

the COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB
serving the community since 1945

channel



MARCH 2008

THE 2008 (XXXIX ANNUAL) COMODORO RASCO SNIPE REGATTA HOSTED BY THE COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB AND THE MIAMI SNIPE FLEET #7

February 9-10.

Fourteen Snipes competed in the XXXIX Comodoro Rasco. What about the Bay? Biscayne Bay at its best! The only way to put it. We had SE winds 10 to 12K on Saturday and NE on Sunday starting at 12 and building up to 18 K. What a beautiful Regatta and what a performance by the Coconut Grove Sailing Club Race Committee! Excellent courses! The satisfaction of conquering the winds made all of us the winners of this Regatta.

Our Snipe National Champion Ernesto Rodriguez repeated his 2007 performance winning the regatta for the second time but this time he had David Harrison crewing for him (I wondered if they

could understand each other but apparently, that did not matter). And they had quite a regatta with 3-2-1-1-1.



Second place, all the way from Annapolis was Eric Reinke and Kim Couranz with 1-3-4-5-3 finishes. Gonzalo Crivello and Tim King from St. Petersburg Florida were third with 5-6-2-2-2 finishes.

The Aicardi Trophy awarded to the best mid fleet competitor fulfilling special qualifications (newcomer, etc.) was won by Doug Broeker and Connie Commette (he borrowed my crew).

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2007- 2008
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Vice Commodore Charles Rahn
Rear Commodore.....Dr. Phil Kellet
Secretary Penny Aronsohn
TreasurerSkip Meyers
Fleet CaptainDr. Phil Kellet
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BBYRA Rep..... David Kurtz
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Orange Bowl Regatta..... Art Auwaerter
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Race..... Ron Rostorfer
Safety & SecurityMarc Buller
Snipe RacingGonzalo Diaz, Sr.
Strip..... Bud Price
UM Sailing Coordinator Charles Rahn
Webmaster..... Hugh Stallings
Sailing Director..... Nick Mansbach
Club Manager..... Hugh Stallings

Cover Photo Flying Scots racing
downwind at CGSC during a Regatta.
By Cherie Branning

Volume 63 Issue 9

COMMODORE'S REPORT

The next few months should be exciting. Besides the great weather, good racing and cruising, a lot is getting done around the Club. We tented the Club for termites and continue to meet with the City to discuss a management agreement. We have also discussed the details of the Club in the waterfront master plan. The City has been very receptive to our suggestions it's now just a matter of implementing the plan. Unfortunately, there are lots of unknown details (like how it will be financed.) As details are known, I will let you know.



The Waterfront Advisory Board has been very supportive of the Club and continues to be an ally in our dealings with the City. The WAB meets on the second Tuesday each month at 6:30PM. The meetings are informative and I suggest members attend the meetings.

Well that's all for this month, if you see me around the Club be sure to say "Hi" and I'll see you on the Bay.

Marc Buller, Commodore

Biscayne National Park Discovery Series

March 14, 2007 - 7:30 p.m.
Rare and Endangered Reptiles of Florida
Presented by Joe Wasilewski, Natural Selections

Florida's climate and diverse habitats make it a haven for a wide variety of snakes, lizards and turtles. With South Florida ranking near the top in the number of imported exotic reptiles, many of our unique native animals are becoming even harder to find. Wildlife biologist Joe Wasilewski shares insights from his work with American crocodiles, eastern diamondback rattlesnakes, diamondback terrapins and more.

April 11, 2007 - 7:30 p.m.
Reef Fish: Here and There, Then and Now
Presented by Todd Kellison, National Marine Fisheries Service

We've all heard old timers talking about the way things used to be, those stories about what fishing was like in the "good old days," and how much better the fishing was here or there. Is there any truth to those stories, or are they just whale tales? Join Dr. Todd Kellison, a NOAA Research Fishery Biologist, for a look at changing fish populations in Biscayne National Park and nearby areas.

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT



On January 17th, there was a meeting at the City Managers Office in City Hall regarding the Coconut Grove Master Plan.

Mr. Enrique Nunez the Chief of Urban Design for the City of Miami Planning Department invited representatives from CGSC and the US Sailing Center at the request of the Sasaki team in Boston. Mark Dawson the project manager for Sasaki asked for the conference call meeting in order to get our feed back on the latest revisions to the master plan.

