



COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB
serving the community since 1945

the channel

December 2006

Class, Club and Community

CGSC Hosts Snipe Class Western Hemisphere and Orient Championship

By Lynn Fitzpatrick Regatta Chairperson

For the International Snipe Class, their World Championship is in odd numbered years, with continental championships hosted in the even years. For 2006, the Americas and Asia competed in the Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship (WH&O) in Miami, FL. However, back when the class was seeking a host for the event, with the rotation schedule requiring a North American site, there were



continued on 10





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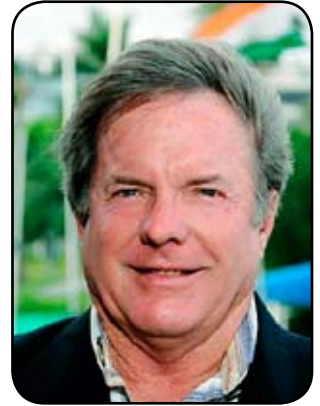
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Cover photo by Charlie Rahn; the UM sailing team competing in a collegiate regatta at Coconut Grove Sailing Club.

Volume 62 Issue 6

COMMODORE'S REPORT

By the time you read this, a new City of Miami Commissioner for district two will have been elected to fill Johnnie Winton's seat for one year. Members of the Bridge and Board met with the candidates to educate them about the mission of the Club and the operations. Thank you to all who have taken their time to meet with the candidates.



At a district two candidates' forum held on November 2, the candidates discussed the Sailing Club's future in regards to the lease. The candidates had positive comments about the club, particularly the sailing programs and the partnerships with the University of Miami and the Miami-Dade County School District.

Sasaki, the consultant for the waterfront master plan, does not have a public meeting scheduled at this time. It is expected that at some point they will come up with proposals for public review and feedback.

The Western Hemisphere and Orientals Snipe regatta was a huge success, thanks to Kay Voss and Lynn Fitzpatrick. Race committee work was superb! All the sailors had a great time and were able to sail in a variety of conditions.

Upcoming events include the Orange Bowl Regatta, December 26 to 30, 2006, and the Olympic Classes Regatta in late January, 2007. Race Committee is always looking for volunteers to help out on and off the water.

David Kurtz, Commodore



Photos by Susan Walcot

Hats off to CGSC!

By Lynn Fitzpatrick, Regatta Chairman

I want to thank everybody at CGSC, and Mother Nature, for hosting an unbeatable 2006 Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship Regatta.

As the Opening Ceremonies were winding down, a member of the extended Diaz family quietly said. "This is the best thing that has ever happened here." While she was commenting on the Opening Ceremony, her comment could be applied to the entire regatta from the Parade of Nations at the beginning to the nationalistic chants at the Awards Ceremony. Everything came off without a glitch thanks to the cooperation and energy of each and every member of the club, the entire staff, and volunteers from all throughout the Grove and all over the world, the amazing multi-club race committee, the Club's neighbors and the City.

To everyone who worked tirelessly on organizing each and every activity – housing, charter boats, measurement, race committee, food, merchandise, grounds, boat maintenance, etc., we could not have done it without you. Thank you to each and every club member who cleared their boat off of the Strip. As a competitor, there is nothing better than to be able to have space right near a hoist and a hose so that you can take care of your boat during such an important regatta.

CGSC you showed your local community and the rest of the sailing world how important you are to perpetuating this wonderful sport at the Greatest One Design Sailing Venue in the World!

Another great start on a beautiful sunny day on Biscayne Bay.



VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

As we approach the Holidays, I hope we find you and your family doing well. It's a great time to be around the Club. There are weekend races, preparations for the Orange Bowl regatta and great weather for the Cruisers. The New Years party is always a good time; the entertainment committee will be working hard, feel free to give them a hand.

It's also a time for shopping. What are you wishing for? A new GPS? Foul weather gear? How about a new bottom job??? The ultimate would be a new lease for our Club. Commodore Kurtz and the Future Development Committee have not lost sight of that goal. They continue to work with the City and we wish them the good luck.

Once again, as we approach the New Year, the

Board and Club staff wishes you the best. Now let's go sailing...

*Marc Buller,
Vice Commodore*



Thank You!!

Special thanks to Fried Elliot of the Snipe Class for allowing our Club to use his photographs in our monthly publication. You can see more of his work on his website, friedbits.com.

A Family Affair

By Lynn Fitzpatrick

The Snipe Class has always been a family-oriented class. That 15'6" sailboat continues to form a strong bond between husbands and wives, parents and children, and siblings in the Miami Fleet. Take a quick look into three of Miami's Snipe families.

The Voss Family

Let's start with the Voss family, because without their energy and commitment over the past two years, particularly the past 3 months, CGSC could not have hosted nearly as wonderful a Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship. Ken and Kay have always been water rats. They both learned to sail at a young age. Their profession, oceanography, took them to San Diego years ago, where they found the most social Snipe fleet in the country – the Mission Bay Snipe Fleet. Their years at the Scripps Institute have been followed by positions at The Rosenstiel Lab in Miami where Snipes have been sailed since the time they were invented.

Kay and Ken have owned several boats, but it wasn't until a couple of years ago that they purchased their first new Jibeteck. They held onto their old boat because Nick was sizing out of Optis. He had crewed in Snipes for years. Not only could he get great coaching from his family, he would get unbeatable coaching from some of the best competition in the world right here on Biscayne Bay. Two boats would also allow the entire Voss team, in various combinations, to get out on the water together.



During the WH&O, the family was integrally involved with every landside activity and was out on the water. Kay was in charge of a zillion organizational matters including housing, registration, charter boats and merchandise sales. Then she decided to take on more – she rigged the sailing club with WI FI so that all of our guests could communicate with the rest of the world and so that the regatta could be watched live on the web. Kay then took to the water as the official scorer for the regatta! Ken quietly took care of assembling the measurement squad for the regatta. Some flew in from the San Diego fleet and many helped out from the club, including Nick and his friends.

With the Voss house abuzz with regatta planning, poor Nick could not focus on school. He wanted to sail and had bargained with his parents over the summer that if he had straight A's and was invited to sail, he could. What a great motivator! Sure enough, a crew from Argentina could not sail and Nick raced.

Kara pitched in throughout the planning of the regatta. Stuffing registration envelopes to take her mind off of the pain of having her teeth pulled. She formed the Coconut Grove Youth Ensemble, the highlight of the Opening Ceremony. She sold merchandise, made posters, and even cleared tables at the Awards Banquet!

