

the channel

COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB

serving the community since 1945

DECEMBER 2017



COMMODORE'S REPORT

During a recent regatta with 7 classes of boats on the starting line my crew and I had some difficulty maintaining our focus and after one really disastrous result we tried to regain some of the Bay we had lost. We can begin with the really obvious mistakes, we started in a bad position in messy air. There was a little difficulty getting a clear lane. Our next two tacks brought us closer to the starting line than the weather mark. The weather mark rounding was wide enough for a Panamax freighter and our downwind leg suffered by a "rat nest" on the jib halyard. This may leave you wondering why we were on the water that day? I will continue by saying that it got better and it did, but not immediately. Later, we had a little problem with the luff attachment of our jib and some destructive testing on our gooseneck connection. There was some improvement in our starts and our up wind legs got better. However, it was downwind where the smiles began. At one mark rounding, after the spinnaker halyard

was all the way up, we heard the clear "pop" of a really good spinnaker set. We knew a good leg was in place. Because the legs were shortened from the previous race the finish line was tight. The wind picked up on the final downwind leg bringing the finishes of several classes together. The photograph of the different boats, all with spinnakers up, as we crossed the line must have been a good one. At the bar, as we sat with the rest of the competitors after a full day of racing, the reason we sail emerged. The competition and the camaraderie. Lets all get out on the Bay and make some spinnakers "pop".



Thank you

Ryan Alexander,

Commodore

commodore@cgsc.org



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 Pruett, PC
	Susan Walcott, ex officio

General Manager.....Lauren Simpson

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NOTICE

Upcoming CGSC Regattas



Melges 20 Miami Winter Series #1
Friday – Sunday
December 1-3, 2017

Open Orange Bowl Regatta
Tuesday – Sunday
December 26-30, 2017

470 & I-420 North American
Championships
Saturday – Monday
January 13-15, 2018

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

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Hello Sailors!

After Hurricane Irma we patted ourselves on the back for some pretty good preparation for the storm, and a remarkable recovery afterwards. We also learned some lessons, and worked out some things we can do better. I have started building a web site to document our procedures, and I will be grateful for constructive feedback from anyone who was there helping us. The URL is <http://sailing.coldbeer.cc>.

I'm writing this as the Nassau Cup Ocean Race, and it's great to see CGSC represented by Becky Lyons and her crew on Osita. Several CGSC members are also out there on boats from other clubs ... they clearly need the great sailors who call CGSC home. And if you're into racing, I assume you are keeping track of the Volvo Ocean Race, at <http://www.volvoceanrace.com>. The boats will

be in Newport in May next year, and I'll certainly be going up to see the action. I'm rooting for Vestas 11th Hour Racing!

Not much more to say this month, so I'll see you out on the bay!

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



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

"Recently my wife and I invited a friend who is not a member to meet us at CGSC for a drink; she walked over from her condo in one of the high-rise buildings across Bayshore Drive. The view from her balcony overlooks the club and the bay, and she said enjoys watching the boats on the mooring field and the kids rigging on the lawn on Saturday mornings. On cue, I dove straight into my well-rehearsed spiel about how easy it was to join our club, how nice and down-to-earth the members are, and all of the great sailing programs we offer to fulfill our mission of providing access to the bay and promoting the sport of sailing to the citizens of Coconut Grove and Miami as a whole. She then said, "Wow, I never knew all of that, I think I'll have to join"... Please remember - although we have been here for more than 70 years and we put such great effort into promoting our club, our best ambassador is YOU. The firsthand accounts of the good times, fair winds and

camaraderie that our current members have experienced will bring new members into our community more effectively than any brochure or email blast. Do not hesitate to mention to your friends, neighbors, or even your co-worker who smells like baloney that "I just learned to sail two years ago and now I am racing on the bay", or "I volunteered for Race Committee for the Halloween Howler and I was soaking wet for 4 hours, but I'll never forget how much fun it was" or "that dude Dennis in The Grove's Nest makes a *killer* Dark n' Stormy". It's that easy.

