

COMMODORE'S comments

Commodore Norm Samra Speaks



On the evening of our April board meeting we had water, water everywhere, just not in the form we'd like or expect in spring. It helps to think that the snow and slush that coat the boats will eventually melt to float them, hopefully by next month. After all, GPSC will start the Down River Challenge off our dock May 18, not many weeks away.

As we "spring forward" into the warmer weather social and race activities, plan to attend our entertaining and/or educational events. Commodore Ed Olsen's seminar on conducting the Tuesday night races would greatly benefit all of us involved; it's on May 2, 7:30 P.M. at Bayview. The Commodores Steak Roast May 9 will feature the culinary excellence of the chefs of the rib-eye. Yes, our silver starred past commodores will sling the steaks and dish the desserts with panache and witty repartee. Then to round out May, come Memorial Day weekend to the park to enjoy the Pancake Breakfast followed by the annual Fleet Blessing and swap meet. We may even possibly tour the new building.

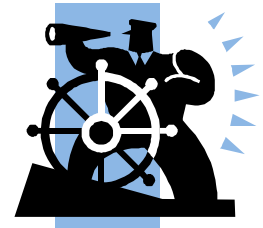
Have fun on a lovely summer Tuesday evening by signing up for one of the race positions on the dock. The Frasers have the master list and would appreciate hearing from one and all. Call to volunteer at 886-0604. Also, check the website for further details. Race chair George Fuller has the *2003 Sailing Instructions* ready to go along with our new 6x6 ft. appropriately colored earth tone storage shed at the end of dock 1. (Thinking that it was to be shipped from California, George thought he had several weeks before the shed he ordered would arrive. It instead arrived at his house the next day from a warehouse in Ecorse. He's waiting for the snow and mud to dissipate before trucking it to the dock at the park.) Let's hope all our undertakings are handled in such a timely fashion this racing season!

Four additional clubs have extended their facilities to GPSC:

Harbor Bay Yacht Club	1 Huron Street, Sandusky, Ohio
LaSalle Mariner's Yacht Club	2640 Front St., LaSalle, Ontario
Edison Boat Club	100 Lyncastle, Detroit, MI
Ford Yacht Club	Grosse Isle, MI



GPSC Bullets



**Tuesday Night Racing
Clinic – May 2
Be There**

**Commodores Steak Roast
May 9
Don't Miss Out**

Junior Sailing News

**Pancake Breakfast
May 26
Monday**

**Visit our website:
WWW.GPSC.ORG**



Views from the VICE

Vice Commodore Jerry Partridge † † †



Good Decisions

We Never Stop Learning

Our club has been exceptionally fortunate this spring. (Has the snow finally stopped?) This is the time when we all begin to think about sailing by preparing our boats for the upcoming season, and scheduling practice sessions to refresh, or teach, crew skills. Skills and knowledge are the absolute essence of any successfully executed endeavor, and in particular sailboat racing. In order for a group of people to operate as a successful team, each member must first understand the function of the position before they can skillfully perform the task. And with all the opportunities we have this spring to bone up on sailboat racing skills and knowledge, we are fortunate indeed.

For the last two weeks, the seminar "Racing 101" was held at Bayview to discuss both the rules of racing and racing strategy and tactics. This seminar was designed to entice non-racing sailors to begin racing or increase their racing activity. This was a DRYA sponsored event, and it received high visibility from many member clubs. The house was packed on both nights with sailors eager to learn or refresh their racing knowledge. BYC Com. Ted Everingham covered the rules, and Al DeClercq of UK Sailmakers, handled the portion on tactics. To keep the topics fresh, small sections of both rules and tactics were discussed in rotating order. Look for some brief highlights and pointers later in the newsletter.



