



# Anchorline

Newsletter of the Grosse Pointe Sail Club

VOLUME 2011

SEPTEMBER  
OUR SIXTY THIRD YEAR 1948-2011

NUMBER 6

## COMMODORE....



### CHRIS BEHLER

Where did the summer go? That was a rhetorical question... but it is a tradition in Michigan. Must be the short summers I suppose. Well... no use looking back at it except for some good time memories that it, hopefully, left you with.

Racing is nearing the end of the season... I was thinking that... GREAT!... quiet time... but NO, it's now party time. If you can't sail, let's party. Coming up is a full slate of end of season events for all interests (I hope).

The list:

- Sept 23 New members party (13 this year alone, so far)
- October 9 Frostbite Race with Chili cook-off party afterwards
- October 29 Lobster Roast (we added an interesting mystery twist to it this year... bring your investigative skills)
- November 4 Race Awards Party
- November 18 Dry Dock, Scavenger Hunt
- December 2 Annual Meeting
- December 4 Christmas Party

Along with the parties are the board meetings that have started back up after the summer break. Dylan's is kind enough to host our meetings in the back room and I thank them for that. We have work to do before the December annual meeting to get the awards trophies collected, the awardees determined and inscribed and a new slate of candidates for the bridge and board election lined up. This is going to be a busy last quarter. My year as Commodore is drawing to a close in a couple of months but I don't have much time yet to reflect on it with the end-of-year schedule. For a 'paper' club we sure do a lot and Lady Sheila and I thank all of the volunteers (they are legion) and salute you all.

Plan on attending some of the fall/winter happenings... it will be my last hurrah as "the Commodore" and the parties are the best part of the job. Speaking of that... I acknowledge the worst... saying farewell to good friends... forever. I will put the only positive spin on this I can think of... It makes the friends you have around you just that more precious. Come on down... party... say 'hey' to your friends... talk about the good times past and future. Party like it's 2099.

Chris Behler

## GPSC Dry Dock

Friday Nov. 18, 2011

## 5 Pointes Scavenger Hunt

This **ROAD RALLY** will include teamwork, Creativity, Clues, trivia, and a tank full of fun.

Post-party will include beverages and desserts.

Details to follow  
in next month's Anchorline

We will have you on your way,  
even if you don't know where you are going.



## VIEW FROM THE VICE



### .... Vice Commodore E. DAVID MACDONALD

“61 Year Old Novice Sailor Helps GPSC Commodore Win the Oil Can Trophy in 2011”

Yes folks, yours truly was Com. Behler's crew as he raced an Edison Boat Club Flying Scot to victory over 6 other Flying Scot boats to win the Oil Can Trophy. It was the highlight of the summer for me. Last year we finished third. This year we were first. What a grand experience.

But, I was not the only one who felt the exhilaration of sailboat racing this summer. Mark Craig and his crew on *Solutions* also experienced the sensation, and on a much grander scale than myself. Mark and his crew, including our beloved Com. Behler, finished second (and 9<sup>th</sup> overall) in their first ocean race. They were the only sweet-water boat in the race and did themselves proud among the east coast boats. And how about the GPSC members who finished first in their class in this year's Port Huron to Mackinac? There were first place finishes by Paul van Tol in PHRF E, Jim Cooper in Cruising A, Fred Bellamy in Cruising B, and Dennis Dettmer in Cruising C. Hats off to some of the real sailors in our club and what they accomplished this summer.

Most of my time was spent on the dock this year as the GPSC Race Chair. Well, maybe a lot of time was spent in Marge's Bar also. But I want to say, what a fine summer I had. I had a lot of help from the Club members who participated on this year's Race Committee. We had a few bumps along the way, but we hit our stride in the latter half of the season and turned into a precision machine when it came to race management. See more commentary in my Race Chair article, included within.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sundown Series Racing shirts were a big hit. I distributed quite a few to those who worked the dock this season. I still owe some volunteers their shirts since we ran out in certain sizes. The vendor promised me additional shirts by the end of September. So, for those of you waiting, the shirts will be here shortly.

This year's Regatta Cocktail party was a more subdued event. Everyone seemed to be on their best behavior for some reason. I saw and met many new members that evening and enjoyed their company. A big thanks to Debbie and Fred Chapman for being our Regatta Chairs this year.

