

COMMODORE....**BETH KURTA**

Happy New Year! I've reached the front page!! I remain humbled and grateful that the Members of the GPSC elected me as Commodore to lead the Board of Directors during 2010. The elected board is made up

of energetic and talented people: Vice Commodore **Chris Behler**, Rear Commodore **Dave MacDonald**, Directors **Nancy McPherson**, **John Raguse**, **Linda Rumon** and **Paul Schaap**. Past Commodore **Bill Kuester** is the eighth Member of the Board and I am glad to know I can count on him for his experience and guidance during the coming year. Thank you Com. Kuester for your strong leadership during 2009.

The appointed Flag Officers - **Denise Cotter**, **David MacDonald**, **Dr. Robert Welch**, **Elaine Kuester** and **Doug Carlson** bring to the Bridge vast experience in their areas and I appreciate their continued dedication to leading our Club. We still need a Fleet Captain. If you have yearned to be a Flag Officer and are interested in this position, please let me know.

My immediate committee chairs are **George Fuller**, **Nancy McPherson**, **Andrea Solak**, **Larry Haggart**, **Bob Schappe**, **Darius Hummel**, **Paul D'Angelo**, **Peter D'Angelo**, **Dennis Cotter**, **Elizabeth Behler**, **Rob Sharrow**, **Vicky Colwell** and **Wendy Niven**.

These are the people who make this club function. I look forward to working with them and the rest of the membership to make 2010 a wonderful year for the Grosse Pointe Sail Club!

I have been a member of GPSC for many years now and most of you know me quite well. Even so, I thought I would take this opportunity to tell you a few things about myself.

I am married to a wonderful man. Frank does a terrific job taking care of things when I am busy. While Frank is

a great husband, he is no wife. I may request a volunteer in this capacity from time to time to help me keep things running smoothly.

We have two great sons – Joseph 11 and Nicholas 7. Most of you have known these boys their entire lives and I appreciate how much you care for them. In fact, their Godparents are each current or former members of the Club. Joseph and Nicholas are involved in many activities and I will do my best to juggle their needs with the needs of GPSC members.

I am fortunate to have fulfilling and interesting work. I have contracts with various organizations which can be demanding at times. I specialize in administration, event planning and governance. Seems to be a natural fit for leading the Sail Club.

I tend to move around a lot throughout the day and am not always reachable by phone. The best way to communicate with me for a quick response is via email at ekurta@comcast.net.

I am not a fan of the moniker Commodorable. While I know it is a term of endearment and not meant to be offensive, I don't personally care for it.

As of the writing of this article, I am 40 years old. I know that this isn't particularly old, but it is a milestone and it will take some getting used to. Ugh.

Enough about me. Back to the Club.

We are looking forward to upcoming events. The Commodore's Ball, the Winter Weekend in Hartland, the February Dry Dock/Euchre Party and the Spring Party in March. Ahh, Spring. Makes sailing season seem close, doesn't it?

I anticipate a wonderful year and truly appreciate the support of each of you. Thank you for the faith you have placed in me to represent you on the Bridge. I am honored to serve an organization as wonderful as the Grosse Pointe Sail Club.

Yours in Service - Beth

VIEW FROM THE VICE



.... Vice Commodore Chris Behler

2010... we get to start over on a new decade. I don't have to tell you that time really seems to fly. I moved up a notch in the Commodore chain and the past year as Rear Commodore is a

blur. I'm looking forward to my year as Vice Commodore with new committees and thoughts of getting ready for the 'Big one' next year. Race falls under the Vice Commodore and we have some slots to fill. It isn't too soon to begin thinking of race. Working on race has always been a bit intimidating, particularly for non racers, and RACE is very important to the club. With that in mind we have broken up the Race responsibilities into several parts. In a nutshell, race has 6 primary components:

-Dock Operations – On the day of a race, get the dock box down to the start line, get the dock set up for the race and put away afterwards. Act as a resource to keep things running smoothly on the dock. Currently an open position

-Race Logistics - Make sure we have gas for the horns, batteries as needed and shells for the cannon. Print out and supply scoring forms and registrations list to the dock crew (*information provided by Race Records*) and provide water, pop, beer down to the starting line for the dock crew. Currently an open position.

-Race Support – get volunteers (*about 4-5 per race with many veterans who return every year*) signed up for the different tasks for each race day. A **VERY** important job and it is open.

-Senior Race Officer – A decision maker and runs the actual starts/finishes. **Fred Baer** returns to this job for 2010. Fred's mantra is to forge order from raw chaos (*well... potential chaos then*).

-Race Records – Use the club laptop to enter and manage registrations, print out blank scoring sheets and some registration lists for each race, score the races, post the results to the club bulletin board and email results to the Webmaster. **John Raguse** is going to tackle this task.

