



the

coconut grove sailing club
serving the community since 1945

Channel

JUNE 2012 ISSUE

2012 Rendezvous



Photos by Chiara Manton
& JoAnn Mathieu



2011-2012 Flag Officers

Commodore.....Ron Rostorfer
 Vice Commodore.....Doug Hanks
 Rear Commodore.....Sean Connett
 Secretary.....Bob Olmedo
 Treasurer.....Ron Canizares
 Fleet Captain.....Susan Walcutt
 Fleet Chaplain.....Bishop C. Schofield
 Fleet Surgeon.....Henry Bernstein

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sigrid Beckmann (13) Don Kesler (14)
 Henry Bernstein (12) Don Maher (12)
 Cathy Buller (13) Javier Prado (13)
 Brian Donahue (14) Alyn Pruett (PC)
 Jim Fawcett (12) Paul van Puffelen (14)

COMMITTEES

Community Service.....Alyn Pruett, PC
 Cruising & Rendezvous... Christian Vargas
 Entertainment.....Adrienne Peters
 Marketing.....Nancy Cooper
 Membership.....Phil Adams
 Moorings.....Bill Beavers, PC
 Property.....Doug Hanks
 Race.....Susan Walcutt
 Seamanship.....Marc Buller, PC
 Shoreside Regatta.....Richard &
 Maryann Etkin
 Speakers.....Edward Almeyda
 Web.....Robert Olmedo

CHAIRS

Charley Branning PC & Cherie ----Channel
 Renny Young -----Library
 Bud Price PC -----Strip

INSTRUCTIONAL

Richard Crisler -----Adult Sailing
 Paul van Puffelen -----Junior Sailing
 Antonio Bejarano and Laura Holz ---Junior
 Racing

ADMINISTRATIVE

Ron Rostorfer -----Executive
 Ron Canizares -----Finance
 Ron Canizares -----Strategic Development
 Ron Canizares -----Lease Administration
 Larry Whipple PC-----Nominating
 David Kurtz PC-----Bylaws
 Bud Price PC-----Protocol

REPRESENTATIVES

BBYRA -----Susan Walcutt
 Chamber of Commerce ----Brian Donahue
 Pier Seven-----Bill Braddon

FLEET REPRESENTATIVES

PHRF -----Bill Beavers, PC
 Ensign -----Doug Hanks
 Flying Scot -----Larry Whipple
 Snipe -----Gonzalo Diaz, Sr.

2990 South Bayshore Drive
 Coconut Grove, FL 33133
 Tel. 305-444-4571 Fax 305-444-8958
 www.cgsc.org

Volume 67 Issue 12

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Wow! Where did the year go? It's hard to believe this is my last Commodore's Column for the Channel.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Club as Commodore this year. I deeply appreciate the support of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, as well as many, many of our Members and our excellent Staff. Thank you, all.

The Lease. Signing of the new 15-year Lease with the City was key to what has been accomplished this year, along with the excellent financial condition of the Club that was in

place then and continues now. As I wrote in the September issue of the Channel, a new era had begun after over 11 years of forced caretaker management due to our month-to-month status on the property. That after having been on this property continuously since 1946. It was an incredible and anxiety-driven epoch in the history of this Club. Hats off to my 11 predecessors as Commodores who endured this period and brought it to an end, especially our immediate Past Commodore, Alyn Pruett.

Capital Projects. This, then, was the time to move forward on projects that would have been very difficult to justify without the Lease – notably replacement of the Center Dock and meeting or planning for other capital projects required by the Lease.

Center Dock. Our Membership overwhelmingly approved the Center Dock Replacement project at a Special Membership Meeting on September 22nd. Permits were secured and construction started January 2nd. Our Dock Commissioning celebration occurred on January 28th. This was the second largest capital project in our Club's history and the first major project in 30 years. The new Center Dock has been well-received by the Membership. We now have marine grade 30-amp outlet electrical service to the Dock for the first time in history, as well as Micro-mesh decking which is expected to withstand future hurricane storm surge. Special thanks to our outstanding contractors on the project, and to our outstanding late Treasurer, Tony Battaglia, for his invaluable assistance.

Fence Project. At this writing, the fence project is nearing completion after lengthy delays in the permitting process. The fence and associated new hedge will substantially enhance the appearance of our property from both Bayshore Drive and the entrance parking circle. Hence, it will improve our already very good community relations. Again, our carefully selected contractors have been excellent.