The Fall Series continues to be a big hit now that it occurs on Tuesday evenings. I remember when it was held on successive Sunday's in September years ago. Back then a smattering of boats would show up to race. No more. We have 37 boats registered for this season. We have P/C Bill Kuester to thank for this exciting turn around in our Fall Racing Program.

The Rum Challenge continues to be a big summer racing event. This year it ran into a bit of difficulty with 2 marks from different races (our's and their's) being placed in close proximity to one another. When it was all sorted out, the GPSC lost to the DYC on a tie breaker. We look forward remedying that outcome next year.

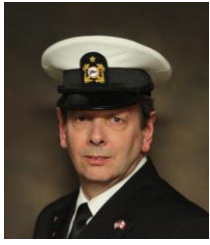
The Ladies Race was held on Sunday this year to try and garner more participation. I can't say it changed much there. But it was well worth the effort because P/C Cormac O'Bryne's daughters Dara and Rachel came out to race *Aisling* that day. Brian O'Byrne was also aboard. As we earlier in the day remembered those who we lost in the 9/11 tragedy, in seeing Rachel skipper *Aisling* we also had the opportunity to remember one of our own that day, Commodore Cormac O'Byrne.

Well that's it for now. We have to get out the NOR and SI's for the Frostbite race. I have to prepare for Monday's protest/redress hearing. Yep, there is still a lot of stuff to do even as the sailing season winds down. See you out on the dock sometime soon.

Dave MacDonald



## **VIEW FROM THE REAR**



### **....Rear Commodore JOHN RAGUSE**

I find it hard to believe the 2011 summer sailing season has nearly come to an end. Although the calendar says September the mind refuses to accept the notion that winter haul-out is just a few weeks away. Why does our precious time on the water go so fast?!? With just two Tuesday night races left the crew makes every feasible attempt to arrive at the boat early just to enjoy "one last sail in warm temperatures". This past Tuesday I announced to the crew that club responsibilities will be taking me to the dock next year and the disappointing looks on their faces was expected. After a few long moments of silence someone screamed out "wait – we can do the Wednesday night races", and just like that the 2012 season was saved! What a blessing it is to have good crew!!!

I can't let this season pass without mentioning some of the great times I had. This year's Fifty Ninth Annual Regatta event was absolutely fabulous thanks to our Chairs Fred & Deb Chapman and their great Assistant Andrea Solak. The monthly planning meetings were well attended and incredibly well organized. It's easy to see how every little detail was addressed, every little chore thought out, and hopefully everyone who attended our celebration enjoyed it as much as I did. A very special acknowledgement to our hosts Megan and John Hughes who again opened up their lovely home to us and hosted this year's event. The weather that evening was fantastic, the camaraderie was great and the memories were many. The Regatta Committee was well served with members from all facets of the club. We were well represented with new member Mike Sherwood who offered his personal business connections to help make the event enjoyable, profitable and successful. Thanks to Judy Francino and Doug Gentry who after enjoying a long winter in Florida came in to help out wherever they could. Thanks to Prudy and Charlie Billiu, Nancy McPherson, Dee Clark and the amazing Lynn Haggart who all worked together on preparing the lunches for the race committee boats and their crew. Thanks to Mary and PC Tom Fraser who put together a fabulous Regatta breakfast and where would we be without the most well organized person on the planet, PC Beth Kurta writing the ever classy Regatta invitations that resulted in the best looking invitation on the great lakes! And how can we forget PC Bill Kuester who procured the beverages for all of us to enjoy at our premier event of the summer. This year's race course was changed to a "point to point" style that was last used when PC Ferry governed us and was very well received by the DRYA Saturday Racing community. A very special thank you to Com Behler, PC Ferry, PC Haggart and PCs Glory and Robert Schappe who were invaluable offering their experience and other insights to complete the never

ending details with the SIs that made the racing element of the Regatta a well organized and huge success. I am grateful to the racing team for chipping in at the last minute when I needed to fly back home to attend to some health concerns with my dad. For race day the wind gods were looking down upon us and although the timing again conflicted with the preparations that racers must complete for Mackinac, attendance increased 25% over last year's event, a very noble accomplishment. Perhaps that was due to Dr. A. Paul Schaap and his good boat PPD Cruiser for being the Race Control boat for yet another year. Thank you Carol and Paul for your never ending contributions to our fine organization. A follow-up meeting will be held at my home to discuss where we can improve upon for next year's event. Please send me an email if you cannot attend and there is something you think we can improve upon for next year.

