

COMMODORE'S comments**Commodore David C. Wetzel III**

Some of the casual conversation at the Board Meeting last week was about getting boats ready. Linda Rumon said that they were launching April 20th. The Boat Well payments for the Park are due. Some people seem to think Spring is coming. I haven't even started on the things I brought home last Fall to work on over the Winter - such as repair a rudder fitting, refinish the floor boards (once every 20 years whether they need it or not), refinish the tiller handle, etc. I had better get busy – like I wasn't already busy.

I believe our Fleet Captain, Bill Kuester, is going to put an article in next month's Anchorline on proper flag etiquette. This is good timing because this year I am going to put my racing trophy flags on a string so I can fly them for the Fleet Blessing and other coming events. I need some pointers on how/where to fly the non trophy flags.

This is a busy time for the Grosse Pointe Sail Club. There are meetings taking place around town to get ready for this year's boating and party season. The St. Patrick's Day Party, the Commodore's Steak Roast, the new Pancake Breakfast, and the Fleet Blessing / first Tuesday Night Race / after race Party will be the start of the season.

The St. Patrick's Day Party will happen around the time you receive this Anchorline. The next event is the Commodore's Steak Roast which gets it's name from the fact that the only people involved in putting on this event are the past Commodores. Be sure to make your reservations. See the notice for this event elsewhere in this Anchorline.

Another notice in this Anchorline is for the Pancake Breakfast. This is the second time we have tried this event. Last year it was scheduled for the 2nd Sunday in June but it was cancelled because it conflicted with school graduations, etc. This year we scheduled it for Sunday, April 29th. I hope that this year you will make a point to come and make it a success. To get it started, we are making this a free event, however we need to know how many people are coming. Again to make it easy all you have to do is make a phone call. Call Jerry Partridge at

(313) 331 2652 – let him know that you are coming and how many people you are bringing. Please think about inviting a potential new member.

The 2001 Rosters have just come off the press. Jerry Meach put a huge amount of time and effort into producing this year's Roster and it shows. Please note the quality. This is a publication we can be proud of. I also need to point out that Bob Brownell did an excellent job in soliciting additional advertising for this year. Your job is to patronize our advertisers.

Today, when I walked in the house after work, Mary eyed the bag I was holding. "Boat stuff," I said. "Well don't leave it in the kitchen," she said. So started the 2001 boating season in the Wetzel household.

Information Changes*If your personal information needs updating****New Members****To bring a new member into the Club*Contact Membership Chairman**Ron Morketter**757 Westchester
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
(313) 824 3739

Views from the VICE

Vice Commodore Gordon E. Morlan II

Involved?!

Our sense of loyalty seems to change.

I can remember my father, when we traveled, always looking for the same brand of gasoline. Sometimes we'd drive for miles, sometimes dangerously low on fuel, to find a Cities Service station. (No, not Gulf, we're a Cities family...) It seemed the same in other parts of life too. A man became a Yankees fan for life, (or a Yankee hater, but that's another ...); folks would work for the same company for many years, often their entire professional life. This is certainly less true today.

Today I look only for the least expensive gasoline I can find, with little concern for brand. Of course the companies have also changed. Cities is now Citgo, and much more difficult to find. Teams are less loyal to players and fans, and it is rare to find the player who will not jump ship for more money.

There are organizations, however, which do seem to compel our happy loyalty. Hopefully the GPSC is one for you. In order to make such organizations work, you must have a willingness to be involved, timely in alerting the club of your concerns, and when you plan to be involved in an event. (Ah, finally the point of these ramblings!) As it just so happens, there are a few club events on the horizon.

On Friday, March 16 is the Annual St. Patrick's Day Party, which is usually one of the best parties of the year. On April 7 the Commodore's Steak Roast promises good food and good company. On April 29 the Pancake Breakfast will allow for another opportunity to eat with your GPSC friends. Mark your édance cardí for these events! (Are we too busy?)

It is also important to know of changes in the way your club does business. In January Commodore Wetzel shared his intent to ask for all present at the monthly board meetings to vote on issues, and not just the bridge and the directors. In March the board, as an indication of the importance of continually accepting and welcoming new members, established

a standing membership committee. This group of four under the chairmanship of Ron Morketter will meet once a month, considering the needs of new members and the effective integration of new folks into our club.

The March board meeting also discussed race support. Soon you will have the opportunity to sign up to help on the dock with the Sundown Series Races.

