



April 2020



the
channel

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

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Members, Friends:

At the time of this writing, Coconut Grove Sailing Club is effectively closed due to governmental mandates related to the COVID-19 crisis. This entire situation is somewhat unprecedented and I believe this type of shutdown of the club is as well. For perhaps the first time in almost 75 years our instructional programs, youth activities, racing schedule and general sailing and social activities have stopped. I think this is a good opportunity, while we are sequestered, to learn to tie some new knots and doing inventory checks of our gear. We should also reflect upon the importance these sailing activities are to us and the color they bring to our lives. It is so much more than the simple execution of raising sails, trimming and tacking. It has an aesthetic value, brings us to enjoy the natural beauty of the bay and beyond, and provides a satisfaction and quality

to life that can't be replaced by something else (for us, at least).

We appreciate your cooperation with the restrictions that are now in place, and your continued support of the club and the staff. I hope all of our members and their loved ones make it through this crisis in good health, and we look forward to the day when we can return and continue the pursuit of the passion of sailing and the joy it brings to our lives.

Fair winds, James

James Grupenhoff,
Commodore
commodore@cgsc.org



Flying Scots

The Flying Scot fleet competed in Miami Sail week racing both Saturday and Sunday. We ended up with 13 boats on the line on Saturday with two boats sailing alongside the fleet from the Saturday clinic group. After two days of racing and 8 races, the scoring was very close. Chuck and

Sarah Lampheres son represented them in their boat and scored first.

Dave and Andi's boat was sailed by Eduardo Luaces and Andi and took second. Only 4 points behind, Francois Hasdenteufel took 3rd place. Philippe Dusser and Obie Smith tied only 1 point behind Francois and in the tie breaker Philippe won out.

Wednesday night racing is back Our first race on the 11th had 7 boats on the line with 4 races in.

Bud



VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Wow!!!

What a difference 1 month makes. Life in the USA was pretty normal, and we had little fear of the Covid 19 virus identified in Asia badly affecting us.

Now we know better, although no one really knows yet what the final outcome will be. Hopefully the various steps now taken will result in a reduction in illness and complications from the virus, and stem the tide.

The club has taken appropriate and necessary steps to reduce exposure of members, junior and adult sailors and staff.

As of today- March 19 we still are allowing boat owners to go out and sail. Only if crew total is 5 or less- to comply with government rulings. So, while we can, I'd say try to sail. Fresh air and Sun is good for us- at least sailing allows us to relax, enjoy the bay, and also perhaps stops us going

stir crazy with all the social distancing and staying home that we are doing.

Of course, if you have or think the virus and/or you have symptoms then do not come out- please do not put others at risk.

Hopefully this will pass soon, and we can get back to normal activity – whatever the 'new normal' may be.

I trust you are well, your families and friends too. Stay safe and patient.

We will recover from this crisis.

Regards ,

Jim Green, Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@cgsc.org
Bali Ha'i



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

“Life changes fast. Life changes in the instant. You sit down to dinner and life as you know it ends.” ~Joan Didion

A month ago I was writing the March edition for my piece in the Channel, happily planning the Rendezvous and going over every detail of what foods to bring, and what craft items we should purchase for the children, I never imaged we would be faced with the circumstances in which we currently find ourselves. The rendezvous is currently on hold- scheduled for a later date. Everything in life right now is on pause and awaiting a “return to normal”.

What I hope everyone experiences during this time is a great reckoning with our own thoughts, and the realization of how we are all so connected, and how we as humans need to feel connected to one another. I realize now that I have taken for granted the opportunities the club presents to create and maintain contacts with other members, and to realize the beauty of Biscayne Bay from your helm- and if you are lucky, to share that experience with friends. Even to sit on the lawn and look up at the flag and enjoy the freedoms we have in this country while watching the boats come in on the dock.

During this time, we will do our research, maybe select some boat projects we can do from home, perhaps research hurricane shelter locations, and pour over maps to plan trips we have always wanted to take from the comfort of our own boat, at our own pace. While the time is uncertain, we can fill it with positive and productive energy.