I must end my Regatta article on a sad note. My future responsibilities as Vice Commodore will take me toward the racing activities of the Club. It is with deep regret that after being involved for four straight years with this activity that Race will keep me busy next year. I would like to thank the members who taught me how to throw the summer's premier event: Linda Rumon and Nancy McPherson, for answering my countless questions and responding to my frantic emails - your leadership will always be appreciated. To the Regatta Committee who were primarily carryover volunteers from last year, well I just don't know what to say. Hopefully I leave you as a very cohesive team that will "do it again next year". With the Chapmans hinting to Chair next year's event we'll need to find an assistant Chair to learn the ropes and become the Chairman the following year. Any new members interested in getting involved next year by helping out should consider it over the winter and then give me a shout to discuss what is involved. I envy next year's Rear Commodore who will have the privilege to work with such an outstanding group of volunteers.

In case you missed it the Spring Rendezvous at Idle Hour Yacht Club on Harsens Island was a great event. A very nice time and an absolutely fantastic meal was had by all. Thanks to Hedda and Dr. Peter Bauman our Fleet Captain for organizing the event and scoping out the venue before we traveled there. Peter's concern for others had him drive out the week before to inspect such things like depth, marina and restaurant arrangements, etc. that resulted in a fine experience for all who attended. Glenn Housey's reminiscence of childhood days on Harsens Island was absolutely precious and very insightful for someone who is not from the area. After closing for the winter I believe their yacht club is open just for the New Years Eve and day holiday period, for one long party. Could be a very nice way to warm up on a local basis depending on how cold it is. I will make it my mission to get our burgee represented at their club as our memberships have an equally great appreciation for the water.

# Happy Birthday To the following members

## July

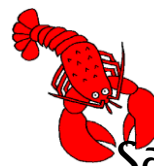
John Carpenter  
James Douglas  
Mary Fraser  
Com. Tom Fraser  
Jerry Funk  
Games Graham  
Glenn Housey  
John Hughes  
Com. Bill Kuester  
Phil McCallister  
Mark Minor  
Com. Jerry Partridge  
Franklin Poupure  
Ron Schaupeter  
Ken Thelen  
Ed Zobeck

## August

Philip Allor  
Sheila Behler  
Peter Ecklund  
Com. Frank Ferry  
Mary Ann Garbeck  
Diane Keller  
Dean Kuhn  
Frank Kurta  
Jim Perrone  
Ursula Persidskis  
Com. Dave Wetzel  
Dan Wilk

## September

Com. Patty Curtis-Gough  
John Dinka  
Anthony Fisher  
Richard Gilbert  
Com. Mike Krag  
Wendy Niven  
Nick Piccione  
Paul Roth  
Linda Rumon  
Com. Bob Schappe  
Janet Stefflett  
Alfred Whittaker



### GPSC Fall Party Lobster Roast!!!



Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 PM at the Tompkins Center

There will be mysteries to solve tonight.  
Come and make Sherlock Holmes proud

Lobster Dinner - \$30 (1 1/4 lb)  
Steak Dinner - \$25 (1/2 lb)

Includes wine, beer, side dishes, dessert,  
music and special entertainment!!

BYOB

Cutoff date for choosing lobster is October 22

RSVP to: Andrea Solak at [sandrea101@comcast.net](mailto:sandrea101@comcast.net)

If time is short... or just send or deliver -  
Payment to:

1020 Somerset  
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230  
Checks payable to GPSC

Remember to bring your plates and  
utensils

## GPSC Race Chair Report

All is good in the world of GPSC Racing. By the end of the year your Race Committee settled into a comfortable rhythm that made the starts happen like clock-work. That is not to say that we didn't experience a few rough patches along the way with a protest of two, or actually redresses – which are more directed at the Race Committee. But we found our way thanks to everyone's cooperation and dedication to the GPSC Race Program.

