



October 2006

Footnotes...

Commodore's Corner

Commodore, Ned Gilchrist



Well it is time for the Sea Dog Barefoot Open! What a wonderful event and we hope you all attend.

At this time of the year, I wanted to take time to reflect on the history of our club. In September we were able to have several of our past Commodores at the member's meeting and it was great to hear their many memories. Allen Shedd brought to the September member's meeting many pictures dating back in the club's history. We greatly appreciate him sharing those with us.

Barefoot Sailing Club apparently started within a parks and recreation department initially and evolved in an established club in 1971. Jim Dorton was the first Commodore of the club and is who "The Dorton Cup" is named after.

Originally established as a dingy fleet organization the was comprised of many types of boats such as Lasers, Fireballs, This-tles, and a Catalina 15 Fleet, it has evolved to a mainly auxiliary fleet today.

In 1987 the club had it's first organized Blue Water Cruise in Destin Florida. Mike Bowler was telling about an usual event that happened almost nightly on that cruise. Apparently there was a ghost that toilet paper all the

boats on the cruise each night accept... one.

Margaret Sherrod has been an active member of BFSC for many years and was part of Mike's crew. During Mike's reign as Commodore, they separated the member's meeting from the board meeting. Barefoot Sailing Club has also held some unusual events in it's history. One such event related to me from Captain David Crumbly of Windsong Sailing Academy was of a race called the Bikini Sunburn. It have some challenging events such as the balloon joist and backward sailing. While we have not held the Bikini Sunburn in many years, this year we instituted a new kind of event called the Celtic Crossing. This event have already been scheduled and planned for 2007. In 2000 when Chris Webster was Commodore he institutes and event we all know and love today called the Togo Party which has been held at his house ever since. We look forward to 2007 Chris!

In 1987, the club bought it's first racing barge called the General Recall. This boat was purchased for a great price at the end of the Atlanta Boat Show that year. It served the club for many years and was overhauled and rebuilt a few times. The General Recall has

Upcoming

Racing

REGATTA's

Sea Dog Barefoot Open Regatta
October 6-8 2006

Sunday October 15, 2006
BFSC Fall Squall # 1, 1pm

Saturday October 21, 2006
BFSC Fall Squall # 2, 1pm

Sunday October 29, 2006
BFSC Fall Squall # 3, 1pm

Cruising

Sunday October 1, 2006
10am Skipper's Meeting

Cruising event for October is the
Barefoot Open

Member's Meeting

October 23, 2006
Jock and Jill's Brookhaven

NOTE: All events are based on the
Reference Calendar
found on www.barefootsailing.org

since been replaced by the Favored End that itself is being overhauled at the time of this writing.

Barefoot has always been a club that promoted the sport of sailing. We have been founded on that tradition and that we never leave anyone ashore that really wants to come sailing with us. We have some many skippers in the club that are excellent teachers as well. In 1989, the club started a tradition of having an annual Learn to Sail Clinic. At that time there were over 100 people in some of those early classes. Today its name has changed to Introduction to Sailing; you can't learn everything about sailing in a short clinic. You can come sailing with our skippers though and learn a great deal!

So you think the lake is low now? Edith Collins, a long time member of the club and a regional racing judge, tells of a time she sailed under Brown's Bridge in her Santana 20 because the water was so low. They were sailing a race called the 4 Points of Sail and the winner was the person that sailed the longest distance. Edith's lay line under the bridge won her that race!

In 2004, Barefoot Sailing Club had the distinct honor of joining with Sea Dog Sailing to sponsor the Barefoot Open. Captain Stacey Brooks has continued that tradition and donated not only some significant funds but also her time to this event. We are thankful to have Stacey as our title sponsor this year as in years past!

So many things have come and gone. We enjoy the friendship we have built over the years with our fellow sailors. Whether you like to race or you like to

cruise or maybe just come to social events to hang out with friends, we welcome you!

I wish you...

Fair Winds and Following Seas!

Meeting Program or from the Poop Deck Vice Commodore, Steve O'Hagan



Attention cruisers and anyone else interested in the Inland Coastal Waterway. The Waterway is closing up! Cruisers traveling the Waterway will have to make a blue water detour to get from Jacksonville Florida to Savannah Georgia. This past spring the Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard made plans to remove all markings in Hell's Gate rather than be responsible for marking a channel that was no longer there. Fortunately they responded to the outcry and relocated the markers rather than remove them.

How is this happening? There has been no dredging along the Georgia coast in over five years! Why not? About that time the federal government decided to allocate Waterway funds based on Commercial Tonnage only based on a formula from the 1890's. This disregards the enormous cruising fleet that has developed over the past several decades. Not to mention the boatyards, fuel stations, marine supply stores and other support businesses that have created a huge economic reef.

