



the channel

COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB
serving the community since 1945

JULY 2017

FIRST CGSC-MEMBER BOAT EVER IS SET TO SAIL THE TRANSPAC RACE TO HAWAII!!

Longtime Coconut Grove Sailing Club Member Frank Atkinson is set to sail his 41 ft. J-125 Raisin' Cane! in the 2017 Transpac Race to Honolulu. This is the "granddaddy" of all west coast ocean races throughout the Americas. As far as is known, it will be the first time a CGSC boat has ever sailed this incredible race. 2017 is the 49th Transpac, a biennial event which dates back over a hundred years. There are 55 entries for this edition.



The race starts off Point Fermin in Los Angeles, CA and finishes off Honolulu. Besides the start and finish, the only mark of the course is Catalina Island, which must be left to port. The rhumb line course is 2,225 nm, but that typically goes through the Pacific High, so you can't go that way. Consequently, the rated course length is 2,300 nm as the fleet arcs south in breeze

around the High. Raisin' Cane! will likely be in about Day 12 when it crosses the finish line. Due to the course length, the starts are staggered so the fleet arrives in Honolulu closer together for post-race festivities. The slowest classes start on Monday, July 3rd. Raisin' Cane! will sail in Division 3 and starts on Wednesday, July 5th, while the larger monohulls and multihulls start the following day.

The whole thing is quite a spectacle. The departure ceremony from Rainbow Harbor in Long Beach features a PA announcer on the adjacent pier surrounded by a large crowd of race fans, friends and family, plus other well-wishers. As each boat departs the harbor, the announcer introduces the boat by name, lists the skipper and crew by position, and concludes with something like:

continued on 4

COMMODORE'S REPORT

On a recent Wednesday evening I had the pleasure of sailing with a "youth sailing" mom. She came on board as the third member of our crew. Having natural athletic ability helps on a sailboat, but chasing after 2 or 3 young children every day can certainly qualify as a fitness regime. This sailing mom decided to try our sport because of the positive change in her son and his obvious joy of sailing. Her enthusiasm was evident from the first outing, now after several evenings sailing in our Wednesday series, the interest has remained. My crew and I always try to make sailing enjoyable for our "walk - on" sailors and this was no exception. During our most

recent sail we discovered that "mom" had also been crewing on an ORC/ PHRF boat. What a great thing to hear, going from totally "green" to crewing on two classifications of boats in just a few short months.

It is just that easy, if you want to sail, just show up, we can make it happen.



Ryan Alexander,
Commodore
commodore@cgsc.org

NOTICE

Upcoming CGSC Regattas

**CGSC Commodore's Cup
Members Only
July 15, 2017**

**BBYRA ORC #12
July 22, 2017**

**Single & Double
Handed Regattas
August 5-6, 2017**

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



2017-2018 Flag Officers

BRIDGE:

Commodore	Ryan Alexander
Vice-Commodore	Geoff Sutcliffe
Rear Commodore	James Grupenhoff
Secretary	Rob Carlson
Treasurer	Olivier DeLavalette

BOARD:

Richard Etkin ('18)	TBD (19)
Julie Hanrahan ('18)	John Asturias (20)
Erik Noonburg ('18)	Dr. Jennifer Cheney (20)
Nicole Bailey (19)	James Liebl (20)
Frank DeLaurier (19)	Janice Pruet, PC
	Susan Walcott, ex officio

General Manager.....Lauren Simpson

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VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Hello Sailors!

In the June Channel I wrote ... This will be my last article as Rear Commodore, I don't think they'll let me do this job for a third time), so either you'll hear from me next year as Vice Commodore, or I'll simply have to tell my stories in the Grove's Nest. Thanks for voting me in as Vice Commodore - I'll do what I can to make the club a better place for all members in involved in some aspect of sailing. And if you are not involved with sailing, the Rear Commodore (James Grupenhoff) and I are going to give you opportunities to enjoy what it's all about ... getting out on the bay!

One thing that I should have should have written about last month is the Key Largo race that took place in April. I was reviewing the results today, and wow, CGSC kicked butt. There were 13 racing classes, and CGSC boats were entered in 9 of the classes. From that CGSC got 4 first

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Good evening to all CGSC members from coast to coast and to all the ships at sea. The monsoon season is upon us; many wise dogs and polecats have headed for higher ground and quite a few sage sailors are hunkered down in The Grove's Nest riding out the dark and stormy weather. Yet despite the summer squalls there are still fish to be fried and races to be raced, most importantly the Commodore's Cup! So, if ye thinks ye have the mettle; if ye thinks ye have the fire in yer' belly; if ye dares to think ye could be the skipper to hoist the coveted Cup, come on out and race with us on July 15th and perhaps you could see your name etched in brass next to the great Champions of the Past. Now, if that day happens to be your Spouse's birthday, or if you really gotta get your oil changed, we understand... So, we also have the Single-Handed and Double-Handed Regattas coming up on August 5th-6th to help you keep your edge until racing season begins anew in September. No matter the event, whether you

places, 5 second places, and 2 third places. Well done to all the CGSC sailors! Beyond the impressive performances, there was another aspect ... if you were down at Gilberts for the Saturday night, there were CGSC members everywhere!