Personally I was impressed by both the amount and caliber of the participants. There were at least 20 people in the conference room including City Manager Peter Hernandez and some of his staff, Commissioner Marc Sarnoff and even Mayor Diaz sat in for about a half hour.

Our Commodore was out of town with work commitments, so CGSC was represented by me, Board member Jim Bigham, past Commodore Bud Price and our council Santiago Echemendia.

Beside the four or five representatives from the US Sailing Center in the room, they were also represented by telephone by Jeff Rubin and Ding Schoonmaker. For those of you that aren't as old as I am – Mr. Schoonmaker is truly one of the best sailboat racers ever to ply the waters of Biscayne Bay. Ding first raced a Star in Miami in 1948, in 1952 he finished 2nd in the Olympic Trials, and in 1975 he was the Star World Champion.

Mr. Schoonmaker was a driving force in the establishment of the US Sailing Center, contributing considerable amounts of time and money. Naturally US Sailing was as apprehensive as CGSC about being told the Master Plan called for their relocation.

Mark Dawson and Commissioner Sarnoff explained how the plan calls for the current "Sailboat Bay", to be preserved as such and that the new Coconut Grove Sailing Center would be home to the Coconut Grove Sailing Club and the US Sailing Center. There would be provisions for the space to expand into the adjacent park during regatta season.

Commissioner Sarnoff also explained that CGSC and US Sailing was invited to give the city and the consulting team our opinions of the plan, but ultimately the city will do what they think is best. He pointed out that stake

holders in the plan that have leases into the future, (US Sailings runs through 2012), may have some leverage in trying to affect the plan, but those that do not have leases, (CGSC is a "tenant at will", since our lease expired in 2000). Mr. Dawson saw the new Sailing Center as being part of phase one of the 20 year master plan, and estimated it might be implemented in 5 years.

I felt this was a good time to reveal that although we sympathize with the US Sailing Center not wanting to be relocated, the officers, board and members of CGSC feel as though the Master Plan as represented treats us fairly and offers us equal or more space than we have today. We would also feel like we will be included as the design gets developed beyond the concept stage.

One of the most important aspects of the meeting was to hear that the "City" seems ready to embrace the merits of sailing. I really felt like all the efforts of community sailing programs, hosting regattas, having nationally recognized sailors as well as lobbying for our sport from people like Lynn Fitzpatrick, the message has finally gotten through. Sailors are good people to have around! After all how could a Master Plan for Coconut Grove not take into account that literally thousands of people participate in the sailing organizations of US Sailing Center, CRYC, BBYC, Shake-a-Leg, and CGSC. It probably doesn't hurt that you can't get much more "Green" than sailing.

Just prior to the end of the meeting City Manager Pete Hernandez said that he would like to meet with CGSC to discuss some form of memorandum of agreement that CGSC will be able to remain where we are presently located until the new Sailing Center facilities are in place. I hope that by the time you read this, that meeting will have taken place.

The best thing we can all do to help insure our future is to come down to the club and participate! Go sailing, go racing, take a non-sailor out on your boat, help with race committee or one of the kids programs, and come to the general meetings and make yourself heard.

*Charles A. Rahn,
Vice Commodore*

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Coconut Grove Sailing Club is a truly marvelous place. This weekend I watched with enormous pleasure as it fulfilled its role in promoting sailing in the Grove, Miami, Florida and the World and did a better job for less money than almost anywhere else. Let me wax lyrical about just a few some of the incidents I watched:

-Larry Whipple ran a flawless Snipe regatta while a nominally much more professional race committee, from a more prestigious club, struggled.

-'Old Man' Diaz sailed in the Snipes...70 odd years old and still sailing like a teenager.

-Another 70+ veteran, Dudley, continued to work on his boat for his 2 year trip to the Caribbean while his lovely 'other half' Becky assisted. Or was it the other way round?

-Dick Crisler had a class of 4 adults learning to sail in our 'old war horse' 35 yr old Ensign.

-Linda and Paco, new members new to sailing, took off for their first night alone on their boat. The day before Linda navigated my boat up the inside from Islamorada like a pro and helmed her at 15 knots under spinnaker.

-Sea Scout Ship 1946 (1946 because it is the year the Club was founded) planned its first international offshore trip. In April they are sailing Nell's boat from Puerto Rico to St Croix and the British Virgins, naturally without using the GPS. A few weeks ago they had a very successful weekend aboard Otro Cuba Libre, Mark and Cathy's boat and Giggling Dolphins, Jack and Suzy's boat.

