last two years and I am very pleased that he will be rejoining the Bridge again. We are continuing our focus on improving the financial performance of the kitchen and to reduce labour costs. We are also planning to have an outside accounting firm review our accounting/inventory practices.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bud Price for improving the boat handling skills of our dockstaff. Bud put the dockstaff through a weekend course where they trained on proper outboard engine control, maintenance and towing skills. Speaking for the members with boats on the moorings, this training is much appreciated. Please thank Bud for his efforts. Our new Dockmaster, Ami Modlin, is now challenged with setting up a new certification program where the dockstaff will be promoted after mastering required skills.

Jack Hamm, Commodore

Support the Coconut Grove Sailing Foundation with your United Way Contribution

The Coconut Grove Sailing Foundation was founded by a group of club members with the purpose of supporting sailing programs on Biscayne Bay. If you make an annual United Way donation, you may wish to designate it on behalf of the Coconut Grove Sailing Foundation.

The Coconut Grove Sailing Foundation is a charitable organization pursuant to Sec 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax ID EIN#65-107-3893, FL registration Number 12776. P.O. Box 331835, Coconut Grove, FL 33233-1835

Jack Hamm

A draft plan has been developed and is currently under review by the Board Directors. After the review is complete, the plan will then be presented in detail during the January General Membership Meeting where we hope to gain your input. The plan will then be updated once a year using the following process:

This planning process will be incorporated into the Bylaws in the similar manner as the yearly budget and, as such, will require a vote of approval from the general membership. It will then be the responsibility of the Bridge to carry-out the approved plan for the current year and work on the details for the following year. The intention is to ensure that the stakeholders (including our leadership) have a

clear understanding of the club goals and to provide consistency in our operations on a year-to-year basis. This strategy is used by many not-for-profit organizations.

Presentations regarding the development of the 5-year plan have already been made to the Village Council and the Waterfront Advisory Board and have been well received. We will also seek input from the various community organizations including: the One Grove Alliance, the Quality of Life Committee, the Rotary Club, the Women's Club, the West Grove Home Owners, and our fellow yacht clubs. This is an ambitious project but will be for the betterment of the club and the community.

In consideration of the 5-year plan and the start of a new year, it is a good time to review our accomplishments for last year and our goals for this year:

2004 Major Accomplishments

1. Doubled membership to > 850 (2/3 City of Miami Residents)
2. Ran successful Sailing Programs
 - Taught 400 kids + 60 free to underprivileged children
 - Provided adult sailing lessons to non-members (at least one weekend per month)
 - Developed Laser and Optimist Racing Teams
 - Supported BBYRA with race committee
3. Outreach programs
 - Virrick Pool Program
 - Marine Science Academy
 - After School Programs
4. Community Services
 - Townhall meeting room for community organizations
 - Care for surrounding parks
 - Clean-up efforts (Baynanza/Hands on Miami)



5. Capital Improvements
 - Rebuilt main dock
 - Replaced dingy dock
 - Replaced restaurant equipment

2005 Goals and Objectives

1. Grow membership to > 1,000 members
2. Celebrate 60year Anniversary (throw a party for the Community for supporting the club)
3. Grow Sailing Programs
 - Provide > 100 free sailing lessons
 - Optimist and Laser Teams to compete on a national level
 - Partner with the City on a Summer Camp Program
 - Attract two new large regattas
 - Introduce member boat loan program
4. Community Services/Environmental Awareness
 - Increase usage of Ballroom as townhall meeting room
 - Care for surrounding parks
 - Increase clean-up efforts
 - Sponsor Biscayne Bay Lecture Series
 - Obtain Clean Marina Certification
5. Capital Improvements
 - Replace the roof
 - Paint and change the look of the club

Please provide any input you may have to Board of Directors or at the January General Membership Meeting.

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

hope this year the city will give us a new lease/management agreement and allow us to stay at the current location. With all the programs taking place at the club, everyone is spending a lot of hours making our club look nice. This one little acre sure is being used by a lot of City of Miami residents. So once again, if you want to help, please come down to the club and volunteer.

The pilings for the dingy dock have been put in and with the help of volunteers the dock is beginning to look really sharp. Some of the club engines are having problems and the older ones will have to be replaced. We are looking into replacing the metal ramp to the launch area. The hedges towards

Bayshore Drive have been lowered. The roof is still an issue and we are getting estimates to replace it. The staff is trying to keep the grounds clean, but we all should help them out by putting trash where it belongs.

So with all the new additions, improvements and if the city gives us a new lease/management agreement, this should be a great year for the Sailing Club and the City of Miami.

Vladimir Stroleny, Vice Commodore



SECRETARY'S REPORT

It's the dawn of a New Year and I feel great !!! The Club had a good year:

New Sailing Programs: Green Fleet is back, Lasers are on the water and the Marine Science Academy is off to a good start.

New members: people are joining and the Social membership was approved !

New Rendezvous: everyone seems to enjoy the Friday evening dockside rendezvous.

New Docks: the Club looks great and I can't wait for the new roof.

All in all it was a good year. We survived a historic number of storms and engaged the City in a meaningful dialogue. The Board wishes the best for you and your families and with your help, we can have another successful year in 2005.

