



Anchorline

Newsletter of the Grosse Pointe Sail Club

VOLUME 2011

FEBRUARY
OUR SIXTY SECOND YEAR 1948-2010

NUMBER 2

COMMODORE....

CHRIS BEHLER



We had a ball! January 15th was 'B' day and there was great food, drink and dancing. My goal was fun - while not forgetting the official tasks of ringing in the new bridge, board and flag officers. We were a good looking group and I was proud to lead us in to the New Year for the Grosse Pointe Sail Club.



2011 GPSC Flag Officers and Board

Sheila and I cleaned up well also and we were about as dressed up as you will ever see us. Sheila was lovely and I was somewhat speechless when I got home from decorating on the day of the ball... she had been out getting her hair done and was all set for the ball... and all I could say was ... WOW!



I want to thank the Ball committee for their hard work and contributions in making this ball a success. Com. Beth Kurta, Com. Dave and Nancy MacDonald, Com. Jerry and Fran

Partridge, Pat and Dee Clark, Ruth Hummel, Dale Steiger, and Com. Frank Ferry... THANK YOU!

It takes a lot of people to actually put on the ball let alone plan it. For their help with the ball, thanks go to Com. Tom and Mary Fraser, Commodores Robert and Glory Schappe, Jenny Stacey, Denise Cotter, Ted Williford, Doug Gentry, Paul D'Angelo, Judy Francino, Doug Gentry, Darius Hummel, Dave Linabury, Liz Linabury, Mark Minor, Fleet Chaplain Vicky Colwell, Alexis D'Angelo (great voice for leading the anthems!), and finally, Dance Music by Steve King and the Dittilies. I hope I have not forgotten anyone. The evening was a bit of a blur and people often stand in to serve where it is needed and I salute anyone who helped that evening.

Now, serious business. The 2011 Roster is being composed by "The Little Bluebook" folks located on Mack Avenue. Ted Williford is working with them on updating the information and member data. (You all **HAVE** sent in your 2011 membership renewal... right?) Our financial system was on software donated by Ted's company and we were using very few of its features. By moving member data to this database, member data can now flow directly into the composing system for the Roster. This removes a lot of hand typing and subsequent errors not to mention greatly speeding up the process and reducing stress on GPSC volunteers. Ted tells me that we can have a proof reading party this month (February) and production of 200 copies is planned for later this month. If anyone has something like a business card or other type of advertising to put in... this week is the time to submit it to Ted or myself. The advertising solicited from 2010 will be in this year's Roster along with some new advertising picked up by Rob Sharrow. Rob solicited the 2010 advertising and is getting some of the unfinished business into the 2011 Roster. A big thank you to Ted Williford, Rob Sharrow and Liz Behler (who laid out the unpublished 2010 Roster that is being used as the foundation for the 2011 copy). Again, if you have not sent in your 2011 GPSC membership renewal, please do so ASAP. Contact Ted Williford if you do not have the renewal form so we can get it out to you.

Organizing and planning for the 2011 race season is moving up in priority. If you can help out... great... sign up when the opportunity arrives. We can use the help of racing veterans as well as new (to race organizing) volunteers. This race activity means spring is on its way... I'm ready to thaw. Turn me slowly in the sun.

VIEW FROM THE VICE



.... Vice Commodore E. DAVID MACDONALD

Well, Nancy and I are back from the GPSC Winter Weekend and getting back to normal, if you can call it that with all of this snow. Normally I tend to worry if we

are going to have enough snow for the Winter Weekend, but this year there was snow in abundance. I can only hope that this snow will have a positive effect on the lake levels this summer.

We returned to Waldenwoods again for the GPSC Winter Weekend, a fabulous old school resort, a reasonable distance from the Grosse Pointe area in Hartland, MI. We did sledding, snow-shoeing, cross-country skiing, hiking, and ice fishing. I joined the Kurta men in the ice fishing activity.

One of the things I like the best about the Waldenwoods experience is when we walk to dinner on Saturday evening. It's a few hundred yards along a winding snowy path at night to the spacious and grand Crounse Lodge. There is a wonderful story-book feeling I get from this unhurried winter evening walk among friends. And of course, the walk back is equally enjoyable.

I made myself a winter goal this year to attend all the Wednesday night DRYA seminars. You can learn a lot from these seminars and you get to visit a lot of DRYA clubs, which was part of the appeal to me. I ran into quite a number of GPSC members, and other people I know, so far at these seminars. I even ran into a friend of mine from the CSYC Adult Learn to Sail program, **Teng Lui**. He is visiting the USA as a student for a few years from China. I also learned that the best coverage for the Mackinac Race is found not in the printed press, but online, in the web editions of the local Detroit papers. It is updated more often -- and it is measured. This means the more hits to the online articles, the better the measure of people's interest in these type of articles, and perhaps more increased coverage by the paper itself if it sees sailing has a strong following. I will definitely be doing my reading of the Mackinac Race online this year to help the cause (more articles on sailing).