-But the incident that gave me the most pleasure was listening to 7 yr old Timmy (he has helmed my boat at 13 knots under spinnaker) tell his very experienced big boat racing father Dave how he out-sailed his opposition in his Opti..."move over Dad!"

-Naturally I did not take any pleasure in watching a big power boat, they are called 'stink pots' in England and Ireland, hit the pipe and run hard aground in the middle of the mooring field because the skipper had failed to check the chart or the tides.



It is very difficult to organize a Club Rendezvous or Bimini trip without conflicting with other Club events so the best compromise I can achieve is that we will have a Rendezvous to Elliot Key on the weekend of the 19th and 20th of April. All members are welcome and if non-boat-owners wish to sail we will try and find them a berth on one of the boats. For the more adventurous we will have a long weekend in Bimini on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of May, again non-boat-owners are needed to crew. The really adventurous should continue on to the Exumas with Ray, Janice et al. There will be e-mails giving details of all the events. Keep up the excellent work; make sure the politicians learn of CGSC's contribution to the community and apologies to all the other fine sailors whom I failed to mention.

Phil Kellet, Rear Commodore

U.S. Sailing Level 1 Instructor Course

The CGSC will be hosting a US Sailing level 1 instructor course on Saturday & Sunday, March 8th & 9th and Saturday & Sunday, March 15th & 16th. This is an intensive 40 hour course taught over the two weekends mentioned above. Past Commodore Bud Price will be the trainer/instructor. If interested please visit the US Sailing website at www.ussailing.org <<http://www.ussailing.org>> to register.

Thanks

Nick Mansbach
Sailing Director

ADULT SAILING REPORT

Your Adult Training Committee has been quite busy since our last month's report.

First, our popular Ladies Sunfish Clinic has been going on for ten (10) months now with weekly sailing activities. They meet every Thursday morning for learning and sailing fun and comradery. One recent sail took us south towards Matheson Hammock on a beautiful day with very clear water. We hugged the shore on our return sail with multiple manatee and large ray sightings. We do more than just racing, and we are looking for a few more ladies to join us.

This past month included a two-day learn-to-sail class for the UM Recreational Club. Thanks to Bob Van Eck who assisted with this class. Bob has been a faithful helper with our program for many years. We are lucky to have him.

We conducted two US Sailing Keelboat classes this past month. The first was the Basic Keelboat class and the second was the US Sailing Basic Keelboat Certification testing class. Four applicants, including two club members, earned their US Sailing Certifications in some trying conditions that included excessive winds for student level sailors.

Racers.... We've got some eager adults that would like to start crewing for you. Just give me a call or contact Nick and we will put you in touch with them. Finally, if you would like to get involved and enjoy the activities of the Adult Training program and help your club out as well, please contact Nick at CGSC, extension 11.

Members... Remember that we offer discounts to all members and their families for all of our adult sailing courses, and you can charge the course to your club account.

Fair Winds and Safe Sailing,
Richard Crisler
Adult Training Committee



Academic Testing - Keelboat Certification



UM Recreational Club members prepare for their first SunFish sail.



Ladies practice point-to-point sailing.



On-water testing - Keelboat Certification



Basic Keelboat class members negotiate the tricky passage out of the club

From the Manager . .

It's been an interesting February. It all started with a crusty four legged visitor making daily appearances and sunning himself on the dinghy pier. Of course I refer to our very own "Croc on the Dock!" As of this writing he's been gone for the last few days, but we've maintained our vigilance. Whereas, it was fun for a few days and I understand crocodiles are suppose to be timid around humans, we do have the safety of all our sailing children to consider and the peace of mind of their parents who entrust their care to us. Things like this will no doubt happen in the future and again we will react accordingly, but the Manatees are a lot more fun!

The next thing was the CG Arts Festival along with the termite tenting of the building (I think we outshone Barnum & Bailey). Because of these events the club was closed for the weekend. Even though traffic to the club was prohibited, if you walked to the club you would have noticed a fairly full parking

lot. In an effort to be a part of the festival, CGSC rents our lot to a vendor coordinator. They arrive before and leave after the streets are re-opened.