What a great Snipe family!

The Diaz Family

Even when The Old Man was a young man, he sailed Snipes. His admiration for Commodore Rasco of Havana's Miramar Yacht Club is apparent every year during lasagna dinner hosted at The Old Man and Carmen's house on the Saturday night of the Commodore Rasco Regatta. The Old Man plays a video from the early 1960's in which a young Old Man returns to the dock after competing in the regatta. He is greeted by his young wife with the same support and



adoration that he receives today when he comes in from sailing. In the movie, his two sons are not quite old enough to be really interested in sailing. In fact, Augie was going through his cowboy phase and was toting toy guns, a holster and wearing a cowboy hat!

By now, everybody knows the story of how The Old Man made



arrangements to get his Snipe out of Cuba, up to Canada and back to the States so that when the family finally made it to Florida they would have a Snipe to sail. That may have been the only time in the Diaz family history that they only had one

Snipe. At this point, they have a fleet. Some are in their garages, some are in the warehouse and others are being chartered by newcomers to the Miami Snipe Fleet.

The Old Man and Gonzo have both been Class Commodores. Annie, Adrian and Lucas have all sailed countless regattas over the years. After taking a respite to go to college and start his career, Lucas has jumped back into the Snipe as a skipper. Augie is the reigning World Champ. Carmen, Asella, and Connie are always part of the on shore organization for each and every Snipe regatta held at CGSC. We've all had Pupa sandwiches. We've all had Carmen's daiquiris at the Don Q. We've all been to the Commodore Rasco dinner. We all have to thank the entire Diaz family for creating and perpetuating great Snipe family traditions.

The Commettes

The Snipe has been part of the Commette family since Connie was a junior. Her daughters may not know this, but back when she was 16, Connie sailed the Don Q regatta out of CGSC with her boyfriend, Steve. Steve and Connie eventually got married and went on to be the US National Champions in 1984. Connie later paired up with Peter Commette and it 1996 won the US National Championship for a second time with her second husband, Peter. Steve Suddath is active in the Jacksonville Fleet and his company, The Suddath Companies, is the title

sponsor for the US Women's Snipe Championship.

Several years ago, after recuperating from a back injury Peter Commette, hopped back into a Snipe. Connie would get a little peace and quiet at home while Peter would take one of his young daughters sailing. Peter and Gonzo Diaz spent a lot of time teaching Morgan and Sheehan how to crew. Both Morgan and Sheehan have become supercrews, having sailed with numerous skippers in junior, national, North American and world championships.



They're dynamite skippers also.

At this year's Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship, the Commettes matched the Tinoco's with the most family members competing for the Hayward Trophy. Peter

and Sheehan teamed up to place 11th in the regatta. Morgan sailed with Enrique Quintero, as the US Junior team, and finished 30th. (As for the Tinoco brothers from Brazil – Pedro placed 3rd and Alexandre and Mario teamed up for a 7th.)

Connie was the glue that held the family together throughout the regatta- shuttling everybody from Fort Lauderdale to Miami; stitching SCIRA patches onto countless blue blazers, and managing the dinner ticket sales and collections (the most difficult task in a regatta such as this one). Not to leave any member of the family out, Kelly lent an artistic hand to posters, helped assemble the country flags, and sold regatta merchandise.

Thanks to all of the incredible Snipe families that bless the Miami Fleet and other fleets around the world.

Commodore Dave Kurtz Welcomed the Regatta Competitors

"Did you know that we have been sailing Snipes on Biscayne Bay for nearly as long as sailors have been competing for the Hayward Western Hemisphere Trophy? It wouldn't surprise me if Snipe sailors took off out of the Pan Am terminal just up the street to fly to Havana for the first Western Hemisphere Championship in 1950. It also would not surprise me to find out that one of Coconut Grove Sailing Club's strongest supporters and the backbone of the local Snipe fleet, Gonzalo Diaz Sr. was at the regatta.

Coconut Grove has a rich sailing history and I invite you to share in that history. Within walking distance of the Club is the Coconut Grove Woman's Club, one of the oldest women's clubs in Florida; the Barnacle, the home of one of the original settlers of Coconut Grove, a salvager, and celebrated boat designer, Commodore Ralph Munroe; and Dinner Key, the original headquarters for Pan American Airways, is Miami's City Hall. Each of these historic Grove institutions and neighbors has provided us with resources to help make this a better regatta for you.

Coconut Grove's merchants have also banded together to welcome you. Each of you will be presented with gifts, gift certificates, coupons, maps and magazines gratis of the Coconut Grove merchants "Sail through the Grove shop, dine, and unwind" and have a great time out on Biscayne Bay. Once you've experienced sailing on Biscayne Bay, you are sure to come back for more whether you are sailing a Snipe, an Olympic Class boat, an Etchells, Sonar, Lightning, or a big boat – nothing beats the consistent breeze, the warm waters, and the

stiff competition on Biscayne Bay during the winter months!

Coconut Grove Sailing Club, its members, staff, and friends are excited to be your hosts during the 2006 Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship Regatta. We understand that there will be some stiff competition and wish

the best to all of you who have distinguished yourselves among your country's Snipe sailors to qualify for this regatta. We are particularly proud of our home fleet's sailing talents and the efforts that its members have made in bringing this prestigious event to Coconut Grove Sailing Club.

Thank you for coming and enjoy your stay".

David Kurtz, Commodore



*Happy
New
Year!*

*Watch for information
about the Annual
Christmas and New
Year's Eve Parties.*

Race Committee Makes the Difference Snipe WHO Championships

Race Committee performance on the water is always a key ingredient in the success of a championship regatta. The Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championships at CGSC October 22-26 were indeed very successful, due in no small measure to the RC. That's important, since the Snipe WHO is effectively the off-year Snipe world's championships, a very high level event.

RC Organization

For years, members of the CGSC Race Committee have worked with the Biscayne Bay Yacht Club (BBYC) Race Committee on major regattas in South Florida. This includes such events as Key West Race Week, the Etchells Class Jaguar Series, the 2003 Farr 40 and Mumm 30 North Americans, Miami Race Week, and several others.

This time, the Topsider was on the other foot, and the BBYC team responded to CGSC's needs in a terrific fashion, led by PRO and USSailing Certified International Race Officer Dave Brennan. Dave's team also consists of both Coral Reef YC and BBYC members. Since both these clubs are "power and sail," they have much greater access to power boats and knowledgeable skippers required to run a regatta of this stature as compared to a pure sailing club like CGSC. There were five RC power boats on the race course, plus three Judge boats, a spectator boat and a photo boat – 10 RC or support boats all together.