On May 2, 2003, the GPSC is sponsoring a Race Committee Seminar, at Bayview Yacht Club, starting at 7:30pm. We are most fortunate to have Past GPSC Commodore Ed Olsen leading this presentation, as well as a number of other speakers. Ed was the Primary Race Officer on the DRYA "C" Course for a number of years and he is the resident expert on running sailboat races. In addition, we have invited a representative of the Coast Guard to discuss traffic in the channel. This seminar is designed improve our knowledge and skills of the race committee functions. This session is aimed at gaining increased participation of sailors and non-sailors in running races. Supporting our dock committee is a responsibility of all members, with a special emphasis on new members. All members should attend, as well as others who want to understand what all the flags and signals are about during a race. Each assignment will be discussed in detail, and questions from the attendees will be encouraged during the presentation. You will be able to sign up for dock committee assignments with Mary Fraser at this seminar, so bring your calendar to record your assigned dates.

A special thanks to the Bridge of the BYC for making their facilities available to us. We appreciate their hospitality and commitment to sailboat racing.

This seminar will be informative and a lot of fun. There is no cost for this seminar and you do not any prior experience to attend. You need only two things, the desire to learn and also the desire to have fun. One of the best-kept secrets of our club is how much fun the folks on the dock committee have on a summer evening. Join in.

We are never too old or too bright to stop learning. Many experienced sailors have spent very little time on the dock during races. It is a great way to learn, refresh, and enhance our knowledge on the art of holding sailboat races.

Finally, mark your calendar on Saturday, February 17, 2004, for next year's Commodore's Ball. Have a great spring!

Jerry Partridge
Vice Commodore

Bringing up the REAR . . .

Rear Commodore Glory Schappe ††

†

A ground swell of activity begins. It is April and it seems as though everyone gets into the act. Closets, attics and basements get cleaned out; yards are groomed with rakes and shovels and leaf blowers and fertilizers. And the boat yards turn into veritable beehives.



The sun's rays are warming, launch dates are looming and worker-bee boaters and sailors scurry up and down ladders with their wash buckets and scrub brushes, their sandpaper, their bottom paint and paint brushes and their rubbing compounds and waxes. Drills and power sanders whine and paint sprayers hiss. It's all quite a sight (I am more of an observer than I am a worker bee!).

Club members, too, are working feverishly so as to provide us with another great spring and summer lineup of club activities. Bill Harbert has been collecting information from Race & Regatta and has placed our club order for the needed number of Award Flags with his California connection. His efforts ensure that the sailors who place well in our Regatta, Sundown, Ladies and Frostbite races will have happy faces as they collect the tangible evidence of their superior efforts. Com. Ed Olsen is preparing a Race Committee Seminar and, along with several others, will present it on May 2nd at Bayview Yacht Club (7:30 p.m., no charge). This will be a great information source and learning opportunity that I hope all club members will take advantage of. Come and find out just how easy it is and what fun it can be to get involved with the Race crew on Tuesday nights. (An additional perk is a special invitation to the blockbuster Awards Night Party that is held in November.)

More worker bees are Peter D'Angelo's Regatta Committee as they continue work on our upcoming June 28th event. Cynthia and Peter Warner will host the Cocktail Party for the race officials, and Paul Schaap, Bill Kuester, Brian O'Byrne, and Tom Frasier have volunteered their boats to serve as Race Committee boats. We still need two smaller powerboats to function as Leeward Mark boats on that day. No experience is necessary, we can give you the simple instructions, so please volunteer (313 823-0163) if you have a boat that size and would like to become part of this event. There is a bonus--everyone who works on the Regatta gets invited to the Friday night Regatta Cocktail Party! (And it's a good one.)

While we are on the subject of Regattas, Com. Bill Lynch of the Detroit Yacht Club has issued an invitation to all Grosse Pointe Sail Club sailors (as well as any and all sailors berthed at Windmill Pointe Marina) to race JAM in their May 24th Regatta. You need not be registered with DRYA to race in this event. For further information call Com. Bob Schappe at (313) 823-0163.

Com. Bob and I were able to "get away" in early March and journey on down to the Florida Keys. On the drive down we had the pleasure of enjoying the hospitality and company of Com. Mike and Gerry Krag at their wonderful new Florida abode. Mike gave us a tour of the place and of the golf course

that's out their back door on his spiffy new golf cart--one unlike no other we've ever seen! I do believe there is something to this Florida lifestyle....we surely enjoyed our stay.

