



MAY 2024



the **channel**



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

COMMODORE'S REPORT

For the Coconut Grove Sailing Club, having SAILING in the name carries meaning and purpose to the club as an organization and reflects the character of the membership.

First there is SAILING. For the vast majority of members there is a connection to sailing as recreation, competition, socializing, and at times adventure. Identifying as a sailor, in whatever capacity, denotes attention to detail, expertise, and sportsmanship. There is a reason that the rules of racing mention the term seamanship. Competency and training are part of the DNA of sailing. It is no surprise the community of members is an accomplished group of individuals.

Our members contribute to an interesting and lively club experience. The level of accomplishment directly contributes to the member experiences.

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

This month's report shall be relatively short. As we move into the summer season, we have been busy planning for our Annual Meeting and the next fiscal year at the club. The bridge officers have been hard at work analyzing our current processes and identifying areas where we can improve service delivery and our facilities. I look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Meeting and discussing what the next year holds for us.

You will notice that our bar and restaurant has expanded Happy Hour from 4-6 to 4-7. Also, we have now instituted new cleaning protocols in response to the increased usage of the club by our members. These protocols were designed to ensure that our facilities are being kept up commensurate with their use.

As summer season approaches, members should note that this means that regatta activity at the club will be slowing down. Members are encouraged to check the regatta schedules on

Whether it is the Annual Rendezvous or the world respected management of local and world regattas by the CGSC Race Committee, there is a great pride in being a member of the Coconut Grove Sailing Club.

As we head out of spring and into summer, I invite all to enjoy the events, facilities, and the breeze off the bay, while sipping your favorite libation on the deck.

Richard Etkin

Richard Etkin, Commodore
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our website to determine what, if any, impact scheduled club events may have on your planned activities. Please note that Summer Camp activities typically start at the end of the school year and there may be increased traffic at the entrance of the club during morning drop off and later afternoon pickups. As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. Hope to see you at the club.

Kind regards,
Keith

Keith Heinrich, Vice Commodore
vicecommodore@cgsc.org





FLYING SCOTS

The fleet wishes to welcome David Burrows to the group. He is an Olympic level sailor from Ireland and is racing with his kids while showing us how it is done. He actually won a race sailing the boat single handed including flying the spinnaker.

Wednesday night racing is back. We had 12 boats out one night and 9 the other. It is a great way to find out what the Flying Scot is all about and get to know the very friendly members of the fleet. It is no pressure, laid back racing with focus on fun and introducing people to the sport as well as skill building.

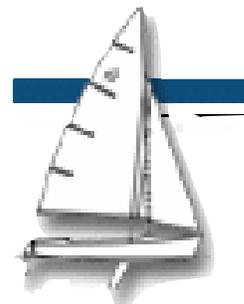
We don't even keep score.

Join us if you like. There is no charge. Be here by

4:30 to be off the dock by 5 and back in before dark for drinks on the veranda.

Can't make Wednesday nights? Then come Saturday. It is the same type of racing but there is a charge for participating. This time it includes videos of the racing with commentary and coaching tips. The schedule is on the website calendar. We go out roughly twice per month.

Bud



Lightning Midwinters

By Steve Herman

The Lightning Southern Circuit is six days of racing at two different regattas in a single week. The first venue is always St. Petersburg, and the second venue is Miami (in even years) or Savannah (in odd years). Since 2024 is an even year, Lightning Class boats raced in St. Petersburg from March 17 to 19, and then trailered their boats across Florida for three days of planned racing at CGSC from March 21 to 23.

But it was not to be. It was Robert Burns who wrote “The best laid schemes o’ Mice an’ Men gang aft agley”. Loose translation: “Man plans, God laughs”. Or, more specifically, “We don’t control the weather”.

On Day 1, Principal Race Officer Shannon Bush ran three good races for 20 Lightning Class Boats in Chamber of Commerce conditions on Biscayne Bay. That, however, turned out to be the whole regatta. On the morning of Day 2, after consulting with meteorologists and the Lightning Fleet, the last two days were cancelled due to broad and unavoidable swaths of rain, lightning and tornado warnings that were coming our way.



Based on one day of racing, the winners of the Lightning Midwinters were:

- 1st -- Cristobal Perez / Alfred Sherman / Laura Jeffers
- 2nd -- Augie Diaz / Enrique Quintero / Paula Herman
- 3rd -- Clint Neuman / June Neuman / Jeremy Wenig

But that is not the end of the story. At the end of Day 2, the whole fleet gathered in the CGSC Great Room for a truly joyous and moving awards ceremony. This is a fleet which incorporates a lot of family values, and a lot of generations of Lightning sailors joined in for the awards. There were a number of special awards, including a Newcomer award, a Sportsmanship award, a Service award, and the “Middle of Biscayne Bay” award to the boat that most nearly finishes mid-fleet. All of the prize winners spoke, and there was a lot of caring and sharing.

