



COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB
serving the community since 1945

the channel

JANUARY 2016

100 LASERS ON THE OCEAN!

Little 14 ft. Lasers like to race on the ocean! Hard to believe, but true. The end result was the 2015 Laser District 13 Championship on December 5-6. It was shore-based at the Historic Virginia Key Beach Park with racing on the ocean just beyond the Bear Cut Channel.

District 13 is pretty much the State of Florida, but 100 Lasers came to race from as far as Texas and even Canada, making it the largest District 13 Championship in at least the past three years. The event was the brain child of CGSC's James Liebl, a former Laser Master World Champion and active on the CGSC Race Committee. James was Chairman of the event, and put forth a huge effort to bring it about. CGSC's fantastic Regatta Shore-side Chair, Sandrine Quenee, did an incredible job at the Park handling registration, scoring and all the other shore-side aspects.

What a scene it was at the Park on Saturday

morning! Boats arriving and being rigged by excited sailors, vendor displays set up and coffee and breakfast breads available adjacent to the registration activities. The weather – well, it was there. A cold front had stalled over south Florida bringing rain and lots of uncertainty on the wind. Leading up to the weekend, the forecasts varied from 5 knots to 30 knot gusts. Reality was rain and NE-E winds in the high teens. The kind of wind for which they came to sail!

The CGSC Race Committee and the several coach boats helped make sure all boats safely navigated the Bear Cut Channel and out to the ocean. Racing got underway a bit after noon for three classes – Laser Full-Rigs, Radials and 4.7's. The Full-Rig fleet included the Laser Masters who were scored both overall and separately for Masters. There were 29 Full-Rigs, a whopping 46 Radials and 14 of the younger sailors in the 4.7 rigs.

more pictures on pg 4

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Did we all make it through another hectic holiday season? I trust you did and I wish you peace, joy and prosperity in this coming year. As I reported last month, we were at a point of being able to send notice to the City of Miami that we wanted to exercise the next 5-year renewal option under our lease. I am pleased to be able to tell you that we did send notice of our intent to renew at the end of November and am even more pleased to be able to let you know that yesterday (which was 12/11) we received notice from the City acknowledging and confirming our lease extension. Our lease is now extended through June 30, 2021. I look forward to the Club being able to continue its partnership with the City of Miami and to keep fulfilling our mission of getting people out on the water and making sailing opportunities available to the community. With this renewal we can continue our great work and also continue our steady improvements to our club property. I couldn't have asked for a better holiday gift.

I hope you were able to join us for the Holiday

Boat Parade and for New Year's Eve. Thank you to all who helped with the NYE planning and a very deserved shout-out to Mia Carlson for all her work so far this year as Entertainment Committee chair. Great work, Mia!

Please be sure to check out the website for information on the January rendezvous, to be held the weekend of January 16 at the Sands Key anchorage. It's a 3-day weekend for many and hopefully you'll join us for the rendezvous, some food & drink and snorkeling (weather depending). E-mail Karen Arndt if you're interested (you can find all committee chairs and contact e-mails on the website). And of course, if you are looking to meet some future best friends, get involved with a committee! There's committee for all; so don't hesitate.

Jeffrey Flanagan, Commodore
Commodore@cgsc.org
Shenanigans, Catalina 36



VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Happy New Year to all of you!! I hope that your holiday season was bright and full of good cheer after all the rain we had in early December, and that you were able to take advantage of the many activities that the club had to offer including the annual boat parade, and the new Year's Eve Party. Chef Richie and Bar Manager Jeff along with their great staff continue to make visiting the club a satisfying experience. I hope that you are enjoying the new look upstairs. The new furniture and lighting as well as the additional point of sale service at the back bar make a big difference as well. If you just want to hang out downstairs and enjoy the view, take advantage of our new adirondack chairs.

With the start of a new year and the holidays behind us, it's time for me to look forward to the next five years at the club. With the renewal of our lease with the City of Miami, the future development committee and property committee can continue to work at improving our club assets and appearance and look forward to taking advantage of the

resources available to us in Reggata Park. I'm starting to think about next year's budget and will elicit the help of the number crunchers, department heads and committee chairs to make a fair and thoughtful budget that will insure that "everyone gets a piece of the pie."