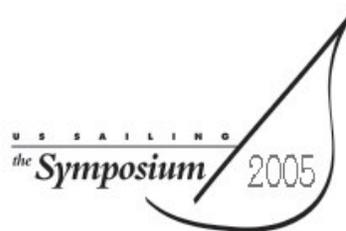
Happy sailing,

Marc Buller, Secretary



Sailing Instructor Course

The Coconut Grove Sailing Club is proud to announce that a high-level US Sailing certification course will be held at the Club, just prior to the US Sailing National Sailing Programs Symposium. The "Small Boat Sailing Level 1 Instructor Trainer Course" will be conducted January 9-12. Instructor Trainer courses train professional teachers/sailing instructors in the methods and theories of the US SAILING Instructor Training Program. The course provides Instructor Trainers with the tools, information and candidates are expected to be highly qualified sailing experts with several years teaching experience and hold appropriate current US SAILING instructor certification. These intensive 4-day Instructor Trainer courses include the following: evaluation of communication and interpersonal skills, practical sailing and safety boat skills evaluations, team building techniques, sports techniques, video feedback on teaching styles, lesson/program planning, record-keeping, etc. Instructor trainer courses are available in Small Boat Sailing, Small Boat Racing, Windsurfing, and Basic Keelboat.



Help Your Club at the National Sailing Programs Symposium!

This national event is coming to Miami on January 12-16, 2005, and we need YOU! The Symposium is the premier event for sailing education in the United States, bringing together the very best people and resources in instruction, program operation, equipment and more. See: <http://www.ussailing.org/training/nsps/> for details, or write or call Jim Clark-rearcommadore@cgsc.org/786-317-1342.



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

It's the beginning of a new year, when many of us resolve to do things differently. Some vow to exercise more or eat better, some to be better people. During this past year, your Club has indeed done things "differently", and you have seen the positive changes inside and outside of the Club. Still, we have a long course in front of us, and we need your help. Let's take a look at some of the changes and improvements made, and some of the new initiatives.

Marine Science Academy

The most notable addition to our sailing program offerings, is a major partnership with the Miami-Dade County Public School's Division of Life Skills and Special Projects. Dr. Jayne Greenberg was instrumental in bringing this program to the CGSC (with a special thanks to member Deborah Mitchell!). Dr. Jayne attended a meeting last month in Washington, D.C. at which our MSA was recognized by the US Dept. of Health and Human Services Office of Disability in support of the "I Can Do It, You Can Do It" campaign. For more information on this program, please visit: <http://www.hhs.gov/od/physicalfitness.html>.

Dr. Greenberg recently said the Coconut Grove Sailing Club can look forward to more great things happening with this partnership, and that it "... has moved the Marine Science Academy further in such a short amount of time than I ever could have imagined". She also praised our staff and facilities, saying that CGSC "...staff and administration has been outstanding working with our students...(and the) teachers really enjoy going out there & working with Britt".

Of the six MSA classes held so far at the CGSC - two of them were "kayaking adventures" with disabled children from North Miami Beach Senior high school participating. The brand-new Access dinghys should arrive this month, which make it much easier for these kids to sail, as these boats are made specifically for their needs.

Of course, your Flag Officers have been more than happy to ensure that the public is aware of this great program, and have introduced it to the City of Miami Waterfront Advisory Board, the Coconut Grove Village Council, the Miami Power Squadron, and the Rotary Club. Another feature article should appear soon in the Miami Herald, so watch for it!

I would like to welcome South Miami High School to the CGSC, as their students will attend the first MSA class of '05 this month. Another welcome is extended to Miami Mayor Manny Diaz' Education Specialist Lisa Martinez, as she is scheduled to observe this class. By this spring, we're slated to have 9 schools across Miami-Dade County participating in the MSA. If you or someone you know would like to do a presentation to the students on a marine science or related career possibilities, please contact Britt Price.

CGSC Laser Racing Team

Jose Hernandez continues to do an outstanding job developing this program. The Club will be pitching in as mentioned last month, as we plan to re-build the racks located in the southeast corner of the property. Kids who are active with our Laser Racing

Team will be offered a discounted rate (consistent with prices charged at other Clubs around Biscayne Bay) to store their boats in the new racks.

US Sailing Race Management Seminar On Saturday, January 8th we will host a seminar which is instrumental in obtaining certification as a Club Race Officer with US Sailing. The obvious candidates are our Race Committee members, but this seminar should be attended by anyone who participates in BBYRA races. US Sailing does provide personal regatta liability insurance to certified CRO's. Anyone who has attended a Race Management seminar in the past, should take this course again, as there are changes in the Racing Rules of Sailing that will be included. The cost is \$25, and will include a light breakfast, and lunch. The topics covered include: RC objectives, competition formats, sailing instructions, RC jobs, RC equipment, race day preparations, setting the course, starts, during the race, finishing, post-race RC responsibilities and scoring.

At the completion of the seminar, an optional test will be given to those interested in obtaining a US SAILING Race Officer certification as a Club Race Officer. In order to be certified as a Club Race Officer you will also need to have your own copy of the current US Sailing Race Management Handbook, and meet the program's other criteria

Future Program Development

We have some more exciting possibilities coming up to help our sailing programs grow, including a collaboration to bring in grant funds with the Coconut Grove Sailing Foundation this year. The CGSF has agreed to work with the CGSC on possible grants which would improve our ability and resources in delivering our sailing programs.