And, oh, the awards for the full week of Racing were given out. First place for the 2024 Lightning Southern Circuit went to our own Augie Diaz, who is having a March for the ages. This was Augie’s first Lightning tournament and he said, “I am still learning how to make the Lightning go fast, but this week it was just fast enough.”

Thanks go out to Lorenza Quijano, who volunteered her boat Solar Wind as the Signal Boat. Also on the Race Committee for Day 1 were Allen Cox, Don Deresz, Gail Miller, Jean Messier, Kathy Gunst, Lorenzo Mesa, Louise McKee, Maria Volakis, Rick Klein, and Susan Walcutt.

I can’t wait to see the Lightnings again in 2026.



**First Place
Cristobal Perez, Alfred Sherman
and Laura Jeffers**



RS Fest comes to the US

By Steve Herman

For 30 years, RS Sailing has used the latest design and technology to create modern, durable and fun dinghies, keelboats and catamarans. They are especially big in Europe, where RS festivals (known as RS Fest) routinely attract hundreds of sailors for a family-oriented regatta that combines racing with social events.

This year, on Saturday, Sunday and Monday of Easter Weekend, CGSC hosted the first ever major multi-class RS Sailing event in North America. The inaugural event attracted 47 boats and 66 sailors from 9 different countries (including India!). The premier fleets were the 22 Aero 7's (which are comparable to an ILCA 7) and 6 RS 21's (a keelboat that races with 2 to 4 crew), Other fleets were the Aero 5, Aero 6, and youth-oriented Feva and Tera.

PRO Ian McClelland had quite a challenge juggling these 6 fleets with different racing characteristics. He solved it by having a single starting line with two different courses: a windward-leeward for the Feva's and the Tera's, and an outer trapezoid for the other 4 fleets. Over the course of three excellent days, he managed 11 races for the outer trap boats, 9 races for the Feva's, and 8 races for the Tera's.

Winners were:

- RS 21 -- Chris Stater / Alec Bollorino / Martin Langhoff / Tom Bremen
- RS Aero 7 -- Upamanyu Dutta (from the Royal Bombay Yacht Club)
- RS Aero 6 -- Noel Butler
- RS Aero 5 -- Nathalie Jacob
- RS Feva -- Julia Gil/Maryna Downey(CGSC Youth)
- RS Tera -- Evan Merriman



And, impressively, CGSC Youth Michelle Perera and Anouk Theurillat came in 2nd and 3rd respectively in the Tera, class, despite missing the last day of racing to attend school!

And did I mention social activities? The Club was festooned with country flags and RS Sailing flags. There were three nightly dinners on the grass, a cornhole game, ping-pong, a boat hiking challenge (i.e., who can hike out the longest), a band, an Easter Egg hunt with valuable prizes, and a surprise visit by the Easter Bunny (who danced with all comers on a pink dance floor). All in all, a really fun atmosphere. This might be the start of something big!

Thanks go out to Lorenza Quijano who again volunteered Solar Wind as the signal boat, and to RC volunteers Allen Cox, Brad Smith, Denise Schneider, Don Deresz, Don Libbey, Jean Messier, Kathy Gunst, Lisa Richardson, Lorenzo Mesa, Maria Volakis, Sonia Diaz, Steve Herman, Susan Walcutt, Tom O'Brien and Stacy Morris.



RS Fest continued

Many Thanks to
Hannah Lee Noll
for the use
of her photographs.







2023-2024 Officers

BRIDGE:

Commodore	Richard Etkin
Vice-Commodore	Keith Heinrich
Rear Commodore	Priska Urban
Secretary	Doreen Fischer
Treasurer	Olivier de Lavalette

BOARD:

Bob Aiken ('24)	Bud Price, PC (25)
Jeff Flanagan, PC ('24)	Dr. Jennifer Cheney ('26)
William Sancho ('24)	Tom Santoro ('26)
Alyn Pruitt, PC (25)	Bruce Hutson ('26)
Stacy Morris (25)	Dave Martin, PC

Susan Walcott, ex officio

General Manager.....Lauren Simpson

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Coconut Grove
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Youth Sailing	Elizabeth Del Rio Henrich
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Cruising and Rendezvous	William Sancho
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Chamber of Commerce	Carla Pugh
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Strip	Dave Martin
Channel	Cherie Branning
Protocol	Jeffrey Flanagan, P.C.
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Community Service	James Grupenhoff P.C.
Fleet Surgeon	Dr. Jennifer Cheney
Seamanship	Dr. Jennifer Cheney
Fundraising	Priska Urban
Member Use / Cruising	Glenn Cunningham
Lease Renewal / Expansion	Jeffrey Flanagan, P.C.

NOTICE

Upcoming CGSC Regattas

**Junior Commodore's Cup
May 4, 2024**

**Senior Commodore's Cup
May 5, 2024**

**Dinghy Winter/Spring Series
(Rescheduled Feb #3)
May 11, , 2024**

**Goombay Regatta
May 25-26, 2024**

FOR BBYRA 2023-2024 NOTICE OF RACE &
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
VISIT THEIR WEBSITE @ WWW.BBYRA.NET