Florida is in better shape because they have a semi-autonomous branch of the state government with

2006 Officers & Committee Chairs

Commodore

Ned Gilchrist 404-317-9404
commodore@barefootsailing.org

Vice Commodore (Programs)

Steve O'Hagan 770-491-6232
vice_commodore@barefootsailing.org

Racing Fleet Captain

Tedd Meinersmann 770-390-9204
2nd_fleet_captain@barefootsailing.org

Cruising Fleet Co-Captain

David Payne 770-317-8420
cruising_fleet_captain@barefootsailing.org

Social Captain

Christine Price 678-517-2896
1st_fleet_captain@barefootsailing.org

Membership First Mate

Christine Lemon 678-591-9836
BFSCMembership@yahoo.com

Purser (Treasurer)

Will Lee 770-935-7029
purser@barefootsailing.org

Yeoman (Secretary)

Laurie Anderson (appointed)
Yeoman@barefootsailing.org

Boatswain

('Favored End' maintenance)

Rob Whitley
boatswain@barefootsailing.org

2005 Past Commodore (Advisor)

Ron Mitchellette 770-945-2442
past_commodore@barefootsailing.org

Web Master

Armando Rodriguez
bfsc@barefootsailing.org

Barefoot Open Chairman

Commodore Ned Gilchrist (See above)

Membership Roster Coordinator

Margaret Sherrod 404-351-2976
mmsherrod@bellsouth.net

Barefoot Video Librarian: Steve O'Hagan

Protest Committee Chairman: Edith Collins

LARC Rep: Tedd Meinersmann

SAYRA Rep: Tom Graham

taxing authority to provide for the Waterway.

The Carolinas have bipartisan support from their federal representatives who put priority on the Waterway. It is time for us to remind our representatives that this is important.

Sen. Saxby Chambliss – <http://chambliss.senate.gov>

Sen. Johnny Isakson – <http://isakson.senate.gov>

Ga. 12th Dist Cong John Barrow <http://barrow.house.gov>

Ga. 1st dist Cong Jack Kingston <http://www.house.gov/kingston>

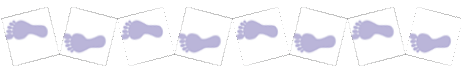
You can also contact your state representative and identify members of the Natural Resources Committees by going to www.legis.state.ga.us/

Next month's topic – Who pulled the plug in Lake Lanier?

Don't miss our membership meeting this month. It's the long awaited Trivia Contest.

Racing News.....

Racing Captain, Tedd Meinersmann



In the May issue of "Sailing World" there were two articles that say a lot about sailing. The first article "Working from the Bottom Up" by Henri Du Plessis is an article about the new teams in the upcoming America's Cup Challenge. It details some of the struggles the new teams have trying to become

competitive in one of our sports most prestigious events.

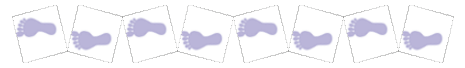
How the teams start at rock bottom in equipment, experience and race results. Yet each team continues to fight to improve with the ultimate goal of one day winning the America's Cup. The other article is "Waves of Humility" by Stuart Streuli. Stuart's article is about his experience racing in the Laser Mid-winters East Regatta. Stuart had hoped to place at least in the top half of the finishers. The weather was rough and the competition was even rougher. Both too much for Stuart. Yet what he got out the event was a new appreciation of the work the winning sailors do to get to the levels they have achieved and things he can do to improve his sailing.

We typically don't start out being winners, however with some work and dedication we can get there. Our "prestigious" event is the SeaDog Barefoot Open, October 7th and 8th. You may not have the fastest boat or the best trained team, racing in events like the Open will help you get a little closer. And don't worry about being humiliated, think of it as a learning experience. Then start your training for the next years Open by participating in the upcoming LARC and BFSC Fall Squall series.

Good sailing, good racing!

Membership...

Membership First Mate,
Christine Lemon



Please give a warm Barefoot welcome to our newest members:

Lief and Dina Berthen
Carmen Bohoyo and Francisco Bethencourt
Joan Catalano
Doug Sandler

Our 2006 SeaDog Barefoot Open Regatta is just days away and there is still time for you to become involved. Ask one of the Board members how you can help. This promises to be a spectacular event so please buy extra tickets for Saturday night and invite your friends who are interested in sailing but haven't taken that last step to getting involved in a club. Our Barefoot Sailing Club table will be stocked with information about the club as well as 2007 membership applications. For those current members who wish to renew your 2007 memberships early, we will be accepting those at the club table that weekend. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the Open!

Happy Sailing!

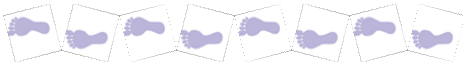


Pictures from the 2005 Sea Dog Barefoot Open



Cruising

Cruising Captain, David Payne



THE CRUISING BUG

David: The Cruising Captain: "I actually caught the bug from Cindy my wife, an avid scuba diver and nature buff. Cindy lived in the US Virgin Islands for three years. She lost everything during hurricane Marilyn in 1995. It was the third hurricane to hit St. Thomas that year. With winds topping 129 miles an hour, Marilyn battered the islands for 16 hours and demolished her home on Water Island...."

