



## Grand River Sailing Club Newsletter – River Debris

July/August 2011

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### Commodore's Report

Hello Fellow GRSC Sailors. What a great Regatta! We had 25 PHRF Boats and 3 Flying Scots in our Dinghy Fleet (we really need to work to increase our Dinghy sailors) Hats Off to our Race Officials Grant Edwards and his committee on the PHRF course and John Allen and his committee on the Dinghy Fleet Course – Thank you all for your good work!

The On-Shore Festivities on Friday brought us a great Potluck and live Music by Mr. Nick Zuber really rounded out the evening. On Saturday food was available from Chester's Legacy Tavern and live music was provided by Istvan "Steve O" Medgyesis. We also saw a return of the "Blow Boat Races" on Saturday – What a blast! I am glad we got this started again.

It took the help of a lot of people to pull off a great regatta – I'd like to Thank Michelle Pettit & Kurt Kachler for chairing the regatta, Todd Rogers for taking care of race management and coordinating with the race committee and Sandy Woodthorpe for getting the provisions and managing the on-shore part of the regatta. Special Thanks to Jeff Koski, Nice-N-Healthy Bodies who provided funds for the music and to the musicians who performed on a very tight budget.

We look forward to another great regatta next year. Let's get back to 30 Boats (or more) for next year! Talk to people you know and spread the word!

On the Cruising front; I would like to dedicate a Board Meeting Or have a Special Meeting dedicated to the Cruising Fleet. We need to discuss what the club can do to make the value of joining and participating in the cruising fleet more attractive. Watch for the meeting date or e-mail me at [Oldefarm@windstream.net](mailto:Oldefarm@windstream.net) with your ideas/suggestions.

I also want to say Hi to Bethany Kachler and send Hopes for a speedy recovery. We look forward to seeing you on Adrenalin next Spring!

Happy Fall Sailing!

- Mike

### GRSC/CLYC JAM RACE WEEKEND

I think all that attended the Summer Sailstice Races to, from, and at Chagrin Lagoons on

the weekend June 18<sup>th</sup> can attest that it was a terrific event and celebration.

To express our appreciation to the gracious hosts at CLYC and to promote this event, I submitted and forwarded to them the following Summer Sailstice website article:

<http://summersailstice.com/articles/viewarticle/599/>

I think the concept of Summer Sailstice – globally promoting sailing during the Northern Hemisphere's longest days of the year – is a great idea. Let's hope we can do it again next year.

## **GRSC REGATTA**

With our Regatta Chairpersons Kurt and Michelle confronted with a personal crisis just four days before the regatta – I want to commend everyone who stepped-up and pitched-in at the last minute to help put on what I consider another great regatta and successful event.

Thanks to all of the participants, volunteers, and sponsors. A formal thank you will soon be sent to all. The GRSC board will also soon review all that went well or not so well in order to hopefully make next year's event equally as good ...or even better.

I also want to wish Bethany Kachler a continued and speedy recovery. On the evening of her accident she had been looking forward to the women's race ...and enjoying the Friday night party and the music of Nick Zuber. Oh well - as is so often heard in Cleveland – "There's always next year!!!"

## **FALL RACING SERIES BEGIN**

Our Summer Racing series have officially come to an end – and the Fall Sunday and Wednesday series have now started. Committee boat duties have again commenced as scheduled for these series.

At the end of the year, the GRSC board will review the added specialty races and other changes that were trialed this summer for incorporation and/or other improvements.

If you know of any boat owners that are not already racing but may be interested in participating, please let them know that the racing dues are waived for the first year of membership.

## **GENEVA RACE AND CRUISE WEEKEND**

September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> is this year's Geneva weekend – and the recent cruising fleet excursion to Geneva could be considered as a sampler.

Diane and I will be coordinating this combined cruising and racing event this year – and will be soon publishing the details.

In 2009 - the first year of this event - we had nine boats participating; and last year we

had fourteen. We hope even more of you join us this year!!!

## **FALL SAILING**

Although many see this time of year as the beginning of the end of our season, it is actually one of my favorite times to sail on Lake Erie.

The colors on the tree-lined shores become brilliant. The angle of the sun, its shadows and reflections are now softer and more pastel.

Cool nights coupled with a warm lake often cultivate evening off-shore breezes that make reaching in fair wind and flat water a sailor's dream.