When the club comes back, it will be stronger than ever; because of this experience; we will have realized how much we need this club, and how much the club needs us. Do not underestimate the power of a cold beer with friends enjoyed on the second floor of the club, overlooking Clarington Island, with crows landing near your table, and the sound of a lively conversation just a few feet away.

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



24th Anniversary Washington's Birthday Regatta IT'S A GROVE CLASSIC

The Notice of Race: " Follow in the footsteps of Commodore Ralph Monroe, Yacht designer, Coconut Grove pioneer, and founder of the Biscayne Bay Yacht Club. The Washington's Birthday Regatta originated at Munroe boathouse in 1887."

The regatta, scheduled for Saturday, February 22nd, was postponed until Sunday, February 23rd due to extremely high winds! Forecasted winds for Saturday were 18-28 knots. In actuality, the wind blew 20-32 knots! Sunday, a sunny, breezy "Coconut Grove Chamber of Commerce Day" was the better race day for 2020! The easterly breeze filled the race course at 14 – 18 knots, settling in about 16 knots for the duration of the 3 races.

The sea state was choppy and the Race Committee heard comments like: the rail was in the water for the first time, or a lot of bailing, or I did not know my boat could sail so fast!! There was pride in accomplishment! The pictures posted in this article show the conditions! Photography credit: Cherie Branning, on the pin boat, Kathy Gunst and Martha Ledesma, on the Signal boat and a possibly a few taken by sailors while racing!

The results: Egret Class: 1. **Sabrasoura 9**, 28' custom, Pascal Gadema
2. **Nomad**, 34' Black Gauntlet 11 Yawl, Bill Randall (New skipper)
3. **Effortless**, 31' Herreshoff design Choey Lee, Alyn Pruitt.

Sandpiper Class: 1. **Peacock**, 15' Herreshoff Newport, Peter McLennan, 2. **Zena**, 18' Marshall Cat Boat, Skip Reichheimer, 3. **BettyJane**, 20' Legnos Mystic, Thomas Chapney.

Plover Class: 1. **Largo**, 17' Mud Hen, Joe Logan, 2. **Scoter**, 13.8' Melon Seed, Mike Rosenbaum, 3. **Poulee Moulee**, 21' Beach Hen, Danny Garcia.

Open Class: 1. **Elizabeth Bell**, 36' Sabre 362, Jay Flynn, 2. **Que Sera**,

19' O'Day Mariner, William Herrington, 3. **Bandalero**, 40' 1958 P.T. Bounty 11 Sloop, George Llop .

Open Exhibition: Capt. Winkey, 21' MBW, Justin Hayes Long.

Check out the photos and find the classic boats listed above!



Washington's Birthday Regatta

Unfortunately, the "Pilar", replica of Ernest Hemingway's 1934 Sport Fishing Boat, was out for repairs. FORTUNATELY, Chris Carlton, owner of **Corragio**, stepped up to not only provide a beautiful sailboat for use as our Signal boat, but worked as race Committee as well. Thank you, Chris! Recognition to the pin boat, which also served as a support boat, to Poulee Moulee, that capsized in race 3. Thank you to Bill Becker, John Kandara, and Cherie Branning, pin boat crew, for assisting Danny Garcia and standing by until his boat was righted and towed ashore. Much gratitude from Danny Garcia and his wife, Wendy! Alyn Pruitt sailed Effortless over to Danny's location and as well to offer assistance if needed. All race committee provided an excellent race course with sailors exclaiming that it was the best regatta! Signal Boat crew, Saralee Lamb, Kathy Gunst, Martha Ledesma, Captain Chris Carlton. Weather mark boat, Steve Herman, Sonia Diaz, Allen Cox. Thank you to the Barnacle Historic State Park

rangers, Katrina Boler, Jessica Cabral, all staff at the Barnacle, the Barnacle Society members, and special thanks to John Palenchar, Danny Garcia, and Wendy Mahr. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the awards have been postponed to a date to be determined.

