



the coconut grove sailing club  
serving the community since 1945

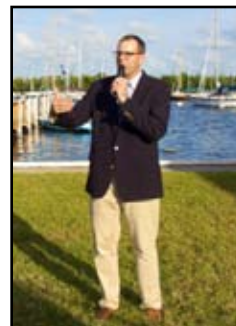
# Channel

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Issue 2

## 2013 Installation



*continued on 4*



2013-2014

**Flag Officers**

Commodore.....Sean Connett  
Vice Commodore.....Paul van Puffelen  
Rear Commodore.....Sigrid Beckman  
Secretary.....Terry Borom  
Treasurer.....Frank deLaurier  
Fleet Captain.....Susan Walcutt  
Fleet Chaplain.....Bishop C. Schofield  
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Library -----Renny Young  
Strip-----Bud Price PC

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Junior Racing-----Chair Phil Adams  
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Ensign -----Doug Hanks, PC  
Flying Scot -----Larry Whipple PC  
Snipe -----Gonzalo Diaz, Sr  
Beneteau-----Alex Wolfe

*Cover is a pencil drawing by Dr. Umpierre  
(son of Tony and Eda Umpierre) who grew  
up around CGSC.*

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# COMMODORE'S REPORT

## “The Coconut Grove Sailing Club: Where Sailors Belong”



I first heard that motto a few years ago, when I started serving on the Bridge and I often restate it in my Channel articles or when called on to speak at an event. I like the fact that in just a few words, our club is wonderfully defined and everyone can quickly understand “who” the CGSC is. I say “who” because this club is not an inanimate object but is instead an entity that has personality and spirit. The CGSC is most definitely alive.

In July, our sailors hoisted their sails and sailed in waters near and far from our clubhouse. Summer camp sailors learned how to sail in our own Sailboat Bay and yes – that is the actual name of the body of water that our mooring field is in. Also in July we held the annual Commodores Cup Regatta on Biscayne Bay, and a small armada of cruisers ventured across the Gulf Stream and explored Bimini and its neighboring islands. Finally, one of our junior Opti sailors went to Scotland and participated in the Optimist National and Open Championship. You will hear more about the Bimini trip as well as our globetrotting Opti sailors adventures in next month’s Channel but I wanted to point out that our motto “Where Sailors Belong” is brought to life every day at the club.

My wife Julia and I also had our own sailing adventure last month. We decided it was time to take a Honeymoon, so we packed up “Fiji” and like the CGSC Armada that had sailed to Bimini; we also headed east to the Bahamas. Our weather going across was not perfect, so with the wind on the nose, six to ten foot seas passing under and over our bow plus a couple of squalls that we had to pass through, we tacked our way across the Gulf Stream towards Cat Cay. It was a fourteen hour trip, and as the sun was going down, the last challenge that we had to face was clearing the unmarked reef that lies between Gun Cay and Cat Cay. In the fading light, we managed to see the waves breaking across the reef and kept in tight to the southern tip of Gun Cay. We cleared the reef and found our way towards the safety of the marina on Cat Cay. During those last few minutes of what had been a long day sailing, we felt proud of our accomplishment. After tying Fiji up and putting everything back in order, I smiled when I looked up and saw the CGSC burgee flying from the spreader for everyone to see. I smiled because I thought about our fellow members who get out on their boats every day and sail to new places or even old places, with the CGSC burgee flying from their spreaders proving that the CGSC is most certainly “Where Sailors Belong”. It’s a great tradition to be a part of.

Fair Winds and Following Seas  
*Sean Connett, Commodore*  
sean.connett@cgsc.org

## VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

4<sup>th</sup> of July came and went this year without a hitch. CGSC is the perfect spot to spend a lazy evening with your family and friends right under the Peacock Park fireworks display. Lauren and her staff did a fantastic job keeping us all well fed and hydrated as well. At summer camp the next day you wouldn't have had the faintest idea of all of the folks that were there on the lawn the previous day with the ensuing monsoon which barely waited until after the fireworks finished.

Hurricane season is officially here with a practice run during Tropical Storm Chantal. I hope you all have a firm plan in place and have all of your supplies for this season. We have made some changes to the hurricane policy this year so as to eliminate confusion as to when to evacuate or batten down. Our plans are now tied directly to the National Hurricane Center's watches and warnings. As a storm approaches we will start issuing notifications via e-mail, social media and bulletin board posts. If a tropical storm or hurricane watch is issued we will begin shuttle service. This is moved up from previous years to give skippers more time to evacuate before the storm nears. The Coral Gables police will allow boats to tie up in the waterways starting with a storm watch. All boats must be removed within 48 hours of the watch or warning being lifted.

Please note that it is up to each skipper individually to judge when to secure or move his vessel. All boat

owners should monitor weather forecasts and NHC advisories, and be prepared to execute their tropical storm and hurricane plans. Do NOT rely on CGSC emails or announcements to take steps needed to secure your vessels and to comply with CGSC mooring and rental agreements. An upgrade to a NHC hurricane watch requires you to remove your vessel from the mooring field within 24 hours. If you plan to be out of town, make arrangements for the event of a storm while you are gone.

Meanwhile, while summer camp activity keeps our days filled through the summer, the Crow's Nest can offer a cool respite and a nice bite! Let Jeff, Dennis, Daniel or Sarah make you a special drink after a hot day of sailing.

It is my pleasure to serve as your Vice Commodore this year. As usual, please let me know "the good, the bad and the ugly". We want the CGSC member experience to be excellent and fulfilling for all.

See you around the club!!

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



## REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Summer has hit Coconut Grove Sailing Club, the time for our summer camp, barbeques, fireworks and sometimes a storm. If you visit our club any morning during the week, you will find dozens of children ready and excited to go out and sail. With some experienced sailors and a lot of new ones, our summer camp is in full swing with sold out sessions. Boys and girls are learning how to sail and falling in love with our club and our programs with many of them already wanting to sign for our Fall season! This is when young sailors are born. Great enthusiasm from our coaches and CITs keep the children wanting for more sailing each day!

With a new coach boat and a few new Cube boats for the beginners to make it easier to learn and keep them safe, more kids can join the program too. Our more experienced sailors in Optis and Lasers have been travelling, competing and training hard.

Adults are sailing too...for pleasure or racing...with some sailing as far as the Bahamas enjoying the windy summer we have had so far. The Commodore's Cup is coming on July 20<sup>th</sup> and we are looking forward to seeing all our racers out there.

Summer sometimes brings storms home and while we just escaped Chantal, the first storm of the season, we shall not forget to always be ready to spring into action and take care of our boats either on the mooring field, the strip or the racks. Always keep an eye on watches and warnings and plan with enough time on how and when to act.

The Fourth of July was a hit thanks to our fabulous staff members led by Lauren. They all worked very hard before and after to make our club look so good. Sold out events have become the norm for our club. Keep an eye on the next one!

For the next few weeks enjoy the hot weather and your cool club!

Fair winds and following seas!

*Sigrid Beckman, Rear Commodore*





## JULY 4TH!

Our annual 4th of July BBQ was a great success, with a turnout of over 275 members! Together we indulged in the hearty spread prepared by Chef Ritchie on our lawn overlooking the beautiful CGSC mooring field. The clear weather allowed us to enjoy the fireworks courtesy of peacock park as well as other displays around the city.

Many thanks to all of you for making this 4th of July memorable! We look forward to many more successful events in the coming months!

