



April 2021



the

channel

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

COMMODORE'S REPORT

First up- some very good news! The City of Miami has approved the extension of the CGSC lease through to 2026. Our thanks go to the members of the lease committee, Lauren, and in particular to Kevin Kerwin for his guidance and assistance in this significant process. We can now shift our focus to look strategically at a longer term renewal from 2026.

It's interesting to reflect on the last year. Just over 12 months ago we had no idea that we were to face a major pandemic, and yet here we are still in its grip. Despite that, CGSC has continued to operate at a high level. Our sailing activity and membership have risen. The club seems busier than ever, Staff is handling the volume while maintaining required Covid protocols to keep us safe. (Social distancing, masks, etc).

After a year it is somewhat understandable that some of us become tired of the constraints, and frustrated that life isn't back to 'normal' (whatever that will be as time passes). With the vaccination process ongoing, there is 'light at the end of the tunnel', but we are not there yet. We still need to be very vigilant.

The Club's protocols are still in place. They are there for the safety of our membership, staff, and guests, and also to ensure we can continue to enjoy the Club.

I personally want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding in these uncomfortable times. Our staff has done a phenomenal job under major stress during the pandemic, let's continue to help them and be sure to praise them for their efforts. Kind words go a long way.

Now - get out there and sail! It's what the club is here for.

Jim

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



VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

Friends, I just reviewed the article I wrote for The Channel last year at this time and I found it difficult to mentally bring myself back to the uncertain, unknowing place we all found ourselves almost exactly one year ago. At the same time, I am grateful that our community at the club has continued to sail, and allowed us to maintain operations in a safe, healthy manner. On top of this, we have a lot to look forward to in 2021.

First, I am pleased to report that we have a new addition to member use program -a beautiful Catalina! A special thank you to all of the members who contributed to the purchase. Second, despite disappointments of 2020, the club has done far better than expected in retaining and bringing in new members. As such, the Board of Directors approved a new budget which invests more in the club assets and hopefully will bring greater enjoyment to all of the members. Under this new budget we are acquiring a new coach boat, new furniture and equipment for the Grove's Nest.

This updates to the Grove's Nest come at a critical time. As you may have noticed, the use of the Grove's Nest has increased. The usages that we would only typically see for short periods on a Friday night are experienced all week long. With that said, I would

encourage everyone to remember and follow the COVID rules (even if you have been vaccinated) and be patient with the staff and management. This means you may have to wait for service or be denied service due to capacity issues. If this happens we apologize. Rest assured that we are all working to make the club and the experience of its members exceptional.

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



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

First a little old business and then some new.

This past weekend CGSC held the annual Miami Sailing Week regatta for adults and it was by all accounts a huge success! There were 47 boats registered in 4 classes: Flying Scots, Finns, Lasers, Sunfish. With very tricky conditions, wild wind shifts, no wind, lots of wind, the Race Committee had their hands full but performed exceptionally well. The Principal Race Officer, George Bradley and our own Race Chair Susan Walcutt moved marks, adjusted start lines, abandoned races, all in an effort to keep the regatta moving and on schedule. It was a great weekend for those that participated. Many thanks also to Lauren Simpson for organizing the event and to the Dock Staff for their seamless behind the scenes work it took to pull off a regatta without too much disruption to the non racing members of the club. Dragan had the bar and kitchen staffed up to meet the demand of the hungry and thirsty sailors so from my perspective it was one of our best events. We were firing on all cylinders and all had a great time.

Next weekend will be the Youth Miami Sailing Week

where we have over 200 kids registered to sail Optis and Lasers. Wow! That is quite a feat and it just shows how our club is truly becoming the center of racing here in Biscayne Bay. As always, if you want to participate, please get in touch with me and I can direct you to the Race Committee as they are nearly always looking for volunteers.



Sail on!
Dave

Dave Martin,
Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@cgsc.org



March 14 Flying Scots Race

Our March race was a great one with 16 boats competing in great breeze with moderate temperatures.

The top 3 spots were dominated by couples sailing together.

Newcomers Patrick and his wife Fiona came in first.