I can't say enough about the dedicated volunteers we have on the dock each Tuesday night. The **Cotters**, primarily **Denise and Dennis** (sometimes **TJ**) pull more than their fair share in set-up and take-down, calling the finish, and generally looking out for all of us. **Fred Baer** does double duty as PRO and timer, both critical roles in the success of a race. **Marie Mainwaring** and **Barb Samra** kick ass as our primary halyards team. And let's not forget the guys on the guns – **Phil McCallister** and **TJ Cotter**; or our wonderful team of recorders, whose data I depend on to score the race. Great folks who do a great job! And who got them all together on the dock for us? It was **Jenny Stacey**, our Race Support Chair. Thanks a bunch, **Jenny**.

I have many thanks for the newbies who joined us on the dock this year. **Terry Welch** joined us as a spotter. **Doug Gentry and Judy Francino** learned new assignments. **Beth Ann Samra** recorded along with new member **Zack Assaf**. Also joining in on the fun were **Mark Minor, Susan Barron, and Peter Baumann, Claudia Vanderbete, and Dale Steiger**. Great to have you folks aboard this year.

Forgive me if I have not mentioned everyone, especially the Patrol Boat and Mark Boat guys. The Club and I are extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the GPSC Races. I will follow up with a complete list of dock workers in the next issue of the Anchorline.

So, what was memorable about the 2011 GPSC Races?

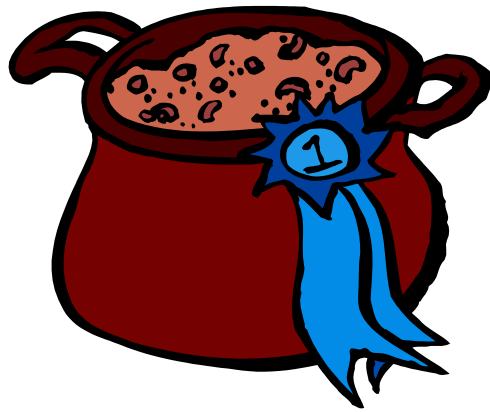
- How about **Harold Stackpoole** and **Harald Kolter** dancing around in the start box? Each trying to gain favorable position over the other on a heavy wind night. What a wonderful show they put on for us on the dock.
- How about the restart of the Cal 25 start after we blew the starting sequence by lowering the Prep flag 1 minute too early? A lot of hurried discussion on the dock when that happened.
- How about the tight start line for the July 5 race? Whoa! There was a lot of shouting at those starts that night.
- We also had some controversy on July 5<sup>th</sup> when we shortened the course. A final decision on that race will be made at the protest hearing on September 19.
- How about the Etchells in the PHRF A start in the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the last race? Close quarters, baby!

The bottom line – we provided a good sailing experience. We had a nice Thank You Party for the dock workers, hosted by **Com. Behler** and **Lady Sheila**. And we got new shirts. That is, if you worked the dock this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

But, that's not the end of it. After racing, it's time to go to Marge's Bar. That's how Tuesday nights end. Videos of the night's race. Good burgers. Cold drinks. And my favorite, mini-Tacos.

And let's give **Harold Stackpoole** and his *Suicide Blonde* crew some recognition. These folks are always at Marge's Bar after a race. This kind of ongoing support and camaraderie is outstanding. It's the topper to the evening. What can I say? It was a great summer!

# *Chili Party*



*4:00 PM*

*Following the Frost Bite race on  
Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>*

Please join your fellow Grosse Pointe Sail Club members and guests in the Tompkins Center for a cook-off

**\$5.00 per person at the door**

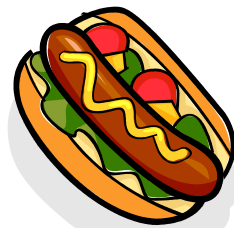
*(You and a guest get in free if you bring a pot of Chili)*

**Beer, Wine, Soda and Hot Dogs**



**50/50 raffle**

**Prize for best chili -  
Judged by your fellow  
members**



**Please contact Andrea Solak**

**@ 313.821.0776**

**If you plan to bring chili**



**Grosse Pointe  
Sail Club  
Summer  
Scenes**





# **Grosse Pointe Sail Club**

## **Look inside for more information**

### **Upcoming Events:**

- October 9 Frostbite Race
- October 9 Chili Party
- October 29 Lobster Roast