Mooring Field Project. We are also underway on the "800 pound gorilla in the room" – the estimated \$500,000 conversion of our Mooring Field to screw-down moorings by the summer of 2016. Planned completion is actually in the third quarter of 2015. That's because it will be easiest to actually do the construction in the summer months, and we won't have enough of those in 2016 prior to the June 30 deadline. As you might expect, it will only take a couple of months to do the construction, but a couple of years to secure the permits. What's wrong with this picture?

FY 2012 Performance. The overall performance of our Club is a somewhat miraculous mix of several different areas of Club activity. That said, we've had record numbers recorded this year in virtually all of our major activity areas. Leading everything is our Membership – around 900 at this writing, which is up from about 375 two years ago. That's astounding, and due largely to our new dues and fees structure implemented in 2010!

Consequently, our net from Dues and FO&M fees are at record levels. Our boats on moorings are well above both plan and recent year's experience. Our Bar/Restaurant, Instructional and Regatta revenues are at record levels. Treasurer Ron Canizares reports that after ten months, our Y-T-D operating profit is over \$88,000, which already exceeds the FY'12 Plan with two months yet to go.

Installation Ceremony & Dinner Dance. Our 2012 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 1st at the Club. This may have already occurred by the time you receive this issue. However, the Annual Installation Ceremony and Banquet are set for Saturday, June 9th. If you haven't already made your reservations, please



contact Lauren Simpson in the Office very promptly. Let's celebrate!

After that, I'll be gone to again sail the Newport-Bermuda Race and skipper the return passage of the boat to Rhode Island with a full CGSC crew! In the meantime, please support

Commodore-designate Doug Hanks as he continues to move the Club forward. There is much left to be done. The Coconut Grove Sailing Club is a very special place. See you at the Club and on the Bay!

Ron Rostorfer, Commodore

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

As our budget year at the CGSC comes to a close, I am also wrapping up my year as Vice Commodore. I have enjoyed the job, and I hope you have enjoyed the year. Starting in July, we will have a new VC who will be directly responsible for keeping the property in good shape and supervising operations. Here are three things you can do make the VC's job easier:
1. Think twice before using that stern line. The VC hears it when our dock is full, believe me. If more of us would hang off the dock from our bows, we could almost triple the space on days with just a little breeze.
2. Don't linger on the dock. Members should return their boats to the moorings before leaving to do something ashore. Eating at the Grove's Nest while your boat is at the dock shows poor form.

- 3. Have a current parking sticker.
- 4. Speak up. The more members point out places where we can do better, the more likely we will address the problems.
- 5. Volunteer. You knew this was coming.
- 6. Enjoy the Grove's Nest. Our restaurant and bar never has to trouble a VC as long as sales are hopping. Do your part... often!



Thanks for a year with very few hassles and lots of fun at the CGSC. Looking forward to seeing you at the Club.

Doug Hanks, Vice Commodore

ensignmiami@gmail.com

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

The end of my year as Rear Commodore of the Coconut Grove Sailing Club has gone by faster than an International Moth, as it stands on its foils and bolts across Biscayne Bay. (If you missed the Moths visit this year I suggest you Google "International Moth Class".) But as I look back on these past twelve months, I can't help but notice what tremendous successes our sailing programs have accomplished. Successes that have been realized because of the amazing sailing community at the CGSC that dedicates itself to the sport of sailing.

All of our programs and committees rely on volunteers and boy do we have volunteers. Throughout the year the calls go out for "all hands on deck" and the crews turn out ready to take on the task at hand. Boat maintenance? Volunteers / Regatta hosts? Volunteers / Race Committee? Volunteers / Hurricane Squadron? Volunteers / Anything? Volunteers. To all of you who answered the call for "Help" – Thank you. None of our programs or events would have worked without you.

Our coaching staff and the professionalism they bring to the CGSC has made remarkable strides in providing every student,

both young and old an exceptional training opportunity. Their dedication to creating a fun and safe learning environment has been instrumental in making the CGSC Learn to Sail Programs some of the most respected and attended programs in South Florida. I don't say that because I simply feel that way. People who have come to CGSC from out of state or from other countries, just to learn to sail have shared those very same thoughts with me. We can all be proud of the team we have that helps keep us out on the water, doing what we love to do.

I will miss being the voice for the CGSC Sailing Community but I am certain that the person who follows me will be just as excited and dedicated in ensuring that we continue to grow and improve every aspect of our sailing programs.

Fair Winds –

Sean Connett, Rear Commodore

sean.connett@cgcs.org



Manager's Message June 2012

As we switch gears to our summer season, you can rest assured that the CGSC workforce is poised to tackle the many challenges that Mother Nature serves-up this time of year. We will be monitoring weather patterns continuously and will notify club members via email blast should something substantial develop.