As always, I want to remind all of members that your participation is vital to the Coconut Grove Sailing Club being able to continue. This month we are participating in a national sailing event I've mentioned over the past months, the **US Sailing National Sailing Programs Symposium**. This is an excellent opportunity to help YOUR Club in a very visible, important way. Registration volunteers are needed and Hosts for days when NSPS participants will be touring the CGSC are needed. Please contact me or Britt Price if you have suggestions on these or other ways you might be able to help.

Watch for CGSC sailing program updates to the Coconut Grove Village Council, Waterfront Advisory Board and other community organizations in future months, so the public can better understand what we're doing to improve the CGSC and the community.

Happy New Year!

Fair Winds,

Jim Clark, Rear Commodore



CGSC Laser Team Continues to Grow

In spite of the Hurricanes this year, the Laser Team had a great Fall Session, with practices on Sept 18, Oct 2, 9, 10, and 31, Nov 6, 7, and 21, Dec 4 and 12. Only the Sept 26 practice had to be re-scheduled due to Hurricane Jeanne. The Oct 31 practice provided a new practice attendance record, with 24 Laser Sailors participating.

Sailors from the group also participated in various regattas during this session, including the Florida State Snipe Junior Championships at CGSC (race results are posted on the CGSC web site), and the SAISA High School Singlehanded Qualifier (Cressy) held in Clearwater. Special congratulations go to Alex Ravelo and David Hernandez for their results in the SAISA Cressy Qualifier. They, along with Paige Railey and Chris Enger from Florida's west coast, qualified to represent the SAISA High School District at the Cressy National Regatta, held this year in Minnesota the weekend of October 16th and 17th (with snow and ice to greet the participants - it's great to live in South Florida and NOT in Minnesota!!!!).

Other regattas included the Florida State Laser Championships in Fort Myers on October 16 - 17, the Miami Yacht Club Fall Harvest Regatta on October 23 - 24, the Naples Cup Regatta on November 13 - 14, and the Davis Island/Laser District 13 Championship on November 27 - 28.

Upcoming events include the Pre-Orange Bowl Regatta Laser Clinic at CGSC with Coaches Brett Davis and Brad Funk on December 18 - 20, the Orange Bowl Youth and Adult Regattas (at CRYC and CGSC respectively) on December 27 - 30 (as of December 14, pre-registration shows a total of over 160 Laser Sailors registered for this year's OB Youth event - compared to last year's record number of 113 Laser Sailors), the Martin County Junior Olympic Festival on January 15 -

17, and finally the Lauderdale Yacht Club Boomerang Regatta on January 29 - 30.

Thanks to the work party on Saturday, Nov 20, the sailors now can enjoy the new carpeted dolly stops along the edge of the entire new CGSC floating dock. It makes launching and retrieving the boats much easier!!! Thanks to the following volunteers that made this work party a success: Philip and Dr. David Alley, Michelle Davis, TJ and Paul Merker, Henk Milne, and David and Jose Hernandez. Thanks also to CGSC and Tom for having the materials ready at the club for us to use.

Finally, A VERY SPECIAL THANKS to the Coconut Grove Foundation for their donation of 2 Laser 4.7 sails and 3 Laser 4.7 mast lower sections to the CGSC Laser Racing Team. This donation will allow the lighter Laser sailors to participate in the program, especially now as the cold fronts come through with increased winds.

For more information on the Laser Racing Team, please contact Jose Hernandez at (305) 271-0148 home phone or (305) 322-2701 cell phone.



Rendezvous Committee Report

Thanksgiving day began with clouds and rain, an unlikely start for the annual Thanksgiving day rendezvous. However, about noon, the sun came out in time for a spectacular sail to Elliot Key on Thanksgiving Day. An intimate gathering of hardy sailing club members enjoyed turkey and all the trimmings including pumpkin pie, and ice cream graciously provided by Bill Braddon, while the moon appeared over the bay. While a rough night with north winds followed, it was well worth the trip, as Friday was a beautiful day. Many thanks to Gasby for driving the launch and delivering the turkeys and gravy through choppy seas.



Elliot Key Thanksgiving



boats. This has been the highlight of our dockside rendezvous' – all the boats were **Unbelievably Beautiful!** Thanks to all who brought their boats to the docks!



Marine Stadium Rendezvous



The club has found a new party spot with a beautiful view. The Marine Stadium Rendezvous, held on Saturday December 11, was a short sail from the club to a very well-protected anchorage. Following hors-d'oeuvres at the raft-up, we took a short dinghy ride to the nearby onshore Bayside Hut, where we met members from the club who motored (car) over for dinner. Bar service was provided by a very friendly and familiar bartender (Alex). Some members – who shall remain nameless - partied long into the night at our raft-up anchorage. Sunday morning brought crispy cool weather and a north wind for our quick sail home, as we traveled back to the club.