So, my advice: Pack something warm to wear – get out there - and enjoy it while you can.

Fair winds,

- Todd

## **GRSC Rear Commodore Report August 2011**

### ***Thanks!***

The 2011 GRSC Regatta was the first one I've been involved with as an officer. It was fun to be "in the mix" and see everything come together!

Thanks to Todd & Mike for the event programming and dozens of details, to Regatta Committee Chairs, Kurt and Michelle, who did most of the "heavy lifting" well before the event. We were in good shape when Kurt needed to be by Bethany's side. It takes a lot of people to bring it all together. Thanks to each of you who helped in all sorts of ways.

### ***Questionnaire***

A questionnaire to help the Board understand what you think about events and educational programming, membership benefits and other interests will be coming your way soon. Please take five minutes or so to respond. GRSC is *your* club and this is about making it what *you* want.

You'll receive an invitation to join Facebook, if you're not already a member, to be part of the new GRSC Facebook Page. This is going to be a way to get the word out about sailing, post pictures, news, links, etc. Each interaction builds our network and that will ultimately benefit not only GRSC, but sailing in this area. Even if you decide not to join, be sure to do a Google search for Grand River Sailing Club and the page will come up so you can see what people are talking about and posting.

Looking forward to seeing you at the fall meeting, if not before.

- Sandy

## **Regatta Report**

Michelle and I would like to thank the entire club for their efforts supporting our regatta. We think it was a truly wonderful event made possible by many people. I can't say thank you enough for the support during the last week when I needed to spend time with Bethany. For the record she will have a long mend but Bethany is doing well and the prognosis is good.

While the final accounting is not in we can certainly say it was a successful regatta on the water and on land. There so many to thank for their support I am hesitant to do so as I fear I may miss some.

First and foremost thanks to our many sponsors. I won't mention them each now as I know I will miss several. I final accounting will be provided in the next river debris. Our sponsors made great contributions in both cash, raffle prizes, and donations. Without this support our regatta would not be so successful.

My hat is off to Tina Greenslade for her marvelous graphic design. Tina was the mastermind behind the t-shirt art work, the award flags, and the beer mugs.

Thanks Todd for coordinating our racing. Most people don't recognize what that takes. It started in the Winter with organizing a protest committee and identifying a race pro. Todd put together our Notice of Race, and sailing instructions for both the large and small boats.

Thanks to John Allin and his team for managing the dinghy racing. I was sorry to see the Jet 14s bow out the day before our regatta after 2 had already registered but it was great to see the Flying Scots participate.

Thanks to Grant Edwards our PRO on the PHRF course. Grant and his team of Betsy, Skip Malm, Kathy and Paul Mathews did a fine job in some tough wind conditions this year.

Thanks to Del Gladrow and Mike Nolan (and family) who provided a mark and chase boats both days. Also, a hearty thanks to their crews (there were many ex GRSC racers on those boats) and to Dave Mathias for photographing the regatta and providing raffle prizes.

Thanks to Diane Rogers and Michelle Pettit for actively selling raffle tickets on both days. Their efforts netted more than \$700.00 in ticket sales.

Thanks to all the folks who supported the pot luck on Friday night. Especially Sandy Woodthorpe for getting the supplies and all the cook at the BBQ.

Thanks to the entertainers. I wish I could have stayed and enjoyed them more.

And finally - Thanks to all of the GRSC for their help and regatta participants.

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The Great Stay at Home Labor Day Cruise:

A reminder to all cruising members that the Erieau steak roast will be held at GRYC on September 4th at 4:00 PM. Two free steaks will be provided for all cruising members who confirm their attendance by this Thursday. Weather permitting we are planning the event at the South end. Don't forget to bring your plates, silverware, and a dish to pass. The Adrenalin locker always has plenty of Gin and Tonic. If you want something else it is BYOB. I will have a blender and electricity! In case of bad weather we can move into the club house.

Kurt

## **GRSC**

### ***Club Calendar***

- 1 Board Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the Month.
- 2 "Crew Training" Get Together every Wednesday night at Chester's Legacy Tavern in Painesville after the club race. (If you're not a regular, please try and make it at least once to help show your support of Chester's.)
- 3 Tuesday Libations-at Capp's in Leroy