# The Binnacle

A newsletter of the

# Lake Guntersville Sailing Club

http://www.lakeguntersville.com

June 2006

## Activities At A Glance...and the LGSC Race Schedule

- **Sat., May 27:**

**11 a.m. start at Harbor House area -Cruiser Challenge-Pursuit.**

**After Race Raft-Up at Town Creek**

- **Sun., May 28: Memorial Day Cook-out & Games**

**3 p.m. games**

**6 p.m. EAT - $5.00 per person.**

- **Sat., June 3:**

**10 a.m. LGSC Board meeting in the clubhouse.**

**11:30 a.m. Skipper's Meeting**

**1 p.m. start at LGSC Channel - Cruiser Challenge-Pursuit.**

**6 p.m. Saturday Social w/speaker. Spaghetti Dinner, $5.00 per person. And we will discuss Lock & Lunch.**

**George wants to make sure that enough shrimp have been invited so please RSVP by June 3: 256-851-9375 or e-mail gbrown1@hiwaay.net**

- **Sat., June 24:**

**9 a.m. depart LGSC - Lock & Lunch (bring your own or catch it). (see more info in "The Social Calendar")**

- **Sat., July 1:**

**10 a.m. LGSC Board meeting in the clubhouse.**

**6 p.m. Saturday Social – "Low Country Shrimp Boil" hosted by George & Trish Brown.**

## 16th Annual Wachovia Guntersville Cup

**Did you see all the sailboats on the lake several weeks ago? It was a gorgeous sight and contributed to the beauty of our lake. The event was the 16th Annual Wachovia Guntersville Cup hosted by the Lake Guntersville Sailing Club at the Anchorage Marina and principally sponsored by Wachovia Bank of Guntersville, Sign Makers, Mountain Lakes Real Estate, Schurr Sails, Burger King, Marshall Lawn Care, Valley Christmas Trees, Southern Metal Fabrication, Anniston Pumps and Randy Rathmann. It was open to all sizes and types of sailing craft on our lake. We had boats ranging in size from an 18 foot dingy to a magnificent 34 foot cruising ship!**

**The event started with a Friday night supper at the LGSC clubhouse. Charlie Raines, LGSC Commodore, was the chief barbeque chef. He successfully grilled the burgers and dogs despite a torrential rain. The social committee, in their new bright yellow tee shirts, made sure everyone was well fed and**

**knew the schedule of events. Keith Kuhlman, Race Chairman, reviewed the sailing instructions which included the starting sequence and general layout of the race course. The idea was to make it as simple and fun for everyone as possible. With a three fleet format the event was designed to appeal to novice racers as well as those with extensive experience.**

**The race started Saturday, April 22, at 10 am in the bay just north of Lake Guntersville State Park beach. There were 21 boats at the start. As the starting line was about 300 yards long, everyone had plenty of room and things got going with no incidents. That is always a good thing in a fun event.**

**David Chadwick, in his 18 foot Buccaneer, noticed a wind shift just before the start, tacked over to the port side and led everyone to the first mark. He was closely followed by Wayne Blaxton in his 34 foot Hunter, *Breezin IV*. It was fun for everyone, except perhaps Wayne, to watch the little guy get chased by the "Big Dog".**

**With the wind blowing at about 10 knots (12 mph) everyone worked pretty hard to tack into the wind to get to the first mark. As it was a struggle, everyone tried to pass the mark as close as possible. Unfortunately, for one unlucky soul it was a little too close and they snagged the anchor line, adjusting the course just a little bit. It did slow Kathy and Grady Bryant down some, got Grady an early dip in the lake but made them a shoe in for the "Calamity Jane Trophy", a very coveted award in any fun event!**

**The first boats made the first of two laps around Upper Guntersville Light and a mark east of Short Creek Light in about one hour and thirty minutes. David Chadwick was still in the lead with that "Big Dog", Wayne Blaxton hot on his tail. The next boats around were Duane Sammons on his 30 foot Catalina, *Dreamer*, chased by his father J.A. Sammons on his 28.5 Hunter, *Against All Odds*. There was a lot of family love being expressed by J.A. and his crew Jerry as they tried to cut Duane off at the mark.**

**Next around was Bill Hicks on his newly cleaned (bottom) Catalina 28, *Wind Catcher*. It was an unusual place for Bill as his very comfortable cruiser had not been known for her speed. He beamed brightly from under his bimini as he rounded the mark.**

**For many of the rest of the fleet Mother Nature was not so kind. The NNE breeze died slowly and they struggled to make the initial lap. Out of pity for their dilemma the Race Committee called the race after five hours and finished the boats based on their one lap times.**

**The Winners of the B Fleet were, Bill Hicks, first, Floyd Hauffe, second, and Randy Rathman third.**

**In A Fleet, J.A. Sammons got his revenge and finished ahead of his son, Duane. George Brown felt no shame in accepting the third place trophy for his 32 foot Beneteau, *Mystic T*, skippered by the hired gun, Monty Williams!!**

**The Spinnaker fleet was won by the eventual overall Champion David Chadwick. He was followed by Wayne Blaxton and John Marsh.**

**Despite the dying wind everyone had a great day. It was topped off by a delicious barbeque dinner catered by Garners Barbeque of Guntersville and a host of fabulous door prizes donated by our many sponsors. LGSC thanks them all for making this fun event possible.**