I hope that with all of these activities and opportunities to be involved, the GPSC will attract your participation.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Save Money \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

GPSC members are eligible for BOAT/US's group membership rate of \$9.50 annually, a 50% discount. For membership and renewal call 1.800.395.2628 and give them the Group # GA816495.

JUNIOR SAILORS AGES 9-18 AND/OR PARENTS OF JUNIOR SAILORS

Now is the time to sign up for a summer session of instruction and competition.

Some clubs have offered openings in the past do not anticipate openings this year. Crescent Sail Yacht Club graciously enrolls children of non-members as space permits. Openings are extremely limited and are filled on a first come first served basis. For information about Crescent Sail Yacht Club's program, call Wendy Pfeffer as soon as possible @ (248)-349-1743, and leave your name, address, phone number and request for information. She will contact you as soon as the members' deadline for sign-up has passed. She does not expect many vacancies to be available.

Sue Steiger,
Junior Chairperson

Brought up by the REAR . . .

Rear Commodore Norman Samra I

As we round the mark on winter, the windy month of March breathes the promise of spring. March is also the month of the luck of the Irish, the almost Irish and the lucky and charmed. As sailors we know that if not for luck some memorable moments could well have been tragic catastrophes- and so, the Tale of Two Commodores.

Commodore Dennis Cotter's Irish luck prevailed in a 1985 singlehanded race near the Thames River. While on the foredeck attaching a spinnaker, he tumbled overboard. "I went one way, the spinnaker and boat went another." Although wearing his PFD and attached to the boat with a harness, he could not figure a way to climb "back aboard the stupid boat." Dennis usually trailed a line behind the boat while sailing singlehanded, but this time he hadn't. He struggled for over a half-hour in the water thinking perhaps he could point the boat towards shore and run a ground. Dennis's pot of gold arrived in the form of Larry Rotta in a slow folk boat bringing up the rear of the fleet. He sailed over to offer Dennis badly needed assistance. "I was never so glad to see anyone in my life." Larry tied the two boats together, lowered Coyote's sails, and positioned a ladder for a drenched and now quite cold Dennis to climb back aboard. Dennis was lucky to lose only his glasses; his boys still had a dad and Denise her husband. This was also the same year that Dennis with the crew of Old Bear rescued the sailors from the sinking Tomahawk during the Mackinac Race. "It is much better to be the rescuer than the rescued."

My lucky day was actually at night during a harrowing Bayview Night Race aboard a PT30. The night was real clear until we approached Crescent Sail Yacht Club. From that point on, a low-lying dense fog had formed. As we were sailing the last leg towards Bayview around 2AM., our rhumb line was taking us across the shipping channel. Blinded by the fog, my wife Barb was furiously ringing the bell, as we could hear the menacing deep rumble of approaching freighters, one upbound and one downbound. Frantically we tried to star the engine-

nothing. On the second attempt with the use of the hand crank the Volvo fired up, and we booked out of the channel. Another minute, one of those looming freighters would have smashed us like Junebugs on a car grille.

Let's all be thankful for a bit of luck and, as we sleigh ride into spring, "May the wind be at your back" as the Irish blessing says

Dock and Supply

We have an excellent selection of nautical wearing apparel available in our Dock and Supply inventory. Each of the items listed below sport our GPSC Burgee logo.

Framed Burgees \$
65.00

Lined Lightweight Jackets.....\$
55.00
(navy)

Sweaters.....\$
42.00
(navy and cream)

Polo (Golf) Shirts.....\$
28.50
(navy and white)

Baseball Caps	\$
10.00	
Sweatshirts.....,,.....	\$
25.00	
License Plates.....	\$
5.00	

We will have a display of apparel as well as other items available for sale at many of the social functions. In addition, for quick home purchases, call Kelee or John Teodecki at (313) 331-6512 if you need something between club social events.

Rugger Repeats at Key West Race Week

By winning the Division II/PHRF 10 Class Championship at the 2001 Key West Race Week, GPSC member John Sampson and crew aboard Rugger was the sole repeat champion from the 2000 Key West Race Week. Raced off the southern shore of Key West from January 15-19, 2000, this year's 327 boat fleet was the largest in Key West Race Week history, eclipsing the previous record by a 20% margin.

Considered to be effectively the "North American Championships", 22 countries and 37 U.S. States were represented at this year's regatta. According to Sampson, "everyone at the regatta is at least their local club champion". With this being an off year for the America's Cup, many an AC sailers could be seen on the water and in the awards tent. Nine states and Canada were represented in Rugger's PHRF 10 class alone. Even with all the club champions, and the wide array of boats in PHRF 10 (S27.9, Mariah 27, Abbot 27, Olson 25, J24, J30, UF022), Rugger once again proved to be the dominate boat in the compact class. By compiling scores of 1,2,3,3,4,3 and 4, Rugger lead the 10 boat class by 6 points going into the 8th and final race. In race 8 Rugger led wire-to-wire, rounding every mark in front of the pack en route to a series-clinching bullet.