Our January rendezvous will take place at the Miami Yacht Club on Saturday the 22nd. This easy trip north affords an excellent anchorage, a great view of the city skyline and a raft up and dinner at the club. Like the marine stadium rendezvous, this trip offers an opportunity for members to drive over and meet us for the raft up and dinner should you not want to sail (we will provide dinghy service to and from shore!). Check the postings at the club for more information.

In January we will begin our initial planning for the **Crossing the Gulf Stream Rendezvous** to be held Memorial Day Weekend. Joe Logan, and Jennifer Wirth have agreed to host this event and provide training and guidance for first timers crossing the stream (Required reading includes Hemingway's "Islands in the Stream"). Joe and Jennifer will conduct preparatory workshops on preparing your boat, weather and navigation. Sign up early so that you will be well-prepared for this exciting event. Contact Janice or Alyn at 305-441-2733 or email jbpmom@aol.com.

Happy New Year
Janice Pruett

Beneteau Dockside



The Beautiful Beneteau's (B B's) Dockside Rendezvous provided a festive addition to the holiday party held on Saturday December 3rd. We had visitors from the Beneteau Club as well as our own club's

"We Need Opti's!"

If you have a used Opti you would like to sell, please contact Britt Price (305) 444-4571. We have several families interested in buying an Opti, so please call!

Youth Sailing

Britt Price, Sailing Director

Youth Sailing Programs

Our Youth Sailing Programs continue to grow, and as a result, we need help! If you can donate some of your time, you're sure to be rewarded by watching the progress of children who learn to sail, and race. We need volunteers for both Learn-To-Sail and Jr. Racing, so please call or write if you're interested.

Learn to Sail

Learn-To-Sail classes last month experienced some interesting weather. We saw light winds, heavy air and everything in between. Mike Abell, our instructor, was able to provide the kids many different courses, along with sailing on the Bay. Classes will continue to run until June every Saturday with two classes per day. The costs of the classes are \$75 for three sessions. For more information please contact Britt Price at 305-444-4571 ext. 11 or britt@cgsc.org.

Level 1 (Beginner)

Jan. 8, 15, & 22nd
9:00-12:00pm

February 5, 12, & 19th
1:00-4:00pm

March 5, 12 & 19th
9:00-12:00pm

Level2 (Intermediate)

Jan. 8, 15, & 22nd
1:00-4:00pm

February 5, 12, & 19th
9:00- 12:00pm

March 5, 12, & 19th
1:00-4:00pm

**Spring Break Mini Camp-----March 21st - 25th
9:00 - 4:00pm**

Marine Science Academy

We had a great time in the last couple of classes before winter break. We held our last "welcome to the club" class with the capsizing drill. The kids also were taught parts of the boat, knots and rigging. This was a great hands-on day, accompanied by light winds and lots of sunshine. The children also experienced a Marine Biology lesson with our local bottom dwelling jellyfish, Sarcasm seaweed, and even a Barracuda! In the future, we will be teaching the fundamentals of sailing and about the waters around us. Miami Mayor Diaz' Education Specialist will observe our first class this month, to examine possible partnerships with the City.

Green Fleet

The whole team prepared for the Orange Bowl Regatta for some time. They practiced every weekend and were getting hyped up for the winter break. In Green Fleet terms this means Sailing, Sailing, Sailing! CJ Abell has been working on tactics, finding the "windy" part of the course and sail trim. If you have never explored Biscayne Bay around the time of the Orange Bowl regatta there are at least 200 kids in each fleet. It is such a great experience for our fleet, to see there are kids from all over the world who love to sail as much as they do. Next month I will give the juicy details on the regatta itself.

St. Stephens After School

We had the traditional end of year party with our after school programs this year. Thanks to Bud Price for extending his hospitality his boat, Trekka. The kids had an ice cream party

followed by a sail around Biscayne Bay on Trekka (a 36' Morgan). Every child was able to drive the boat, raise the sails, trim the sails, and become "rail meat"! Thanks to the help of the St. Stephen's helpers, Coach Booth, Coach Katherine and Coach Donna, the kids got to see what lives inside the Sarcasm seaweed, and hang out down below in the cockpit. All the kids enjoyed the idea of a downstairs with a bathroom! I look forward to many more adventures with them in the future. **St. Stephens' After School Program donated the Christmas Tree for the Club this Year! Thank You!**

Power Boat Class

The Club would like to give a special thanks to Past Commodore Bud Price for taking time out of his busy schedule last month to sharpen our skills. He held a one-day class to "fine tune" our motorboat and towing skills. The Dock Staff along with the Dockmaster, spent classroom time on proper towing, knots, and boat handling. Then it was time to "hit the water" and practice what they were taught. We are trying to incorporate a class for the dock staff to continue learning more and helping serve us better. Thanks Again!

Race Management Seminar

Speaking of classroom time, the CGSC hosts a US Sailing Race Management Seminar on Saturday, January 8th (0800-1800 hrs.) . The topics covered include: RC objectives, competition formats, sailing instructions, RC jobs, RC equipment, race day preparations, setting the course, starts, during the race, finishing, post-race RC responsibilities and scoring. At the completion of the seminar, an optional test will be given to those interested in obtaining a US SAILING Race Officer certification as a Club Race Officer. The seminar fee will be \$25, which includes continental breakfast, and seminar materials. Pre-registration is required. The registration fee will be waived for CGSC members, so everyone who is involved in racing around the Club should attend!