It's good to be part of such a great group of sailors.

This a short article, because I'm writing this on Chubb Cay. I should be back by the time this is published in July, but maybe I'll just stay over here for ever ... it's nice :-). If I do come back, I'll have tales to tell about the Exumas. And I'll see you out on the bay!

Geoff Sutcliffe,
Vice Commodore
Moonglow - Bristol 30'
vicecommodore@cgsc.org



are a competitor or a volunteer helping out on the Race Committee, it is always better to be out on the water than to be on dry land wishing you were...

James Grupenhoff,
Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@cgsc.org



JULY 3 - 21,
2017

“We wish you Godspeed and AL-O-HA!” Then, BLAM! comes a shot from the signal cannon. In the background are LA fireboats spraying water high in the air, and Hawaiian-style paddlers in outrigger canoes accompanying the race boats.

The Transpac is mostly downwind, and is a great race for a boat light and well-canvassed enough to surf down the waves at high speed. Fortunately, Raisin’ Cane! fits that mold. There are no thrills in sailboat racing like surfing past Diamond Head under spinnaker at 20+ knots on the way to the finish line, with the lights of downtown Honolulu in the background after many dark and sometimes squally nights at sea. In port, each racing boat has a local sponsor in Honolulu. There will be

a party for your boat provided by your sponsor waiting near your dock regardless of whether you arrive at 1500 or 0300!

Sailing with Skipper Frank aboard Raisin’ Cane! will be Dave Brink, Joe Goulet, Bob King and Jamie & Tom Stewart. For more information on the 49th Transpac, and to follow the progress of Raisin’ Cane! go to www.transpacrace.com. For more on the boat and crew, their Facebook page is RaisinCaneBoat or Raisin’ Cane! Sailing.

Godspeed and AL-O-HA! from Coconut Grove Sailing Club! BLAM!

Ron Rostorfer, PC

In Memorium:

Stewart Sorg 1931 - 2017



CCGSC Life Member, Stewart Sorg, passed away on May 18th. Stewart was 85 years old.

Stewart was very active in club activities in the 1990's serving on the Board, managing the youth training activities and, as Vice Commodore was involved in most of the club's social and sailing activities. He was long time chairman of Coconut Grove's Waterfront Advisory Board and a retired Navy SEAL Captain.

Stewart studied at the University of Virginia and University of Miami in the 1950s — during which he lived aboard his sailboat, Rainbows End, and worked part time as a dock master at CGSC. He earned an advanced banking degree at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.



Sorg founded a stockholder-owned savings-and-loan in Virginia, ran a bank marketing company in Virginia, and after settling in Miami in the early 1970s, he was

regional vice president of Miami's former Southeast Bank. He was president of the Coconut Grove Chamber of Commerce, a founding member of Miami's International Trade Board, vice president of the Goombay Festival and Vizcayans Association, and a Mercy Hospital Foundation founder member.

As a Navy Reservist, he served in Vietnam, and founded the Navy SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce.

Sorg's survivors include his children Jacquelyn Sorg Barchanowicz, Ginger Sorg Kocjancic, Joseph Braxton Sorg and William Stuart Sorg III and six grandchildren.

Burial is at the South Florida National Cemetery, 6501 S. State Rd. 7, Lake Worth. Donations in Sorg's name can be made to the Navy Seal Museum in Fort Pierce.

ADULT SAILING REPORT

Congratulations and Thanks to our new Officers and Board Members and for their support of our Adult Instructional program. Due to a previous commitment, I missed the installation ceremony for the first time in over twenty (20) years. It is a great and important annual event for our club. While the weather has been a real challenge during the usually favorable Spring and early Summer months, we have still managed to accomplish a lot for our program, especially regarding the Ensign fleet. We have added a "new" Ensign, Woolly-Bully, once a national champion, which will replace PAT, our tired workhorse, and favorite of many of our Ensign sailors. After the long trip from Lake Wiley, SC, and all the preparation, which included the keel-stepped mast, Woolly-Bully is now in service for our instructional fleet. Member-Use Ensigns will be FOUNDATION and PUFF-DADDY.

It was a long process of both budget and manpower to arrange the way overdue haul-outs of Ensigns FOUNDATION and PUFF-DADDY. Advance reservations at the boatyard were mandatory, and when the day finally arrived, it was very windy, with drenching rain, and we called the yard to postpone for a day. We were told the boats must be there that day, or we must wait for weeks more. We owe much gratitude to Dock Master, Duane, and staff member, Juan, for their long and tedious efforts to tow each of these 3,000 pound, non-motored keelboats to the boatyard on the Miami River, during some very foul weather. Thank You, Thank You. Previous to the two Ensigns, we have hauled out our cruiser TOGETHER for repairs to the keel, the rudder and bottom-painting. Thanks to all

involved with these important tasks.

