

# the channel



January 2012

## ITALIANS WIN AUDI MELGES 20 GOLD CUP

By Joy Dunigan

It was a dramatic end to the 2011 Audi Melges 20 Gold Cup Championship, hosted by Coconut Grove Sailing Club with Alessandro Rombelli's STIG, tactician and Olympic Gold Medalist Jonathan McKee and crew member Giorgio Tortarolo coming from behind to win the event. It came down to the last leg, of the last race when Rombelli raced across the finish line two positions ahead of Luca Lalli on B-Linsailing.com. "We never imagined on the way out to the race course today that we would win. With Lorenzo Bressani and Federico Michetti onboard with Luca, we knew that would be a very tough combination to beat," said Rombelli.

"There are a couple of great stories here at this event," continued McKee. "Alessandro had never sailed until only four years ago. His success today is a direct reflection on how far he has come as a sailor. The other story can be told just by looking at this fleet of 40 boats. This is amazing and certainly a tell-tale sign that this class is really a terrific fleet to be a part of and obviously, it's a great boat. Very competitive." This was the largest fleet in the relatively short history of the Class.



Russell Lucas' Shimmer claimed a well-deserved third overall, while Paul Reilly's Red Sky had another successful day

*(continued on 4)*



## 2011-2012 Flag Officers

Commodore.....Ron Rostorfer  
 Vice Commodore.....Doug Hanks  
 Rear Commodore.....Sean Connett  
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 Treasurer.....Tony Battaglia  
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## COMMODORE'S REPORT

**H**appy New Year!! There are important things on our bow that will be over by the time you receive this issue of the Channel, but are very much worth noting. At present, these include the following, in chronological order:



Safety Clinic. There was a tragic drowning in Annapolis, MD back in June involving a 14-year old girl during a supervised Club 420 practice at one of the clubs up there. The issue was her trapeze harness which became caught on something, holding her underwater after a capsize. Noted sailing author John Rousmaniere gave a detailed report on the accident at the USSailing Annual Meeting in October. As a result, CGSC is hosting a Safety Clinic for our two OB trapeze classes, coaches and parents, as well as Coral Reef YC's Club 420 teams, parents and coaches. Well known Coach Steve Keen will be the presenter – on the Lawn at CGSC December 26<sup>th</sup> at 1630.

CGSC's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Open Orange Bowl Regatta. Key changes have been made regarding this very long-standing regatta. These are resulting in a doubling of the number of competing boats compared to the recent past. This event has struggled to remain part of the over-all Orange Bowl Event here in Miami, but now, the present and the future are bright. We'll have International 420's and 29ers with no age restriction, and Lasers ages 19 and over. Racing days are Tuesday, December 27 – Friday, December 30.

New Year's Eve Party. As many know, CGSC revived our traditional New Year's Eve Party and upscaled the evening with a great band and menu this year. Many thanks to VC Doug Hanks and Entertainment Committee Chair Adrienne Peters for all their planning efforts and to GM Pat Tully, Chef Richie and Sous-chef Luis for carrying things out. At this writing, we're looking forward to a great evening at the Club.

Center Dock Construction. Replacement of CGSC's aged Center Dock is scheduled to start Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The project should be completed by month-end. This is the second largest capital project in our Club's history. Owners of boats on moorings should plan to minimize docking requirements during this period. Our other two docks are available (subject to vessel draft) for brief gear loading/unloading and deck washing. Pump out facilities are available at Dinner Key Marina. Patience and cooperation will be very much appreciated. Keep an eye out for the announcement of a Center Dock Dedication Ceremony!

Otherwise, your Club continues to be in excellent shape. The building and grounds look great following Work Weekend back in November, our excellent financial performance continues, and we have a truly great group of experienced, knowledgeable and accommodating employees.

Our best to you in 2012!

*Ron Rostorfer, Commodore*

## VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Once again, your Sailing Club needs your help as we try to expand our fleet and membership. For President's Day weekend, we are repeating our effort from last year: one CGSC booth at the Strictly Sail portion of the Miami Boat Show and one CGSC booth at the Coconut Grove Arts Festival.

This was a great success last year, and we saw some new boats, new sailing students and new members from the effort. Our strategy is to focus on our Mooring Field at Strictly Sail, while promoting our instructional programs (youth and adult) at the Arts Festival.

One lesson we learned from last year is that mooring renters make the best booth attendants at Strictly Sail

(Feb 16-20), since the "sale" is easier when you've already bought the product. So we're going to try and divide our volunteers this year to have more mooring renters at Strictly Sail, and members with boats on the Strip and without boats at the CGSC to work the Arts Festival.