Keith and Yvette were a close second.

Dave and Andi were 3rd

Doug and Alex 4th

Jim, Andy and Evan were 5th

Oliver and his two sons Lucas and Daniel were 6th

7th and 8th needed to go to a tie breaker with Francois sailing with Jennifer taking the top spot

Gary and Bill 8th

9th was Obie and Paul

10th was Luis Martinez with Bud as crew

11th winning another tie breaker was Philippe and Jason

12th losing that tie breaker was Ryan and Karla

13th Ahcene with guest crew

14th Jeorg and Richard

15th Eileen, Sachin and Amy one of our newest fleet members and just learning

16th was Victor Sopena and friends in his first Scot race.

Looking at the scores you can see racing just keeps getting more competitive. Lots of close races and tie breakers needed. One of the keys is consistency. One score bigger than your average can push you way down on the list. A small mistake and 3 to 5 boats that were right behind you are now ahead of you.

On another note, we had our first Wednesday night series race of the new time schedule with 6 flying Scots and 3 Lasers. It was a beautiful evening with moderate breezes and temperatures. We got in 4 races and were back at the dock by 7:15

Bud



EXCELLENT MELGES 20 SEASON FINALE!

Event and Entries. The March 5-7 weekend marked the season finale for the three Melges 20 Miami Winter Series events. It also marked the end of Season 12 for this Series at Coconut Grove Sailing Club – 38 events, in all. Attendance was down this season due to Covid, but did rebound significantly for March, with 14 boats entered. It was a great regatta, and should build interest towards the 2021 Melges 20 World Championship set for December 8-12. A “Pre-Worlds” is scheduled in November. This will follow the 2019 Worlds that we hosted. That was the first World Championship ever sailed from CGSC, although our Race Committee managed two other World Championships that were sailed on the ocean and shore-based elsewhere.

The Racing. There was frontal activity going on for the entire event. This caused substantial clockwise progression in the initial NW wind direction that delayed racing on both Friday and Saturday. It was a bit frustrating for the RC, as indicated by this VHF exchange:

PRO Shannon Bush, “I feel bad that we haven’t been able to get a race off after almost an hour.” RC Support Boat reply, “You might feel worse if we had!”

A stable NE quadrant good breeze settled in each day after an hour or so, giving rise to excellent quality racing. The schedule called for up to eight races, which are normally sailed 3-3-2 over the three days. However, with a problematic forecast for both Saturday and Sunday, Shannon polled the fleet regarding a fourth race on Friday. They voted strongly in favor,

especially due to the absolutely excellent conditions.

Saturday’s forecast was for more directional variability and rain. Fortunately, the sun was shining and again a very good sailing breeze settled in. Three more great races were sailed, leaving just one remaining for Sunday. Sunday’s forecast was for a strong NW breeze building into the mid-20’s by about noon. The fleet opted to move up the first signal from 1100 to 1000 to make sure we had sailable conditions. A final 5-leg race was sailed, once again in excellent conditions.

The Winners. None of the competitors had four good races on Friday, so scores were on the high side – an indication of how competitive this fleet was. However, after Saturday’s racing, boats could drop their worst score. Igor Rytov’s Russian team on “Bogatyr’s” led, followed by past World Champion Drew Freides and crew on “Pacific Yankee,” with Dan Thielman and crew on “Kuai” in third. Sunday’s race was sailed in the strongest wind of a regatta with great wind every day. Dan Thielman and crew took the victory, with the Russian team second. That sealed the regatta for the Russians, and was good enough to move “Kuai” up to second, with “Pacific Yankee” taking third. The Russian team was the only international entry of the entire three-regatta Melges 20 Series due to Covid travel restrictions.



