



COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB  
serving the community since 1945

# the channel

**OCTOBER 2012**

## **SUMMER CAMP 2012**

Sorry it's been awhile since my last dispatch, but it's been a crazy summer in a good way. Speaking of summer, I can't believe it's over; it absolutely flew by this year and with record numbers of participants.

This year we had a whopping 234 kids come through our gates for summer camp and of those 22 came through our scholarship program. My summer camp staff was definitely the best I've ever had with safety at the forefront, and fun also being a big concern; we had NO ACCIDENTS with kids being injured! We did have two staffers who refused to wear shoes but even those were minor incidents.

Leading the charge as head instructor was long time member and sailor, Alex Valdes-Pages with sister Danielle as his second in command. I can remember a few years back when I first started, the staff was more difficult than the campers! All I heard on a daily basis was "that's not the way we've been doing it",



and as we all know, change is difficult to deal with some times so I had to be a little "pushy" with some of them to get my point across, but those days are looong gone. The kids that I staffed this summer

have all gotten to know my "quirks" over the years making my job much less problematic and enjoyable.

We wrapped up the summer in the usual CGSC style with an "End of Summer Parent & Kids Funday & Bar-be que". We arrived here the last day and loaded up ALL the parents & kids on club power boats (I even had to charter a Catamaran) and headed out to our favorite sandbar at Dinner

Key where we sunned, swam, sailed and just relaxed until I showed up aboard our neighbor's boat from Sea Tow and began to douse the entire crowd with the boats fire hose! They weren't quite sure what to make of this spectacle, but all seemed to enjoy the "cool down". After spending the entire morning

*continued on 4*



**2012-2013  
Flag Officers**

Commodore.....Doug Hanks  
Vice Commodore.....Sean Connitt  
Rear Commodore.....Paul van Puffelen  
Secretary.....Sigrid Beckman  
Treasurer.....Brian Sparks  
Fleet Captain.....Susan Walcutt  
Fleet Chaplain.....Bishop C. Schofield  
Fleet Surgeon.....Henry Bernstein, MD

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ryan Alexander, 15    Jeffrey Flanagan, 15  
Cathy Buller, 13     Kathleen Hatfield, 14  
Brian Donahue, 14     Don Kessler, 14  
Randy Drummond, 15    Ron Rostorfer, PC  
Phil Everingham, 13    Susan Walcutt, 13

**COMMITTEES**

Community Service.....Alyn Pruett,PC  
Cruising & Rendezvous.....Sean Connitt  
Entertainment.....Brian Donahue  
Outreach.....Kathleen Hatfield  
Property.....Sean Connitt  
Race.....Susan Walcutt  
Seamanship.....Rob Carlson  
Shoreside Regatta.....Richard &  
Maryann Etkin  
Speakers.....Dale Dupont  
Web.....JoAnn Mathieu  
Welcome.....Adrienne Peters

**CHAIRS**

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

**INSTRUCTIONAL**

Richard Crisler -----Adult Sailing  
Junior Racing-----Chair Phil Adams  
Angel Lapadula-----Junior Regattas

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

Brian Sparks-----Finance  
Doug Hanks-----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 PC  
Snipe -----Gonzalo Diaz, Sr.

2990 South Bayshore Drive  
Coconut Grove, FL 33133  
Tel. 305-444-4571 Fax 305-444-8958  
www.cgsc.org  
Volume 68 Issue 4

**COMMODORE'S REPORT**



**W**hat kind of club do we have here at the CGSC? And how can we make it better? Those were the questions we asked members in May, in our first-ever CGSC survey. And our members were certainly happy to answer. We got nearly 200 replies to our email survey, offering a solid look at the state of the CGSC. None of this would have happened if not for the two volunteers who headed up our survey effort: Brenna Garratt and Mia Shaughnessy.

What did we learn? I explained this in much more detail at our July General Meeting, but let me sum up here:

We're sailors: Fifty-three percent of the respondents own a sailboat; 26 percent take CGSC classes; 8 percent plan on buying a sailboat!