-Protest – Be available to pick up or receive protests, convey them to DRYA, communicate with those affected, and address scheduling issues. **Ted Williford** has signed on for this job.

Membership is still open. Ted Williford has been doing this job previously and he can fill you in if interested. This is a fairly active job but is at the heart of the club and very important. You will understand a lot about the club and its members when you are done.

If you are at all interested in the open positions please call Com. Kurta, or me, to get more information or sign up.

Dock and supply is covered by **Sheila Behler**. She wanted me to let everyone know that she is accepting most articles of clothing for embroidery with the club logo/burgee for \$10. She is also stocking many new styles of clothing (children too)... check everything out at upcoming club events (hey, come to the Winter Weekend!).

Mark Minor is returning as the Database Manager. It is a never ending effort to keep club member records up to date and provide reports, membership cards and statistics to the bridge and membership chair.

For 2010 **Paul Schaap** (*Paul is returning to serve again*) and **Dave Charvat** are providing Power Boat support. Power boats serve as mark or patrol boats at club sponsored races. We need them... hug a power boater today.

I will be filling in for Website Manager. The biggest part of the job is getting the race results posted each race week. If you have interest, let me know.

2009 was a great year for the club (*yeah, I know, every year is above average*) and with everyone's continuing effort, 2010 could be even better. I look forward to serving the club as Vice Commodore... and getting back to sailing on Lake St. Clair.

Chris Behler

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VIEW FROM THE REAR

....Rear Commodore E. DAVID MACDONALD



First, I would like to thank the membership and the Bridge for the opportunity you have presented me as the newly elected Rear Commodore of the Grosse Pointe Sail Club for 2010. And second, I would like to thank my wife Nancy, for allowing me to run for this Office, given its numerous duties and responsibilities.

I am both humbled and honored by the responsibility you have entrusted me with.

As you know, I have served the Grosse Pointe Sail Club in a number of capacities since becoming a Member back in 1996. Some of the duties were relatively easy, i.e. bartending the Regatta cocktail parties; and some were a significant challenge – Entertainment and Race both come to mind in that regard. Oh, and let's not forget about Regatta. But every one of the assignments provided a great opportunity for Nancy and I to meet the members and to grow, understand, and enjoy the rich traditions of the Grosse Pointe Sail Club.

It is my intention, as your new Rear Commodore, not only to continue to serve the Grosse Pointe Sail Club to the best of my abilities, but to also represent you, the members, and the Club in a conscientious and honorable manner. I am proud to do so.

Thank you again for your trust and support.

Let me acknowledge those members who have come forward and volunteered their time to the GPSC by chairing the Rear Commodore's committees.

Assets Managers	Prudy and Charlie Billiu
Awards	James Kraft
Charter and By-Laws	PC Jerry Partridge
Dry Dock	Fran Partridge
Electronic Comm.	Bill Harbert
Junior Race	Frank Michell
Regatta	John Raguse
Assistant Regatta	Fred Chapman
Video / Photography	Jenny Stacey and Eric Lemley

I am very pleased to have such a fine group of Committee Chairs. I look forward to working with all of them in making 2010 another successful year for our Club. Please give them your full and continued support.

Your support is the key to keeping the GPSC the great Club that it is.

So, let me tell you about my experience so far. Friday I was elected, which was very exciting, and Saturday Vice Commodore Chris Behler picked me up at 0900 to go to breakfast and get fitted for my uniform. Getting up early after the Annual Meeting is never a joy, but being able to drive VC Behler's Mini Cooper on the way back made it very worthwhile (6 speed manual). Breakfast was nice and on we went to "Douglas the Tailor" with "the list". Mr. Douglas wasn't there, so I couldn't be fitted, but things proceeded along fine. They even had a cover (hat) that fit my 7 7/8 size head. My thanks to Chris Behler for continuing the tradition of helping the new guy out. I am sure we shared similar thoughts about the 0900 Saturday start time. On Sunday I was at the GPSC Children's Christmas Party washing dishes (something I am very experienced in) and then Monday it was back to "Douglas the Tailor" for a right and proper fitting. And to my surprise, as we were talking, Mr. Douglas informed me that he is a member of the GPSC (a Life Member). I looked him up in the 2009 Roster when I got home and there he was – James Douglas; a member since 1961! Wow, you never know when or where you will meet someone who is a member of our Club. Nancy and I sent him a Christmas card this holiday season in the Club's name. Almost 50 years with the GPSC; that deserves some recognition.

Well, that's it for now. Thank you again for the opportunity to be a part of this Club's leadership. I am proud to be a part of this renowned organization and I look forward to a fun year.