At first glance, the 9 point margin of victory is not as impressive as Rugger's undefeated record from a year ago, however KWRW 2001 was sailed in primarily light and shifty conditions. It was not atypical for the 9th place boat to go to 1st in one leg,

or for the entire "left hand" pack to beat the entire "right hand" pack or vice-versa. The prevailing winds for the week were from the Northeast at 5-12 mph. Sails smaller than medium #1's were never removed from their bags - a large contrast from last year's blade regatta". Even with the light/shifty conditions, Rugger was the only boat in PHRF 10 that did not score lower than 4th in any one race. However, all but two of the ten PHRF 10 participants took home some hardware. Jim Norris, of Na-Na-Li and Mills Race fame, sure appeared to enjoy sipping the rum and some pineapple juice from his race day 3 silver bowl.

Rugger's 2001 KWRW Class Championships makes it 3-for-3 since 1995 for Doyle Detroit boats. Like Rugger, the second place boat "Kamikaze" (John Leyland, Vancouver B.C.) Feature a complete Doyle Detroit sail inventory, and was "regatta prepared" by diamond boat works in Windsor, Ontario. Sam Irwin and Diamond seem to have found a magical formula with their refurbishment packages. Both boats were recently re-fit with faired bottoms with epoxy barrier coat paints (no anti-fouling), painted top-sides and decks, and revised deck layouts. The third place boat, a long time MORC circuit rival of Rugger's was Mike Karn's Insatiable (Annapolis, MD).

Other medium/small boat classes included a 18 boat J29 one design fleet, a 7 boat Tartan Ten sub-class, a 59 Melges 24 class, and 30 Mumm 30s. The most interesting class in the high-end category was the 37 boat Farr 40 class. A complete breakdown of the results can be found on the Premier Racing, Inc web site.

A special "thanks" to John and his crew (Michael Boston, Jeff Sampson, Gene Haginers, Mo Rungier and Craig Gooch) for representing GPSC.



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Membership Chair Ron Morketter

HELP ~~WANTED~~ NEEDED

As this issue of the Anchorline goes to press we are about 45 days from launch and about 75 days from our first Tuesday Night race. On May 29th at 1850 hours (6:50 pm for some) the Timer directs the Signalman to raise a colored shape, followed by the order to the Gunner to fire the cannon. Spotters call out sail numbers and Recorders write them down. The Grosse Pointe Sail Club Sundown Race season will start whether we are ready or not. And being ready is where we need your help.

Race Support Chair Tom Fraser has the assignment to solicit members to staff each of the twelve races and he will be seeking your participation. At the St. Pat's party and the Commodore's Steak Roast you will have an opportunity to "sign up" for one or more nights during the season. Sign up early and select the task or tasks of your choice.

For each Tuesday Night race we require a dozen willing hands to conduct the race with the efficiency for which we have gained a reputation. The tasks are not difficult – but each one is important to the overall success of the race. And if you are a "newcomer" there are experienced members working each night to help you learn the system.

TIMER – Uses a prepared script and a digital watch to call out instructions to the Signalman and Gunner for each of the eight race starts. Also calls out the time as each boat crosses the finish line.

SIGNALPERSON – Raises and lowers the color shapes in accordance with the Timers instructions.

GUNNER – Loads, Fires, and Reloads the cannons in accordance with the Timers instructions.

STARTING SPOTTER – Reads sail numbers for starters in each class and calls them out to the Recorders. Binoculars provided for this task.

FINISH SPOTTER – Reads sail number of each finishing boat as it crosses the finish line and calls out number to the Recorders. Binoculars provided for this task.

RECORDERS – Records sail numbers for starters in each class as called out by the Starting Spotter. Also records sail number of each finishing boat as called out by the Finish Spotter and time (to the second) as called out by the Timer. **THIS REQUIRES THREE OR FOUR RECORDERS FOR EACH RACE.**

There are just rewards for the volunteers that staff the Tuesday Night races. A cooler of beverages is on the dock for the thirsty workers at each race. An invitation to the Annual Awards Party is also included. This great party is complete with the ever famous Sail Club hors d' oeuvres and an open bar. What more would you want for donating three hours to the Club on a summer Tuesday night?