We like being together: Asked to name the most important role of the CGSC, the most popular answer was "A place to gather with friends for food and drink."

And 55 percent are at the CGSC at least once a week.

So the numbers tell us the CGSC continues to live up to its motto of being the place "Where Sailors Belong."

But what can we be doing better? Three main requests emerged from the survey answers. Number One, Make it easier for members to get sailing. Number Two, more variety at the Grove's Nest. And number three, make it easier for members to get connected with the Club -- become more involved, and get to know more members.

Here's what we're doing to answer those requests.

Sailing -- Rear Commodore Paul van Pufflen has been leading the charge with our instructional crew to make it easier for qualified members to get checked out for skippering our CGSC boats: Sunfish, Ensigns and the Beneteaus. Check the weekly email for future orientation sessions for our fleet. We're also introducing Ensign racing in the fall, thanks to Adult Sailing Chair Richard Crisler. On the heels of an outstanding Racing 101 series, PC Bud Price has begun some innovative uses of our Flying Scot fleet-- including getting our young sailors to start racing them. Secretary Sigrid Beckmann will be launching an effort to pair our CGSC skippers looking for crew with CGSC members looking to sail. Watch for new bulletin boards- both at the clubhouse and on cgsc.org.

Grove's Nest -- You've seen some pretty big changes on this front already. Chef Richie has already introduced a weekend seafood special-- so far, we've sold out on the snapper, the swordfish and, yes, even the lobster! And he and GM Pat Tully continue shaking up our increasingly popular Wednesday night-- first a fajita station, and lately prime rib. We're finding the variety is really keeping things fresh and the crowds strong. Stay tuned for a menu refresh in the coming months as Vice Commodore Sean Connitt heads up that annual effort.

Engagement -- With a growing membership, we face a constant challenge

*continued on 3*



of making our new members feel welcome and a part of the CGSC. This year, we're going to launch a trio of "All Hands" Dock Parties aimed at helping members enjoy more aspects of the CGSC. Each Dock Party will have a different theme. The first, to be held this fall, will center around "Getting Involved at the CGSC." The winter party will be titled "Getting on the Water at the CGSC." And our spring Dock Party will revolve around "Getting Your Kids to Love the CGSC." Watch your weekly emails for details.

We continue to revamp our General Meetings as a way for all members to connect, and share their own tales from the sailing life. If you haven't attended one yet, come out and see what's changed. You might win a prize! This fall you also should see the first of our efforts to put on paper answers to some Frequently Asked Questions about the CGSC -- from how our parking discounts work

at the Sonesta, to what it takes to sail a CGSC Flying Scot. Stay tuned on that.

Finally, this year we plan on launching a new committee at the CGSC: the Ahoy Committee. This will be a group dedicated to welcoming our new members, and quickly getting them into the swing of things. We'll be calling on existing members to help with this effort, so please be on the lookout for that call for volunteers.

The most important takeaway from our Survey is that most members truly enjoy the Club, and they want to help making it better. I am happy to report that the CGSC continues improving each month, and that we still have plenty to do. We are able to plot a smarter course with our survey. We'll do it again next year.

Thanks for your support of our Club,  
*Doug Hanks, Commodore*  
ensignmiami@gmail.com

## VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

**I**t wasn't very long ago that I bought "FIJI" and became a member of the CGSC. At the time, I wasn't looking for a boat to buy but it was with tempered happiness and huge gratitude that I became the new Skipper of "FIJI". I knew of course that owning a boat was going to be a great adventure but little did I know how much the CGSC was going to become a part of that journey. I can tell you without a bit of hesitation that I am glad I bought "FIJI" and found myself in the midst of the entire CGSC family.

