



January 2020



the
channel

COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB
serving the community since 1945 www.cgsc.org

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Friends:

About the time of release of this January 2020 issue of The Channel, I will be marking my tenth anniversary as a member of Coconut Grove Sailing Club. It has been a whirlwind ride, going from never having sailed before to being Commodore and a sailboat owner in less than a decade. Along the way I think I have experienced almost everything the club has to offer, including basic instruction, Flying Scot sponsorship and racing, Sunfish rodeos (see photo), keelboat and cruising certifications, participation in the youth program by my son, hauling up anchors on race committee, cleaning up Clarrington Island, varnishing rudders on Work Weekend, cruising raft-ups, keeping a boat on a mooring and of course enjoying your company in The Grove's Nest bar and restaurant. For me, everything clicked; I love being out on the water and I was immediately hooked by the science and art of sailing, and this organization made it easy to access the bay and learn the skills needed to enjoy it. I realize that not everyone may be inclined to do all of these things, but I am a firm believer that CGSC has something to offer for everyone (whether you are a member or not). Our mission continues to be to encourage the sport of sailing, promote the science of seamanship and navigation, sponsor cruises, races and instructional classes and to foster a spirit of cooperation and good



fellowship. And, though my tenure as Commodore may soon be coming to an end, I can assure you that I shall always be an ambassador to the community for this club to promote that mission.

Sincerely, James

James Grupenhoff, Commodore
s/v Stardust
commodore@cgsc.org



Race Committee Christmas Party



Photos by
Richard Crisler

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

A new year a new decade!
Here's hoping that 2020 will be as good as 2019. No hurricanes hit the club, no major incidents. Phew!!

The annual work weekend was a definite success, despite being lightly attended. All those who volunteered their time put in a strong effort, and many necessary tasks were completed. Much paint was applied: to walls downstairs; upstairs balcony; the main room; balcony railings. The seats and tables downstairs were retightened and repainted or varnished as appropriate; dock carts maintained and painted; ladies bathroom counter stripped and re-stained; main dock railings weatherproofed, row boats power cleaned and repainted. A major trash and waste removal took place. The club looks better and with everyone's effort will continue to do so this coming year. Major club projects have also recently been

completed- The new floor is in place in the main room, new lights and fans will be in place mid January, the new boat racks were completed in December, as was the downstairs ceiling and floor.

With the winter regatta season crowds our club presents itself well to visitors.

I am proud of our Club, and of the way members support our little jewel. Remember, however, we can never take what we have for granted- look around and take pleasure in being here ...Enjoy it every day..

Jim

Jim Green, Vice Commodore
vicecommodore@cgsc.org
Bali Ha'i



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Fellow club members, welcome to January. It is officially the season of crowded gyms, no celery left on the shelves at the grocery store, intentions are fresh and we are all feeling inspired. On that note, I would like to propose an intention for all club members in the new year; a goal if you will:

To spend at least two weekend days a month on your boat or at the club. If you already do this; please encourage your fellow club members who are not making it out to do so.

Here are some reasons to get encouraged:

1. A wise man (Richard Christler) once said "the more you are on your boat, the better condition it will be in...". very true. There is always a job on your boat!
2. Think of your boat trips on a price per use basis of the investment you made in your vessel. I guarantee if you put that in a spreadsheet you will want to come more often!
3. Making memories with family and friends happens on the water. You just have to make the plans! Want to make it easy- download the TEAM App and look for CGSC.

4. Just being at the club will allow you to connect with other members. You never know who you will meet and what you may have in common.

5. Biscayne Bay: 35 miles long and 8 miles wide of pure beauty.

Robert Carlson, Rear Commodore
SV -Zephyrus
rearcommodore@cgsc.org



November New Members



Photo provided by Amanda Megyesi

Melges 20's Return for Winter Season

Friday the 13th not so unlucky for Nika!

Over the past 11 years, one of the major annual traditions of Race Management for the Coconut Grove Sailing Club has included hosting the International Melges 20 class Miami Winter Series regattas.

Principal Race Officer Blake Middleton led the Signal boat team on board Skipper Alex Morgan's Grady White 33. The Signal Boat group was supported by Deputy Race Officer Steve Herman, timer Dottie Rostorfer and an all-star team that included Andi Hoffman, Connie Bradley, Emy Martinez and Ray McMichael.

The 2019/2020 series got underway Friday, December 13th as light 6 knot South/Southeast breezes started to fill in on Biscayne Bay.

Robert Hughes and his team on Heartbreaker took the first win. By the start of the third race on Friday, the wind had gone a bit more South, but was still fairly light. The team on board "Nika" with skipper

Vladimir Prosikhin and his teammates Victor Diaz de Leon, Federica Salva and Giorgio Tortarolo took the bullet in both race two and three to grab the early regatta lead.