Don't let me forget about the GPSC Ball. It was held at the DYC and it was a great event. I even got a chance to meet the First Lady of the DYC and her husband A.J. that

evening. **Commodore Behler** really knows how to throw a party. As for me, I wasn't moving around too much the next day because of all the fun I had at the ball. I decided that settling in on the couch and watching a few hours of the NCIS "Crimes of Passion" marathon would be the best antidote for me. It took a few days, but I eventually regained my bearings.

I have volunteered to be the GPSC Race Chair this year. It came up at the January Board Meeting that this position needs to be filled as a point of coordination among the other 5 Race Management positions. I decided to do it for 2 reasons: to re-familiarize myself with the activity, which is core to our organization's raison d'être, and to update the documentation given the changes that have occurred over these past few years in how race is now organized. I will be calling a Race Committee meeting soon. I also have to begin the process of filing paperwork with the USCG for permits for the races we intend to hold. As part of my re-education I have signed up for the one day **US Sailing Race Management** seminar being held at Bayview on Saturday **March 19, 2011**. If you want to know more about Race Management and Race Committee activities, I highly recommend this class. I took it a number of years ago with **P/C Kuester** and **Com. Behler** and learned a lot. Let's see what I retained from the first class when I go to the one this year.

So are you going to the Detroit Boat Show this year? The 53rd annual Detroit Boat Show is scheduled for February 12-20 at Cobo Center. More than 100 exhibitors. More than 1,500 boats. I think I'll pop in and see what's going on.

Well, that's it for now. I have to prep for the rescheduled GPSC Board Meeting, and the DRYA Seminar which the GPSC is hosting on **February 9** at the Tompkins Center. Please don't forget about the DRYA Hot Stove at the Tompkins Center on **February 24**. Hear what the DRYA is thinking about for this year (What? No cruising PHRF class?) and voice your own opinion on matters also. Maybe we will find out more about what's going on with ORR.

Save the Date
Commodore's Steak Roast
Saturday, April 9th
Tompkins Center

VIEW FROM THE REAR

....Rear Commodore JOHN RAGUSE



Well as 2011 gets underway (I can't believe its February already) promises of a great year are in the air.

First and foremost I thankful to the club for the members that volunteered to be committee chairs: **Dale Steiger** is returning from a hiatus and will be our Assets Manager. Com Behler is looking to transition that position to stocking up the assets room with party supplies in hopes of shortening the "to do list" for the entertainment chair and other party chairs that use the Tompkins Center. Good idea Chris! **James Kraft** is in charge of procuring our race award flags and will be challenged with placing a timely order given the options surrounding our Regatta, **Bruce Williams** was asked to chip in and offer his skills with Award Design. The fabulous **Ruth Hummell** "volunteered" to be the Dry dock chair this year and her creative skills are already at work planning a road rally once it warms up. We will either compete against our own teams or possibly against another club, concluding at their club or a local venue. What a fun idea Ruth! **P/C Kurta** graciously offered her home for a game night event March 4th so stop on by to play some fun wintertime games and enjoy the camaraderie of your peers if your schedule permits.

Another new member **Jenny Stacey** agreed to be our Video/Photo Chair. In case you didn't know, Jenny would like to prepare a GPSC calendar for our use and desperately needs your photos (No regatta or private marina moments please). **Alan Lowenthal** will be offering up his legal skills as the Charter and Bylaw Chair. **P/C Glory Schappe** will be our Club History Chair and in addition to keeping our historical log current will be invaluable providing insight and direction for the new ideas at the various upcoming events. **Frank Michell** has been busy gathering information for our Junior Sailors and put together an excellent summary of the programs that will be offered this summer by the local clubs. Be sure to check it out soon if your child or grandchildren are interested in having a memorable and fun summer vacation!

The beloved **Bill Harbert** is our Electronic Communicator Chair yet again, but as we all know and recognize, cannot be much longer. Significant progress was made exporting his email addresses to a file for the eventual Assistant to assume. Creating an electronic email directory(s) and maintaining it in accordance with Bill's advice and insight will be the main responsibility for this position. Anyone with basic email or IT skills is encouraged to approach the bridge or drop me a line if you are interested.