I am not enjoying my present status as a right-arm-in-a-sling person. Shoulder surgery on April 7th has rendered me to this frustrating learn-to-do-things-with-your-left-hand state for the next 4-6 weeks. Complain, complain.

The Steak Roast is coming up on May 9th, and I'll just bet that Com. Morlan has a great party in store for us.

Happy Easter to all.



FROM THE OTHER SIDE

Bill Kuester

This is the Grosse Pointe Sail Club, a sailing club made up of mainly sailors and a few others who do not have to depend upon the wind for propulsion. Commodore Samra asked me to serve as the Chairman of the club's powerboat committee for this year.

No sail club can get by without us. We are needed for race support, patrol and occasionally towing a Commodore's sailboat back to the dock. (Gee, another gallon of gas will not add that much weight!).

I will be using our trawler, "Misselaineous", for race patrol on most Tuesday night races. Paul Schaap will back me up with his cruiser, "PPD Cruiser" and our ski boat, "Special K", will be used as the mark boat.

We need your help. Crews will be needed to assist on these boats and back up boat drivers will be needed for "Special K". We also need another larger power boat for the annual regatta on June 28th.

I also hope to plan a power boat rendezvous in conjunction with the annual wooden boat show in Wallaceburg, Ontario. Please contact me for race support and rendezvous ideas.

The Sailing Rules!

All information taken off of www.sailing.org. Answer to the case appears on the following page.

THE CASE BOOK FOR 2001-2004

CASE 11

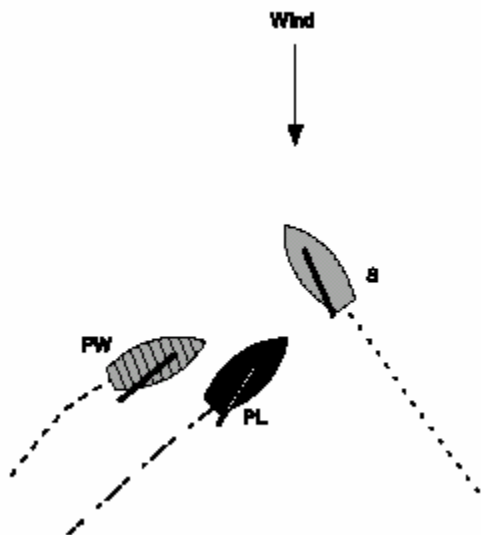
Rule 14 Avoiding Contact

Rule 18.2(a) Rounding and Passing Marks and Obstructions:

Giving Room; Keeping Clear: Overlapped – Basic Rule

Rule 19.1 Room to Tack at an Obstruction

When an obstruction is a right-of-way boat about to be passed on the same side by two overlapped boats, the outside boat must give the inside boat room to pass.



Summary of the Facts

PW and PL, close-hauled on port tack and overlapped, approached S on the windward leg. PL could pass safely astern of S. PW, on a collision course with S, hailed PL for room when they were about three hull lengths from S. PL ignored the hail and maintained her course. When PW bore away to avoid S, she and PL had slight beam-to-beam contact. PW pro-tested under rule 18.2(a).

The protest committee held that rule 18.2(a) did not apply. PW could easily have tacked into the open water to windward to keep clear, and she should have done so. PW was disqualified under rule 19.1 and appealed.

Decision and explanation found on the next page.

Dock and Supply
Get Ready for Spring, purchase GPSC gear!
Call Nancy Trowern today
822-1550



Great New Sail Club Ties Available
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Still for sail! Hunter 31' sloop - 1984
Lightly used
Sleeps 7, head, shower, H/C pressure water
2 burner alcohol stove + oven
Price to drop \$1,000 each month!
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EJOlsen@aol.com



Mark Your Calendars!

May 2	Tuesday Race Clinic
May 9	Commodore Steak Roast
May 26	Pancake Breakfast
May 27	Sundown Series Begins
June 28	Regatta Party

Sailing Rules Cont.