On The Water

Things got off to a slow start with no wind at the time of the October 23rd scheduled first race. The Race Committee signaled a postponement at the Club flagpole, keeping the competitors comfortably ashore instead of baking in the sun on a flat Biscayne Bay. Finally, a late arriving sea breeze allowed one race for the day. On the following day, the front had arrived, and three windy races were completed.

The final two days saw moderate but shifty winds that challenged the race management team. Dave Brennan is a client of Commanders Weather, a private weather service, so he had outstanding weather information available for decision-making purposes that was only a cell phone call away. Consequently, five quality races were sailed, bringing the total to nine races. This allowed the competitors to drop their two worst scores. Up to 11 races had been scheduled.

One of the great moves made by the Race Committee was "leapfrogging" the race course from one race to another during the day. The Sailing Instructions provided three courses to choose from, but all ended upwind at the weather mark. In order to save time and keep the fleet from sailing back to the original starting area, the RC took the finishes at the weather mark, and then promptly ran the next race from that location. Consequently, the support boats had to pick up all marks after each race and reposition in the new race area, but it saved time. On the windy second day, the competitors were tired after three races. However, by then, the finish line was all the way up close to the entrance to Brennan Channel, so all they had to do was reach back to the Club. All in all, a great job by the RC.

Personnel

We should also note the great work turned in by the six Judges on three different boats (two of which being CGSC's 19 ft. Mako's). They stayed "up close and personal" with the fleet, making penalty calls on the spot where needed. Judges included Snipe Veterans Bill Cheek, Means Davis, BBYC's John Lee, Mexico's Francisco Jauregui, Judges' Secretary Marceline Therrien (fluent in Japanese) and Japan's Kiyoshi Tomimatsu.

This was the highest level regatta hosted by CGSC in a very long time. Huge kudos again go to PRO Dave Brennan for running an excellent regatta. Dave also provided his power boat Alligator Boots used in a support role. Veteran Snipe Class Representative Brainard Cooper provided critical Class perspectives to Dave as race management decisions were made. RC members who came to assist from BBYC or CRYC also included Rick Bertold and his boat, Two Dogs, Ken Batzer and his Rhumblin, John Lowe with Lowedown; and Bruce Harper, Saint Rosemond, Sennett Duttenhoffer, Kendra Brennan, Harry Susskind, Joan Lawrence and Lucy Bertold.

CGSC had several RC members who assisted on all or most days. Prior to the regatta, there was Equipment Day on Friday morning and an RC meeting on Saturday morning. CGSC RC members who did either or both of those days and/or most regatta days included: Social Members Sally and Chris Willits and their beautiful Eastbay 38, Sally, which made a great Signal Boat, Bruce Schneider, Art Auwaerter, Dennis Jansma, Larry Whipple, Bernie Meier, Charlie Rahn, Phil Kellett, Marvin Schenker, Bill Stites, Anne Platt, Susan Walcutt, Jeanne Bunten, Dottie and Ron Rostorfer and of course regatta chairs Lynn Fitzpatrick and Kay Voss. Kay also did the scoring each day from her post on the Signal Boat including uploading intermediate mark rounding live to the website from the water for the enjoyment of those sitting at work and competitor's family spread around the western Hemisphere.

Printed results were passed from Sally to Alligator Boots under Skipper Bruce Schneider, who put the throttle down and delivered the results to the CGSC Bulletin Board before the first Snipe hit the dock. Jeanne Bunten packaged over 30 lunches each morning for the RC and support boat fleet. Also helping on the RC were Susan Schultz, Nick Mansbach and Mike Weber. Bill Braddon, Tondelayo, and Charley Branning, Upside, were spectator boat skippers.

CGSC's Club personnel, including General Manager Hugh Stallings, Dockmaster Duane Smallwood, Chef Ralph Terrell and their staffs also played a critical support role in keeping the clubhouse ready, lunches going and the support boats fueled and ready to go each morning.

Thanks again to all. It was a great team effort!

Ron Rostorfer
CGSC RC



CGSC Past Commodore Larry Whipple (seated) and BBYC's Ken Batzer signal a course change at the gate mark as the Japanese team of Takuma Takesue and Kazuhiro Ito head back upwind.

Letters from Around the World

By Lynn Fitzpatrick

With all of the details buzzing through my head 24 hours a day, I had a tough time sleeping during the Western Hemispheres. Midway through the regatta, I woke up at 2:30 in the morning and started to type a letter. I realized that CGSC, a community sailing club, was hosting a tremendous international event in a way that no other club had ever hosted such an event for the Snipe Class. While competitors rigged their boats that morning, I started to circulate the letter. It reads,

October 26, 2006

Honorable Mayor Manny Diaz
City of Miami
3500 Pan American Drive
Miami, FL 33133

Your Honor:

I participated in the 2006 Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship hosted by Coconut Grove Sailing Club as a competitor, sailing judge, SCIRA Representative, or volunteer.

Having spent a number of days using the Club's facilities and sailing out of the club, I want to tell you how much I appreciate the efforts that the Club and the regatta organizers have made to make this a memorable experience. It is obvious that the Club has gone to great efforts to organize a top level international sailing event. While the Club's infrastructure may pale in comparison to that of other clubs around the world, it has made the best of what it has for this regatta.

Coconut Grove Sailing Club has had a long affiliation with the Snipe Class International Sailing Association. It hosts many Snipe regattas throughout the year including the Commodore Rasco, the State of Florida Snipe Junior Championship, and the Don Q Regatta. If it were not for the commitment of the local fleet and the Club to this class of one design sailboats, I would not have been able to take part in such a wonderful event. The warm waters of Biscayne Bay, the convenience of travel to and from Miami, the ease of shipping boats, and the knowledge that some of the best competition in the world was going to be at this regatta, lured me to your city and the Coconut Grove Sailing Club.

As a regatta participant, I urge you and your constituents to allow Coconut Grove Sailing Club to continue to operate and offer sailors from Miami and around the world a community-oriented sailing facility capable of holding a world class regatta.

This letter was signed by over 120 people from all over the world. Copy what you want from the letter and write one that you and your guests can sign. There is no reason that the club should not have thousands of such letters on file to be presented at any time.



The Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship Regatta

Opening Ceremonies And Practice Day

Following nearly two days of measurement, led by chief measurers Ken Voss and Steve Stewart, the practice race was held for the 2006 Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship. The competitors and coaches have enjoyed several days of practice in unusually warm and pleasant conditions on Biscayne Bay. Team Uruguay arrived first on the scene in Miami, a week before the start. Their efforts have served them well. After several general recalls, the fleet took off in light easterly conditions. Three of the top five boats around the first weather mark of the Practice Race were from Team Uruguay. With superstition lingering in some of the competitors' minds, the lead changed several times. Miami Fleet's Peter and Sheehan Commette had a convincing lead after several legs and sailed in after rounding the last leeward mark. With light air, blazing sunshine, equipment in order and a Competitors' Meeting and Opening Ceremony for which to prepare, why not?

This is the largest and strongest fleet that has ever been assembled for the Snipe Western Hemispheres. Those who finished the race were greeted with a board indicating that nearly the entire fleet was OCS, multiple times. Coconut Grove Sailing Club and Biscayne Bay have fielded a Race Committee to match the level of the contestants. Ron Rostofer, the RC Chair, and Dave Brennan, the PRO, have teamed up for Biscayne Bay's first international regatta of the season. Their crew combines the best of the Race Committees of Coconut Grove Sailing Club, Biscayne Bay Yacht Club, and Coral Reef Yacht Club – many of whom work together to provide sailors with other annual events such as the Etchells Jaguar Series and Key West Race Week.

Snipe veteran, Means Davis tapped Canada's Bill Cheek and an accomplished International Jury to keep the peace among the fleet. While they speak many languages, the primary thing that the jurists have in common is that they are versed in Rule 42. Three judge boats will be following the following the fleet closely and providing on the water judging. Coconut Grove Sailing Club held a spectacular Opening Ceremony featuring a parade of nations, the choral music of the Coconut Grove Youth Ensemble, and speeches by Class Commodore, Robert Dunkley of the Bahamas; CGSC. Vice Commodore, Marc Buller; Miami-Dade County Commissioner, Carlos Gimenez; and Mayor of Miami, Manny Diaz. Mayor Diaz, admitted that he is related to the Snipe Class' leading Diaz family in spirit. In fact, he and reigning Snipe World Champion Augie Diaz, attended rival high schools. The Mayor presented Gonzalo Diaz Sr., the patriarch of the Snipe Class, and other regatta organizers with a Proclamation designating this week Snipe Regatta Week in Miami.

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Monday October 23rd 2006 Day 1

After a 2 hour postponement on shore, the 2006 Snipe WH&O Championship got underway in a solid 6-8 knot breeze on Biscayne Bay. With numerous former and current world champions on the roster, the competition was stiff with action fast and furious on the water.

After 2 general recalls, the fleet of 43 representing 7 countries got underway under a Z-flag. A clean start and the group were off burning up the first beat. Japanese sailors Takuma Takesue and Kazuhiro Ito led the race and extended their lead throughout the windward-leeward course. Fellow countrymen Kenji Abe and Hiroshi Yamachika retained 2nd place until mid-way through the race when Pan Am champion Bruno Bethlem with Dante Bianchi crewing, passed them and started honing in on the leaders. Hitting a left shift on the final beat, Bethlem/Bianchi crossed Takesue/Ito and covered to the finish taking the bullet for race 1.

The Brazilian navy posted a strong showing with 4 in the top 10. Top US sailors were Ernesto Rodriguez/Leandro Spina 8th, George Szabo/Alan Cappelin 10th.

Tuesday Day 2

The expected cold front made its way to Miami dropping temperatures and raising the wind velocity. Three races were held in 15-20 knots of breeze on Biscayne Bay – perfect conditions for the top Snipe sailors in the world.

Owning the day were Pan Am Gold medalists Bruno Bethlem and Dante Bianchi posting a 4-1-2 with 7.5 total points. Fellow Brazilians Henrique Wanderly and Richard Zietemann sailed a 6-2-3 to put them in second overall with Pablo Defazio and Eduardo Medici of Uruguay rounding out the top 3 with 22 points.

Today's first race started under a Z-flag with all clear. The leaders came out of the right side with Setoguchi/Fujita moving into first by the leeward mark and maintaining the lead. With Honda as their sponsor, many felt they actually had a Honda engine as their speed was very quick on all points of sail. 10 degree shifts oscillating





across the course kept the leaders on their toes. Paradedda/Bianchi moved from 7th to 2nd throughout the race passing the Commettes on the final beat.

The RC hop-scotched up Biscayne Bay to keep from resetting the course and giving the competitors a chance to re-charge their muscles. This move proved beneficial for all, although in the 2nd race of the day, the wind seemed to drop to 13kts. The last race, at the top of the Bay, seemed to pick up in velocity.

Bethlem/Bianchi led the 2nd race of the day from wire to wire again coming from the right side. Rodriguez/Spina from the US had a close battle with Wanderly/Zietemann with the Brazilians getting a shift from the left to pass the Americans. Unfortunately 4 boats were caught OCS.

The last race for today found Setoguchi/Fujita again leading the fleet until Paradedda/Bianchi slid past them downwind. The



Brazilians maintained their lead to take the win at the finish. On the last downwind leg, Peter and Sheehan Commette, in 3rd, dug the bow into a wave, launching Sheehan toward the bow. She grabbed the forestay on her way and ripped the wire out of the mast -- clean out of the swage fitting. This capsized cost them 12 boats with them crossing the finish line 15th. Sheehan is fine and Peter is relishing telling the story!

Wednesday Day 3

Day 3 proved to be a good day for Uruguay and USA. Uruguayans Pablo Defazio and Eduardo Medici, coming off a Pre-Pan Am win last week in Rio, dominated the day in moderate breezes of 8-15 knots. Posting finishes of 1-2-3, the duo moved into striking distance of regatta leaders Bruno Bethlem and Dante Bianchi (BRA) who sailed a 6-4- and their drop of a 21st for the day. Americans Augie Diaz and Mark Ivey moved into gear on home waters with a 2-3-4, moving them into 4th overall. Third place overall, Alexandre Paradedda and Pedro Tinoco (BRA) sailed a 9-5-9 for the day including some penalty circles. The competitors found the right side favored all day with a few venturing out to hit an occasional lefty. Fresh breeze on the morning race slowly died throughout the day with the last race held in 8 knots. Japanese speedsters Akira Setoguchi and Teruhito Fujita were looking good until an OCS in the last race. They



were not alone with 7 others being caught over early. Thursday's schedule could include 3 races before the 2pm cut off, so anything could happen. The forecast is predicted with increasing temperatures and the same or lighter breezes.