Last month, I started to come down hard on folks parking on the lot that are not entitled to do so. It's not my desire to cause an unexpected hardship to anyone. But, I must enforce the club rules. I am happy to report that quite allot of Regular Members have picked up parking decals and many other non-authorized parties have been parking off the lot. I thank everyone for their efforts.

Well talk next month,
Hugh



Hugh's Q&A

Q. I'm a life member and don't have to pay dues, fees, etc. anymore. Why do I see charges for car decals and \$10.00 monthly assessments on my bill?

A. Congratulations on achieving Life Membership. As a Life member, you are exempt from yearly dues. However, just like mooring, strip, rack fees and food & beverage, even life members are required to pay for additional club fees and services as assessed by the Finance Committee and approved by the Board.

Q. About the first of the month, I came in to have dinner on a Saturday and you were out of many items. What was the problem?

A. We base our weekly purchasing on past history and current expenditures + events. Running out of regular items was a daily occurrence when I came on board 2 years ago. The cooks have been advised that this should really be the exception - and never the norm. I think they have done pretty good with this. However, and all history aside, on the Saturday in question (I read the note on a napkin in the suggestion box), food sales more than doubled. Despite 3 runs that day to local (and limited) suppliers - we simply ran out of allot of key items. I apologize for this and again hope this is very rare.

Q. We come every Tuesday for Social Night and am very disappointed when it's just cheese pizza. Why can't we do better?

A. Social Night is basically a light "Pot Luck" dinner among members. Out of over 900 members it seems a shame that it's always the same 4-5 that contribute. The pizza is a "quick fix" from the club when no one decides to contribute. Those that do contribute get reimbursed up to \$50.00 for their expense. Remember, this is not just a free meal, it's an opportunity to socialize with new members or those folks you're not familiar with. To sweeten to pot, I'll throw in TWO free drinks tickets to the member providing Tuesday Night meal!

If you have questions or comments, please drop them in the lounge suggestion box or directly email me at: manager@cgsc.org

Take care for now.

**RACE COMMITTEE
PLANNED FUTURE MONTHLY
MEETING TOPICS**

All meetings are held on Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted – topics subject to change. Come for the Social Night food offering at 7:00 pm and stay for the meeting.

Saturday, March 1, 2008

Special "Field Trip" – Watch and Listen In to an 80+ Boat Etchells Class Midwinter Championship Race on Biscayne Bay. Depart CGSC aboard Susan Walcutt's Contender 27 at 0945. (Obviously, Space is Limited)

March 4, 2008

The Complete Guide to Life on a Mako Support Boat!

April 1, 2008

PHRF Handicaps – PHRF & One Design Scoring
– IMPORTANT – no fooling!

May 6, 2008

The Complete Guide to Pursuit Racing!

Followed by Summer Vacation

Youth Sailing

Well, I am off for a few days vacation to catch up on some personal business while the weather is a bit unsettled. But one of the things I will leave you with is an idea to have "A parent's perspective" series of articles in the Channel. Marlena Coen broke the ice with a beautiful article last month and we are glad to have another from Gail & Will Pulsford this month. These don't have to be more than a few paragraphs in length. We can have a contest at the end of the school year for the "Best" article to be judged by the editor. Of course there would be prizes, a trip to France, a cruise around the world for two and of course "Big Bucks", well maybe not that extravagant, but we would figure something out.

I'll be back soon.

Nick

SPECIAL ON WLRN

A film was made at CGSC with the MDCPS students from Braddock Sr. High School. It will be aired on the 28th of April at 7:30 PM. The name of the series is "Class Act" and these are all aired on the 4th Monday of each month.

This is one of just a number of activities that take place at your club weekly. Enjoy the show.

Youth Regatta

The Second Annual Coconut Grove Rotary Club Sailing Regatta will take place on Friday, April 4th at the CGSC. It is designed for children aged 6-14, with little or no sailing experience. If you have any children that would like to enter this regatta, please contact Nick Mansbach, Sailing Director, CGSC.

COMING...

2008 ANNUAL

RENDEZVOUS

ELLIOT KEY

APRIL 19-20

COME JOIN

THE FUN!!

Coconut Grove Sailing Club Commodore Marc Buller welcomed the Snipe competitors and awarded trophies to the first 3 places and to the Aicardi trophy winner. Right after the award we celebrated "La Bomba" This now the climax of the Rasco Regatta. It's a tradition. The winners drinking a mix of wine and cider in a big cup while the sailors sing La Bomba va, La Bomba va, La Bomba va! You can't miss it! The winners did a pretty good job of drinking La Bomba but Kim Couranz drank the damn thing down!