In the meantime, please take advantage of all that the club has to offer but remember that we are a community of sailors and advocates of beautiful Biscayne Bay not solo sailors or pirates with a "me first" attitude.

Share, respect, get involved, volunteer. Go sailing!!!

Janice Pruett, Vice Commodore
SV Effortless
Coconut Grove Sailing Club
"Where sailors and friends belong"



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

As sailors we are aware of the necessity to communicate effectively. During a racing series communication it can mean the difference between a great start or being stalled in disturbed air. The race committee, through sounds and flags can communicate with the entire fleet. On board, the communication between skipper and crew can result in smiles or frowns depending on delivery and reception of information relevant to the leg. The delivery of this information can directly affect the receiver and their continued attention. While on the water this awareness of effective communication is shared by skippers and crews of the entire fleet and race committee. Unfortunately, the exchange of information is often forgotten or ignored while on land. Before we leave the dock some of our most important communication exchanges are abandoned. On a number of occasions I have been approached by a sailing member regarding another member or employee and what they felt should have occurred before they left the dock. My immediate

response is almost always, "Did you speak to them directly and ask for assistance"? With a disappointing frequency the response to my query is a resounding "No, they should have". Communication is as varied as we are, but if



you need assistance, if you feel something should be done, if you see a potential problem, speak up. Go directly to the person and communicate, with civility, your needs or concerns. I have done this on many occasions and have been given space at the dock, or help launching my boat, and have assisted others when a potential problem may occur. Communication, try it, it works.

Thank you

Ryan Alexander, Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@cgsc

MEET NEW CGSC RACE MANAGER BLAKE MIDDLETON!

Coconut Grove Sailing Club is going the way of professional regatta and race management for our busy winter regatta schedule by retaining the services of Blake Middleton. CGSC is fortunate to attract Blake's services, which will be on a seasonal basis. He is also Race Manager and Principal Race Officer at both Minnetonka and Wayzata Yacht Clubs on Lake Minnetonka near Minneapolis, Minnesota, and has served in those capacities since 1997. Consequently, he will be here in the December thru March winter months, and back in Minnesota during the rest of the year.

Blake has a very wide and deep resume of sailing, teaching, coaching, regatta and race management experience covering close to forty years. He has actively raced in several classes including Lasers, Snipes and J-24's. He attended and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, and helped found the sailing team there. He then served as Commodore of the Midwest Collegiate Sailing Association, and was subsequently inducted into the U of W-Green Bay Phoenix Hall of Fame in 1995.

After graduation, Blake served as Assistant Sailing Coach at the US Naval Academy, and Head Sailing Coach/Director of Sailing at Stanford University for nine years in the late '80's-early '90's. He Chaired the

Intercollegiate Yacht Racing Association All-American Selection Committee during 1992-95. Blake is Certified by US Sailing as a Regional Race Officer. He could easily achieve National Race Officer Certification if he could find the time to "jump through the hoops!"

At CGSC, Blake will be sliding into the responsibilities currently held by Regatta Chair Ron Rostorfer (PC) and Race Committee Chair Susan Walcutt. Both Ron and Susan have served the Club in these positions for years, and are due to be replaced. Interestingly, Ron also served as Commodore of the Midwest Collegiate Sailing Association, but that was many years before Blake's duty! Small world!

Blake actually got a head start at CGSC during the 2014-15 winter regatta season. He was flown in to serve as Race Officer on the Gate Boat in early December for the CGSC hosted Melges 32 World Championships shore-based at Miami Beach Marina with racing on the ocean east of Bear Cut Bridge between Virginia Key and Key Biscayne. After that, he was at CGSC during January-March, 2015 as an introduction to our regatta program and Race Committee personnel. So, it'll be "hit the ground running" when he arrives December 1st! If you see Blake around the Club, please introduce yourself and help make him feel at home in his new winter digs.

What ensued was lots of great racing, along with a multitude of capsizes and near misses.

The wind was initially NE, but prior to the racing shifted closer to east. The Race Committee set a trapezoid course to help keep the fleets separated. By the end of the day, three races had been completed for each of the classes. The coaches did a huge job of standing by capsized boats and assisting where needed. In one case, the tired sailor and a coach traded boats, with the coach righting the Laser and sailing it to the Beach while the sailor brought the coach boat to shore.

