

the channel

COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB
Serving the community since 1945
MARCH 2018



WORLD SAILING CUP-MIAMI
Page 4

RS:X
OLYMPIC WINDSURFING CLASS

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Our perfect winter sailing conditions continue as we attract sailors from around the world to Biscayne Bay. The past few months have shown once again that if you want to sail in the US in the winter then Miami is the place to be. As residents of South Florida and members of C.G.S.C. we enjoy sailing all year long. Recent regattas have shown why we are chosen year after year to host a number of important events. Our Race Committee consistently delivers some of the best race management available. While it may be a small inconvenience to members, our participation keeps the mission of our club in the thoughts of sailors everywhere. Check out this article, spend some time at the C.G.S.C. and get out on the water.

A Q&A with Sam Rogers about the Melges 20 Class' 2017-2018 Miami Winter Series From [Boating](#), a Flipboard topic



If you're seeking the most speed and fun that one can have aboard a high-performance 20-foot racing sailboat, the Melges...
[Read it on Flipboard](#); [Read it on sail-world.com](#)

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) | James Green (19) |
| Erik Noonburg ('18) | John Asturias (20) |
| Jeffrey Flanagan, PC (18) | Dr. Jennifer Cheney (20) |
| Ed Raiburn(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

Miami Sail Week
Thursday - Saturday
March 8-10, 2018

Melges 20 Miami Winter Series #3
Friday – Sunday
March 16-18, 2018

52nd Annual Don Q Snipe Regatta
Friday - Sunday
March 23-25, 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**

US Sailing Honors CGSC, Rostorfer

The US Sailing Award winners for 2017 were recognized Thursday night, February 1st for their contributions to the sport of sailing in the United States. To celebrate the accomplishments of these individuals and organizations, US Sailing recognized them at the Sailing Leadership Forum in St. Pete Beach, Florida. Fifteen awards were presented that evening. Nine lesser awards had been previously announced, and their recipients were introduced as a group.

Coconut Grove Sailing Club and **Ron Rostorfer PC** were honored with the *President's Award* for special contributions to the sport and partnership with US Sailing. This was the second highest award presented by US Sailing during the Awards Celebration. In making the presentation, US Sailing President Bruce Burton made the following statement:

“Many individuals and clubs contribute to our sport by hosting and staffing events, but a few go above and beyond anyone’s expectations in supporting sailors and sailing. One of those is the Coconut Grove Sailing Club and their past Race Committee and Regatta Chair, Ron Rostorfer.

CGSC has over 1,000 members, but only 51 parking spaces on the small parcel it leases from the City of Miami. Even so, the Club regularly blocks off a substantial part of the parking lot for the one-design dinghy fleets it hosts at regattas throughout the winter. Over the years, the Club’s leadership and members have steadfastly backed this pro-regatta policy, primarily in recognition of the desirability of their highly sought-after winter venue on Biscayne Bay.

“Rostorfer, who led the race committee and regatta committee for 15 years, was instrumental in finding a home for the U.S. International 420 Class Association in the early 2000s when it was seeking to rebuild and needed a venue to run a major winter event. Undaunted by a variety of obstacles, Rostorfer and the Club’s Race Committee put together a race management team, obtained the necessary permissions, and ran a successful event. Since then, the Club has partnered with the class to host a Thanksgiving Training Camp, the Class Nationals and North American Championship and assists with the Midwinters.

“They have similarly supported the 29er and 470 classes, Melges 20s and 24s, and Snipes, in addition to hosting an impressive variety of events out of the Club’s facility or on the ocean from Miami Beach.

“CGSC’s support has contributed significantly to the redevelopment of the US I-420 class. Larry Law, president of the class, wrote, ‘If there is a Guardian Angel for the sailing world, then I believe Ron and CGSC are as close to that description as can be found in our world.’

Olympic sailor David Hughes echoed that sentiment, ‘I can think of no one and no club more deserving to be honored for their service to one-design sailing and sailors than Ron and CGSC. From my perspective, the I-420 and 470 classes owe a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid.’

CGSC Commodore Ryan Alexander was also invited to attend, but was unable to do so. Consequently, Ron’s wife Dottie represented the Club and accepted the Club’s award.

In acceptance, Ron made the following remarks:

“Thank you very much, Bruce. We too are honored to be the recipients of these awards, and we too are humbled. That’s because there are so many really good people in our sport, and a lot of them are here tonight! So, for once this evening, give yourselves a round of applause!

