

The Binnacle

A newsletter of the

Lake Gunterville Sailing Club



www.lakeguntervillesailingclub.com

December 2006

Activities at a Glance and the LGSC Race Schedule

DECEMBER

Sat., December 2:

Guntersville Christmas Parade of Lights sponsored by Signal Point

Sat., December 9:

4 p.m. - LGSC Board Meeting in the LGSC clubhouse.

6 p.m. - Saturday Social & Speaker! Turkey & ham will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. See Social Committee comments.

December 15:

All articles are due to Marsha Babb for the newsletter. E-mail druids@mindspring.com

Greetings from the Social Committee!

Many thanks to our outgoing Commodore, Charlie Rains and his First Mate, Deanna, for their sincere efforts in planning our November 11th LGSC Annual Dinner at The Le Croix Club, Covenant Cove. Their behind the scenes dedication made this year's dinner a huge success. We had a turnout of 50 sailors! The buffet was abundant and delicious and the camaraderie was felt by all. Thanks again to you both for a fun evening!

Our next club dinner will be Saturday, December 9th at 6:00 PM. Turkey and ham will be provided. We ask that everyone bring a dish to share, either a dessert or a side. If you have any questions, please contact our new Social Chairwoman, Kathy Bryant at 256-831-9353. After dinner, Russ Cranford from Alred's Marina will speak about the boat services offered there. Let's have a great end of the year

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dinner with your fellow sailors, reminiscing about the past sailing season and looking forward to a healthy, safe and windy New Year!

Well, let me start by saying we had a very good time at the annual dinner. The food, the people, the whole thing was excellent. I'm excited and looking forward to next year.

I know George will do a good job and looking forward to helping in any way I can. It's been a lot of fun being commodore this year. Again I THANK YOU for your support and hard work for this last year.

Well enough of that. Let's do it again this year by starting with the PARADE OF LIGHTS. Bring your lights and put them on your boat or help put your lights on your neighbor's boat. We've got several boats going to the PARADE OF LIGHTS Dec. 2, so come join us.

Also this may be a repeat but our monthly dinner has been moved to Dec. 9, 6:00 p.m. Guest speaker Russ Cranford from Alred Marina to talk about boat bottoms and general maintenance that they offer. The dinner is Pot Luck. Sea you there, Charlie



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Being one of the newer members of the club (3 years), I am greatly honored and a bit apprehensive to have been nominated and selected for Commodore for 2007. After serving on the Board for the last year, I hope to be able to continue and sustain what Charlie and the previous officers have started. It has been a fun and educational experience for both Trish and me – which is exactly what we want to continue for all club members. Let's have more fun and become better sailors in 2007. Again, we all owe a debt of gratitude to Charlie and the previous officers for the time, effort and contributions they made during 2006.

George



FROM THE RACE CHAIRMAN

We had a very challenging Autumn Challenge. Thirteen boats signed up but only twelve made it out from the dock. Grady and Kathy's motor came up lame and they could not paddle fast enough to join us. Their entire summer has been a challenge!!!

The start went very well with some of our more proficient dart throwers, JB Boyer and Charlie Rains, taking advantage of their handicap adjustment and jumped out to an early lead. However, it did not take John Marsh long to sail past everyone and turn the first mark well ahead of the fleet.

The rest of us jumped in and out of wind shoots, sometimes moving and sometimes watching the other boats move. However, one boat just sort of kept on sliding along while the rest of us drifted. Tony Martin and Dick Potter spotted the entire fleet a nice lead and commenced doing their "slide" thing by skillfully staying in the wind streaks. I think they rounded the mark second or very close to it.

Things got a little mixed up going back to windward except for John Marsh staying well ahead until about 500 yards from the finish when he found his "hole". He had to be the most frustrated sailor in the fleet as he watched Tony "slide" on by to win by over eight minutes.

There was some rumored frustration a few boats back in the fleet. It seems Amy and Lisa made up some significant ground mid race only to find their "hole" and watch a couple of boats slip by at the final approach. Radical Lift had a "Radical Dancer" flailing about on the bow!!

As you might have guessed the wind died and we only were able to complete one race. Congratulations to:

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | Tony Martin |
| 2 nd | John Marsh |
| 3 rd | Allen Bennett |
| 4 th | John Boyer |
| 5 th | Larry Bontrager |
| 6 th | Pat Day |

I'd say the racing season is about over. We had a variety of events and tried out some new stuff to get everyone participating. The Pursuit format seemed to be very popular and fun. The smaller boats had fun trying to keep the big dogs from running them down while the larger ones had to work hard to catch up.

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Just to recap here is a summary of what we did this year:

BCSA Pursuit	4 events	16 participants (7 from LGSC)
LGSC Pursuit	5 events	16 participants
Guntersville Cup		21 participants
Great River Race		14 participants (8 from LGSC)
Autumn Challenge		13 participants
Lectures on Racing and Boat Tuning		

Not a bad season for a bunch of cruisers!! I want to especially congratulate Tony Martin who was dead last in the Guntersville Cup but worked on his boat, worked on his crew and won the Autumn Challenge convincingly. Nice job Tony! (and Dick).

I am looking for suggestions for next year. One was to have some events on Sundays starting a little later in the day. Another was to register the Snarks and do some dingy racing. I am open to whatever people will participate in. As a matter of fact, I would very much appreciate some volunteers to help with the program next year so we build a bench for the future.

One last thing I would like to try and do is get several boats to participate in the Parade of Lights December 2nd. This event is sponsored by Signal Point and attracts some beautifully decorated boats. So anyone who is interested in decorating their boat, helping others decorate or just riding along give me a call at 256-582-1108 or email at bkkuhlman@hotmail.com. We will meet Saturday morning, 12/2, around 10 am to start stringing lights. Bring whatever outdoor Christmas lights you have and a portable generator if you have one. I have located two generators and maybe a third so don't let that stop you. Let's show some sailing spirit and participate in this community event!!!!

Have a Merry Winter and hope to see a few die-hards out there in January!!!

Keith

HAVE YOUR WINTERIZED YOUR BOAT YET?

Just a note from Marsha: If you have any story you would like to share about an adventure or an almost adventure, or how you solved a particular problem, or if you need help with a problem; this is the place for information sharing. Just send it to me and I will put you in the line-up. Pictures are nice also, aren't they Keith! Thanks so much.

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LGSC WEB SITE!



<http://www.lakeguntersvillesailingclub.com>

Our web site has a new look, links to other sites, the latest activities, and even a 7 day weather forecast; that is Lake Gunterville Sailing Club weather.

So before you pack up the car, check the web site (unless you already live in beautiful Gunterville) to help you plan your sailing adventure.



A NOTE FROM THE WEB MASTER

Need pictures to post on the web site. Please e-mail to sailor@mindspring.com. Thank you!

REMINDER FROM DUANE



2006 MONTHLY SLIP RENT FEES

B DOCK	\$105.00
C DOCK – EVEN #	\$115.00
C DOCK - ODD #	\$130.00

Make your check payable to “The Anchorage” and mail to P.O. Box 900, Gunterville, AL 35976.