Thursday Final Day 4

With 6-12 knots for the final day of the Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship, the Uruguayan team of Pablo Defazio/ Eduardo Medici was able to overcome early event leaders Bruno Bethlem/ Dante Bianchi (BRA) for the overall win. The Brazil team did fare well for themselves, with Bethlem/ Bianchi in second, Alexander Paradedda/ Pedro Tinoco (BRA) in third, Augie Diaz/ Mark Ivey (USA) in fourth, and Carlos Wanderly/ Richard Zietemann (BRA) in fifth.



continued from 1

Why had the WH&O become a regatta that no district, fleet, or club wanted to host? WH&O participation in recent years had slipped to 20-25 hard-core teams with the majority of them hailing from the US and the host country; hardly a money-making regatta.

One change was the catalyst for many, and the result is that this year's event will be the largest ever, with the maximum number of competitors allowed under the modified deed of gift. A field of 50 teams from 9 countries kicked off the Miami one-design season by competing on Biscayne Bay from October 22nd -26th. But what precipitated the turnaround?

First we changed the deed of gift to encourage more countries to participate. Then we forced competitors to make their intentions clear as to whether they were going to participate or pass on their entry slot. Each member country was allocated 5 slots. Additionally co-ed, women's, and junior champions from North America, South America, and Asia were given a slot.

An initial registration deadline was established whereby a team was registered only after its national secretary had validated its qualification and registration was paid in full. Vacant slots were reallocated by country according to a formula which favored registering the maximum number of teams allowed during the initial round of registration. By reallocating entry slots and posting the information to the Internet, we were able to have a transparent and efficient registration process that maximized the number of participants and gave regatta organizers a clear indication of what was in store.

As the gateway to the Americas, Miami was sure to draw the most North American and South American teams and was awarded the bid to host the regatta. Fortunately, the Japanese, who had hosted the World Championship in 2005, were willing to send a full complement a long distance.

While there are several sailing facilities on Biscayne Bay, the one that is synonymous with Snipe sailing, Coconut Grove Sailing Club (CGSC), has been in a tenuous situation over the past few years. With an expired ground lease with the City, CGSC has been striving to prove that it is a good citizen.



Wouldn't CGSC want to work hard to impress the City by hosting a world class event? Why not live up to the Snipe Class motto of "serious sailing, serious fun" by supplying challenging racing and some unique landside events? While we were at it, why not get the entire Biscayne Bay Yacht Racing Association to back us up? We have been overwhelmed by the number of members and non-members who have volunteered to help with everything from housing to providing parking.

Finally, as we searched for sponsors, we approached our neighbors with documented information. The City and Coconut Grove merchants are finally aware of the economic impact of the Orange Bowl; the MOCR; Star, Etchells, Lightning, Snipe, Sonar, Opti, Laser, and Yngling regattas. If you sail a regatta in Miami this season you will benefit from the Grove's new targeted marketing campaign - Sail through the Grove – relax, dine, and unwind. Gift certificates, coupons, and other discounts will be available to all competitors who participate in the major Miami regattas this year.

The 2006 Snipe WH&O is an example of how a struggling class, a club on shaky ground, merchants finally focusing on a target market that could have been identified a century ago, and a City that has overlooked an asset recognized by sailors around the world, are cooperating and fostering a rebirth that will benefit each organization and every one-design sailor who visits Miami this season.



Miami Dade Public Schools Anchors Away Launch



Our third annual Anchors Away boat launch occurred on November 3, 2006 at the Oleta State River Park. Over 70 special needs students representing several senior high schools from Miami - Dade County Public Schools participated in the launch.

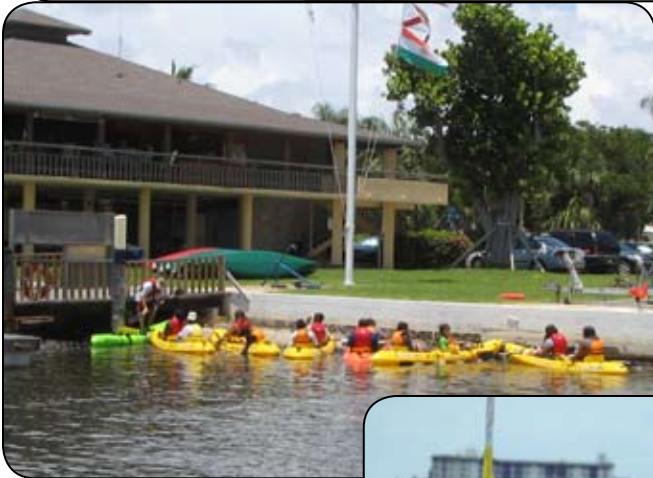
Preparation for this year's event began very early in the school year when Miami- Dade County Public Schools was notified that enough funds were raised to purchase 14 new sail boats. Starting in September, Miami - Dade County Public School students began attending weekly sailing instruction sessions. These sessions helped the students develop and refine their sailing skills so that they would become more confident and proficient on the water. On the day of the event, the students sailed confidently in breezy conditions, delighting all in attendance.

Once again, our partners, the CGSC, provided Miami - Dade County Public Schools with 2 safety boats to serve as chase boats for the launch. Sailing director Nick Mansbach and teacher Jeanine McCleod each manned a safety boat keeping our students on course. A special thank you is in order to the Marine Academy of North Miami Beach senior high and the students of William Turner Tech senior high. These students did a superb job rigging the access dinghys and assisting our special needs students throughout the day.

In addition, I would like to recognize my supervisor, Dr. Jayne Greenberg, District Director of Physical Education and Health Literacy. Dr. Greenberg made this program possible and has always shown the utmost trust and confidence in my abilities. It has been a real pleasure to help plan for and coordinate this very special event.

David Diamond
Miami - Dade County Public Schools
Outdoor Education / Learn to swim teacher





Sea Scout Ship 1946 – Monthly Report

CGSC's Sea Scout Ship charter is moving forward, and the Scouts have chosen "1946" as the Ship's number. If that number looks familiar, it's because it's the year that CGSC was founded. The Sea Scouts are also researching Coconut Grove maritime history in search of an appropriate name for the Ship.

Our Sea Scouts have been joining in the CGSC community, thanks largely to Phil Kellett's leadership and his contagious enthusiasm for the program – "Capt Phil" has really become an integral part of the Ship, and the Scouts love being around him. As you may be aware, the Sea Scouts participated in CGSC's Annual Work Weekend, cleaning and waxing all of the club's fleet of Sunfish sailboats. They have also spent some time working on "Pat", one of CGSC's two Ensigns.