Saturday saw more "typical" Miami winter sailing conditions, with 12-16 knot winds out of the West-Southwest. These were the conditions that the Melges 20 class shines in, and there were no lack of smiles to be seen as that boats screamed downwind in the big breeze! Saturday's results saw a surge by Igor Rytov's team on board "Russian Bogatyr's" as they finished with remarkable scores of 2, 1, 2. The teams on "Boo-Fu," Heartbreaker and Red Sky Sailing team kept it close with consistent finishes for the day.

On Sunday, the Race Committee team switched things up a bit. Skipper Curtis Jazwiecki and Kate Gladieux brought the gorgeous J-46 "Sweet RUCA" to the event as Signal Boat, along with support from D.R.O (Dog race officer) Roxie, for



Photos by Dick Poybes, Blake Middleton and Melges 20 photographer.



their first-ever CGSC Race Committee volunteer experience. And they did so just two days before departing on their planned sailing trip around the world!

The race courses also switched positions on the Bay from Saturday, with the Bacardi fleets moving to the Southwest, while we positioned the Melges 20 fleet more to the Northeast. With a front moving through overnight, the fleet initially saw very light winds out of the Northwest and North, but the average wind speeds were below class minimums, so we sat under postponement for an hour, waiting for the wind to settle in to match the expected shift to the Northeast, and increase in wind speed. When it finally did happen, our windward mark location ended up close to the BBYRA course start line, while we also found a Laser regatta course just a couple tenths of a mile farther to the Northeast. One boat was over the line at the start of race 7, but that was the only recall made during the entire regatta.

After race 7, the wind built up and switched farther to the East, which created even less space to operate without conflicting with the other fleets. As soon as the race was finished, the CGSC team pulled anchor on the J-46, hoisted Flag L ("Follow me"), and moved the entire starting line almost a half mile to the West. The four CGSC RC support boats reset the starting line and entire race course in the kind of a fast and efficient manner that comes from years of great training by Ron, Susan and others, combined with boatloads of great race



committee experience!

With the new breeze building to 8 or 9 knots, the final race saw a clean start. The team on “Nika” had their worst finish of the regatta (10th), but that race ended up as a discard, and the final results ended up in a tie on points between the two Russian boats. The tie-breaker was decided in favor of “Nika” because of the two race wins on Friday, compared to the single race victory by the “Russian Bogatyrs” team on Saturday. It turns out that Friday the 13th was not so unlucky for “Nika” after all!

As is often true in the competitive Melges 20 class, the spoils were spread around the fleet. Six different boats won individual races in the 8 race series.

Results: https://yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative.cfm?eID=9525

Rick Klein and George Bradley shared Race Officer duties on the Gate/ Finish boat over the three-day event, with assistance from Bill Boland, Amanda Megyesi and Dick Pober.



JoAnn Mathieu did a fantastic job of getting the races scored all three regatta days, usually well before the Signal Boat was even back at the dock. Thanks also to CGSC Protest Committee Chair Richard Etkin for doing the thankless job of manning the protest desk all three days (even though there were no protests)!

CGSC Regatta Chair (and Past Commodore) Ron Rostorfer was RO on the Pin boat. Ron was joined by Dave Martin, Martha (Nina) Ledesma, Sonia Diaz, Susan Mohoric, Cherie Branning and Allen Cox. Race Committee Chair Susan Walcutt led the team as RC on the mark set boat, with support from Mike Stephens, Kathy Gunst, Bill Boland and Denise Schneider.

The Coconut Grove Sailing Club continues to be honored to support the annual Melges 20 Series; and the “family” that makes up the volunteer staff on the CGSC Race Committee continues to set the standard for how to work together to manage truly excellent events on Biscayne Bay! Thank you all so much!

Blake Middleton, PRO

Adult Sailing

Thanks to the efforts of several instructors and volunteer members, a lot was accomplished during Work Weekend on all of our instructional fleet, including the Sunfish, Ensign keelboats, and the Beneteau fleet. For the Ensigns, we actually dedicate four (4) days to allow us time for multiple coats of paint or varnish as needed. Our work crews were very effective and unselfish of their time, for which we are very grateful.

Congratulations to Javier Bonilla and Stephen Keppel for earning the US Sailing BASIC KEELBOAT certification and to Graham Hoff-Downing for earning his BAREBOAT CRUISING certification since our last issue. Along with other activities in your club, our instructional activity, especially for the Ensigns (Basic Keelboat), is at a high level with full classes and lots of coaching and testing sessions, further enhanced by interest from several new club members.

Schedule of upcoming classes and events:

January 4-5	Adult Sunfish Learn-to-Sail weekend.
January 11-12	Basic Keelboat Weekend Course
January 18-19	Basic Keelboat Weekend Course
January 24-26	Basic Cruising Course and Certification
February 21-24	Bareboat Cruising Course and Certification
By Reservation	Basic Keelboat coaching and testing.