Even with the rainy weather and breeze, happy Laser sailors gathered under one of the pavilions at the Park for a good hot catered dinner. The RC boats had commuted from the Club to Crandon Park Marina, and then out to the race area. It was just after dark by the time the last RC boat returned to the Club.

Sunday morning brought skies that were a tad clearer, but lots of easterly breeze. Forecasts indicated winds in the mid-20 knot range. The RC boats marshalled up at Crandon and the fleet was held ashore. RC Chair Susan Walcutt and her crew were dispatched to the race area on her Contender mark boat to assess conditions. They reported waves up to six feet in the Channel and a steep wave pattern in the race area which was worsening. So, considering the safety of all concerned, racing was abandoned for the day and Saturday's results stood as final.

CGSC was very well represented in the 4.7's. CGSC's Daniel O'Farril had three bullets in this fleet to win by five points. In the very competitive Radial fleet, Scott Rasmussen and Christina Sakellaris from Lauderdale YC took the 1-2 spots with Skylar Bayman from Houston YC in 3rd. In the Full-Rigs, CGSC's great Ernesto

Rodriguez took second to young Max Guerriero from Texas Corinthian YC by one slim point. Ford McCann from Texas Corinthian was 3rd. Ernesto won the Masters in comfortable style.

CGSC's Race Committee did another great job on the water. Gary Ellis' Eagle Eye was Signal Boat with Principal Race Officer and CGSC Race Manager Blake Middleton, Suzanne Roberts, Esther DiLeo and Connie Bradley. Up to windward with Susan Walcutt were Race Officer Jaime Ramon, Dorian Goldberg and Sicotte Hamilton. The Pin Boat was skippered by Debbie Ryder with Race Officer Ron Rostorfer and Philippe Dusser. The Outer Gate/Finish Boat was Dave Frazier's Angler with Race Officer George Bradley, Julie Hanrahan, Saralee Lamb and Andi Hoffman. Ev Hoffman's Grady-White was the Safety/Course Patrol boat with Patrick McLister, Cathy Buller and Richard Etkin.

Assisting Sandrine on Shore-side were former Chairs Richard and Maryann Etkin, Joel Krieger, Colin & Michael Dorsey, Marlene Erven, Lisa Yakovenko and Bill Braddon.

And a final thanks to the Historic Virginia Key Beach Park and the Historic Virginia Key Beach Park Trust for allowing CGSC to host the regatta from the Park.

Ron Rostorfer





Awards were presented by James Liebl





2015-2016
Flag Officers

BRIDGE:

Commodore
Vice-Commodore
Rear Commodore
Secretary
Treasurer

Jeffrey Flanagan
Janice Pruett
Ryan Alexander
Cathy Buller
Frank deLaurier

BOARD:

Robert Carlson ('16)
Brian Donahue ('16)
Susan Walcutt ('16)
Ed Almeyda ('17)
Patricia Murphey ('17)

Geoff Sutcliffe ('17)
Richard Erkin ('18)
Julie Hanrahan ('18)
Erik Noonburg ('18)
Paul Van Puffelen, PC

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Adult Sailing
BBYRA Rep
Bylaws
Chamber Rep
Channel Editor
Community Service
Cruising & Rendezvous
Entertainment
Future Development
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Jr. Pram
Jr. Racing Development
Librarian/Historian
Membership
Moorings
Pier Seven
Property
Protocol
Public Relations
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Regatta
Regatta Shoreside
Strip & Rack

Jeffrey Flanagan
Frank deLaurier
Richard Crisler
Susan Walcutt
Doug Hanks, PC
Brian Donohue
Cherie Branning
Denise Schneider
Karen Arndt
Mia Carlson
Janice Pruett
Janice Pruett
Paul Van Puffelen, PC
Maria Teresa Adams
Renny Young
Robert Carlson
Sean Connett, PC
Bill Bradden
Janice Pruett
Sean Connett, PC
Terry Boram
Susan Walcutt
Ron Rostorfer, PC
Sandrine Quenee
Bud Price, PC

BANNER: Previous Laser racing on Biscayne Bay hosted by CGSC.