The Scouts have also gone sailing a couple times with Capt Phil, on his trimaran "Shadowfax". The following is Phil's account of the Sea Scouts' activities of October 29th:

"Yesterday Gabby, Jazzy, Daniel, George and Karen came down to the club to work on painting a small boat...However, the wind was blowing and the sun was shining! After an hour of painting we took Shadowfax out minus Karen but plus my friend Arron, a very experienced sailor.

In 10-12 knots of wind and all sails flying we headed out, Jazzy helmed us expertly through Stiltsville Channel; we were hard on the wind and Jazzy had to pinch to clear the marks without tacking. Once out to sea we were in 4-5 ft seas and Daniel expertly helmed us out into the Gulf Stream and back and occasionally got us all wet from the breaking waves. The return through the channel next to Key Biscayne and all the way to my mooring was expertly handled by Gabby, who 'eyeballed' her way through the channels without the need for a chart.

It was a memorable day and Arron who has thousands of sea miles on keel boats and a tall ship was very impressed with us sailing at speeds up to 13 knots!" Needless to say, all had a wonderful time, and our Sea Scouts have a memory that will last a lifetime.

November is also shaping up to be a fun month for our Sea Scouts – but you'll have to wait until next month's Channel for that report.

Sea Scouts is a branch of scouting for young men and women between the ages of 14 and 21. If interested in getting involved or helping out with our Sea Scouts, please contact Larry Arrington (305-663-9836).

CGSC ANNUAL CRUISING REGATTA SUNDAY OCTOBER 1, 2006

A cool crisp morning greeted my cruise down the CG waterway out to the Bay around 8am. The first glimpse of a shimmer on the water told of a light breeze from the north. A tricky day of light and shifting conditions was expected as the temperature warmed. Race Committee preparation on the dock went smoothly, as our incredible volunteers began rounding up the equipment and getting their boats ready. One of the Makos was missing the Bimini top, but Art Auwaerter and Henry Bernstein made the most of it with extra water and cheerful smiles. They set the bottom mark and the start/finish mark, while also keeping track of the opposite end of the starting line during the starts and finishes.

As the wind got shifty later in the day, they jumped into action to signal a course change at the bottom mark. A quiet day punctuated with the drama of a last minute wind shift. Thanks guys for your professionalism under sun baked conditions.

The top mark boat with Jaime Ramon and Dennis Jansma ran around the Bay as the wind clocked from 355 when we first got to the race course, to as far as 105 degrees in the middle of the second race. Trying to anticipate the wind is an enormous challenge and they made it look easy. Communications is usually difficult at the range the cruising races normally require, but the radios held up and the sudden course change went off without a hitch. Well, except the wind backed to 085 after less than 10 minutes making the end of the second race something of a fetch.

The signal boat was set to go, but a last minute rock star was needed to round out the crew. Thank you Cathy Buller for coming to the rescue as our timer and finish scribe. We couldn't have done it without you.

Jeanne Bunten kept the paperwork straight as we did the check-ins on the water. We always try to accommodate the last minute arrivals, especially during our Annual Regattas, but with mismatched spinnaker and main sail numbers, scoring can be a chore back at the club.

The flag signallers, Tricia Reeder and Liz Bourne were flawless as the starting sequence rolled and the races began. We only had one individual recall the entire day, and although the first race was postponed waiting for the wind to settle down, it did finally sustain 6-7 kts. for the first of three races. I am very lucky to have such a talented and dedicated crew to help out on what turned into another "chamber of commerce" day on the water.

Back at the club, I sorted through the finishes and got the scoring program set up for the day, or so I thought. There is a new scoring program that Cindy Saunders of BBYRA has found and will be hosting seminars to help us learn how to use it. My mistake that afternoon was in using the roster from the previous race I ran where all the PHRF fleets were combined. Unfortunately, when I separated them back out again, some of PHRF 2 was still incorrectly scored in the PHRF 1 results. Of course the sailors were quick to catch my mistake, but only after I gave two trophies to the wrong skippers. Sorry about that mix up. In my haste to get the trophies presented after an hour and a half on the computer, I failed to double check the obvious. Thanks for being such great sportsmen about it.

As I left the dock that evening and the sun was setting, a wave of relaxation finally set in. What an incredibly beautiful day and what a great way to spend it. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves, and I look forward to seeing you all on the Bay real soon.

Have Fun and Sail Fast!
Wil

P.S. I would like to send a prayer out for Al Chapin, a long time Race Committee member and great friend. You are in our thoughts as you battle cancer. Our hearts are with you.



Annual Regatta

Results

Sail No.	Skipper	Place
1309	B u d d y C r i b b	1
1202	S c o t t P i p e r	2
1307	J e f f N e h m s	3
1239	S t e p h e n H o r w i t z	4
1225	R o b e r t B e l l	5
1055	C h r i s L a n z a/ P a i g e B r o o k e	6
1145	J a c k N e h m s	7
Lightning Class		
Sail No.	Skipper	Place
15143	J e f f D u V a l	1
Snipe Class		
Sail No.	Skipper	Place
30325	H e n r y F i l t e r	1
30195	N i c k G r a n u c c i	2
28810	E n r i q u e Q u i n t e r o	3
29992	G o n z a l o D i a z, S r.	4
30223	J o h n F o x	5
30288	G u i l l e r m o M a r t i n e z	6
Flying Scot Class		
Sail No.	Skipper	Place
2068	R o n P l e t s c h	1
5239	R o b e r t N e w l a n d	2
4156	B u d P r i c e	3
2052	N i c k M a r t e n s	4
5126	C h a r l i e F o w l e r	5
5339	C h r i s E r i c h s o n	6
5399	L a r r y W h i p p l e	7
5321	H e n r y B e r n s t e i n	8
4595	V l a d S t r o l e n y	9
5220	A n d r e a S t e p h a n	10

Flying Scott Fleet 90

The last BBYRA One-Design race, the CRYC Annual Regatta on 11/5/06, was a windy one with winds in the 20 to 25 knot range. Four intrepid Flying Scots braved the weather, Volee (Phil Messier), Margaritaville (Larry Whipple), Slime (Nick Martens) and Air America (Bud Price). Margaritaville left the dock first, followed by Volee, Slime and Air America. All but Volee had three person crews.