Special Thanks

The Coconut Grove Sailing Foundation donated an Optimist to the Green Fleet last month. They are working hard to help get our Optimist Racing Team new boats. This has allowed us to retire our oldest boat, and use it for Learn to Sail classes only. Along with the boat we received, two racing sails, two sets of spars, several blades, & a team of smiling kids!

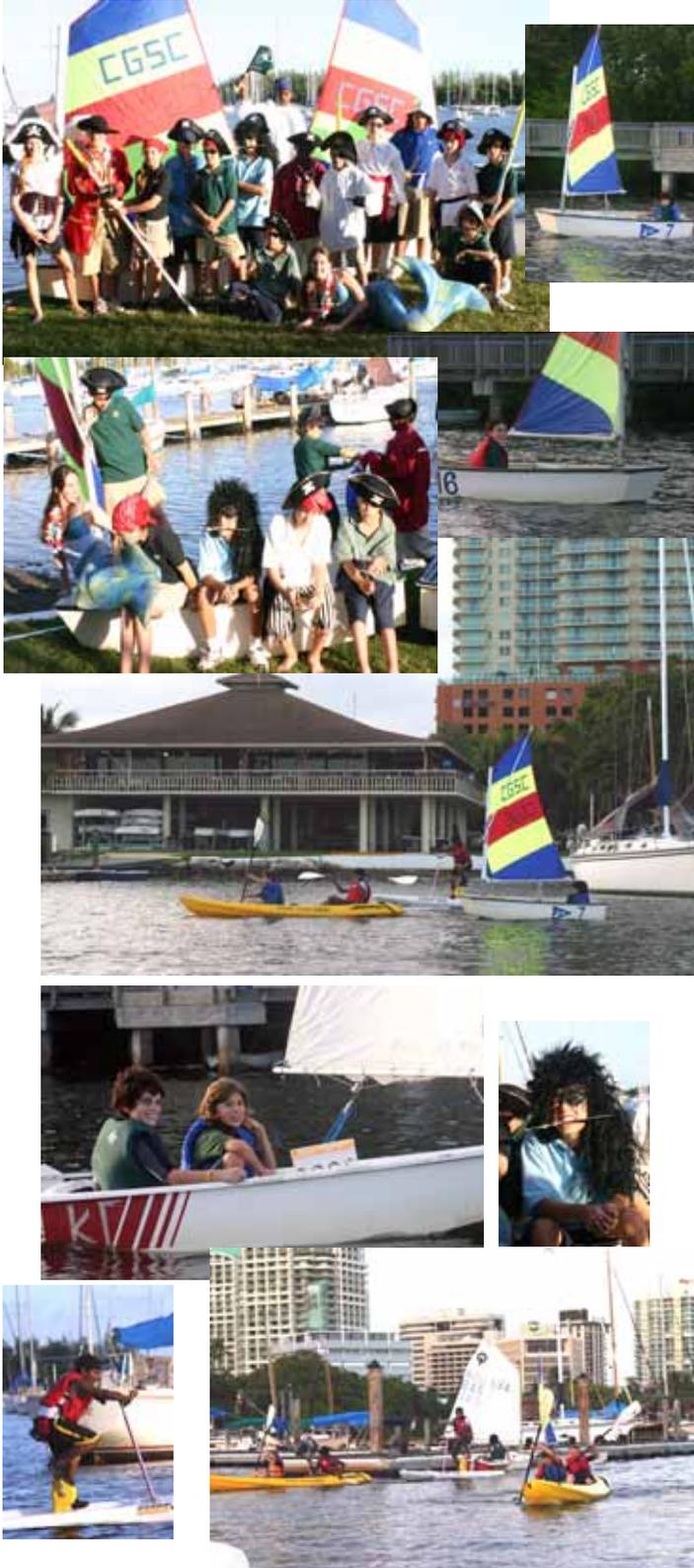
Ransom Middle After School

This year's Ransom Middle Sailing Club has become very popular. We have 20 kids enrolled. Our end of the year party was a blast. All the kids dressed up in Pirate and Sailor costumes for their Yearbook pictures. Then after that they sailed, kayaked, and used the surf bike. They had a great time cruising around and sailing to the upper school. After all the boats were put away and cleaned up, we had a little party with food and drinks. They will start up again in January and continue exploring the Bay and the world of Sailing!

This has been a great month for the Youth Racing Optimist Team. Several members are cleaning out their garages, and donating boating items to the programs. Mr. And Mrs. Abell, Mr. Timmons, and Mrs.

Ryan-Young, have all stopped by to drop off extra life jackets, blades, boots, and wind pendants for the programs. With all this support, I was really in the "holiday spirit". Last but certainly not least Mr. Don Bailey donated an Ensign to the club. This means we are working on incorporating keelboat lessons. Thank you Don!

If you or anyone you know is interested in learning to sail, please give us a call or write - the sooner you do, the faster you'll be out on the water, enjoying the beautiful waters of Biscayne Bay!