As I already mentioned, the Race Committee did a super job under the directions of Larry Whipple and with the



Markrounding



1st place finisher



Old man finishing

Fleet picture



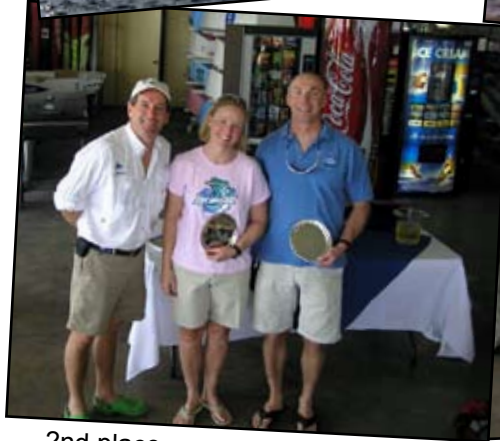
COMODORO RASCO SNIPE REGATTA

Series Standing - 5 races scored Division: Snipe (14 boats) (top)

Pos	Sail	Skipper/Crew	1	2	3	4	5	Total	
								Points	Pos
1	30439	Rodriguez, Ernesto/Harrison, David	3	2	0.75	0.75	0.75	7.25	1
2	30391	Reinke, Eric/Couranz, Kim	0.75	3	4	5	3	15.75	2
3	29963	Crivello, Gonzalo/King, Tim	5	6	2	2	2	17.00	3
4	30571	Commette, Peter/Broeker, Melanie	2	4	3	3	11/DNF	23.00	4
5	30111	Gilreath, Hal/Dixon, Clayton	4	5	6	6	4	25.00	5
6	30362	Palacios, Caro/Padron, Rogelio	13	0.75	5	4	9	31.75	6
7	29602	Broeker, Doug/Commette, Connie	7	8	9	10	5	39.00	7
8	30658	Baker, Robin/Plitt, Janet	9	7	7	11	7	41.00	8
9	30336	Diaz, Gonzalo Sr./Tansey, Lisa	10	10	10	7	11/DNF	48.00	9
10	28814	Voss, Ken/Kelchner, Georgie	6	9	14	14	6	49.00	10
11	24995	Jarauta, Rafael & Gerardo	11	13	11	8	8	51.00	11
12	30323	Gingras, Paul & Sally	12	11	8	13	10	54.00	12
13	30236	Voss, Kay/Fitzpatrick, Lynn	14/DNF	12	13	9	11/DNF	59.00	13
14	29782	Porzecanski, Gabriel/Lopez, Tiago	8	16/OCS	12	12	14/DNC	62.00	14



Old Man mark rounding



2nd place



3rd place



1st place



help of an excellent team: Juan Torres, Jeanne Buntin, Jim Waldron, Vicki Rosenbloom, Sandra Carey, Marvin Schenker, JoAnn Mathieu, Henry Bernstein, Bill Stites, Rafael Abella, Phil Kellet, Susan Walcutt, Kristin Chapin, and Dottie Rostorfer. The RC used Juan Torres' Beneteau. Thanks Juanito! Judges Vladi Stroleny and Jane Ann Pincus stood by in case of any protest. Kay Voss did the scoring and also raced! Thanks, Coconut Grove Sailing Club Race Committee!

A feature of the COMODORO RASCO SNIPE REGATTA is the LASAGNA DINNER Saturday night by my wife Carmen. Snipe Sailors and Race Committee attended. She is not only a great cook but also a marvelous host!

You have to come and enjoy the Lasagna and then go ready next day to meet the challenge of Biscayne Bay. Thank you, Carmen

Gonzalo Diaz Sr., Fleet Captain, Miami Snipe Fleet # 7

La Bomba!

Starting a lifelong journey: A young sailor takes the helm

“Dad, can we get a powerboat instead?” We stared at our 8-year-old son in horror! As two long-time sailors and past avid racers, the question was not a welcome one. WHERE did we go wrong? We introduced James to sailing on our 30-ft C&C “Sweet Lime” when he was three years old. He’s spent many weekends at CGSC or snorkeling off Elliott Key. But he often seemed to come sailing with us grudgingly, instead of willingly. Until he signed up for the CGSC Youth Beginners Sailing Course.