Cindy: "OK OK...my motto... What doesn't kill you, makes you stronger. I came to Atlanta in January 1996, four months after the devastation, mainly because there wasn't a way off the island. But let's talk about the bug...."

I have spent a bit of time on sailboats, both cruising and moored just off the harbor. When I have been lucky enough to spend more than a day and night, it was one of the most relaxing things on the planet.

So what is it that draws you to it? Could it be the endless lapping of the ocean and the constant motion to and fro that reminds you of being rocked in a cradle, a sensation that easily lulls you to sleep and gently wakes you in the morning. And there is nothing finer than a subtropical breeze blowing off the bow and the white billowing clouds of morning.

Yes, I was somewhat land-locked, if you wanted to call it that. I drove my 14 ft dinghy 3-1/2 miles each day, each way back and forth Gregory Channel,

in darkness before dawn, in mid afternoon, and all hours of the night. No matter if it rained, I had to go to work, pelted by those angry rain clouds and waves. And as I crossed the channel in the darkness, wearing my Dry as a Bone Australian long rider coat, I wondered what ancient mariners thought and did, on a tall ship, on a storm filled night, without use of spotlights, radio or the Weather Channel.

My love of the water was and continues to be a long time affair. I filled David with many fond memories of times spent basking away in azure blue waters. I have seen the ocean as playful as a child and on the opposite swing of the pendulum, a banshee with no mercy.

Lounging in the harbor aboard a 32ft with friends from the BVI, close enough to hear a band playing downtown, but far enough away that you didn't hear the buzz of one single insect. St Thomas looked like a fallen Christmas tree, half out of the water. The sky was brilliantly lit with stars. Without the exposure of ambient city lights, you could actually see the "milk" in the Milky Way. And if you stayed up late enough, catch a glimpse of the Southern Cross, though not to be confused with the False Cross.

My vivid imagination carried me to places of the heart. My rides back and forth across the channel were voyages across the Seven Seas. Black Dolphins accompanied my journeys. And once in a while in late November, a migrating whale would follow me home. I would set myself adrift at dusk and watch the sun set, and then as darkness fell and the water slapping at my hull,

catch myself between waking and sleeping as the stars appeared. I always longed for a bigger boat. But at the time, small was better than none.

It's 11 years later and well into year 3 of a 5 year plan that David and I have put together. Now the boat, a 37ft Tayana is being equipped for blue water cruising. The stage is being set, and in a few years, exit, stage right. The dream becomes the reality.

All plans, as they say of mice and men, are encumbered with unforeseen obstacles and hardships. Life still goes on. And then there is work: like the hamsters running the wheel with the cat looking in. One hamster says to the other...."faster, he's still there!" There is a realm between reality and dreams. The key is to plan, work and juggle your way to a happy medium.

For some, the bug may just be a quick fix once every six month on a charter, and for others, a trip around the point and a warm solid bed at night. But then, there are those, that have the most severe cases, and it can't be cured by the conventional means. Eventually, they have to pick up, pack up and head off for the high seas in search of adventure and comrades in arms. To live without the normal boundaries and constraints of the 9 to 5, commutes and always watching the clock.

Sometimes I think David was born a hundred years too late, but in a few years it won't really matter. There is no cure for the cruising bug except to take it with you when you go."



Pusser's Port...

Want to know what the rest of world is doing? Go to the Pusser's website under Outposts and click on Pusser's live Web-cams and see what's happening at in Road Town, Marina Cay and Pusser's Landing.

www.pussers.com



It's all about the Party!



Barefoot Sailing Club of Atlanta
PO Box 147
Flowery Branch, GA 30542



A Word for You...

Test your sailing vocabulary.

Pick the correct nautical choice that defines each word:

1. Fair:
 - a) evenhanded and above-board
 - b) light complexioned
 - c) without obstruction
 - d) favorable and steady
2. Pooped:
 - a) very tired
 - b) having relieved oneself
 - c) to be smashed by a wave breaking over the stern
 - d) be up on or knowledgeable (What's the poop?)
3. Foot:
 - a) the appendage at the end of your leg
 - b) the bottom edge of a sail.
 - c) twelve inches
 - d) steer slightly lower than close hauled.

4. Chop:
 - a) a cut of meat
 - b) a martial arts move used in the Korean Navy
 - c) short, steep waves
 - d) a quick way to release a halyard.

5. Slop:
 - a) a meal served on a navy ship
 - b) a confused sea
 - c) overflow from the head
 - d) a method of quickly applying paint

So how did you do? Don't forget to join us for the October Member's Meeting at Jock and Jill's in Brookhaven!

Answers: 1-c, 2-c, 3-b and d, 4-c, 5-b



FIRST CLASS