**TOP TEN REASONS TO HAVE
L.B. CARPENTER
PREPARE YOUR TAXES:**

1. You can apply the money you save by paying less tax towards your Anderson-Two-Speed-Self-Tailing-Stainless-Steel-Winch-Fund.
2. Time spent preparing taxes yourself better spent revarnishing your brightwork.
3. Money saved on Accountant's fee can be applied towards next year's haulout.
4. Do you see a pattern emerging here?
5. His office is right down the street from West Marine.
6. Because he knows his business as well as you know yours.
7. Because he knows the IRS agents as well as you know the bartenders at the Taurus.
8. He actually enjoys preparing taxes -- do you?
9. Let him worry about your taxes -- his hair is already grey.
10. All the other accountants in town are powerboaters.

L.B. CARPENTER, CPA, MBA, MS Taxation
305-661-7729
LBBEATSIRS@AOL.COM

Social Membership For
City of Miami Residents
is available for only \$50.00.
This membership is valid
Jan. 1 through Dec 31, 2005.
Call the CGSC office for details.
305-444-4571 x10

Kitchen Hours



Thursday
11:00am – 8:00pm
Friday & Saturday
11:00am- 9:00pm
Sunday
11:00am – 8:00pm

Ransom Middle School Sailing Club students enjoy sailing, biking and kayaking at the CGSC after school program.



A Little Sailing Story

I recently had a sailing experience that was different from any I had ever had before. I had done quite a lot of sailing offshore, but always it was in an ocean race with a full crew or delivering the boat back to its home port after the race with a delivery crew. There was always a tight time schedule involved. So when I received an invitation to do some real cruising on a real cruising boat I jumped at the chance. My good friends Tito & Roberta were sailing their 43 foot sloop "Alleluia" from Miami to the Caribbean where they were planning to spend several years cruising. They were looking for someone to help them sail from Georgetown in the Bahamas to Puerto Rico where they would spend a couple of months before continuing on their way. This was my chance to find out what it was like to really go cruising.

I jumped on an airplane and flew down to Georgetown, Bahamas. I met Tito on the dock and we motored in his dingy out to "Alleluia", which was anchored on the other side of the sound. I learned that they had been waiting for some time for a "weather window", (more about weather windows later) and it looked as though we would be able to leave in about 3 days. Tito explained to me that we would be following a path described in a book written by Bruce Van Sant. This route is affectionately known to sailors as the "Thorny Path" and basically consists of sailing to the Caribbean by making stops along the way at just about every harbor known to man. The forecast turned out to be correct and we left Georgetown and sailed ... correction... motor sailed east. In the days that followed we were always motor sailing either east or south depending upon whether we had to go east or south. It was easy to determine which way we had to go, all you had to do was to go up on deck and see which way the wind was blowing, if it was blowing from the east we had to go east, if it was blowing from the south we had to go south, simple. As a matter of fact, when cruising on a sailboat this is an absolutely 100% foolproof method.

We visited such exotic ports as Rum Cay, (named for the cargo of an old ship that was wrecked there), Mayaguana, (named for the cargo of an old ship that was wrecked there), and Ambrgris Cays, (named for the cargo of an old ship that was wrecked there). My favorite port that we visited, (possibly because there were actually other people there) was Luperon. Luperon is on the north coast of the Dominican Republic, it is a very active little fishing village that the sailboat cruising community, (more about them later) discovered a few years ago. It was originally discovered in 1492 by Martin Pinzon, the master of the Pinta who named the bay at Luperon Bahia Blanca which is kind of ironic since it is anything but white today. Anyway Columbus caught up to the Pinta when he found her anchored in the entrance to the bay. Columbus wasn't too happy with old Martin who had split and went off on his own, I suppose in search of individual glory.

Luperon is what the cruising community, (more about them later) call a "Dollar Friendly Port". A "Dollar Friendly Port" is any port which has an extremely favorable exchange rate between the local currency and the U.S. dollar. The cruising community loves "Dollar Friendly Ports." In Luperon the currency is called the Peso. When we were there the exchange rate was 22,249: 1. You could have a nice dinner for two including drinks for 250 pesos which in dollars amounted to ... well you do the math.

Luperon is a village that time seems to have forgotten. This is in part due to the fact that no one has either arrived or left Luperon by land in the last 71 years. This is because aside from

the mountains which are quite formidable, anyone who tries to leave is immediately run down by the buses ferrying drunken German tourists from the self contained resorts just to the west of Luperon to Puerto Plata which is 30 miles to the east.

Although Luperon has a very beautiful and protected harbor and the people are extremely friendly, there are a few minor inconveniences for the cruising sailor. One of these is that the water in the harbor is not very clean. It is a well known fact in the cruising community that if just one drop of the harbor water touches your skin you will shrivel up and die in about 5 seconds. This makes for very careful dingy rides between the boats anchored in the harbor and the town dock. Another minor inconvenience is the nature of the bottom, while the holding is adequate the problem comes when you raise your anchor. If you stay anchored for more than about 10 minutes your chain comes up caked with the nastiest, gooiest, crudiest, yuckiest, stickiest stuff that you can ever imagine. If you don't clean this stuff off as your chain comes in it will jam up your anchor windless. Given that it takes about one hour per foot of chain to get it off it means that if you anchor with the recommended amount of scope you must start to raise your anchor 3 or 4 days before you actually want to leave.