We accept these awards on behalf of three groups of people. In no particular order, they are:

- The Membership and Staff of Coconut Grove Sailing Club;
- Those US Sailing Members across the country who volunteer their time and effort to develop and manage regattas for their home club or other sailing facility; and
- The hard-working, all volunteer Members of the Coconut Grove Sailing Club Race Committee. They are known around the world of one-design racing.”

Left to right, US Sailing President Bruce Burton, Dottie Rostorfer representing CGSC and Ron Rostorfer.



VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Hello Sailors!

It's been a hectic couple of months of sailing, and I was personally involved with three wonderful sailing events. I'll quite selfishly write about them ...

The first was the Key West race, and I was happy to be invited to crew on one of the two CGSC boats that entered. I was on Becky Lyons' *Osita*, and the other boat was Amado Leo's *Lokura*. The two boats had a great battle, with *Osita* well ahead for the first day or so, then *Lokura* got past us during the second evening, and finally *Osita* caught up around 1:30am and crossed the finish line only seconds behind *Lokura*. This brilliant tactical loss got us the "Last Boat Over the Line" prize - a large bottle of rum! Sometimes odd tactics make for great outcomes :-)

The second thing was the repair of the mastcap on Erik and Karen's *Ms Mary Lou*. Now normally a boat repair job would not be considered a "wonderful thing", but there was something wonderful about this repair. The boat was brought to the dock to get the mast down. It's not a trivial task, and the wonderful thing was that about six people came over and all started to help Karen and Erik. True club camaraderie. People kept scuttling off to get tools and materials that were needed, advice

flowed with abundance (as usual :-), and once the mastcap was off the whole group sat at one of the picnic tables to help disassemble, clean, and plan what needed to be done. The mast will be going up again next weekend, and I'll bet two beers there will be members there to help again.



Lastly, check out this photo from the Super Bowl weekend raft-up in Pines Canal ... five club boats, two anchors, 17 members, one dog, and so much good food. The water was just warm enough for a quick swim, and the sailing home to get up to the Crows Nest to watch the game was sweet. That's what it's all about - wonderful sailing on Biscayne Bay. See you out there!



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

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Once again it is time for one of the great traditions of Coconut Grove Sailing Club, The Annual Rendezvous. This year it will take place on April 14th and 15th at Boca Chita. The theme shall be "Buccaneers of Biscayne Bay", so if you did not get a chance to show off your pirate gear for "The Haunted Mooring Field" back in October, get your black sails ready to fly in April. We hope to have a healthy fleet rafted up together so we may all commiserate on Tax Day and enjoy the

beauty of Biscayne Bay. As always, there will be a good deal of logistical effort to make this event happen, so please contact me if you wish to help.



James Grupenhoff,
Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@cgsc.org

CGSC'S SAILING WORLD CUP - MIAMI

Once again, CGSC played host to the Men's and Women's RS:X Olympic Windsurfers for the 2018 Sailing World Cup - Miami. It was another big fleet regatta for our Club, with 48 Men's "Boards" and 35 Women – a total of 83 competitors. The Boards lived on scaffold racks at the Club as has been the practice over the past few years. The entire SWC-Miami event featured racing for all ten Olympic Classes on five circles around the Bay. The event headquarters were at Regatta Park, where most of the other fleets were also based.

The event took place Tuesday through Saturday for us, January 23-27. The racing format was three races per day through Friday, a total of 12 scheduled races, followed by a Medal Race for the top ten only in each Class on Saturday. So, those outside the top ten are done on Friday and none can finish better than 11th. Medal race scores count double, so a real premium on that single race.

SWC-Miami is one of a series of Sailing World Cup events around the world. In the past, there have been as many as six separate events, but this year there are four. The first one in Japan had already been sailed back in October, followed by Miami. Two events remain in France – Hyeres in April and Marseille in June, as 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games aspirants hone their skills

in advance of country trials.

Conditions. Northerly quadrant winds again prevailed that week. Unfortunately, winds were so light on Tuesday that only one race for the Women was conducted late in the day. This was followed by two splendid days of Biscayne Bay racing, as the winds gradually increased during the period. The Boards can only sail three races per day for each fleet due to the physical exertion required, so, there's no catching up when the event falls behind schedule.

These young windsurfer competitors are very fit specimens of their respective genders!

Then, Friday dawned. Winds were very high – averaging mid-high 20 knot range, with gusts into the 30's and a severe sea-state.



An event-wide postponement was signaled, with updates provided hourly. Conditions didn't change. Finally, in mid-afternoon, racing was abandoned for the day for all Classes. So, that was it pending the Medal Races on Saturday – only six of 12 Men's races completed and seven of 12 for the Women.