We still are experiencing a steady stream of new members joining the club daily. As a result, every department is busier than ever. Wednesday's \$11.95 Pasta Creation Station has been sensational right from the start. Chef Richie and the culinary staff will continue preparing your favorite pasta

dished right before your eyes, from 5pm-9pm, with Happy Hour pricing from 5pm-7pm. Be sure to stop in and see what the buzz is all about.

The popularity of Live Music Fridays has reached an all-time high, thanks to our new menu, drink specials and the best Bands in the Grove.

The green parking stickers aren't valid anymore, so if you haven't had a chance to stop by the office to pick up your new red parking sticker, the office will be open 7 days a week for issuance.

Enjoy the club!

The HOLOKAI Was a Hit!

In the weeks leading up to this year's CGSC 2012 Annual Rendezvous, the weather wasn't looking as though it was going to cooperate. With rainy weekend after rainy weekend, it seemed as though the HOLOKAI would be a damp and stormy event. Such was not the case however.

On the first day of the HOLOKAI, May 4th, a fleet of CGSC boats headed south with moderate breezes out of the northeast, giving us all a nice reach down the bay. By sunset, there were about nine or ten boats anchored off Elliott Key.

Rafted up together were Fiji and Effortless providing the ground tackle, joined first by Zephyrus. The crews from other surrounding boats began to snuggle into Fiji's cockpit and as the Bean Soup was ready to dish out, Leaping Groundhog sailed into the anchorage with Bruce Penrod on the bow, wearing a grass skirt and playing his Ukulele. It couldn't have been a more perfect entrance. By the time the Friday night raft up had hit its stride, there were five boats together, bean soup was being dished out, and Holokai Hooch rum drinks were being made.

With more and more boats arriving and the bean soup almost gone, the boats all found their own spots for the night. Some boats may have gotten more rest than others that night but everyone seemed to be getting ready for big times on Elliott Key the next day.

Saturday morning was greeted by sunlight and a light breeze from the east. The anchorage had more boats and it was time to move the HOLOKAI ashore.

Tents were raised, arts and crafts tables were set up and chairs were arranged. When it appeared that our camp site was set up and we ready to begin the festivities, we were faced with our first catastrophe. The one and only tap we had for the beer keg decided to change careers and become a geyser. With beer spraying straight up in the air with no control, the tap was retired and calls to shore were made in earnest. Of course, the HOLOKAI crew went to Plan "B". More HOLOKAI HOOCH rum drinks. We are a crafty bunch!

The day proceeded with lunch and in the afternoon it was time for games of skill and ability. The first event was the Treasure Hunt which had teams looking for clues and marching across Elliott Key. They were all led back to the HOLOKAI Beach where treasure was found. Enough treasure

for everyone to share in. It must have been left over treasure from last year's "Swashbucklers Rendezvous". Maybe we will find more loot next year too.

Polynesian Canoe Races with three or four paddlers on top of our sea kayaks and with tiny handmade paddles showed off the Hawaii Five-O style we had hoped to invoke. There may have been some underhanded moves and some excessive "scooching" happening on the race course but there were no protests and a lot of winners.

And of course, what Rendezvous is complete without a coconut sailboat race. Pitting gut instincts with Engineering know how, the boats hit the starting line and it was a photo finish at the end.

With appetites growing, the delivery of new beer tap and HOLOKAI HOOCH gone, our guest of honor, the LUAU PIG arrived on schedule, and it was time to eat. The carving was

fast and furious, and the feast was enjoyed. Live music drifted through the tents and hula hoops spun around and around, while everyone anticipated the rise of the full moon as the sunset. Some people returned to their boats to watch the celestial show and others meandered over to Oceanside to greet the moon's arrival. No matter what way people went though, they were all provided with an impressive sight as the sky traded one traveler for another.

As night fell, the crews that remained on Elliott Key were ready to get back to the anchorage as soon as possible and continue their sky watching or join in the festivities which could be found on some of the boats that weren't ready to let the weekend come to a close.

Sunday morning came, the camp site was taken down and boats and crews headed north for home. The winds were from the south and were light but everyone made it home and the boats were put back to bed. Hopefully though, we can find time during the rest of the year to meet up from time to time in a quiet anchorage or a refreshing sandbar to reflect on the HOLOKAI and talk about future rendezvous.

Thanks to the hard work of countless volunteers and the participation of our members and their guests, the HOLOKAI was a tremendous success.