Now a little bit about the cruising community. Typically these cruisers are middle age couples who are either married or divorced, who have sold all their earthly possessions, (in some cases even their children) in order to purchase & outfit a cruising sailboat so that they can pursue their life-long dream of cruising the Caribbean. Most of these couples exist on meager fixed incomes such as Social Security disability payments or from insufficient investments. If you ask these people how they like living on their boats a typical answer will be something like this: "we hate it, can barely stand it, but we have no choice because we can't find anyone who will buy the boat & we can't afford to live on land unless we go back to (blank)." Now they don't actually say "blank" their voice just kind of trails away. This is because in the cruising community there is one four letter word that is absolutely, positively, unequivocally verboten, and that word is "work".

Now you may be asking yourself, "What do these cruisers do all day?" The answer is that they look for "weather windows". A "weather window" is a period of time during which the wind speed, wind direction, currents, tides, sea state, swell direction, swell height, position of the sun, moon & planets all combine in such a way that the chances of meeting any uncomfortable conditions in the region they wish to go is virtually nil. Unfortunately, the chances of all these factors combining in such a way is virtually nil. Still, no matter how long it takes, the cruising sailor will not leave port until there is a sufficient weather window. In order to identify these weather windows the cruising community uses many different sources of information. They all have single sideband radios so they can get advise from David in the morning and Herb in the afternoon, receive weather faxes, get offshore buoy reports, listen to Whiskey Oscar Mike for the offshore weather reports, listen to cruiseheimers & various other maritime nets and on and on and on. This takes up about 80% of their time. The rest of their time they spend looking for diesel fuel, water, ice and cheap rum.

Cruisers are very sociable people, they love to talk to each other, and whenever they do the subject inevitably turns to the possibility of a weather window opening up. Such a possibility

Race Committee

CGSC HOSTS SE FLORIDA PHRF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wow! Whatta regatta! CGSC hosted the annual southeast Florida PHRF Championship Regatta on November 20-21, 2004. Over 30 boats raced in ideal conditions, with steady easterly winds of about 12 knots Saturday and 6-8 knots on Sunday. There were four classes sailing, PHRF 1-3 and J-24. Two races were conducted on Saturday, and the final race, a three-lap windward-leeward course, was sailed Sunday.

The PHRF 1 Class was the largest, with 11 boats on the starting line. Stuart Hebb's *Thin Ice*, an Aerodyne 38 from Coral Reef YC recovered from a fifth place in the first race to win the remaining races. This was more than good enough to win the Regatta in PHRF 1, as he had a four point margin over *Mostly Harmless* sailed by Chris Woolsey, who compiled a 1-2-8 series. Tom Seghi's *Group Therapy* was third, with finishes of 3-9-2. Consistency was hard to find in this competitive fleet.

Six boats sailed in the PHRF 2 Class. The winner was Craig Setzer, who sailed *Mistral*, a Beneteau 35s5 from Miami Yacht Club to a 3-1-2 series. That was good for a very tight one-point win over *Tiburón* which was sailed by Art Perez to a 2-4-1 series. Pat Cacace had a very good regatta going with a 1-2 record on Saturday, but a DSQ on Sunday dropped *Black Bird* to third place for the Regatta.

In PHRF 3, Russ Horn's *Mild 2 Wild*, a Morgan 27 from the CGSC ran off and hid from the fleet with a 1-1-2 series. That was four points better than Jaime & Vicki Topp's *Touchstone* which had a very respectable 3-2-3 series for second in class. Rick Jurchow's *Détente* had a 2-3-4 series to come in one point behind in third.

Finally, the six boat J-24 Class saw very close racing

with three points separating the top three boats. The winner was *Lacalaca* sailed by Iker Belaustewigoitia from the US Sailing Center to a consistent 2-2-2 series. *Pick Up Sticks*, sailed by Jonathan Luscomb was one point back in second with a 3-1-3 series followed by Sean Brown in *Geronimo's Cadillac* who posted a 1-4-4 series for third in class.

The overall victory in the PHRF fleet went to *Thin Ice*. The PHRF3/J24 went to *Mild to Wild*.

Scott and crew put on a fine dinner Saturday night which was well attended by members and competitors. We had great sponsors for this event, including Gosling's Rum, West Marine and Banks Sails and Rigging Systems. Regatta Chairman Dave Kurtz provided trophies five deep in each class. That plus the free offerings from Gosling's yielded a big crowd for the trophy ceremony on the upper deck of the club Sunday afternoon.

CGSC's Race Committee did an outstanding job running the regatta. Principal Race Officer Art Auwaerter did a terrific job of on-the-water race management, and we are indebted to Charlie Branning for providing *Upside* as the Signal Boat. Race Committee crew on *Upside* included Art, Charlie, Marvin Schenker, Vicki Rosenbloom, Jo-An Pzenny, Jeanne Buntin and Carl Opdyke. The Mark Boat crew consisted of Al Chapin and Tricia Reeder, and Dottie & Ron Rostorfer were the Pin Boat crew. Rick Rahm did the scoring, while Jane Ann Pincus and Mike Weber served as Protest Committee Chairmen on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.



continued from 10-"Sailing Story"

can cause substantial stress in the community because it means that they might actually have to leave port. A typical conversation might go as follows:

Sailor A: Did you listen to David this mourning? He seems to think that a window may open later this week.