Decision

S was an obstruction that PW and PL were about to pass on the same side. Hence, rule 18 applied. Under rule 18.2(a) PW was entitled to room to pass between PL and the stern of S. PL did not give PW sufficient room, and so PL broke rule 18.2(a). PL was subject to rule 14, but since she held right of way over PW and there was no damage, she cannot be penalized if she broke that rule. Rule 19.1 did not apply because PL did not have to make any change of course to clear S. PW could not have known that PL was not going to give sufficient room until she was committed to pass between S and PL. Hence it was not reasonably possible for PW to avoid the contact that occurred, and so PW did not break rule 14.

Appeal upheld. The decision of the protest committee disqualifying PW is reversed. PW is reinstated, and PL is disqualified.

www.gpsc.org

Announcement from our Website Manager: Harold Stackpoole.

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.

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Vice Commodore Jerry Partridge
Rear Commodore Glory Schappe



Mark your Calendars...

Come one, come all

Grosse Pointe Sail Club - 2003

Regatta Party - June 28, 2003

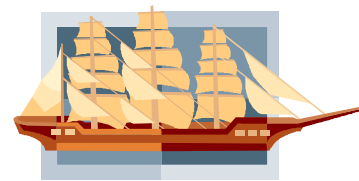
Commodore Norm Samra extends an invitation to all Sail club members to attend the Regatta Party at Three Mile Park following the Sail Club's Regatta.

Come join the sailors in the festivities including a buffet meal, drinks, dancing to a jazz combo and the awards ceremonies.

4-8 pm.

Admission: \$7.00

Regatta Party 2003



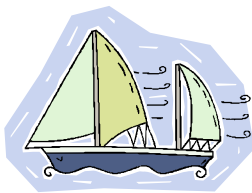
Local Sailor Tackles Atlantic

Member Mary Bodkin-Harbert has reason to smile these days as a proud parent. Her son, Jeff Bodkin, has been selected as one of ten Daimler Chrysler employees worldwide to crew the King's Legend, a Swan 65, in the Daimler Chrysler North Atlantic Challenge this summer. This race, sponsored by Daimler-Chrysler, starts at Newport, Rhode Island, on June 14 and travels the North Atlantic, into the North Sea, passing north of Great Britain between the Orkney and Shetland Islands, and finishes at Cuxhaven at the mouth of the River Elbe near Hamburg, Germany. Sailing instructions include leaving Nantucket Shoals to port, Point Alpha (the southern extent of the Labrador icebergs) to port, and "Skroo Lighthouse" on Fair Island to starboard. The course is approximately 3,500 nautical miles and it is expected that the race will end in early July.

In addition to being one of the principal sponsors of the race, Chrysler has chartered the King's Legend as their entry in the race. She is a Sparkman & Stephens design built in 1975, and in 1977 placed second in the Whitbread Around The World race. The crew of ten was selected from 800 Daimler Chrysler employees that applied through out the world. There will be five crewmembers from North America and five from Europe in addition to the skipper/owner from Finland.

Jeff sailed in the Port Huron to Mackinaw race for several years and has also sailed the Chicago to Mackinaw race when he lived in Grosse Pointe. Now living in Dallas, he is the Area Sales Manager for Western Star Trucks and covers five southern states. He now campaigns his Lightning on a lake in the Dallas area and reports that they race 52 weeks out of the year. A graduate of Michigan State University, Jeff attended school at same time as Dawn Riley and both were members of the MSU sailing team.

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Racing 101 Pointers:

Briefly, these are some of the highlights of the seminar.