Submitted by Nancy Rogachenko, PRO
Coconut Grove Sailing Club

24th Annual Washington's Birthday Regatta



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Washington's Birthday Regatta



Adult Sailing

Things couldn't be going better in March with great sailing conditions for learning and full BASIC KEELBOAT Classes with waiting lists, when the wise, but untimely decision was made to postpone all instructional group and private classes at least through the end of March. Our first of two big group classes for March was actually suspended after Day #1 on Saturday, not allowing us to finish Day #2 on Sunday. March's second group class and several private classes, coaching and testing sessions were also canceled. We want to assure those students, especially our members, that all classes and private sessions will be completed as the situation and schedule allows. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we all work through this unprecedented virus situation.

Pending rescheduling allowed for April, the two weekend group keelboat classes will be held on April 11-12, then again on April 18-19. The group Adult Sunfish class will be held the weekend of April 4-5. Private classes, coaching and testing by appointment.



If you have your USCG Captain's License and an interest in teaching cruising and bareboat classes at least once each month, we would like to talk with you. Contact Richard or Alex for details.

Certification Quiz question for April:

While the first sign of hypothermia is usually shivering, other symptoms are:

- (a) Heightened awareness and excitability.
- (b) Rapid pulse and flushed skin.
- (c) Confusion and loss of dexterity.
- (d) Rapid breathing and pin-point pupils.

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

Richard Crisler / Alex Fox
Co-Chairman, Adult Training
305-342-4775
crisler@mindspring.com



Quiz Answer – (c)

Covid-19 No Match For The Melges 20s!

With the global concerns resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Melges 20 Miami Winter Series regatta number 3 started under a cloud, when six of the registered boats had to retire due to airline flight issues, health or logistical concerns. Mother Nature was happy to provide gorgeous weather and winds, so the Melges and RC teams headed out Friday morning, optimistic that the sailing would be good. And it certainly was! With light breezes on Friday morning, Principal Race Officer Blake Middleton announced a brief 30-minute postponement to allow the wind to build and settle in. Skipper Evan Duffy led us out on Nic Pro's "Red Dog." The Signal Boat team was supported by Deputy Race Officer Vickie Matthews, Dottie Rostorfer, Helen Phillips, Connie Bradley and Jo Ann Mathieu. Race #1 got underway at 1130 with 6-8 knot winds from the East, and CGSC Race Committee Chair Susan Walcutt's mark-set RC team of Kathy Gunst, Don Libbey and Dick Pober set a short course length of 7/10ths of a nautical mile to match the breeze strength.

The "Russian Bogatyr" team of Igor Rytov, Anton Sergeev and Konstantin Besputin took the win in the first race, dropped to a 10th place finish in race 2, but rebounded with a 2nd in the 3rd race. With winds building a bit, the RC stretched the course length to .9nm for the 2nd and 3rd races of the day. Daniel Thielman's team on "Kauai" battled over the three races, eventually ending Day One with a single point lead over "Nika" and her crew of Vladimir Prosikhin, Victor Diaz de Leon and Jeremy Wilmot.

One of the highlights was the ultra-close finish in race 3, when Rhonda Joyce and her "Grinning Streak" team of Matt Woodworth and John Bowden came in to the finish line sailing at a hotter angle, got a great puff of wind and slid to leeward of "Russian Bogatyr" to take the bullet by mere inches!

When the fleet got ashore after racing, we were in for a surprise! We learned that the City of Miami had declared a health emergency Friday because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Coconut Grove Sailing Club Executive Board had then met and made the difficult choice to suspend all of the current club sponsored regatta events in an official capacity, since the club is on land leased from the city.

The Melges 20 fleet met Friday after racing and confirmed that they DID want to continue racing, since most of them were stuck in town and ticketed to leave Miami on Sunday evening. The use of CGSC boats, marks, and race committee equipment was

not permitted, although access to the club grounds and the competitor's boats was still available. The Melges 20 fleet told our RC team that they would help provide some support boats, practice marks and anchors. After numerous calls and emails, we made plans to arrive Saturday morning, but decided to postpone the first warning signal of the day until 12 noon so the team would have time to sort out the logistics of borrowed boats and equipment.