continued on pag 5

The Race Committee. Once again, we were fortunate to have USSailing National Race Officer Shannon Bush travel out from her Texas home to be our Principal Race Officer. She did another truly excellent job, and delivered a high quality racing experience for the fleet. We were also fortunate that Marc Allen and family volunteered their Grand Banks 36 "Hyperion" to be Signal Boat. The CGSC Signal Boat team included Deputy Race Officer & Timer Andi Hoffman, and Recorders Saralee Lamb, Martha Ledesma and Sonia Diaz. Up to windward on the Club's Angler 24 were Race Officer and RC Chair Susan Walcutt, with Steve Herman, Kathy Gunst, Dick Pober, Susan Mohorcic and Denise Schneider. The Gate Boat Race Officer was Rick Klein aboard the Club's Contender 23, with Allen Cox and Philippe Dusser. The Pin Boat RO was Ron Rostorfer, PC aboard the Club's Key Largo 21, with Clay VanNortwick, Jan Dillow, Stacy Morris and Bill Becker. Special thanks to the remote Protest Committee organized by Richard Etkin.

Ron Rostorfer



Adult Sailing

Adult training activity remains at a very high involvement rate. It seems our number of inquiring potential students has more than doubled and our popular BASIC KEELBOAT Classes are sold out into May 2021 at this writing in mid-March. Most of this is the result of Covid and everyone's desire to get into outside activities. We have increased our number of weekend classes, but the backlog remains.

From the standpoint of our Club's true mission, this is really great. From the standpoint of your dedicated adult instructors, it is becoming a real "load". We have instructor prospects in the works, but it takes time to develop and certify an instructor to meet and teach up to the quality and professionalism of US Sailing and CGSC. We are also in search of a Cruising and Bareboat instructor. In the meantime, some of our students have gone to a US Sailing facility in Ft. Myers where a combination Cruising and Bareboat course is available.

It is always a pleasant and fulfilling feeling to train and

watch certain couples learn to sail together. When both partners in the couple know how to sail, it can be a very special form of togetherness as they plan and execute their sailing adventures. Congratulations to members Claudia and Bernhard Koenig, who just earned their US Sailing BASIC KEELBOAT Certification. It was this instructor's privilege to work with them through a private keelboat course. Our frequent, popular and successful BASIC KEELBOAT Group class is also available as a private class with lots of flexibility in scheduling sessions of not less than four hours each to attain the sixteen (16) hour course. Private classes, like our group classes, have grown in number during the Covid situation.

We always welcome your inquiries and questions. Feel free to contact us about meeting your sailing goals.

Richard Crisler – Senior Adult Instructor
305-342-4775 crisler@mindspring.com



Coconut Grove Sailing Club Race Committee

We are the largest Committee in the Club with over 116 Volunteers that regularly donate their time and over 500 on our monthly RC email blast. We hold monthly meeting at CGSC (or through Zoom) on the first Tuesday of each month, from September through April.

On a typical race day, we have a large sail or power boat as our Signal Boat with a minimum of a USAA Certified Race Officer, Timer, Flag, Reorder(s) and the boat owner. We use the three CGSC RC powerboats as support boats serving as the Pin with two to three volunteers, the Gate boat again with two to three volunteers and the Weather Mark boat with three to four. In addition to on the water volunteers, we have RC Judges to assist with any protests after the end

of each race day, Shore-side volunteers that help with Youth safety check-out and in each day and last, but not least we have a volunteer that picks us lunches for us each race day.

During the year, we have sub committees that: contact various classes to set up regattas, organize race events, maintain the RC calendar, work with the US Coast Guard, publish our emails, replenish the consumable supplies, order trophies, plan our year end party, order RC uniforms and repair equipment. We also have a one-day RC Work Day late August every year to get all of our equipment ready for the next racing season.

Susan Walcutt
Race Committee Chair

RIDING ALONG WITH THE RACE COMMITTEE

The **CGSC Race Committee** makes the news whenever the Club hosts a regatta. A good portion of *The Channel* is then devoted to publicizing the results and Race Committee volunteers who spend many hours undertaking a wide variety of tasks to assure a successful regatta. While these volunteers are always named in a subsequent article, what they do is a mystery to many Club members. With this in mind, we explore what volunteers did on one of the support boats on one race day . . . in this case, we focused on the Weather Mark Boat during the recent Melges 20 regatta.