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Volume 71

Issue 7

NOTICE

Upcoming CGSC Regattas

BBYRA One Design #5
January 2, 2016

470 Nationals
Jan 9-10

Moths
Jan 8-9

470 & I420 North Americans
Jan 16-18

ISAF Sailing World Cup Miami
Jan 25-29

Commodore Rasco Snipe Regatta
Jan 30-31

SEE NOTICES OF RACE AND REGISTRATION FORMS
ON RACE BULLETIN BOARD DOWNSTAIRS
OR AT WWW.CGSC.ORG
FOR BBYRA 2014-15 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
VISIT THEIR WEBSITE @ WWW.BBYRA.NET

THE CHANNEL

Please send any articles, pictures or information to the email listed below. All material is due by the 10th of the previous month in an effort to get the Channel to you by the first of each month.

If you are not receiving your Channel in a timely manner, please let us know so we can verify all of your information.

Cherie Branning
go2cherie2@comcast.net

ADULT SAILING REPORT

HAPPY NEW YEAR to All of our Members and Adult Sailing Students! 2015 was a year of expansion and growth for your adult instructional programs at CGSC. We are looking forward to an even more successful year in 2016, as we enter the new year with a strong core of dedicated, certified instructors that we also hope to expand and with the continued support of our officers, directors, membership and staff. We start off the month of January with a “bang” with all of our adult US Sailing Classes offered, including the Sunfish Learn-to-Sail, Basic Keelboat (2 classes), our Flying Scot options, Sunfish clinics, and we are especially pleased to announce another of the cruising series of classes, with Capt. Bruce Penrod conducting a BASIC CRUISING Class on January 8-9-10, and a BASIC BAREBOAT Class on January 22-23-24-25. Both classes include certification. The classes will be conducted on Bruce’s yacht, ‘Leaping Groundhog’ pictured below. There are prerequisites for both classes. For information or to register, contact Bruce at 814-341-0094 or bapenrod29@msn.com.

In November, thanks to the addition of our newest basic keelboat, “Jolly Roger”, we proudly conducted our very first 4-boat, 12-student BASIC KEELBOAT Class, followed by another full 4-boat class on December 12-13 and even another December class on the 19th-20th. It hasn’t been that long ago that we did not have December classes for Sunfish or keelboats, due to the holidays and not being able to generate enough interest for a class. We’ve come a long way, sailors.

For those new members, or anyone else interested in learning to sail, please remember that we offer twelve (12) Sunfish Learn-to-Sail classes, the first weekend of each month, twenty-two BASIC KEELBOAT Classes, twice monthly on the

second (2nd) weekend, and again on the third (3rd) weekend of each month except February and November, Flying Scot classes by appointment, and both cruising classes, scheduled to meet the demand of students becoming eligible through prerequisite certifications. All of our classes are open to the public as well as members. Finally, our Member-Use program offers the privilege of personal use of certain of our fleet boats at a fraction of commercial rates. Those privileges, for members-only, are earned through endorsement for the Sunfish or certification for the basic and cruising keelboats. For members interested in use of our club’s Flying Scots, check out the Adopt-a Scot program by contacting certified instructor, Bud Price at budp@cgsc.org. Looking to add new purpose and fun to your life for 2016? Consider becoming a US Sailing Certified Instructor, a fun, satisfying part-time career that can provide purpose, fun, challenge and the opportunity to continuously meet like-minded people and provide safe, correct instruction at the friendliest club on the paradise we know as Biscayne Bay, or any other US Sailing facility nation-wide. More info? Contact Richard.

Sail Often Sail Safely Enjoy and Protect Our Beautiful Bay
Richard Crisler, Chairman
Adult Sailing
305-342-4775 cell
richard@cgsc.org





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Clarington Island Cleanup



Saturday, January 9 will be the kick off for the 2016 Island Clean-up. The first launch will be at 9:00 a.m. and will continue as needed. Sunscreen, water and gloves are provided.

Refreshment will be provided afterwards, including beer donated by ???. It would be great to see returning members and meet some new volunteers.

December's cleanup was rained out.