The Signal boat team on "Red Dog" remained almost the same as Friday, with Martha joining us. Race Officers Ron, Susan and George switched to the RIBs provided by Melges 20 coaches, and we headed out on Biscayne Bay to find wind conditions similar to Friday, with the breeze just a bit stronger and farther right, from 100 to 110 degrees.

Without the usual RC equipment available, PRO Middleton changed the Sailing Instructions to run a "no flag" event, with the exception of a tattered orange line flag that we came across somehow. Basically, the fleet was told that they would not see Class flags, Prep flags or postponement flags displayed, and that they would have to listen in on VHF while our talented timer Dottie called the signals on the radio. To almost nobody's surprise, the races all started on time and without incident.

At the conclusion of racing on Saturday, the Melges fleet was informed that since the fleet all use the crane at Shake-A-Leg-Miami, and it too was on City property, they had to pull their boats out that afternoon, or not at all. That was because since SALM was shutting down operations as well. As a result, racing was abandoned for Sunday, and the regatta had come to a close with 6 quality races in the books.

Wes Whitmyer's team with Mike Buckley and Matt Pistay on "Slingshot" set the gold standard for Saturday with finishes of 1,1,2, but "Kuai" team of Daniel Thielman, Rayleen Thielman, Alec Anderson and Lucas Calabrese kept right in step with a 2,2,1 set to pull away and win the regatta title by 7 points.

The competitive Melges 20 class often sees multiple race winners in each series, and this regatta was no exception, with five different boats winning the six individual races. Regatta Champion "Kuai" showed exceptional consistency, with every race finish in the top 4! Skipper Thielman noted at the awards ceremony on the lawn at CGSC that this was the "Kauai" team's first Melges 20 Miami winter series regatta victory in their 11 years racing in the series!

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Results: https://yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative.cfm?eID=9527

George Bradley was Race Officer on the Gate/Finish boat, with assistance from Rick Klein and Mike Stephens. CGSC Past Commodore Ron Rostorfer was RO on the Pin boat, and supported by Bill Boland and Martha (Nina) Ledesma. JoAnn Mathieu did her usual perfect job of scoring the races on board the Signal Boat on Friday, and from shoreside on Saturday. Thanks also to Richard Etkin for serving as Protest Committee Chair!

This series completed the 35th Melges 20 regatta over the past 11 years. The CGSC Race Committee faced unique and highly unexpected challenges for this regatta, but we continue to raise the bar for outstanding race management on Biscayne Bay! Thank you all so much!

Blake Middleton



Photos courtesy of Dick Poybes & Blake Middleton

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YOUTH



This is what weekends are at CGSC...
Great times for our Youth Program!

Miami Sail Week

Adults get some racing in!

Miami Sail Week adults were originally scheduled to race A-class catamarans, Finns, and Flying Scots on March 6 – 8, but due to high winds the racing was rescheduled to March 13-15. Flying Scots were not racing on Friday, and out-of-town boats cancelled due to travel uncertainties, so a small band of Race Committee personnel set out on Friday March 13 to run races for 8 A-cats and 4 Finns. As it turned out, this was the last day of formal racing on the Bay before the coronavirus cancellations, but it was a great one. The weather was gorgeous and winds were steady from the east, so Principal Race Officer Steve Herman and co-PRO John Schiefer were able to run four quality races for the A-cats and the Finns!

With breezes in the 7 to 9 knot range, the windward marks were set at 0.7 miles for the Finns and 1.0 miles for the A-cats. Races started on time at 1100, with the Finns starting 8 minutes after the A-cats. The selected distances worked out perfectly, as the first finisher in each fleet finished in 38 minutes. The second and third races were remarkably similar. In the A-cat fleet, the light air meant that all of the classic A-cats finished ahead of all the foiling A-cats (because the foiling A-cats did not really have enough wind to foil, although some tried). Of course, they were being scored

as separate fleets, but the difference was striking. Among the classic A-cats, racing was tight, with three different boats taking 1st place in the three races. Racing was close in the foiling class also. After 3 races, Ben Hall was ahead in the classic fleet by 1 point, and Jeff Brauch was leading the foilers by 2 points. And racing was even tighter in the Finn class. After three races, Charles Heimler and Stephen Fucillo were tied, 1 point ahead of Dave Martin.