Susan Walcutt: In addition to being the Race Committee's Chairwoman, Susan serves as Weather Boat Race Officer. On race day, she is usually found driving the Weather Mark Support Boat, overseeing the RC crew volunteers, serving as navigator, and has safety boat duties. Once it anchors, Susan is responsible to program the GPS with the Signal Boat's exact position (latitude and longitude) to be able to place the weather mark(s) at the location requested by the Principal Race Officer (PRO). During racing, she positions the boat to facilitate the recording of sail or bow numbers of boats as they round the weather mark. If there is a change in the direction of the wind during a race or the race time must be lengthened, the original mark(s) are picked up and new mark(s) are positioned per instructions from the PRO. In short, she is the boat's quarterback.

Steve Herman: As a crew member, he performs tasks as part of the Weather Mark team. He operates at the direction of, and assists, the Weather Boat Race Officer with issues ranging from working out course geometry to interpreting rules. He also works with other crew members by taking wind measurements (direction and speed); inflating/deploying/ retrieving windward and offset marks; and timing/recording boats in order as they round the weather mark, i.e. the rounding order.

On the subject race day, wind was variable from 11pm to 2pm which necessitated many changes in course heading and distance. Th crew reset the weather marks many times for the first two races, including swapping out orange marks for yellow ones during mid-race. The wind was steady after 2pm, so the crew got a well-deserved rest for the 3rd and 4th races.

Kathy Gunst: As Recorder, she maintains a diary of race activities, logging in important information on the boat including GPS coordinates announced by the signal boat (used to help determine where to set marks); wind speeds and wind direction every 5 minutes; starting time; course of each race; the number of competitors racing; the times of the first and last boat rounding the mark; and bow or sail number as each boat rounds the weather mark. This valuable crew member is ready at all times to jump in and help with any task whenever needed.

continued on page 8

Bill Becker: This crew member refers to himself as an “anchor yanker”, deploying and retrieving marks and anchors for repeated re-deploying to accommodate wind changes. He also assisted the Mark Boat Race Officer spelling her at the wheel on occasion and assisted taking wind measurements.

order came down to change marks during one race, all hell broke loose as the task became one of inflating and deploying a second set of marks, then picking up the original set before the racers reach the new Weather Marks. “It was better exercise than going to the gym,” Bill was heard to say.

The wind was highly variable early on; thus, there was a lot of setting and resetting of the marks. When the

(One day on the water)



Great picture submitted by James Grupenhoff



To celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Club, these two plaques were acquired by Renny Young





**2020-2021
Officers**

Commodore	James Green
Vice Commodore	Rob Carlson
Rear Commodore	Dave Martin
Secretary	James Liebl
Treasurer	Olivier de Lavalette

BOARD:

Richard Etkin ('21)	Elizabeth Bernstein (22)
Kathleen Hatfield (21)	Jennifer Cheney (23)
Carla Pugh ('21)	Tom Santoro (23)
Priska Urban (22)	Henry Gomez (23)
Carlos Beckman (22)	James Grupenhoff, PC

Susan Walcott, ex officio
General Manager.....Lauren Simpson

**2990 South Bayshore Drive
Coconut Grove, FL 33133
Tel. 305-444-4571
Fax 305-444-8958**

www.cgsc.org

Volume 76

Issue 10



Coconut Grove
Sailing Club

2990 South Bayshore Drive
Coconut Grove, FL 33133

www.cgsc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

PRSR STD
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
MIAMI, FL
PERMIT NO.461

STANDING COMMITTEES

<u>Committees</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Reports to</u>
Executive Committee	James Green	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	Elizabeth del Rio Henrich	Rear Commodore
YST Vice-Chair	Doreen Fischer	Rear Commodore
Property Committee	Robert Carlson	Vice Commodore
Membership Committee	Jennifer Cheney	Commodore
Nominating Committee	James Grupenhoff, 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
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
75th Anniversary	Patricia Murphy/Renny Young	Commodore

NOTICE

Upcoming CGSC Regattas

**Flying Scot Spring Series #2
April 11, 2021**

**Don Q Snipe Regatta
April 09-11, 2021**

**Jr Commodore's Cup
April 10, 2021**

**Flying Scot Spring Series #3
April 18, 2021**

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