It didn’t happen overnight. We had tried to spark his interest in Youth Sailing whenever we watched other kids rigging their boats on the Club lawn. For almost two years, we asked: “Why don’t we sign you up for sailing lessons?” The answer was always a resounding: “No, thanks.” And it didn’t help that his weekends were often busy with soccer or basketball practice and games.

Finally, CGSC Sailing Director Nick Mansbach said something that galvanized us: “He won’t be playing basketball or soccer the rest of his life. But he could be sailing the rest of his life.” Suddenly, the stars were in alignment! Soccer season and basketball seasons ended. James decided maybe he would give dinghy sailing a try. Even though the current Beginners session was almost over, Nick said he was welcome to start any time.

From the moment he stepped into a dinghy, our nine-year-old was hooked! The young sailor quickly moved from Beginners Prams, to Beginning Opti Racers, to Green Fleet Opti Racing.

Of course, it wasn’t “plain sailing” all the time. His first race had 25-knot howling winds, and we saw the bottom of his boat more times than the top of it! But the Youth Sailing Program is where his heart is: The joys of being Captain of his own vessel; the fun and camaraderie of sailing with the other kids at the Club; the skills and encouragement he gets from his sailing instructors; his pride in his improved abilities; the thrill of attending Opti regattas with his friends on the CGSC Racing Team – all resulted in a kid who now LOVES sailing!

We’re all on board

Our son isn’t the only one having fun. As his parents, we LOVE the whole scene too! It’s great watching the kids learn and improve, hanging out with our great coaches on the chase boats, and getting to know other parents. It’s wonderful the way everyone helps each other, and we feel so much pride watching the kids representing CGSC.

To all the parents (or grandparents) out there who want to encourage their youngsters to learn to sail: Don’t despair if your child doesn’t want to get out on the water; their time will come. Just keep encouraging them – one day they may surprise you and want to sail!

Gail & Will Pulsford

Parents of 10-year old Green Fleeter James



“CGSC racers at the recent Miami Yacht Club Regatta.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Social Night

We welcome and appreciate those members who take the time and trouble to host a Tuesday Social Night. This can be something that's fun for all, but we want to make sure you're properly compensated.

- 1) If interested, please pick a date on the sign-up sheet in the bar and clearly print your name.
- 2) If possible, receipts are appreciated for bookkeeping purposes (give them to the bartender that night), but your name will suffice.
- 3) Regular / Life members will receive a \$50. credit on their house account. Social members will have a \$50, check sent to them.
- 4) Social Night should consist of a one dish item that would feed approximately 20-25 adults. We'll provide flatware, chaffers, sterno, serving utensils, napkins, plates and/or bowls at our cost, plus access to the kitchen to heat up any item.
- 5) Social Night Dinner should be ready to serve no later than 7:15 pm. Please insure all attendees get fed before heading for seconds!

6) Refrigeration space is limited, but the kitchen may be used to warm or assemble items.

7) House products, i.e.: salad dressings, salad contents, bread, butter, etc. cannot be contributed from the kitchen inventories.

8) Please restore the kitchen to the condition you found it after completion of your meal.

9) If you wish to create a theme night around your contribution, that's great! Consider appropriate music or decor. We'll assist where we can.

Automatic Bill Payment

Several months ago we have undergone a staff transition in the office and the list of members on our "Auto-Pay" system disappeared. Unfortunately, this unfairly placed many members in arrears. If you have previously been paying your monthly statement by credit card on auto pay and have noticed either late charge on your bill or no payments to CGSC on your credit card statement, please contact Linda in the office to re-establish this service. We will credit your account for any charged "late fees" during this period.

COME TO BARGUMENTS NIGHT ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7th at CGSC

Doug Hanks, CGSC member and Miami Herald writer, will host a party Friday, March 7th to launch his first book, Bargument, following a special CGSC signing event at the new Bookstore in the Grove.

What's a bargument?

It's a question that prompts the kind of argument you'd only have in a bar. Who would win in a war between Texas and California? Would you rather give up e-mail or salt? Which is more of a sport: cheerleading or bowling?