A-cat classic winner Ben Hall.



Winner of A-cat Foiling is Jeff Brauch.



Winner of the Finn class was Charles Heimler.

But things changed in the 4th race. The wind increased to 10-11 knots, which made a big difference in all fleets. In the Finn fleet, 10 knots means that the Race Committee flies the Oscar flag at the start to allow self-propulsion methods, including pumping the main and “ooching” the body forward. Charles Heimler may or may not have taken advantage, but his 1st place finish in race 4 meant that he had the lead at the end of the day. And in the A-cat fleet, Jeff Brauch held a foiling clinic in the slightly heavier air, dramatically getting his boat out of the water and finishing far ahead of the rest of the A-cats, both classic and foiling. Ben Hall’s classic A-cat was the next boat across the finish line, so both Jeff and Ben were leading their respective fleets at the end of the day. When we got back to land, we learned that Miami Sailing Week was officially ended, so awards were handed out. Competitors and Race Committee enjoyed great Miami Sailing Week hospitality on the lawn, including several hours of open bar,

sandwiches, empanadas and fresh fruit. Thanks, Lauren!

And thanks also to the Race Committee. John Schiefer’s trawler “Sailmaker” was a great signal boat. CGSC newcomers Bethany Hansen, Fred Grote and Rick Williams ably learned and performed whatever task was required on signal. Finally, Alex Valdes Pages and Santiago Holz awesomely single-handed the two mark ribs. We all look forward to being out on the water again, hopefully soon.

Steve Herman



A-CAT CLASSIC

A-CAT FOILING

FINN



Second Place was Charles Bolton.



Second Place Bret Moses with Dustin Romey accepting.



Second Place was Dave Martin.



Coming in Third Place was Bob Webbon.



Third Place was Dustin Romey.



Stephen Fuccillo came in Third Place

Song of the Month

Everyone knows that it never rains on the bay. Well, not very often. You can be out there in glorious sunshine, watching the storms roll over the land, and know that there are people in the Crow's Nest saying "I'm glad I didn't go sailing today". And out on the bay, you know that you did the right thing to get out, and enjoy the sunshine on the bay. But sometimes in the summer it does rain on the bay, and the cooling fresh water is welcomed as you float around on a noodle with a cold drink in your hand. Songs about rain don't feature that much in the sailing world, but here's one that is played onboard by a club member who has done more sea miles than most of us. The April sailing song of the month, nominated for Mitch Pierce, is ...

"Making it Rain" by Keller Williams



Here's the bit you'll love ...

And she said, and I quote ...
Are you going to give me
Your mama's number down in Uganda?
He said "Do you require that?"
And she said "Pfffst, f**k yeah"
Ooh, aaah, ooh, see, I'm gonna
Call your mama, down in Uganda
Call your mama, down in Uganda
Tell her that you're making it rain

Listen to the song on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VecpixjJVfw>

* 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.

Geoff Sutcliffe

Call for Board Nominations

The nominating committee of the club will nominate a Vice-Commodore, Rear Commodore, Secretary and Treasurer, and nominate three or more candidates as Directors for election at the Annual Meeting to be held on the first Friday in June. Suggestions for nominees can be emailed to pastcommodore@cgsc.org, by 1st April 2020.



**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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STANDING COMMITTEES

<u>Committees</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Reports to</u>
Executive Committee	James Grupenhoff	Commodore
Finance Committee	Olivier de Lavelette	Vice Commodore
Race Committee	Richard Crisler & Alex Fox	Rear Commodore
Adult Sail Training	Bruce Penrod	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	Carla Pugh	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	Treasurer
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

Senior Commodore's Cup
 CGSC Members only
 Saturday
 April 11, 2020

Junior Commodore's Cup
 CGSC Youth Program Members
 Saturday April 25, 2020

**PLEASE CHECK, IN ADVANCE, WITH
 CGSC REGARDING THESE RACES
 TO INSURE THEY ARE TAKING PLACE.**

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