As Vice Commodore, I have the pleasure of working with many of our staff members, and during these past few months, I have gained a tremendous amount of respect and appreciation for the hard work they all put in to help make the CGSC such a great place to be. Whether it's a prompt ride on the launch to get to your boat, an extra hand getting sails from your car, or getting an extra lime in your drink (that's a personal joy for me) the CGSC team shows their professionalism every day. Without them the CGSC would be stuck in irons, unable to fill our sails and make way.

363 days out of the year, the CGSC staff keep things running but every November, for one weekend, the club shuts down and the CGSC members roll up their sleeves and get to work. We call it "Work Weekend" and we rely on the amazing CGSC volunteers that show up and help make our club a little better. The dinghies get spruced up. Gardening projects get done. Miscellaneous

painting projects are conquered. There is no end to the potential projects that could be scheduled for any particular "Work Weekend".



This year's "Work Weekend" is scheduled on November 10 and 11, and in addition to the standard cleaning and painting that always seems to be needed, I also intend to put together a team that will make some simple yet needed changes to the upstairs main room and entrance hallway. Some of those changes will include fresh paint in the entrance hallway and some buffering from the kitchen sounds to the main room. Yes, the "To Do" list will be big but with more than 900 members on the roster, I am confident that we will have a good turnout of volunteers. If you do not volunteer for anything else this year, but I hope you do, please make every effort to participate in the "Work Weekend". I can tell you from experience that it is one of the greatest ways to meet your fellow members and to feel more a part of the CGSC family. Oh, and let's not forget about the free beer to celebrate the end of the day and our hard work.

I look forward to seeing you at "Work Weekend" this year.

Fair Winds –  
*Sean Connett, Vice Commodore*  
sean.connett@cgcs.org



having fun it was back to CGSC for the final clean up and storing of boats until the fall season begins, then, it was time to eat. Chef Ritchie put together a fine spread that included hot dogs, hamburgers; potato salad with all the fixins and our good friends at Kona Ice showed up and began serving up their world famous snow cones.

Long time member and past youth sailing chairman, Antonio Bejarano joined us in wishing all the kids and parents best wishes for the upcoming school year and also gave our campers a talk about our upcoming fall sailing season.

After a long hot summer it was time for me to take a little break, so off we went to Key West for a little R & R, kind of. Two days into our time off what would aim its sights at South Florida? Tropical Storm, no, Hurricane, no, Tropical Storm (you get the picture) Isaac. Needless to say we packed our bags and headed back to start securing the boat, the house, and of course the CGSC. I must say we've been very lucky over the past few years with quite a few "almosts" but the CGSC staff didn't miss a beat with clubhouse preparation, moorings evacuation, and shuttle service. I can honestly say that this storm (almost) was a great tool to help an already "well oiled machine" get even better in the eventuality of another or possibly worse scenario.

Back to the latest, the start of the fall sailing season. Our season began on September 8<sup>th</sup> and we are already staring down the barrel of our first Regatta of the season

on September 15<sup>th</sup>, The Jr. Commodores Cup Regatta. So far we have 30 kids signed up for our Youth Learn to Sail, Opti Green Fleet (beginning racing) Opti Red, White, & Blue (advanced racing) and Laser's. I say "so far" because the inquiries keep coming and with our focus this year being the expansion of our Laser team, I wouldn't be surprised if we didn't end up with numbers of kids in programming here at 40+.

Our fall regatta schedule is as follows:

- The River Romp Regatta, Edison Sailing Center, Ft Myers Fl. October 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>
- The Halloween Howler Regatta, CGSC October 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>
- The Naples Cup Regatta, Naples Sailing Center, Naples Fl. November 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>
- The Jr. Orange Bowl Regatta, Coral Reef Yacht Club, Miami Fl. December 26<sup>th</sup> thru the 30<sup>th</sup>

As you all can see this is a pretty ambitious schedule, and these aren't including our winter sailing season which will begin in January and go through the end of April.

I hope you all will enjoy some of the pictures along with this article; it really was a fun and productive summer.