Sean



ADULT SAILING

Holy Sunfish! Is it June already? The first five months of activity with our adult instructional program have been more than gratifying. Brought on by renewed interest in our Sunfish Clinics, continued growth in our Basic Keelboat program as well as Cruising and Bareboat classes, and a steady stream of new members wanting to take advantage of discounted, high quality US Sailing training programs and our popular and growing Member Use Program, we see only continued success and growth ahead. While these programs and participation increase, we are also bolstering our Certified Instructor base, which I feel the most confident about since our US Sailing programs started back in the 1990s. The additional instructors will take some of the demand off our long-time, senior instructors and be especially helpful in the growing demand for private lessons and private coaching. Special thanks to member/instructor Phil Adams who stepped up strongly in May to carry an extra load in the absence of yours truly.

Member Users, keelboat approved, will be especially pleased that we have ordered new Jibs for the Ensigns. These jibs will require extra care and new instructions will be found in the Safety Box for each boat. Also, the jib rigging (with instructions) has been changed on the vessel PAT to conform to our other two (2) Ensigns.

Beginning in June, our Sunfish clinics (Tuesday / Novice & Thursday/Advanced) will be hosted in the afternoons from 4PM until 7PM. This is necessary to allow our Sunfish fleet to be available for our big Summer Camp program.

Thanks for your participation and support.

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

Richard Crisler, Chairman – Adult Training
305-342-4775
crisler@mindspring.com



Speakers Series

In considering the emergency kit for your sailboat, don't forget pen and paper. It can come in handy when you need to draft an emergency towing agreement to prevent your boat from becoming the victim of a costly salvage operation when you run aground. That was my favorite takeaway from the fascinating seminar the CGSC held recently on the Law of Buying, Selling and Salvaging a Sailboat. Presented by maritime attorney Danielle Butler, a partner at Miami's Fowler White Burnett and a licensed captain herself, the talk revealed just how tricky the law can be on the water. Danielle drew a standing-room only crowd, making this one of our more popular events in our monthly Wednesday Night speaker series.

On the salvaging topic-- definitely one that got the crowd engaged -- Danielle had some simple advice. As long as you are a member of a towing service (like Sea Tow or Boat U.S.) you should be fine when you call them for assistance. But if a towing vessel you have no relationship with should arrive to pull you off the bottom, make sure you've agreed to pay for towing services and not to be salvaged.

Up next on our Wednesday Night series: Wed., June 13, at 7:30 p.m. Capt. Jake Jacobsen reads from his funny novel "A Commodore of Errors," about the egos and antics involved at the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY. Be there (and come early for a seat!).

Doug Hanks

Installation Dinner & Dance

Sat., June 9, 2012

1800 HRS until....

Come enjoy cocktails on the lawn for the
Bridge Installation Ceremony.

Then up stairs for an Island Dinner and music by the
18 Wheelers!

Cocktail attire

\$34, plus tax and gratuity

Reservations: 305-444-4571 ext. 10, or

laurensimpson@cgsc.org

F.Y.I.

Hurricane Seminar: We have a Hurricane seminar for Saturday June 23rd 9am - 1pm

Middleground Marker (MG), has been replaced. It's location is 25-42.375 North and 80-13.661 West.

Wednesday Night Series: Wed., June 13, at 7:30 p.m. Capt. Jake Jacobsen reads from his funny novel "A Commodore of Errors," about the egos and antics involved at the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY. Be there (and come early for a seat!).

Basic Cruising Schedule: June 23 and 24 plus one day review and testing; July 14 and 15 plus one day for review and testing

"Coconut Grove Sailing Club is one of the greatest clubs in the country right now."

Anthony Kotoun, Professional Sailboat Racer and CGSC Member

April 26, 2012

Adult Sailing Classes - Summer

Courses / Events:

	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
Novice Sunfish Clinics	5, 12, 19, 26	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	7, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18, 25
Advanced Sunfish Clinics	7, 14, 21, 28	5, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	6, 13, 20, 27
*Sunfish Learn-to-Sail (LTS)	2-3	7-8	4-5	8-9
*Basic Keelboat	2-3, 16-17	14-15, 21-22	11-12, 18-19	15-16, 22-23
Sunfish Sandbar Rendezvous	None	29	26	30

Class Hours:

All Sunfish Clinics	4PM - 7PM
Sunfish Learn-to-Sail (2-days)	9AM - 4:30PM
Basic Keelboat (2-days)	9AM - 4:30PM
Sunfish Sandbar Rendezvous	9AM - 3PM

Adult Sailing: Beginning in June, our Sunfish clinics (Tuesday/Novice & Thursday/Advanced) will be hosted in the afternoons from 4PM until 7PM.

The new Novice Clinic as well as the regular Advanced Sunfish Clinic require that at least five (5) attendees sign up in order for us to host each clinic.