For the second time this year, we were forced to cancel a BASIC KEELBOAT Class due to very unfavorable weather for teaching. That is a rare occurrence, but our students were understanding and attended rescheduled classes. Our Sunfish program, with Philip Adams, has also suffered from the weather during this Spring, both classes and clinics. Some good news for our Sunfish program involved the donation of two Sunfish which we were able to accommodate. I know that our new Commodore, Ryan, is looking for ways to increase Sunfish activity, including use by club members, and we look forward to supporting that program, and welcome any member suggestions.

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

Richard Crisler, Adult Training Chair
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FLIP FLOP FETE

This years annual Flip Flop Fete was a great success!

This event could not have happened without this years Chairs: Meredith Vey and Hannah Martinez. A big thank you goes out to these two Opti moms who worked hard and long hours on making this event such a success. They had a great gang (committee) with them who helped them all the way ranging from decoration (Martha and Marianna), to organizing food (Karime), servers (Adriana), drinks, silent auction (Sally Anne) as well as amazing design (Jazmin). Thank you to all those Opti moms.

The 80's theme provided a great opportunity to dress up and dance till dawn to awesome music. Thank you DJ Optimum Lillian, her music selection was amazing. There were definitely some tremendous outfits. Guest dressed for the occasion as you can see from the pictures. Thank you to everybody who bought tickets to the event.

For dinner, a tasteful Paella that was made right there on our premises by La Gamba in the Grove, was served accompanied by a homemade Sangria donated by Opti mom Adriana Davilla. Beer was served as well, donated by our corporate sponsor Famosa, thanks to the parents of Opti sailor Saira. And no bar would be called great, without a seriously good Tequila, Thank you Beckmann Family for this great donation. Have you heard about those Jello shots? No, not the once for the kids the one for the grown ups. They were dangerously good. Thank you Crep family.

The silent auction had such a wonderful variety of donations that it was hard to choose: from Sunset boat charters, to amazing beach bags, Coconut Grove experience gift bag, crisis management workshop, CGSC tote bag filled with picnic essentials, Walkie Talkies, Coconut Grove Arts Festival Framed Poster, coaching session with our awesome youth sailing coaches (thank you guys for your donation) a.s.o. Thank you to everyone from the Club who so generously donated to the auction. Thank you to FPL, The Morris Family and Aranyos Family for your sponsorship to the

event.

The first annual raffle was drawn during the event. The grand prize, a 7 night Star Clippers cruise for 2, went to a ticket holder who bought it from our top raffle ticket seller, Sue Gruppenhoff. Thank you Sue and thank you to everybody who was instrumental in selling and buying tickets. A special thank you to Joel Krieger who not only secured the main prize but relentlessly sold tickets for month as well as Star Clipper for this wonderful grand prize and the Sonesta Hotel.

Thank you to the CGSC Staff for your hard work and kind help.

Thank you again to all Youth Sailing Parents. Thanks to you and your hard work and dedication, we were able to raise money for youth sailing program and scholarships/outreach program.

It takes a great team of parents to make a great program.

Priska Urban , Youth Sailing CoChair



CGSC Goombay Regatta

Saturday's PHRF Pursuit Race

Not everyone was out of town for the Memorial Day Weekend. We had 15 boats racing in three classes. In a Pursuit Race, the slowest boat starts first. With PHRF handicaps in place, all boats should finish as the same time. As a result, the first boat to finish is the winner. With three fleets, we presented a first place trophy to the first boat to finish, Scouts' Honor, Mark Pincus Captain, as well as a first place to Sunquest, Wildredo Paredes Captain, in the Cruiser/Racer and Sacrosanct, Al Otero Captain, in the Cruising/Non-Spinnaker Fleet.



Sunday's One Design Race

For our One Design event, two fleets checked in to race for the day. After two races, the Flying Scot Fleet winners were: Beija Flor, Ryan Alexander Captain 1st, Dom's Cadillac, Philippe Dusser Captain 2nd and Margaritaville, Larry Whipple Captain 3rd. The Laser Fleet winners were: Sail #207143 1st, James Liebl, 2nd and #199400, 3rd.



YOUTH SAILING

Hello Folks,

Much is going on as always at Coconut Grove Sailing Club. A new year is upon us with a new commodore, new kids out sailing, new lawn (looks great!) and a new summer camp. We have had a spectacular turnout this year with over 80 sailors in the first session alone which is good for the club as more sailors are exposed to this curious thing we all love to do. I am also happy to report that we successfully closed out our spring season with a great end-of-season awards and a spectacular Flip Flop Fete, which is our yearly fundraiser. I will

let more capable people tell you about the very nice event that was put together by the flip flop fete committee but I would like to thank Meredith Vey and Hannah Martinez along with their dedicated team of volunteers who raised money for our youth programs. These ladies (and gents) put on a good show and we thank them for it. Please enjoy some photos from our past Spring Awards Ceremony and we will see you all next month.

Fair Winds,
-Alberto Olivo

Program Manager
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INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS JUNE 24, 2017



EXPERIENCE A CARIBBEAN CRUISE



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Call [866-482-3066](tel:866-482-3066) to book your next cruise. Use member code [CG2990](#). All CGSC Members will receive a "Free Drink Package" and 5% of all cabin bookings will be donated to the [Coconut Grove Sailing Club Instructional Center](#).