ORGANIZING CHILDREN ORIENTED EVENTS

Club members supplied data on 70 children with their membership renewal last fall so they could be added to the GPSC Database. **Parents can still add information on their children to the GPSC database** by contacting Membership (Ron Morketter).

EDP has added special children oriented reports and label generation capability to the GPSC database menu. Membership (Ron Morketter) is in control of the GPSC database at all times.

If you are organizing a GPSC event for children, you may request that Membership generate a Report containing families with children in any age specified age range (e.g., from 4.6 years old through 8.1 years old). The list will include parent names, home and business phone numbers, and children (age, name, and birth date) within the specified age range. Membership can also provide mailing labels for families with children in a specified age range. Each Label will specify how many children in the family are within the specified age range.

-Jerry Meach, EDP

Mark your Calendars for GPSC 2001 Events!

MARCH

16 **ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY**

APRIL

2 BOARD MEETING
 7 **COMMODORE'S STEAK ROAST**
 29 **PANCAKE BREAKFAST (FAMILY BRUNCH)**

MAY

7 BOARD MEETING
 12 NSSC TUNE-UP REGATTA
 19 GLYC REGATTA
 20 DETROIT RIVER CHALLENGE RACE
 26 DYC REGATTA
 29 **SPRING SERIES BEGINS**
POST RACE PARTY
FLEET BLESSING

JUNE

1-3 BYC NOOD REGATTA
 5, 12, 19, 26 SPRING SERIES RACES
 8 MILLS RACE
 15 WYC OVERNIGHT REGATTA
 23-24 **SUMMER RENDEZVOUS**
 30 DBC REGATTA

JULY

7 **REGATTA AND AWARDS PARTY**
 10 LAST SPRING SERIES RACE
 17, 31 SUMMER SERIES RACES
 21 **PORT HURON TO MACKINAC RACE**

AUGUST

4 GLYC DOWNRIVER RACE
 5 GLYC DEEP WATER RACE
 6-8 ILYA BAY WEEK
 7, 14, 21, 28 SUMMER SERIES RACES
 11-12 GPYC REGATTA
 17 **LADIES RACE AND PARTY**
 18 EBC REGATTA
 25 CSYC REGATTA
 28 **POST TUESDAY NIGHT RACE PARTY**

SEPTEMBER

1-3 FALL RENDEZVOUS
 8 DYC SWEEPSTAKES REGATTA
 10 BOARD MEETING
 15 BYC/GPYC LONG DISTANCE REGATTA
 16 FALL SERIES RACES #1 & #2
 22 GPYC BLUENOSE REGATTA
 23 FALL SERIES RACES #3 & #4
 28 **NEW MEMBERS' PARTY**
 29 BYC NORTH CHANNEL RACE

OCTOBER

1 BOARD MEETING
 5 BYC MACKINAC AWARDS
 7 FROSTBITE RACE AND CHILI PARTY
 13 **LOBSTER ROAST**

NOVEMBER

1 DRYA ANNUAL MEETING – BYC
 2 DRYA AWARDS DINNER – GPYC
 5 BOARD MEETING
 9 **GPSC AWARDS PARTY**
 17 **DRY DOCK**

DECEMBER

7 **ANNUAL MEETING**
 9 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

2001 ROSTER UPDATE

NEW MEMBERS:

If you move, change your telephone or fax number or e-mail address, please let us know so we can reach you!

www.gpsc.org

Just a reminder, our website features a bulletin board, also known as a discussion group. This area can be used to post or respond to messages on topics related to sailing or club business. For instance, if you have a question on a racing rule and want to get others' opinions, you can post your question on this page. Or, if you want to post a dry dock reminder to club members, this is the forum in which to do it. The page is password-protected and is for GPSC

members only. To reach it, click on Club Information on the left-hand side of the page. A window will pop up asking you for a name and password. The name is "port" and the password is "tack," both in lowercase letters. Once logged in, you will be in the members-only section of the website where you can click on Discussion Group.

The 1st Annual Grosse Pointe Sail Club Pancake Breakfast



**Mark
Your
Calendar!!!**

Grosse Pointe Park Tompkins Center

Bring your Mate Bring your Crew Bring your Kids Bring your Neighbor

**This event is brought to you by the Directors of the Grosse Pointe Sail Club
(we finally found a use for them)**

This is a **FREE** event, however we need to know how many people are coming:

Call Jerry Partridge at (313) 331 2652 now or anytime before April 22 to let him know you are coming and how many people you are bringing.

There will be 50-50 raffles at 11:30 and 12:30

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