Rules:

1. **There in no proper course before you are racing. Racing begins with the prep signal (4 minutes before the start). See definitions in RRS (Racing Rules of Sailing).**
2. **Know the definitions of *Keep Clear, Clear Astern, Clear Ahead, Windward, Leeward, Tack, Starboard and Port.***
3. **Port keeps clear of starboard.**
4. **Windward keeps clear of leeward.**
5. **Clear astern keeps clear of clear ahead.**
6. **Tacking shall keep clear of other boats.**
7. **Inside boat is entitled to room at the mark.**
8. **Brief starting sequence of timing and signals**

Tactics:

1. **A good start is critical to being competitive.**
2. **Wind shifts allow more gain than any other factor (generally).**
3. **Sail on the same side of the course as the wind shift.**
4. **Avoid the corners in the beginning of the race.**
5. **Avoid sailing to laylines unless you are in a big fleet (and need clear air).**
6. **Sail for the puffs.**
7. **Don't tack on a "velocity header" (caused by reduced wind) until verified.**

In general, do not allow yourself to be seduced by the rules. Make good decisions on the water. Even if you are in the right. You just might lose the protest hearing, damage some boats, and possibly injure someone. As you can tell, this was a comprehensive seminar, even though it was aimed at the entry- level sailor. The instructors were very knowledgeable, the pace of topics covered was brisk, and the Q&A session was lively. All in all, the sessions were informative and fun. Quite a number of our members were in attendance.

Jerry Partridge



**Race Committee Seminar
for
Grosse Pointe Sail Club's Highly Regarded
Tuesday Night Sundown Race Series**

Friday, May 2nd, at 7:30 p.m.

Bayview Yacht Club

Presented by Com. Ed Olsen, et al

Participation on the dock is the responsibility of all GPSC members.

It is also the best social activity you could select for summer evenings.

Attendance by all is requested, but especially by new members and their sponsors, as well as by anyone who'd like to know what all those flags are about, and anyone who has any difficulty understanding what's going on.

We've invited a representative of the U.S. Coast Guard, to review their concerns about traffic in or near the channel.

We'll review every function, and provide plenty of handouts, so everyone can understand all the assignments.

We'll provide an opportunity for you to sign up for specific assignments on specific dates (so bring your calendar).

(Remember, all GPSC members are responsible to accept their dock assignment, or to present an acceptable alternate. You can control that selection process by selecting yourself, in the first place.)

Finally, remember that those who do work the dock (or on the water) receive invitations to our excellent Awards Party in November!

BYC has put out the welcome mat for us, and agrees to honor GPSC charges at their bar.

Boats & Beyond

The Annual Commodores' Steak Roast!

May 9, 2003 6:30 PM
Thompkins Center

This is the best event of the year!
(Just ask PC Mike Comerford!)

Tools to Bring:

- * A hearty thirst
- * Well-developed vocal cords
- * A sailor's appetite
- * Table service

... a willingness to eat the meal that your beloved past commodores will cook!

Choose juicy steak or succulent chicken breast!

Entertainment: "One of our own" with music from Boats and Beyond!

Mail a \$16 check made out to GPSC along with your entrée request to:
PC Gordon Morlan by May Day!! (May 1, 2003)
723 Barrington Road
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

Name: _____ No. of persons _____

Total amount: _____ (No. persons X \$16)

Steak _____ Chicken _____

Memorial Day

May 26, 2003

Pancake Breakfast

Bring your appetite and your smile

Thompkins Center
Windmill Pointe Park



Junior Sailing News

Attention all Junior sailors age 9 - 18 and/or parents of Junior sailors.

Now is the time to sign up for a summer session of instruction and competition. Some local clubs that sponsor Junior sailing programs graciously enroll children of non-members as space permits. The programs generally run mid-June through mid-August with a week off for the Mackinac Race. The rosters fill up quickly so call for an application today.

Details for most of these programs are still to be finalized but classes will be filled on a first come/first served basis.

Crescent Sail Yacht Club - Wendy Pfeffer (248) 349-1743

Bayview Yacht Club - Bob DeClerq (313) 823-3182

Great Lakes Yacht Club - Patti Kommel (248) 399-3094

North Star Sail Club - Reid Pouliot (810) 954-1966

"LIFE ITSELF IS THE MOST WONDERFUL FAIRY TALE"
Hans Christian Anderson

THE ANCHORLINE

Grosse Pointe Sail Club
P.O. Box 36462
Grosse Pointe, MI 48236



LOOK INSIDE FOR....



Regatta Party June 28



Tues. Night Clinic May 2



Steak Roast – May 9