Volee got into trouble just past the spoil islands suffering a knockdown which buried their mast in the mud. The boat quickly filled with water and the headstay broke trying to get the mast out of the mud! A commercial tow boat helped get them back to the CGSC where a pump was needed to drain the hull.

Margaritaville made it out to the race course and was sailing by the stern of the RC boat to check in. I called out my hull number, 5399, and heard a loud crack and thought the RC was shooting at me but the starboard shroud had broken and I watched my mast fall into the water. Dennis Jansma and I quickly started retrieving sails and mast and then realized Susan had fallen in the water!. She had been hiking out when the mast fell and the boat righting itself tossed her back in the bay. The pin boat retrieved her and brought her back to Margaritaville. We anchored, pulled off the sails and then stowed the boom and tied off the mast. A few minutes later Jose Hernandez came out in the Mako and towed us back in. When we got to the dock we helped Volee with their problems and stored both boats.

A little while later Slime came in with a broken tiller. The third causality of the day. Only Bud Price on Air America survived without damage and finished first for the day. Slime was second and Margaritaville was third.

See you for the next race 12/2/06.

Whip

The Channel

Deadline: All Ads, articles and pictures for

The Channel must be received by the 10th of the month. Please send articles and ads as a Word document and pictures as jpeg attachments to cebranning@bellsouth.net.



Youth Sailing

Hello All,

Here's what's happening in the clubs' sailing world:

The Green Fleet just wrapped up the Fall Harvest Regatta at Miami Yacht Club. We had an outstanding turnout (13 kids) and ALL did extremely well. They were all given medals for their participation.

This weekend our Green Fleeters are at it again, only this time it's the Naples Regatta over in Fort Myers. We have approximately 9 participating in this one with Antonio Bejarano (Youth Sailing Chairman) at the helm.

Easter Seals paid us a visit this week for a " Learn To Sail" field trip, we had about 15 kids and they all had a great time and will be back to see us again soon Thanks to Jeanine McCloud for helping out with that one.

All of our Sailing programs are up and running, both youth and adult and we have a waiting list for almost all of them.

We are still waiting for Board approval for our Keelboat Certification and will most probably will get the go ahead at the next board meeting, so stay tuned for that.

That's all for now.

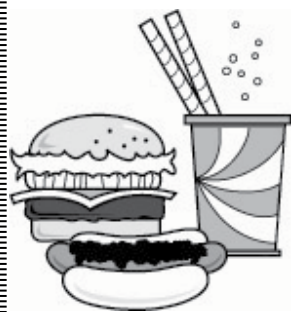
Tight Lines

Nick

Nick Mansbach
Sailing Director
305-444-4571
Ext. 11
sailingdirector@cgsc.org



Kitchen Hours



**Wednesday . Thursday
and Sunday**

11:00am – 8:00pm

Friday & Saturday

11:00am- 9:00pm

Thursday Night Special

New York Strip Steak Dinner

\$12.00 Between 6-8 PM

You need to call ahead to reserve yours.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CLUB NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Next year, in May, the CGSC will be hosting the Florida Opti Championship. This is a commitment that all major Sailing Clubs have periodically with the Class. We can show our value as a serious sailing organization to the City, the State, the Nation and the World since this event is published and followed up by thousands of people around the world. WE NEED AT LEAST FIFTY VOLUNTEERS. We have various committee leaders and contributors positions in many areas, such as space logistics, sponsoring, public relations, safety, race committee, food and activities, registration, budgeting and many others. This is an event that will bring around 200 Opti sailors with parents, coaches and friends, so the impact in our community will be great and positive. As you know the difference between positive and negative will probably be having a well organized event or a poorly organized one. This mostly depend of the attitude and number of volunteers we have.

If you feel that this is a great cause and you want to help our Opti racing program, please give us a call. Antonio Bejarano (305-588-0084) antonio1bejarano@aol.com or Hugh Stallings at the Sailing Club.

I am looking forward to meeting you.

Antonio

Parking: Due to excessive crowding in the parking lot, the club will be towing cars without parking stickers. No exceptions allowed! If you are a regular or life member you are entitled to purchase a parking sticker. Please make a copy of your car's registration and take it to the office. Social members, non-resident members and youth members are not entitled to purchase parking stickers.

Ample public parking is available across the street at the Sonesta Parking lot.

Dog Policy: Please, please:

NO DOGS UPSTAIRS

Dogs are welcome downstairs on a leash. Please show courtesy to the kids and sails drying on the lawn by picking up after your dog.

We appreciate your understanding on this matter.

A SPECIAL NIGHT AT CGSC!

Please mark your calendars now to attend a very special night at CGSC – Tuesday, January 9, 2007.

Right after Social Night, CGSC presents noted offshore sailor and sailing author **John Kretschmer**, who is always a very entertaining speaker. Among other things, he will discuss his latest book, *At the Mercy of the Sea*, followed by a book signing. John has more offshore miles than the rest of us put together, is a prolific reviewer of used cruising boats, and sails his own 47 foot sloop, *Quetzal* to destinations far and wide.

At the Mercy of the Sea is a true and gripping story of three boats caught in 1999's "wrong way" Hurricane Lenny, which traveled from West to East across the Caribbean. One of the boats was sailed by his dear friend, Carl Wake aboard *La Vie en Rose*. None of these men knew each other, yet they converged by fate in a tiny circle of the sea in the midst of a hellish storm no boat could survive. It is a taut, suspenseful re-creation that seeks to make the sense of the improbable intersection of three lives at the height of a storm.

Unauthorized Storage

The following is a list of un-accounted for boats, sails, dinghies and spars that have been left at the club without authorization. If these are yours, please remove or make arrangements for storage with the Sailing Director. Items not removed will be disposed of January 1st.

- Sandpiper dinghy on rack by stairs (Tross is the name on it)
- Lt. blue dinghy on same rack (no name)
- Rolled up Seaworthy inflatable under stairs
- Spinnaker pole on Sunfish sail rack
- 3 Kayaks on strip:
- Blue Old Towne
- Red Perception
- Green Old Towne

Thanks
Nick

Nick Mansbach
Sailing Director
305-444-4571 Ext. 11
sailingdirector@cgsc.org

CGSC RACE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please mark your calendars now for the December CGSC Race Committee meeting. It's Tuesday, December 12th, associated with Social Night at the Club (about 7:00 pm).

We'll have our own Holiday Celebration – an Hors D'Oeuvres Party! Details to follow. Please plan to attend.