Sheet in, hike out, turn on,

James Grupenhoff,
Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@cgsc.org



Adult Sailing

With the loss of three (3) of our regularly scheduled, popular BASIC KEELBOAT Classes in September and October, it was good to get back in the swing of our classes in November and accommodate the backlog of students seeking training and eventual certification on our Ensigns, through the US Sailing BASIC KEELBOAT classes and Certification System. We normally offer two keelboat classes every month, year round, except November (Thanksgiving) and February (Arts Festival) which occupy the regularly scheduled weekend for these classes. Our November 11-12 class, being the only keelboat class for the month, was met with a very breezy and challenging weekend, with winds above our normal training limit. The tough Ensigns can take it, and our class was fearless, so we went ahead with the class, finishing with some tired student sailors (and instructors) but all still smiling when it was over. At the close of the class, Completion Certificates were passed out and a membership presentation was made to our class by Past Commodore Doug Hanks. Thanks, Doug.

We were very encouraged to see a strong turnout for Phil Adam's Sunfish Clinic after the storm and weather delays preceding. Thanks to Phil for his tireless, dedicated work on this fun and significant training option offered to both member and non-member adults.

This year's WORK WEEKEND (WORK SUNDAY) was not suited to our normal four days of work on the Ensign fleet, plus we had scheduled coaching and testing for days immediately before and after that Sunday. We needed to accommodate the backlog of members and

non-members seeking certification, so we will now be working on the Ensigns individually for cleaning, minor carpentry repairs, sanding, painting and varnishing, one at a time. If you would like to volunteer your time to help us with this important annual maintenance of our workhorse fleet, please contact me directly as shown below. Most work will be planned on weekdays or non-class weekends.

Finally .. Looking for a unique holiday gift? Want to promote sailing and our club? Why not one of our unique and handsome Gift Certificates which can be as simple as a two-hour introduction to keelboat sailing, the weekend Sunfish or Ensign classes, two hour coaching sessions for those who could stand some "tuning-up", or other of our sailing class offerings. Contact Richard Crisler for these very unique, customized, nautical Gift Certificates. You can even charge them to your club account.

Wishing You and Yours a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

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

Richard Crisler, Adult Training Chair,
305-342-4775 cell
richardc@cgsc.org



YOUTH SAILING HALLOWEEN HOWLER

The 7th Annual Halloween Howler Regatta was once again a great success, despite a passing front which brought some pretty scary weather on Saturday night. There were over 140 sailors registered to race, which set a new record, breaking the mark set last year by a healthy margin. The conditions on the bay were not ideal; it was very rainy on Saturday and clear but very windy on Sunday. Despite those challenges, we did manage to get several races completed for two of the three fleets and CGSC's teams fared well.

Onshore, the raffle was very well attended and left many smiling faces. We also managed to take over 50 children onto the Haunted Mooring Field on Sunday afternoon after it was cancelled on Saturday night for safety reasons. We all look forward to another successful edition of the Howler in 2018.

Hopefully Mother Nature will be a little more cooperative.

James Grupenhoff
Rear Commodore



Coconut Grove Sailing Club
OCTOBER 28-29
Laser, Ojai RWB, Opti Green



**HALLOWEEN
HOWLER**
Regatta 2017

Coconut Grove Sailing Club's 7th annual Halloween Howler is here!



**NEW YEAR'S EVE
JOIN US FOR A NIGHT AT
THE OSCARS!**

**\$50
PER
PERSON**



**DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE
ACTOR OR ACTRESS!**

**WINNER SHALL RECEIVE
CGSC OSCAR AWARD!**

CGSC

Happy Chanukah



MERRY CHRISTMAS

FLYING SCOTS

Flying Scot race for BBYRA had the following results; Culpable was first sailed by Dave Martin and Andi Hoffman, Second was Jeorg Reinhold and Richard Etkin in club boat 3423, Third was Bud Price in Air America. Fourth another club boat Dom's Cadillac sailed by Phillippe Dusser, Fifth was Beija Flor sailed by Ryan Alexander, 6th was Lilith Sailed by Achene Iddir . Half of the fleet were club owned and sponsored boats.

On another note Castle Harbor is temporarily storing their Harbor 20's at the club while waiting for repairs at Matheson Hammock park. As a great byproduct of this they have invited the Scots to race with them on Saturday mornings. After 3 weekends of too much wind they got off a great race this Saturday with 6 Scots and 6 Harbor 20's on the line. It was great racing with perfect conditions. Like Wednesday night racing everyone is invited. Come and join the fun any Saturday when the weather is good.

Bud



CGSC NEW MEMBER DOCK PARTY



Drinks. Food. Music. Nametags.

**Come out and toast the new year with our
new members!**

Everyone who joined in 2017 is a guest of honor.

**SATURDAY, JAN 6, 1700 HRS
MAIN DOCK**