



## Grand River Sailing Club Newsletter – River Debris

February/March 2010

### **From Commodore, Bob Valentine:**

As Commodore Bob is out-of-country on business – he's requested that we issue this newsletter during his absence ...from Russia with Love!!!

### **From Vice Commodore, Mike Nolan:**

Wow! Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> - the first 60° day of the year. Isn't it nice to be in Ohio today? You will notice there is not a Commodore's article since he is still cooling his heels in Siberia. I'm not sure, but I think it hit absolute zero there today.

Well things are gearing up for the 2010 season. We have the race schedule set, a copy included with this newsletter, and it should also be on the website soon. The Spring membership meeting (party) and the Lottery meeting dates are set, and your Rear Commodore is planning these events (along with all the edutainment meetings, busy man).

As soon as the 4' drift that is covering the race marks melts, I will start assessing their status and making repairs. We've made some rule changes these last two years to help attract new members and racers. Once again there is no fee for first year racers and no PRHF cards required. This year we've increased the Sunday time limit for boats to complete the race after the lead boat finishes. These new rules will be available to view at the membership meeting. If you need a new copy, please let me know.

Take care and see you in the "Yard".

### **From Cruising Club Fleet Captain, Ron Toivonen:**

The Cruising Club 2010 planning meeting will be held at Capps in Leroy on Sunday, April 18, 5:30 p.m. All cruisers and wanna-be cruisers are encouraged to attend. Contact Ron Toivonen with questions and/or comments, [toivonen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:toivonen@sbcglobal.net), 440 479-2708.

### **From Rear Commodore, Todd Rogers:**

Now that the annual ski trips to New York, the hockey game outing, and the Olympics are all complete, winter can now be considered officially over as far as I'm concerned!!!

Thanks to all the GRSC members and guests who came to root the *Lake Erie Monsters* to victory against the *Grand Rapids Goons*!!! (I think that was the name of the team from Michigan, but if not, it might as well have been!!!) Actually, it was a very well-played, hard-hitting, and exciting game – won during the final shot of a second overtime period shoot-out!!! (Too bad Team USA couldn't do the same thing to Canada that same day!!!) Anyway - based on their performance, I am confident that GRSC scientifically proved that all the Monster's really need is...  
...MORE COWBELL!!!

Thanks to all who attended the recent Racing Rules discussion group meeting. It turned-out to be another fantastic turn-out; still an eclectic, yet seemingly attentive and interactive group of participants. Special thanks to Colin Mills for conducting the Basic Rules Presentation. The next session is slated to cover Basic Racing Strategy this coming Sunday, March 14 at 1:00 PM at the GRYC Clubhouse. Additional meetings are still planned to include Basic Racing Tactics, Boating Safety, Laws and Regulations, John McLeod's Foredeck U., and maybe even a demonstration of line splicing provided by Grand River Rigging & Supply.

The 2010 Membership Meeting is scheduled on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:00 PM. The Racing Fleet Lottery Meeting is scheduled on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM. Both will be pot luck dinners – with the main entrées provided through GRSC. Separate notices will be issued beforehand to announce for each of these upcoming events.

#### **From Secretary Kurt Kachler**

GRSC members and guests are cordially invited to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cleveland Sailing Association Pre-Season Breakfast - Saturday, April 17, 2010 9:00am – 12:00pm - Edgewater Yacht Club. Featured speaker: Nick Turney, North Sails – Cleveland will discuss sail trim and the latest on new sail technology. Door prize for a an evening of coaching or sail consultation. Go to [www.clevelandsails.com](http://www.clevelandsails.com) for registration and more information. \$12.00 per person – Seating is limited so register early.

#### **Membership Application:**

Attached is the 2010 Membership Application Form, which will also be posted on the GRSC website. In 2009 the dues were dramatically reduced. After comprehensive financial review, the 2010 General and Racing membership dues have been MODESTLY adjusted to account for recent affiliation, maintenance, and operational cost increases. (e.g. US Sailing dues, racing mark and equipment maintenance, the rising cost of fun, etc.) Regardless, GRSC should still be considered the greatest sailing bargain around!!! Please continue to promote club membership, and forward the application form and/or this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested in joining us and the fun!!!

#### **Miscellaneous:**

Our own prolific writer and investigative reporter, Sandy Woodthorpe, has issued yet another Examiner.com column - this one regarding last Sunday's GRSC discussion group session. Check it and all the other articles out at: <http://www.examiner.com/x-5312-Cleveland-Boating-Examiner-y2010m3d11-Grand-River-Sailing-Club-members-learn-racing-rules-101>

Not an endorsement or paid advertisement, but a new business has just opened in Grand River. The GREAT LAKES Rigging and Supply Company and Doyle Sail Loft Cleveland has just opened in Grand River's Harbor 220's front building. An Open House is scheduled on Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, and discounts from the open house will be offered.

For more information go to [www.doylesails.com](http://www.doylesails.com) and then go to the Cleveland loft.

We wish good luck and great fortune to this new and conveniently located sail-making and rigging enterprise, who now joins our other local sailing suppliers - such as Grand River Rigging & Supply (also with an open house on March 27<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:00 PM), Sobstad Sails (Rocky River), North Sails (downtown at Sailing Inc.), and Ullman Sails on E. 185<sup>th</sup> Street.

### ***GRSC Club Calendar***

Basic Race Strategies Discussion Group – Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 PM - GRYC

2010 Membership Meeting – Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 PM – GRYC.

2010 Cruising Club Planning Meeting - Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 PM - Capps in Leroy.

2010 Racing Fleet Lottery Meeting – Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 PM - GRYC.

Board Meetings - The second Tuesday of the Month - 7:00 PM.

Crew Training - Every Wednesday night at Chester's Legacy Tavern in Painesville.

Tuesday Libations - Capp's in Leroy.

Sunday Breakfast - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at Sammy's in Grand River - 9:30 AM.

(April 4<sup>th</sup> - Easter???)

Upcoming - Discussion groups on tactics - boat handling - boating safety, laws and regulations - man overboard procedures – and Foredeck U.