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

**Well it's slowly warming up and its time to start cleaning up our boats, do the repairs we have put off and replace those lines that looked bad last year. Or you can spray off the spiders and just get on and go.**

**I appreciate the great turn out for the Guntersville Cup, the social dinner last week and for the new faces and to share the stories and the sheer fun of sailing. The social team has done an excellent job making things happen and that can only happen because of your being part of it. For that I thank you!**

**Keith has done a great job as race committee or Cruiser-Dude or whatever we do. He keeps it a lot of fun. So if you have a boat, come on down and join us and I bet you will have fun too.**

**We have a lot of great things planned for this summer.**

**P.S. Bring a friend and Sea ya, Charlie**

## THE SOCIAL CALENDAR

**Hello Fellow Sailors! Hope everyone enjoyed our May Social Dinner of left-overs from the Guntersville Cup provided by Garners Barbeque. It was great to see some new faces and hear some new tales!!!**

**We have some upcoming events you'll want to mark your calendar for. For Memorial Day weekend.....on Saturday, May 27th after the BCSA Pursuit Challenge, LGSC members are invited to raft up in Town Creek for an overnight stay or just for dinner. Will Marsh's double-masted blue sailboat from BCSA will be easy to spot. And besides, rafting up next to Will is a very good thing!!! He has huge anchors both fore and aft to keep us all secure! If you've never rafted out under the stars, this is a great opportunity to get started. On Sunday, May 28th LGSC will have an afternoon of games beginning at 3 pm followed by a hamburger and hot dog cookout at 6 pm.**

**For June our next social dinner is the 3rd and we're having spaghetti! We're hoping to have Jeff Lowery of the Alabama Water Patrol to speak about water safety and the current rules of the waterway. On Saturday, June 24th we are planning a Lock & Lunch event. Plan on departing the marina at 9 am with your lunch aboard. Hopefully we can sail some and/or motor down to the Guntersville Dam. There we will lock through to the other side and then return, for the experience. We will then raft up for lunch in Honeycomb Creek. For first time**

**lock thru sailors, this is party you won't want to miss!**

**Trish and George Brown have offered to cook a Low Country Shrimp Boil on Saturday, July 1st. What a delicious dinner for the Holiday weekend. George will need to know a head count for the meal no later than June 3rd, in order to have enough shrimp for all. That afternoon we will have our traditional Pirate's Day Race. More details to follow.**

**So as you can see, our club has a lot of fun activities planned in the next months ahead. Plan to be there, enjoy and take part. See you soon!!**

## FROM THE RACE CHAIRMAN

**Pursuit Action**

**We had our first LGSC Pursuit Series event the first Saturday in May with a great turnout. Nine boats got into the mix at the starting area just east of the marina. Everyone did a good job timing their starts this time so it was good to see the improvement.**

**Participants were, Roger Erickson, Rich Mason (both new blood!!), Duane, Amy, George, Allen Bennett, Randy, Zack and yours truly.**

**We had a good E wind at the start that quickly began to shift and fade. The pack was pretty tight about 400 yards from the turning mark, Short Creek Light. Then the wind died and filled back in from the SW. That separated the fleet, giving boats to the west a big lift. Duane and George rounded the mark first and second. The shifty wind was not through with us. Rather than continue to tease, it just plain quit. Duane and George were the only finishers. The rest of us decided eating was much more fun than persevering so we dropped sail and motored in for the Saturday night social.**

**This past Saturday, May 13th, we did our second BCSA Pursuit Event. Whether it was Mother's Day Weekend or the forecast of 20-30 mph gusts we only had five boats participate. Zack , Jason and Leslie were on their S2, Quill came over from Alred's, John Gwyer and Mel Shaw came from BCSA. Again, yours truly was the starting host.**

**Well, the winds were great. While they clocked 18 knots at the start we were headed down wind so it did not seem so brisk. Further down the lake the wind calmed and the fleet hit Siebold light in their starting order with about half of the handicaps eaten up. Pretty nice testimonial to the PHRF system. At the turn, the wind remained brisk but not overpowering. I would say it was just white capping making it about 10-12 knots. So, it was a vigorous windward beat back to Signal Point but not the heavy gusts that had been predicted.**

**After the race Zach and crew, Quill with crew David Stewart and Kuhlman's docked at the old Harbor House landing. We thought we would just have a few beers and tell some sailing lies. However, Quill started putting out a banquet of fresh hamburger, baked beans, grapes, etc for all. It was terrific. We have to do that again so come prepared next race.**

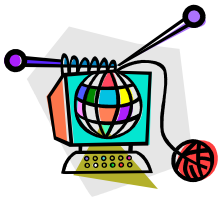
**Speaking of the next event, it will be a BCSA Pursuit on May 27th. If all goes well we will tie up again at the harbor House so come prepared. From there Will Marsh of BCSA is hosting an overnight raft up by the State**

**Park. If you have never stayed out over night this is the guy to do it with. He has a 34 foot tank of a boat with a great bit anchor that can hold us all down in a hurricane. So come out for the Pursuit or at least sail over to the State Park for some fun.**

**From *"A Lubber's Dictionary"***

**Flag - Any of a number of signaling pennants or ensigns, designed to be flown upside down, in the wrong place, in the wrong order, or at an inappropriate time.**

## LGSC WEB SITE!



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

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

## REMINDER FROM DUANE

**2006 MONTHLY SLIP RENT FEES**

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|---|---|
| **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, Guntersville, AL 35976.**