See you next time,

*Nick*





## REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

**I**nto the Fall Season we go. This is a real transition time on the waterfront at CGSC. Our summer camp was a huge success this year and it looks like the momentum will keep rolling into the fall.

Our youth racing and learn to sail fall session is over the top with 32 entries on the first day and more committed in the coming week or two. We look forward to a strong fall season with regattas in Naples and Ft. Myers as well as the home town International Orange Bowl Regatta and our very own Halloween Howler. Fun is a big part of the focus in our youth teams, but seamanship, responsibility, camaraderie, strategic thinking and self-reliance are all big bonuses that come naturally with team sailing. Our goal is to foster and develop a love for sailing and being on the water that one can carry with them for life. With our fleet of small unsinkable boats, kids are able to seek their own pace and meet their own objectives. The rewards are obvious if you've ever been at the club on an afternoon when the fleet returns.

Speaking of the Howler, we are set this year with the date on the weekend before Halloween as it falls on a Wed. this year. We hope to step it up a notch this year by bringing in even more kids but less rain. Last year even with the blast of bad weather, many kids left saying it was their new

favorite regatta! This year we plan to keep up the tradition of lots of fun and lots of trophies. Our Haunted Mooringfield will be on Saturday Oct. 27th this year so as to include all regatta attendees.



It is our mission to promote sailing at CGSC. On the tails of Past Commodore and Current Instructor Bud Price's wildly successful Racing 101 we are working on ways to get other various groups of members out on the water. One of the new ways we will be doing this is to run periodic mini-clinics through the fall Youth Sailing schedule to introduce sailing parents to the different options for family sailing at the club. Of course any one can come and we will be announcing these mini clinics in the email blast each week.

Don't hesitate to chase me down at the club or email me with any ideas, comments or concerns. We are here to make the CGSC experience better all the time. Your input is always appreciated. Now let's get out on the water!

*Paul van Puffelen, Rear Commodore*  
paulvp@cgsc.org



## FROM THE MANAGER

**W**ith summer astern, we are looking forward to the excitement and camaraderie of the Sailing and Club Season. Our Race and Social calendar is to the gunnels with activity and the Team here at CGSC is poised for the challenge. With controlled parking, increased levels of staff and lots of new ideas in store for you, the 2012-2013 season is cast for success.

Social Night Tuesday's has a new look and the revolving menu is posted on the website and through-out the club. Prime Rib Wednesdays continues as Chef Richie will be serving slow roasting Angus Prime Rib with Baked Potato and Vegetable for \$18.95, in addition to a special Ala Carte menu.

Thursday Night is Burger Fest Night in addition to our regular menu and Live Music will be played Friday Evenings from 7-10pm.

Want to get away? Then get underway to the Groves Nast for two for one Happy Hour from 4pm-6pm. Stop in and meet some of the many new members that have joined, or catch up with your favorite "Old Salts" as they tell their sea stories fist hand.

We still have a few red parking stickers that haven't been picked up yet, so if you need to replace your old green sticker, just stop by the office.

Hurricane season is in full swing and we are monitoring systems as they develop. Should something occur, we will send out an Email blast regarding our Hurricane procedures. Be sure to sign up for our E-mail blasts by visiting our Web site @ [www.CGSC.org](http://www.CGSC.org)

Enjoy the Club...*Pat.*

## Entertainment Report

*(from September)*

**T**he Dog Day Afternoon party was a tremendous success; even scattered showers wouldn't keep the CGSC's best pals from attending this long standing club tradition. The front lawn was happy to substitute sails for squeak toys, while dozens of paws congregated for their annual meeting. All owners and spectators alike enjoyed the festive atmosphere, festooned from "bow wow" to stern with toys, competitions, a very popular watering hole, and even an inshore poop deck...