Saturday's conditions were still big breeze, but sailable. An experimental race course was used with a reaching start and finish leg, and a windward-leeward twice around in between. In both fleets, the Boards flashed by in a heartbeat – incredibly fast reaching in these conditions. Spectacular to witness.

Results. The French windsurfers were dominant in the event, winning both Men's and Women's Classes. Each competitor was allowed to drop his/her worst race from the final score – other than the Medal Race, if sailed. There were three French Men's Boards in the top seven overall. A Dutch Board was second, some 13 points behind. There were also three British Boards in the top 10, with the best finisher in 4th. The Dutch two-time Olympic Gold Medalist was 10th!

Racing in the Women's fleet was much closer. The win by the sole French Women's Board in the top 10 was only by one point over an Italian entry, with a Spanish Board only another point back in third. So, results could easily have been different. The top six Women's Boards were all from different countries. Italy and Japan were the only countries to place two Boards in the top ten.

The USA has not been competitive in Olympic Windsurfing

for many years, and this event provided no exception. The top USA Men's Board was sailed by Pedro Pascual and finished 35th out of the 48 entries. Women's veteran Farrah Hall was 25th among the 35 Women. Maybe someday....

Race Committee. Many thanks to Carl Updyke for providing his 34 ft. catamaran as Signal Boat for the regatta – which he's done several times before. CGSC's Signal Boat team included Dottie Rostorfer, Helen Phillips, Jo Ann Mathieu and Max Boschetti. Up to windward with her Contender 27 was Race Committee Chair Susan Walcutt, assisted by Sicotte Hamilton, Allen Cox and Dick Pober. The Pin Boat was skippered by Rick Klein with Carol Cottrell, Bill Becker and Mike Stephens aboard.

The Gate boat was skippered by Ron Rostorfer, PC, with Debbie Ryder at the wheel and Joe Waldman crewing. The Finish Boat was skippered by Nancy Rogachenko, with Ev Hoffman and Bill Quesenberry steering, along with Kathy Gunst and Steve Herman. Things were shuffled around for the Medal Races, with Andi Hoffman and John Baker joining the RC Team. Shore-side duties were once again expertly handled by Sandrine Quenee, assisted by Denise Schneider.

Ron Rostorfer



Photos provided by Richard Pober

The Comodoro Rasco Snipe Regatta

February 3-4, 2018

From George Bradley, PRO

The club hosted the annual Comodoro Rasco Snipe Regatta on the first weekend in February. The long-standing event is the brainchild of “El Viejo,” Gonzalo Diaz, Sr., who started sailing and winning in Snipes in the 1950s in Havana. He created the event to honor the memory of Comodoro Manuel Rasco, a guiding force at the Havana Yacht Club before the Revolution. Considered a “must do” event for sailors devoted to the venerable Snipe class, this year sixteen boats, from as far away as Maryland and Massachusetts, came to participate.

Steady winds made course setting relatively easy, allowing the race committee to hold all three races hoped for on Saturday. Winds approached, but did not quite reach, sufficient strength to take advantage of the triangle set by the windward mark boat. As a result, all three races were run under code flags Whisky and Delta, indicating to Snipe sailors a windward-leeward course with a downwind finish. Reigning world champion Raul Rios with crew Sofia Rivera won all three. Raul Faura and Roberto Lopez of Miami took second in the first race, while Peter and Connie Commette did so in the second and third, barely edging out Carol Cronin and Kim Couranz in the second race. At the end of the day, Commette trailed Rios by four points, with Cronin five more points behind in third. Good sport that he is, Commette spent an hour after racing making repairs to Cronin’s boat.

One of the great traditions of the Rasco is the Saturday night party hosted by El Viejo (“the Old Man”) and his charming wife, Carmen, at their home. There sailors and race committee gather to relax, devour lasagna and salad, and watch El Viejo’s home movies of Castro’s arrival in Havana, sailing in Havana Harbor, and El Viejo winning the Cuban Nationals. After the meal and a hearty discussion about the future of the Rasco, at which the sailors encouraged Sr. Diaz to keep everything as it is, it was home to rest up for the final two races.

On Sunday, much lighter winds did nothing to slow the Rios boat, which glided away to two more bullets, followed in the second race by Commette and Cronin, and in the last race by David Hernandez and crew Liam Munzemaier, with Cronin again a very close third. The top five finishers for the regatta were: 1- Rios & Rivera; 2- Commette & Commette; 3- Cronin & Couranz; 4- Hernandez & Munzemaier; and in fifth, giving great hope to the younger members of the class, sisters Lisa and Lexi Pline sailing with the Severn Sailing Association.