Art Auwaerter is again Chairman of the CGSC Orange Bowl Regatta, December 27-30. Please let him know if you are available to be on the Race Committee for this regatta.

January will be a busy month. We're running a BBYRA PHRF Regatta on Sunday, the 14th, then the week-long Rolex Miami Olympic Classes Regatta, Monday-Saturday, January 22-27. We'll be hosting the RS:X Sailboards again, both at the Club and on the race course. It's always hard to get RC volunteers for during the week regattas, so try to clear your calendar for at least part of the week and join the Miami OCR Race Committee Team.

Don't forget that we're continuing to look for people interested in our CGSC RC Support Boat (Mako) Training Program (9 am to 1 pm on a weekend day to be arranged). Handheld GPS preferred.

We're also looking for people interested in learning computer scoring software to score the regattas we run.

Please contact Ron Rostorfer, 954-401-5335 or ronsailon@comcast.net if you would like to pursue any of the above, or the CGSC RC in general.

Racing Schedule December, 2006 – January, 2007

Friday, Dec.1	Wirth Munroe Palm Beach Race
Saturday, Dec. 2	BBYRA OD #12 – BBYC
Sunday, Dec. 3	BBYRA PHRF #12 – KBYC
Wed-Sat, Dec 27-30	CGSC Orange Bowl Regatta
Fri. Jan.5	BBYRA Annual Meeting & Registration
Wed., Jan.	10Ft. Lauderdale – Key West Race
Saturday, January 13	BBYRA OD #1 – MYC
Sunday, January 14	BBYRA PHRF #1 – CGSC
Mon.-Fri. Jan. 15-19	Key West Race Week
Mon-Sat, Jan 22-27	Rolex Miami Olympic
Classes	<u>Regatta – RS:X Boards – CGSC</u>
Sunday, January 28	BBYRA PHRF #2 - MYC

CLASSIFIEDS

Month 1

Tartan 34' Sailboat or Sale: "Wind Seeker" has a 4' draft with the center board up and 6.5' with the board down. 30 hp Universal diesel with less than 600 hours. 3 burner propane stove with oven, water heater and ice chest with cold spot 12 volt refrigeration. VHF, stereo cd & am/fm radio. Roller furling foresail and main with reef points in good condition. Good mechanical condition. Needs some cosmetic cleanup. Call 954.723.9403.

FOR SALE: CGSC used B & W Lanier 7228 industrial office copier for sale. Great for home or small business. Collates, staples, front & back copies. "Cash and Carry" as is, \$300. OBO. Call Hugh at CGSC

Month 2

Deadline: All Ads, articles and pictures for The Channel must be received by the 10th of the month. Please send articles and ads as a Word document and pictures as jpeg attachments to cebranning@bellsouth.net.



Month 3

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)

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 notifies the Editor to renew for another 3 months. Classified ads should be sent to cebranning@bellsouth.net. A classified ad can be pulled at any time by calling the Editor at (305) 661-2322 or sending an email to the above address.

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

Social Membership

is available to City of Miami Residents and City of Miami Employees. This membership is valid Jan 1 through Dec 31, 2006 and is renewable on an annual basis. Please inquire at the club for details or call the office at 305-444-4571

Donate Your Old Sails!

I am collecting unwanted sails to deliver to fishermen on the Southern coast of Haiti. They build their own sailboats and fashion makeshift sails from old flour bags, clothing, and plastic bags, among other things. Donated sails in virtually any condition are useful. The improved materials allow for less sail maintenance and more efficient fishing. Donations are tax-deductible.



Pick-up can be arranged. Call me at (305) 321-8273, or email m.carcaise@gmail.com. Visit www.sailsforsustenance.org

Thank you,
Michael Carcaise, UM Sailing Team Member

Carla Schiefer



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Cruising & Rendezvous

Hurricane season is over. Alyn is always thrilled about that. Saturday's can be spent working on the boat or sailing instead of watching Hurricanes football. We get to stow away "Big Bertha," our storm anchor, till next summer and I don't have to drive around with buckets of anchor chain and rode in the back of my car. That leaves us room to actually fold up the back seat and drive out-of-town guests around town. For me it's always a bit sad. the end of the season, I always look forward to hurricane football and despite the fact that this year's team has had a stormy season I support the team. We hosted a tailgate party in the Grove's Nest and raised a few dollars to support our own Sailing Canes.

Since my last article Effortless has spent most of her time on the mooring. She was host to Skipper Philipp Umpierre an mate Martin Puricelli, participants in the 2006 Snipe Western Hemisphere and Orient Championship. They spent a week and half on our boat while training and participating in the event and I'm happy to announce that they finished 8th overall. It was a pleasure having them on our boat and thanks to Kay Voss for contacting us to host them.

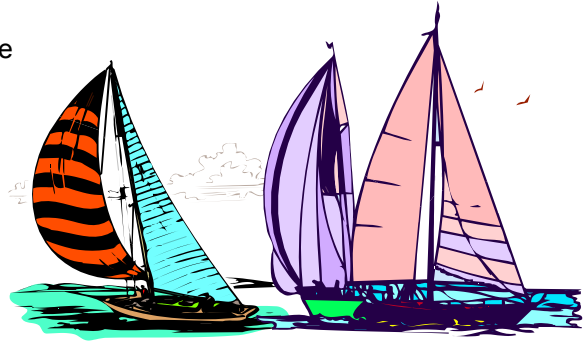
Our only trip last month was to participate in Peggy Young's last sail. This was one of the most emotionally uplifting experiences that I've had on our boat. Commodore Bill Beaver's Finese lead the flotilla out to the gulfstream where we released Peggy's ashes and her son Renny set her off in a tiny sailboat and a replic of the Norway. As we made the turn back to land we spotted her bobing up and down

in the 5 foot waves sailing to windward. Upon our return to shore we celebrated her birthday and her life with family and friends. Sail away Peggy, fair winds, we'll miss you until we meet again.

We have begun planning next year's Adventure Rendezvous. We had our first meeting to discuss our destination. Please contact jbpmom@aol.com to offer your ideas or to join our group. Abacos, last year's rendezvous seems to be a favorite but the Keys and Marquesas are also in the running.

Anyone interested in participating in the Miami Boat Parade December 9th? I've been trying to get more information regarding this event. We watched the boats last year from our balcony as it left Dinner Key Marina. I looks like a fun event. Bring your boat to the dock on Saturday, December 9th for a Dockside Decorating Rendezvous and Potluck Dinner. Stay at the dock and watch the moon rise or join us for the parade.

Janice



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