Dave MacDonald

Com. Edward J. Olsen

Our beloved Commodore from 1991 past away this month. Ed will be dearly missed by the members of the Grosse Pointe Sail Club.

October 19, 1932 - January 05, 2010

OLSEN, Edward J., Age 77. January 5, 2010. Loving husband of Barbara. Dearest father of Steven (Sally), Kathleen (John) Sullivan, and Laurie Olsen. Also survived by 3 grandchildren and niece Reverend Michele Quinn.



Coming Soon:
FEBRUARY DRY DOCK



Friday, February 26, 2010

7:00 PM Cocktails

7:30 PM Euchre Tournament
(billiards, air hockey, poker, board games, too)

701 Berkshire, GPP
(Kurta Residence)

RSVP Deadline is Monday, February 22
Contact Fran Partridge for reservations
313.331.2652

\$10 per attendee after 2.22.10
Early Bird rate of \$5.00 per attendee prior to
RSVP date

Please bring an appetizer to share.
Beer and wine will be provided.

It may be cold outside, but we'll have a HOT
time!

Grosse Pointe Sail Club
Winter Adventure

January 22-24, 2010

Bring your family and join the GPSC for our
Annual Winter Weekend Getaway

In Hartland, Michigan

Please let us know you are coming by contacting
Beth Kurta at 313.822.3780 or
ekurta@comcast.net

**It's OK if you don't want to stay for the
weekend, come on up and join us for the day!**

Saturday: Cross Country Skiing, Snow Shoeing,
Sledding, Ice Skating, Board Games, Movies at
resort, Downhill Skiing at Alpine Valley, Shopping

Saturday Night: Cocktail Party, Dinner at Resort
(\$22 per person), Bonfire, Games

For Reservations, call Waldenwoods

Resort directly at 810.632.6401

Rooms are \$75/night

GPSC members will stay in the Sunshine Lodge

Celebration and awards for the 48th annual GPSC Tuesday Race Series, the longest continuous running race series on Lake St. Clair, was held at the Tompkins Center on Friday, November 6th, 7PM. Food and refreshments were provided to the award winners, guests and race committee volunteers in attendance. The main Sundown Series of races had 8 starting times with 8 classes of boats. By the end of the season we had 86 on the starting line on any given Tuesday (up from 81 in 2008). GPSC members were heavily represented as the awards were given out. The Fall Series was switched from 2 Sundays to 4 Tuesday evenings and the fleet mushroomed to 45 registrants in 3 classes. This increase resulted in very intense starts and racing. More classes will be added in 2010 to open up the starting line particularly for the Class A fleet. Other adjustments will include a new 'Sport Boat' class for the Sundown Series. This class will be composed of boats lacking lifelines such as U20's, Melges and Etchells. The boats in PHRF A were too dissimilar for fair starts and racing.

GPSC Spring Sundown Series

Stackpoole, Suicide Blonde, 2nd PHRF B
Behler, Valkyrie, 1st JAM
Morlan, Avatar, 2nd JAM
O'Bryne, Aisling, 3rd JAM
Bunn, Wind Toy IV, 1st Cruising
Haggart, Rapture, 2nd Cruising
Schappe, Spectre, 3rd, Cruising
Gilbert, Punk Dolphin, 3rd Express 27
Fraser, C. F. Pickle, 1st Match
Wilk, Swordfish, 2nd Match

GPSC Ladies Race

Laurie Bunn, Freedom, 1st
Sheila and Elizabeth Behler, Valkyrie, 2nd
Meggan Pope & Judy Morlan, Avatar, 3rd

GPSC Summer Sundown Series

Stackpoole, Suicide Blonde, 2nd PHRF B
Morlan, Avatar, 1st JAM
Behler, Valkyrie, 2nd JAM
Bunn, Wind Toy IV, 1st Cruising
Cooper, Freedom, 2nd Cruising
Carlson, Freeway, 3rd Cruising
Gilbert, Punk Dolphin, 1st Express 27
Poupore, Ruby My Dear, 3rd Express 27
Fraser, C. F. Pickle, 1st Match
Wilk, Swordfish, 2nd Match

Fall Series

Cooper, Freedom, 1st JAM A
Haggart, Rapture, 2nd JAM A
Behler, Valkyrie, 1st JAM B
Stackpoole, Suicide Blonde, 2nd JAM B

Frostbite Race

Com. Gordon and Andrew Morlan,
Avatar, 1st JAM A
Haggart, Rapture, 2nd JAM A
Rumon, Scrimshaw, 3rd JAM A
Riley, Tresor, 1st JAM B
Behler, Valkyrie, 2nd JAM B
Roth, Sundance, 3rd JAM B

Grosse Pointe Sail Club
Look inside for more information



Feb 26 Dry Dock

2010 Calendar and Bridge Roster