Trophies were awarded to the top three skippers and crews, and a special award was given to the Plines for their effort and corresponding contribution to the event. Another great tradition of the Rasco follows the awarding of the trophies: the singing of La Bamba Va, in which the top finishers are expected to sing a short solo, then drink a special wine punch while the fleet serenades them with the chorus. To solve the dilemma posed by the fact that his crew was underage, Skipper Rios drained the bowl, bringing the 2018 Comodoro Rasco Regatta to a rousing conclusion.

Race Committee volunteers who helped make the event happen were Susan Walcott, scorer; Rick Kline and Steve Herman at Windward; Allen Cox, Phillipe Dusser, Vicki Matthews, and Bill Quesenbury on the Leeward boat; and Connie Bradley, Andi Hoffman, Ev Hoffman and PRO George Bradley on Signal.



Pacific Yankee and Mother Nature team up again for the Melges 20s!

The February winter event in the annual Melges 20 Winter Series shared two major results with the initial winter series regatta in December. Both saw almost perfect sailing conditions on all three days of racing on Biscayne Bay. And both saw spectacular race results from Drew Friedes's "Pacific Yankee" team. Friedes and crews Morgan Reeser and Charlie Smyth were almost untouchable in the series. The racing included a deep field of boats from four countries, many of which included teams with multiple national, international and Olympic championships in their sailing resumes.

For the second Melges 20 regatta in a row, the CGSC Race Committee team managed to get all eight races started without the need for penalty start sequences. Only two races even had any boats OCS (On Course Side) at the starts. On one of them (in Race 5 on Saturday), the Pacific Yankee Team was over at the start, yet they still managed to claw their way back to 3rd place at the finish!

Vladimir Proshikhin's Russian team aboard "Nika" was slow out of the gate in the first race on Friday, finishing 12th, but during six of the remaining seven races, they stayed consistently in the top five, to take home second place in the regatta. The third place boat "Mascalzone Latino Jr" carried an international crew from the US, Italy and Australia, but raced under the flag of Monaco. Their talented team included Australian tactician Malcom Page, a two time Olympic Gold medalist in the 470 class. Page just started his second year as the Chief of Olympic Sailing for the United States.

Much like the December event, two additional race course circles were in play on Biscayne Bay during this Melges 20 regatta. Unlike December when the Melges course moved around each day as course circles were traded by the various regattas, this time we set up races just E/ SE of Donovans Channel all three days. The Stars raced south of us, and M32 Cats sailed a bit to the Northeast. Over the course of three days, winds ranged from





10 to 16 knots, and gradually clocked around from the East at 095 degrees Friday, to 125 degrees (E/SE) Saturday, and eventually over to 150 degrees (S/SE) by Sunday.

Ev Hoffman once again generously provided Trahandy II as Signal Boat for the regatta. P.R.O. Blake Middleton was supported on the Signal Boat by Dottie Rostorfer, Denise Schneider, JoAnn Mathieu, Lane Malone and Andi Hoffman. JoAnn Mathieu also handled the scoring for the event from the Signal Boat.

Past Commodore Ron Rostorfer and his Pin Boat team had drivers Allen Cox, Patrick McLister and Deborah Ryder, along with Max Boschetti, Mike Stephens, Melinda Smith, Charles Heimler and Barb Safiullin.

Race Officer Rick Klein ran the Gate boat, with support from Marc Allen, Kathy Gunst, Philippe Dusser, Heimler and James Liebel.

CGSC Race Committee Chair Susan Walcutt managed the Mark Set boat duties with support of Steve Herman, Bill Quesenberry, Dick Pober, Javier Sanjuanbenito, Heimler, Gunst, and Steven Schwartz.

CSGC Regatta Chair Richard Etkin managed registration with Susan Walcutt, plus ran the shoreside team and protest committee support.

The CGSC Race Committee team once again stepped up to the plate in a big way. Twenty-seven (27!) amazing people carried out RC team roles

on one (or as many as three) different RC boats over the course of the regatta. Heimler was heard after the regatta saying, "What? You only put me on three of the four RC boats this time? Lets go for four!"

On the final day of the regatta, the "Pacific Yankee" team finished 3rd in Race 7. For the second Melges 20 Winter series regatta in a row, they had done the math and knew that the regatta win had been secured with one race to go, so they were able to sail in early, using the final race as their "discard" for the series.