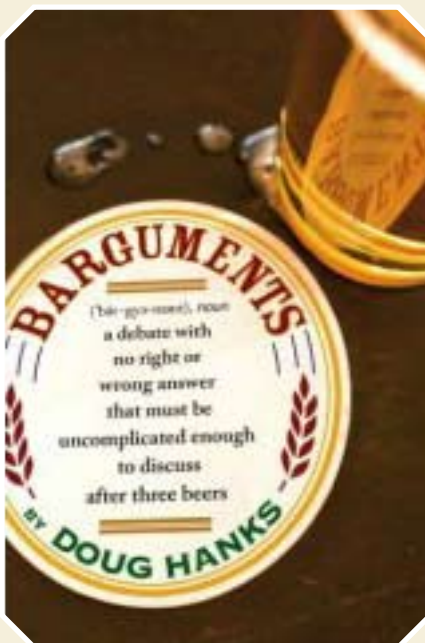
You'll find those and about 300 more in Barguments, published by Simon & Schuster's Simon Spotlight Entertainment. The New York Post called it "a groundbreaking book." And it just might help pass the time during a long downwind leg the next time you have a few talkers and a few beers aboard.

You can buy Barguments (\$9.99, Simon Spotlight Entertainment) anywhere, but Doug will be signing books from 4 to 7 that afternoon at the Bookstore in the Grove.

The great new store (on Virginia Street, across from Starbucks) will be offering free fancy coffees and special CGSC discounts during the signing: 10 percent off all books, plus an extra 5 percent off for Barguments.

The party starts at 7p.m. Look for drink specials, free bar food and customized CGSC barguments revealed throughout the night.

Questions? Email Doug at dhanks@barguments.com or Cathy Buller at cathypeak@bellsouth.net.



Cruising and Rendezvous News

Altair is leaving shortly for an extended cruise through the Southern Caribbean. With plans to head as far south as they can before Hurricane season, their ultimate goal is to circumnavigate the Caribbean before heading back to Florida next year. Friends and Club members joined Dudley Clark and Becky Butler on Wednesday, February 13 at the club for a bon voyage party. By the time they get back, we all hope the Miami Hurricanes will be well on their way to a national championship. We all wish them fair winds, calm seas and a safe voyage.

A couple of cruising and rendezvous activities are upcoming. Raymond Schnell is planning a trip to the Exumas this spring. Tentative departure date is May 1. If interested in this trip please contact me for upcoming meeting dates and itinerary. jbpmmom@aol.com Our next planning meeting is at the club on Friday, March 14th at 7:00p.m. I hope you can join us.

Mark your calendar for this year's Annual Rendezvous. Rear Commodore Dr. Phil Kellet has scheduled this event for April 19th and 20th at

Elliot Key. Clean the barnacles of your propeller and set your compass for 180 degrees once you clear the channel.

The word is out that CGSC is a great stopping place for winter cruisers. Please make our guests feel welcome at the club.

Regards,
Janice Pruet

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Racing Schedule Late March - April 2008

<u>Sat., March 15</u>	<u>Coral Cup Regatta (Women) - CGSC</u>
Fri – Sat, March 21-22	Southeast Dinghy Championships, KBYC
<u>Saturday, March 29</u>	<u>BBYRA PHRF#4 – CGSC</u>
Sunday, March 30	BBYRA OD#4 – CRYC
<u>Fri – Sat, April 4-6</u>	<u>Don Q Rum Snipe Regatta – CGSC</u>
Sat – Sun, April 5-6	Race to Bimini – KBYC
<u>Sat – Sun, April 12-13</u>	<u>Lightning District Champs – CGSC</u>
Saturday, April 12	Miami – Key Largo Race
Saturday, April 26	Sunburn Regatta – PHRF#5 – BBYC
Sunday, April 27	Sunburn Regatta – OD#5 - BBYC

CGSC Race Committee
Tuesday, March 4th Meeting

“Life on a Mako Support Boat”

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Seamanship

The Case for Gybe Preventers

Inadvertent gybes are a leading cause of injury and death on sailboats. A recent article at <http://www.sail-world.com/Cruising> quoted 18 fatal head or neck injuries from accidental gybes in offshore boats, many in the racing fraternity, one occurred in the 1998 Key West race. Surprisingly a significant number of injuries were caused by the main sheet and not the boom including the death of a pediatrician in the 1989 Marion Bermuda race.