Guests enjoyed cold refreshments and an aptly provided "hot dog" buffet, while the honorees mingled amongst their fellow sea dogs. Those daring enough competed in 7 events, ranging from the best dressed to the much coveted "sit and stay" (Buddy Rosen is already back in training for next year). Prizes were awarded the victors, but I think it is agreed that all dogs were big winners at the Dog Day Afternoon. A special thanks to the entertainment committee, Jon Rosen (great playlist!), Adrienne Peters, Patrick Soto, Marcella Poczik and Janice Pruett for all their hard work on the event; we hope to see everyone next time.

Meanwhile, gear up for our next big event on Saturday, September 22nd, Oktoberfest. For the first time ever, we will be showing a "Football Game on the Sail" (pending game time TBA), as our mighty Hurricanes take on the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. Keep an eye out for flyers around the club as this event approaches; we'll also be raising money for UM Sailing Canes!

Thank you

*Brian Donahue*



## ANNUAL FLORIDA STATE SNIPE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

**F**ormer LYC Junior Sailor and past Opti Champion, Edgar Diminich, won the 2012 (LV Annual) Florida State Snipe Junior Championship. Competition was tight with LYC junior sailor Jensen McTighe being very consistent sailor, but with a drop race losing by two points in the six race series. Charlie Bess and Kristen Walker improved their performance by winning the last two most difficult Sunday races. Charlie Bess and Kristen Walker will represent the MIAMI SNIPE FLEET # 7 in Malaga, Spain for the Snipe Class Women's World Championship. We wish them good luck!

This Championship sponsored by the COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB and the MIAMI SNIPE FLEET # 7 was scheduled for September 8 and 9. It is always held after the Labor Day weekend. The Coconut Grove Sailing Club Race Committee did a wonderful job running 6 races in perfect Biscayne Bay weather. 4 races on Saturday with SE winds 10-15 and 2 races on Sunday with SW winds 8-12

Needless to say we all appreciate very much this group of volunteers and fine sailors that give their time to run this Regatta, the Coconut Grove Sailing Club Race Committee, with PRO, Timer, & Scorer: Jaime Ramon. Line Sighter: Richard Klein. Scribe: Liz Balbin. Flags Primary: Veronic Vaghayan. Flags Secondary: Jon Kandara (Sat). Flags

Secondary: Bales Balbin (Sun). Mark Boat: Susan Wallcutt, Dorian Goldberg, Michelle Wood (Sat), & Julia Shestopalov (Sun). Pin Boat: Larry Whipple (also photographer), Jim Waldron (Sat), & Ian DeMello (Sun). Judges on Stand-By: Richard Mallison & Jane Anne Pincus.

CGSC Commodore Doug Hanks presented trophies to the first 3 places. We also like to thank all the boat owners that lend their boats to the juniors (some of them also crewed for the juniors).

*Gonzalo Diaz, Sr.*, Regatta Chairman



*Photos by Larry Whipple, PC and Gonzalo Diaz, Sr.*



### RESULTS

Rank	SailNo	HelmName	Co-Skipper/Crew
1st	30761	Edgar Diminich	Gaston Vedani
2nd	30577	Jensen McTighe	Peter Commette
3rd	30364	Axel Sly	Pere Puig
4th	29687	Charlie Bess	Kristen Walker
5th	29511	Taylor Scheuermann	Liam Munzenmaier
6th	29602	Andre Guaragna	Roberto Guaragna
7th	30236	Ivan Shestopalov	Ken Voss
8th	30288	Alex van Puffelen	Gonzalo Diaz
9th	28810	Scott Ewing	Liz Ryder
10th	30362	Jaime Ramon Jr	Simms/Betancourt
11th	30321	Cameron Grubb	Freddie Sambolin
12th	28792	Mario Arce	Jorge Munoz-Bustamante

*Group photo of all Juniors, crews and Race Committee*



*Doug Hanks, CGSC Commodore, presenting trophy to first place Edgar Diminich.*



*CGSC Commodore Doug Hanks presenting trophy to second place Jensen McTighe.*

PRO Jamie Ramon

## View from the Signal Boat



Congratulations to the first place winners of our August Sailfest Weekend. On Saturday, with our Single Handed Race, Mark Pincus placed first in the PHRF Fleet. Henry Bernstein was first in the One Design Fleet of Flying Scots. Jaime Ramon soloed on his Snipe and received special recognition for just showing up.