Freide's "Pacific Yankee" team was clearly the most consistency boat, but the racing was incredibly tight. Over the course of the eight-race series, five different boats won individual races in the talented fleet.

For results and links: <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4479>

If the city of Miami wanted to promote "Chamber of Commerce" conditions for the town, they would have to look no further than the CGSC-hosted Melges 20 Winter series regattas. The final 2017/18 Winter series event #3 (also known as the "Melges Rocks regatta") comes up next on March 16-18.

Blake Middleton

Photos provided by Richard Pober & Blake Middleton

Adult Sailing

Thus far, our “winter” adult training activity has been very good and has finally enjoyed some good sailing weather with good training winds that were somewhat illusive during our last quarter, resulting in several class and private coaching cancellations and reschedules. Since our first BASIC KEELBOAT Class in January, all classes have been full and some with waiting lists. We have reservations for our group BASIC KEELBOAT Classes running all the way into June 2018. As a result, our BASIC KEELBOAT Certifications for both members and non-members are on the increase for this year, including Rob Casper and Glenn Cunningham in this past month. Congrats, Guys. For members, of course, the BASIC KEELBOAT Certification is the first step in gaining member-use access to our Ensign Keelboat fleet as well as our Beneteau fleet for cruising activities. BASIC KEELBOAT Group classes are offered twice each month on the second (2nd) weekend, and again on the third (3rd) weekend. Certification is not required

of members to use the Sunfish fleet, however, an endorsement is. Depending on your experience, you may be able to qualify for use of the Sunfish with a two or three-hour checkout, or you may need to take the group or private Sunfish Learn-to-Sail course. Classes, clinics and other Sunfish activity is open to the public as well as our members. Contact Philip Adams for your particular situation. Sunfish Learn-to-Sail Group classes are the first weekend of each month, and racing clinics are weekly during the week, and twice a month on weekends. Sunfish are FUN!!

It is also great to see the activity with the Flying Scot fleet which has increased with the Saturday morning races in cooperation with Castle Harbor, plus we have been assured that Wednesday evening racing will start up when Daylight Savings time starts back up in March. It's great to have such a large and active fleet. Congratulations to the Scot sailors.

We are pleased to once again be scheduling US Sailing BASIC CRUISING and BAREBOAT CRUISING Classes under the leadership of Capt. Bruce Penrod. Congratulations to member Jim Nubiola and non-member Michael Mavris, who just earned their Bareboat certification in a class ending February 12. By the time you read this, another BASIC CRUISING class will have been given on February 23-25. For March, there is a BASIC CRUISING Course being conducted on March 16-18. Contact Capt. Bruce at cruisinginstructor@cgsc.org for details or to sign up for the course. The US Sailing BASIC KEELBOAT Certification is the prerequisite for this course.

Our Adult Training program continues to grow with the support of our Officers, Board, Members and Staff. Thanks to All!

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

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



YOUTH NEWS

Often times in the world (and it is a world) of sailing one has to step back and be humbled by all of the things that can happen at once, both good and bad. I am currently in awe of just how much we have bounced back from Hurricane Irma which was just last September and how much bigger and stronger the youth program is. I guess the saying is true, out of bad comes good!

I am happy to report that I have accepted the position of Youth Director full-time and am diving in head-first to make sure CGSC has a Youth Program it can be proud of! These kids have hit the water this season with a new sense of purpose, a renewed drive to strive for greatness both personal and public; the same can be said of the coaches who are putting in day after day of hard work and keep looking for every bit of information to bring these sailors to the next level. In the short time since Hurricane Irma we have:

- qualified 2 opti sailors for the 2018 USODA Team Trials
- qualified for the 2018 Laser 4.7 Worlds (we are hoping to go with 3 sailors!!!)
- 105 registered sailors in the Spring Season
- placed in every single regatta we have attended this season!

Not to mention all of the personal victories that these sailors achieve on a daily basis when sailing at CGSC.

It really is a privilege to see these kids day in and day out becoming better sailors, better people. I am thrilled to be working here with these fantastic coaches, parent volunteers and families who are making CGSC renowned again for what they provide to the sailing world in the US and beyond. I'd like to take the time to thank Priska Urban and our very own Rear Commodore James Grupenhoff for their tireless efforts in making the CGSC Youth Programs and CGSC as a whole the best sailing club on the eastern seaboard.

In next months issue, you'll be reading about the First Inagural CANAMerican Cup, the visit from the US National Optimist Team, Ocean Sailing, and more!

See you next month,
-Alberto