Last but not least we are honored to have **Fred and Deborah Chapman** as this year Regatta Chair. Having done this for two

years I feel like an "old goat" and am excited about participating again and am really looking forward to it. Last year's party was a huge success thanks to all the volunteers that chipped in. This is our premier party of the summer and there are numerous tasks to be done that are not time consuming or difficult. It is a great opportunity for new members to get involved with something fun or those who haven't participated in a while to step back in and get the party started! What I walked away with was the realization that the strength of this club is its membership, and this event was a great way to meet new people and existing friends, and recognize their contributions. I am hopeful that I can contribute as much as them after my time in leadership is up. With **Andrea Solak** as the Assistant Chair the function promises to be even more organized then last year! So drop me or Fred & Deb a line if you are inclined to get involved in a simple way.

Ten weeks until launch! The weather forecast is calling for our first significant snowfall but spring is definitely not that far away. For those of you that attended the "Understanding Sailboat Electrical Systems" seminar sponsored by the DRYA, we heard the speaker mention it Wednesday night. What a great class it was. Check out the DRYA website for the remaining classes this winter. The engine systems class was great and the Basic Trauma and First Aid class should be required material for all skippers and their crews! Be sure to download that presentation and save it onboard in a binder that is easily accessible god forbid you ever need it. How about a special thanks to our own **Dr Steve Liroff** for contributing to the seminar selection process. Rumor has it there are already four new presentation topics scheduled for next winter. Well done Steve!

Lots of fun activities taking place in February. I was so impressed with the first Winter Weekend event I attended as a member! The location was super convenient, only one hour away from GP, but we felt like we were up north with the lodge being set on a lake that was very well wooded and hilly. **Howard and Sharon Riley** took some great pictures of deer that greeted them near our lodge. Lady Angie and I went cross country skiing at Kensington Park and then rested in the lodge around the fireplace with some warm company. We actually heard an owl hooting at us! Thanks to **P/C Kurta** and **Com MacDonald** and Nancy for their help setting the event up and a great Packer – Steeler rivalry! Things really warmed up when the **Kuesters, Schappe's, Williford's** and **Haggart's** gathered around the fireplace to talk about the club. On a personal note our family just finished going skiing for their third time ever and I will not say who the fastest learner was: the youngest one (8 years old) who fears nothing, her older sister (11 years old) or the mom (no comment). A super good time was had by all and I am hoping this sport will become a lifelong skill for all of us.

Think Launch!

Happy February Birthday To the following members

Peter Baumann
Com. Peter D'Angelo
James Krieger
Marilyn LaCrosse
Don Ragan
Anthony Sperling

DRYA 2011 Winter Seminar Schedule

February 16 "Medicine Afloat"

hosted by Grosse Pointe Yacht Club
www.gpyc.com

February 23 "De-Mystifying Rating Systems"

hosted by Detroit Yacht Club www.dyc.com

March 02 "Staying Alive with CPR (\$30)"

hosted by Edison Boat Club
www.edisonboatclub.org

March 09 "Saving Sailing"

hosted by North Star Sail Club
www.northstarsail.org

March 16 "Basic Racing Rules"

hosted by the Port Huron Yacht Club
www.phyc.com

March 23 "Safety at Sea"

hosted by the Grosse Isle Yacht Club
www.giyc.com

For descriptions and guest speakers for each seminar
visit link below www.drya.org

Save the Date
Spring Party
Saturday, March 19th
Tompkins Center

Responses needed for the:
Euchre Party!



Friday, March 4, 2011

7:00 PM Cocktails

7:30 PM Euchre Tournament
(billiards, air hockey, poker, wii, board games,
too for non-euchre players)

701 Berkshire, GPP
(Kurta Residence)

RSVP Deadline is Monday, February 28
Contact Beth Kurta for reservations
ekurta@comcast.net or 313.477.2014

\$10 per attendee after 2.28.11 (no exceptions)

Early Bird rate of \$5.00 per attendee
registered prior to Feb. 28th

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

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



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EDITOR

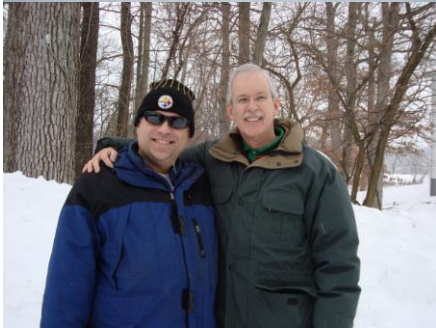
Com. Beth Kurta-313.822.3780 ekurta@comcast.net

We had a BALL at the Commodore's Ball!

More photos at www.gpsc.org



Fun at the GPSC Winter Weekend!





Grosse Pointe Sail Club

Look inside for more information

March 4 Euchre Party

2011 Commodore's Ball Photos

2011 DRYA Winter Seminar Schedule