After the Fleet returned from racing, the Club welcomed the sailors with a keg and music. Cindy Saunders presented the BBYRA Spring Series Awards. CGSC Trophies were presented to Saturday's Single Handed winners and then all enjoyed a BBQ dinner. CGSC Race Committee announced their Annual Awards to RC Volunteers. Niall O'Brien was presented with the Al Chapin Trophy as the RC member who contributed the most to the RC Team over the past season. Rookie of the Year went to Rick Klein, a transplant from San Francisco, who joined the RC this past year but is definitely not new to racing or race committee work.

On Sunday, Henry Bernstein's two bullets proved that he can make it first across the line with or without crew. El Viejo, Gonzalo Diaz, showed everyone how it is done with his two first places with his Snipe. We had a great turnout for our first PHRF Non-Spinnaker Fleet. Jim Green, Bali Hai, was first

over 10 boats. Amon deLisser, Main Squeeze, placed first in the PHRF Spinnaker Fleet.

The Florida Junior Snipe Championships were held on Saturday and Sunday, September 8-9, 2012. Both days were perfect sailing weather and reminded us why we live here and sail on Biscayne Bay. Check our website for results and photos.

Our Junior Commodore's Cup will be held on September 15th. This Regatta is only open to CGSC Members. We will have Juniors out with the Opti Green Fleet and Red/White/Blue Opti Fleet as well as Lasers. Check our website for results and photos.

October will be busy with race activities every weekend including the Columbus Day Regatta, our Annual One Design and PHRF Regattas and our Second Annual Halloween Howler Youth Regatta.

See you on the Bay!

*Susan Walcutt*  
Race Committee Chair

### ADULT SAILING REPORT

Adult Sailing activities at your Club have continued to increase both in opportunities and participation. The recent Racing 101 activities, directed by Bud Price, have included well attended classes and practice on the water. Our Sunfish Clinics are now offered twice a week, with Tuesdays directed more towards the novice sailor, and Thursdays directed to the more experienced Sunfish sailors. As usual, in October, our Sunfish Clinics will be moved back to 10AM to 1PM. This will make clinics more convenient for those with children in school. We will follow this schedule until next spring. Keelboat and Cruising boat classes and checkouts continue to see lots of interest and participation and our list of approved Member-Users continues to grow and enjoy the use of our fleet boats.

Our annual Work Day Weekend is coming up November 9-10. During this weekend, a great amount of work is done on our fleet boats, which includes, cleaning, waxing, general maintenance, painting, varnishing, sail repairs and more. I have been fortunate to have an "army" of unselfish members to help out each year. Be a part of your club and participate in this important event, whatever you choose to do. We'd be very pleased to have you as part of our fleet work team this year. Just contact me.

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

*Richard Crisler*  
305-342-4775  
crisler@mindspring.com

### REMINDER

IF YOU DO NOT SEND BACK THE PAPER  
TO RECEIVE THE  
CHANNEL AT HOME, YOU WILL HAVE TO PICK IT  
UP AT THE CLUB OR  
LOOK AT IT ONLINE.

### Upcoming CGSC Race Committee Events

October 13-14, 2012  
CGSC Annual One Design Regatta  
& BBYRA OD #2

October 21, 2012  
CGSC Annual PHRF Regatta  
& BBYRA PHRF #2

October 27-28, 2012  
Second Annual Halloween Howler  
Youth Regatta

See notices of race and registration forms on  
race bulletin board downstairs or at  
[www.Cgsc.Org](http://www.Cgsc.Org)  
For BBYRA 2012 sailing instructions  
Visit their website [www.bbyra.net](http://www.bbyra.net)