Inadvertent gybes are a fact of life on sailing boats especially with inexperienced helmsmen or in racing boats sailing hard. They result in dismastings, knock-downs and injuries to crew, which are sometimes fatal. Over 50% of man-overboard incidents are caused by inadvertent gybes!

There are several ways to help mitigate the potential damage or crew injury and in cruising boats I think that the use of a gybe preventer is a crucial safety device. Gybe preventers fall into two main categories, a line attached to the boom to prevent the boom coming across or some type of mechanical brake on the boom that allows the boom to come across in a controlled fashion.

The advantage of using a line as a gybe preventer is that it can usually be rigged quickly with 30 or 40 ft of strong line such as a jib sheet or even mooring lines. The trick is to do it in a way that it does not become a serious liability. A 'quick and dirty' way to do it is to tie the boom down to the toe rail or unclip the bottom of the vang tackle and clip it to the toe rail. However, both of these methods have a serious flaw...If you gybe and the main is 'taken aback' you will get the result similar to the one shown in the picture.



If this boat had had its vang attached to the rail the main would be firmly attached to the top rail and the boat would be held down in the water until someone climbed to the high side and released a tackle under several hundred pounds of pressure! In the picture the preventer has been released and providing a large wave does not swamp the boat the boat will hopefully right herself. The picture shows a relatively uncomplicated

picture; the last and only time I did this we were in 35 knots and 10 ft seas between Bimini and Miami. We had used a line to tie the boom to the rail so we used a knife to relieve the boom however; the skipper did cast aspersions on my parentage due to my lax helmsmanship!

A better way to rig the preventer is to run a line from the end of the boom outside the lines to a block near the bow and then back on the deck to a cockpit winch so that the preventer can be released from the cockpit. This way the line can be released from the winch. In bad conditions it is preferable to rig a preventer on both sides so they can be used for a port or a starboard gybe without a crew member going on deck

A more elegant way for cruisers to handle the gybe problem is to use something like the "Dutchman Boom Brake" which costs about \$300 and once set can safely control the boom through deliberate and inadvertent gybes with little risk to crew or boat.



It works by using a line that runs from each toe rail through a friction clutch attached to the boom and when correctly set the line slowly feeds through the clutch and allows the boom to cross in a slow, controlled and safe manner.

I have a boom brake on my tri because I have a fragile rig and the boat is often helmed by inexperienced people. Another advantage on my boat is that with inexperienced crew I can ignore the main, the Dutchman handles it, while I gybe the spinnaker.

If any boat owner needs help in rigging a gybe preventer on their boat I will be happy to assist.

Phil Kellet

CLASSIFIEDS

Month 2

2003 Laser Radial, Excellent condition, Bought October 2003, barely sailed for the past 2 years. Hull & deck covers and blade bag. Seitech dolly, Sail # 177021, asking price \$3000. Contact pipmilne@bellsouth.net. Tel 305 567 3104 or 786 546 3920.

Corfu Island Property For Sale: Sail the Ionian Sea! Tel: Capt. Mark G. Mueller-Manda (305) 858-3635.

Month 3PUFFIN, C&C 30 for sale, Yanmar Diesel, well maintained with many improvements over the last 7 years of ownership. Documented 1976 boat. \$15,000. Call Ray at 305-205-7268

Month 3

8 HP Yamaha 2 stroke outboard, tank and hose. Old but never failed with Avon 9 Foot Dinghy (Old). Both for \$175. Henry Mustin 561 702 6103 or 305 604 8484.

2005 Laser Radial Rig with Sail and sail bag, Blades and Aquata blade bag, Bottom boat cover and Dolly. Asking \$3,400. Please contact Wendy Gans @ (305)-582-2834 or wgans5401@hotmail.com

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Please inquire at the club for details
or call the office at 305-444-4571

WEEKLY HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY Club Closed - Office is open 9-5.
TUESDAY Lounge opens at 4 pm
WEDNESDAY Lounge opens for cocktails only,
from noon - 2 pm then again at 4
pm. Dinner menu available at 5 pm.
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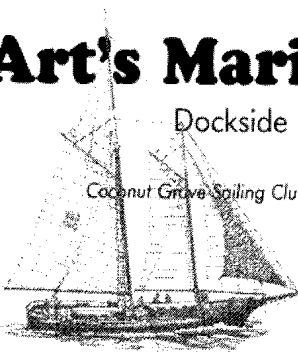
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