Are you able to volunteer? The shifts are basically half a day, so it's a little bit of work for what's become the most important weekend of the year for our marketing efforts. If you can help, send me an email at [ensignmiami@gmail.com](mailto:ensignmiami@gmail.com).



*Doug Hanks, Vice Commodore*  
[ensignmiami@gmail.com](mailto:ensignmiami@gmail.com)

## REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

### Happy New Year!!

Ahoy CGSC Sailors! 2011 is in the history books and if you didn't get down to the club in December you missed a lot of excitement. Besides our usually scheduled adult classes and our youth sailing programs, the CGSC hosted the Melges 20 Gold Cup Regatta which in the past three years has grown from a 12 boat fleet to more than 40 boats this year. We are very proud for our Race Committee Team and our Regatta Committee for the hard work that went into this successful event. In case some of you don't know, the CGSC has gained an exceptional reputation throughout the international racing community for the regattas we host and we are reminded once again that the CGSC is where sailors belong.

The CGSC 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Open Orange Bowl Regatta was a great event. A long standing tradition, it attracts sailors from all over the country and we were excited to have our friends come back and compete on Biscayne Bay. Hopefully, many of you were able to join us for the Annual Christmas Boat Parade. If not, you still have time to join us at the Fort Lauderdale rendezvous. This will be a rendezvous that everyone can join by boat or car, so look for more details on the CGSC website.

Finally, I am actively looking for help in arranging our Annual Rendezvous which is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. For those of you who aren't familiar with the Annual Rendezvous, let me start by telling you that if you have a boat that will let you get down to Elliott Key for the weekend, and you enjoy the camaraderie of fellow sailors, this event is a must do! And of course, an

Annual Rendezvous without a theme is just another party, so this year it's time to tune your ukulele, mow your grass skirt and get ready for the CGSC's 2012 HOLOKAI RENDEZVOUS. Yep, it will be a Polynesian Extravaganza! As the details are figured out, more will be revealed to all of you, so stay tuned. Aloha!



*Sean Connett, Rear Commodore*

### Martha & Peter Branning Update

As many of you know Peter and Martha left the CGSC last year in their Hanse 400e for an extended cruise to the Caribbean. About a month ago Martha had a horrific accident in Grenada, breaking her back. She was airlifted to Pittsburgh, PA. where she underwent several surgeries. She is now in rehab and we are pleased to say she is recovering amazingly well.

If you want to read their Journal of the events, log on to <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/marthaboston>. There you can click on their Journal and read all of the information from day one to now. Thank you for your prayers and love toward them. Their current address at the Residence Inn is on one of the entries if you would like to send a card.

to finish fourth. Michael Kiss on Bacio and his double-bullet performance on the last day enabled him to move from seventh overnight to finish fifth overall. All three are CGSC Members.

All in all, it was a great four days of racing on Biscayne Bay. The first day's races took place in a typically shifty NW light to moderate breeze. After that, the wind moved right to pretty much easterly for the next two days, then backing to the NE and coming on fairly hard for the finale.

MORE THANKS THAN ONE CAN EXPRESS Again, Coconut Grove Sailing Club's organization and event management was first class. Our Shore-side Regatta Committee Co-Chairs, Richard and Maryann Etkin again deserve special praise for their great efforts. Out on the water, it was Mike and Karen Castleberry's Tartan 372 Imagine serving as Signal Boat. This was CGSC's eighth Audi Melges 20 regatta, and Imagine has been Signal Boat for each event.

Our guest PRO was Bruce Golison from California. Dottie Rostorfer was Timer, Jo Ann Mathieu was Recorder and Steve Washburn was Scorer. Flag Signalers were Veronic Aghayan and Michelle Wood. Up to windward was Race Committee Chair Susan Walcutt's Contender, with Bruce Bingman, Larry Whipple and Dorian Goldberg on board. Gate Boat Skippers were Dennis Jansma and Niall O'Brien, with Taran Teague, Dennis Dunkelberger and George Bradley aboard. The Pin Boat was David Kurtz's Robalo. David wasn't aboard, but the crew consisted of Commodore Ron Rostorfer, Sicotte Hamilton, Marybeth Pearson, Debi Jansma and Esther DiLeo. Freddie Sambolin skippered the Judges boat.

Speaking of Judges, they played an important role in the success of this regatta. Thanks to International Judge Harry Keith and wife Malinda who was the Protest Committee Secretary, Senior Judges Rick Mallinson and Marty Ottenheimer, and Certified Judges Jane Anne Pincus and Harriet Ottenheimer.