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

Richard Crisler / Alex Fox
Co-Chairmen – Adult Training
305-342-4775



Song of the Month - January 2020

Over the last month I know a lot of club members have been to see the “Ring of Fire” show at the Actor’s Playhouse on Miracle Mile, which got me talking to sailing friends about sailing songs from the theatre. When I was a lad (that phrase will come back to bite this article later) I worked as the “orchestra lighting boy” in a local operetta theatre company, where my father played second violin. As such I watched a lot of Gilbert and Sullivan “opera buffa” ... repeatedly ... and learned a lot of the lyrics. I can sing almost all of this nautical ditty, if you buy me enough beer. The January 2020

Sailing Song of the Month (nominated by all the theatre buffs in the club) is ...

“The First Lord’s Song” by Gilbert and Sullivan
Here’s the first verse ...

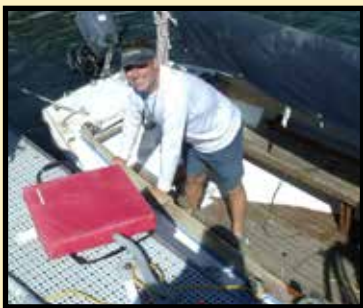
When I was a lad I served a term
As office boy to an attorney’s firm
I cleaned the windows and I swept the floor
And I polished up the handle of the big front door
He polished up the handle of the big front door
I polished up that handle so carefully
That now I am the Ruler of the Queen’s Navy
He polished up that handle so carefully
That now he is the Ruler of the Queen’s Navy

Watch the song on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJRt2a45uqk>

* If you have a nomination for the “Song of the Month”, email it to sotm@coldbeer.cc. **Please try to include a photo, some explanation of why you love it, and any stories about the song that are plausible and publishable.**



Work Weekend



Photos by Richard Crisler



2019-2020 Officers

BRIDGE:

Commodore	James Grupenhoff
Vice-Commodore	James Green
Rear Commodore	Rob Carlson
Secretary	James Liebl
Treasurer	Olivier de Lavalette

BOARD:

Patricia Murphey ('20)	Carla Pugh ('21)
Dr. Jennifer Cheney ('20)	Priska Urban (22)
Lisa Harlow ('20)	Carlos Beckman (22)
Richard Etkin ('21)	Elizabeth Bernstein (22)
Dave Martin (21)	Geoff Sutcliffe, PC
Susan Walcott, ex officio	
General Manager.....Lauren Simpson	

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Sailing Club

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Committees	Chairman	Reports to
Executive Committee	James Grupenhoff	Commodore
Finance Committee	Olivier de Lavelette	Vice Commodore
Race Committee	Susan Walcutt	Rear Commodore
Adult Sail Training	Richard Crisler/Alex Fox	Rear Commodore
Youth Sail Training	Sue Walsh	Rear Commodore
YST Vice-Chair	Eric Crep	Rear Commodore
Property Committee	Jim Green	Vice Commodore
Membership Committee	Patricia Murphey	Commodore
Nominating Committee	Geoff Sutcliffe, PC	BOD
Librarian	Renny Young	Commodore
Public Relations	Janice Pruitt, PC	Commodore
Entertainment Committee	Joel Hopkins	Commodore
Cruising and Rendezvous	Erik Noonburg	Rear Commodore
Future Development	Alyn Pruett, PC	Vice Commodore
Bylaws Revision	Doug Hanks, PC	Secretary
Marine Council	James Liebl	Commodore
Chamber of Commerce	Carla Pugh	Commodore
House Committee	Birgit Bogler & Emy Martinez	Vice Commodore
Mooring Committee	Paul Van Puffelen, PC	Vice Commodore
Strip Committee	Bud Price, PC	Vice Commodore
Channel Committee	Cherie Branning	Secretary
Protocol Committee	Jeff Flanagan, PC	Commodore
Webmaster	TBA	Secretary
Community Service	Denise Schneider	Commodore
Fleet Surgeon	Dr. Jennifer Cheney	Commodore/Rear
<u>Ad hoc Positions</u>		
Seamanship	Ed Raiburn	Rear Commodore
Fundraising	TBA	Treasurer
Membership Use Cruising	Glenn Cunningham	Rear Commodore
Lease Renewal/Expansion	Jeff Flanagan, PC	Commodore

NOTICE

Upcoming CGSC Regattas
Radio Controlled Racing
CGSC Dock
Tuesday Afternoons

BBYRA ORC #5
Saturday
January 4, 2020

470 North American Championship
Friday – Sunday
January 10-12, 2020

I-420 North American Championship
Saturday – Monday
January 18-20, 2020

Sailing World Cup Miami
Monday – Saturday
January 20-25, 2020

SEE NOTICES OF RACE AND REGISTRATION FORMS
@ WWW.CGSC.ORG
FOR BBYRA 2019-20 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
VISIT THEIR WEBSITE @ WWW.BBYRA.NET