Sailor B: I did, but the offshore report has a full gale forming off Nova Scotia which means that we will probably get some substantial northerly swell by Thursday and you know what Bruce says about northerly swells.

Sailor A: I sure do, it sounds like we have a "no go" situation for at least another week.

Sailor B: Yup, definitely a "no go" situation. Thus reassured, they can go about their other business secure in the knowledge that they will not have to move.

Alas while in Luperon my allotted time for sailing with Tito & Roberta ran out, so I never made it to Puerto Rico. I was very sad to leave them and also to part with the many friends I made along the way. If any of you are reading this I hope you can chuckle at my tongue-in-cheek observations. Actually, I admire you very much, and so fair winds and smooth seas until we meet again. I hope you find your weather window.
Art Auwaerter

CLASSIFIEDS

Month 1

Sloop, 1964 America Cup Transpac Racer designed for San Francisco to Hawaii Racing. 70ft Mast, upgraded rigging. 7ft 6 ton Keel, Hull is 30 Ton Mahogany, Beautiful cabin applied after racing days, 85 Perkins that provides full hull speed at 11 knots. History: Bought by Warner Bros for Movie Lucky Lady With Lisa Manelli, Bert Remolds, Gene Hackman. Key West Hyatt Regency Charter Boat. Call 305-588-0128

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Month 3

MY SEAPRIZE – 28 CALIBER 1986. Underwent refitting over past 3yrs; replaced running rigging, mainsheet hardware, new electronics ST60 tridata, wind and autopilot, GPS, new mainsail and 130% genoa, lazy jacks with sail cover, bimini, cockpit cushions, new bottom 2004; \$21K or best offer, Call Bob Hirsch 954 965 5548.

SNIPES FOR SALE OR RENT: Miami Snipe Fleet #7 (Chartered in 1932) Fleet is willing to help the new members to get fast and further develop their boat handling, tactical and boat tuning skills. It is a boat for young and old! Call Gonzalo Diaz, Sr. and join the Miami Snipe Fleet. 305-667-0492 (best 8-10PM) Work: 305-702-8526 (best 4-6PM)

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For Sale - 17'Wellcraft Center Console. 1974 outboard runabout. 115 hp Evinrude V-4. Very fast. New control cables, New steering cable, New bottom paint. Bimini Top, Cockpit lighting, Automatic bilge pump, Anchor and rode, Rod holders, Coast Guard equip. Those familiar with this hull, know it is one of the strongest deep vees built, and know it is also an extremely dry boat due to the wide flare in the bow. \$4,000. Call Terry for more info. (305) 858-9150.

Classified Advertising Policy Classified advertising is for club members in good standing and is limited to personally owned items that are for sale. Ads will be run for 3 months and then will be dropped from the listing, unless the advertiser calls the Editor to renew for another 3 months. A classified ad can be pulled at any time by calling the Editor at (305) 661-2322.

Commercial Advertising is available for business use by calling the Club Office at (305) 444-4571.

Deadline: All Ads, articles and pictures for The Channel must be received by the 15th of the month. Please send articles and ads as a Word document and pictures as jpeg attachments to cembranning@ or drop off at the Club office, attention Cherie Branning, Editor.

CGSC is in need of adult Coast Guard approved life jackets. If you have one that you are no longer using and could donate it, we would put it to good use.

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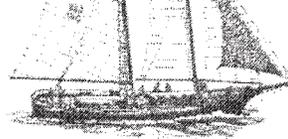
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Entertainment Committee Holiday Gatherings

The club was ushered into the holiday season in grand style last month with two holiday parties in December.

The first was the tree-trimming holiday party on Friday, Dec 3. All those present that night were treated to a fantastic Christmas show by The Miamians Barbershop Chorus. They sang holiday tunes in 4-part a cappella harmony to a packed house, many of whom sang along with their favorite songs. A fine buffet followed while club members did a great job of decorating the beautiful Christmas tree purchased from our neighbor, St Stephen's Episcopal Church. Everyone seemed to get in the holiday spirit that night.

Santa treated the children to a visit to the club on Saturday, December 11th. Santa and Mrs. Clause and the secret Elf arrived by boat as the kids cheered on. The children did some craft activities and got to sit on Santa's lap to tell him what they wanted for Christmas. Of course, he gave them a nice gift from his big red sack. Many thanks to Krisan



Lamberti for putting that party together.

The next party is the annual New Years Eve party. At press time, the planning for this party is well underway as manager Scott and the kitchen staff prepares a fine meal to help us bring in 2005.

In February we are going to have a party that should appeal to all the lovers in the club. We are going to have a Valentine Party on Saturday, February 12th. This will be a fun filled evening complete with kissing booth and other romantic antics. Be sure to put this one on your calendar. You'll hear more about this next month.

That's all for now. If you have any ideas for a party theme you can contact me at 305-740-9200 or dlamberti@aol.com. The entertainment committee wishes you a wonderful holiday season and reminds you to **"Keep your sunny side up"**.

Dominic Lamberti
Co-Chairman,
Entertainment Committee



A Glorious Sunrise at CGSC