## Quote of the Day

“ The only reason I bought one of these boats is so I could come down here and race! ”

Tate Russack  
Audi Melges 20 No. 200, Diesel



## TOP TEN RESULTS (FINAL -

After 10 races, one discard - pending protests)

1. Alessandro Rombelli, STIG; 4-[9]-6-1-7-7-1-2-4-8 = 40
2. Luca Lalli, B-Lin Sailing.com; 2-1-[41/DSQ]-2-4-6-2-3-11-10 = 41
3. Russell Lucas, Shimmer; [12]-2-5-5-3-1-5-11-18-5 = 45
4. Paul Reilly, Red Sky; [22]-7-4-7-9-3-13-4-6-4 = 57
5. Michael Kiss, Bacio; 17-[18]-3-4-13-2-14-9-1-1 = 64
6. Travis Weisleder, Layline|Gill Race Team; 3-5-1-3-[23]-4-20-6-16-7 = 64
7. Francesco Farnetti, Reggini Sailing Team; 1-23-17-6-1-[25]-6-1-18-15/ RDG = 88
8. Rob Wilber, Cinghaile; 9-10-19-8-8-22-3-[28]-7-6 = 92
9. Mark Plaxton, INTAC; [21]-3-8-11-12-13-7-13-9-17 = 93
10. Renato Vallivero, Turnover; [18]-11-16-16-5-8-4-10-12-16 = 98

## Adult Sailing

**H**appy New Year to All from your Adult Training Committee! 2011 was a great year of growth both in numbers of students as well as programs offered. 2012 will follow with continued growth in class sizes as well as continued updating of our equipment for instructional and member use programs. We are now capable of conducting three different classes simultaneously with the addition of a second "portable" classroom in 2011. One of our big goals for 2012 is to add additional "take charge" type instructors for our Sunfish and Keelboat classes. We encourage any member with interest in becoming a certified instructor to contact Nick Mansbach at extension 11 or Richard at the email or phone below.

November and December, typically slower months for our programs, continued to experience good activity both in our classes as well as individual and group coaching and check-out and certification procedures for members to take advantage of our Member-User program. Though very positive, our report for January is brief so we may call your attention to a special article this month about the higher level classes we now offer for US Sailing Certification for Cruising and Bareboat, which, for members, can include approval for usage of our Beneteau 26.5 cruising boat for day-cruising or even for over-night use. This article,

prepared by Bruce Penrod, our US Sailing Certified Instructor for Cruising and Bareboat, should answer many of the frequently asked questions about this program. These two added classes make Coconut Grove Sailing Club a "one-stop-shop" for sailing instruction, from Dinghy to Bareboat, in safe, logical steps. Special thanks to Bruce's dedication to this program which now makes CGSC a complete facility for sail training and US Sailing Certifications.

Sail Often.....Sail Safely....Enjoy and Protect Our Beautiful Bay....

Richard Crisler, Adult Training Chairman  
305-342-4775 cell  
[crisler@mindspring.com](mailto:crisler@mindspring.com)

January 2012 Training/Events Calendar for Sunfish and Keelboats:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>
5, 12, 19, 26	Sunfish Clinic (10AM-1PM)
7 – 8	Sunfish Learn-to-Sail (9AM-4:30PM)
14 – 15	Basic Keelboat (9AM-4:30PM)
21 – 22	Basic Keelboat (9AM-4:30PM)
29	Small-Boat Sandbar Rendezvous (9AM-3PM)



## CGSC Offers US Sailing Basic Cruising Class

I have been asked many times, "What do we do in the Basic Cruising Class." Below is a brief summary of our 3 days of learning.

We begin, usually at the dock, in the boat, a 36 foot modern cruising, sloop rigged, wheel steered, auxiliary powered sailboat. All systems are explained and examined, including, through-hulls, bilge pumps, engine details, safety equipment, electrical systems, and others. Next we head above and identify all standing and running rigging, sails, controls, and name all parts of the boat. Usually after that we motor out for some steering under power practice, where the glide zone is noted and backing up under power is covered. We then return to either the dock or the mooring and with a student at the helm, coordinate crew responsibilities and complete the maneuver. If we are at the dock, a discussion about securing the boat is conducted and completed. After lunch we head out on the bay to sail, raising the sails as soon as possible, and then reviewing the sailing part of the Basic Keelboat Course, points of sail, sail trim, maneuvers, heaving to, and crew overboard drills. A return to the mooring, securing the



boat, and derigging finish up the day. The second day is spent reviewing everything from day one, especially doing a safety check and check out before departure. We usually pick a destination and chart our course, using basic chart plotting techniques. Everyone gets a turn at the helm and shares in crew responsibilities. We either dock or anchor for lunch. Anchoring practice is detailed and discussed. Often we dive on the boat to inspect the keel, prop, shaft, strut, and through-hulls. A sail back to the club completes the day and again returning to the dock or mooring, securing the boat for the night, and derigging the boat completes the full day.

The third day, which sometimes is the day after or other times is scheduled later, is for review and testing. Everything is reviewed and we head out to test all practical sailing skills, anchoring, docking, and returning to the mooring. A discussion and review of the written test is usually covered over lunch at the club and the written test is administered. If successful, the students are issued a sticker for the log book and they are ready to move on to the

Bareboat Cruising Class, a four day, live-a-board experience that continues to offer exciting learning experiences.

Bruce Penrod

### From The Manager...

Happy New Year to all!

The Sailing Club is still ringing from our New Year's Eve Bash with music greats "IKO IKO". Chef Richie and our staff did a wonderful job bringing 2011 to a close with great food and beverage for all.

Be sure to stop by the Groves Nest Tuesday through Friday from 5:00pm to 7:00pm and you can enjoy 2 for 1 Well Vodka, Gin, Rum and Bourbon as well as 2 for 1 Fetzer Cabernet Sauvignon or Chardonnay and 20oz Draft Beer for the price of a 14oz.

We also have a new Double Reef Menu in the bar from 2:00pm to 5:00pm on Thursday and Friday afternoons, instead of closing down the kitchen for night preparation.

Weekly Theme Nights continue to be popular and Live Music Fridays are still a club favorite. The Bands booked for January are "Solar Dogs" on the 6<sup>th</sup>, "Funky Blue Tones" on the 13<sup>th</sup>, "Transition Blues Band" on the 20<sup>th</sup> and "Hot Mess Band" on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Enjoy the Club...Pat.



## RACE NOTICE

### Upcoming CGSC Regattas

December 26-30  
Open Orange Bowl Regatta

January 7-8, 2012  
Miami Winter Moth Regatta

January 13-15, 2012  
470s North Americans

January 23-27, 2012  
Olympic Classes Regattas

SEE NOTICES OF RACE AND  
REGISTRATION FORMS ON RACE  
BULLETIN BOARD DOWNSTAIRS  
OR AT [WWW.CGSC.ORG](http://WWW.CGSC.ORG)  
FOR BBYRA 2011 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS  
VISIT THEIR WEBSITE [WWW.BBYRA.NET](http://WWW.BBYRA.NET)



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### Schedule for Sunfish, Keelboat and Cruising

**January:**

5, 12, 19, 16 Sunfish Thursday Clinics 10AM-1PM  
7-8 Sunfish Learn-to-Sail 9AM-4:30PM  
14-15 Basic Keelboat 9AM-4:30PM  
21-22 Basic Keelboat 9AM-4:30PM  
29 Small-Boat Sandbar Rendezvous  
9AM-3PM

**February:**

2, 9, 16, 23 Sunfish Thursday Clinics 10AM -1PM  
4-5 Sunfish Learn-to-Sail 9AM-4:30PM  
11-12 Basic Keelboat 9AM-4:30PM  
18-19 Basic Keelboat 9AM-4:30PM  
26 Small-Boat Sandbar Rendezvous  
9AM-3PM

**March:**

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sunfish Thursday Clinics 10AM-1PM  
3-4 Sunfish Learn-to-Sail 9AM-4:30PM  
10-11 Basic Keelboat 9AM-4:30PM  
17-18 Level 1-Instructor Training Days 1&2  
24-25 Level 1-Instructor Training Days 3&4

### Schedule for Basic and Bareboat Cruising Classes

**January:**

9 to 12 Bareboat Cruising, Upper Keys  
21 & 22 Basic Cruising, plus 1 day for review/testing

**February:**

11 & 12 Basic Cruising, plus 1 day for review/testing  
24 to 27 Bareboat Cruising, Biscayne Bay & beyond

**March:**

10 & 11 Basic Cruising, plus 1 day for review/testing  
16 to 19 Bareboat Cruising, Middle Keys

**April:**

7 & 8 Basic Cruising, plus 1 day for review/testing  
14 to 17 Bareboat Cruising, Bahamas or Middle Keys

**May:**

5 & 6 Basic Cruising, plus 1 day for review/testing  
12 & 13 Basic Cruising, plus 1 day for review/testing

This schedule may be changed based on conditions.  
For more information contact Captain Bruce Penrod 814 341  
0094 or bapenrod29@msn.com.